



BORDEN GRAMMAR SCHOOL: SPRING TERM NEWSLETTER 2018

Dear Parents and Students,

Borden at Home!

Easter Revision Classes

Students in Years 11 & 13 will have received information about the revision classes happening in the Easter holiday in numerous subjects across KS4-5. These are voluntary sessions provided by staff designed to supplement (not replace!) students own ongoing revision. It is imperative that students register in with their subject teacher at the start of their revision session. Non-uniform should be worn and no canteen facilities will be available.

Charity Day: Medway Street Angels

Recognition must go to Tyler MacKinnon in Year 12 who led the fundraising efforts this term to support a local charity. Consequently over £1000 was raised via a non-uniform day and through the tuck shop sales. Thank you!

Borden Sport Update:

Since the Christmas break the main sports have been Hockey and Rugby. Although Football did continue briefly for Year 10 & 11 teams in the Kent cup. Both teams played well but unfortunately both teams were knocked out in the quarter final stages.

In terms of Hockey, the extra-curricular club has proved ever popular on Friday lunchtime, and individuals who have attended regularly have made very valuable contribution to school teams in Term 3. Notable wins included the Year 7 team recording there a win in their first game. For many this was their first experience of competitive hockey. The 1st XI also performed well at the prestigious Frank Mason Tournament in Canterbury.

Due to the 'Beast from the East' many rugby fixtures were cancelled this Term, but local district tournaments went ahead for Years 7, 8 & 9. The Year 7s performed well, winning two and losing one. While Year 8 and 9 teams went unbeaten at their respective tournaments.

As the spring term comes to a close we look forward to a change to our summer sports program and hopefully some warmer weather. Cricket, Athletics and Tennis will be the main order of the day in extra-curricular clubs with fixtures and clubs starting after the break.

UK Intermediate Mathematical Challenge:

Students from Years 9, 10 and 11 took part in this competition on Thursday 1 February 2018 and the following five students qualified to compete in the next round:

- Joe Burden 11PJR
- Luke Franks 11PJR
- Josh White 11JF
- Oscar Pattern 10SW
- Ciaran Higgins 9JO

This round took place on Thursday 15 March 2018. Congratulations to all five boys on *their success*.



Monthly Maths Competition:



This is proving to be increasingly popular and if your son/daughter is not currently taking part then do encourage them to do so as it is a little bit of fun every day and can earn them a £10 Amazon gift card. The most recent winners were:



- December 2017 - Scott Hazell 13KB
- January 2018 - Thomas Friday 7MC
- February 2018 - Olly Johnson 7CL



The Monthly Maths calendars are from the Just Maths website and are issued via form tutors and Parentmail each month. Should your child require a hard copy on a regular basis then please contact Mrs Carter personally or via email at: ecarter@bordengrammar.kent.sch.uk.



Remember: The best way to revise Maths is to "do Maths"!



The English Department were fortunate to be able to take three classes of Year 10 students to see a production of 'Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' at Dartford's Orchard Theatre in March. Whilst the production was not entirely true to the original text, students were certainly given insight to the characters' mind set and motivation, the Victorian setting and the themes that run throughout the play. With mock examinations scheduled for early in Term 5, this theatre adaptation certainly helped prompt discussion and recall of the learning that had taken place, on this text, earlier in the academic year.



Sixth Form News: 32 Year 12 students were taken to the National Apprenticeship show at the Kent showground where they had the opportunity to listen to talks about the going directly into the workplace after sixth form and to meet representatives from many local and national companies. They were able to find out about the possible advantages of undertaking a salaried degree apprenticeship as an alternative to going to university once they have finished their studies at Borden. All Year 12 students also attended an excellent presentation by a representative from the University of Kent about the benefits of completing a university degree and how to go about selecting the right course and the best possible university. A number of Year 12 students entered into the Royal Society of Chemistry's Chemistry Olympiad for 2018. This national competition provides an opportunity to stretch and challenge post-16 students. Receiving a silver or bronze certificate in this national competition represents a significant achievement, especially since Year 12 students have only completed a part of the A-level course.



Many congratulations to Toby Murrell who achieved a bronze certificate and to Joshua Lilley and Richard Mills who achieved Silver certificates.



Psychology: Year 12 Psychology students attended a Phobias workshop at ZSL on 5th March 2018, aimed at consolidating their knowledge of the Phobias section in the Psychopathology unit of the AQA specification. Students were involved in a hypnotherapy session run by trained hypnotherapist John Clifford, and subsequently were immersed in their phobic stimulus by holding Rosie, an Australian tarantula. Students were able to put their Psychology knowledge to the test and left the zoo with a first-hand experience of phobic treatments in practice.





Music: This term in the music department has been busy again. The school choir entered a choral competition at Tunstall School involving many of the schools in the local area. The choir sung two pieces, 'Viva La Vida' and 'This Is Me' and won a prize for the most uplifting performance. The school choir rehearses on a Wednesday lunchtime and all year groups are welcome to attend, so please come along to a rehearsal next time if you would like to join us.



On Friday, the Marylebone Wind Trio visited Borden and performed an afternoon concert to approximately 70 students in year 7-10. In addition to performing a variety of pieces of music, the ensemble also explained more to the students about the instruments they were playing and the stories behind some of the music they played.



Borden Abroad!



Ski Trip 2018: A group of 42 students ranging from Year 8 to Year 12 ventured to the Italian Alps during the February half-term holiday to the purpose-built resort of Sestriere, where the slopes sit just above the tree line and is part of the enormous Milky Way ski circuit. Sestriere is a popular Italian resort having been part of the 2006 Turin Winter Olympics. The group enjoyed six days of skiing for four hours per day with local instructors, looking to either teach students how to ski, as approximately half students were beginners, or how to improve their skills and techniques from previous trips or family holidays. Students got to experience both this exhilarating sport, as well as take in the atmosphere and culture of a relaxed Italian village with some great pastry shops. The group as a whole was a pleasure and delight to take away. Next year's trip to Aprica, Italy is full. Thank you to Mrs Carter.



MFL: At the time of writing KS4 students are still in Barcelona and KS4-5 students have just returned from the South of France. Thank you to Mrs Frost and Ms. Bailliez.



Finally, I wish you a relaxing and enjoyable holiday period – even GCSE & A Level students need to make sure that they enjoy some 'down-time' and build breaks into their revision schedules to eat chocolate!



Borden returns on **Monday 16 April**. The timetable will be Week 1.



Best wishes



Mr J R Hopkins Headteacher

