



# BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL BULLETIN

*Week ending Friday 2 July 2021*

*From Alastair Anderson, Headteacher*

It has been great to hear and read of so many pupil challenges and successes in the course of recent Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, and this has dovetailed beautifully with the academic successes that have recently been recorded in our Year 12 examinations and internal setting tests lower down the School. Success in life is often determined by how we deal with the challenges that are presented to us and our students have had plenty of opportunity recently to front up to problems and find their own path to a solution. This has been evident in the process around the appointment of Head Students and Prefects and I am delighted to see ideas being developed about the councils and committees that these student leaders will drive forward in the search for more solutions to key issues. I have advertised already the desire to see a PTFA be created next year, another group that can input ideas and help face up to challenges in School and the rattle and the hum of on-site building work is helping us to find solutions for issues around space in Social Science, Computer Science and Year 13 independent work areas has appeared in recent days. All of these examples are a challenge for those involved, all of them requiring a solutions-focused outcome.

One of my own personal challenges that I can see on the horizon concerns School Uniform and the Sixth Form dress code. There have been two meetings recently with groups of Year 12 students to discuss the Sixth Form dress code, and next week I have a delegation of Year 8 students coming to put forward their views on the uniform lower down the School. Having had some experience in years gone by with uniform and dress discussions, I am unsurprised to see these discussions gathering internal momentum and am fully aware that views will be polarised in some quarters and likely to be expressed in a forthright manner. Expressing the challenge as I see it: we have a Sixth Form dress code that is not in tune with what some of our Sixth Form students actually wear, and we have a School Uniform that is inconsistent both in terms of cost and appearance. As Headteacher I must also pay particular heed to the 2010 Equality Act which does not deal specifically with School Uniform but does have a number of clauses that are relevant to the evolution of a uniform and dress code. All of this makes for a conversation which will become complex, and is certain to elicit a wide range of opinion.

It is a conversation (or in the context of this bulletin a challenge) that I am not going to flinch from, however. What kind of Headteacher would I be if I congratulated others on their success in facing up to challenge successfully, if I then chose to run from one? So... over the next 6 – 9 months we are going to embark on a consultation process around our uniform and dress code that I hope will produce an outcome that everyone can agree has been as well thought out as possible, with regular communication as to the progress of discussions and opportunities for people to input their ideas. That way, even if we don't have unanimous agreement on the specific text of the final decision, we can all accept and buy into the future direction of travel because the community will have been part of the process. For this reason we are not going to come to any hasty conclusions two weeks from the end of the school year. There are a number of areas that will be important: consistency, equality, tradition, style, freedom of expression, value for money, brand identity. All of these, and others that will emerge I am sure, will be factors in the process. In the end we should be proud of being a part of the Bourne Grammar School community, and we must look to agree on an end product that reflects that pride.

As we move into the final two weeks of term I hope our students can maintain their momentum, and that all our families are able to plan for some kind of post-Covid restrictions summer holiday. We are all awaiting the next Government announcement on Monday with hope and excitement mixed with a little trepidation as infection numbers increase. Fingers crossed the impact of the vaccination programme can lead us out of the 18 month crisis we have had to endure.

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH

The last few weeks have seen extensive expedition activity and some notable student successes from those taking part in the scheme. The Duke of Edinburgh Award is an excellent vehicle for the personal development of students, and it is wonderful to see so many choosing to challenge themselves and take part. Thanks as ever to Stu Brett and his team of volunteers who give so much to this area of School life.

Following recent expeditions and a report from Darcey Luff Cardew, we are pleased to include a further report, some photos of the recent preparation work plus walks and a list of award winners. Keep up the great work everyone!

### *George Groom*

After arriving to the car park near Clipsham, we had a quick briefing on what was expected of us during the expedition and a rundown of what to expect. We hopped into the back of the minibus and went towards the centre of Clipsham. Navigating towards the wood, we managed to pass the prison and made it to Checkpoint 1, filled up our water bottles, munched on an awful tasting nut bar and then trekked on towards Castle Bytham. This is where we stopped to munch on lunch after passing a few underground houses. The rest of the walk towards the train track consisted of crop-fields. Still in high spirits, we marched along under the track to the next checkpoint. Eventually we made it into the grounds at Grimsthorpe and were confident about where to go next - this led to a few mishaps, and the overshooting of a path by about a kilometre. Tensions rose whilst seven opinions on where to go next formed. Charlotte fortunately took control, and managed to get us to camp. On the way, we could see the castle in front and a good night's sleep ahead...



Our feet hurt as we arrived into camp - we found a wet field littered with slugs, but we set up our tents and started cooking. Lots of members of staff and volunteers were at camp, which was lovely to see. The best part of the expedition came in the evening - other groups continued to arrive, we could talk to others and have a good evening. The sun came down, the deer danced just metres away and we went to sleep.



After the first day, although still tired, I woke up at 04:00 to the sounds of the deer barking - boiling some water, I proceeded to start cooking my breakfast before the others woke. The temperature was a complete juxtaposition to the day before; cold. An hour or so later, the rest woke up and spoke about how we could improve today's walk compared to yesterday's. With breakfast cooking and suncream slathered on like paint to a fence, we began to pack our bags. Once complete, we put the bags on our sore shoulders ready for the longer walk from Grimsthorpe to Bourne Woods. At 07:15, we had left camp and walked down towards the large lake below the Castle. Although more painful, the second day seemed to be much easier. Making good speed down the track towards a dismantled railway, we stopped to have a quick snack and to apply a little more suncream for the temperature would exceed 26 degrees later on. Conversation flowed continuously throughout the group towards the first checkpoint. Skipping forward a few kilometres, after walking through a herd of cows, we met a dog-walker who spoke fondly about the bridleway we were walking down - he described when he first drove a combine-harvester through the fields on our right and found work on the farm after his migration from Africa.

We then cut through Bourne Woods to walk towards a surrounding village - a slight fault, as we had overshoot the village by a kilometre and had to correct our error. By this time, we were low on water as well as morale. Laying on the side of a path, deciding whether to save the water for drinking instead of cooking, we fortunately saw a volunteer who kindly directed us back to his checkpoint to refill our bottles.

Whilst Jamie (the medic) patched up Seb and sorted out Darcey's eyes for hay fever, we planned the final push. Marching through the woods, humming *Silent Night* (which wasn't very popular with Aoife), we saw the opening to the car park. Oblivious to the fact that we were walking up some steeper hills, we made it to the end. We sat down with a sigh of relief, emptied our bags and felt a strange feeling - it was that of accomplishment, discomfort, and happiness. Debriefing with our assessor, we spoke about a little toy duck, *Duckmanton*, who came along with us for the trip.

Collectively, I think we can agree on both loving and hating times of the expedition. To all who have yet to make their minds up on whether to do DofE or not, to them I would say: go for it! It was a lovely weekend with my friends; to say that there was no conflict or arguments would be completely misleading but, I can confidently say they were all resolved as soon as that backpack was put down for the last time. Our expedition lasted just two days, but the memories made will last forever.

A huge congratulations to the following students who have been awarded their Bronze Certificates in the last few weeks:

*Year 10 - George Groom, Sam Hartley, Harrison Rudkin, Samantha Thomas, Charlie Wise*

*Year 11 - Arabella Allen, Jack Bannister, William Bentley, Joe Haynes, Archit Kumar, Joe Manning, Megan Moore, Macy Orgles, Alexandra Weston, Holly Weston, Holly Wilcockson*

*Year 12 - Sarah Betraoui, Isla Grayson*

### **YEAR 10 TENNIS SINGLES COMPETITION - Miss Bowtell, PE**

On Tuesday 22 June, the Year 10 Singles tournament was held with fantastic success. Following a very competitive Inter-Form Tennis event earlier in the term, we had ten boys and five girls entering this event. The groups were divided into two leagues, where every student played each other, with the top two players played each other in the semi-finals. Competition was very tough with many matches going to the wire and resulting in narrow losses - several had endless 'deuce and advantage' situations where the one with the strongest nerves won.



There were outstanding performances and 'against the odds' victories for Freddie Renton and Jacob Poxon against one of the top seeds. However, determination and sheer will were the words of the day, as Vir Makwana, Jack Ray, Thomas Elliot and Rishi Bali made it to the semi-finals. The rallies were lengthy in each of these matches and it was a delight to see how much each boy had improved in their technical ability since we last held an event. The final was one set between Jack and Rishi - one player who aggressively attacks the rallies and one who counters all attacks with calmness and consistent deep baseline strokes. Jack finally wore Rishi down to win the set 6-3.



The girls event was also very competitive, with Lotte Cole dominating with her sheer power and aggression. However, Sofia Dodworth and Sophia Bull gave everything to try and overcome the mighty Lotte - Sofia even resorted to fun 'trash talking' to try to distract Lotte. Katie Jakeman was the star of the event as she has just started to attend this year and has been guided and helped by all of the girls - she put up an excellent display considering her lack of experience in match play. The overall results from the girls event were:



- 1st - Lotte Cole
- 2nd - Sofia Dodworth
- 3rd - Sophia Bull
- 4th - Phoebe Bryant
- 5th - Katie Jakeman

We look forward to Year 7/8 Doubles and Year 10 Mixed Doubles competitions next week. An exciting time ahead!

# STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Name	Year	Staff	Subject
Isla Blowers	7	Mr Farrow	Mathematics
Chloe Burgin	7	Mr Bainbridge	History
Freya Dahlgaard-Sigsworth	7	Mr Miller	Science
Bianka Domalewska	7	Mr Bainbridge	History
Ewan Dragota	7	Mr Moxley	Drama
Julius Priedis	7	Mr Delpport	Design Engineering
Petra Szoboszlai-Kendrick	7	Miss Patman	Spanish
Emma Dennis	8	Miss Segarra Ginés	Spanish
Masha Morozova	8	Mrs Williamson	English
Isabelle Riley	8	Mr Howard	EPR
Harrison Shreeve	8	Miss Jones	Pastoral
Lincoln Woolf	8	Ms Kemp	English
Ben Aldred	9	Miss Lindley	Geography
Bella Atkin	9	Mrs Pignatiello	Drama
Theo Bryson	9	Miss Lindley	Geography
Jack Carson	9	Ms Bowtell	PE
Eva Corrigan	9	Miss Watson	English
Thomas Grimshaw	9	Mr Ray	PE
Lucy Harrison	9	Miss Turton	Drama
Harrie Metcalfe	9	Miss Doerpinghaus	German
Madison Prince	9	Mr Mitchell	Business Studies
Harrison Smith	9	Mr Mitchell	Business Studies
Harrison Smith	9	Mr Bainbridge	History
Abira Suyaraj	9	Mrs Worrall	Spanish
Jenny Baker	10	Miss Lindley	Geography
Rupert Clark	10	Miss Doerpinghaus	German
Charles Coulam	10	Mr Brown	Computing
Fred Dametka	10	Miss Smallshaw	Chemistry
Zach Duffill	10	Mr Brown	Computing
Toby Fisk	10	Miss Lindley	Geography
Toby Fisk	10	Miss Bennett	English
Nandhitha Guhan	10	Miss Lindley	Geography
Kaitlyn Hallas	10	Mrs Pignatiello	Drama
Tobi Olatunde	10	Mr Delpport	Design Engineering
Hafsa Saghir	10	Ms Jasinska	Spanish
Jignasa Sanga	10	Mr Edwards	Spanish
Bella Skelton	10	Mrs Pignatiello	Drama
Hannah Taylor	10	Miss Watson	English
William Leggett	12	Ms Kemp	English Language
Marcus Walker	12	Dr Barmby	History

## HOUSE POINT TOTALS

			
4,314	4,064	5,619	5,055

*These totals show all House Points earned minus Behaviour Points.  
It includes points from all students in each house between 07/06/2021 and 02/07/2021.*

## INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

### Sport

- Isaac Malcolm (Year 8) took part in his first competitive rowing race at Peterborough Junior Regatta last weekend with his club, Peterborough Rowing Club. Isaac placed first in his age category.

### Music

- Oscar Potts (Year 11) has received a Distinction in his Grade 8 ABRSM Clarinet exam.
- Isaac Norcliffe (Year 10) has achieved a Distinction for his Grade 6 London College of Music Rock Guitar exam.
- Edsel Derish (Year 11) has been awarded a Merit in their Grade 7 Electronic Keyboard exam.

# SPORTS CLUBS

<b>TERM 6</b>	<b>Lunchtime</b> <i>12:45 - 13:20</i>	<b>After School</b> <i>16:50 finish, 17:00 to collect</i>
<b>MONDAY</b>	Year 7 Cricket - Astro (SC/ACG)	Year 7 & 9 Athletics (CJR/JTB/CEB/AS) Year 8 & 10 Cricket (SC/ACG) Year 7-10 Cross Country* (SJS) Year 7 Tennis (CPB)
<b>TUESDAY</b>	Year 8 Rounders - Astro (AS) Year 10 Volleyball - Sports Hall (JTB)	Year 7 & 9 Cricket (SC/ACG) Year 10 Tennis (CPB) Year 9 Rounders (AS)
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	Year 8 Cricket - Astro (SC/ACG) Year 9 Badminton - Sports Hall (CPB)	Year 8 & 10 Athletics (CJR/JTB/CEB/AS) Year 9 Tennis (CPB) Year 7-10 Cross Country* (SJS)
<b>THURSDAY</b>	Year 7 Long Jump, Hurdles and High Jump - Astro (CJR/JTB/AS)	Year 7 Rounders (AS) Year 8 Tennis (CPB)
<b>FRIDAY</b>	-	-

Clubs will take place weekly - should there be a need to cancel any club, as much notice as possible will be given. PE Department Meetings will affect clubs occasionally. If you have any questions, please contact the member of staff leading the club.

Students attending a club should ensure they come to School in their PE Kit on that day, ideally with a packed lunch. Please wait in your outside bubble area and the member of staff leading the club will collect you.

Please note that Shin Pads must be worn for both Football and Hockey.

*\*Please note that Cross Country will finish by 16:30.*