



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE



We congratulate Sandra, who achieved her dream offer of a place at the University of Cambridge!

## ISSUE TWO NEWSLETTER 2021/22

Find out more!  
[bsg.org.cn](http://bsg.org.cn)



THE BRITISH  
SCHOOL  
OF GUANGZHOU

A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

@BSGNAE    

# Message from the Principal

This month, we were very pleased to welcome the new Head of Primary, Campbell Maunder, to our South Lake Campus. Mr. Maunder is currently working in China's Fujian Province, but has taken the time to visit our school to meet staff and discuss his transition with Mr. Cox. I am very pleased to note how welcoming our students were as we walked around the school together. So many of our students stopped to introduce themselves and to ask him questions. He was very impressed and commented on the confidence and impressive manners they all have.



Campbell will be visiting our new Olympic Park Campus in Maogeng tomorrow, before heading back to Fujian on Sunday. I know that he is very much looking forward to his new role, and that he intends to travel here early in the summer holiday with his wife and three children. So, anyone who has signed up for Summer School will see him again soon!

I would also like to thank BSG staff for successfully reintroducing our ASA and Academy programme. As always, activities range from academic to creative and sporting, so there should be something for everyone. I would also like to take this opportunity to note the outstanding success of our students in the recent NAE Virtual Young Musician of the Year 2022. With 1370 students from 64 schools competing, it was breathtaking to hear that BSG students have done better than any other school — taking first place in 3 categories, 2nd place in 5 categories and receiving 4 special mention awards!

I would like to congratulate all students who took part. Whether you won an award or not, by entering you have demonstrated the courage and commitment needed to be successful in the future. In looking through the list of winners, I noted that the majority are students who have been with us for many years. This confirms what we have often noticed i.e. that students who stay longer at BSG often achieve significantly better results.

A special congratulations to:

- Atsuki Liu: Winner, Age 11-14 Classical Brass - Joined BSG in 2018
- Alisha Lowe: Winner, Age 15-19 Popular Piano/Keyboard - Joined BSG in 2008
- Rou Yu Yap: Winner, Age 11-14 Popular Strings - Joined BSG in 2011

I am also very pleased to note that this year's graduates have received an impressive number of offers from outstanding universities, including some of the world's top 50 universities. We could not be prouder of our graduating students, and wish them every success in their forthcoming examinations and in the future. A special mention to Sandra Ho, our Head Student last year, who has been offered a position at Cambridge University. Sandra actually visited our sister school in Panyu to give a motivational speech to their students about her successes and some of the challenges she has faced.

Since I have been the Principal of BSG, our students have been picking up impressive awards. This year is no different, and I am pleased to note the successes of two students who received an award from the Cambridge Examination Board for achieving the Top IGCSE scores in China! Well done to:

- Sophia Mok for the Top IGCSE score in China for World Literature.
- Calvin Yap for the Top IGCSE score in China for Mathematics.

I would like to thank all the parents who took the time to provide their feedback in our parental survey. This year's survey provided us with the best results we have ever achieved. In my final year as Principal, it is a huge honour to get such a positive response, and we will be providing parents with more in-depth feedback from the survey in the near future. Over the next year, we will also focus on creating an action plan to meet some of your suggested areas for improvement.

And finally, I would like to finish by noting the significant contribution of one of our founding staff members, Peter Scott. Peter and his wife Amy worked at BSG from the day it opened until 2010. Unfortunately, after being diagnosed with cancer, Peter passed away in February 2022. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Amy, and their three children, as they come to terms with this loss. While very few of our existing students will have met Peter, I know that some of our long-term students will have fond memories of him as a teacher of EAL and PE. Peter was someone who brought a sense of fun and positivity to our school, and we will always appreciate him for this.

Best regards,

**Mark Thomas**



# 'SHARE A DREAM' UPDATE

*Social change takes flight*



## General metrics



24 activities



560 hours volunteered



\$1650 raised

## Top 3 Sustainable Development Goals



## Term 1 Social Impact Profile



## Community Partner Highlights



### Homeless Love Guangzhou

Feeding the homeless people organisation in Guangzhou

### BSG Community Partnership

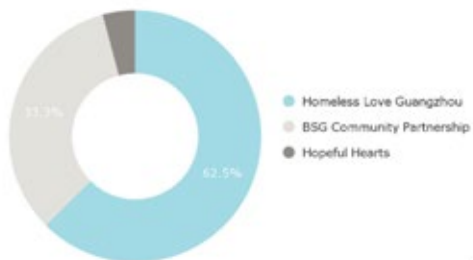
BSG have a Community Partnership group that work as a team to support charities, raise awareness of community issues and allow pupils to give time back to support others and the environment.

This is a group within BSG that has a committee of volunteers that manage the events and good work carried out by the Community Leaders. This group is whole school and works across both schools.

### Hopeful Hearts

Hopeful Hearts is a non-profit charity run by local Chinese and expatriate volunteers with the aim of raising funds to provide lifesaving heart surgeries for children from low income Chinese families.

Hopeful Hearts arranges surgeries, often within days of hearing of children in need, and provides necessary funds to help families pay for treatment.



## Money Talk

In Y2 Maths, it has been all about 'Money' focusing mainly on British Pounds and Pence. We used real money from Ms Mary's piggy bank to explore the values, shapes, colour and sizes of coins and notes. One of the cool tricks we learnt was to use patterns to help us remember all the different denominations. We discovered that the digits 1, 2 and 5 are repeated. Have a look and see. 1p, 2p, 5p; 10p, 20p, 50p; £1, £2, £5 and £10, £20, £50!

To help prepare us for concepts such as 'buying', 'selling' and 'giving change', we took a trip to our local corner shop. Each group had to think about how much money they wanted to spend before deciding on what they wanted to buy. Some groups spent all their money whilst others got some change back. Now that we have a good understanding of what it means to give change, we are ready for lots of fun hands-on activities as we buy and sell items in our classroom shop over the coming weeks!



## Maths Challenge

Year 6 have been taking part in a Maths challenge alongside several of our Nord Anglia schools in China. Shanghai, Beijing and Nanjing have joined us in celebrating the year of the tiger in a numerical way! Children have had the opportunity to push their skills in spatial awareness, number sense and collaboration. It has been great to see children rise to the challenge and amazing to see children displaying talents in geometric puzzles.

Our activities included a tangram challenge. For those not familiar, the tangram is a dissection puzzle consisting of seven flat polygons, called tans, which are put together to form shapes. The objective is to replicate a pattern, and in this case we used different animals from the Chinese Zodiac using their silhouettes. This was an activity that seemed quite simple at first, but proved to be quite complex. The children showed excellent perseverance trying different ideas and arrangements until they were successful.

The children also attempted a series of challenges based on the zodiac where they needed to spot number patterns within different sets of objects. Year 6 have shown great enthusiasm for problem solving and we have been very happy to take part in these themed activities to celebrate the new year. Hopefully they will share some of these puzzles with you at home and you can join in the fun





## Top Learning Village Certificate

We are very pleased to be awarded 2nd best in the world in 2021 from Learning Village. Learning Village is an online platform used by our students who are still learning English.

Students have the option of improving their social English and grammar, their curriculum, English or their phonics and spellings and we guide them on which is the best programme for them. We do not spend a lot of time on this while we are at school. It is something extra that the children do at home to further enhance their English language learning. This is why it is so impressive that they have managed to win in the 'total points scored' category putting The British School of Guangzhou 2nd place in the world!

Congratulations to all our EAL students! Keep up the fantastic work.

## “We are paint scientists.” Averie Lim, Year 3B, 2022

Year 3's core text is about Zheng He — an inspirational Chinese explorer, who was determined to find the vivid blue pigment for painting porcelains.

Year 3 students were set up to make their own paint and to use as much natural pigment as possible to make a range of colours.

After a paint-base from flour, salt and water was made, students added different coloured spices to create the primary colours. From there, students were free to mix and blend to make the colours they wanted.

The more the groups worked together, the wider the range of colours they created. The results were fantastic. The salt added a little sparkle to their paintings of Zheng He.





### 'Maths in action!'

Which container holds the most rice? Which items are heavy or light?

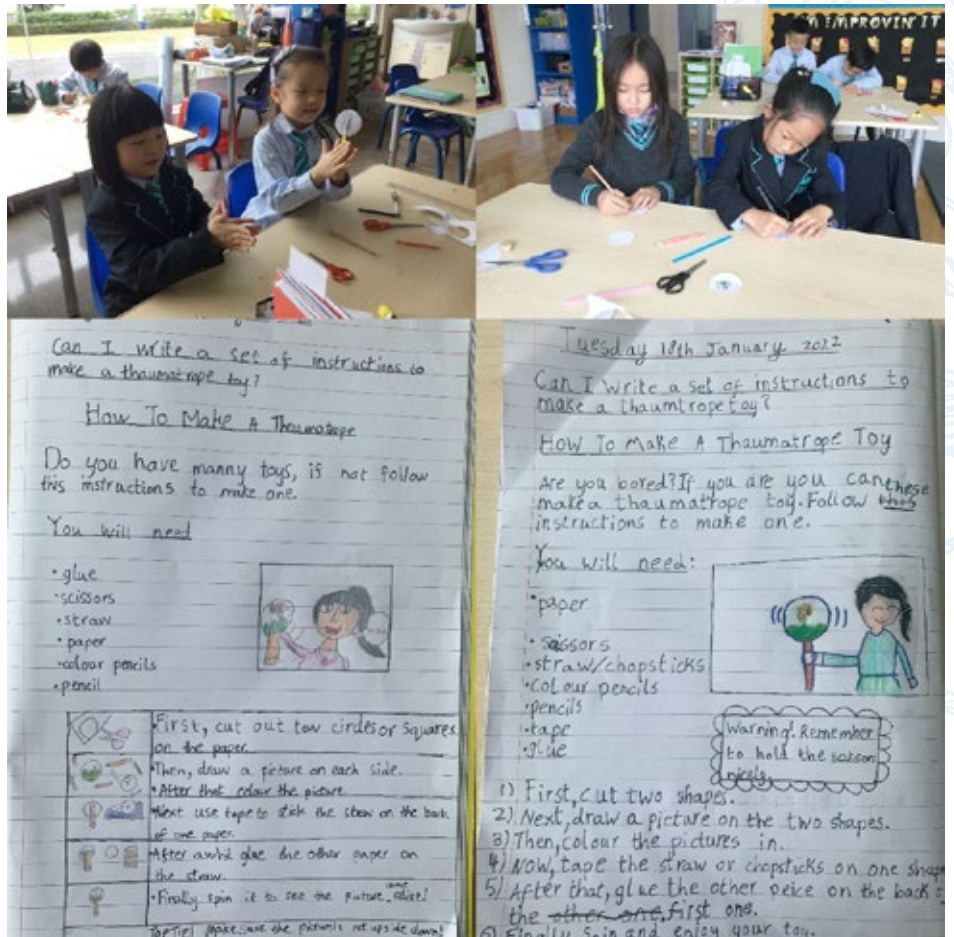
These are some of the key questions our nursery children have been trying to answer in their Mathematics lessons this week. To explore these answers, we make our Maths lessons 'come to life' as much as possible as children thrive through experiencing learning that is active, practical, and hands-on.

### The Scoop in Year 2!

Y2 children became very bossy and demanding! They were telling each other what to do and ordering them about! Before you wonder why, it's because we have been learning about the features of instructional text; one of them being bossy or imperative verbs.

We also made a thaumatrope toy, an optical toy that was popular during the 19th century. The children had to follow a set of instructions to make this toy. This gave the children a good, practical understanding of seeing for themselves how important it is to give clear instructions.

After making this toy, the children wrote a set of instructions on how to make their version of the toy, using commas for the list, bullet points or numbers for the steps, time adverbs and bossy verbs. They also included others features, such as a 'How To...' title, introduction, pictures and a top tip. Why don't you have a go at building this clever toy? Follow the instructions below to make one.



## Student Council

The BSG student voice committee have been discussing the ASA programme, including activities that are going well and possible areas for improvement for Term 3. All classes from years 1-6 had representatives to voice their opinions to the rest of the committee and the student council decided on resolutions and further questions to take to PLT. We asked if it was possible for different ASAs to be added to the current programme including: gardening, more arts and crafts, cooking and more sports. With the help of Ms Elsmore, we are now looking into hosting these ASAs for term 3.

Secondly, the students felt it was important to have the opportunity to choose their own ASA during a discussion with their parents. It was noted that the ASA list will be released on a Friday afternoon and the sign-up will open on a Sunday morning. Therefore, discussions could be held between parents and students over the weekend on which ASA they would like to take part in. Lastly, I would like to say thank you to all of the students for having open and honest conversations with the help of class teachers.



## Reception D at New Campus NAIS

We engaged in a variety of Chinese New Year activities, including role playing with traditional costumes, reading stories about the lunar new year, making delicious baozis and especially enjoyed creating some wonderful decorations that we were all keen to take home. As part of celebrating the Year of the Tiger, we even had a surprise visit from our very own NAIS tiger who read a special story to the children, 'Tiger' by Nick Butterworth!

We have been trying to use a variety of resources, and language activities at the same time, to enhance our learning of our core text, 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy.

It was pure joy when we discovered what we could do with junk modelling and how we can use some of the materials to also enact the story and play out the main characters. What better fun to get in a box (rocket) and pretend to go to the moon?! The students also tried to further extend their learning by creating their own comic strips, trying to use speech bubbles, as part of our English lesson.





- FOBISIA started as a small group of headteachers working in SEA over 30 years ago.
- We are now a diverse and inclusive community of 87 Member Schools and growing.
- We connect teachers to share best practice and access leading educational thinkers.
- We bring students together for enrichment activities across a range of learning areas.
- We represent an important educational link between Asia and the United Kingdom.
- Our reach extends from Mongolia to Indonesia, and Kazakhstan to Japan.

## UPCOMING Student Events

- ✦ Drama Junior Festival 2022
- ✦ Robotics Competition 2022
- ✦ Short Film Festival 2022
- ✦ Student Environmental Conference
- ✦ Tennis Invitational 2022

## Student Events HIGHLIGHTS

- ✦ Drama Monologue Challenge Online 2021
- ✦ Girls in Science
- ✦ Online Maths Competition 2021
- ✦ Pop-Up Book Design Competition 2021
- ✦ Virtual Gymnastics

## Looking ahead!

FOBISIA is already looking ahead! We have begun the process for more great FOBISIA events for the next academic year and are excited to help our Member Schools continue with the excellent activities both in person and online.



Virtual Running Challenge 2022



Global Languages Championships



KS2 Online Maths Competition



Virtual Swimming Championship 2022

## DID YOU KNOW?

FOBISIA is the first School Organisation to work with the Race4Good - a programme that brings students together from around the world to uplift remote communities in need, empowering them to make meaningful changes that are implemented within 2 weeks.



## Teeth Experts

In Year 4, the children have been learning about the digestive system and in particular the importance of teeth in the process of biting, chewing, ripping and grinding food. The students can now tell you everything there is to know about teeth, including the names and functions of the different types of teeth, as well as the constant changes that happen in our mouths as milk teeth give way to adult teeth. The children also got to make a clay set of teeth and are in the process of preparing videos for younger students about 'The most effective way to brush our teeth'. The next step is to understand why herbivores, carnivores and omnivores have different teeth sizes and how this is connected to their role in the food chain. If you have any questions about teeth, ask a Year 4 child who will be more than happy to help you!



From the left: William (Ladybirds), Fiona (Flamingos), Jacob (Lions), Hayley (Cheetahs), Thanishka (Bumblebees)



From the left: Constance (Hedgehog), Elif Sultan (Eagle Rays), Owen (Foxes), Savvy (Turtles)

## Common Language Champions

In Year 1 and 2, we have been celebrating the students who consistently try to use the common language at the school. Using English includes everyone, and children are strongly encouraged to use it if they can. When children are not able to use English, their learning is scaffolded using a variety of strategies and they can work with a buddy who speaks the same first language. However, we strongly encourage our students to use English during social interactions as this helps them make friends from other language backgrounds and gives them the opportunity to practise their English.

To promote this concept and encourage the students to try their best, we have introduced Common Language Champion vests.

Each week, a child who is trying hard to use the common language is chosen from each year 1 and year 2 class to wear the 'common language champion' vests. Here is our first round of champions and their smiles say it all!

### Y3 Athletics House Competition

As a fun way to end our P.E. athletics unit, Year 3 students participated in a friendly athletics house competition. The competition was based around four main events: standing long jump, a 600m long distance run, 60M sprint and a howler-rocket-throw. Students applied learnt skills to beat their own personal best times and should be proud of their individual achievements and house spirit displayed throughout the event. During our year level assembly, certificates were awarded to the students who placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in each event. A special mention goes to the following students, as they were the top three points scorers out of the whole year group!

Boys- 1st Winson (3E), 2nd Duoduo (3F) and 3rd Colin (3C)

Girls- 1st Emily (3B), 2nd Myra (3D) and 3rd Cecilia (3B)

All houses tried their best, but there could be only one overall winner. Congratulations VIKINGS! The winners of the Year 3 athletics house competition.



### STEAM Focus in Reception

Reception has been focussed on STEAM. We have used our cross-curricula inputs to introduce STEAM challenges and the children have had the opportunity to experiment with different resources to design and create exciting new things during active learning. We started with marble and domino runs, working independently and in small groups to achieve a goal. We then drew inspiration from Global Campus and our collaboration with MIT and decided to extend our learning to Rube Goldberg machines.

We have been creating our own at school and at home, and the most successful recorded attempts will be uploaded on Global Campus under the 'Ball in cup Rube Goldberg' challenge.

## Internship at The Happy Monk

Last month, I, along with five others, worked as interns at The Happy Monk, a restaurant and bar, for a week. During this week, we learned many valuable experiences.

Our time was split between the office and the restaurants. In the office, we worked on a project we chose. In doing the project, we had to use real data from the company, do market research, and find out information from customers by doing surveys.

For example, my project was about replacing a pizza from the menu with another, and in doing that, my group had to find out information about competitors, get data from the company, and survey the customers about their pizza choices.

In the restaurants, we had to help out by cleaning dishes, making drinks, delivering food and drinks, clearing the tables, and other things typically done in a restaurant. A great benefit of doing this was improving interpersonal skills, since we had to speak to many customers that we had never met before.

On the last day, we presented our projects. Due to careful planning and meticulous research, the presentations went smoothly. I would greatly recommend this to anyone, irrespective of future career choices.

Che Hong Yap -Y12 Student



## House Jenga Battle

From 190 entrants we are almost down to the last 6 participants! Next Friday will be the Jenga Battle 2022 semi-finals and finals, congratulations to our last 6 semi-finalists!

# IGCSE



ALISHA

A\*

GRADES

11

SUBJECTS



SOPHIA

A\*

GRADES

10

SUBJECTS



NICOLE

A\*

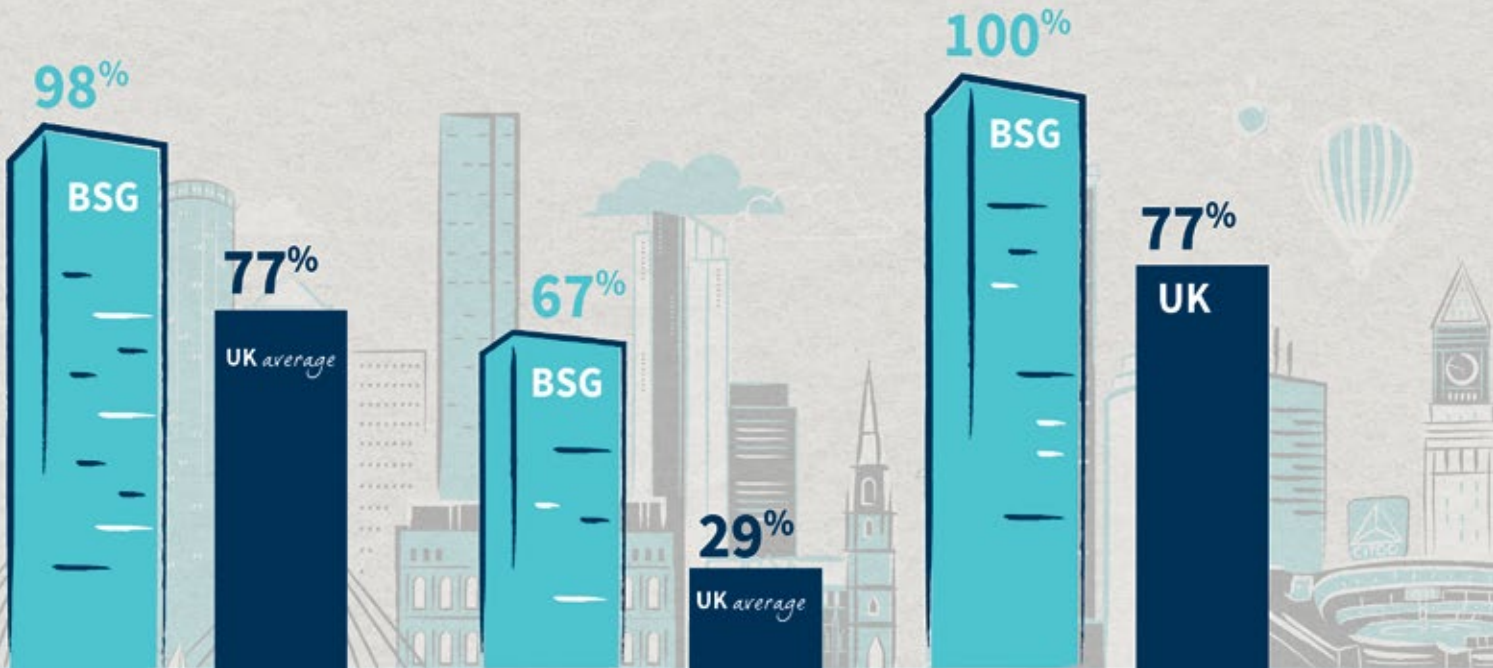
GRADES

10

SUBJECTS

33

YEARS OF EDUCATION  
BETWEEN THEM  
AT BSG



IGCSE Grades A\* to C

IGCSE Grades A\* to A

IGCSE Pass Rate



**DICKSON**

**2A\***  
**1A**

*Economics, Mathematics  
& Computer Science*

NOW STUDYING SOCIAL SCIENCES  
@UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO



**CHRISTINA**

**3A\***

*Economics, Mathematics  
& Psychology*

NOW STUDYING MANAGEMENT  
@LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS



**KRISH**

**3A\***  
**1A**

*Economics, Psychology,  
Mathematics & Geography*

NOW STUDYING ECONOMICS  
@UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK



**A-Level Grades A\* to B**

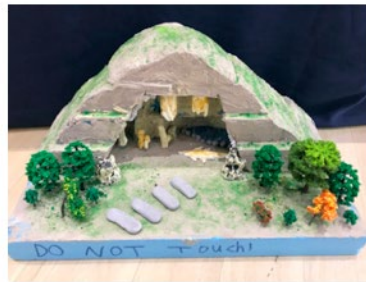
**A-Level Grades A\* to A**

**A-Level Pass Rate**

## Y7 create 'China in a Box'

As the final assignment in their Geography unit of work on China, students in Y7 created a mini version of a part of China, inside a box. Once they had decided on a location, the students had to use the internet to research different views of the place and use these to design their model. They then had to find suitable materials to create the physical and human features. Finally, the students created videos to describe their place, why they chose it and the features they created.

The finished models are a fantastic display of Y7 ingenuity and creativity and cover a wide range of different locations in China



## Y9 English Speech Competition

Congratulations to our Year 9 speech competition finalists on being selected by their peers to represent their Academic House in the Year 9 English Speech Competition final, which took place on Friday!

Initial recorded speeches were delivered with confidence, competence and eloquence. Well done to all students for their hard work and a special congratulations to Kaz Tan, voted overall runner up and to Jennifer Liu who was voted as the overall student winner by the judging panel!

Congratulations to the Vikings who have emerged victorious as the overall House winners for 2022!



<b>Saxons</b>	<b>Romans</b>	<b>Normans</b>	<b>Vikings</b>
Hyun Kim Juanita <u>Hinestrosa</u> <u>Cadavid</u>	<u>Ruhi</u> Lim Mia Chahine	<u>Kaz</u> Kaiser Tan Xavier Xu	Lucas <u>Sanghyun</u> Woo Jennifer <u>Tianen</u> Liu

## Extended Project Qualifications (EPQ) results are in!

We are delighted to announce that our 10 Year 13 students who undertook the EPQ qualification have just received their results.

The qualification is worth half an A level and involves writing a 5000-word essay of their choosing, documenting the process and presenting their findings to an audience. The students achieved a fantastic set of results including 3 A\* and 3 A grades. A huge well done to Hugh, Brandon, Am, Jed, Dasha, Helen, Sandra, Sohoon, Keya and Hanbo!



## Carnival Celebrations

KS3 students of MFL have been learning about carnival celebrations in various countries. This period of festivities plays an important role in many regions, with parades, street parties and masquerade balls taking place before the somber time of Lent begins.

In Spanish, Year 8 students prepared Piccolages depicting what the celebrations look like in Spanish regions, whereas Year 7 pupils made beautiful carnival masks.



## China Week

The Secondary Chinese Department organized a series of activities in China week to celebrate our most important Chinese traditional festival.

KS3 students participated in various Chinese cultural activities related to our curriculum. They have learned the traditional customs and the legends of Chinese Spring festival and experienced Chinese handcraft culture through different activities. Y7 students engaged in sachets making, Y8 students carried out Opera Facial Makeup painting and Y9 students were involved in paper cutting activity.

Meanwhile, some exciting activities and shows were also held during China week.

We had a dumpling making session. Students enjoyed the process from making dumplings to eating dumplings very much.

We also had a face changing show in our Secondary canteen, and our China Week assemblies saw students perform confidently with their talent on the stage for the New Year celebration.

The whole school show took place on the football pitch. Students watched wonderful performances from both Primary and Secondary students. Our Y10 students contributed a dragon dance in this show, and a professional lion dance team performed.

We wish all BSG students, teachers and parents a happy Year of the Tiger, with health and good fortune.

