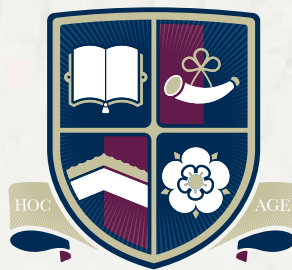


AUTUMN
2021

CHALLENGE 03-05
ARTS 06-09
JUNIORS 11-18
COMMUNITY 10, 19-20
LIFE 21-24



Bradford
Grammar
School

Mac Age

Feature

COP26 climate competition winner!

Rohan has won an environmental competition designed to show how entrants would tackle climate change and lead the COP26 summit.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 03

Sixth Form student Rohan L won the competition with his magazine called 'Resist', as part of a COP26 event run by Leeds University. The event comprised various webinars on tackling climate change, taking different perspectives such as legal, business and geographical.



Bradford
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School

Welcome from the Headmaster

Autumn has passed in the blink of an eye ...

The new Year 7s are already a foot taller and the next intake for September 2022 are chomping at the bit, signing-up in droves. Where does the time go? The bloodstream of BGS flows quickly and it has been hugely encouraging to see familiar faces and new ones too, in all year groups, grab the many opportunities at BGS with both hands.

Lessons feel very much like they used to. Music recitals and concerts are the norm once again; the lunchtime and afterschool woodwind recitals have been terrific, and auditions and rehearsals for the school musical, 'My Fair Lady', are up and running. Sports fixtures of all kinds against various schools have been extensive, the art exhibition at Salts Mill was amazing, domestic trips are happening too, our Founders' Day service was able to go ahead at the Cathedral ... and breathe!

So, the School is in terrific shape. I wish you could say the same about me! For my part, I will have completed six years as Headmaster at Christmas. It is gratifying to see some of the things we've put in motion during this time mature and bear fruit, including for example our latest accolade as the 2021 Independent School of the Year Award for Contribution to Social Mobility. This recognised our Assisted Places programme and ambitions to grow provision further.

All in all, it's been an outstanding first term and we are now ready for the holiday. To that end, may I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Dr Simon Hinchliffe

LATEST BLOG ...
bradfordgrammar.com/simonsblog



JAN

12 January
Open Morning
18 January
Keyboard Concert
25 January
Music Competition
27 January
String Concert

*All events may be
subject to change

FEB

2-3 February
Intermediate Maths
Challenge
9-11 February
School Production,
'My Fair Lady'
18 February
Year 7 Taster Day

MAR/APR

1 March
Brass Concert
15 March
Sixth Form Taster Morning
and Informal Interviews
15 March
Vocal Concert
24 March
Guitar Concert
26 March
OB vs. BGS Swimming
and Water Polo
31 March
Spring Chamber Concert
8 April
1940's and 1950's Reunion
9 April
The Selby Brock
Memorial Event

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“...”

I think people are getting the physical components of climate change, like the ice caps melting and CO₂ emissions increasing, but there's so much ambiguity about the human aspect of climate change and how it's going to affect people and how we can protect them.

For the competition, Rohan decided to produce a magazine focusing on the indigenous peoples in Indonesia. Articles looked at the workings of a fossil fuel orientated economy, the socio-environmental debate surrounding oil palm and the indigenous struggle.

Said Rohan: 'I was really pleased that I won, and it was good to see the hard work pay off and that my work could be valued in a university setting.'

Rohan's competition win came as world leaders continued to gather for the COP26 climate change summit in Glasgow.

'I think people are getting the physical components of climate change, like the ice caps melting and CO₂ emissions increasing, but there's so much ambiguity about the human aspect of climate change and how it's going to affect people and how we can protect them.

'Buying sustainable produce, educating ourselves about current climate issues and pressuring TNC's (Transnational Corporations) to adopt ethical methods of intervention in emerging nations are just some of the ways people can make a difference.'

[READ THE FULL STORY ...
https://bit.ly/bgs-cop26](https://bit.ly/bgs-cop26)



Equestrian star joins prestigious dressage academy

Teenage equestrian, Tabby W is a step closer to fulfilling her dreams of riding for Great Britain after being selected for British Dressage's prestigious Foundation Academy and being placed fourth in a national schools' competition.

Back in October, Tabby represented BGS at dressage in the finals of the National Schools Equestrian Association at Keysoe International, in Cambridgeshire, on her beloved Bequia (nicknamed 'Baggy'), her 17.2hh Hanoverian chestnut gelding.

It came after Tabby was selected for the British Dressage Foundation Academy, a supportive pathway aimed at increasing the chances of young riders being selected for Great Britain.

Said Tabby: 'I was really proud to get into the academy. I've been riding most of my life, since I was about four, and I started dressage when I was 12. Dressage is very technical, and it does look a bit like horse dancing. The horses have to be very supple and strong in their legs and it's harder than it looks.

'When I'm riding Baggy, we work together rather than me just telling him what to do, especially in competitions. He knows when it's a competition and he loves to compete and show off. It would be great to swap the BGS initials one day for GB!'

Tabby is studying for A Levels in Biology, Chemistry and History and would love to be an equine vet when she leaves school.

At the Foundation Academy, she will be taking part in specialist training with GB selectors, coaches and international judges as well as physios and mindset professionals.

CAPTIONS

1 Tabby with her beloved horse Bequia, nicknamed 'Baggy'



One final codebreaker challenge



ESAA Fell Championships 2021

On 26 September, BGS took seven pupils to participate in the ESAA Fell Championships, hosted by Sedbergh School. Amongst them, Amelie L won the U17 girls' race to become the English Schools' Fell Champion.

Amelie, who is quite a 'mountain goat' on the fells, also led her team to victory, with strong support from Rebecca F who placed fourth and Carla B in fifth. There was another strong performance from Theo C who finished seventh in the U19 boys' race.

Kudos to all seven runners who represented the School (others were Elsa F, Phoebe M and Alex F) and completed what was indeed a gruelling event – the runners 'zigzagged' up the well-known 'Winder' fell and then 'let themselves go' down a steep descent back to the finish. These strong early season performances on the fell are a good indicator of fitness levels and bear well for the forthcoming cross-country season.

BY S BARENNESS, ASSISTANT COACH, CROSS COUNTRY

CAPTIONS

- 1 Earlier this term, our Year 9 codebreakers were invited to the McLaren Technology Centre to celebrate reaching the national finals of the CyberFirst Girls Competition
- 2 Year 11 pupil Amelie won the U17 girls' race in the recent ESAA Fell Championships
- 3 With over 200 fixtures completed this half term, it has certainly been action-packed for all year groups

After reaching the national finals of the CyberFirst Girls Competition earlier this year, our team of (now) Year 9 codebreakers were invited to a celebration event at the McLaren Technology Centre. Before the event, the girls were given one final challenge: solving a series of cybersecurity puzzles which led to a secret message from F1 driver Lando Norris.

On the day, they were treated to talks from a variety of figures in the cybersecurity industry, before getting a behind-the-scenes tour of the McLaren Technology Centre, which is not normally open to the public. There was a real variety of vehicles on show, from Bruce McLaren's first race car (a 1929 Austin 7 – still fully working!), to the McLaren MP4-23 driven by Lewis Hamilton when he won his first F1 championship.

It was a truly fascinating day for all involved, and no doubt one which our pupils will remember for a long time.

BY T BIRKINSHAW, HEAD OF COMPUTER SCIENCE



Sporting roundup

What a start to the year it has been on the sports field! With over 200 fixtures completed to date, it has certainly been action-packed for all year groups.

“...”

It has been very exciting to see how well all the students have performed so far this year ...

I have been very impressed with the new crop of Year 7s – we have seen over 90 students already represent the School in various sports, both mid-week and at the weekends. The commitment they have already shown will put them in good stead for the future.

Year 8 have been enjoying the opportunity to finally start playing regular fixtures after last year's drought on the fixtures front! Keep working hard and enjoying the different challenges.

Fixtures have been coming thick and fast for all age groups and it has been great to see students test themselves under the pressure of game days! We always play to win but not at the expense of enjoying the journey along the way. Year 11 pupils have set a new benchmark with their cup runs in cross country, hockey, netball and successes on the rugby field and we wish them well as they continue into the later stages of these competitions. This set of students are very determined, always working hard to set new standards and take on any challenge put in front of them. They are a great example to us all.

Our rowers have been back on the river, when levels allow, to fine tune their technique ready for the regattas ahead. I know the seniors are keen to show what they are capable of and it is very pleasing to see this determination inspiring the younger generation.

Water polo, table tennis and orienteering squads have also been training hard with fixtures starting to pick up as the year goes on.

Over the half term break, we hosted a Tracey Nevill netball masterclass. Over 50 girls attended in order to gain further understanding of the game. We will certainly be hosting more of these in the future across different sports, so please keep an eye out!

Also over the half term break, the Year 8 rugby boys and Year 9 netball girls enjoyed a mini tour to North Wales. The squads took to the field and competed well against strong opposition whilst also challenging themselves off the field at Zip World for some adrenaline filled activities.

The new swimming programmes have been under way this term and have been a real hit for those involved. Training up to 16 hours a week has been made possible whilst also keeping an excellent provision for the students who like to train once or twice a week to hone their skills.

The tennis programme continues to gain momentum with old and new students involved in developing their understanding and ability in tennis throughout the year. We are certainly seeing some of these players showing real promise.

The athletic development programme has also been ever present where over 120 students are working on individual programmes to build speed, movement efficiency, strength and robustness when performing in their chosen sports.

It has been very exciting to see how well all the students have performed so far this year and I would like to thank the staff for their continued hard work in supporting their development and offering so many high-quality opportunities to stay active.

BY O ROGERS, DIRECTOR OF SPORT



Artists of the term ...

- 1 Anna R-P, Year 12
- 2 Amber H, Year 12
- 3 Emily G, Year 12
- 4 Millie S, Year 13
- 5 Olivia B, Year 12
- 6 Maeve B, Year 13
- 7 Ellie K, Year 12



Music roundup



In September we welcomed back Old Bradfordian, Ruby Hendry (2017), to the Music Department as our Music Graduate. Ruby has just completed a four-year vocal studies and opera degree at the Royal Northern College of Music. She has already made a massive impact in the Department, helping as vocal coach for 'My Fair Lady', and assisting with all our school choirs as well as helping with the smooth running of the department.

Our first performance of the year was at Founders' Day, held at Bradford Cathedral towards the end of September. Our wonderful Senior Choir was up to full strength and performed Howells' 'Like as the Hart' and Stanford's 'Jubilate in B flat'. To deliver such a stunning performance of music of this difficulty so soon after resuming normal rehearsals was testament to the talent and hard work of our pupils. Congratulations to all involved.

On Friday 19 November we were visited by James Jenkins, former King's College Cambridge lay clerk and a member of the Kings' Men, who spent lunchtime coaching our Close Harmony Group. His input and insights were really valuable as we worked on a spiritual for our Carol Service and music by Eric Whitacre for the Christmas Concert.

We are thrilled to be able to hold concerts 'as normal' – whether these be small lunchtime recitals or larger concerts in the Price Hall. We have welcomed parents back to school for our weekly recitals on Friday lunchtimes, to the wonderful woodwind concert in November and, (as I write this article) we are looking forward to our Autumn Chamber Concert. Thank you for the support and encouragement you give to our students.

We are also looking forward to our biggest concert of the year, our Christmas Concert, held on 7 December in the Price Hall as well as our atmospheric Nine Lessons and Carols Service in the Cathedral in the last week of term. Our choirs, bands and orchestras are working immensely hard for this occasion. During this concert, the whole of Year 7 will be taking part in a performance of 'Oye', a Latin American song. The Music Department is filled with the sound of Year 7 singing every day!

BY E WHITE, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

“...”

We are thrilled to be able to hold concerts 'as normal' ...

CAPTIONS
1 The Music Department's first performance of the year was at Founders' Day, held at Bradford Cathedral



BGS Tenth Biennial Student Art Exhibition

This has been one of the busiest starts to the academic year that I can remember in all my 20 years of teaching and one of the most rewarding. During September, we exhibited 137 pieces of art at the Titus board rooms in Salts Mill.

This has been one of the most successful exhibitions that has been showcased for so many reasons: the professional environment coincided with the Saltaire Arts Festival, we had a very well attended preview with superb catering and parent support, and of course the superb artwork produced by our very talented artists.

Artwork was displayed from every year group, demonstrating the amazing talent amongst some of our youngest artists right through to Year 13 students who have now left BGS and are entering a new independent phase of their lives studying various art courses at university.

CAPTIONS

1-3 The Biennial Student Art Exhibition took place this year at Salts Mill and showcased many pupils' outstanding artwork

The department was immensely proud of all the students involved – it is important to note that all the work was produced during two very difficult years, as we found ourselves in a pandemic.

Not to put too fine a point on it and quoting a visitor to the exhibition, 'Such an impressive range of artistic works ... Well done to all involved ... Very inspiring for younger students ... Some really talented young artists ... BGS must be proud.' We most certainly are!

BY S HORSFIELD, HEAD OF ART



“...”

The new kiln replaces a very tired and old kiln which has been in service for over 30 years, so this is very much a welcome purchase.



2



1

Say 'hello' to 'The Big Blue'

During the summer holidays the Art Department took delivery and installation of 'The Big Blue' – a fantastic new piece of kit to support the evolving ceramic work we can create within the Art Department.

The new kiln replaces a very tired and old kiln which has been in service for over 30 years, so this is very much a welcome purchase. This very large and certainly more economical kiln has been purchased with the support from the BGS Parents' Association.

Back in February 2021 we approached the PA to ask for assistance to purchase this very large kiln, with a clear wish to encourage and engage a wide range of students. The Parents' Association listened and investigated how this would support as many pupils as possible, including pupils in Clock House and each year group of the Senior School. The Art Department was thrilled to receive the financial support from the PA and now seven months on we have a new, modern and advanced kiln. It is a very rare opportunity for school children to experience the process of ceramics – we know how very lucky we are to continue delivering this technique with such fantastic materials and equipment.

BY S HORSFIELD, HEAD OF ART

CAPTIONS

1-7 With thanks to the Parents' Association, the Art Department were thrilled to receive 'The Big Blue', to support the evolving ceramic work on offer in the department



5



6



7

CAPTIONS

1 Members of the Fairtrade team were delighted to raise £300 for the Early Help Children's Service team



BGS Fairtrade team raise £300 for local charity

The Fairtrade team led by Mrs Kingsley raised £300 last year by selling Fairtrade snacks in School. They used the funds to help families in West Bradford supported by the Early Help Children's Services team.

The team, who are unable to accept financial donations, require shopping vouchers, so they can buy clothes for children in local families who require some extra support.

Joanne Belgrave, the Bradford West Family Hub Co-ordinator, came into School before the October half term break to collect the vouchers and thank the students, and will use them to buy children's hats, gloves and warm layers for the winter weather as well as underwear, socks and other basic clothing for children.

Well done to the Fairtrade team for their act of generosity and to everyone who supported this initiative.

“...”

... clothes [can be bought] for children in local families who require some extra support.

Junior

Year 7



Bradford
Grammar
School
JUNIORS

AUTUMN
2021

EVENTS
VISITS
LIFE





Bradford
Grammar
School

JUNIORS

Welcome from the Junior School Headmaster

The Junior School has been buzzing this Autumn term.

A hive of activity, full of rich and purposeful learning and busy with the welcome return of fixtures, trips and whole school clubs and activities.

All pupils are enjoying participating in a rich and varied programme of extra-curricular activities and many pupils have also represented the School in a range of sports including cross country, swimming, hockey, netball, rugby, invasion games and even table tennis!

We began the term by welcoming an esteemed Old Bradfordian, Sir Stephen Morris (1976) to the Junior School. Sir Stephen began his BGS career as a pupil at Clock House and enjoyed sharing his memories of the School and his subsequent journey towards becoming a High Court Judge.

Our Year 6 pupils visited Eden Camp to enrich the learning in their World War Two topic. They also prepared and delivered a sensitive and moving assembly to mark Remembrance Day, supported by Harry B, a Year 13 pupil and ex Clock House pupil who played a poignant last post.

Our STEM ambassadors were delighted to participate in the Dyson Challenge, where they learned about the intricacies and engineering requirements of bridge construction from a lead Dyson product designer. Their final cardboard bridges were so strong they could sit and stand on them. I admired their creativity and teamwork but didn't feel it was fair to test the structures myself!

I do hope you enjoy finding out more about life in Clock House this term in the Junior Section of the 'Hoc Age'.

Mr Richard Ribeiro
Junior School Headmaster

JAN/FEB

12 January 2022
Open Morning
4 February 2022
Young Voices 2022
– Sheffield Arena
8 February 2022
Safer Internet Day
14-16 February 2022
Year 4 Residential Trip
– Robinwood

*All events may be
subject to change

MAR/APR

23 March 2022
House Music Competition
1 April 2022
Years 2 & 3 Spring Concert:
Clock House Hall
– morning event
7 April 2022
Years 4, 5 & 6 Spring Concert
Price Hall – evening event

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Harvest Appeal 2021

Harvest Appeal is an annual Clock House event where pupils bake tasty goods and prepare games to raise money for deprived children. This year the event took place on 19 and 20 October and as is annual tradition, the rain poured down, right on cue.

During and after the Harvest Appeal, pupils take time to consider which charities they should raise money for. For many years it was thought that it was mandatory to pick just one charity, when in fact, pupils can pick more and share their goodwill more widely.

From tasty bhajis to mouth-watering brownies, there really was something for every taste bud. The games were even more impressive with choices such as ghost catcher and a lucky dip.

The Senior School pupils were as keen as ever to consume as much food as possible. It was therefore no surprise that there were only a few crumbs left behind. Until next year!

BY LAAIBAH M, YEAR 6

“...”

Senior school pupils were keen to consume as much as possible. It was no surprise that there were only a few crumbs left behind ...

CAPTIONS
1-2 Despite the poor weather, the Clock House Harvest Appeal was a super success, with pupils from across the School enjoying plenty of tasty treats, helping to raise money for charity

High Court judge quizzed by pupils at his former school

'How do you choose a juror?' and 'how are judges appointed?' were just two of the questions a High Court judge faced when he was quizzed by pupils at his former school.

Sir Stephen Morris (1976) spent the day at BGS, where Junior School pupils in Years 5 and 6 were fascinated to hear about his career and how the law works, including why judges wear wigs and the role that jurors play.

Sir Stephen sits in the Queen's Bench Division hearing serious criminal cases on circuit, and civil and public law cases in the Royal Courts of Justice in London. The Old Bradfordian read law at Cambridge and was appointed a Justice of the High Court in 2016.

Junior School Headmaster, Richard Ribeiro, said: 'Sir Stephen was incredibly engaging and was a huge hit with our Year 5 and 6 pupils who had their lists of questions ready for him. They thoroughly enjoyed his talk and we're really grateful that he spent so much time with us, inspiring the next generation of legal minds.'

Sir Stephen later gave a talk to older pupils at the Senior School about careers in the law followed by a live 'In Conversation' event, one of our regular filmed interviews with Old Bradfordians.



Building with Ben

On 27 September, Year 6 STEM Ambassadors were lucky enough to attend a special workshop run by Ben Edmonds, an engineer from the globally recognised company, Dyson. In teams, the challenge was to create the cheapest, strongest bridge using materials provided, such as corrugated cardboard, one roll of tape, lollipop sticks, hot glue, and paper to design their bridge on.

140 pupils from different schools, including Richmond House and Moorfield, took part. There were a few prizes for the cheapest and for the strongest bridges, including a robotic arm and spider. One of the bridges was so strong that one of the children could stand on it!

Max D who was involved in the workshop thoroughly enjoyed himself.

'Building the bridges was super exciting. I loved competing against other schools,' he said.

BY ELLIE S, YEAR 6

CAPTIONS

1 Year 6 STEM Ambassadors were lucky to attend a special workshop in September, led by Ben Edmonds from Dyson

2 High Court judge and Old Bradfordian Sir Stephen Morris (1976) spent the day at BGS, where Junior School pupils in Years 5 and 6 were fascinated to hear about his career and how the law works



A Journey Back in Time

On Thursday 7 October, Year 6 travelled to Eden Camp which is situated in Malton, North Yorkshire. Pupils were treated to a wealth of sensory experiences which took them back in time to the historical period of World War II. Some huts release unique smells which helps recreate history in a very real way. The main feature of Eden Camp are its huts, of which there are 24. The site occupies a former Second World War prisoner-of-war camp.

We interviewed Year 6 pupil, Sami S about his experience: 'The huts were fun and there was lots of information about WWII which is the Year 6 current topic. My favourite part was the blackout hut as it was pitch black and it was a bit scary which made it exciting. I loved the great escape hut as the wax figures were moving and talking and it was interesting to learn about how they escaped.'

BY SHAHZANE B AND SEBASTIAN C, YEAR 6



A Walk into Ancient Civilisation

On Wednesday 6 October 2021, Year 5 were fortunate enough to be walked back in time and learn about the subject of Egyptology. Mr Matthew Bellwood, an exciting historical expert, visited Clock House, dressed up as an Ancient Egyptian and taught the pupils about this magnificent topic. The children and the teachers enjoyed it equally, and everyone came back having learned something new.

All the children had an opportunity to stand in front of the class, while Mr Bellwood asked them to act out an Egyptian role, for example, reading some writing on papyrus or taking out fake organs from a pretend Egyptian human named 'Anny'. The pupils were read Ancient Egyptian stories and they even had to pretend that they were at Anny's funeral, singing along to an Egyptian funeral song! Hannah B, Year 5, thoroughly enjoyed mummifying Anny.

'It was cool and complicated. It was harder than it looked!' she admitted.

A superb visit, worthy of repeating.

BY RAHEEMA A-T, YEAR 5

CAPTIONS
1-3 Year 6 visited Eden Camp earlier this term and took a trip back in time to the period of World War II
4-6 Year 5 thoroughly enjoyed learning about the subject of Egyptology with Matthew Bellwood, who visited Clock House earlier this term



Blue Peter Winners

Iris F, who is an artistic pupil in Year 5, was recently awarded a highly acclaimed Blue Peter badge for entering an anime art competition (a Japanese style of art). It was an unexpected but welcome surprise when she received the badge as she had forgotten about it entirely! Iris is unsure whether she will feature on the TV show (so keep your eyes peeled) but there is a possibility. Iris admitted that she is the first person to get a Blue Peter badge in her family and everybody is extremely excited.

Current Year 6 pupils were awarded green Blue Peter badges in September 2021 for their work in Year 5 in association with plastic pollution. Annabel W, who was delighted to receive her badge, had this to say,

'I wanted to do it because I knew that if I succeeded, I would get the badge, so I set the goal.'

BY FLORENCE A, YEAR 5

- CAPTIONS**
- 1 Iris W in Year 5, was recently awarded a Blue Peter badge for entering an anime art competition
 - 2-3 Clock House children have been involved in many sporting fixtures this term and have thoroughly enjoyed themselves
 - 4 Meet our House Captains



Sports Successes

This term we have seen a multitude of sporting fixtures occur across a range of age groups. We have spoken to many pupils about their highlights when participating in competitions.

Jaina K, Year 5, ran in the Northcliffe cross country event and said whilst she felt tired and nervous, she will push herself further next time. At times she felt like an Olympic runner.

Aamina H, Year 6, won one, lost one and drew two matches in the recent hockey tournament against schools including Gateways and Richmond House. Aamina expressed the following:

'I had lots of fun and it was certainly an experience.'

Anees K, Year 5, is an avid rugby player and managed to tackle five people in the rugby match against Hymers. Whilst it was painful it was certainly worth it.

Florence A, Year 5, loves netball and had this to say: 'I enjoyed the match and was pleased with the score, 14-2 against Wakefield Girls. It was exciting and nerve-wracking whilst playing against another team.'

BY CHARLOTTE H, YEAR 5

“...”
I had lots of fun and it was certainly an experience ...

“...”

I will make it more fun and interesting ...



Meet our House Captains

We are lucky enough to be represented by several House Captains and Vice-House Captains at Clock House.

When asked by pupils why they decided to apply for the positions, the interviewing staff were met with a range of answers including:

'I like teaching people, and I want people to look up to me.'

'I like organising!'

'I am a good role model.'

'It is a great opportunity.'

'I will try to listen and include everyone.'

'I want to get the younger children more house points.'

Here are our House Captains' individual mantras about their hopes and aspirations for their influential positions:

'I will get people involved so that hopefully people won't have to do things that they don't want.' Ellie

'I will make it more fun and interesting and hopefully the other houses will be inspired by my house.' Laaibah

'I hope to make house meetings more enjoyable and fun.' Annabel

'I like teaching people; I want people to look up to me and I want to educate people.' Isaam

We wish them continued luck in their roles.

BY AMMAR K, YEAR 6

We would like to introduce our House Captains and Vice-House Captains to you ...

Bradford

Isaam O Captain
Suleman R Vice-Captain

Freemen

Annabel W Captain
Nieve T Vice-Captain

Royal

Ellie S Captain
Saim K Vice-Captain

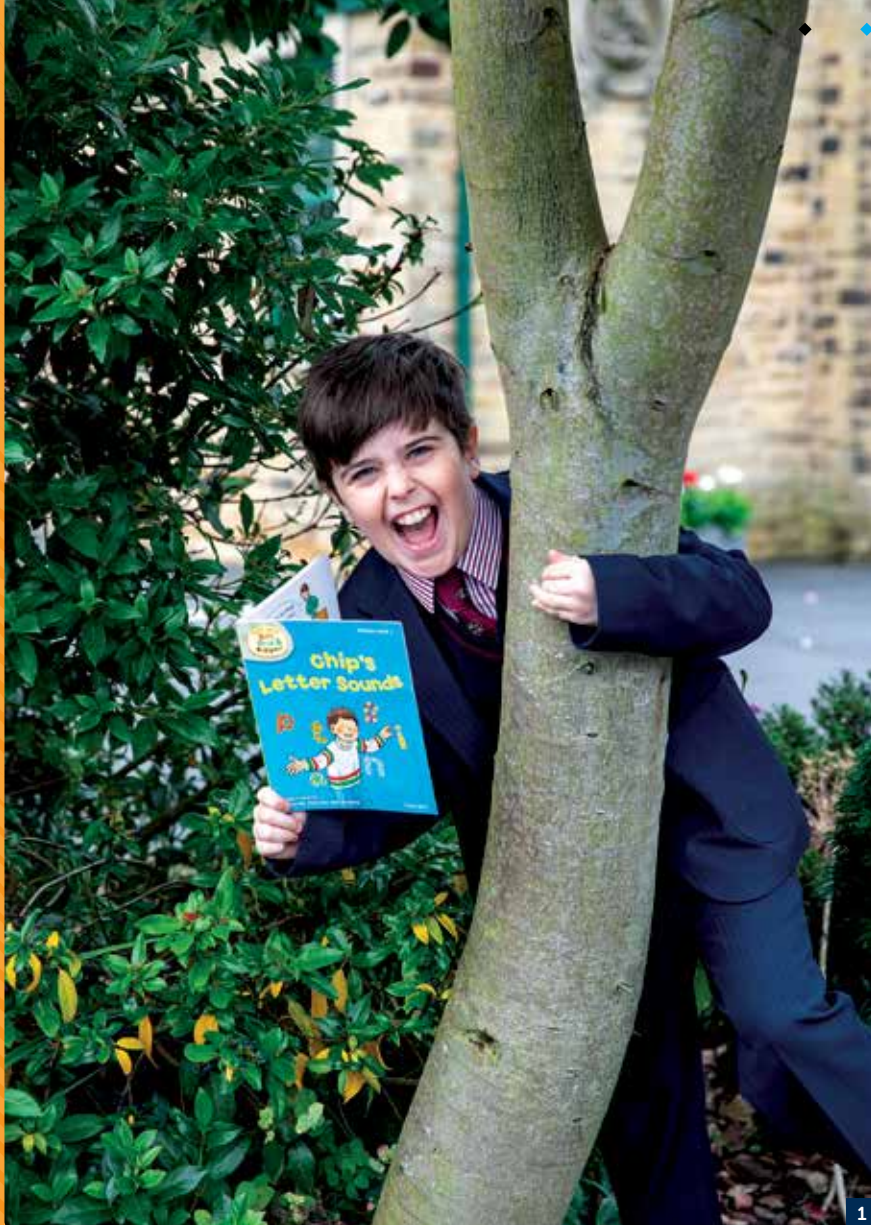
Founders

Laaibah M Captain
Hanaya M Vice-Captain

CAPTIONS

1 Year 6 pupil George is playing one of the lead characters in the new show, 'Biff and Chip' and Chip'

2 'The library is a safe and calm place which is open to everyone.'



For the love of reading

The school library at BGS is an integral part of the School and somewhere we are enormously proud of. Pupils and staff embrace the facilities on offer. The newly appointed Head Librarian, Lindsey Shackleton, shared some of her aspirations for the future of reading in the school.

'It is really important to have free access to books and open young people's minds, allowing them opportunities to read rich examples of varied authors and genres in a welcoming space' said Lindsey.

“...”

Having access to the library is important ...

When asked what she enjoys most about her role, Lindsey said she thrives on helping people develop their reading and encouraging reluctant readers to choose their own path in what they are interested in.

When questioned, Year 4 pupils had this to say: 'Having access to the library is important so that we have space to read and a quiet place to wind down and think. The library is a safe and calm place which is open to everyone.'

BY EMMA G AND EVA S, YEAR 5

Actor George sees television show air

A talented Year 6 pupil is celebrating seeing the children's show he has a part in finally hit television screens.

George R is playing one of the lead characters in the show, 'Biff and Chip', adapted from the popular children's books.

George, who plays the part of Chip, filmed 25 episodes of the show which he managed to do around COVID restrictions.

He said: 'I'm really excited now it's out. It was a bit weird seeing myself on television, but it was good to see that all the hard work paid off.'

'Chip is quite a shy character, but he has a massive imagination and he's really creative. It was really fun playing him.'

George plays the drums at school and also enjoys singing. He has been acting since he was five and is a member of Stagebox, a training platform for young performers. He has previously played the role of Charlie in a production of 'Oliver' at Wakefield Theatre Royal and is looking to grow his film and television roles. He was due to star in a major film and an Amazon Prime show, but restrictions meant he couldn't film.

Instead, George made a short film with the Young Film Academy (YFA) over the summer and was nominated as best performer while the short gained a best film nomination in the Young Film Academy Awards. The film was shown at the British Film Institute in August.

'I'd love to be an actor when I leave school and it would be great to do different types of roles. I don't want to be typecast,' he laughed.

Telethon success!

In July 2021, 13 student callers took to the phones to raise funds for our 1662 Campaign for Assisted Places.

Callers were recruited from the Sixth Form and recent leavers, from a fiercely competitive field of applicants. Over the course of two weeks, they enjoyed 407 inspirational conversations with Old Bradfordians (OBs), raising more than £138,000 in support of two fully funded Assisted Places in the process! Their efforts meant that we were able to welcome a child to Year 7 and a new Year 12 Sixth Former this September – young people who would not be enjoying all that BGS has to offer without this support.

Our amazing caller team really enjoyed the experience, learning valuable communication skills which will stay with them for the rest of their lives. They benefitted hugely from learning about the experiences of OBs, which in some cases have helped to inform their own university and career decisions. And finally, they felt they were genuinely making a difference.

Student caller Ans said: 'Knowing that you're actually making a difference with the money raised is invaluable. Students like myself will have their lives improved drastically.'



His teammate Aliya said: 'I've got to admit, I felt like a superhero at times. Securing donations from generous OBs of all ages was immensely rewarding, as they came together to help change a bright and talented student's life ... I would do it again just to walk back in history and learn about the experiences of the Old Bradfordians.'

We are grateful to everyone who pledged their support. To date, the 1662 Fund has raised more than £1.1 million for Assisted Places.

If you would like to learn more about the 1662 Campaign, please contact the Director of Development, Lindsey Davis at ldavis@bradfordgrammar.com or 01274 553712.

BY L DAVIS, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT & EXTERNAL RELATIONS



Inspirational Dyson engineer visit

An inventor who has designed products in use across the world encouraged hundreds of Yorkshire children to solve problems and innovate during a two-day event.

Ben Edmonds balances his time working as principal engineer at Dyson with inspiring the next generation of inventors through his company, **InnovationBen**.

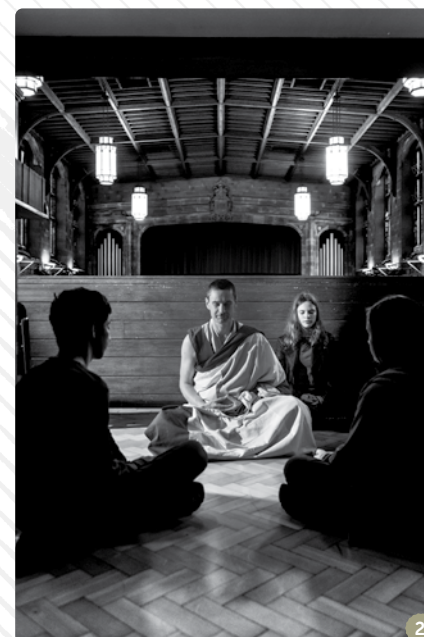
During a visit to BGS, as part of one of our regular outreach events, enthusiastic children at the junior school and other Yorkshire schools took part in a design innovation challenge hosted by Ben. He then led innovation workshops for BGS's GCSE students, before giving a public lecture in the evening to explore the future of engineering design and innovation.

Headmaster Dr Simon Hinchliffe, said: 'We were delighted to see that so many children from other schools in Yorkshire could join us in enjoying Ben's interactive workshops. I'm sure he will have inspired many of them to consider taking up careers as inventors and innovators.'

READ THE FULL STORY
<https://bit.ly/BGS-Dyson>



CAPTIONS
1-3 13 student callers took to the phones during July 2021 to raise funds for our 1662 Campaign for Assisted Places
4 Children from local primary schools took part in a recent outreach event, hosted by inventor Ben Edmonds



CAPTIONS

1-4 For the tenth year, Year 9 pupils took part in our annual Faiths in the City event – exploring various religions via different workshops

Gotta have faith ... BGS style!

The Faiths in the City event for Year 9 pupils is an annual event for the School. This year was the tenth Faiths in the City event. Every year the School invites different local faiths leaders and artists into School to lead workshops and activities with pupils.

“...”

The theme this year was ‘racial equality and harmony’ and the day began with a powerful and thought-provoking performance ...

The theme this year was ‘racial equality and harmony’ and the day began with a powerful and thought-provoking performance from The Riding Lights theatre company from York.

Other highlights from the event included a fantastic dance workshop, where pupils learned classical Indian dance moves and about how the Hindu faith promotes equality and diversity through dance and scripture. More highlights and examples of workshops included Sikh music and performance, Islamic calligraphy and art, Buddhist meditation and practice.

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed and embraced the experience, feeding back to each other on the different events at the end of the day and asking fantastic questions of our faith leaders. This was another fabulous event that was fun, engaging and a great experiential learning experience for all. Well done, Year 9!

BY R SKELTON, HEAD OF RELIGIOUS STUDIES



Making friends the BGS way!

Year 7 Residential Trip – September 2021

What a way to start the school year! The whole of Year 7 took part in a three-day residential trip to PGL Caythorpe Court in Lincolnshire in the very first week of term. A daunting prospect, perhaps, with it being so early in the term and following 18 months of disruption, but the pupils threw themselves in, in true BGS style, and made the most of what this opportunity presented.

We enjoyed a packed schedule which comprised two activities in the morning, two after lunch and then one more in the evening. We did archery, climbing, zipwire, giant swing and (always a favourite) raft-building, to name but a few.

To add to the experience, we stayed in the Tented Village with pupils in groups of up to five in each tent. Many enjoyed their first try at sleeping under canvas, although the lack of light and the bugs caused some cheery chaos at times.

All pupils exceeded expectations, overcoming homesickness, throwing themselves into the activities, behaving impeccably and doing BGS proud. They came together as a year group very swiftly and I'm excited to see what the rest of the year brings for them.

BY E TOMLINSON, HEAD OF YEAR 7

CAPTIONS

1-6 Year 7 started off their school year packed with adventure, taking part in a three-day residential trip to PGL Caythorpe Court in Lincolnshire





CAPTIONS
1-3 Meet Freddie
and Amy – this
year's Head
Prefects

Meet our Head Prefects

We were delighted to catch up with our new Head Prefects Freddie and Amy to find out how they have settled into their new roles and to discover a little more about their time and experiences at Bradford Grammar School (BGS). They truly are great ambassadors of BGS.



What made you want to be a Head Prefect?

Freddie Having been at BGS since Year 2, I've always looked up to the older pupils – especially the prefect team. The role of Head Prefect was an opportunity to be part of such a great team – and to give back to the school community in the process.

Amy I've benefitted so much from the values and opportunities at BGS that I really wanted to help promote the School to others, so that they too can benefit from it in the same way that I have. I also remember the Head Girl from when I was in Year 7, whose friendly and confident nature gave me something to aspire towards. If I can be a role model as a Head Prefect, I know that someone will appreciate it, just like I did.

What was and how did you find the application process?

Freddie The application process consisted of a written application form, a student/teacher vote, along with an interview. The votes and application forms were considered to select the 40 prefects, along with six senior prefects. All six of the senior prefects were then invited to interview for the positions of Head Prefect. The application process was a well-balanced system to assess candidates holistically.

Amy The interview was unlike anything I have done before which made it an incredibly useful experience.

How did you feel when you found out you were Head Prefects?

Freddie I was over the moon! It was a bit of a shock – a pleasant shock, I should add!

Amy I was incredibly happy as there were so many amazing candidates. I hadn't properly thought it would ever be me. It took the whole of the summer holiday before it fully sunk in!

What duties have you undertaken so far in your roles?

Freddie We've worked together on assemblies and organised the prefect teams for various school events – including the BGS Art Exhibition in Saltaire.

Amy We presented a whole school assembly to welcome everyone back at the beginning of the school year and offered some advice for the year ahead. We also represented the School at Founders' Day.

What is the most exciting part of your role?

Freddie The opportunity to make a difference is exciting, along with being able to lead the prefect team in these endeavours.

Amy I'm excited about our aim to try and improve the School's environmental impact. Hopefully this, along with other duties, will provide us with plenty of opportunities to reach out and connect with other year groups.

What are you most (and least) looking forward to in your role as Head Prefect?

Freddie I'm looking forward to being present at various school events – such as Speech Day, where I am making a speech. I'm not particularly looking forward to

policing younger students on lunch duty, however!

Amy I'm looking forward to speaking to prospective students at open events and hopefully encouraging both prospective and current students to make the most of BGS. I also surprisingly enjoyed giving a speech in assembly so I'm looking forward to doing more of that, although I must admit that writing speeches is definitely not my favourite part of the role.

How do you think you both complement each other?

Freddie I like to think that we're both scrupulously organised with our tasks, which is rather useful as we both have a reasonable workload.

Amy Yeah, we are both very organised people and are used to being busy, so we are up for the challenge of balancing Head Prefect duties with everything else that we do. As we are involved in so many clubs, hopefully we are also quite relatable and approachable for younger students.

What A Levels are you studying?

Freddie I'm studying Chemistry, Biology, Mathematics and Music Technology. I also completed an EPQ in Year 12.

Amy I'm also studying Maths, with Further Maths, Physics and Computer Science.

What are your plans for when you leave BGS?

Freddie I plan on studying medicine after I leave BGS. I still have no idea about what sort of doctor I want to be, however, but I'm sure this will become clear at medical school.

Amy I'm currently deciding whether to take a gap year or not, and then I'd like to study Physics and Computer Science at university. I have no career plans just yet; I just want to make sure I'm always enjoying whatever I decide to do.

When did you join BGS?

Freddie I joined in 2010 in Year 2 – 11 years go surprisingly quickly!

Amy I joined in Year 7, which, as the only person from my primary school, was quite daunting. However, I soon settled in.

What are your favourite BGS memories?

Freddie A particular favourite memory was playing in the band for the 2020 school production of 'Little Shop of Horrors'. Music and drama are fantastic to get involved with at BGS. The concerts, too, have always been a highlight.

Amy Some of my favourite memories are from the trips that I've been on. I've been lucky enough to go to Pompeii and Greece with the Classics department. Both trips enabled me to see some impressive, ancient sites, while the Greece trip also gave me the chance to meet people from other year groups who had similar interests.

What do you like most about BGS? And what has the School taught you during your time here?

Freddie I enjoy the huge range of things to get involved with, be it music, sport, drama, or anything else. BGS has taught me to never take opportunities such as these for granted.

Amy I like the attitude of pupils and staff that there is no shame in working hard and achieving your goals, in fact you should be proud. This is something that has helped me become much more confident and ambitious during my time at BGS, and I know it's a quality that will aid me in the future. I also really

value the variety of cultures represented at BGS as it has highlighted to me the importance of appreciating different perspectives and world views.

How do you embrace school life? Are you involved in any co-curricular activities?

Freddie I'm a keen musician, having the pleasure of playing the piano for Concert Band, Big Band and the Dixieland Crackerjacks. I'm proud to represent the School as Secretary of the Debating Society, and Vice-Captain of the BGS Boat Club. I have a refreshingly busy timetable!

Amy I love the sport and music opportunities. My lunch times are always so busy as I'm rushing from one club to another, but that's because I enjoy them so much. I find it especially rewarding when you receive praise and congratulations at the end of a concert or fixture as it makes all the rehearsals and training even more worthwhile. I'm part of three music groups, a member of the indoor hockey team and captain of the senior hockey team.

What advice would you give to a new student at BGS?

Freddie One of the things that makes BGS so special is the fantastic range of things to get involved with and I would encourage new students to take advantage of what the School can offer.

Amy Join in with everything you can. One of the things that would've really helped me settle in even better in Year 7 is if I had come to BGS with the confidence that I am leaving with, and, undoubtedly, the best way to develop that confidence is to take advantage of every opportunity you get.

What will you miss most about BGS?

Freddie I will miss the feel of the school community when I leave BGS – it's something that potentially cannot be replicated.

Amy I'll miss seeing all my friends every day.

“...”

I enjoy the huge range of things to get involved with, be it music, sport, drama, or anything else.

Freddie

“...”

I like the attitude of pupils and staff that there is no shame in working hard and achieving your goals ...

Amy

Award-winning novelist holds creative writing workshop



Old Bradfordian Ross Raisin (1998), author of 'God's Own Country', 'Waterline' and 'A Natural', spent the afternoon of 5 October delivering a creative writing workshop to BGS pupils.

CAPTIONS

1 Award-winning novelist and Old Bradfordian Ross Raisin (1998) returned to his former school to deliver a creative writing workshop to current BGS pupils

2-4 Year 13 geographers gathered fieldwork data for their own independent investigations

5 Sixth Form students had an enjoyable and unforgettable Classics trip to London

The workshop involved pupils analysing an extract from a short story and exploring how characterisation was so effective. Pupils then worked in pairs choosing a photograph and compared what ideas they had about the character's motivations, their personality and their thoughts before spending time writing character sketches of their own.

Later, Ross took part in one of the school's In Conversation events, which was also open to students at Beckfoot Upper Heaton School, in Bradford.

Said Ross: 'In all the ways that the school has changed over the past couple of decades – the ultra-modern new facilities, the more youthful face of the teaching staff, the beautiful library – it is the increasingly progressive policies of inclusion, of students from less well-off backgrounds and of the local community, that was the most pleasing thing for me to come back to. I left energised by my afternoon with the students.'

Ross has won or been shortlisted for more than ten awards, including winning the Sunday Times Young Writer of the Year Award in 2009 and being named in literary magazine and publisher Granta's once-a-decade Best of Young British Novelists list. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 2018.

Ross teaches creative writing at Leeds University and as part of the Guardian Masterclass programme. His next novel, 'A Hunger', will be published in summer 2022.



Unearthing the secrets of the local area

For the first time in their geographical studies, Year 13 geographers struck out to gather fieldwork data for their own investigation. The independent investigation gives students the freedom to research a topic of interest to them and the chance to study the intricacies of the local area.

Students investigated topics as diverse as the temporal changes in the use of Lister Park and the motivations of Ilkley residents for purchasing locally sourced food. Alongside traditional data collection methods like questionnaires and pedestrian counts, pupils conducted creative fieldwork techniques such as mood mapping, sound mapping and urban wanderings to build an understanding of people's lived experience of an area.

After their day in the field, the data crunching could begin, before a detailed analysis of their findings to answer those all-important questions for investigation. As you read this, their exertions are fast becoming one of their many memories of school life but the skills they worked so hard to develop will serve them into the future at university and beyond.

BY F HANDBURY, HEAD OF GEOGRAPHY

Sixth Form Classics trip to London

One of the first productions to emerge from lockdown was a specially written four-actor performance of Ovid's 'Metamorphoses' at Shakespeare's Globe.

By turns thrilling, unsettling, humorous and dark (and sometimes all at once), this was an unforgettable way for our Sixth Form students to re-immense themselves in Classics trips. We were lucky to be able to combine this with a visit to the Nero exhibition at the British Museum, which invited us to decide whether to re-assess Nero's image as a dangerous matricidal megalomaniac: on the whole we decided against.

BY K MEAKIN, HEAD OF CLASSICS