



BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL BULLETIN

Week ending Friday 22 November 2019

From Jonathan Maddox, Headteacher

EMERGENCY CLOSURE OF THE SCHOOL DUE TO BAD WEATHER

It is my habit at this time of year to brief parents and carers on the possibility that the School might have to close - quite possibly at very short notice - should there be extremes of weather over the coming winter. I hasten to reassure parents that closures of *our* School for this reason are rare. The default position is always that the School will be open. Although in many years we have not had to close at all, occasionally we have had to. In 2018 it was necessary to close for several days due to snow, so there is recent experience to draw upon as I set out my advice for this year.

If we have to close, then you can be certain that a difficult decision has been made with the safety of our students and staff uppermost. I make the decision in discussion with Delaine Buses and the Chair of Governors, in full awareness of the sometimes considerable burden of inconvenience that a closure can place on family arrangements.

The circumstances and catchment area of the other local schools are, increasingly, very different from our own so in recent years we have tended to make any decisions on closure alone. We will continue to make our own decision on closure, independently of other local schools.

The 'easy' situation is when the School does not open at all on any given day and it is possible to make the decision very early on. When it snows, Delaine Buses will telephone me very early in the morning, long before any student will have begun to prepare for their journey to School. I have an excellent and long-standing relationship with Delaine Buses and my home in Stamford is in view of one of their routes, so together we are able to form an opinion on the conditions quickly and efficiently. If the decision is taken to close, then that decision will be communicated as follows:

1. To all students using *Milk*. Students can access *Milk* from their phones or from any other Internet-connected device. If parents have *Milk* set up on their devices, then they will receive the same message.
2. A webpage called <https://bgssnow.com/> is active constantly throughout the year and will indicate when the School is closed.
3. By a notice on the front page of the School's website.

Experience has demonstrated very clearly that the *Milk* message sent to every student ensured that none arrived at School. Last year I had to post a closure notice after I had set out on my own journey to School, and that, too, worked perfectly. With <https://bgssnow.com/> available, communication should be improved even further.

The much more difficult situation is where it is decided to open the School - so no closure announcement is made - but heavy snow falls once the morning commute to School has begun and parents have already set out on their daily business. Only one such closure has been declared since I joined BGS in 2005. Should I have to close the School other than first thing in the morning then the same methods of communication will be used to let you know. Please do not attempt to telephone the School as your call cannot be answered.

On one or two occasions in the course of my headship I have had to close the School for other reasons, most recently due to failure of the electricity supply. In any case of closure, the procedure set out above will be followed and, in particular, <https://bgssnow.com/> will also be used (even if a closure is not due to snow).

Despite this detailed, considered and practised plan, there is still the remote possibility of communication system issues in extreme weather situations. In such circumstances, we will do our best to communicate with the School community using other means, including the Delaine Buses website, local radio, Lincolnshire County Council etc. We will always attempt to communicate any closure decision on a 'best endeavour' basis.

POPPY APPEAL

This year, the School raised £251.84 for the Poppy Appeal - thank you to everyone who helped to sell poppies and to every student who bought one.

NEW PARENT GOVERNORS

Following the recent election, Mrs Sarah Cottage and Col. Paul Loader have been elected to serve as Parent Governors. Congratulations to both.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Junction Dance Showcase

Next Tuesday, *Junction Dance Showcase* returns for another night of spectacular dance talent. Tickets are available via the following link: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/bournegrammarschool/t-jlgxaa>, priced at £6 for adults and £4 for concessions. There will be no interval during the performance.

Sixth Form Play - Metamorphosis

Performances will be on Thursday 5 December and Friday 6 December at 7pm; each performance will last for approximately 1 hour 15 minutes and there will be no interval. Tickets are available via the following link: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/bournegrammarschool/e-zggdjj>, priced at £7 for adults and £5 for concessions - this production is suitable for all students.

Christmas Concert

Our annual Christmas Concert will take place on Thursday 12 December at 7pm. Tickets are now available via the following link: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/bournegrammarschool/t-akxapg>, priced at £6 for adults and £4 for concessions. Mulled wine (provided that we can obtain this from a sponsor) and home-made mince pies will be served during the interval and are included in the ticket price.

HOUSE POINT TOTALS

			
5263	4821	4576	4842

These totals show all Achievement Points minus Behaviour Points for the first three weeks of Term 2, up until 15.11.19



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Name	Year	Staff	Subject
Fletcher Wilkinson	7	Mr Bainbridge	History
Olivia Dunicz	7	Mrs Woolf	Science
Dhanya Ravi	7	Mr Delport	Design Engineering
Jessica Burton	7	Mr Dougall	Design Engineering
Poppy Bevan	8	Mr Gatland	English
Ellen Nixon	8	Mrs Pignatiello	Drama
Emma Aldred	8	Mr Miller	Science
Nicole Haynes	9	Mrs Williamson	English
Jake Horner	9	Miss Segarra Ginés	Spanish
Freya Dimeloe	9	Mr Howard	EPR
Erin Holden	9	Miss Smithson	Registration
Rhea Joshi	9	Miss Watson	English
Elliot Joy	9	Miss Smithson	Registration
Aleesha Ali	10	Miss Kirby	Mathematics
Dan Galpin	10	Mr Adamson	Mathematics
Holly Weston	10	Miss Kirby	Mathematics
Matthew Lines	10	Mr Edwards	Spanish
Milly Ramm	10	Mrs Lattimer	Mathematics
Zachary Bentley	10	Mr Sutherland	Physics
Alex Green	10	Mrs McVicker	English
Daisy Rushen	12	Dr Owen	English Literature
Sophie Bannister	12	Mrs Worrall	Spanish
Harriet Laugharne	13	Mr Brown	Design Engineering
Freya Cross	13	Miss Doerpinghaus	German
Evie Mansfield	13	Miss Thurlow	Sociology

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Gymnastics James Hayes (Year 7) competed in the Boys County Floor & Vault Championships last weekend, and won a gold medal for his age group and a silver medal overall.

