



# BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL BULLETIN

Friday 5 September 2025

From Mark Bruncker, Headteacher

## Welcome Note

The new academic year began yesterday with a wonderful sense of energy and anticipation as we reunited with our returning students and introduced those joining us in Year 7 and Year 12.

Some of the highlights for me were greeting our new Year 7s as they arrived in the morning and then visiting assemblies throughout the day to share my own best wishes, before each Head of Year gave an address to their students.



Mr Bruncker greets new Year 7 students



Mr Bruncker addresses an assembly

It was heartening to see students picking up conversations and friendships as though the summer break had never happened. While more than one student hinted that their holiday routine involved waking up closer to midday than to morning, they were nonetheless fully engaged in their interactions and in the rhythm of school once again. It was also clear how well prepared so many of our new Year 7s were – no doubt helped by the large number who attended our Summer School in July, which was a fantastic experience led not only by our dedicated staff but also by some of our older students. Having just two days this week has provided an effective way to ease everyone back into school life before the first full week ahead.

## New Colleagues Joining Us

Ms M Ordonez (Spanish)  
Ms M Peiró Hernández (Spanish)  
Mrs K McAuley (Physical Education)  
Mr S Calver (Head of Faculty - Mathematics)  
Mr H Elliott (Mathematics)  
Ms L Jacometti (Art)  
Mr A Moore (Art)  
Miss C Stevens (Geography and EPR)  
Miss L Speakman (English)  
Mrs J Ulyatt (PA to Headteacher)  
Mr C Hippey (Site Operative)

## New Teacher Trainees

Mr J Westland (Physical Education)  
Miss I Mears (English/Drama)  
Mr L Holbrook (English/Law)  
Miss E Kendrew (Physics)

As well as new students, we also welcomed a number of new colleagues this September, all dedicated specialists in their respective fields, who I know will make a great impact here at BGS. In addition, our latest group of teacher trainees have joined us, three of whom are Old Brunnians. It speaks volumes about the lasting impression of the School that so many choose to return and begin their teaching careers here.

Finally, I received a lovely message from a parent of a new Year 7 student, who explained that there had been a little confusion at a bus stop yesterday morning on their way into School. Their child, along with others, nearly missed the correct bus, but they were quickly helped by a Sixth Former and another BGS student who were both described as incredibly helpful and polite. Stories like that are a joy to hear and highlight the atmosphere of kindness and support that we value so highly here.

## DofE Gold Expedition 17-23 July 2025 – Lake District

As soon as school broke for the summer holiday, 4 teams of Year 12 students travelled to the Lake District to embark upon their DofE Gold Expedition. After the journey to Keswick and the acclimatisation briefings, they prepared themselves for the 4-day walking, 3-night camping expedition that would see them navigate the challenging terrain around Derwent Water, Thirlmere Reservoir and Skiddaw.



The weather added to their challenges, making for a very wet beginning. Thankfully this soon improved, and the students were rewarded with superb fell and valley views after some heavy climbing.

All students dug deep to discover their strength and determination, developing resilience, patience and sound leadership skills whilst supporting each other through difficult situations. They should be incredibly proud of their achievements; I am sure they have made memories they will never forget.



The DofE support team wish groups 'Krisless', 'Devout Kristians', 'Gold Diggas' and 'Froggies' the very best in completing the rest of their DofE Gold Awards in the coming months.