



# Bourne Grammar School Weekly Bulletin



**4 - 8 November**





**Overview of the Week**

Alastair Anderson, Headteacher

As we head into the darker days of late autumn and approaching winter, it is wonderful to receive news of success within the BGS community whether it be of current students or students recently left. Mr Sheppard’s article below from the National Cross Country Relays speaks volumes as to the positive impact that breadth and opportunity can have on the lives of young people. Tom, Seb and Harry were not noted cross-country runners when they arrived in Year 7: football and all-round sports were more their thing, but the opportunity to try running and to represent the school at various competitions sparked an enthusiasm that has carried them to the near pinnacle of the sport. We wish them all well, and I know Mr Sheppard was both proud and amazed at the quality of their efforts last weekend in equal measure.

Elsewhere these sorts of opportunities continue to be a centre piece of the educational experience we offer. While our Year 11s started their mock examinations in preparation for GCSEs in the summer, our Year 10 geographers embarked on fieldwork in Cambridge and A Level artists visited London. The English department saw a very interesting production of An Inspector Calls and rehearsals for our school musical, Guys and Dolls, began in earnest. We wish our U16 and U19 netballers good luck tomorrow as they take part in the county tournament over in Stamford while our cross-country teams take part in the regional finals. And I am also delighted to report on the launch of our latest lunchtime club, the tabletop Subbuteo Club. Mr Jones found himself managing a significant squad of finger-flicking football hopefuls in the first session, as over 40 students turned up to take part. The combination of high-quality academic lessons, first class pastoral support and a wide range of trips and experiences is something that continues to bring us great pride.

**House Totals**

			
<b>3946</b>	<b>4738</b>	<b>4955</b>	<b>4351</b>

*These totals show all House Points earned minus Behaviour Points.  
It includes points from all students in each house for this week.*

## National Cross Country Relays Fame for the 'Boys from Bourne Grammar'

Mr Sheppard

An incredible team performance emerged at the weekend as Thomas Preston alongside ex-students Seb Beedell and Harry Hewitt raced to within 0.12 seconds of a national gold medal. Forming an impressive 3-man team, the runners raced a 3 kilometre cross-country course, each finishing in under 9 minutes (which would be a stunning time round a flat athletics track!) The race was thrilling; Thomas led during part of his effort eventually finishing the first and most competitive leg of the competition in 7th place. At that point, it would have been very easy for his teammates to over-commit to the effort of trying to close to the leaders but rather than setting off too hard they assuredly and calmly began to hunt down the competition.



The quality and consistency of the three runners really paid dividends: after Seb's leg the team had reached third position and within half of Harry's leg he had caught up to the leader. A downhill surge however opened up a gap again and it all looked done and dusted until one final twist in the tale, within the last 15 seconds of the race Harry closed the 20 metre gap to nothing! Sadly, he had just been beaten by the narrowest of margins. Nonetheless, Harry had ran the fastest leg of the day and wrapped up a national team performance which achieved a silver medal. This is a historic result by the 'Boys from Bourne Grammar School' as they proudly referred to themselves after the race. It was very pleasing to see the pride in their school team and camaraderie developed over many years of racing together.

From my perspective, I consider myself blessed to have been able to witness the journey the boys have come on. It is particularly worth noting that when they joined the school two of the three were footballers and one was more of an all-rounder. Offering the students the opportunity of consistent racing and the positive influence of older role models has been a large part of enabling them to become such high quality runners. A final deserved shout out to the club they represented during the race (Peterborough and Nene Valley AC) alongside the three coaches who have been instrumental in helping the athletes achieve this level of performance.

For those who may wish to watch race it was livestreamed on Youtube from 1:39:30 to 2:06:20.

[https://www.youtube.com/live/foz\\_k2\\_ag4k?t=5969&feature=shared](https://www.youtube.com/live/foz_k2_ag4k?t=5969&feature=shared)

## **Sixth Form Art Trip to London**

Mrs Welling

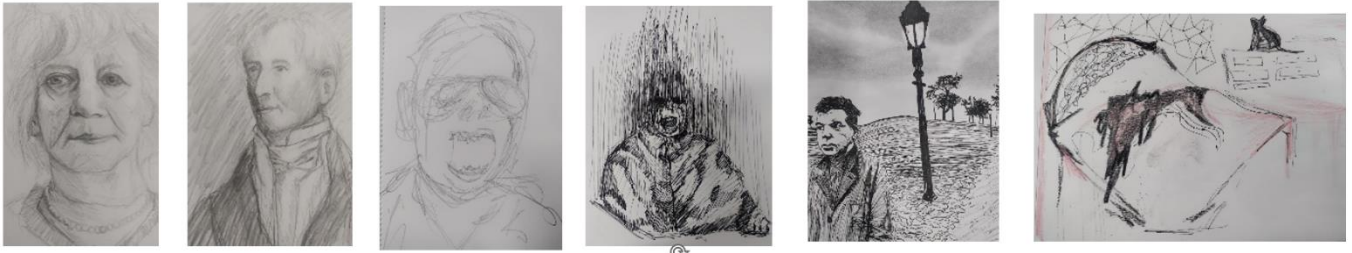
On Friday 1 November, Year 12 and 13 students travelled to London to see a variety of exhibitions at four London galleries. The day was an opportunity for students to develop their knowledge of art and gather research for their A Level Fine Art coursework.

At the Barbican Centre, we were fortunate to see The Imaginary Institution of India: Art 1975-1998 which contained work from over thirty artists. The work exhibited reflected a time of difficulty within Indian history and as an audience we were made aware of these struggles on a more personal level through the intimate and revealing work of the artists represented. A pleasant surprise was seeing an extra exhibition at the gallery, the work of Pamela Phatsimo Sunstrum, whose exhibition "It Will End in Tears" cleverly combined her large-scale paintings depicting scenes from a self-written film with interactive stage settings.

Later we visited the White Cube in Bermondsey, where the raw and angst-ridden paintings and sculptures of Tracey Emin conveyed the personal struggles she has endured in recent months due to ill health. This was an impactful and moving collection of work, which demonstrated to the students how expressive art can be both emotional and abstract.



At the National Gallery, the work of Francis Bacon was inspiring to see; paintings and photographs were curated in an autobiographical display, reflecting the interactions Bacon had with people in his life. Finally, the Vincent Van Gogh exhibition, "Poets and Lovers," at the National Gallery gave students the opportunity to view a vast collection of the artist's work for the first time. We were all struck by Van Gogh's vibrant use of colour and accuracy of line; his ability to describe a scene in detail with limited brush stroke was inspiring.



A selection of quick sketches produced on the day by Year 12 and 13 students.

After a busy day, we finally returned to Peterborough late on Friday evening. An enjoyable day was had by all, made even more so for myself and Miss Wright due to the excellent behaviour of the students and inspirational work exhibited.

## **English Department Receives Award for Championing Diversity in Literature**

Mrs Tomlinson

BGS's English Department has been honoured with the prestigious Lit in Colour Award this week, a recognition that highlights their commitment to promoting diversity and inclusivity in literature. Having previously been selected as a 'Pioneer School', this award celebrates the department's ongoing efforts to bring a wide range of voices, perspectives, and cultural narratives into the classroom, encouraging students to explore stories that reflect the true richness of our society.

The Lit in Colour initiative, launched by Penguin Random House in collaboration with the Runnymede Trust, aims to make the study of literature more representative of the world we live in. It seeks to broaden the literary canon by championing authors from marginalized backgrounds—whether they represent different ethnicities, sexual orientations, or lived experiences—and ensuring that their voices are heard and valued in educational settings.

For the English Department, receiving the Lit in Colour Award acknowledges their proactive efforts to engage with this mission. By carefully curating a curriculum that incorporates diverse texts, the department has fostered a learning environment where students can appreciate a variety of cultural narratives and critically engage with works that challenge stereotypes and promote inclusivity.

From introducing students to contemporary authors of colour, to exploring classic texts with a critical lens, the department has created a space where diversity is not only celebrated but integrated into everyday learning. The inclusion of literature from diverse genres and perspectives has not only enriched students' academic experiences but also helped to foster a more empathetic, globally aware student body.

This award is a testament to the English Department's dedication to broadening the literary horizons of BGS students and ensuring that all learners see themselves reflected in the books they read. The department's work goes beyond teaching literature; it is about shaping young minds to think critically about the world around them and understand the power of stories in shaping both individual identity and society at large.

By receiving the Lit in Colour Award for excellence, Bourne Grammar School's English Department has proven itself a leader in embracing the transformative potential of literature—a platform where every voice can find a place, and every student can see their experiences and those of others represented on the page.

## Individual Achievement - Charlie Lumb completes his first solo flight

Charlie Lumb, 10G, aspires to become a pilot for the RAF. To work towards his goal, he spends time at Peterborough and Spalding gliding club learning to fly. Here he has completed ground training, part of which has qualified him to drive cars to recover gliders on the airfield. More importantly, on Saturday he completed his first solo flight, quickly followed by his second!

His next goal is to become an instructor; he's hoping to be successful in his application for a flying bursary.



## 16 to 19 Bursary Fund

Mrs Shales

The 16 to 19 Bursary Fund provides financial support to help students overcome the specific financial barriers to participation they face so they can remain in education. There are 2 types of 16 to 19 bursaries.

1. **Vulnerable Groups:** A bursary of up to £1,200 a year for young people in one of the defined vulnerable groups: in care, care leavers, in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit because they are financially supporting themselves or financially supporting someone who is dependent on them and living with them. Receiving Disability Living Allowance or Personal Independence Payments in their own right as well as Employment and Support Allowance or Universal Credit in their own right.
2. Discretionary bursaries which institutions award to meet individual needs, for example, help with the costs of transport, school trips, Sixth Form Dress, meals, books and equipment. To be eligible for the discretionary bursary, students must be facing financial barriers to participation and need help to stay in education.

To find out more about this fund we encourage parents to view the [16-19 Bursary Fund Policy](#) to see if you qualify based on your household income. Applications will be considered throughout the academic year, Bursary Funds allowing. We wish to give financial support to as many qualifying students as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact the [Bursary Team via email](#).

**Bursary applications are treated in the strictest confidence.**

## Duke of Edinburgh

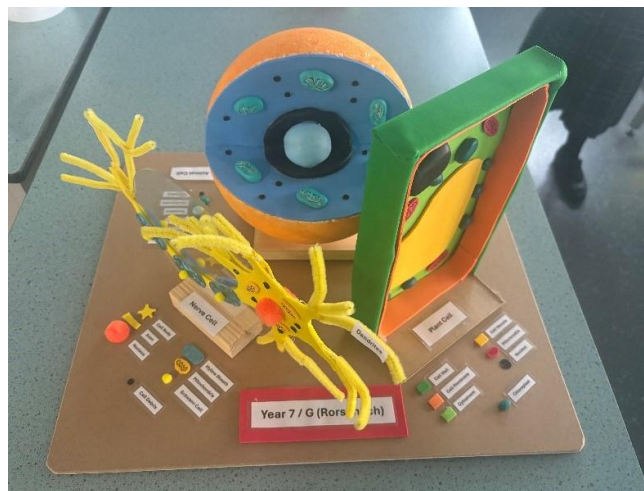
Mrs Brett

Congratulations to Emma Dennis and Ella Dunnett who have recently completed their DofE Silver Awards.

## BBL Champion

Mr Hewitt, Deputy Head Academic

It was my absolute pleasure to visit 7G's Science lesson this week to see some of the wonderful independent work they have produced on the topic of Cells. I met Basem Awadallah and Bethan Drewett, who are joint BBL Champions this week for the intricate models they have created (although honourable mentions go to Eve Morgan and Harriet Booth for fantastic work too). Their teacher, Mr Marsden, was delighted with the quality of work produced.



Basem made this cell model above out of an old sponge ball and the level of detail is incredible. It is a beautiful thing to see – as much artwork as Science project – and it shows the inside of different types of cells.

Bethan's masterpiece included a button that switched on lights to represent the transmission of nervous impulses from one neuron to another and it was labelled with scientific terms far beyond those taught to Year 7 students.



The students explained how they were not taught too much about cells in the classroom before doing this but instead had to independently go away and research and create these models. Now, having done the BBL work and having been taught the content in class, they both are real cell experts. Wonderful work, Bethan and Basem. 10 Achievement Points to you both.

## House Totals update - House Leaders

At the end of each term, the total number of House Points that each House had earned is counted up and the House that earns the most House Points wins for the term.

House Points are awarded to each House depending on their position at the end of the term, with the 1<sup>st</sup> place House getting 100 extra points, 2<sup>nd</sup> place House – 75 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> place – 50 points and 4<sup>th</sup> placed House – 25 points.

It was a close contest in Term 1, with only 300 points separating the top 3 Houses. In the end Meitner was victorious and have been awarded an extra 100 points.

Congratulations to all students in Meitner!

		<b>House Points Earned 4.9.24 – 8.10.24</b>	<b>Bonus House Points awarded</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	Meitner	15697	100
<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	Tinbergen	15483	75
<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Behn	15382	50
<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	Rorschach	13012	25

## Students of the Week

<b>Name</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Basem Awadallah	7	Miss Davis-Williams	EPR
Kornelia Korbylo	7	Mr Williamson-Ward	English
Dasha Nechaieva	7	Mr Moxley	Drama
Joel Omitiran	7	Miss Hodge	History
Iris Thomas	7	Mrs Pickup	Drama
Iris Thomas	7	Mr Bainbridge	History
Amelia Cody	7	Mrs Evans	Geography
Eliza Stubbs	7	Mr Somerville	Computer Science
Samaira Bajaj	8	Miss Hodge	History
Caoimhe Healy	8	Miss Hodge	History
Luke Johnson	8	Mrs Woolf	Science
Lucie Large	8	Mrs Evans	Geography
Rowan Rai	8	Mr Moxley	Drama
Nevaeh Agyemang	9	Dr Barmby	History
Orla Bailey	9	Miss Bradley	PE
Yojit Bodduluri	9	Mr Delpont	Design Engineering
Annabelle Bull	9	Mrs Pignatiello	Drama
Ben Fletcher	9	Mr Farrow	Mathematics
Caleb Omitiran	9	Miss Hodge	History
Charlie Roberts	9	Miss Mizen	Registration
Saul Annis	10	Mr Sheppard	Mathematics
Saul Annis	10	Miss Dorosenko	Biology
William Blades	10	Mr Osborne	Computer Science

Sara Haque	10	Mrs Cowell	French
Katie Pawluk	10	Mr Motley	Computer Science
Ellen Richardson	10	Mrs Worrall	Spanish
Zade Tizi	10	Miss Lindley	Geography
Matthew He	11	Mrs Bolitho	English
Callum Selby	11	Mrs Bolitho	English
Yvette Annis	12	Miss Bradley	Sports Studies
Jyoti Bista	12	Ms Creedon	Spanish
Ashleigh Goodall	12	Mrs Welling	Art
Evelyn Percival	12	Miss McAleese	Psychology
Izzy Rock-Jerram	12	Miss McAleese	Psychology
Anica Andali	13	Mrs Shales	Mathematics
Flo Bailey	13	Miss McAleese	Psychology
Lottie Crane	13	Miss McAleese	Psychology
Zachary Jones	13	Mr Roche	Mathematics