



BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL BULLETIN

Week ending Friday 6 September 2019

From Jonathan Maddox, Headteacher

WELCOME TO OUR NEW STUDENTS



It is always a high-point in the School's year, and a particular joy for me as Headteacher, to welcome each year's new intake of students. It was a great pleasure to welcome each year-group at the seven start-of-year assemblies held on Wednesday. Our Sixth Form has increased substantially and is at its largest ever now due to excellent retention from Year 11 and record recruitment from other local schools - well over forty students have joined us and all were warmly welcomed this week.

The new Year 7 arrived looking splendid in their new uniforms, many of which have wisely and visibly been purchased to allow plenty of room for growth. As I write the new Year 7s are sitting their baseline tests and one of the photographs shows them settled into a paper in the Sports Hall. I am very much looking forward to meeting all of the new Year 7 in their Citizenship lessons.



Unfortunately the first day of term was grey and wet but nothing could dampen the enthusiasm of our new Year 7 who bounded up to the main entrance invariably smiling and looking confident. As they settle in and find their way around we wish them well as they begin their seven-year journey with us.



COMFORTABLY IN THE TOP 100

Our first Year 11 of eight forms performed brilliantly at GCSE as reported in the *GCSE Results Special Issue* of the *Bulletin* so it was a particular pleasure to congratulate the students, now as Sixth Formers, at the assembly on Wednesday. I was able to share with them some especially pleasing news, gleaned from the league table of high-performing schools at GCSE which was published by *The Times* last month. The table ranked schools based on the percentage of top (i.e. 7,8,9) GCSE grades achieved. Our outstanding figure of 57%, representing 1,302 top grades, placed us 75th amongst the country's state-funded secondary schools (there are 3,448 such schools in total). I am delighted that our students' results stand so impressively in the national context. Of the 74 higher-performing schools, none has a larger GCSE cohort than ours; we are producing outstanding GCSE results on a prodigious scale. A good number of the higher-performing schools were, of course, very highly selective grammar schools in big cities including London, some of which recruit only the top few percent by academic ability. So our new Year 12 students commence their Sixth Form studies in well-earned, confident form.

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

LAMDA Amelie Murphy (Year 9) has passed her Grade 5 LAMDA Musical Theatre Exam with Distinction.

Music The following students passed their ABRSM Music exams during the summer holidays:

Isabel Turner (Year 7) - Grade 2 Theory (Distinction) and Grade 2 Piano (Merit)

Callum Duff (Year 10) - Grade 1 Theory (Distinction) and Grade 3 Piano (Merit)

Ella Wainwright (Year 10) - Grade 5 Piano (Pass)