



BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL BULLETIN

Week ending Friday 05 July 2024
From Alastair Anderson, Headteacher

The penultimate week of term has been a joy. While Year 12 have embarked on a vital programme of work experience, ably organised by the ever-energetic Mrs Elliot, the rest of the School have taken part in a range of significant events.

Sports' Presentation Evening was, once again, an excellent way to bring to a close (almost!) the School sporting year. Ex-BGS student Josh Smith returned to act as awarder and speaker, and he gave our sporting students a valuable insight into what it takes to be a top sporting official, in his case rising up through the ranks to referee several Premier League Football matches in a career with many years left to run. Our students have enjoyed a vast array of opportunities through the year, shining on a national stage at athletics, cross country and netball as well as more locally at tennis, football, rugby, hockey, badminton and basketball. A tremendous evening, and a big thank you to Mr Ray and the PE Department for investing time and energy in BGS sport across the year.

Another tremendous evening was the Summer Soiree on Wednesday, packed with a wide range of styles performed by a cross section of students from the youngest to oldest in the School. The audience were held spellbound for two hours by the quality of the performances and the enthusiasm on display, and huge thanks must go to Mr Tomlinson and Mr Jones for their masterminding of the programme. A big thank you also to Mrs Spriggs who helped organise both this event and the Sports' evening the day before.

And yesterday we had whole school Sports Day, a major event on the school calendar and one enjoyed by hundreds of students every year. Competition, camaraderie and vocal support was on display all day, and a big thank you to our student helpers without whom the event could not have taken place and who supported in so many ways throughout the day. The weather was kind, the competition was fierce and enjoyment levels were high right up until 3.30pm in the afternoon. Thanks, once again, to the PE Department for a wonderful event.

There is so much that is good about the atmosphere and culture at BGS, and this week has been as good as it gets. Well done to all, as we move into the final week before the long summer break. To our students – you are a credit to yourselves and to your School. Fantastic stuff.





YEAR 8 FOREST FACILITY TRIP – Report by Miss Bradley, Head of Year 8

On Thursday 27 June, 180 Year 8s travelled to Forest Facility near Stamford to engage in some outdoor adventure activities. It was a brilliant day and the students should be commended for how well they faced up to the many challenges. Please enjoy some individual reports from the Year 8 students themselves:

From the Yellow team: Rebecca Board, 8H

After arriving at Forest Facility, we began our first activity, which was axe throwing. It was hard to get the hang off at first, but eventually I landed one on the target with the underarm throw. Next, we did team challenges. They were a great way to learn how to cooperate with people I had never met before.

Probably the funniest part of that was the Laser Maze where someone on my team knocked the bells off of the rope. It was also fun to see my friend try to get across the Crocodile Mouth by hopping. This was followed by an intense game of laser tag, which my team sadly lost. Our next activity was the assault course where I ended up crawling through a tunnel backwards and my friend almost went into splits on the ropes section! We ended the day with the Tower of Power. I ended up doing the climbing wall, which I scaled pretty fast. After that I did the leap of faith which is just as scary as it sounds. I still conquered it though, but I did end up awkwardly squatting over the edge before stepping off the platform and making a very 'graceful' landing.

From the Pink team: Aanjishnu Bhattacharyya, 8C

On Thursday, 27 June 2024, we went to the Forest Facility by coach and it was about 30 minutes away from Bourne Grammar. We did laser tag first, and it was a fantastic experience in my opinion, and my team won. Next, we did the zipline, rock climbing and the leap of faith, and I did not enjoy this a lot as I fear height however, I did all of them, and my least and most favourite one was the zipline, as it was a new experience, but I did not enjoy it at first, as I was scared go.

Before lunch, we did the assault course, which contained 60 obstacle courses, some including climbing tyres, going up a small hill and going back down, jumping over some logs, and many more. After lunch, we did team tasks, where we were in groups of six people, and we had to do a few activities which required good communication, teamwork, and implementation from all of us. One of the activities was to get a barrel from one side to another side, but we were not allowed to step foot in the middle, but we were allowed to use tyres and planks. Finally, we had axe throwing, and we were supposed to throw an axe towards a target, and if we were throwing, we got three tries each. We learnt two techniques, over arm and under arm, and I think I was better at over arm. It was pretty difficult to hit the board, and barely anyone was hitting the target.

Overall, this experience was very delightful and adventurous. Thank you Bourne Grammar for taking us to this amazing place.

From the Pink team: Jack Townsend, 8C



On Thursday 27 June, Year 8 visited Forest Facility near Stamford as a reward for their hard work throughout the year.

We had an amazing, yet very challenging day. I found myself pushed to my limits on several occasions. The assault course that we did, I found to be particularly difficult, and I noticed that some of the obstacles in it were used in the Rat Race!

At the end of the day, I felt exhausted but also extremely pleased with myself for pushing beyond my regular boundaries. I am still aching the day after, but I have incredible memories of such an exhilarating day!





WIMBLEDON TRIP – Report by Hamsini Raja, Year 10

On Tuesday 2 July, eight students from the BGS tennis team were taken to Wimbledon for day two of the tournament. We started off taking the train from Peterborough to London King's Cross, from where we took the tube to get to Wimbledon. After a ten minutes' walk from the underground, we entered the park and were given No1 court tickets.

Throughout the day, we watched one whole women's singles game and were lucky enough to catch a men's and a second women's singles game in the second set of both, in the short time we had to see the whole park. Watching top players compete was exciting, and the strawberries and cream were delicious as well. We also enjoyed exploring the Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum to learn about the tournament's history. To top the day off, we were able to watch Iga Świątek, the number one woman's single, win her first match of the tournament. The day ended successfully, with a hassle-free train journey led by Alf back to King's Cross. Thank you to Miss Bowtell for organising our trip and Miss Smith and Miss Pollard for accompanying us.



SPANISH TRIP – WEEK 3 – Report by Doogie Shorrock, Year 8

On the first day we got up super early in the morning and gradually made our way to Bilbao airport in the north of Spain. Even though we spent nearly the entire day travelling we still had lots of energy when we got to the hotel and spent a lush evening at the beach where we got to play lots of games and even had a paddle in the sea!



On our next day (our first full day) we went to a town called Potes, having a chance to use our language skills at a typical market, and then travelled to the mountains which were called Picos de Europa. On the tallest one of these mountains, we travelled up a cable car (which went surprisingly fast!) and ate our lunch at the top with the most incredible views. As we travelled back, we stopped again in

Potes (one of Spain's most beautiful towns) where we were then allowed to buy souvenirs to take home to show our families or friends.

After breakfast on the next day, we travelled to Santander for our language lesson. The teachers were all very kind and respectful (although with strong accents!) and we got to learn some more interesting aspects of the Spanish language. Next, we went out on a cruise around Santander Bay where we learnt about all the monuments and places that you could see around the bay (my favourite was camel beach, named as such because it has an interestingly shaped camel rock that protrudes out from the sea.) In the afternoon we visited the Magdalena Peninsula, home to a Royal summer palace that had been built by the Government but paid for by the people and then turned into a prestigious university conference venue. Near this impressive building, there was also a small zoo with some sea lions and seals in the water that were very funny to watch!



On the final full day, we woke up and went to see the modern replicas of the ancient Altamira caves and the paintings (36000 years old!) that the cave people had drawn in them and also some ancient artefacts that they would have used in their everyday lives. It was fascinating to see the images and imagine what life must have been like at this time. Afterwards, we went to visit an ancient town, known for its cobbled streets, called Santillana which was very pretty, and we walked around and got to buy more souvenirs and a few treats and typical products of the town. It was then time for tapas tasting followed by a visit to another beach. The rain stayed away and we played lots of games which were very fun and even the teachers got involved! We then went back to our hotel and went to bed preparing for a long day ahead of us on the next day.

On the journey back to the airport, we stopped in Bilbao and visited the well-known Guggenheim museum which had some amazing sculptures and modern art (though in my opinion the best piece of art was the building itself!) after around an hour and a half of taking in all the art, we travelled back to England and arrived with a perfect landing!

I thoroughly enjoyed the trip and learnt lots about Spanish culture. I would highly recommend visiting the north of Spain!

BGS WINS AT PRESTIGIOUS SHINE AWARDS - Report by Atiksh Agnihotri, Year 12



Our school magazine, Bourne Identity, was released to the school community in April this year, following months of hard work from a team of 24 student writers, artists and editors. This is the fourth year that the school magazine has been published, and we think it is the best edition yet, with articles covering topics from the pressures of exams to the future of technology. It has been an amazing journey, from carefully choosing the font to painstakingly crediting each photo.

I hope you have had a taste of the passion and creativity of Bourne Grammar students, as you turn each page, and that the magazine has got you thinking about something new.

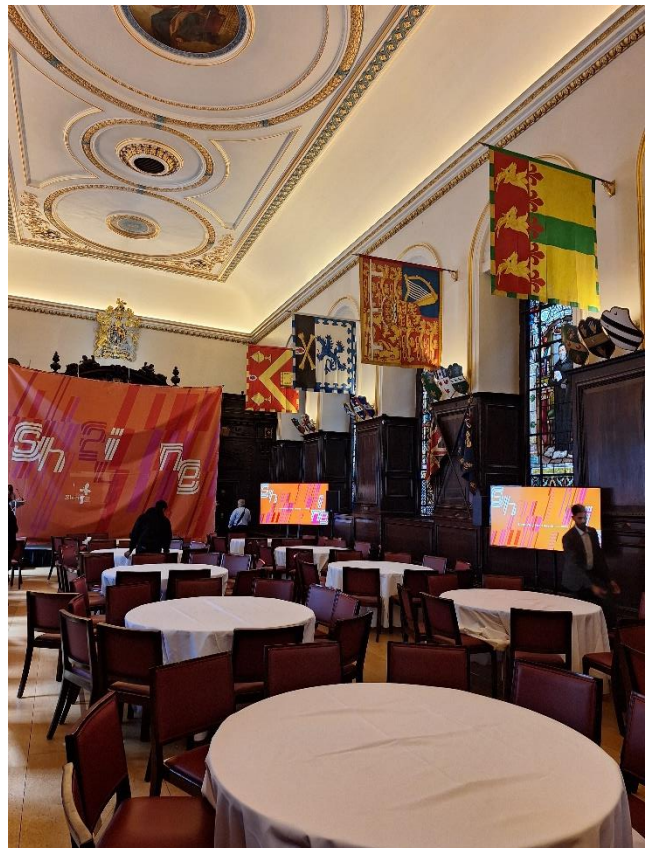
This year, we entered the school magazine into the Shine Awards. The Shine School Media Awards is a national, free-to-enter competition rewarding UK secondary schools who produce an outstanding newspaper, magazine, podcast or multimedia project such as a podcast or digital publication.

On Monday 1 July 2024, we were invited to Stationer's Hall in London, being shortlisted for the "Best Illustration and Artwork" award category. Members of the editorial team, Atiksh Agnihotri and Qais Raja, were accompanied by Ms Kemp to the event.

Stationer's Hall is one of the few ancient Livery Halls remaining in the City of London. It is the site of the Stationer's Company and continues to be used to bring together the major players in the media industries to learn from each other and develop strategies for the future. Our school team participated in industry-based workshops at the event. These involved a talk on podcasting, learning how to do bookbinding and a chance to look at the magazines of all the schools which had been shortlisted across the country. This was followed by a spectacular lunch, with fresh bread and desserts!

Finally, the awards ceremony began, with speeches from the chair of the Shine Awards, Richard Chapman, and the Master of the Stationer's Company, Tony Mash. When the big moment finally arrived and the shortlisted schools were called up for the award. We were pleasantly surprised to find out that we had won! The piece of artwork which had been nominated was the lovely cover art by MJ Thompson-Collins described as "technically ambitious" and a "very powerful piece" by the panel of judges.

It is a matter of great pride for our school to have produced an award-winning publication, and we strive to make the next year's edition even better. We hope that this achievement will inspire more of our student writers to pick up their pens and get stuck in. Your story awaits its page...



YEAR 10 VISIT TO TATE BRITAIN, LONDON - Report by Mrs Welling, Art



On Thursday 27 June, Year 10 students visited the Tate Britain to see works of art and gather inspiration for their personal theme as part of the GCSE Fine Art course.

Students spent the day drawing in the galleries and investigating different genres of painting. We were also fortunate to visit the all-female exhibition "Now You See Us." This was a spectacular display of art produced solely by women ranging in time from the 1500's to the last century, which included many unseen works of art and more famous pieces by Angelica Kauffman and Laura Knight. The opportunity to see the work collectively was impressive and each student came away with a deeper knowledge of art history.

After a tiring and long journey home, students returned with pages of work to develop in the classroom; the visit certainly inspired and motivated us all. Thank you to all students for their exemplary behaviour on the day and to Miss Wright and Mrs Jones for their support.

DofE SILVER EXPEDITION – PEAK DISTRICT – Report by Mrs Brett, DofE Manager

Friday 28 June – Sunday 30 June 2024

The Year 11 Silver DofE students traded their Prom suits and dresses from earlier in the week, for walking boots at the weekend to complete the Expedition section of their Silver DofE Awards. The weather was kind and cooled sufficiently to make walking bearable as they set off from Winster and walked through the countryside to Mandale on Friday; on to Bakewell and Birchover on Saturday and arrived in Matlock Bath on Sunday.

With heavy rucksacks and armed with a map and compass the students impressed their Assessors with teamwork, navigation skills and sheer determination to successfully complete their expedition and celebrate together before travelling home for a shower and a tasty meal. Congratulations to you all from the DofE team!





TENNIS SUPERZONE – Report by Miss Bowtell, PE

On Monday 1 July, 32 very excited students from Year 7-10 set off to Boston Tennis club to compete in the *Superzone* tournament where all local schools compete against each other to win the titles - best overall U13 and U15 male and female doubles players. Sadly, there was only our school entered the U15 girls tournament but this did not hold the girls back from competing against each other in a ferocious manner with all pairs playing against each other. Runners up were Alice Barratt and Mary Pepper and overall winners were Shiksha Kaur and Poppy McLearnon, a pairing so strong it hasn't been beaten in four years in this tournament.

The U13 Girls were competing against their own pairings and Bourne Academy, and we managed to get a first and second place award in this event with Maddy Hobson and Ria Gupta narrowly losing out to a magnificent Jess Daniels and Emily Wright-Lakin.

The U13 boys performed superbly against a greater number of opponents as more schools entered this event. The group was split in half and each pair played each other in a first to four games match with the top two in each league playing a semi-final. We managed to get pairs into each semi-final but despite a close match with Dylan Ware and Johnny Hullock the boys couldn't quite get over the finish line to make it an 'all Bourne' final. Ted Mylchreest and Rohan Lesiw fared better in their semi-final and represented the school in the final. Their match was very close, but the boys seemed to get very nervous and weren't up to their normal exceptionally high standards against a strong Spalding Academy pairing and despite fighting back well in rallies made too many unforced errors leading to an unexpected Spalding win. There is always next year, boys!

The U15 boys were against tough opponents in Spalding Academy with one player being a very strong club player. All the boys played magnificently, and special thanks goes to Oran Summers and Monty Wild who epitomised the Bourne Grammar attitude of “we will have a go and join in and see how we get on” and true to tradition performed very well in their league, only losing out to pairings who play regularly. The upset of the day was Donald McGeorge and Ned Gervis losing out to Saul Avis and Zeke Young, a year 9 vs 10 battle with the year 9s narrowly winning, and this result led to Saul and Zeke playing the dynamic Spalding duo in the finals and losing 4-1.

A superb day of Tennis with a wonderful crop of young people whose enthusiasm never waned despite the rain and even the lack of chips at the café (a devastating revelation mid-day). I would like to say how much I have loved this year’s Tennis squads and the attitude they have displayed towards their matches has been exemplary and especially the U15 teams who have improved their general standard of play so greatly over the last few years.



2024 MOCK GENERAL ELECTION REPORT – *Report by Mr Tighe, Politics*

When it was decided to call a Mock General Election in school I, rather fortunately, did not have to stand in the rain or fall off a paddle board into a lake in order to do so.

Six of the Year 12 A-Level Politics cohort bravely volunteered to play the role of the candidates for each of the parties standing in the Grantham and Bourne constituency. Others in the class worked as their election agents and campaign directors. These students did so despite being in the midst of their preparations for the FUPG Examinations, for which I am incredibly grateful.

An election campaign has taken place in school over the past four weeks. This has involved a poster campaign, hustings, and party election announcements *via* the daily Student Notices.

The poster campaign demonstrated that some of the Politics students may have very bright futures in marketing ahead of them. Some even engaged in the Machiavellian dark arts and have - as was once said about Michael Howard – “something of the night” about them (Rhys Evans in particular). What I did not expect was to be placed in chains and a cell to draw attention to one party’s law and order policies poster.

The Hustings were a joy to behold and a personal highlight of the campaign. Each candidate had to become experts in their party’s policies, stand before their peers to deliver a speech, and then answer some pretty tricky (even hostile) questions from the audience. One candidate (Carolyn Archer) had to do this even though she only started at the school in September: an incredibly gutsy act. Three candidates demonstrated why they are some of the Debating Society’s leading lights and would be a force to be reckoned with during Prime Minister’s Question Time (Connie Baylis, Samuel Edwards, and Harrison Smith). However, a special mention has to go to the two candidates for whom the Hustings was their idea of Hell. Emily Vachkov and Alyssa Mascot faced down their fears and overcame palpable nervousness to do credit to both of their parties: watching their performances made me quite emotional and very proud. I did have to laugh out loud when Alyssa finished her speech with a very loud sigh of relief. My thanks go to Mr Hewitt and Mr Mitchell for their assistance in making the Hustings a possibility.

The party election announcements involved the candidates having to create a one-slide summary introducing themselves and their party’s policies. These were shared *via* Student Notices over one week and discussed by form groups under the supervision of their tutors. I was particularly impressed by one candidate (Carolyn Archer) who went as far as to create a TV-style general election broadcast.

EPR3 was then turned into a Polling Station every lunchtime over the past two weeks to provide each year group and the staff the opportunity to vote on designated days. Although no photo identification was required as many of the polling station procedures that could be adhered to were so the students gained an authentic insight into what happens when the polls open.

First Past the Post means that there can only ever be one person elected in each constituency. However, the candidates are all contributed meaningfully to this exercise in democracy and each one is a winner in my eyes.

And so, in my final act as Returning Officer, here are the results in the election of a Member of Parliament for the Bourne Grammar School constituency:

The number of valid votes cast was: 369.
The number of spoiled ballots: 2.

ARCHER, Carolyn Isobel (Labour Party): 104 votes; 28%.
BAYLISS, Connie Ann (Liberal Democrat Party): 27 votes; 7%
EDWARDS, Samuel Peter (Reform Party): 84 votes; 23%
MASCOT, Alyssa Ivy Morgan (Social Democrat Party): 46 votes; 12%.
SMITH, Harrison Edward (Conservative Party): 61 votes; 17%.
VACHKOV, Emily Grace (Green Party): 46 votes; 12%.

I hereby declare that Carolyn Isobel Archer (Labour Party) is duly elected Member of Parliament for the Bourne Grammar School constituency.

COMPUTER SCIENCE CLUB CELEBRATIONS AND ASTRO PI CHALLENGE AWARDS CEREMONY – *Report by Atiksh Agnihotri, Year 12*

This week our Computer Science Club held an end-of-year gathering to celebrate the achievements of its members. The Computer Science Club was relaunched in 2023, having been discontinued due to the pandemic.

Every Thursday lunchtime, members of the club come together to challenge themselves to explore something new and take part in a variety of activities. We kick-started the club by taking on an app development project, where each week, students would tackle a new part of the app development cycle. Students designed their own apps on paper phone templates and then developed functional apps using Thinkable, a block-based programming language. They created highly complex apps, including games, quizzes and book recommendation apps.

However, students were eager to do more, with the overwhelming majority asking to learn Python. Python is one of the most popular programming languages in the world, used by organisations like Google, NASA and Spotify to name a few. Club members spent a few weeks learning the language, engaged in tricky exercises and played games of *Blooket* and *Kahoot* to test their understanding. This was all in preparation for students to take part in **Astro Pi: Mission Zero**, a challenge which would see students develop code to be run on the International Space Station (ISS)!

The Astro Pi competition was the final challenge for members of the club, as it tied in concepts from the year, and forced them to use their skills in an external competition. Students developed code which displayed an image on a computer screen and changed depending on the colour of the astronaut's shirt that was in front of the computer. Upon completion, students received a certificate to confirm they had successfully had their code run on the ISS, including a map of where in the world the International Space Station had been when the program was run.

This week's celebration was to commend the efforts of the club members, all of whom had given up their lunchtime to learn something new. Restarting this club, planning lessons and teaching students has been an invaluable experience and I am proud of every student who attended. Three students were awarded prizes: Samaira, Tyler and Freddie. These students have each exhibited dedication, maturity and programming skills that are beyond their age, and I encourage them to pursue the subject further.

This occasion was also a good chance to introduce the new computer science teachers to the school: Mr Osbourne and Mr Motley. The passion and eagerness of computer science club members shall propel us to take on an even bigger challenge next year.



INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Well done to Harriet Cork, Year 11 has been selected to play for England U26 Women's team at the 29th European Bridge Youth Team Championships in Poland next week. Good luck for next week Harriet from everyone at BGS!

A massive thank you and well done to our piano teacher Kate Bidwell, whose first year at BGS has been a resounding success, with these excellent results.

- Katie Pawluk - Grade 2 Piano Distinction
- William Moor-Radford - Grade 2 Piano Distinction
- Daneshia Kumari - Initial Grade Piano Distinction
- Wilbur Crawford - Initial Grade Piano Distinction
- Francesca Jones - Initial Grade Piano Distinction
- Amelia Giblin - Initial Grade Piano Distinction

Five BGS students were presented with the King's award for voluntary service alongside other members of the RAFAC Stamford 2071 squadron last night. It's the group equivalent of an MBE; less than 1% of RAFAC squadrons have received this. Well done to Fred Reid, Year 8, Charlie Lumb, Year 9, Daniel Bane, Year 10, Harvey Parker-Brown, Year 13.

On Saturday 22 June Year 9 student Harper Graham headed out to Italy to compete in Italy's largest futsal competition with teams flying in from as far as Brazil, USA and Japan. The girls were unbeaten in the group stages and after a tense penalty shoot out in the final, saw the girls come home with the winners trophy.

The second leg of the tour saw Harper fly to Spain on the 28th June to meet up with Year 7 students Caoimhe Healey and Jessie Desborough, Year 8 student Bri O'boyle and Year 9 student Ollie Desborough who were all competing in the V Sport Cup.

The competition was an intense few days of games with further success for the students respective teams.



Caoimhe and Jessie were crowned winners of the U12 gold cup and were unbeaten throughout the tournament scoring 44 goals and conceding just 3. Bri's team battled their way to the final of the plate but sadly came runners up in a brutal penalty shoot-out following a fantastic 5-5 draw. Ollie was part of the largest group of the tournament with 24 teams competing from all over the world in the U14 division, they played some incredible futsal and made it through to the quarter finals losing 3-0 to the finalist of the competition. Harper had further success with the U14 girls who remained unbeaten throughout the tournament and after a 9-1 final saw them crowned champions for the second time that week.

BL CHAMPION AWARD – Mr Hewitt, Deputy Headteacher, Academic

Rishitta Dutta from 7F is the BBL Champion this week for her outstanding independent work in Geography.

Her teacher, Mrs Greenfield writes: 'Rishitta has shown this year that she always strives for the highest quality BBL. Recently the year 7 Geographer's were set a challenge to recreate a British landscape within a box. Rishitta's landscape in a box recreated a human Geography landscape of London. She chose to include iconic landmarks that St Paul's Cathedral and the Elizabeth tower with Big Ben. It included so much research to support it about London and the human features of London. This piece of work stood out and it was clear how much time and effort had been put into it. Rishitta is a very worthy winner this week.'

Well done Rishitta – keep up the fantastic work.



YEAR 8 SUMMER LEAGUE





Congratulations to our Weekly Winners – a lot of different names to celebrate for achieving the most House Points in their League! Looking at the podiums, there are a number of students all on very similar points; so it's all to play for over the last week or so of term. Good luck Year 8 😊

Weekly Winners:

League	Week 8
League 20	Neal Freddie
League 19	Hullock Johnny
League 18	Browne Zack
League 17	Rangaswamy Parinith
League 16	Elango Geerthana
League 15	Dinesh Aman
League 14	Ali Haleema
League 13	McLaren Isaac
League 12	Feetham Aydan & Max Addy
League 11	Rusalim Iustin
League 10	Prue Liam
League 9	Thornton Cassidy



House Totals

			
58507	57372	59975	55749

***These totals show all House Points earned minus Behaviour Points.
It includes points from all students in each house between 4/9/2023 - 4/7/2024.***

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Name	Year	Staff	Subject
Jace Gwiti	7	Mr Khumalo	Science
Natalia Swatowska	7	Mrs Worrall	Spanish
Zack Browne	8	Mr Bowers	PE
Harry Caruso	8	Mr Bowers	PE
Ria Gupta	8	Miss Smallshaw	Science
Seb Kay	8	Mr Andy	Mathematics
Jabir Mavani	8	Mr Williamson-Ward	English
Daniel Mulgrew	8	Mr Williamson-Ward	English
Samuel Santos	8	Mr Williamson-Ward	English
Eli Saralis	8	Mr Bowers	PE
Keiran Selby	8	Mr Bowers	PE
Arthur Turner	8	Miss Smallshaw	Science/Pastoral
Ali Abdallah	9	Mr Howard	EPR
Ellen Richardson	9	Mr Dougall	Design Engineering
Hayden Pugh	10	Mrs Clark	Spanish
Sophie Quilter	10	Mr Williamson-Ward	English



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We can't thank you enough!