



BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL BULLETIN

Week ending Friday 11 September 2020

From Jonathan Maddox, Headteacher

A GOOD START CLOUDED BY SOME DIFFICULT DECISIONS

With over a week of term behind us it is good to report very high rates of student and staff attendance. It is clear that our bubble model works efficiently and whilst there are bound to be disadvantages, it is good to observe some positive features of our new *modus operandi*. The corridors are much less busy and at break and lunchtimes there is a sense that the students are spread more evenly around the site. Whilst the weather is fine the students can use the field at lunchtimes and with plenty of space it is easy to allow each 'bubble' its own, amply-sized patch on which to play and relax.

Most importantly, the School has come to life again and lessons are running according to the timetable, some inside and some outside on the field. Students are at last learning together in a relatively normal classroom environment, with their friends and in face-to-face contact with their teachers.

I wrote earlier in the week reminding parents, carers and students about the prohibition on social gatherings of more than 30 people but, already, that particular piece of Government advice has been superseded and from Monday the limit for such gatherings falls to just six. We are exempt in School so there will be no change to how we operate under the bubble system. There will of course be an impact on students' social lives so they, and parents/carers, are urged to respect the new regulation in the spirit of us all doing all we can, both in School and outside with our friends and families, to ensure that the School environment remains safe and fully open for our students.

I can no longer delay the promulgation of a final decision regarding the major events that would normally take place in this term and in the run-up to Christmas. I confirm that no 'audience' events will take place, so Speech Night, all performing arts events including the Christmas Concert are cancelled. So are the Sixth Form Open Evening and the various pastoral and curriculum-based evenings that we usually run in Term 1. Where we are able to offer an alternative we will do our best to achieve that, but the events themselves will definitely not take place.

It is with particular deep regret that I have decided to announce that our postponed production of *The Sound of Music*, planned for December, will not take place. I had to announce the postponement just days before the original dates of the run back in March, as lockdown became inevitable. By that time the production was almost ready after many months of hard work by our young actors, actresses, musicians and back-stage helpers. The drama and music staff had also committed a vast amount of time to the production. I was able to temper the disappointment by arranging for our performing licence for the show to be moved to December and in March I wrote to all involved in the production to announce the new dates. With December then so distant I felt confident that we would all enjoy the show on the new dates so I arranged for the audience's tickets to be carried over to the December run. I am grateful to the hundreds of ticket-holders who supported the School through their understanding and tolerance, but I prefer to exploit their kindness no further. Having made the decision to cancel, I will arrange for ticket-holders to be refunded. This will take a little while to organise so please be patient. I very much hope that the show can be given later, perhaps in March around the dates originally planned for this year, and if that is possible then the tickets will be offered for sale afresh. It is difficult to have to confirm my decision whilst the School is buzzing with students but I hope that the cast and those supporting them, including the ticket-holders, will understand that it has become inevitable and I want to communicate it to all in good time. I desperately regret the disappointment that it will cause.

Having as a School community been through so much upheaval - as have so many others - and now having to come to terms with what we shall undoubtedly miss as we work in our newly-established manner, it is uplifting and energising to see, every day, such positivity around the School. Everywhere I wander I see students happily going about their business calmly, with good cheer and in every encounter with impeccable politeness. A particular high point this week was the first meeting with the new Head Student team. The students spoke with Mr Bruncker and me with confidence and good humour, feeding back primarily on the student perspective of the new School regime. We have another excellent team.

SCHOOL BLOUSE SALE

A number of School blouses from old stock are available to buy. If you wish to purchase a blouse or blouses, please email Mrs Ford via pastoral@bourne-grammar.lincs.sch.uk. The following sizes are available: 28", 38", 40", 42". The cost of each blouse is £7 and can be collected at a pre-arranged time with Mrs Ford, with payment made via a sealed envelope left in Reception when you collect your order.

ARTWORK

Year 13 students have made a positive start to the year despite the current restrictions. They have been working in their books, on a smaller scale, to develop their ideas relating to their coursework which will be integral to their overall grade.



Ella Burdock
Study of nude with ink, pencil and paint stick



Charlotte Payne
Study in pencil







Abby Garthwaite
Study in coloured pencil and paint stick



Evie McLeod
Study of Edinburgh in pencil

ACHIEVEMENT POINT TOTALS

			
1101	1434	1309	1143

*These totals show all House/Achievement Points earned minus Behaviour Points.
It includes points from all students in each house up to 09/09/2020.*

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Music

The following students have passed their recent Music Examinations with Merit:

- Miles Cade-Stewart (Year 10) - Grade 5 Scottish Fiddle
- Akshath Nambala (Year 11) - Grade 6 Guitar

Sport

Olivia Mahoney (Year 8) has been selected for the Welsh National Skills Academy Squad for 2020/2021 for her swimming endeavours, the first step on the International Development Pathway for Swim Wales.

After a successful trial last week, Huw Ballard (Year 9) has been accepted into the Junior Squad at Peterborough Rowing Club, after previously rowing at Oundle for the last year and a half.