

# BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL BULLETIN

*Week ending Friday 5 February 2021*

*From Alastair Anderson, Headteacher*

Two topics have dominated conversations in school this week: the mental health of everyone within the School community and the strategy behind the awarding of GCSE and A-Level grades to Year 11 and Year 13 students this year. Both are, of course, linked and I have been very aware of the growing pressure on our hard working public examinations' cohorts in the context of uncertain return dates, the government consultation report due at the end of February and the everyday strain of constant on-screen learning. I am writing separately today to all students in Years 11 and 13 to give them as much information as possible regarding the next few weeks and months, and I hope the letter will calm a few nerves and help provide some clarity at this difficult time. As a school we are acutely aware that our planning based on assumptions regarding the date of reopening and what will come from the consultation document is all subject to change, but I have done my best to lay out a simple optimistic message for them all with as much detail provided as I dare. And a simple optimistic message is vital for us all to hold on to. Lockdown is reducing the infection rates, the speed of the vaccination programme is quicker than many of us thought it would be, and Spring is not too far away. The only way is up....and for all students in all year groups brighter times are on the horizon.

Mental Health has become a focus for many in the last twelve months, and the language around Wellbeing is everywhere to be heard. I am pleased to be able to tell you that my personal career journey has featured a significant Wellbeing development element to it, and it is our intention to grow the quality and provision for all students in the months and years to come as we look to equip our youngsters with the tools to thrive in an ever more complex world. I am delighted that we have taken our first small steps forward in this area with a large number of staff undertaking their Mental Health First Aid qualifications and 27 staff volunteers have come forward to register their interest with Mr Brunner in developing Wellbeing within the School. This is only the start of a process that will take time to nurture and grow, but it is the long term ambition to put together a programme that will do more than just provide effective triage for those in need: we must find ways of developing the strength, resilience and understanding in our young people that will allow them to shrug off challenges in their present and future lives. It will be an exciting journey ahead, full of logistical challenge I am sure, but a very important and worthwhile project to embark upon.

Finally I want to thank the Head Students for meeting with me weekly on a Wednesday morning. Their smiles and stories along with their hopes and fears have helped reconnect me with the profession I love. Talking to a screen and teaching lessons to groups who are simply voices and texts has been hard for teachers as well as learners, and having the opportunity to engage in a more effective online conference call with our Head Students has been a real highlight. Taking time to see and remember what education is all about – the students, their journeys and their outcomes – has helped maintain my own sense of optimism this week and helped me remember why, when times are so tough and uncertain, working in education is such a privilege.



## CAREERS AND UCAS UPDATE - Mrs Hawkins, Careers, UCAS and Examinations Officer

Things are very busy in the Careers and UCAS Department at the moment across several year groups and I thought that parents might like a snapshot of what is going on.

In Year 9 thoughts are turning to GCSE subject choices ahead of the virtual Options Evening next week on 9 February. In order to help our students prepare, they are working through tutor-led tasks set through Unifrog and we strongly encourage you to use the platform with them to look at how choices made now may influence and affect future study and career choices. I will be available on the evening for Q&A sessions, so please do ask if you need any help.

In Year 11, 1-1 careers and options meetings are underway *via* the TEAMS platform. Students were given the opportunity to request a meeting with me in December and I have already had many very interesting conversations with students about Post-16 study options, university choices and future careers. If you feel that your son/daughter would benefit from a meeting with me then please encourage them to contact me *via* email and I will set a meeting up with them. Year 11 have also received information on myriad virtual work experience opportunities and how to find and apply for these. Although it is a little early in the year for students to be focussing on work experience, some opportunities are taking place later on and can be applied for now.

In Year 12 we launched our UCAS support programme this week with a live and interactive talk from the University of Nottingham. Our contact, Will Hollis, spoke excellently and engagingly, introducing UCAS and how to start researching universities and courses. The presentation was attended by 200 of our Year 12 students, which was really fantastic to see. We also had some excellent questions! The presentation slides are available to students through the Year 12 TEAMS channel.

Also in Year 12, Christ's College Cambridge ran a webinar on applying to Oxbridge to our potential applicants last week. This webinar covered preparing to make a competitive application, super-curricular activities, wider-reading, courses available and how to include all of your hard work in your personal statement. Hopefully this will have given the students plenty to be thinking about over the coming months.

Students in Year 12 have been receiving information from me over the last couple of weeks about a range of additional opportunities such as the PWC Flying Start Degree Programmes, PWC's summer school, how to search for and apply to virtual work experience opportunities, how to attend the UK Universities and Apprenticeship Fair and the University of Nottingham Summer School.

Next week is National Apprenticeship Week and on Tuesday morning we have a speaker making a live presentation from the National Apprenticeship Service. They will be giving our Year 12s an overview of apprenticeships and will then go on to run an employability workshop - relevant to all students in Year 12, regardless of their future plans. This will be a first for us over the TEAMS platform, so we are hoping that it is a success and that the students take away some excellent tips.

The first Tuesday back after half term we have A Star Future talking over TEAMS to Year 12 about applying to study abroad - this is usually a very engaging talk and will be particularly interesting this year with the changes anticipated due to Brexit.

In Year 13, the on-time UCAS application deadline was last Friday and this year was a bumper year for applications, with 194 applications submitted. Student Finance England will shortly be opening for applications for entry 2021 and the students will all receive information about this in due course. For parents who would like to see what their son/daughter may be able to borrow, you can use this calculator: <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance-calculator>. I am here to help all students, so please do encourage your son/daughter to contact me for help with CVs, covering letters and anything else related to job/apprenticeship/university applications.

Finally, I am attaching some links below to events that you may find interesting/useful. Some are for parents and some are ones that you can access with your son/daughter.

**InvestIN: Invitation for Parents - Success Beyond School**

Free expert advice on guiding your child to a successful career.

We are delighted to announce our 'Success Beyond School' events for this term: free-of-charge interactive 'Live Online' seminars designed to help you supercharge your children's career potential. These events are for parents of children aged 12-18 and free to attend. Places are highly limited so register now to avoid disappointment using the following link: [https://investin.org/pages/parent-series?mc\\_cid=f17795d54d&mc\\_eid=dbe7f18fc8](https://investin.org/pages/parent-series?mc_cid=f17795d54d&mc_eid=dbe7f18fc8)

Wednesday 24 February - The Skills Surgery

How to break into careers in medicine, dentistry and veterinary science

Wednesday 3 March - The Power of Networks

How your child can build a powerful professional network.

**National Apprenticeship Week Activities**

There are several presentations being run by the National Apprenticeship Service. You can read more and register here: [Workpays Events](#) | [Eventbrite](#)

Additional events including the Apprentice Talk Sessions event, coming up on Monday 8 February from 15:00 to 17:00. There will be 12 different Apprentice highlight journeys, an opportunity to ask questions and find out about other young people's career journeys, learn about different types of apprenticeships, some myth busting and a few prizes along the way! This is a free event for all students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13, teachers and parents. You can register here: <https://www.research.net/r/NAW2021>

As always, if you have any questions please contact me on [careers@bourne-grammar.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:careers@bourne-grammar.lincs.sch.uk).

**CATCH-UP SESSIONS - Mr Hewitt, Deputy Headteacher (Academic)**

Academic catch-up sessions are continuing to take place remotely *via TEAMS*. Students may attend any session(s) of their choosing as published below by joining the relevant *TEAMS* meeting at 17:00 each day.

	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 13	
	CHEMISTRY	ENGLISH LITERATURE	LAW	BIOLOGY
Monday 8 February	Chemistry of the Atmosphere 1 Mr Marsden TEAMS	Paper 1 Overview Miss Bennett TEAMS	Civil Courts, ADR and Tribunals Mr Mitchell TEAMS	Cell Membranes 1 Mr Vaughan TEAMS
Tuesday 9 February	No Session Available	BIOLOGY Ecosystems 1 Mr Vaughan TEAMS	PSYCHOLOGY Memory Miss Thurlow TEAMS	
Wednesday 10 February	PHYSICS Atomic Structure Mr Mitchell TEAMS	SPANISH Writing Skills Mrs Worrall TEAMS	SPANISH Revision key ideas on the Film María llena eres de gracia Mrs Worrall TEAMS	ECONOMICS Theme 2: Key ideas in Macro Economics Mr Hartley TEAMS
Thursday 11 February	No Session Available	CHEMISTRY Rates Mr Marsden TEAMS	MATHEMATICS Forces and Friction Mr Smith TEAMS	MEDIA STUDIES Representation Theories: Butler and Hall Mr Williamson TEAMS

## YEAR 10 LETTER WRITING - Report by Katie Dharamraj (Year 10)

This term, with the help of Ms Creedon and Mr Bowers, the Year 10 Prefects have been creating a weekly challenge for Year 10 students to complete. Our latest challenge was to encourage the students to write a letter to an elderly person in a local care home. We had a great turn out! The letters contained: jokes, cute pictures of pets, photos of delicious food, as well as a kind message. There's no doubt that these heart-warming letters will brighten someone's day who may be feeling isolated. Below is just one example of the many excellent letters we received. To promote Children's Mental Health Week, our next challenge is a photo competition with the title of 'What makes you happy?'. We can't wait to see the entries!

*Hello*

*I am a student in Year 10 at Bourne Grammar School. I hope you are well and finding ways to pass the time during this lockdown. Covid-19 sprung a big surprise on us last March. It was the first time schools have closed in history. Initially we found it exciting but as the weeks went on it was more of a struggle having to re-adjust to this new lifestyle. The thing I missed the most was seeing my friends and family. I am sure you're feeling the same. I really miss my Grandmother's hugs.*

*Luckily for me, I enjoy all sorts of PE (physical education). My favourite sport is running. I love to run in Bourne Woods where there are lots of dog walkers. People often say, "Hi" as I run past. Occasionally I've seen deer, there's a small herd of about 6 in there. It feels magical when you hear them rush by and leap through the bushes. I've managed to keep running throughout the whole of lockdown and I've loved every seasonal change. It can get really warm in the summer but this week it snowed! I don't mind what the weather is, I'll still go out. I really missed the track season last summer. I love to run the 300m for speed and the 800m competitively. During the winter season we do Cross Country to keep fit but even this got cancelled so I'm just doing training sessions. I'm really hopeful the athletics season will happen this year.*

*I've also tried cooking with my mum as we are at home all the time. I'm learning how to cook new dishes. I'm mastering a curry and a Spanish beef dish, " Ropa Vieja " which means "old clothes". It doesn't sound great but tastes delicious. I've also become good at making a salmon dish by myself and I made a cheesecake this week.*

*I love to draw; it calms me down after having online computer lessons all day. I tried painting too but I prefer using coloured pencils and drawing Disney characters. My most recent picture was Winnie the Pooh.*





*I haven't planned anything for the summer yet but I'm really hoping lockdown will end soon and I can look forward to spending time outside in the warm weather and hopefully see my friends again.*

*Wishing you all the very best. Keep safe.*

### Note from Ms Creedon and Mr Bowers

We'd like to take the opportunity to thank all the Year 10 students who took part in this challenge. Reading your letters has actually been the highlight of our term so far! To take the time to think of others whilst facing all the daily challenges and struggles that lockdown presents is truly admirable. Well done and thank you to our Prefects for all their hard work too!

### HOUSE POINT TOTALS

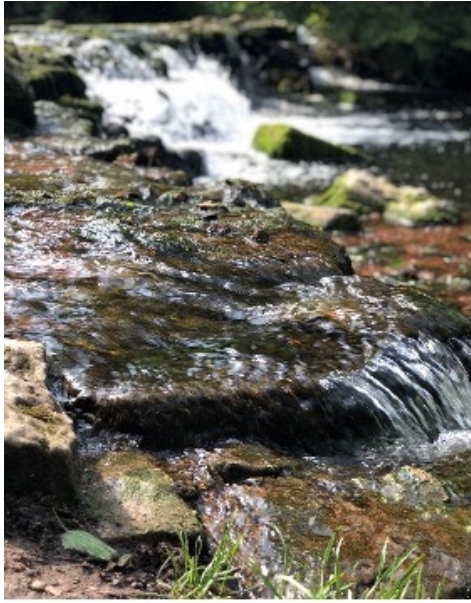
			
3,851	3,776	4,043	3,970

*These totals show all House Points earned minus Behaviour Points.  
It includes points from all students in each house up to 05/02/2021.*



## YEAR 8 PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION - Miss Atkinson, Head of Year 8

Year 8 students have been capturing images surrounding the theme of 'Water' for Round 2 of the Year 8 Photography Competition. Over 50 stunning images were submitted, ranging from idyllic scenes of nature to clever shots of raindrops and frost. It was difficult to narrow the finalists down to just 10, however I am pleased to be able to share the work of the finalists with you, and announce the winning images.



*1st Place  
Rebekah Arnold*



*2nd Place  
Ben Stevenson*



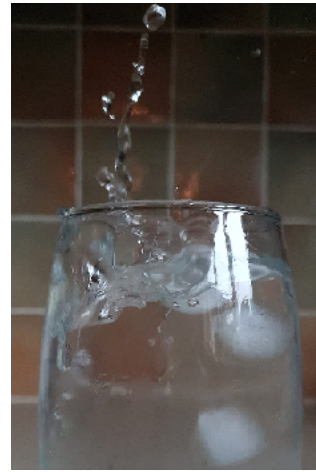
*3rd Place  
Emily Cody*



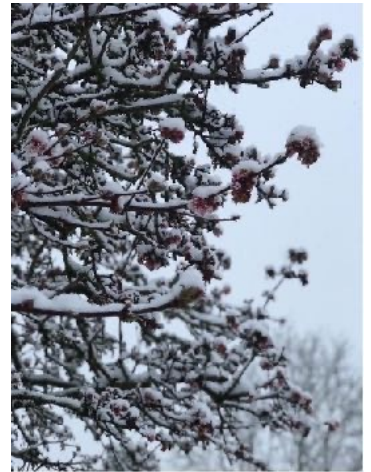
*Joshua Lamb*



*Niamh Glasswell*



*Alex Dougall*



*Mayra Narang*



*Jonathan Blair*



*Hasini Vijayasankar*



*Thomas Drew*



## YEAR 9 PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION - Miss Bradley, Head of Year 9

The theme this week for the Year 9 Photography Competition was 'Identity' and our winners are below.



1st Place  
*Sanjani Mamillapalle*



2nd Place  
*Megan Drake*



3rd Place  
*Frances Henson*

## ARTWORK - Mrs Welling, Subject Leader: Art

The pieces below illustrate how hard students have been working online to complete their final outcomes on Abstract Art. Using inspiration from the Futurists, M.C.Escher, Bridget Riley and Henri Matisse, students have been producing impossible compositions using techniques learnt this term. A huge well done to all students in Year 9 who are working so hard on their artwork. More work to follow from Year 9 next week!

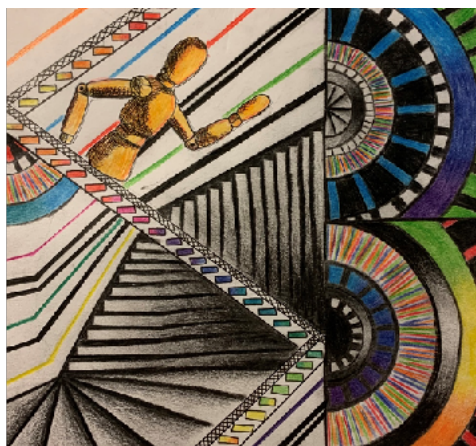
See the last page of this issue of the *Bulletin* for an exciting competition for students to enter from Tesco Bourne - an opportunity for all our budding artists.



*Delicia Johnson*



*Emma Smith*



*Alexanne Bradley*



*Maisy Jones*

# STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Name	Year	Staff	Subject
Ben Dexter	7	Mr Delport	Design Engineering
Eva Harris	7	Mr Howard	EPR
Aryan Nahata	7	Mr Chamberlain	Pastoral
Aryan Nahata	7	Mr Delport	Design Engineering
Tanish Patel	7	Mr Delport	Design Engineering
Marco Perna	7	Mr Dougall	Design Engineering
Toby Staines	7	Mrs Baverstock	Spanish
Husayn Walji	7	Ms Jasinska	Spanish
Bronte Wyvill	7	Mrs Pignatiello	Drama
Freya Dahlgaard-Sigsworth	7	Mr Green	History
Milo Moocarme	7	Miss Mizen	Science
Ellie Bannister	8	Mr Bainbridge	History
Niamh Glasswell	8	Ms Kemp	English
Faith Perkins	8	Mrs Williamson	English
Matt Stafford	8	Miss Segarra Ginés	Spanish
Bella Atkin	9	Ms Kemp	English
Archie Crane	9	Mr Moxley	Drama
Jack Knowles	9	Mr Walker	Computing
Evie Lound	9	Mrs Cowell	French
Sanjani Mamilapalle	9	Miss Lindley	Geography
Miqdaad Mawani	9	Mr Williamson	English
Sasha Milne	9	Mr Perez	Biology
Megan Mozley	9	Mr Gatland	English
Briony Nelson	9	Mrs Worrall	Spanish
Courtney Pudney	9	Miss Turton	Drama
Qais Raja	9	Miss Doerpinghaus	German
Mikella Sarfo	9	Miss Sanders	Business Studies
Henry Wickham	9	Miss Mafusire-Strawford	Art
Zara Wildsmith	9	Mrs Woolf	Chemistry
Chloe Kirman	9	Mrs Worrall	Spanish
Katie Jakeman	10	Mrs Clark	Spanish
Tripti Kumar	10	Mrs Williamson	English
Sophia Leaton	10	Mrs Pignatiello	Drama
Grace Lester	10	Miss Smallshaw	Chemistry
Warrick McKoy	10	Mrs Williamson	English
Sree Ramesh Shankar	10	Miss Hurrell	Spanish
Gracie-Lou Sainthouse	10	Mrs Welling	Art
Alexander Udeaja	10	Miss Segarra Ginés	Spanish
Jenny Baker	10	Mr Moxley	Drama
Nicole Ogbonna	10	Ms Jasinska	Spanish
Samantha Thomas	10	Miss Bennett	English
Tilly Manning	11	Mr Andy	Mathematics
Thomas Payne	11	Miss Segarra Ginés	Spanish
Holly Weston	11	Ms Creedon	Spanish
Charlie Hill	11	Miss Watson	English
Sufyan Shazad	11	Mr Harris	Chemistry
Maisie Brownlow	12	Ms Bowtell	Sport Studies
Zoe Darlow	12	Mr Mitchell	Law
Ellie Hewitt	12	Miss Patman	Spanish
Harry Atkin	12	Mrs Shales	Mathematics
Katie Dharamraj	13	Ms Creedon	Pastoral

## INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

### Music

Sanjana Padmanabhan (Year 8) has passed her Grade 1 Piano exam.





## Tesco Bourne Easter Drawing Competition



Design an Easter Poster – reflecting the  
current situation.

Age ranges for competition



0 – 5yrs

6 – 11yrs

12 – 17yrs

Please hand your designs in with your  
name and contact number to the  
Customer Service Desk, South Street by  
31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

An Easter prize will be awarded for the  
winning design.

---