



Newsletter

Issue 4 | 2017-18



HOME OF THE RHINOS

BSG is taking part in more sports fixtures and tournaments than ever before. Check inside for recent success stories and where you can watch the Rhinos this term.



“It is a measure of our growing reputation that our teachers are able to achieve promoted posts within highly respected schools.”

- Mark Thomas, School Principal

Message from the Principal



Dear Parents,

As we enter a new lunar new year, I hope that the Chinese Year of the Dog will be a safe, successful and happy one for parents, staff and students at the British School of Guangzhou.

There are so many stand out moments in our school but I personally will remember the speech from Henk, our Head Student, who eloquently summarised just how much the students had gained from being involved in the Secondary production of Grease. The level of commitment that goes into creating such an impressive production is significant and it speaks volumes for our school community that so many students, staff and parents are willing to get involved. I can't wait for the Primary production of Madagascar.

Please note that there will be a few facility improvements planned to take place over the holiday. This includes creating a separate entrance/exit for Nanhu parents, visitors, staff or students, which will be used when buses are moving or preparing to move. There will also be additional fences to enclose the Primary playground and further reduce risk while buses are moving. As with any new procedure this will take some time to implement and we ask for everyone's support to ensure that the new systems run smoothly. For parents who currently collect students, once the facility changes have been completed, you will now walk alongside the lake, rather than alongside the road and will then enter the school alongside the Nanhu reception area. You will then be able to make your way to the coffee shop to wait for your children as normal, but with the added security of knowing that if your children are using the playground there will be a fence to completely separate them from the road. Parents are encouraged to wait until buses have departed before leaving, but on those occasions when you need to leave promptly, it is important to remember that you will only be able to leave by the new path/gate alongside the lake.

I am pleased to announce that we are now fully recruited for next year. It is a measure of our growing reputation that our teachers are able to achieve promoted posts within highly respected schools, including other NAE schools, when they move on. Although retention has been impressive this year, we are saying goodbye to a number of staff who have been with BSG for a significant amount of time, including Mr. Ruck. Iain Ruck joined our school 8 years ago as Deputy Head of Secondary, before taking on the role of Head of Secondary for 4 years. Iain is currently Vice Principal and during his time in BSG has been crucial in helping us to become the first choice school within Guangzhou. Iain is currently considering a number of options but whatever he decides to do I know that BSG parents, staff and students will join me in wishing him every success in the future.

As we head off for our holidays I would like to congratulate Jason and Gemma (two of our teachers) who are expecting their first child in October. Jason and Gemma met while working at BSG and we are thrilled to hear that they will soon be adding to our growing family of 'BSG Babies.'

Wherever you are heading this holiday I hope that you have a relaxing break and that you come back refreshed and ready for the final term.

Kind regards,

Mark Thomas
School Principal

Charity Update

Terese Francis
Charity Coordinator

Leading up to Chinese New Year and with the gift of giving in the air, our Primary school were involved in the Huiling Shoebox appeal. Each class in Primary were given the task of personalising a shoebox and filling it up with gifts for a child from the Huiling Primary School.

The Huiling Primary School, in Baiyun, provides specialised education to students between the ages of 4-15 years, that have specific needs such as autism, Down Syndrome and cerebral palsy.

On 21st March 2018, coincidentally World Down Syndrome Day, members of our Charity Committee along with a number of parents and Secondary students were privileged to deliver those shoeboxes. Our Secondary charity leaders had a great time playing a variety of games which they organised... musical chairs was particularly popular!

This wouldn't have been possible without the support of our community and especially the British School of Guangzhou for financing the transportation of over 50 boxes. On behalf of the Charity Committee we would like to personally thank our students, parents and teachers for supporting the Huiling Shoebox Appeal.

You really have made a difference to these children!!!

Here's what our students had to say about the day, including one from a BSG parent. Though pictures tell a million words!

Visited Huiling center on Secondary Parent Support Group (SPSG)'s ticket. Had a great and fun day. Kids were happy to receive gifts prepared by BSG students/parents. They enjoyed playing games organised by the Secondary Charity Committee as well. Thank you BSG Charity Committee for the wonderful experience!

今天和一些特殊的小朋友们接触，他们真的很天真很可爱，我看到了也学习到了其实开心很简单。感恩与他们的短暂相处！感谢学校给我们家长这个机会！

- BSG Parent



Jusung

The trip to Huiling was really meaningful to all the charity leaders, faculties and me. It was the first time that we, the charity leaders, worked in the field. Each of us had different experience. For me, the time that I spent in Huiling was a dream come true. This is because I have always wanted to go to the charity organization and help out. And this trip turned my dream into reality. The interaction that I had with those kids was the highlight of the day. We interacted with each other verbally and physically and we all had an amazing time together. From this experience, I noticed there are a lot of people who need help and it is beyond our imagination.



Caitlyn

After the trip, I've learned to appreciate everything I have currently. I think it was a very educational trip as I learned that there are many others out there that need help and care. I had a lot of fun spending time with the children and it had made my day much better.



Karina Chiang

This trip is definitely one of my favorite experience in y11 . It was extremely rewarding to see the kids smile and hear their laughter when receiving our gifts. It really taught me that it is actually very easy to help others, it's just whether your are willing to.



Angel Lee

This is a visit that everyone should participate in at least once. From this, I discovered what it means when they say "giving is receiving". The happiness that we saw from the children made all the time spent there worth it. From this, we saw how mental disabilities are not a barrier that should stop us from interacting with them. Instead, after communicating with them a greater understanding between us can be achieved, and this will definitely benefit all of us!

Juanita Sandoval

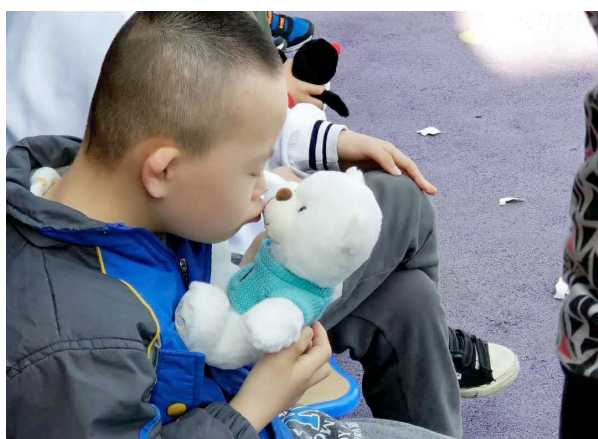
Having the opportunity to meet these children and be able to spend time with them was wonderful.

Jenny

This is my first time as a charity leader but I can say that getting to visit Huiling and to meet their children was the best part of it. Mixing with them was much easier than expected and overall, we had a great time."

Ponia

It was a great opportunity for me to go to Huiling because I got to learn a lot of things. I thought that children with disabilities would be different from us but actually, they were just like us. I really enjoyed playing games with them because we were able to get close to each other. I hope that charity leaders can visit this school once again.



Rhinos On Tour – Where Can We Watch Them?

Andy Dean
Director of Sport

It's taken me nearly 4 years to understand the different acronyms used for the various different sporting associations that we are members of and participate in. So here's a quick rundown and how they work for all parents (and students) to familiarize themselves with the formats.

GISSES – Guangzhou International School Elementary Sports

This is an U9 and U11 competition between various schools in and around the Guangzhou area. The main sports competed in are Athletics, Tee Ball, Basketball, Football. Other invitational sports are also calendared including Cross Country, Table Tennis and Badminton. This is the second year of this conference.

There is no fee to take part and students will be selected from the ASA and various practices that take place at school.

PRC – Pearl River Conference

This is scheduled competition in pre selected Divisions selected from over 20 international schools in the Pearl River region including Guangzhou, Dongguan, Shenzhen, Nansha, Zhuhai and Macau. This conference has been running for over 10 years.

We currently enter three teams in the U14 Divisions and 1 team in the U19 Division and the divisions are randomly selected but do take into account the location of the schools to ensure some variety in the season.

All the major sports will be contested in a similar format (see below) including Basketball, Football, Volleyball, Touch (U14 only), as well as invitational in Badminton, Athletics, Tennis, Cross Country etc.

The format is two Saturdays in the season; one is a pre tournament exchange where results will determine the seedings for the end of season tournament. Both Saturdays will normally consist of 6 teams attending one venue and ultimately playing for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place trophies along with the Sportsmanship Trophy.

There is no fee to take part and students will be selected from the ASA and various practices that take place at school.

More information can be found at: <https://pearlriverconference.weebly.com>

GZ Cup

This is a U14 competition between CIS, AISG, UISG and BSG. The sports competed in are Volleyball, Football and Basketball. This competition has been running for 3 years.

Each team plays each other in a league format in matches after school throughout the season to rank themselves for a final afternoon set up. All 4 boys team and girls teams then meet at a location to play the season finale to determine 1st – 4th place positions.

There is no fee to take part and students will be selected from the ASA and various practices that take place at school.

GISAC – Guangzhou International Schools Athletic Conference

This is a U19 competition between CIS, AISG, UISG, UISZ, ISD and BSG. The sports competed in are Volleyball, Football and Basketball with some invitational sports such as Badminton, Cross Country, Tennis etc. This competition has been running for 3 years.



Each team plays each other in a league format in matches after school throughout the season to rank themselves for a final tournament set. All 6 boys team and girls teams then meet at a location to play the season finale to determine 1st – 6th place positions.

There is no fee to take part and students will be selected from the ASA and various practices that take place at school.

FOBISIA – Federation of British Schools in Asia

There are a number of events organised under the FOBISIA banner including the U11 (May), U13 (March) and U15 (November) Friendly Multi Sport Games. Students are selected from trials and compete in Football, Athletics and Swimming and at U11 level Tee Ball, or U13 and U15 Basketball.

These competitions have been running for 20+ years.

There are a number of other invitational events including Swimming, Climbing, Volleyball to name a few.

There is a fee in order to take part in this event and students will be expected to attend training prior to the event.

NAEGGC – Nord Anglia Global Games China

The newly created NAEGGC will look to challenge the NAE schools in the China region. This year has been the first year of running some pilot events but has seen some strong competition to set the bar high for future events.

Competitions to be expected are:

- ~ U11, U13, and U15 Olympiads consisting of 4 sports.
- ~ Individual U14 Basketball, Football and Volleyball Tournaments
- ~ Swimming Competition

Date	Sport	Age	Gender	Competition	Vs	Host
23-Mar	Swimming	U9 - U19	Boys & Girls	ACAMIS	Various	Shanghai
24-Mar	Badminton	U19	Boys & Girls	PRC Tournament	Various	CIS
24-Mar	Football	U11	Boys & Girls	GISES Tournament	Various	UISZ
24-Mar	Football	U19	Boys & Girls	GISAC Tournament	Various	UISZ
28-Mar	Football	U19	Boys	GISAC League	UISG	BSG
28-Mar	Football	U19	Girls	GISAC League	UISG	BSG
11-Apr	Basketball	U14	Girls	GZ Cup	AISG	AISG
11-Apr	Football	U19	Boys	GISAC League	UISZ	BSG
11-Apr	Football	U19	Girls	GISAC League	UISZ	BSG
12-Apr	Basketball	U14	Boys	GZ Cup	UISG	UISG
12-Apr	Basketball	U14	Girls	GZ Cup	UISG	UISG
14-Apr	Basketball	U14	Boys	PRC Exchange	Various	TLC
14-Apr	Basketball	U14	Girls	PRC Exchange	Various	UISG
14-Apr	Basketball	U14	Boys	PRC Exchange	Various	SWIS
14-Apr	Basketball	U14	Girls	PRC Exchange	Various	QSI
19-Apr	Football	U19	Boys & Girls	ACAMIS	Various	BSG
21-Apr	Athletics	U11 - U19	Boys & Girls	PRC Tournament	Various	UISG
21-Apr	Football	U19	Boys	PRC Tournament	Various	CGS
21-Apr	Football	U19	Girls	PRC Tournament	Various	QSI
25-Apr	Basketball	U14	Boys	GZ Cup	CIS	CIS
25-Apr	Basketball	U14	Girls	GZ Cup	CIS	CIS
26-Apr	Basketball	U14	Boys	GZ Cup	AISG	AISG
27-Apr	Basketball	U14	Boys & Girls	NAE	Various	BISS Puxi
28-Apr	Basketball	U14	Boys & Girls	NAE	Various	BISS Puxi
05-May	Basketball	U14	Boys	PRC Tournament	Various	UISG
05-May	Basketball	U14	Girls	PRC Tournament	Various	TLC
09-May	Basketball	U14	Boys	GZ Cup FINALS	ALL	UISG
09-May	Basketball	U14	Girls	GZ Cup FINALS	ALL	UISG
09-May	Multi Sports	U11	Boys & Girls	FOBISIA	Various	Phuket
12-May	Badminton	U11	Boys & Girls	GISES Tournament	Various	UISG
12-May	Basketball	U14	Boys	PRC Tournament	Various	SIS
12-May	Basketball	U14	Girls	PRC Tournament	Various	AISG
16-May	Basketball	U11	Boys & Girls	Quad Cup	Various	CISG
19-May	Aquathlon	U9 - U19	Boys & Girls	GISES Tournament	Various	BSG
19-May	Basketball	U11	Boys & Girls	GISES Tournament	Various	UISG

There is a fee in order to take part in this event and students will be expected to attend training prior to the event.

Clearly the opportunities to take part in range of sports at BSG is very obvious and open to all. And whilst it is nice to be successful, it must be remembered that enjoyment is crucial and so is hard work in training – if this occurs, then success is not far away!

Summer Schools

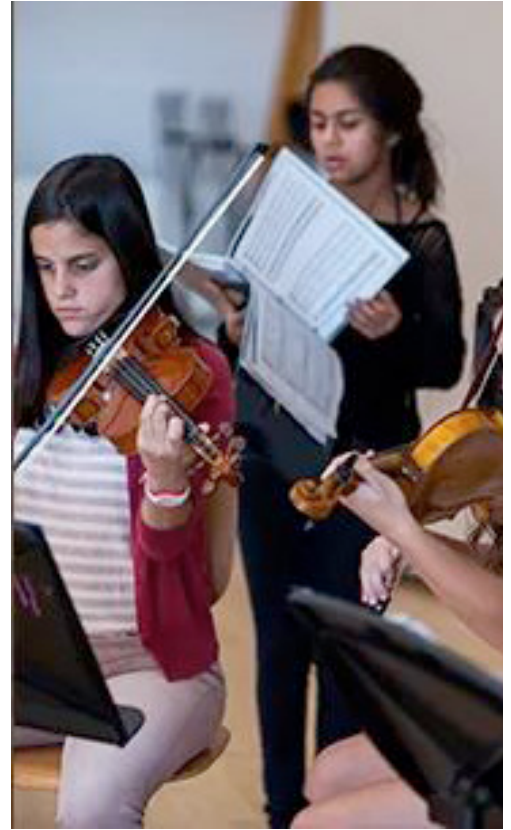
Summer Performing Arts with Juilliard

We are really pleased to announce that the 'Summer Performing Arts with Juilliard 2018' programme has been launched. Through Nord Anglia's unique collaboration with Juilliard, our students now have the opportunity to develop their creative skills through the expert tuition of the Juilliard artist faculty.

This year there are three very exciting Summer Arts events taking place across three different continents. The Juilliard 'Discovery Programme' will take place in Geneva and is aimed at students aged between 10 and 18 who are interested in all of the performing arts disciplines, but with the option to focus on either music, dance or drama. In Florida, a 'Voice Programme' will be offered to students aged 14 to 18 who would like to develop their talent in singing to the next level through an intensive two-week schedule. But, perhaps, the most exciting opportunity for BSG students, which wasn't available in China last year, is the chance to study much closer to home with a 'Strings Programme' in Shanghai! With a 15% discount available to all Nord Anglia students, this is really an opportunity not to be missed for any budding musician and performing artist.

If you would like to take part in this once in a lifetime opportunity then follow the link below to find out more information and apply!

<http://www.nordangliaeducation.com/summer-experiences>



Scan the QR to apply!



Les Martinets Expedition

22-29 May

On 15 March, the British School of Guangzhou hosted an information event for the upcoming Year 8 and 9 trip to Les Martinets in Switzerland in May. This is the first time that the school have visited the facility and we are hoping to establish opportunities for many more students in the future to visit. The trip is operated by NAE (Nord Anglia Expeditions) and Global Campus, who also oversee the Year 12 Tanzania expedition.

In preparation for the expedition, pupils will need to complete an online course on Global Campus and start to physically prepare themselves for the rigours of outdoor activities in the Swiss Alps. All participating students will take part in a preparatory ASA in Term 3.

The trip itself will consist of an overnight expedition into the mountainous region, a visit to local chocolate and cheese factories, and also the opportunity to visit Glacier 3000, and learn about the geographical features of the area.

We are very excited about this opportunity for the students and see this as a wonderful benefit of the school being a member of the Nord Anglia family.



Early Years

Spring Is Here!

Kirti Mikri
Pre-Nursery Teacher

Spring is here and in Pre-Nursery we are taking full advantage of the warmer weather by extending our learning outdoors. Over the last few weeks our focus has been on traditional tales and nursery rhymes. We are incredibly lucky at BSG to have so many areas within our school grounds for our outdoor learning activities: The Wendy house was perfect for acting out *The Three Little Pigs*, the water trail to 'row, row, row our boats' and the sand pit where the children pretended to fetch pails of 'water'.

In addition to the outdoor provisions, we set up a crafting table, a cozy reading area and various construction toys. Using the outdoors as a more diverse and dynamic classroom, for a task that could otherwise be done indoors, has had a great impact on the children. It supports the development of healthy and active lifestyles by offering the children opportunities for physical activity, freedom and movement. Playing and learning outside also helps children to understand and respect nature, further instilling a love for learning, a love for the environment and most importantly, it's FUN!



Developing Empathy In Early Years

Emma Lomax
Nursery Teacher

We learn many valuable lessons during our time in school and some of those lessons run deeper than our A B C's and 1 2 3's. In Nursery, children have been working hard to develop their understanding of the world. Part of that involves a nurturing of empathy, learning to care for our environment and the people and things we share it with. This journey begins at the start of our year when we learn, with the occasional hiccup, how to share our space and resources. We also learn the importance of cooperation, working together to take responsibility for that space while showing respect for the things within it. Throughout the year we have many more opportunities, and plenty more hiccups, where these values are further cultivated.

Recently children have loved the responsibility of tending to the plants in our classroom and taking care of our class fish. We also enjoyed a visit from some delightful dogs for which children managed their behaviour to welcome our visitors respectfully. We listened carefully as owners talked about the responsibility of looking after a dog and we learnt to ask before approaching an unfamiliar animal. This was a wonderful experience which people and pooches enjoyed in equal measure.

Developing empathy through meaningful activities such as caring for our environment, peers, plants, and pets, allows children the opportunity to understand that our environment and the living things we share it with all have basic needs. These experiences help children to make connections between caring behaviours and positive outcomes. A precious lesson for life which will one day extend beyond our classrooms and into our world.



Reception Learn To Code

Drerna Nankani
Reception Teacher

Coding or programming is being called the 'new literacy' by educators. Mastery of basic skills of reading, writing and maths is no longer enough. Children need to learn skills, such as critical thinking and problem solving, which is the demand of the 21st century. Learning coding at a young age will help children develop new ways of thinking and foster problem-solving techniques that can have a positive impact in other areas. Due to the very inquisitive nature of our young learners, it is the perfect age group to introduce basic coding skills as this can be very advantageous in the long run.

This term, the Reception children have been introduced to the concept of coding. Even though the terms 'binary' and 'algorithms' seem too tricky to pronounce for them, the children understood the concepts of these terms. As an introduction to coding, the children used Beebots, a child friendly programmable toy that provides a practical and fun way in helping the children learn about directions and also develop problem solving skills. The children have been enjoying a variety of challenging activities using the Beebots and the Beebots App, through giving step by step instructions to the Beebot to move from one square to another to reach its target. Learning about 'Binary Code' challenged the Reception children further. Binary is extremely important to the computer world. The majority of computers today store all sorts of information in binary form.

The children learned to decode the letters in their name by using red and yellow paper strips which represented the numbers 1 and 0 in the binary code. Surprisingly, most of the children grasped the concept easily and were able to do the task independently.



To solidify the concept and develop their learning of coding, we made binary necklaces using red and yellow beads representing the 8 bits (another technical term learned by the children) in each letter. The children used a black bead as a space between every letter. The children were so excited to wear their necklace and proudly showed them off to their friends and teachers. Some even wanted to attempt to make necklaces for their parents and siblings.

We look forward to further practising our skills this term and hopefully it won't be long before the Reception children become coding superstars!



Chimelong Safari Park

Year 1 Team

On Tuesday 20th March the Year 1 classes visited Chimelong Safari Park. Our day started with each class splitting into four groups. One group with the class teacher, one group with our teaching assistant and two groups with parent helpers. We all got onto our big yellow school buses, sat in our seats and buckled our seat belts! The buses were a hive of excitement, all the children chatting with one another wondering what animals they would see and what the day would bring.

We arrived at the Safari Park and had a healthy snack, a banana! We were given our bottles of water for the trip and put these in our back packs. We then all lined up and entered the park. We were greeted by a big lake filled with swans and pelicans. The Year 1 children were amazed by the pelican's pouch on its lower bill, it was fun to watch it fill up with water when they were fishing for food.

We walked down until we reached the White Tigers, this was a special visit as we know they are a rare sight. The tigers walked up and greeted us at the glass, they showed off their size and beauty wowing the adults and children. Some of the Year 1 classes were lucky to visit the tiger zone just in time for their lunch. They witnessed the tigers diving into the water and jumping up to reach the meat as they were being fed by the Chimelong staff.

Next to the Tigers were other big cats, Leopards! These graceful and powerful big cats entertained us by chasing one another around their cage, showing off their speed, strength and agility.

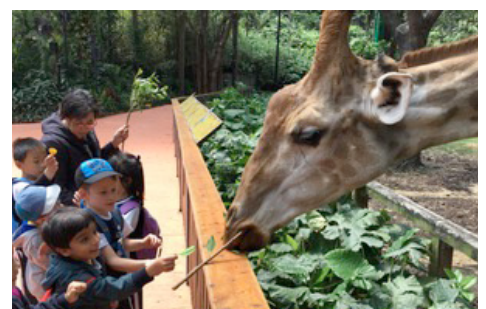
At the bottom of the safari park we found the giraffes! We were amazed by the height of the giraffe. They were leaning over their fence eating eucalyptus branches handed to them by other people visiting the zoo. Their long black tongues reaching for the plants were very funny to see!



Further along from the Giraffes were Elephants and Pandas. Both very majestic creatures they were slowly moving around their areas grazing on their food. By this time many of the Year 1 children were beginning to feel hungry as well and we decided to head back to the exit.

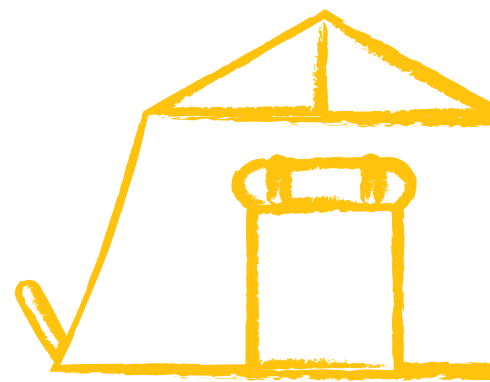
Upon leaving the Safari Park we made one more stop. We couldn't leave without seeing all the different breeds of Monkeys in the Primate Village. We saw many different kinds of monkeys including cute baby ones and Orangutans! The monkeys were having so much fun climbing up the trees and swinging through the branches. In amongst the monkey zones were the most beautiful birds. The Year 1 children were able to identify these as Toucans and Parrots. They showed off their colours well sat high in the trees.

Our day ended with a packed lunch of cheese and cucumber sandwich provided by the school with a health snack of carrot and cucumber sticks and a small cake as a treat for afters. We were all tired and ready to go back to school after a fun day out and some of us even managed to have a little sleep on the bus.



I'm A Happy Camper!

Natalie Watson
Year 2 Teacher



This term has involved possibly one of the most exciting events for our Year 2s so far this year- Camp Out!

That's right- all Year 2 children bravely said goodbye to their parents Friday morning for what proved to be a long but exciting day and night filled with lots of exciting outdoor activities.

Our first, tricky challenge once all the buses had left was to build our very own tents after watching an amusing demonstration by some of our teachers. We were very impressed with the children's teamwork skills and resilience to not give up and in the end we all had a comfy, stable tent to lay our heads down.

However, this was not the time for sleeping, there was still lots of fun to be had. The children were then split into their house teams where they enjoyed a variety of day time activities from parachute games, boot camp and musical statues (which revealed some highly entertaining dance moves).

After all the fun, we were ready for a break and enjoyed a delicious BBQ as we watched the beautiful sunset over BSG. We couldn't have asked for better weather!

The excitement then continued as the children got out their torches ready for their night time activities which involved treasure hunts, stories in the treehouse, a parachute disco and peaceful stargazing.

Once all the activities were completed the children all enjoyed some yummy marshmallows and delicious hot chocolate around our toasty camp fire.

Finally, after all the fun the children got ready for bed in their pyjamas, brushed their teeth and said goodnight to all their teachers.

It truly was an unforgettable experience for everyone involved and something that we're sure the children will remember for years to come.





Who Runs The World?

John Brophy
Year 3 Teacher

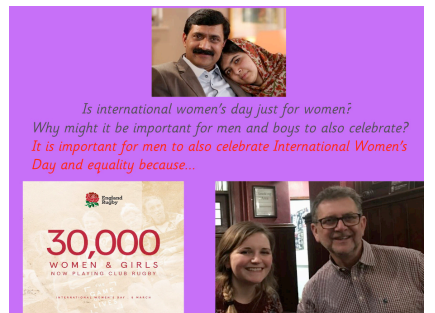
Year 3 played their part in celebrating International Women's day during the week of the 8th March. International Women's Day is an annual global event. It is for celebrating the many different kinds of achievements of women in our world, including successes in our society, economy, politics and culture.

To celebrate, we looked at the history of International Women's Day, discussed campaigns for women's rights and why we felt it was important to celebrate the day. On top of this we looked at some of the prominent women throughout history and today, whose achievements have helped shape the world we know. We also discussed the amazing women in our lives and who inspire us daily. Following this, we put our inspirational women on a literal pedestal by designing our own statue for them and providing explanations for our choices. Of course, our mums, grandmas, sisters and friends were all popular choices to place on a statue, however possibly more surprisingly so was Queen Elizabeth II.

It was fantastic to see the engagement and enthusiasm all of the children had for celebrating International Women's Day and we saw some great examples of children taking it upon themselves to learn more. It was of particular pride to see some of the boys in Year 3 deciding to read and take out books from the library on individual women's achievements and The Suffragettes.

Our week of celebrations was capped off with a fantastic assembly led by our own inspirational woman, Miss. Brewster who brought our week together with discussions around young girls fighting adversity, following their dreams and stories of some of the prominent Chinese women throughout history. We also learned about how both Miss Brewster's mum and dad inspire her and how important it is for both men and boys to celebrate International Women's Day and to advocate for women's rights.

Who runs the world?

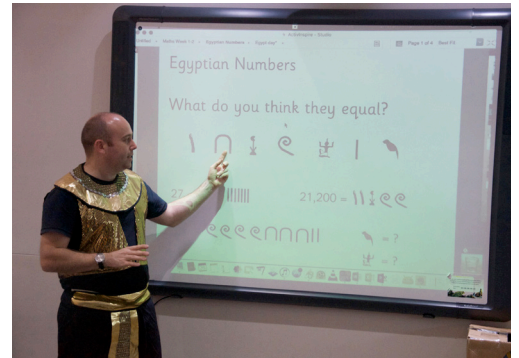


Making The Past Come To Life

Richard Stevens
Year 4 Teacher

Being fortunate Year 4 teachers, we have the pleasure to deliver the curriculum through topics such as the Rainforest, Ancient China and, recently, Ancient Egypt. These topics offer excellent drama and art opportunities that stimulate an overall goal which is usually a piece of writing. To start a topic, we often use a “WOW” event to hook the children and generate interest for the weeks ahead.

For our Ancient Egypt topic we invited the children to dress up as an Ancient Egyptian (Taobao links shared!) and enjoy a day of themed activities. They moved along the Year 4 corridor like feluccas on the River Nile, stopping off at each fascinating temple classroom to unlock another treasure: the children wrote their names in hieroglyphs; learnt to use Ancient Egyptian numbers and painted pyramid sunset landscapes. Throughout the day, the children were encouraged to wonder and to think ‘what if?’ These questions were collated, by class, to form the “What we want to learn” goals for our new topic. We hope to answer these questions and many others over the next 5 weeks.



Leading The Way

David Healey
Year 5 Teacher

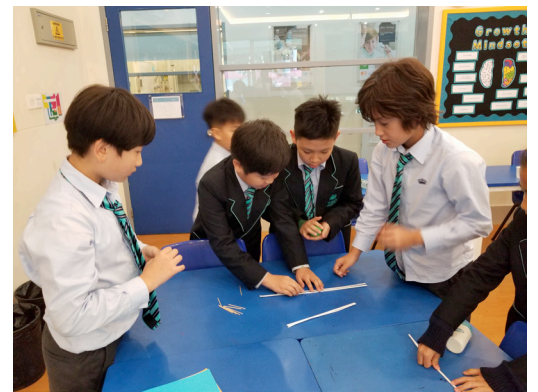
2018 is a world in which world leaders are so heavily (and understandably) under scrutiny. They appear on talk shows, they engage in the use of social media and, indeed, they are celebrities in their own right. And that's just the President of the United States, Donald Trump. All around us, we hear about what makes a good leader, often put into sharp focus by the actions of the world leaders we have who, perhaps, haven't acted as we might expect.

Leadership styles around the world vary greatly and yet most can get entire nations to rally behind a cause that, to some, can seem absurd. It seems fitting, therefore, that in Year 5, we turned our attention towards some of the world leaders of the past and asked: how do they convince their countries to go to war?

Student Leadership is beginning to take off at BSG, with every term seemingly providing new opportunities for our students to take on projects to promote excellence and develop our school in exciting new ways. For the children to do this effectively, however, we are always looking for ways in which they can test out their leadership skills. As teachers, we believed that Year 5 was full of great leaders.

To test this theory, we introduced 3 leadership styles to groups of the year group: The Authoritarian Leader, the Democratic Leader and the Laissez-Faire Leader. All were challenged with the same task. Build a boat, using the resources available, that will hold as much cargo as possible. Last one to sink or capsize wins. Simple!

Authoritarians had total control. They could listen to advice if they wanted, but whatever they decided to do, that was how their teams proceeded. It certainly made for faster progress, but often at the expense of team morale.



It's hard to have your voice heard when there's only one person who may (or may not!) listen to you. That said, with a very clear idea of what was needed and with everybody having a job to do, these boats saw their construction speed along nicely.

Democratic leaders could propose ideas and they had final decisions to make, but it would have to be the decision that was most popular in the team. Unlike our authoritarians, everybody had to be heard and everybody had a vote. However, with every big decision going to a vote, progress was slow and, where there was disagreement, the minority sometimes grew disheartened. Boats were a hash of ideas, but it was certainly fairer and, once decisions were made, people could work together well.

Laissez-faire conjures up ideas of a free-for-all and, in essence, that's what it was. A laissez-faire leader can guide, suggest and empower but, ultimately, everybody will do what they believe is the right thing and contribute what they can. This was certainly a more dynamic team, with everybody pitching in to help and it was interesting to see their boats build organically. The end result was somewhat messier, but there was no doubting it contained the efforts and ideas of everybody in the group.

The results are, perhaps, less important here than the process. In fact, in every case, the authoritarian team managed to build the sturdiest vessel. Time was the biggest factor here and, with little opportunity for trials of different ideas, the decisiveness of the authoritarian leaders meant there was more time for teams to spend on strong construction.

So what did we learn? Authoritarian leaders build the best boats? Well, not quite. Each leadership style had its own merits and it's fair to say a combination of all 3 would have had a strong chance to produce the best boat. It's an important lesson for our students who are, as clichéd as it may sound, the leaders we will look to in the future. With Student Leadership getting stronger all the time at BSG, hopefully some of our Year 5s will get the chance to put these skills into practice very soon.



Battle Of The Books

Harriet Wildy
Year 6 Student



The day has arrived after weeks of reading we have made it to the competition on the 19th of March 2018. The ten books have been read : James and the Giant Peach, Roman of Rin, Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes, Book Scavenger, 13-Storey Treehouse, Riding Freedom, My Fathers Dragon, Freckle Juice, The Watcher and the Boy on the Porch. These ten books were read by three teams from each school.

Round 1 & 2

The first round was the card game. We had ten pieces of paper each saying one of the book's names. The round started off well, with each team getting nearly all questions right. The questions ranged from oddly specific answers to open answers. The second round was a Kahoot. This was the point when some teams started to tip. Some teams didn't press the right button and some teams didn't press it in time. At this point we were caving our food.

Lunch

Our sandwiches arrived and there was a wave of relief. We split up into threes and went to meet people from other schools. We all sat at tables with our new friends as we ate our food as we talked.

Round 3 & 4

This round we were doing the PowerPoint and cards again. The questions were beginning to get more difficult. The tension was growing till the round finished and we started the final round. For the final round, we had another PowerPoint. People were trying to lift their points. The round finished

The Winners

The points were counted and in third place we have, The Book Worriers from BSG. In Second we have, The Book Hunters from BSG. In first place we have ... The BSG Bookworms from BSG. After the winners were announced we went outside for a photo which was more difficult than we imagined because it was raining out side and we went onto the football pitch so we had to run there run back . Everybody went home knowing we all tried our best and that we have represented our school.



The Year Of The Dog Is Here!

Julia Zhang & Lily Tan
Chinese Teachers

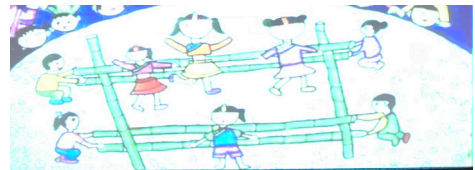
Before school finished for the holiday, both Primary and Secondary students experienced a range of activities to commemorate the start of the Year of the Dog and to embrace the local Chinese culture.

In Primary, students experienced 9 different temple fair activities, a face changing show and a CNY Music Celebration. In addition, a Chinese dessert sale was organised for students. Y4 students also had a wonderful Chinese assembly.

In Secondary, students had the exciting China Week again. They explored the Chinese traditional culture more deeply by experiencing the following activities: face changing show, sugar painting, Chinese painting and dumpling making. All year 7-11 students had an unforgettable assembly under the theme of 'China Dream'.

What's more, both primary and secondary students watched a professional lion dance and three very brilliant Dragon Dance performances by Primary & Secondary staff and some Primary students.

During this special festival time, everyone at BSG enjoyed this event and expressed their wishes to our school community: a happy Chinese New Year!



Secondary School

Grease!

Alex Hughes
Head of Drama

Around 14 years ago I was Assistant Director on Grease in an Arts and Media school in North London and have many fond memories of doing this show first time round. I was a naïve director and teacher; pretty much straight out of University and this was one of my early experiences of directing a whole school production. Drama teachers will advise each other to never go back to a show but this production (my 21st show!) was a revival for me and it was a real experience to revisit this show with such an amazing cast and team so many years later on the other side of the world in BSG.

I have to give my congratulations again to all of our performers who really did us proud across the four performances of Grease. Leah Alvez was an adorable Sandra Dee (hard to believe it was her first ever Secondary school production!) and Hinata Koizumi gave a brilliant portrayal of Rizzo. Tony Zhang was our brilliant Eugene and Henk de Boer, our head Boy was the perfect Vince Fontaine. I could write about each and every performance but I would like to give a special mention to Monica Mok, who has been a committed and hardworking member of the chorus for many years and who well deserved her starring moment as Danny Zuko. While casting a girl for this role was a brave casting choice, it was no doubt the right choice as Monica really was exceptional.

While mentioning the chorus, it really is true that a Musical can only be as good as the chorus – if the leading roles are at the heart of the storytelling then it's fair to say that the chorus are the pulse of the show – the energy pushing the story forward.

Audience members commented on how the chorus conveyed what a great time they were having on stage. In many ways this is the most important thing – if we're not loving every minute, then what are we doing it for?

It is true that there is no feeling like that buzz on the opening night. The moment when the house lights go down for the first time, the curtains open and the cast step on stage and take that first breath before speaking or singing their first line is magical every year. In many ways though a lot of the magic happens behind the scenes in rehearsals, and in the journey along the way.

A tradition that was introduced to me many years ago in London was 'the circle' - a simple idea that every year, before each performance, everyone stands in a circle on the stage. Everyone says one thing to the rest of the cast and crew. There are no rules – you can say something to everyone, or choose an individual but everyone gets a chance to speak. Year on year I am amazed by the things I hear such as, 'I am so proud of you', 'you inspire me', 'thank you for helping me through'. Students note individual victories and no one is forgotten. Together we foster pride in each other, a sense of community and belonging. Students from all year groups come together and form lasting friendships. The students are sharply aware that Production is a precious thing, that they accomplished this together and there is no way of measuring the value of that. I know these memories will stay with these students forever, and I am so honored to be part of that.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the huge team of staff who are instrumental in making the scale and quality of productions at this school possible.



Our Stage manager Mrs. Wildy and her crew did an incredible job of running everything behind the scenes. Miss Giles and her wardrobe team went to such lengths to ensure that our students looked the part, including carefully considering tiny details such as coordinating hair ribbons with outfits, enhancing costumes with embellishments such as the T Bird jackets that were painstakingly studded.



Our set and props team led by Ms. Slaughter and Ms. Wright excelled themselves again in bringing the set design to life. There were so many beautiful moments from a set point of view but one of my own wow moments was the sparkly silver pyramid in Beauty School Dropout. I must mention Grace Xie, a year 13 student who spent many a Tuesday afternoon with me in the Drama studio working out choreography for the show, for being our dance captain and for the support she gave to the cast as a whole.



Thanks also to Adam Parker and Pete Sinclair for our sound and lighting expertise and of course our fabulous Musical Director, Mr. McGauley and his Grease Band, who were responsible for the dynamic live music. Production time is always a reminder for me of what a truly amazing school BSG is. Support is given in so many ways from the whole community and so many people are willing to give their time to contribute to production in so many ways.



The Performing Arts team is already looking forward to the next Secondary Production and we have many exciting plans for next year. All students are welcome to sign up for Production ASA regardless of skill level or experience – the only real criteria we need is your commitment and enthusiasm – everything else will follow!

UKMT Success

Stephen Dodds
Maths Teacher

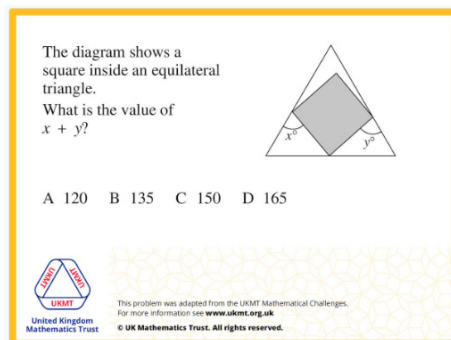
The Mathematics Department would like to share and celebrate the achievements of a large number of our students who have excelled in recent months.

The recent UKMT Intermediate Award yielded superb results, and the school achieved a phenomenal 10 Gold Certificates in this year's event. Out of 50 entrants, 39 of the pupils received either Bronze, Silver or Gold certificates, an achievement that the department is very proud of.

The challenge is an internationally recognised paper that tests pupils in Years 9-11. The examination is a grueling combination of problem solving, geometric reasoning, algebraic ingenuity and higher-level numerical skills.

Ten students have achieved so highly on these tests that they were invited to participate in the International Kangaroo and International Olympiad Tests. Mabel Ng, Dong Zhang and Heejoo Son sat the Grey Kangaroo Paper for Year 9s, whilst Shaun Lye, Hesed Heng, Angel Lee, Carl Alvez and Sungmin Ryukim sat the Pink Kangaroo Paper for Years 10 and 11.

We are also delighted by the success of two Year 11 students, Dawoo Yoon and Shing Tak Lam who were invited to take the highly revered Maclaurin Paper, of which only 500 Year 11 students globally are invited to participate. We look forward to announcing the results of these tests in upcoming newsletters.



Aqui Estudiamos (We Study Here)

MFL Department

With IGCSE examinations fast approaching, many Year 11 groups are now fully immersed in revision classes but, last week, the Spanish Department decided to do something a little different. As the topic of 'School' will be examined in April's oral examinations; rather than do classroom activities, the Year 11 Spanish group did a tour of the school where they talked to each other in Spanish to describe the current facilities, past and present members of staff, opinions of different subjects, and other school issues.

Caitlyn, Claire, Karina, Nihal Kohinur, Selina and Shing Tak visited parts of the Primary Campus that had changed so much over the last 5 years; the Primary Library was a new find for all of them!

We wish all of our language classes well in their forthcoming examinations. Let's hope that the tour of the school worked well for examination preparation.



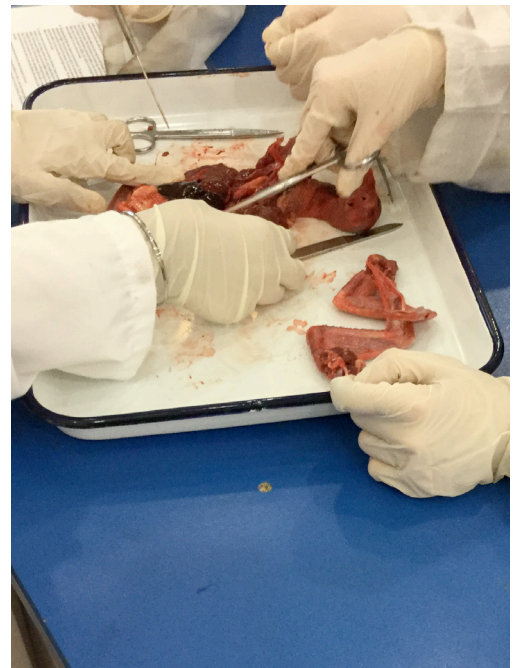
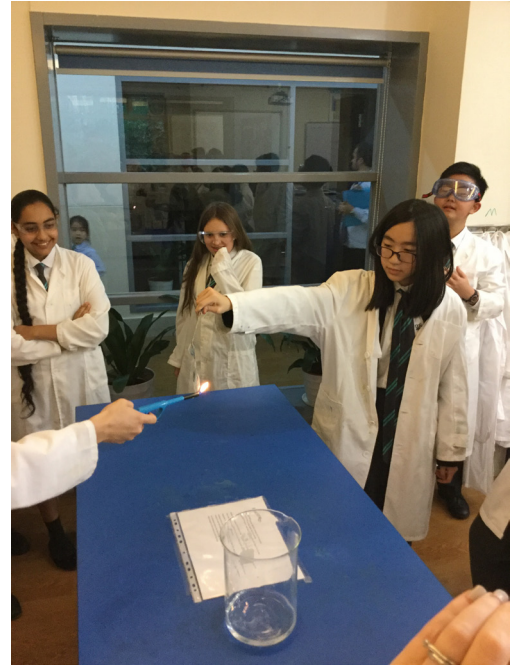
Secondary School

Science Week

Marc Tillotson
Science Teacher

This year's science week focused on the theme of discovery. At lunchtime we offered students a variety of opportunities to discover new things. Chemistry offered students the chance to try 'burning' money, experiencing elephant toothpaste and extracting iron from breakfast cereal. While Physics experimented with the motor effect to create self-driving cars.

Biology offered the perennial favourite of a range of dissections. This proved popular, especially with the Year 5 students who were given the chance to experience a dissection. Mr. Tillotson told the story of one of his scientific heroes Professor Lee Berger in the secondary assemblies this week. He told the story of perseverance and collaboration that lead to his discoveries, which captured the interest of all who attended.



U13 FOBISIA Games

Denica Howell
PE Teacher

On Sunday 25th February, Mrs. Howell, Mr. Slater and Miss Anna took a squad of 24 Year 7 and 8 boys and girls to the annual U13 FOBISIA Games at Thanyapura Sports Resort in Phuket, Thailand. Over 3 days the pupils competed against 6 schools in Athletics, Swimming, Basketball and Football.

All 24 students were a credit to the school and competed admirably across the week, picking up a number of medals along the way. Below is a list of every BSG medal winner across the week. In Swimming, special mentions should be given to Tiger for his 4-medal haul in swimming and Chloe S for the team's first silver in the pool.

On the track, congratulations also to Ray for his Gold in the boys Triple Jump, followed up by 2 silvers in High Jump and Javelin. For the girls, the 4 x 100m team of Annika, Phoenix, King Fu & Chloe S., picked up a fantastic relay gold in the last event of the day. Everyone's efforts during Athletics must be commended as, in a tight field, BSG managed to accumulate enough points to finish in 3rd place overall!

Basketball and Football sadly didn't bring any trophies for either the boys or girls teams. However, the boys can take heart in securing more victories than the team who eventually finished 4th in the basketball.

Athletics Medals

Ray = 1 Gold and 2 Silver
Boyuan = 2 Silver
Tiger = 1 Gold and 1 Silver
Henry H = 2 Silver
Ren = 1 Silver

Cici = 1 Gold and 1 Silver
Phoenix = 1 Gold and 1 Silver
Orna = 1 Gold

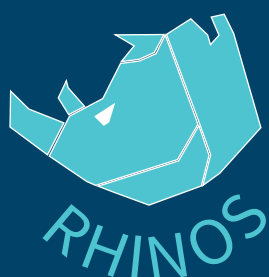
Girls 4 x 100m Relay = Gold

Swimming Medals:

Tiger = 4 Bronze
Ray = 2 Bronze
Zarius = 1 Bronze
Boyuan = 2 Bronze
Boys 4 x 50 Medley = Bronze (Tommy, Hugo, Zarius, Ren)

Chloe S = Silver
Girls 4 x 50 Medley Relay





Come on you Rhinos!

www.bsg.org.cn www.facebook.com/bsgnae #BSGRhinos #COYR

Winning Or Taking Part?

Denica Howell
PE Teacher

Winning or taking part...

Every PE teacher gets asked the same question at interview and, if you're British, it generally has the same answer. We want all the students to be active and taking part in sport and enjoying it foremostly. Winning is a byproduct of this ultimately.

Let me explain this in a little more in depth by giving you a brief overview of a GCSE PE lesson. The sports participation pyramid below and applied to a BSG perspective reflects the numbers of people taking part in sport at a certain level in a certain sport. The foundation stage is the compulsory aspect – PE lessons. Participation is those students that like it so do it as an ASA. Performance is the students that take part in any competitive performance level and the elite (in BSG terms) is the top teams in the respective age groups.

There are **4 SECTIONS** of the **SPORTS PYRAMID**



By its very nature if the Foundation is big then the elite will also be larger. At BSG we have a large foundation – every student taking part in PE lessons is a reflection of this. The Participation aspect is large as reflected in ASA sign up and interest. The performance is increasing year on year (we field 4 teams at Primary in some events, 3 teams at U14, nearly 2 at U19) and this in turn means a larger elite to choose from. This is proven. It is reflected in every sport in the world. China are so strong at Badminton and Table Tennis due to the Foundation and Participation levels being so large. Brazil, Germany and Spain demonstrate the same in Football. Australia in Swimming and the list goes on. Note, that I have not put the UK in any bracket just yet. So BSG is in healthy place, as future years will certainly reap the benefits of what is currently in place.

Secondary School

Then there is the Elite level and the winning aspect. It's great to win and even better to get a trophy or a medal but there is a lot more to it than that, which makes the winning or taking part conundrum so difficult. The greatest have also lost their way to stardom – Muhammad Ali lost 5 matches in his career, Alex Ferguson was one match away from the sack before his amazing feats at Manchester United. Even Jose Mourinho and Claudio Rainieri could not escape the sack due to poor results the year after winning the pinnacle in the English football. Are they bad coaches because they lost a few games?

Sport teaches us resilience – it's a life skill that is so crucial in the future and so losing the odd game should not be frowned upon – and instead use it as a stepping stone to greater things. Michael Jordan famously said "I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed."

Then there are the other aspects to consider – not just the result. Did we deserve to win? Did we play well? What was the reason for the results, the other variables that are out of our control such as the pool/group that we are put in, the age of the students in the team, their physical stature, the sporting pedigree of the other schools, the facilities that we have access to, the hours spent training and the list goes on and on.

What needs to be acknowledged in no doubt whatsoever is the progress that BSG have made over the years. We have had some very very successful years and also some transitional years in between. The transition is not an issue as there is a long term goal and that's what we are working towards. Each year we get staff who are new and more experienced in the arrangement of sports. We have very highly qualified teachers and coaches in Athletics, Football, Touch, Badminton, Cross Country to name a few, with even more staff who have played representative sport in the UK. Each year the level of skill that we are producing is developing and setting new standards.

So whilst students leave, new students arrive, students bump up an age group and we play some schools that only really focus on one sport or who have amazing facilities it is reassuring to know the following.

We don't cut any students from a sports programme. If they want to play then they can play (at some point)! Our students enjoy taking part in sport.

We are one of only two schools in the local area that field three or more teams per U14 and u11 tournament and this sets a fantastic foundation to build on.

So whilst the short term might not always bring silverware, it is reassuring to know that the future is very bright and on the way our students will no doubt experience losses and 'fail' on the way. However they will also gain from the experience and develop life skills such as resilience, team work, social skills and ultimately 'success' will be around the corner be that in the form of medals, trophies, enjoyment or progress!

Well done to all students who take part in the ever growing Sports programme at BSG and continue to work hard in one or a variety of sports.



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