



BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL BULLETIN

Week ending Friday 21 October 2022

From Alastair Anderson, Headteacher

Congratulations to our U15 Boys' Tennis Team who attended the Regional Championships at Shrewsbury last weekend. The team of five were already Lincolnshire Champions and throughout their time at Bourne Grammar so far, they haven't lost a single team match against anyone locally and in the region. At the weekend this run continued with victory over Uppingham in the Semi Final and then St George's Birmingham in the Final. This in itself is a significant achievement – well done to the boys and also a huge thank you to Miss Bowtell who organised the trip over to Shrewsbury and managed the team so effectively. However, the event was a good deal more complex than usual due to a bus breakdown while on the M6, a police tow in order to place the bus in a safe place and then a long wait for an RAC to come and fix the vehicle. As a result, the team returned to Bourne very late and it was a real test of endurance, patience and humour. Miss Bowtell describes the boys as being “supremely behaved and very calm and sensible throughout”, which is very pleasing to hear. If life is a series of challenges, and success is a measure of our ability to overcome them, then the team has had an excellent weekend in more ways than one.

This week auditions for the School Musical have moved into the call back phase as Mr Tomlinson and Mr Moxley finely tune plans for the ambitious “We Will Rock You” production. It is great to see so many students keen to play a part in this and we look forward to a wonderful performance run in the Spring.

I note also that House Volleyball is on the near horizon with much planning and excitement in the air for a competition that begins the week we return from holiday. Well done to all who are working hard to get the event up and running and good luck as you serve, dig and spike!

Finally, we are approaching mock GCSE examinations for Year 11, a sure sign being the ramping up of Drama practicals in the Drama studio and discussions around the planning of Year 11 language orals. An important message to any Year 11s reading this Bulletin, or any parents of students in Year 11: mock examinations are all about identifying areas for improvement. Perfection in every area of study is extremely unlikely at this stage and no one should expect to achieve as highly as they will in the summer. Adopt a growth mindset position where any deficiencies in performance are identified as opportunities for improvement and do not spend the next three weeks brooding and worrying about the papers to come. It is important you find time for a break over the holiday and understand the function of mock examinations as a single element in a broad GCSE preparation process that still has a long way to go. Consider the feedback provided by teachers in review meetings held on Tuesday evening, do your best in the exams after the holiday and embrace the learning opportunities that emerge from failure. Now is certainly not the time to allow stress and worry to undermine the learning experience and the enjoyment of School.

It has been a very busy seven weeks and we are all ready to take a few days to recharge empty batteries over the holiday. I wish everyone a happy, restful and productive week ahead before school reopens as usual on Monday 31st October.

CERN TRIP – Report by Oscar Potts, Year 13

This year's CERN trip was a great success, with everyone returning feeling like they'd gained immense knowledge not only in physics, but the many supermarkets of Geneva.

After a short flight to Geneva Airport, we disembarked to the refreshing sight of clear blue skies and bright sun which would remain throughout our stay. Our first dinner took place at a fondue restaurant, where we

were served three courses of excellent food - made all the more memorable by the ever-present flame waiting to punish the less coordinated physicists.

The morning of the first day was to be a tour round CERN, but we first had to contend with an uncomfortably early wake-up time. A short tram ride later and we were there. Equipped with our hard hats we descended the 100m shaft and were privileged to hear from the CERN scientists who detailed the workings of the detector and the aims of their ground-breaking research. Our tour round the rooms and corridors demonstrated the staggering scale of the project and I'm sure inspired many of us to seriously consider a career in physics research.

The afternoon's boat ride was another highlight of the trip. Cruising through the vast expanses of Lake Geneva in a paddle boat straight out of the 19th century was a luxurious way to spend the afternoon and we returned to the hostel that night refreshed and in awe of the size (and cleanliness) of lake Geneva's mesmerizingly clear water. The evening's restaurant was classy and sophisticated right up to the point of our arrival.



Our second full day in Switzerland was spent in the ancient German-speaking capital city of Bern. Our tour guide was thorough and knowledgeable, covering Bern's history, its architecture and the inner workings of possibly the most intricate clock I will ever lay my eyes on, complete with moving figures, star signs and a large gold man who strikes the great bell (the man is made of wood and only gold-plated, the tour guide added with a touch of shame). The day's highlight was seeing Bern's three bears. The words 'Bear Pit' don't really do their vast enclosure justice and they roamed around seemingly nonplussed by our attempts to befriend them. My GCSE German came in handy at the ice-cream parlour, where the only thing more impressive than my use of past tense was the vendor's ability to understand it.

The next day's visit to the UN was an excellent way to round off the trip with its vast meeting chambers and outstandingly beautiful architecture. We witnessed a real session and were provided with a tour of several meeting rooms, including one built by Qatar where the ceiling represented undulating dunes and the walls the swelling waters of the Arabian Sea. Having made the most of the free books and posters on offer, our eyes were opened to the important work of the UN and a newfound appreciation for those who work there. They were also clear about their many limitations; however, the overall message was one of positivity and hope for change.



A trio of museum visits followed. The first, a physics museum filled with 20th century contraptions which made our Bunsen burners and gas syringes look rather convenient. The second, a history museum filled with artefacts from the county's history, including cabinets filled with swords to a display case made to represent the room of a 'Rebellious Youth' from the 60s.

The last, and my personal favourite, was a natural history museum. Seemingly endless hallways burst with colour and fascinating animals, many of which were new to me. Perhaps the greatest surprise of the trip was the two-headed tortoise. I felt a little sorry for it as its two heads seemed to have vastly differing ideas of where it wanted to go and it rotated in forlorn little circles for most of our visit. Still, it was a rare chance to witness the miraculous workings of nature, and I was able to relate it back to the A-level biology course nicely.

I'm sure this trip will be one of my fondest memories of BGS and we're all incredibly grateful to Mr Mitchell, Mr Lennox, and Dr Hanson for putting up with us for a whole week and facilitating the experience of a lifetime.



FIELD STUDIES COUNCIL TRAINING COURSE AT REGENT'S PARK, LONDON - *Dr Hanson – Biology*

Earlier this year we had three current Year 13 students from Bourne Grammar who achieved a Gold award in the Biology Intermediate Olympiad. This was a fantastic achievement as only 5% of the 12,566 students who completed the challenge were awarded a Gold. The organisers of the Biology Intermediate Olympiad provided the opportunity for the students who achieved a Gold award to be entered into a random ballot to be able to attend a Field studies Council training course. I was delighted to be informed that Asha Taank was successful in obtaining one of the fifteen places. This was a great experience for Asha and her review of the day is below.

Asha Taank – Year 13 Biology student

On Wednesday 5 October, I went down to Regent's Park in London for an ecology fieldwork training day ran by the Royal Society for Biology.

I was given a place on this trip as I achieved a Gold award in the Biology Olympiad competition in June. I was one out of fifteen people from all around the country to attend this fieldwork day.

In the morning, we examined different terrestrial habitats and how their properties differed. Later on, we assessed the health and stability of the canal's in and around Regent's Park and London Zoo.

This trip helped me to develop my skills and understanding in investigative fieldwork. I used several different sampling techniques that aided me in assessing biodiversity within various habitats of Regent's Park. Overall, I enjoyed the day and was grateful to be given this opportunity.



YEAR 13 TRIP TO KEW GARDENS, TUESDAY THE 11 OCTOBER - *Miss Mizen, Biology*

Last Tuesday, the Biology department took 45 students on a trip to Kew Gardens to consolidate key content from the Year 12 topic Biodiversity and Conservation. This was a fantastic opportunity for the three groups of students to learn more about the work that Kew does to conserve endangered species and explore the diverse grounds of Kew itself.

The students all took part in workshops to debate key issues surrounding conservation and discover the wide range of plants in the palm house, including Cavendish banana plants that the students learned are there as a result of protecting against a repeat of the 1950's Panama disease pandemic which decimated global plantations of the Gros Michel banana.

Report by Isabel Lawson and Heidi Harris, Year 13



After an early start and a few delays on the journey, we arrived at Kew Gardens in Richmond. Our group began the day with a short workshop about biodiversity and conservation. Our guide took us into the Palm House to show us the banana plants - we discussed the pros and cons of banana plantations from the point of view of trade ministers, climate activists and various other groups affected by the industry.

Here, we also discovered plants brought back from the brink of extinction with the help of Carlos Magdalena (the 'Plant Messiah') who is an expert in cloning endangered species of plant.



To finish off the workshop, we split into groups and had to argue for funding for a specific cause such as research into pollen which is toxic to bees and sustainable coffee farming. Many of us found it very useful to consolidate our knowledge learnt in the classroom by applying it to real life scenarios.

After the workshop, we were allowed to split off and visit whichever part of the gardens interested us. Many of us used this free time to take part in the challenge set by Miss Mizen: to recreate photos of David Attenborough at Kew in specific locations.



Lots of groups took this very seriously, using specific camera angles and replicating David's exact facial expression. Student's favourite areas of the gardens included the giant lily pads, discovering conditions that allow species like Venus flytraps and pitcher plants to evolve to swallow prey in less than a second, and the dense, steamy zones which housed vibrant tropical orchids. Other students indulged in the gift shop which sold a wide variety of plants and other botanical-themed goodies.

Overall, it was a very informative day to help cement parts of our A level course, and we all greatly enjoyed exploring one of the most diverse collections of plants in any botanic garden.

REGIONAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT – *Miss Bowtell, PE*

The U15 boys Tennis team set off to Shrewsbury on Thursday after school to stay over ready for an early defence of their title at Shrewsbury Tennis Centre. The boys had to register at 8.15 and warm up, ready to try to defeat the local rivals from Uppingham School. This was going to be a real challenge as they were trained each week by two professional coaches who were present with them at the competition. The boys had slept well and were very excited as they warmed up on the indoor courts and got used to the new surface they were playing on.

The boys waited patiently as the other teams all played before them and nerves grew. Aarnav Bajaj, our No. 2 singles player was waiting with substantial patience as he was the first to play, he was also needing to leave the team and fly off to another tennis centre elsewhere.



He played with a great deal of nerves at the start but was very confident in his approach to his match and settled down after a rocky start to play some superb rallies and placed substantial pressure upon his less experienced opponent. Subsequently, he cruised to a win and really set the team off for a fantastic start.

Ollie Bardwell was next in his singles match but he polished the opposition off very swiftly through his calm and consistent style of play, leading the opponents to try too hard and often over hit their rallies.

Then came our No.1 William Cole, a very stylish young player who thrives on close games and varying up his style of play throughout matches. William was as cool

as ice when I approached him court side to ask how things were going and this became evident when he served several rocket like serves placing his opponent under so much pressure that any returns were easily dealt with by drop shots or accurately placed ground strokes. His general play was a real joy to watch.

The final player was Andrew Pepper and he had been unbeaten in this event this year. His match was probably the most entertaining as each game went to deuce and each rally seemed to be lengthy with both boys hitting exceptional strokes. Each player was having a fantastic time with sportsmanship evident throughout. Andrew narrowly lost the match but actually stated that he enjoyed this match more than any other game he had played, due to the challenge it presented. This summed up the attitude of the whole team.

We now turned to the doubles knowing we only had to win one of the two matches and due to Aarnav's absence we had to rearrange our doubles pairings. This seemed to affect our fluency of play with one pair but with the No.1 pairing, Will Cole and Eddie Riddell dominating their opposition, with Eddie really



responding well to the increased pace of their match. This resulted in the team being in the final and we knew that the opposition were going to be less experienced. We played St George's School who were very excited to be there and had full support in their matches and so the boys had to focus fully on their play.



The boys put on a very mature and impressive display in each of their singles matches and they won easily and even played an extra match at the request of the opposition to provide a player with another match. The boys personal conduct was exemplary throughout the trip and other adults and the tournament referee commented on how friendly the team were and the level of sportsmanship being displayed by everyone.

I have always been very proud of this team due to their stylish play but in this particular event they surpassed themselves in their general conduct when winning matches and when losing them.

AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO PERFECTION IN CROSS COUNTRY THIS TERM! – Report by Mr Ray, PE

Fenland League

This term has always been a busy one for cross country at the School but this year has started with an almost perfect record and sets the School up for one of the best for some time.

Following two highly successful Fenland League races, all 4 age groups, Junior Boys (Y7&8), Junior Girls (Yr7&8), Intermediate Girls (Y9&10) and Intermediate Boys (Y9&10), lead their respective competitions, having extended the lead from the first to the second round. In addition to this, numerous individuals appear in the top 10 athletes in each competition.



South Lincolnshire Championships

At the recent South Lincs Championships, held at Boston, almost 80 students from Years 7-13 were in attendance. Used as a selection race, the top 20 students in each of the four age groups (Y7; Junior Y8 & 9; Intermediate Y10 & 11; Senior Y12 & 13) progress to represent South Lincolnshire at the County Championships at Burghley Park in January. Additionally, run as a team competition, the first six athletes from each school will score points (their position) to produce the winning school in each group.



Not only did the School win all eight competitions, but it is expected 58 of these students will be selected to represent South Lincolnshire in January.

This is by far the largest contingent from any of the 14 schools in South Lincolnshire and, putting this into context, Bourne Grammar students will form almost 45% of the South Lincs Team. Pick of the teams had to be the Year 7 Girls team that saw all 10 girls finish in the top 19 positions out of more than 62 starters.

ESAA Cross Country Cup

On Wednesday of this week, 24 students were selected for the boys and girls Junior and Intermediate teams (4 teams of 6) for the English Schools Cup, a competition the school has been hugely successful in.

With schools from across Lincolnshire, the students did not disappoint. Of the four teams, three would finish in first place, whilst the Junior Girls claimed second spot in their competition. These four teams will be joined by the two Senior teams (Y11,12 & 13) as all six progress to the Regional Final to be held on Saturday 12 November at The Grammar School in Leeds.

All have the potential to reach the National Final on 3 December. Should they achieve this feat, it is believed they would be the first school in the country to ever attain this!



The ultimate achievement - Congratulations!

I am absolutely delighted to say that having 'found the sport' during his time at School, Harry Hewitt (Year 13) gained his England vest in athletics over the summer. As a footballer, Harry started cross country as a 'second sport' in Year 7 and developed over the following years, achieving great success in the competitions mentioned above.

Athletics was a natural addition and his dedication has brought this reward. However, in a sad twist of fate, injury robbed Harry of his opportunity to fulfil this opportunity and compete for England but I have no doubt that this Selection will again come to fruition in the near future.

A recent victory in the Rutland Water 5k Park Run in a time of 15:44 provided a good training run and one in which former Headteacher Mr Maddox also competed. The record for this course is a staggering 14:53 held by former student and English Schools athlete James McCrae.

It has, and remains a great pleasure, to see such students progress and mature over their time at the School and should give all the belief that with hard work, dedication and determination, they can achieve their goals. Well done Harry!

Cross Country Club

This remains open to all students on Monday and Wednesdays after School. The club is growing and we would welcome those willing to develop their general fitness or look to compete for the School. Led by Mr

Sheppard it is a great way to get involved in the sport and possibly strive to reach the level others here have done.



YEAR 13 – PROGRESS REVIEW MEETINGS: BOOKING SYSTEM

A reminder that the SchoolCloud booking system will open on Monday 31 October at 20:00.

You will be able to book up to 10 appointments, each of six minutes in duration, and bookings will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. The system will make sure that each video appointment will commence and end at the scheduled time so please ensure you have logged into the system in good time to commence your appointment.

The online booking system can be accessed [here](#).

A login code is not required; the system has been set up using the details of the Priority 1 parent and your son/daughter's preferred forename (as used in School), surname and date of birth as recorded on our database.

Guidance on how to carry out a video call can be found [here](#).

All queries about online booking should be directed by e-mail to Mrs Hall via prm@bourne-grammar.lincs.sch.uk

The booking system will close on Sunday 6 November at 23:55.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

For the past year, quietly in the background, a small group of parents have been working towards getting the Bourne Grammar School Parent Teacher Association (BGS PTA) up and running, and we have finally got everything ready to start.

We're delighted to announce that we're ready for your help now. Please feel free to join us at our next meeting at The Sugar Mill, Bourne on Wednesday 2nd November at 7pm - we would love to receive your input, talk through new ideas for fundraising and where you can help with planning, to work towards providing your children in Bourne Grammar School with further resources to enrich their school lives.

Our Chair, Jayne Butler, met with Mr Anderson this week to find out what our first target is - the School would appreciate extra picnic benches for the students to use in the outdoor areas, so we will be working towards this over the next few months. Additionally, an exciting new Lego Club is eagerly waiting for donations of pre-loved or new Lego and storage, so any help and donations towards this great new Student-lead Club would be hugely appreciated and is another wonderful goal to be working towards.

Thanks to the hard work of these parents, we're also very excited to announce that BGS PTA has just been approved as part of the Lottery SK.

Run by South Kesteven, it's a lottery run for charities across Lincolnshire. For every £1 ticket purchased, BGS PTA received 50p plus a share of a much wider pot.

This is an incredibly easy way to help the PTA with fundraising, whilst also supporting other local charities! In addition to supporting our School, there are some great prizes including the chance to win £20k!!!

More information can be found on this [link](#), we will provide more information on how this works in our next article.

We will also introduce our Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer and update you on all of the latest developments, in the meantime, we look forward to welcoming new members at The Sugar Mill and for a very informal chat over drinks on Wednesday 2 November.

Please feel free to contact us via email on: Bournegrammarpta@gmail.com or find us on our [Facebook Page](#).

LOST PROPERTY

This term we have seen an increase in unnamed items in lost property. Where possible please make sure all uniform, including PE kit is named so they can be returned to the student if lost.

Staff Vacancy

Data Support Assistant

Please refer to our website for further details and an application form, click [here](#)

Submit application forms to Fiona.Hill@bourne-grammar.lincs.sch.uk



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

| Name | Year | Staff | Subject |
|-------------------------|------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Rebecca Board | 7 | Mrs Allen | English |
| Aran Camfield | 7 | Mr Murray | Geography |
| Janice Chen | 7 | Miss Mafusire-Strawford | Art |
| Muhammad Farukh | 7 | Miss Roberts | EPR |
| Charlie Hempstead | 7 | Mr Williamson-Ward | English |
| Jabir Mavani | 7 | Mrs Worrall | Spanish |
| Saul Annis | 8 | Miss Atkinson | EPR |
| Bradley Connolly | 8 | Miss Segarra Ginés | Spanish |
| Coby Dawkins | 8 | Mr Bainbridge | History |
| Greta Greinyte | 8 | Mr Edwards | Spanish |
| Maryam Muhammad | 8 | Ms Jasinska | Spanish |
| Brooke Olivares-Alvarez | 8 | Mr Edwards | Spanish |
| Weronika Skrzynecka | 8 | Ms Jasinska | Spanish |
| Kiki Timmins | 8 | Mrs Edwards | English |
| Munachukwuso Anike | 9 | Miss Turton | Drama |
| Jack Cotuk | 9 | Mr Delpport | Design Engineering |
| Connor Dunn | 9 | Mr Moxley | Drama |
| Euan Hirst | 9 | Miss Patman | Spanish |
| Charles Kavati | 9 | Mrs Cowell | French |
| Emma Kettle | 9 | Mrs Allen | English |
| Milan Sisodia | 9 | Miss Patman | Spanish |
| Tom McLay | 9 | Mr Ray | PE |
| Jessica Burton | 10 | Mrs Clark | Spanish |
| Jessica Burton | 10 | Mrs Edwards | English |
| Lewis Human | 10 | Miss Segarra Ginés | Spanish |
| Matilda Isitt | 10 | Mrs Allen | English |
| Daisy Hakim | 10 | Mr Ray | PE |
| Sam Brown | 11 | Ms Kemp | English |
| Scarlet Clifford | 11 | Mrs Bolitho | English |
| Hermione King | 11 | Mrs Williamson | English |
| Pranathi P Prakash | 11 | Ms Kemp | English |
| Ollie Provost | 11 | Mr Miller | Physics |
| Mikella Sarfo | 11 | Mrs Edwards | English |
| Ellie Hall | 12 | Miss McAleese | Psychology |
| Charlie Knight | 12 | Mr Hartley | Economics |
| Ed Trofimovas | 12 | Mr Jones | Business Studies |
| Jignasa Sanga | 12 | Mr Stainton | Biology |
| Keyon Snoek | 12 | Mr Williamson | Media Studies |
| Elizabeth Allen | 13 | Miss Raebel | German |
| Evie Bage | 13 | Ms Creedon | Pastoral |
| Hugo Brill | 13 | Ms Creedon | Pastoral |
| Alice Dossett | 13 | Ms Creedon | Pastoral |
| Max Garthwaite | 13 | Ms Creedon | Pastoral |
| Izzy Gray | 13 | Miss McAleese | Psychology |
| Amelia Griffiths | 13 | Ms Creedon | Pastoral |
| Sophie Jordan | 13 | Ms Creedon | Pastoral |
| Isabelle Pallister | 13 | Ms Creedon | Pastoral |
| Oscar Potts | 13 | Ms Creedon | Pastoral |
| Jaya Taank | 13 | Ms Creedon | Pastoral |
| Dhruva Teja Turaga | 13 | Ms Creedon | Pastoral |