



# Bourne Grammar School Weekly Bulletin



**13-17 January 2025**

## Reflection of the Week

Alastair Anderson, Headteacher

The school is still dancing to the tune of mock examinations, and I must again express my gratitude to all subject, pastoral and exams staff for their hard work in making this process such a success. The end is in sight, and I am sure all Year 13s in particular will breathe a sigh of relief next week, as well as begin to take onboard the crucial lessons learned from the process.

It has also been a busy week in PE, with a basketball trip to Leicester last Friday night to watch the Leicester Riders beat Manchester at the Mattioli Arena, a weekend Cross Country fixture on Saturday, a range of football, hockey and netball matches on Wednesday and a tough U15 Girls Football match yesterday in the last 32 of the National Cup, which resulted in a 3-0 despite the best efforts of the team. The girls have done fantastically well for such a young team to get to the latter stages of this competition. Huge thanks to our very hardworking PE department for giving our students such excellent sporting opportunities. And it was good to see our chess players in action against King’s Grantham, also on Wednesday, resulting in a narrow 4-2 loss.

Thank you to the Physics’ Department, and Mr Sutherland in particular, for the ongoing momentum that builds towards the Physics Olympiad each year in Year 13. Once again, we have some stunning individual results, and the programme now begins in Year 9 as students are prepared for this complex challenge. Very impressive indeed, and yet another example of the excellence on offer at our School each and every day.

## House Totals

<b>3092</b>	<b>3544</b>	<b>3549</b>	<b>3499</b>

*Totals shown are House Points minus Behaviour Points awarded so far this term*

# Shoebox Appeal Christmas 2024, Letters of Thanks

Mr Graves

Here are some of the letters received in response to the shoeboxes and letters from the students at Christmas.


on behalf of my Mum, I would like to thank you for the lovely gifts, card a letter. Mum had her card from Rishita pinned up on the hearth all Christmas. Mum neighbour read the card and letters to my mum and they made her cry. (good tears). Mum has dementia so we keep having to read them to her and she loves them. She has taken most cards down but this one is still up and she wants to keep it. A. Special Thank You to Rishita for the beautiful card and writing and lovely thoughtful words and sentiment. We loved the design of the card and the beautiful calligraphy. Well done.

Also.

Special Thanks to Vincent for his kind and thoughtful letter. We took Mum her Christmas dinner round and family visited during the day at intervals so she could have her naps. Good luck with your Studies and Art a football. Mum's favourite part of Christmas is listening to the Carols on TV. Thank you again for your kindness. Mum loved the gifts in the hamper, the beautiful shawl and Sweets a Biscuits etc.

Also.

Thank you to Astid for your lovely letter, Mum loved to hear about your sack and Stocking. It reminded her of doing ours at Christmas. We had pillowcases. Good luck with your drama we may see you on the stage or TV. Mum likes cookies and hot chocolate - well any sort of chocolate really HalHa! It has really made her Christmas hearing about you all and the thoughtfulness. Have a Happy 2025 Janet - Sandra.


19-12-2024 

Dear Sophie

I was not only pleased to get your letter but I was overwiltened. Sorry if I have not spelt it right I now 84 yrs old when I was at school. one of my best subjects was Spelling. Long time since I was at school. If BU sound a very clever girl well done you!! 1955 Christmas it does bring sox to hand. I love Christmas we had a Christmas party here at the house on Wednesday we had a lovely singer a man named Alan Jackson He was just Brilliant he is one of my favorts we then had how Parly lovely. I had a small boy with Chocoballs in and a game.

we had lovely 2 Food the mince Pies I liked very much, to have a mince Pie is a sign of friendship they was lovely. I have been in the home over 10 years How I can't talk anything the overase so kind. Sophie your writing is lovely. I wonder what kind of dancing you do? I wish you a very Happy Christmas Hope you get what you want. on Christmas day I go to my daughters. Just for the day I see all my grandchildren. I'm also a great Grandmaw which is lovely. Happy new year to you and your family with love from Dot and xx

To the pupils of Bourne Grammar School  
We appreciated all the goodies you pair the Xmas hamper Thank you very much, als a Big Thank you to Guitar Playing Holly for delivering Pat on Xmas Eve  
Best Wishes to you all for 2025



Dear Iris,

My parents are 96 and 95 year old and they have been married for 75 years. They were very happy to receive your gifts at Christmas. Thank you very much. Some of you asked about their memories of Christmas and they had a lovely time reminiscing and this is what they told me.

My Mum said that when she was a child it was the 1930s and there were no artificial Christmas trees and no electric fairy lights. They had a living tree with special candles which were designed and made for Christmas trees. There was a small metal disk with a pin in the middle that the candle was pushed onto and a crocodile type clip attached it to a branch of the tree. One year a candle set fire to the tree and my mum's mum had to open a sash window and throw the tree into the street because it would have burned the house down. The trees were very dry and flammable.

There was no central heating or hot water. An aluminium bucket (there was nothing made of plastic) was used to carry water to a boiler which was on top of some bricks with a fire underneath. When you needed hot water you would use the bucket to scoop out water for baths, or washing up or for doing the laundry. The fire had to be stoked frequently to keep the fire alight. At Christmas her grandmother, who she lived with, would make a Christmas pudding in a crock basin (no plastic) cover it with some linen tied tightly to the bowl and put it into the boiler to cook.

In the 30s there was no money, no work and no food. She remembers home made bread and home made jam and vegetables from the garden. They also collected the juice from Beef joints and kept it in a cup, the fat went hard at the top and the juice turned to jelly underneath and it was called "dripping" It would be spread onto bread with a pinch of salt to make dripping sandwiches.

Mum would go looking for sweet chestnuts in the woods. She would remove the very prickly -and viscous - cases and they would be taken home and put under the grate of the open fire. Sometimes they would explode out so you had to sit a little way back from the hearth. She would also put walnuts on the back rung of her aunt's rocking chair so as her aunt rocked back the nut would be cracked open.

My father remembers going carol singing and once a person gave him and his sister 6d (which would be 2p today) so they went to Woolworths and bought a wine glass. He remembers that he didn't get very much for Christmas but one year he was given a teddy bear. Unfortunately his sister contracted scarlet fever so the teddy had to be burnt. He was 6 or 7 at the time but he still remembers it.

He used to enjoy having a cake with cream on top.

I hope that you enjoyed hearing about their Christmas memories and Happy New Year to you.

Dear form tutor,

Some of the students sent messages with their gifts and the messages my parents received was in a box

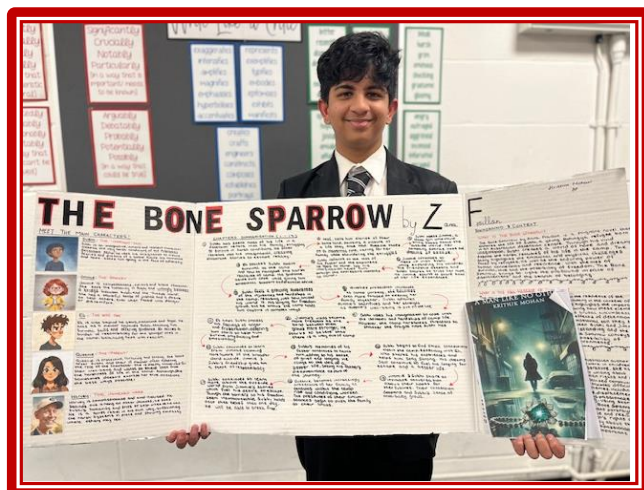
labelled YBZ and the students were Iris, Toby and Vibha but I think the boxes and messages may have been moved around. Please could you deliver my parents' thank you letters. 2 of the letters asked for the recipients' memories and my parents enjoyed reminiscing.

By the time you get to their age most of your contemporaries have died and so despite seeing family members, it can still be a lonely time and my parents were delighted that someone took the time to write personal and handwritten messages. Thank you so much.

Helen

## BBL Champion

Mr Hewitt, Deputy Head Academic



This week's BBL Champion is Krithik Mohan (8F). Krithik has produced an exceptional piece of independent work in English and it was an easy decision to award him BBL Champion for this week.

His English teacher, Mrs Williamson, writes: 'as part of our Year 8 English Curriculum, we study a wonderful novel called The Bone Sparrow by Zana Fraillon. The story is about a group of Rohingya refugees living in a Detention Centre in Australia. One of our students, Krithik

Mohan decided to create a detailed fact file about all of the chapters we have read so far, including character profiles and research about the author. He presented the work on a free-standing display board for our classroom. I am extremely impressed with the quality of this piece, which was done over and above the usual BBL activities over the Christmas break. Krithik followed this up with a self contained short story in four chapters, I am excited to see what he will produce next!'

I teach Krithik and he regularly presents me high-quality work that has not explicitly been set but which captures his imagination and leads to independent research. I am not surprised that he has produced something so impressive for English. Keep up the superb effort, Krithik!

## Year 11 Revision Sessions

Mr Hewitt, Deputy Head Academic

As per the letter sent to parents of Year 11 students, please see the timetable for the GCSE revision sessions beginning w/c Monday 20th January.

A small number of students will be required to attend, and these students will be contacted directly. For the vast majority, however, the sessions are not compulsory but are offered as support to anyone wishing to recap prior learning, address any gaps in knowledge or catch-up with coursework. Students need only turn up at the correct time to the venue stated.

As always, a huge word of gratitude must go to the teaching staff who give up their free time, from January until May, to offer this extra support to students. I hope that students fully take advantage of the extra help available.

	Monday 20.1.25	Tuesday 21.1.25	Wednesday 22.1.25	Thursday 23.1.25	Friday 24.1.25
<b>Subject</b>	<b>History</b>	<b>Design Engineering</b>	<b>Spanish</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Computer Science</b>
<b>Room</b>	H1 - Dr Barmby	DE2 – Mr Delpont	No revision session due to staff meetings	E1- Ms Bennett	CS2 – Mr Osborne
<b>Revision Topic</b>	America – Change for Women	Coursework/NEA catch-up session		'How do I approach the extract-based question for Macbeth?'	Theory Revision
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Geography</b>	<b>Art</b>	<b>EPR</b>	<b>PE</b>	<b>(Week 2) Maths Set 4 / 5 (Lunchtime)</b>
<b>Room</b>	G1 Miss Pollard	Art 2 - Mrs Welling/Miss Wright	EPR3 – Mr Tighe	PE1 - Mr Ray	Maths 7 - Mr Andy
<b>Revision Topic</b>	A natural weather hazard- Typhoon Haiyan	Externally Set Assignment – exam preparation	Paper 1: Shi'a Beliefs	Skeletal & Muscular Systems (Bones, joints, movement, muscles & antagonistic pairs)	Revision Booklets
<b>Subject</b>		<b>French</b>	<b>(Week 1) Maths Set 4 / 5 (Lunchtime)</b>	<b>Drama (Lunchtime) 12:45 – 13:15</b>	<b>Music (Lunchtime) 12:45 – 13:15</b>
<b>Room</b>		MFL3 - Mrs Cowell	Maths 7 - Mr Andy	Studio – Mr Moxley	Music 1 – Mr Tomlinson
<b>Revision Topic</b>		Listening skills: Key tasks and strategies	Revision Booklets	Comp 3: Scripted Practical	Coursework Catch-up
<b>Subject</b>		<b>German (Lunchtime) 12:45 - 13.15</b>	<b>Maths Set 1 – 3 (Lunchtime)</b>		
<b>Room</b>		MFL7 - Ms Currier	Maths 9 - Mr Gillespie		
<b>Revision Topic</b>		150 Word Essays	Revision Booklets		

## Students of the Week

<b>Name</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Tio Koya	7	Miss Patman	Spanish
Henry Mitchell	7	Mr Moxley	Drama
Ananya Sahoo	7	Mr Williamson-Ward	English
Ali Mahdi Jaffer	8	Mr Hewitt	Geography
Riley Keith	8	Miss Davis-Williams	History
Jacob Quince	8	Mrs Allen	English
Macy Bundock	9	Mrs Worrall	Spanish
Ben Fletcher	9	Mr Delpont	Design Engineering
Ellie Moore	9	Mrs Cowell	French
Sashwat Thiagarajan Arun Prasath	9	Ms Bennett	English
Carlota Verdu	9	Mrs Cowell	French
Amelia Comben	10	Mr Sheppard	Mathematics
Lois Cox	10	Mr Williamson-Ward	English
Max Ellis	10	Ms Creedon	Spanish
Freya Dahlgaard-Sigsworth	11	Mr Moxley	Drama
Phoebe Jackson	11	Miss Patman	Spanish
Marco Perna	11	Mr Khumalo	Chemistry
Sophie Quilter	11	Mr Smith	Mathematics
Hannah Simpson	11	Mr Khumalo	Chemistry
Jonathan Wang	11	Mr Khumalo	Chemistry
Eda Dawson	12	Mr Perez	Biology
Atte Maaranen	12	Mr Khumalo	Chemistry

## SPORT

### Lincolnshire Schools Cross Country Championships – Burghley Park, Stamford.

Mr Ray

On a particularly cold and crisp morning in temperatures below zero degrees and on frozen ground, the county Championships took place the lovely venue of Burghley Park. More than 40 students from Bourne Grammar participated in the event having been selected to represent the South Lincolnshire Schools (from the 15 schools across the south of the county). Of the 8 age group races, all in the top 14 would be automatically selected to represent Lincolnshire Schools at the Anglian Championships on 1 February at Woodbridge, Suffolk. For the top 6, a place would also be secured to represent the county at the prestigious English School Championships (the pinnacle of schools' cross country) on 15<sup>th</sup> March (with the exception of Year 7 who do not progress to the National stage). Two final places will be available for the National Final dependent upon positions at the Anglian Championships.



As the day slowly saw temperatures rise above zero, but only just, and due to the heavy footfall in some areas, the course turned to softer, slippery conditions. Despite this, there were some excellent performances from all students with some literally giving it everything and running themselves into the ground in an attempt to perform to their best and gain their County vest. Well done to all who participated in the event and in particular, those who have qualified for the Anglian and/or National Championships. A special Mention to Sophie Alliston for her 2<sup>nd</sup> place and Thomas Preston for becoming County Champion.

Mr Sheppard continues to do his running club for ALL students on Monday and Wednesday who want to train for the school team, get fitter, or simply run and get some fresh air and exercise at the end of the day.

Qualified for Anglian Championships to represent Lincolnshire (with County position in brackets):

Year 7 Boys	Sam Griffin (12 <sup>th</sup> )
Year 7 Girls	Isla Tate (5 <sup>th</sup> ), Avocet Williams (10 <sup>th</sup> )
Junior Girls (Y8&9)	Sophie Alliston (2 <sup>nd</sup> ), Edith Kaberry
Junior Boys (Y8&9)	Cayden Mackay* (4 <sup>th</sup> )
Inter Girls (Y10&11)	Leah Graham (7 <sup>th</sup> ), Lucy Preston (13 <sup>th</sup> ), Cecilia Watson (14 <sup>th</sup> ), Charlotte Smith.
Inter Boys (Y10&11)	Toby Staines (12 <sup>th</sup> ), Miles Garrido (14 <sup>th</sup> )
Senior Girls (Y12&13)	Yvette Anniss* (4 <sup>th</sup> )
Senior Boys (Y12&13)	Thomas Preston* (1 <sup>st</sup> )

\*Qualified for National Final

## **Year 9 A & B Netball vs KGGGS (Kesteven and Grantham Girls' School)**

Miss Bradley

On Thursday 9 January, the 9A and 9B Netball teams travelled to KGGGS for a friendly. KGGGS' A team are very strong and will be representing the county at the Regional tournament this month. It was really good to get the B team a game against a different opposition as they have been so committed to training all year. It was tough to make the selection of just 16 students, as the standard and dedication shown at training by a huge number of Year 9s has been excellent!

### **Year 9 BGS A vs KGGGS A**

This was a really brilliant game to watch and was played with such intensity. As it was a friendly, exceptional male talent Johnny Hullock was able to play and he really added some dynamism and athleticism to the team, particularly in the first half as GD. Johnny and Ellie Moore worked brilliantly in the D defensively which allowed us to earn a lot of turnovers. Emily Wright-Lakin was against a particularly strong fellow Centre, but she showed superb agility to move across the channels in the court, and ensure we had fantastic link-up play with our shooters, Georgia Summerfield and Darcie Trawford. As ever, their shooting was really reliable and meant we started the game by turning over their Centre pass and kept jostling for the lead with KGGGS in the first 10 minutes.

It is worth noting how brilliant an achievement that was, considering the standard of netball the majority of the KGGGS team play!

The game continued to be end-to-end and every player worked incredibly hard for the team. The difference was the strength and quality of passing between the two teams which meant KGGGS could be more clinical and take advantage of turnovers more efficiently than us – something for the team to continue working on this season! KGGGS came out eventual winners, but the A team should hold their heads high with how much they were pushed to earn that victory.

### **Year 9 BGS B vs KGGGS B**

For many players on both teams this was their first taste of a competitive match and so there were a few nerves to begin with. As they settled, the team really found their rhythm and played some brilliant netball. Megan Weeks and Josie Thurston were solid defensively in the box, earning numerous interceptions that meant we had a great foundation to build upon. Bella Hill played a stormer out of position at WD in the first half, and captained the team brilliantly, guiding them throughout the game. Our centre court players worked hard to get in front of their players and sent some great passes into Izzy Palmer and Bea Amos who both scored a couple of audacious shots from difficult positions!

At half-time, we were 5-3 up and so it was a very tight, end-to-end game. The defence from every player on each team was really good, and made it hard for attackers to get free, but they persevered and gave our shooters good opportunities. We tended to be ahead throughout, but they managed to win a penalty pass in the dying seconds and their shooter took the pressure shot to end the game in an 8-8 draw. A fine result after a great game!



### **Year 9 Squad (left-to-right)**

Izzy Palmer, Megan Weeks, Josie Thurston, Ellie Moore, Isla Cummins, Johnny Hullock, Bea Amos, Macy Bundock, Imogen Southwood, Darcie Trawford ©, Bella Hill, Emily Wright-Lakin, Ruby Taylor-Dobson, Orla Bailey, Grace Rayner.  
Missing from photo: Georgia Summerfield.

## **Superzone, Bourne v Year 7 & 8**

### **U12/ 13 Hockey vs Bourne Academy**

On Wednesday 15th January we took two mixed year teams across to play Bourne Academy our local rivals. We had a fantastic evening with some amazing debuts from several players, Hetty Bell and Esme Fallows. The Bourne Academy team was mixed gender and put up a good fight with some fierce tackling throughout and for many of them it was their first ever Hockey match. The match was played in a great spirit and everyone learned something from their experiences.

Below are the accounts written by two of our players:

#### **Year 7 Game, by Tilly Garland**

Yesterday we played Bourne Academy in an indoor tournament. This meant we were allowed to hit the ball on the side walls but not the back. We had Caoimhe Healy as our goalkeeper who was great at putting pressure on the other team and kicking the ball up to our sweepers Ruby Hefferson and Esme Fallows. They did a good job at hitting the ball up to our 2 wingers, Amelia Cody who was on the right and Tilly Garland who was on the left. They were great at dribbling the ball past the opposing team and being able to transfer the ball to our upfront player Edith Thompson. Edith was great at being able to receive the ball with accuracy and take a shot at the goals with the support of the mid - fielders. We ended up winning 4 - 1 to us. Overall, it was a nice, friendly game to start the season off with.

#### **Year 8 Game, by Amberley Keith**

Tactically Miss Bowtell told us before the game to use a diamond formation, something we had never done before. We had with several outstanding players to play Bourne academy in this match.



We had Ruby Hefferon, Jessie Desborough, Amberley Keith, Emily Gray and Hetty Bell.

Ruby and Emily were our sweeper ready to tackle any Bourne Academy player who dared to run into her defending area and Jessie and Amberley were the midfielders, the powerhouses of the team who linked defence and attack with never ending running attempts. That left Hetty to be the target player up front whose positional and reflex skills were excellent considering her experience level and lead to many goals!

Caiomhe Healey, our star player who played the entire game, was our goalie and made several incredible saves from short corners and exerted pressure on the opposing team. We therefore allowed the opposing side to use her for the last quarter. We had five goals: one from Hetty Bell, two from Jessie in a slap shot and a short corner, and two from Amberley, one from a sprint up the pitch and the other from a short corner.

Overall, an amazing match with a victory of 5-1.



### **U16 Superzone Hockey Tournament**

On Tuesday 14th January our U16 team along with a splattering of highly talented U15 players entered the local tournament trying to retain the title. There was going to be fierce competition from many schools as insider knowledge had informed the team (Miss Bowtell) that there were many club players who were playing in senior leagues playing against them from many of the teams. However, Miss Bowtell and her Merry Band of believers marched confidently into the event oozing self-confidence despite our inner nerves.

Both teams started well with the B team beating local rivals Bourne Academy but then facing our A team which was a step too far. The A team marched on to win against Bourne Academy and squeezed past a very talented Spalding High School team leading to an important match against Kings School B team. By this point Annabel Parkes or Parkey as she is fondly known in the department was running riot down the left and Honor “the destroyer” Moore was breaking hearts and minds with her superb dribbling and deadly accurate shooting on the right. Sometimes we forget the importance of a solid defence but not in this report as we pay homage to the Rock, Alice Barratt and Kiki Timmins who both held their nerve when placed under extreme pressure.

However, despite our incredible Barcelonaesque style of play we stumbled, yes even the elite do! We drew against Kings B team after totally dominating with over 10 short corners in a 6 min game- You can imagine Miss Bowtell’s face!

The team talk from her now went to a more serious level and a Winston Churchill type speech was needed by the fabulously inspiring Alice Barratt to motivate a win out of the hardest game of all, Kings A team. The game ebbed with Ciomhe Healey dominating in goal and Stella McDermott hassling their sweeper relentlessly and these actions led to a breakthrough and our well-earned and needed goal. We were 1-0 up with 1 minute to go and we all held our breathe but there was no real concern as the girls successfully saw the game out and now needed to defeat a feisty Spalding Academy. The girls were flying with confidence now and Honor Moore fired them home, several times destroying the dreams of the Academy's and leaving us to bask in the glory of another victory but this time a very well earned one against great opposition.

The B team also had some fantastic moments led inspirationally by their marvellous veteran of this event Faye Scott. They drew with Kings B team and narrowly lost to Spalding Academy and High School having already beaten Bourne Academy. This placed them a very impressive fourth. A wonderful send off to a fantastic group of players. We have some more mixed outdoor matches lined up, but this was their last Indoor event. It has been wonderful sharing all your highs and lows in these events across five years girls.

## Interested in Teaching?



### Train to Teach with Lincolnshire ITT

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If you would like to find out more about training to teach with Lincolnshire ITT and the financial incentives available, join us for a **free** online information event:

**Tuesday 14th January, 6-7pm**

**Monday 27th January, 4-5pm**

**Wednesday 12th February, 4:30-5:30pm**

**Tuesday 4th March, 5-6pm**

**Monday 17th March, 6-7pm**

**Thursday 3rd April, 4-5pm**