



BOURNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL BULLETIN

Week ending Friday 3 December 2021

From Alastair Anderson, Headteacher

I have started up a “Sticky Bun Club”, running twice per week and offering students the chance to come and speak to me in groups of 10 and in return receiving a home baked sticky bun as a thank you. Those I met this week were positive and communicative, and in particular I enjoyed a lovely conversation with Grace and Evie in Year 7 who talked about their teachers, their subjects, their music, their sport and everything that they are finding so exciting at Bourne so far. Their enthusiasm was infectious and I look forward to speaking with many more students each week, in between mouthfuls, about their time here and how they find the [School](#).

That same infectious enthusiasm is very much in evidence in the Music and Drama departments as students prepare for the first live on-site performances since the start of the pandemic. There will be time for a review of these evening events in a future [Bulletin](#), but for now it is worth emphasising to everyone that we are still intending to go ahead with live shows despite the growing concern around the Omicron variant. These performance opportunities are so important for creative students who need to experience the adrenaline-charged atmosphere of a live show, and I am really excited to see what they produce next week!

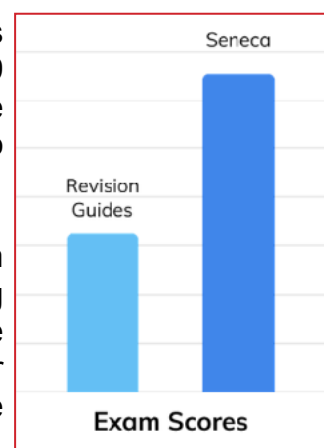
Finally, I want to wish good luck to our 24 Cross Country runners heading to Newquay for the English Schools Cross Country Cup Final this weekend. Cornwall is a beautiful place even in December, and I hope all 24 have a great trip and create some really powerful memories.

SENECA - Mr Hewitt, Deputy Headteacher (Academic)

I am delighted to announce that the School has recently signed-up to SENECA Learning Premium, an online learning platform which allows students to work at home to reinforce their own learning. SENECA Learning is the UK's most popular learning/revision app, with over 2.5 million users in England alone and there is compelling evidence that regular use of the app can make a significant impact on students' progress.

Each student at Bourne Grammar School has been given their own login details to the School's premium account, allowing them access to every resource in 29 different subjects. Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 have been taught how to use the learning platform in their Computer Science lessons, whilst students in Year 10 to 13 have received guidance in their tutor periods.


The early signs of student engagement are hugely promising; since joining in November our wonderful students have already completed over 17,000 learning sessions. It would be unfair to name the student who has spent the most time learning on SENECA during this time, but your efforts are incredible and Mr Anderson will be writing to you shortly to say well done. 229 hours of online learning and revision have been completed in Science alone!



Our School has placed independent learning at the heart of its curriculum and strives to equip our students with the skills needed to become self-regulated, independent learners. The purchase of SENECA Learning Premium will hopefully help to support students to become more independent and offer an additional resource to students who may have fallen behind due to COVID's impact.

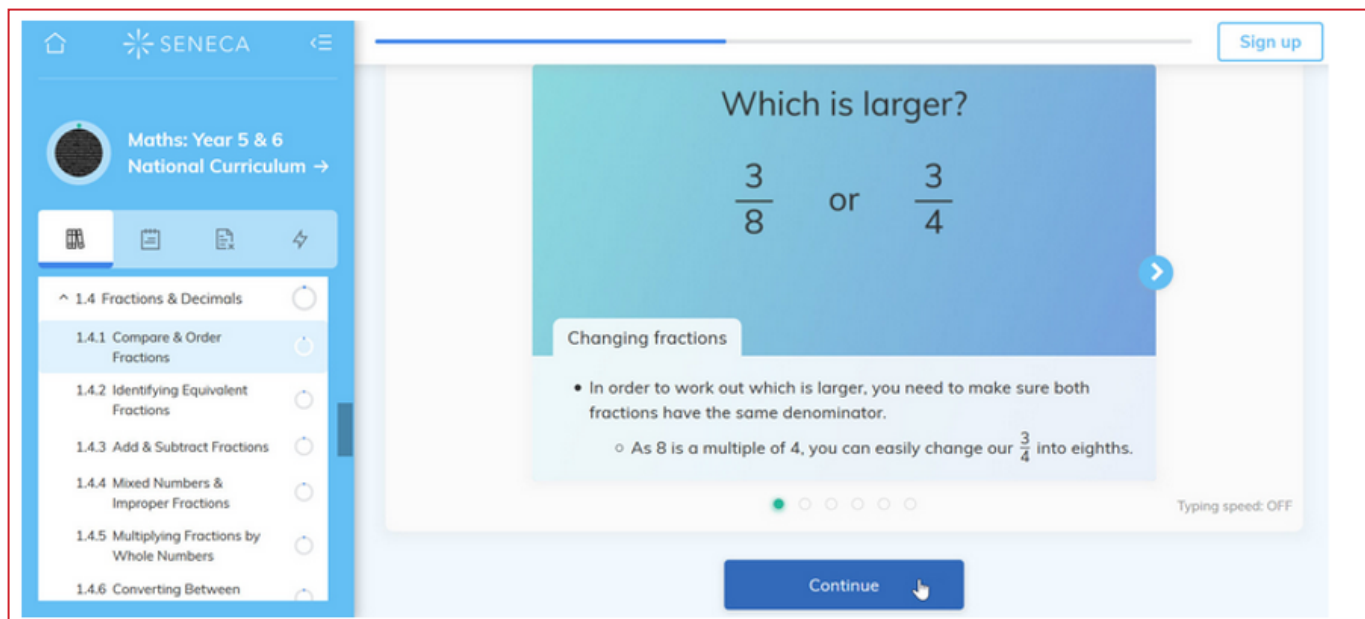
For parents and carers who wish to become involved, SENECA has just released a free parent monitoring platform. This lets you see how long your child has spent on their different subjects, their average score and number of questions answered.

Here are some instructions for getting started:

1. Click here to create a parent account (if you arrive at a login page, make sure to click on the 'Sign up' option)
2. Click 'See your child's scores'
3. Copy and share the unique link with your child (or you can use the e-mail or Whatsapp buttons)
4. Ask them to open the link on their phone or laptop (whatever device they typically use Seneca with)
5. Once they've successfully opened the link they'll see a linked confirmation 
6. Refresh the page on your parent account to review their progress.

If you have any issues, you can find a video guide here.

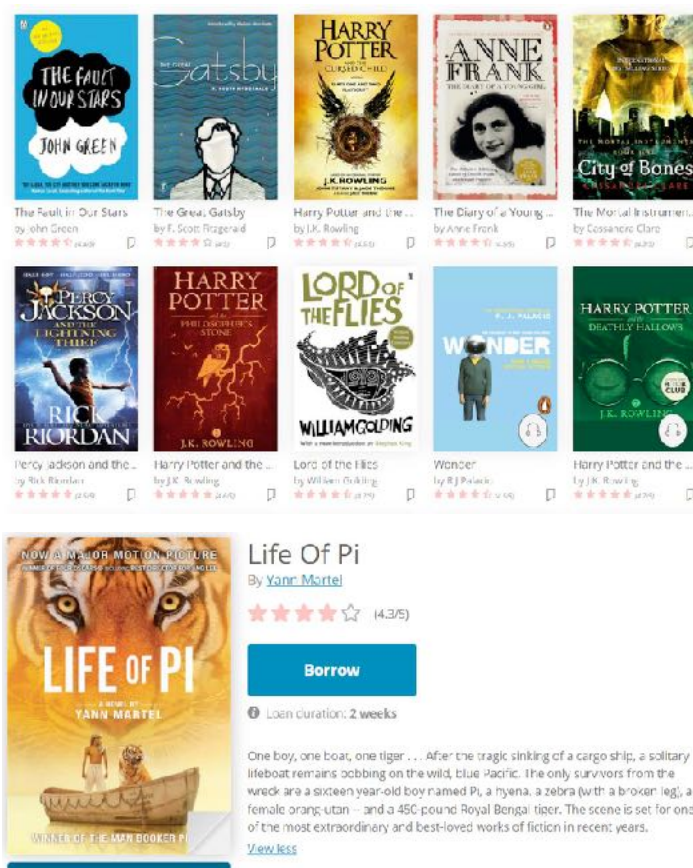
I thank all students who have used SENECA Learning so far, and I wish them many more hours of happy learning.



READING CHALLENGE AND ePLATFORM

Two weeks ago, we launched our annual Reading Challenge for Year 7 students. Following an assembly, students were set the challenge of reading twenty-five books over the course of the academic year. Despite seeming like an insurmountable task to some, we are always delighted by number of students who rise to the challenge and receive awards at the end of the year.

To support the Reading Challenge, this week our Year 7 students were given their logins for ePlatform, a digital library with access to thousands of eBooks which can be streamed or downloaded onto a personal device. The inclusive platform also enables students to customise backgrounds and fonts to dyslexia-friendly settings. We want Student Voice to play an important role in launching the digital library; therefore, we will be asking for students' feedback and experiences of using the platform in the coming weeks. There is a well-established link between reading for pleasure and academic success, and we hope you will join us in encouraging our students to read widely and regularly outside of School.



ELITE ELEVENS - Report by Aoife Glasswell (Year 11)

Eleven Year 11 students were selected to participate in Elite Elevens. It is a full day of events which required all students to participate as a team in a range of sports related activities. We were all very excited by the opportunity to represent our School, knowing we were following in the footsteps of many BGS successes in the past. Expectations were high and we were ready for the challenge.



On arrival at Boston College we were presented with team t-shirts which we proudly wore for the day - we were one of 9 teams. Without delay we were guided straight into our first activity; it was a timed shuttle run which meant that all 11 students had to complete it and a combined score with the lowest times gave the highest points. The students from Boston College created each of the challenges themselves and ran the whole day. By lunchtime we had completed five activities and were feeling really good - we had no idea what position we were in but enjoyed encouraging and supporting each other. The atmosphere was great; everyone was really enjoying the opportunity to be there. By mid-afternoon, having competed a minute of sit-ups, press-ups and tricep-dips, we were feeling exhausted and were relieved that the next challenge was a memory game which gave us time to recover before the last couple being golf putting and football cross bar. The day was really well organised; we were mentally and physically challenged and nervously awaited the result to see where we came overall. After an inspirational speech by Paul Bastock (English professional footballer) the results were announced - we had won and were awarded activity trackers.



YEAR 9 UPDATE AND FUN FARM TRIP

Miss Atkinson, Head of Year 9

This week in our assembly I shared with Year 9 students the teachings of Hillel the Elder, one of the most important sages of Judaism and a significant philosopher of the first century. One of Hillel's most famous sayings, "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?", is a message of action. Many will remember how these words motivated the Searle brothers to win their iconic Olympic Gold medal in 1992, when their cox, Garry Herbert, called to them: "If not now, when?". Their victory as the underdogs demonstrates how powerful mindset can be when faced with challenges. I hope that the Year 9 students carry this message with them as they approach the end of this term, and their exams in January, taking heed of the call to action, and reminding themselves that they are capable of success. There is another significant message contained in Hillel's words: "If I am only for myself, what am I?" I asked Year 9s to reflect on this, consider what kind of person they wish to be, and how they can use their skills to benefit others. With an array of sports fixtures both at home and away, the beginning of revision ahead of their examinations in January, and of course the reward trip to Fun Farm, it certainly has been a busy term for Year 9 students. I am looking forward to celebrating with students at the end of this term, where awards will be proudly presented to those students who go above and beyond as positive members of the School community. As we approach the end of the term, I would like to send my best wishes to all Year 9 students and their families. I hope you are all able to have a restful and well-earned break over the holidays.

Jessica Burton and Mayra Narang (Year 9)

After school on Thursday 25 November, Year 9 went to the Spalding Fun Farm, a soft play centre with laser tag and a café, and had lots of fun. Some highlights were the dodgeball, ball pits, and everyone (including teachers!) loved the laser tag. There was an epic battle in the laser tag arena between teachers and students, in which the teachers won by roughly 200 points. Outstanding performances from the teacher team included Mr Graves and Mr Bowers, who came first. The cafe was a big hit with everyone, with an array of snacks and drinks for us all to enjoy including a delicious millionaire's shortbread. We all had a really great time and were glad to have some time to enjoy with friends.



YEAR 10 RUGBY - Mr Bowers, PE

On Tuesday 16 November, Year 10 Rugby Leaders coached a number of local primary school students how to play tag rugby, followed by some small sided games. Our students were given control of 5 primary school students and work superbly with them. Students explained tasks and rules of the games very well allowing students to play some good tag rugby as the day progressed. Students also showed a connection in learning names of all younger students they were working with and it was fantastic to showcase the ability our Year 10 Leaders have. Although windy and cold, our Leaders kept the younger students busy and active and not one primary school students complained of being cold or bored!



Thanks must go to Rupert Gibson, our local Schools Games Organiser, for setting up the event and giving our Leaders the opportunity to do some work with the younger students and also to Bourne Rugby Club for allowing the use of their ground and clubhouse.

Well done Year 10 Rugby Leaders - a fantastic event and a real credit to the School and yourselves.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Junction Dance Showcase - Miss Turton, Drama

On Tuesday 14 December the Junction Dance Showcase returns, Covid dependent, for another night of spectacular dance talent. Students will perform their own dances in their chosen dance style on our stage in the Main Hall. Expect a variety of different dance styles – from classical ballet to contemporary and hip-hop – from students of all ages who will wow you in sequined costumes whilst they showcase their rhythm and moves. It is guaranteed to be a wonderful night of dance. *Tickets are £5 each and are available from <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/booking/t-kknv4d>*

Christmas Concert - Mr Tomlinson and Mr Jones

Our Christmas Concert will return, Covid dependent, on Thursday 9 December. *Information has been sent to performers via MILK regarding purchasing tickets for this event.*

As of Friday 3 December, both Junction Dance Showcase and the Christmas Concert will be taking place live and in person at Bourne Grammar School, with the following measures in place for the safety of those involved in the events and for the audience:

- At the time of booking, contact details will be taken for each audience member for Track and Trace purposes.
- We respectfully request that audience members wear a face covering and take a lateral flow test before arriving to the event.
- Doors to the Main Hall will open 15 minutes before showtime.
- Hand sanitiser will be available for audience members to use in the entrance foyer and the Main Hall.
- NHS Track and Trace QR codes will be available for visitors to scan as they arrive for each event.
- The overall audience capacity of the Main Hall will be reduced, however social distancing will not be in place.

Any decision to postpone will be communicated in the *Bulletin* and to ticket holders as soon as possible before the events.

HOUSE POINT TOTALS

8,304	7,919	7,971	9,206

*These totals show all House Points earned minus Behaviour Points.
It includes points from all students in each House between 01/11/2021 and 03/12/2021.*

LUNCHTIME COVID CATCH-UP SESSIONS (by invitation only)
week commencing Monday 6 December

	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11	YEAR 13	
Monday 6 Dec	MATHS	ENGLISH LANG	SPANISH	BIOLOGY	CHEMISTRY	SOCIOLOGY
	Mr Smith M3	Ms Pritchard E3	Mrs Worrall MFL2	Mr Stainton S9	Mr Marsden S14	Ms Sanders SS5
		MUSIC	COMPUTER SCIENCE	DESIGN ENG	THEATRE STUDIES	MATHS
		Mr Jones MU1	Mr Brown CS4	Mr Delport DE2	Mr Moxley D1	Mr Sheppard M6
Tuesday 7 Dec	HISTORY	ENGLISH LIT	CHEMISTRY	SPANISH HIGHER Ms Segarra MFL9	ART	DESIGN ENGINEERING
	Mr Green H4	Ms Roberts E5	Mr Marsden S14	SPANISH FOUNDATION Mr Edwards MFL8	Mrs Welling A2	Mr Brown DE2
	COMPUTER SCIENCE			GEOGRAPHY	FRENCH	RS
	Mr Brown CS4			Mr Murray G4	Mrs Cowell MFL3	Mr Tighe EPR 1
Wednesday 8 Dec	SPANISH	MATHS	ENGLISH LANGUAGE	HISTORY	GEOGRAPHY	ENGLISH LANGUAGE
	Ms Baverstock MFL1	Mr Gillespie M9	Mrs Tomlinson E8	Dr Barmby H2	Ms Pollard G1	Mrs Tomlinson E8
	EPR				LAW	ENGLISH LITERATURE
	Mr Howard EPR1				Mr Mitchell SS3	Ms Watson E7
Thursday 9 Dec	ENGLISH	SPANISH	GERMAN	EPR	HISTORY	
	Mrs Williamson E2	Mrs Clark MFL5	Ms Doerpinghaus MFL6	Mr Tighe EPR1	Dr Barmby H2	
	DESIGN ENG	EPR	MATHS	COMPUTER SCIENCE	BUSINESS	
	Mr Dougall DE1	Mr Howard EPR1	Mr Farrow M10	Mr Brown CS4	Mr Lawrence SS2	
Friday 10 Dec	GEOGRAPHY	HISTORY	SPANISH	MATHS	MEDIA STUDIES	MATHS
	Ms Pollard G1	Miss Capper H1	Ms Currier MFL7	Mr Smith M3	Mr Williamson E11	Mr Sheppard M6
	SCIENCE	ENGLISH LIT		CHEMISTRY	POLITICS	GERMAN
	Mr Fleckney S5	Ms Smithson E4		Mr Harris S13	Mr Tighe EPR1	Ms Doerpinghaus MFL6
				MUSIC		
				Mr Jones Mu1		

AFTER SCHOOL CATCH-UP FOR ALL YEAR 11 AND YEAR 13 STUDENTS

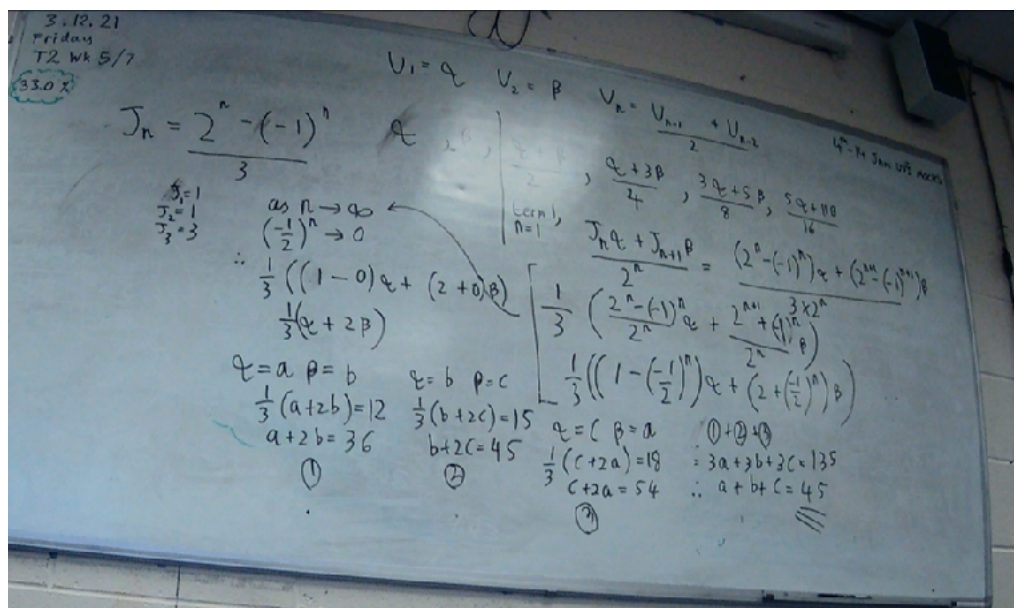
Mr Hewitt, Deputy Headteacher (Academic)

The booking link opens at 16.00 on Friday and closes at 09:00 on Monday; places are available to the first 30 students who wish to attend and make an online booking.

Please visit <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/bournegrammarschool/e-yyzxkx> to book your place.

A NOTE FROM MR HEWITT

I am frequently left amazed by the work our students are producing in the classroom; this picture below shows the mathematical problem-solving not of teacher but of a student in front of the class! Quite rightly our fantastic sporting and artistic achievements are celebrated in this Bulletin, but sometimes the unsung, invisible workings of a classroom can be equally as mind-blowing. Impressive stuff.



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Name	Year	Staff	Subject
Eddie Amos	7	Miss Roberts	English
Joshi Harriss	7	Mr Delport	Design Engineering
Ellen Richardson	7	Mr Van Uden	History
Fin Roberts	7	Miss Pollard	Geography
Nik Aleksandrov	8	Miss Lindley	Geography
Lily Cade-Stewart	8	Miss Mafusire-Strawford	Art
Chloe Cox	8	Mr Brown	Computing
Hannah Lessiter	8	Miss Roberts	English
Max Lyon	8	Miss Roberts	History
Milhaan Maqsood	8	Miss Patman	Spanish
Samyutha Puppala	8	Miss Lindley	Geography
Chloe Seaton	8	Mr Dyson	Computing
April Thorley	8	Miss Patman	Spanish
Cecilia Watson	8	Miss Lindley	Geography
Adelina Zagorodniuc	8	Miss Patman	Spanish
Jasmine Brewer	9	Mrs Worrall	Spanish
Jessica Burton	9	Mr Adams	Mathematics
Oliver Jordan	9	Mr Perez	Biology
Atte Maaranen	9	Miss Doerpinghaus	German
Ronnii Perfaith	9	Ms Jasinska	Spanish
Pauline Samusz	9	Miss Smallshaw	Chemistry
Keerthini Yoganathan	9	Miss Smallshaw	Chemistry
Emily Fosbeary	9	Mr Green	History
George Bell	10	Ms Creedon	Spanish
Elizabeth Burrows	10	Mr Adamson	Mathematics
Alice Chubb	10	Dr Barnby	History
Scarlet Clifford	10	Mr Moxley	Drama
Sophie Dunleavy	10	Miss Smallshaw	Chemistry
Sai Kandikattu	10	Ms Creedon	Spanish
Zaynah Khan	10	Mr Smith	Mathematics
Grace Lavender	10	Mr Moxley	Drama
Nabeeha Saeed	10	Miss Pritchard	English
Haroon Shafiq	10	Mr Harris	Chemistry
Erin Cox	11	Miss Bradley	PE
Benedict Everist	12	Miss Doerpinghaus	Registration
Ibrahim Ahmed	13	Mrs Woolf	Chemistry

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Sport

Sophie Brown (Year 11) has achieved her blue-belt certification for freestyle karate.

Music

The following students have recently passed Music exams:

- Sammy Harriss (Year 10) - Grade 6 Piano
- Atiksh Agnihotri (Year 10) - Grade 4 Piano

