



BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL BULLETIN

Week ending Friday 17 May 2024

From Alastair Anderson, Headteacher

This week we have seen some fabulous events and trips going on. First of all, my thanks to our Careers Team for supporting the Go To Work days in Year 9 and Year 10, invaluable experiences for young people as they begin to consider workplace futures. Those who were unable to find an external placement were treated to an excellent in-school programme run by Mrs Elliot and I know she was impressed at the inquisitive nature of the questioning that went on. A very successful element to our programme.

A-Level scientists have been to Lisbon, gathering first-hand information on a wide range of topics such as 18th century chemistry, plants from the Portuguese Empire and the history of Portuguese health. They were also able to visit the famous Amphitheatre and Chemical Laboratory at the old Polytechnic School, one the last surviving 19th century scientific study centres in Europe. We can't wait to hear and read reports of the trip and my thanks to Mr Marsden for organising it.

Finally, my congratulations to the 55 athletes who competed in very poor weather in Boston this week. The facilities there are excellent though the rain conspired to make top level performances difficult. My thanks to the PE department for their support and organisation and let's hope that the sun shines a bit more readily as the ESAA Track and Field Cup programme progresses!

WHOLE SCHOOL OFF-TIMETABLE DAY: FRIDAY 28 JUNE 2024 – *Report by Mrs Hall*

(The school will be closed for this day)

Progress Review Meetings – Years 7, 8, 9 & 10

I am now able to advise parents/carers that we have arranged a series of Progress Review Meetings for students in years 7, 8, 9 & 10. This includes an off-timetable day and two evenings, each of which will provide parents with an opportunity to meet virtually with Subject Teachers, to discuss their child's progress.

The schedule of these Progress Review Meetings is as follows:

PRM Whole Day (**Off-timetable**): Friday 28 June 2024
Work will be set to complete at home (Years 7, 8, 9 & 10)

PRM Evening 1: Thursday 13 June 2024
PRM Evening 2: Thursday 4 July 2024

For practical reasons there will be a limit on the number of appointments that can be made in respect of each student. Further details on how to book your appointments, etc. will follow in due course.

OPEN EVENING – 20 JUNE

Parents/carers have been informed this week of early closing of the School on Thursday 20 June to prepare the School for Open Evening. School will close at 12:55 on this day for all students.

You will have also received a further letter that includes details of how students can sign up to be subject specific helpers and tour guides for Open Evening. Our students are our best ambassadors, and we would love as many as possible to sign up.

OXBRIGHT ESSAY COMPETITION: HIGHLY COMMENDED – Report by Mrs Bolitho, English

Congratulations to Ella Gynn in Year 12 who recently entered the annual Oxbright essay writing competition which asks students to explore a single issue in a range of fields, including politics, computing, architecture and medicine.

Ella's essay "How writers and journalists need to work together to change the world" was inspired by the idea that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Ella explored the influence of post-modernism and the impact that writers and activists, such as Malala Yousafzai, can have.

BGS are thrilled to share that Ella's essay, in her chosen subject of writing and journalism, was highly commended, meaning that she placed in the top 20% of a field of well over a thousand international entries.

Well done, Ella!



A LEVEL DRAMA AND THEATRE NEA WORK – Report by Mr Moxley, Drama

Last week our Year 12 Drama and Theatre A-level students presented their Scripted Practical work as part of the A-level NEA work.

Here are some photos of showcasing both theatre design and performance. In design, we saw puppetry, set and costume work.

1. Brooke Ellis (Catherine), and Jason Hart (Rodolfo) in an extract from Arthur Miller's *A View from the Bridge*.
2. Emilee Mimms (Johnny 'Rooster' Byron) in an extract from Jez Butterworth's *Jerusalem*
3. Kacey Chen (Macbeth), Flo Bailey (Banquo's Ghost), Grace Lavender (Lady Macbeth), Emily Thomas (Ross and other Lords), in an immersed, promenade staging of an extract from Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. Set design by Elspeth Dunk and Lady Macbeth's costume design by Kaitlyn Goddard.
4. Liz Edwards, Maria Klatkiewicz, Bri Nelson and Adam Wheel, as the ensemble in an extract from Steven Berkoff's *Metamorphosis* (adapted from Kafka's original novella).
5. Olivia Richardson, with the puppet of The Ash Girl/Cinderella, which she made and operated. **Olivia has also just received the news that she has been accepted to join the National Youth Theatre this Summer. This is a superb achievement for Olivia; it is rare for students of her age to be accepted to this world-class theatre organisation. We wish her every success this Summer.**
6. Pranathi Prakash, Olivia Richardson, Cloda O'Boyle and Emilia Beacham (ensemble players) in an extract from Timberlake Wertenbaker's *The Ash Girl*.





ROAD TO WIMBLEDON – Report by Miss Bowtell, PE

Last week the department held two Singles Tennis tournaments for Year 7-9 students. We were thrilled by the huge number of entries for each of the events and the growing number of both boys and girls who are keen to develop their Tennis skills. It is a qualifying event for the County tournament and if there is success there then students are invited to compete in further rounds culminating in attendance at an event at Wimbledon!

The boys kicked the week off and there was a real mix of Year 7, 8 and 9 boys who entered this event. They were split into two leagues and were seeded according to previous appearances in school events. The matches started fiercely with some superb power serving and the boys really going for it in their intensity of rallies. However, as the games got closer, you could feel the tension as each player knew there were only two places in each league up for grabs if they were to make a semi-final and caution stepped in with some longer rallies happening, in many cases over 30 shots!

The first semi-final was a repeat of last year's final and so was always going to be a showstopper with Ted Mylchreest vs Saul Annis.

This was decided last year by a sudden death deuce moment as they could not be separated, and this was how the semi-final started with each of them alternating victories in games. However, in the deciding game Sauls' increased power and control finally paid off and Ted couldn't quite find a reply with Saul progressing to the Final but who would he meet?



Next up - Johnny Hullock and Rohan Lesiw

This was an epic battle and one I haven't seen in a very long time. Each game was prolonged due to the fantastic level of concentration each of them displayed and the consistency in their rallying with most being over 50, yes 50 shots!! Eventually Johnny managed to sneak one extra point and get through to the final but was so exhausted that he didn't have much energy, to the very keen and enthusiastic Saul who was desperate to finally get the title of best in KS3.

Final Positions:

1 st	Saul Annis
2 nd	Johnny Hullock
Joint 3 rd	Ted Mylchreest and Rohan Lesiw
5 th	Harry Armstrong
6 th	Ben Alliston
7 th	Alexander Allen
8 th	Corey Bosworth

The girls event followed and was dominated by the power hitters! This was lovely to see; girls hitting powerfully with no fear of not keeping the ball in and really giving their all! There were 3 leagues of fabulous contestants, some competing for the first time which is fantastic.

Again, players were grouped and seeded so that there would be a semi-final of the provisional three favourites but there was a wild card place available for anyone who scored the most points in their leagues so all to play for.

Each league was very competitive but none more so than that with Lucy Cottam and Aleena Malik, Radha Thotakura and Bea Amos. This was an extremely strong league with all games being closely contested and with some outstanding matches. The other leagues held other surprises especially when Rishita Dutta surprised Mary Pepper by winning the first game in a best of three round match. An amazing start for a Year 7 student.

Eloise Hull and Rishita also had a very close match with the result going down to the last point. We welcomed Delilah White as well for her first tournament and she performed really well under pressure and learnt a huge amount about scoring as a result. Again, in the last group we had another new player Harriet Templeman who had never played a match and told her opponent this in the opening match and then promptly beat her! She was in a league of more experienced players but Samaira Bajaj was the star of the league there and won quite comfortably due to her power game and consistency of shot. Ria Gupta tried to compete with her on this level but she simply went up another gear in her general play.

The semi-finals were set with Samaira against Aleena and Lucy vs Mary. Aleena was a little overawed by the power of Samaira but learnt a lot from playing her in this type of pressure setting and will be all the better for having played her. Mary vs Lucy was a very interesting match as both girls are real power houses and both can maintain rallies consistently. However, Lucy's aggressive style, despite an initial pay off at the start, led to a few unforced errors at important moments, Mary's calm and more experienced head led her to the semi-final win.



The final has been postponed until next Tuesday where we anticipate a very fast paced and powerful match. Next week is the turn of the lower school and upper school doubles!

Y8 'TALK THE TALK' ORACY WORKSHOP- WEDNESDAY 15 MAY 2024 – Report by Mrs Allen, Assistant Headteacher, Academic

To support all the fantastic oracy work that BGS teaching staff have been focusing on across the curriculum this year, on Wednesday 15 May, expert trainers from **Talk The Talk** came into school to work with students in Year 8.

The communication workshop focused on students' ability to:

- **structure their thoughts** so that they make sense to others.
- have the **confidence** to put their views across.
- be able to **listen to others** and understand their point of view.

Talk The Talk's aim is to ensure that students gain the skills to enable them to have positive verbal interactions in all life situations. At BGS, we believe that great speakers are made not born and that developing these vital skills not only have academic benefits for our students, but social and personal benefits too!

Students had a fantastic day learning about the 3 Vs: vocal, verbal & visual oracy and have learnt about the many facets of being a successful communicator that go beyond just what they say.

Students within the session said:

"I enjoyed that the session wasn't just about the theory of good oracy, there were lots of active parts too."

Oliver

"It was fun! I learnt not to worry about other people's opinions of you when delivering to an audience. Everyone gets nervous."

Olivia

"Confidence is key; if you don't believe it yourself it will come across in your delivery."

Tamsin

"The 'Talk to the Hand' structure will help to support my verbal contributions in class."

Saihaan

Staff involved in the workshops commented that:

“Students had lots of positive encouragement allowing them to talk to their peers and step out of their comfort zone.”

“It was very interactive and very inclusive. Every student was involved in the session.”

“The difference in confidence in the students from the beginning of the session to the end was hugely noticeable. I believe the biggest benefit of this workshop was building confidence.”

The trainers commented that our students were the “ideal candidates” for this workshop as they were engaged in the session and willing to step out of their comfort zone. They were an absolute credit to the school!

The following students were nominated by their trainer for being a *Student Oracy Champion* because of their fantastic contributions and the progress that they made in workshop:

8A- Casper Baldock & Ellie Moore

8B- Zac Holmes, Saffron Steen, Elliott Edwards & Rose Divers

8C- Anya Copestake, Zoe Roberts, Patrick Adejuwon & Oliver Parrott

8D- Freddie Neal, Brogan Dragota, Ameelia Giblin & Sam Santos

8E- Thomas Hurley & Nandini Mamillapalle

8F- Ria Gupta, Aleksander Wiza, Emilia Stephens & Sivam Chopra

8G- Finely Harrison, Noah Skinner, Izzy Palmer & Hazel Delpport

8H- Justin Rusalim, Otto Wild, Tamsin Bates & Olivia Sloan

We hope that the involvement in this workshop will prepare Year 8 students for *Oracy Day* on **Monday 20 May** where students will spend the whole day learning entirely through talk!



INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

DofE GOLD – SAM HARTLEY, YEAR 13 VISITS BUCKINGHAM PALACE – *Report by Mrs Brett, DofE Manager*

Sam Hartley visited Buckingham Palace for his DofE Gold Award Presentation and Celebration on Monday 13 May.

It is rare for a student to fully complete their Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards culminating in a Palace visit before finishing their education at Bourne Grammar School, so I am especially pleased to share this news. Congratulations Sam, I hope you had a wonderful day.



LINCOLNSHIRE SCHOOLS GOLF ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIPS - *Report by Leo Christoudias, Year 12*



On Friday 3 May, I travelled to a very wet Sleaford Golf Club to take part in the Lincolnshire Schools Golf Competition. As I was in the Cat 1-2 Competition (Handicaps of 14 and below) I knew that it would be very difficult as there was going to be some very good players.

Like many of the other players I struggled to put a good score together in the tough conditions and unfortunately did not progress to the next round.

Nevertheless, it was a great experience at a nice golf course and I learnt a lot.

DENMARK FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT – FREDDIE GIBSON, YEAR 7 PLAYS WITH HIS TEAM IN THE NORHALNE CUP

Well done to Freddie Gibson who took part in a football tournament in Denmark this week. The team arrived in Denmark on Wednesday for the Norhalne Cup, there were 569 teams in total entered and over the 3 days 1370 games in total were played. Freddie's team made it through to the semi-finals and finished 4th in their group of around 30-40 teams which was amazing.

BBL CHAMPION AWARD – *Mr Hewitt, Deputy Headteacher, Academic*

Two Key Stage 3 students are winners of the BBL Champion Award this week for outstanding work in their English lessons. Their teacher, Mrs Jones, writes, 'I have been blown away by the consistently fantastic BBL completed by Carlota Verdu (8A) and Alfie Bird (9F) in English this year. Every week, both of them fill their booklets with insightful analysis, logical links between the extract given and our core texts, and thoughtful questions to develop their understanding.

Their commitment to completing these tasks to the best of their capacity every week not only demonstrates their engagement with the subject, but also their willingness to work independently and the clear pride they take in a job very well done; pushing themselves to do better and achieve more. This is a valuable skill to master and an admirable trait to have. Keep up the good work! You are both truly 'BBL MVPs'!

Fantastic efforts by both students. This regular and consistent independent learning is no doubt helping them to make outstanding progress in English. Well done Alfie and Carlota!



YEAR 8 SUMMER LEAGUES

Congratulations to the following Weekly Winners (Week 2)! Great effort in lessons last week 😊

League	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
League 20	Bartram Anoushka		
League 19	Webb Olivia		
League 18	Mear Esther		
League 17	Yu Casper		
League 16	Ward Lucy		
League 15	Moulds Maisie & Florence Wrigley		
League 14	Majeed Zahra		
League 13	Ranjith Aakash		
League 12	Hempstead Charlie		
League 11	Sayer Benjamin		
League 10	McGruer Louis		
League 9	Grigorov Vladimir		



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Name	Year	Staff	Subject
Robin Daniels	7	Mr Howard	EPR
Robin Daniels	7	Miss Pollard	Geography
Lauren Hammond	7	Mrs Allen	English
Madeleine Hobson	7	Mrs Allen	English
Samaira Bajaj	7	Miss Hurl	English
Fred Candy	7	Miss Hurl	English
Malika Bartram	8	Mr Hewitt	German
Ria Gupta	8	Mr Hewitt	German
Adeena Sajid	9	Mrs Evans	Geography
Riley Crown	10	Miss Patman	Spanish
Dylan Culhane	10	Mrs Williamson	English
Sophie Gombault	10	Mr Harris	Chemistry
Oliver Hallas	10	Mr Williamson-Ward	English
Freddie Jibb	10	Miss Patman	Spanish
Luke Joyner	10	Mr Williamson-Ward	English
Khushi Upreti	10	Mr Williamson-Ward	English
Cecilia Watson	10	Mr Williamson-Ward	English
Hayley Poa	10	Mrs Evans	Geography
Lorien Selby	12	Miss McAleese	Psychology
Emily Thomas	12	Mr Williamson	Media Studies
Sam Linfoot	12	Dr Hanson	Biology
Sophia Bull	13	Mr Williamson	Media Studies
Martha Dangerfield	13	Miss Sanders	Sociology
Annabel Hope	13	Mr Williamson	Media Studies
Luca Harrison	13	Mrs Lattimer	Further Maths