



THE BRITISH SCHOOL
OF GUANGZHOU
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

Newsletter

Issue 1 | 2019/20



Nord Anglia International School Guangzhou, opening August 2020!
Take a video tour by scanning the QR code!



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BritishSchoolGZ



Message from the Principal



I am very pleased to note that this year's International Day was an incredible success, with our biggest ever attendance of over 3,700 people, and that it raised over 150,000RMB for our chosen charity, Hopeful Hearts. This day ran incredibly smoothly, and I am sure you will join me in congratulating our facilities team, our staff, our parent support groups and Jean, our events manager, on doing such an amazing job.

As we reached the end of November, we started searching for highly-qualified teachers who share our values for August 2020. This year, we are also advertising for an additional Head of Primary to manage the new school. The successful candidate will work alongside Matthew Cox, our current Head of Primary, to ensure that we have the same curriculum, policies and assessment procedures across both sites.

In January, our Primary and EYFS teachers will be given an opportunity to visit the Nord Anglia International School Guangzhou, and will then be asked to provide us with an indication of their preferred location for next year. The new site is designed and built to meet the needs of younger students and boasts some excellent facilities including:

- **Dedicated theatre**
- **Large gymnasium**
- **Two dedicated canteens for EYFS and Primary students**
- **STEAM Lab**
- **Music and instrumental suites**
- **Large dance studio**
- **Primary Art studio**
- **Indoor swimming pool**
- **Underground parking area for parents**
- **Indoor play area for EYFS, which opens out onto an enclosed playground courtyard**

With 4 form entry throughout and a maximum capacity of 800, we expect demand to outstrip supply and will be inviting current parents to view the new school once the handover is completed at the end of March. I am keen to emphasise that we will continue to offer EYFS and Primary places at our current campus at South Lake for those parents who want it, with the exception of Toddlers, which will only be offered at the new Olympic Park Campus. We will be providing parents with lots more information between now and the opening, and would also encourage you to follow this **[link for FAQs and a video tour!](#)**

One growing feature at Nord Anglia is an increasing number of regional competitions. In November, we were very excited to welcome students from across the China region to compete in the inaugural Academic Olympiad. This event was an opportunity for friendly competition with other NAE schools and also an opportunity to show off our wonderful campus in the November sunshine.

I would like to once again congratulate our Secondary staff and students on achieving an impressive set of IGCSE and A Level results, which are well above the UK averages. I would also like to congratulate the following students for their impressive individual achievements:

- **Best AS Computer Science in China — Shing Tak Lam**
- **Best IGCSE English Language in China — Princy Mehal**
- **Best IGCSE Psychology in China — Princy Mehal**
- **Best IGCSE Psychology in China — Shaun Lye**
- **Best IGCSEs across 8 Subjects in China — Alex Cox**

The fact that our students are achieving such incredible results is testament to their commitment and sense of responsibility, as well as the impressive support that they receive from our dedicated teachers. I am sure you will join me in congratulating the students and staff. Their academically ambitious approach to learning is a credit to them and an example to others — well done indeed!

Mark Thomas

International Day Thank You!



Thank you to everyone who came to support our International Day event. Your generous donations took the total amount raised to a fantastic **158,238RMB!**

All of this goes to Hopeful Hearts Guangzhou, helping to fund life-saving heart surgery for young children.



Community

A true school community

Angela Cox & Michelle Cumíng
Charity Coordinators



Over the past two years BSG has been working hard to ensure that its Community Partnership is one that is effective, in the community and gives pupils the highest exposure to community projects as possible. We live in a community in China that can often need our support. We have worked with our key school Charities and our Community Partnership Leaders are really making a difference. They will go into the community and take part in events as well as host, organise and run events here at school to raise awareness, resources and monies. We have given our self the aim to increase to work that we do as a whole school so you will now see some of the events on a whole school scale. We often underestimate the power of a young person in a leadership role as you can see below they are making a huge difference.

This year so far...

Helping the Homeless

This project is an ongoing link that BSG have been working with for the second year now. Currently we have students delivering food, toiletries, clothes and essentials to the homeless on a Monday morning before school. This project allows pupils to support others that need a little extra help. On a Saturday and Sunday, we have a dedicated team of staff that support the distribution of food, each day we go over 100 meals are given out.

“Every Monday morning before school starts, a group of students attend the Feeding the Homeless programme, who walk around Tianhe offering breakfasts and other necessities for the homeless. I was lucky enough to attend, and it was an extremely valuable experience. When we started our walk, I was staggered by the amount of people who were sleeping on the streets. We placed the breakfasts beside the sleeping people, as well as shampoos, toothbrushes, and clothes, that allowed them to get through their day. Some woke up, and the looks on their faces made it clear that they thought they were still dreaming! As we walked around, we felt extremely privileged; it was a truly humbling experience.”



Halloween Dress up and Movie Night

As a school this year both primary and secondary school took part in Halloween Dress up day with the young leaders advertising and collecting in the monies raised. The day finished off with a highly successful movie night seeing 80 secondary school students and 120 primary school students staying to watch scary movies. These events were run by the young leaders and really did a great job.

Supporting local Events

Our leaders are often asked to support local events to ensure that they are able to run effectively and to give their times to others, these have included British Day, Sports Events, Winter Festival, International Day and many more.

“Last Saturday, people came to Canton Place to celebrate British Day. As a partnership leader, I got to help out at the BSG stall along with other partnership leaders. We supervised games, painted faces, stuck tattoos and sold bubble wands. It was extremely fun and very satisfying to see all the money that we raised for hopeful hearts, the charity that all the proceeds of the day went to.”

Huiling Special Needs School

We have now made an effective partnership with a special needs school in Guangzhou and year 10 and 11 pupils are attending the school once a week to support the work that is being done at the school. Each week when we walk around the corner and can see the pupils poking their heads through the fences waiting for our arrival there is a positive feeling that shows what the young leaders are doing is making a difference to pupils that would not normally get this experience.

“The Year 10 and 11 students who chose PE leadership now have a chance to visit Huiling school - a special needs school that we could only visit a few times last year. Now, we are able to go every Wednesday, and be able to make more bonds with the students, and understand what they want. Last Wednesday, we went on the first visit, and brought some PE equipment as well as some musical instruments for them to play with. We spent an hour learning their names and playing various different games with them, and by the time the hour had finished, everyone had a smile on their faces.”

Hopeful Hearts

As one of our main charities Hopeful Hearts have supported student understanding by delivering assemblies across the school. We have also seen Harriett the Heart making a few appearances around school.

Hospital Visit

As part of UNICEF's World Childers Day BSG Community Leaders will go to Guangzhou's Children's Hospital and entertain and support children that are in the process of having non-uniform day, it takes longer to learn the importance of where it goes.

Raising the profile of The Community Partnership

Name and Reclaim

The Community Leaders are about to launch a whole school drive to ensure that all pupils items that they bring to school are named. This will try to reduce the amount of lost property in school and the waste that we create. The pupils have planned and developed the best way to run this project out and you will hear about this very soon.



Be Ambitious

The British School of Guangzhou offers a personalised approach to learning, enhanced with unique global opportunities that supports outstanding achievement. Our approach nurtures key life skills alongside academic achievement, enabling your child to achieve more with us than they would do at any other school in Guangzhou.

Academic results presented are fully inclusive of all students studying at the school, including new students and those receiving extra support with English language. Our results speak for themselves, significantly exceeding global and UK averages.

“Our top 10 IGCSE students have been with us for a combined total of 70 years!” - Mark Thomas, Principal

This academic success is only half the story as we firmly believe that to be truly successful, students also need to be ambitious both personally and socially. That's why we ask each and every student to embrace the school's core values of respect, responsibility, integrity and commitment, as they develop a love of learning that will be with them for a lifetime.

At the British School of Guangzhou, we believe that there is no limit to what your child can achieve.

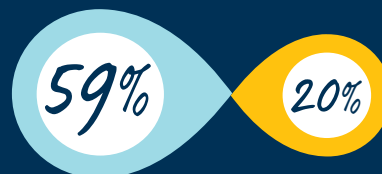
www.bsg.org.cn



14-16 years old

Our IGCSE students continue to achieve exceptional results, performing much higher than UK averages.

% of exams taken achieving A or A* grades



The British School of Guangzhou (BSG)

UK Average

GCSE/IGCSE

% of students achieving A* to C grades



95%
The British School of Guangzhou

67%
UK Average

100%
Pass Rate





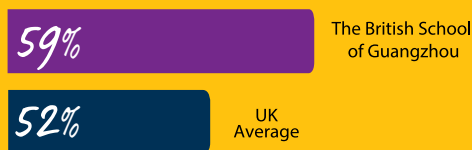
16-18 years old

A-Level graduates continue to top UK averages, achieving world-class results that open gateways to the finest universities across the globe.

% of exams taken achieving A or A* grades



% of exams taken achieving A* to B grades



100%
Pass Rate



Star Students



Alex Cox achieved
Best in China
across 8 IGCSE subjects



Shaun Lye achieved
9A* & 1A
IGCSE



Iris Cheung achieved
8A* & 3A
IGCSE



Krish Dhruve achieved
8A* & 2A
IGCSE

2016-2019 university destinations include;
University of Oxford, University of Edinburgh, King's College London,
University of Manchester, Durham University, 연세대학교,
The University of California, University of Chicago,
University of Texas, Melbourne University, Imperial College London,
Hong Kong Poly & University of Leiden



Early Years

Spook-tacular Week!

Deanne Newton
Toddlers Teacher

Our Toddler Cubs had a wonderful time getting involved in all of the Halloween festivities! Each day we explored the different objects that visited our sensory tray such as, spiders, bats and some other creepy crawlies.

During circle times we sang songs and read stories about pumpkins growing, spiders crawling along the floor and the Toddlers moved their bodies to some fun spooky musical beats. We really enjoyed getting messy by squishing and squashing the slimy coloured foam in our hands and watching it ooze between our fingers, we also had fun using paints and sticking a variety of different materials to our Halloween crafts.

To end the week, we dressed up in fab-boo-lous costumes and joined in on the Early Years Halloween Parade!



Early Years

Celebrate good times...come on!

Gemma Campbell
Pre-Nursery Teacher

Happy...birthday, Halloween, Diwali! The children in Pre-Nursery have been learning all about different celebrations from all around the world. It all started with a bang as they celebrated Monster Bob's birthday. Throughout the week, there was an assortment of party games, including musical statues and some parachute amusements. The children also made lovely birthday cards and yummy playdough cupcakes.

We then moved onto Halloween and boy was it spooktacular! The children were able to demonstrate their excellent listening ears, by recognising and recreating different creepy sounds. From fancy dress to pumpkin/watermelon competitions, then mummy crafts to a spectacle of awesome monster moves, the children certainly enjoyed themselves.

The Halloween festivities were closely followed by the bright lights of Diwali. Learning all about the different traditions and ways people celebrate this illuminating festival in India was wonderful. The children carefully moulded and decorated their own diya lamps, which beautifully lined and lit the school's corridors throughout the week.



Early Years

Once upon a time...

Jennifer Drake
Nursery Teacher

Once upon a time at the British School of Guangzhou, the Nursery children went on a story time adventure.

They explored a new environment while on the Teddy Bear's Picnic and loved eating the jam and honey sandwiches they made. Leaving Goldilocks and the Three Bears behind they jumped on a broom and escaped a dragon during Halloween week, before landing in Little Red Riding Hood's cottage and hiding from the Big Bad Wolf.

Laughter greeted the next episode as they saw the Big Bad Wolf land in boiling stew trying to get into the home of the Three Little Pigs.

Next, they leapt into winter with the Gingerbread Man shouting 'run, run as fast as you can' while making their very own gingerbread people. A selection of winter and Christmas stories completed the fun and got everyone ready for our amazing Christmas production 'A Snowman at Sunset'.



Super Tato to the rescue!

Liz Hill
Reception Teacher

A carrot stuck to a table?! Vegetables trapped under a shopping basket?! A broccoli with pen all over his face?! The Evil Pea had been up to no good and there was only one vegetable who could save the day... But where was he?

In Reception we knew we had to help and the best place to look was the supermarket. We marched down to Vanguard in search of Supertato and the Evil Pea. The children were all very excited to find so many fruits and vegetables on our quest – all different colours, shapes and sizes. Finally, hidden amongst the other rather ordinary potatoes we found Supertato. What a relief! But Supertato had a very difficult mission for us – to help find the Evil Peas who had escaped from the freezer to cause mischief and mayhem.

The children hunted high and low, on shelves, under vegetables and inside the freezers until at last we made our discovery. The Evil Peas were hiding with the chilly vegetables in the fridge. The Reception children cheered as they helped Supertato to capture the sneaky Evil Peas and banish them back to the icy depths of the freezer.

And so... if you ever find yourself being tricked by an Evil Pea, you can always rely on Reception and their good friend Supertato to come to the rescue.



Primary School

Rhinos Review

Tom Magson
Head of Primary PE

The bar has been raised once again during term 1 for our young Rhinos on the sporting front with countless medals and trophies coming in from all angles. Our U11 and U9 students in KS2 have competed against schools from across Guangzhou and the China region in a number of different sports this first term.

The first event of the primary calendar was the GISES X-Country at UISZ. Sari Shinobe stormed to 1st position in the Y5/6 girls' event as the Rhinos began their year with a 2nd place finish overall.

In October, our U11 Rhinos competed in the GISES Football Tournament against schools from Guangzhou. BSG Rhinos' U11 girls dominated from the off, winning all five of their games without conceding and finished in 1st place. The U11 boys finished in 3rd place before capturing another 3rd place trophy at the Canton Cup just days later!

Our youngest competing Rhinos made it an U9 clean sweep at the GISES U9 Football tournament with goals from Claddagh McKenna and Nordy Xu ensuring both boys and girls teams brought home the 1st place trophies.



At the first NAE event of the year, the U11 girls and boys travelling to Nanjing where both teams finished in 4th position in the China region qualifying for the plate where both finished in 1st place.

After an action-packed sports day week, the U11 Athletics team won the GISES Championships finishing in 1st place out of all schools in Guangzhou. Sari Shinobe, Alex Russell, Luca Lo and Doga Calik all won gold medals in their respective events!

Well done to all our students on a fantastic start to the sporting year so far. Go Rhinos!!!



Year 1 Engineers

Collette Bonness
Year 2 Teacher

At the beginning of October, Witch Pat, from the well-known story book Room on the Broom, crash landed at South Park.

She flew into our assembly and asked the children to help find her things and to design her a new mode of transport. Year 1 accepted the challenge and were soon very busy testing different materials to find out how strong or waterproof they were.

Designing and making came next and all the teachers were very impressed with the ideas and imagination of the Year 1 engineers.

Finally, the day came when the Year 2 witch and wizard representatives came along to check out the transport options on offer. And what a day it was! Year 1 not only answered all of the delegates' questions, but they also showcased their magical rhyming spells needed to power up the transport!

So, soon enough, Witch Pat will once again be able to tap her broomstick and WHOOSH! She'll be gone.



Primary School

T-Rex-cellent Year 2s

Matt Preston
Year 2 Teacher

It was a T-Rex-CELLENT day in South Park as Y2 showcased their work. It was the End Goal of what has been an incredibly fun and interesting topic.

On display there were timelines of the different periods within the Mesozoic Era, fact files on different dinosaurs, artwork, fossils and even instructions on how to catch your very own dinosaur.

The children took great pride in showing their parents around the museum and explaining in detail about each stage of the exhibit.

It really was the Triceri-TOPS of events and one that the budding palaeontologists of Y2 will be talking about for a long time.



Primary School

Volcanoes!

Debbie Fineberg
Year 3 Teacher

This term Year 3 have had an explosive time learning all about volcanoes. We have read and written factsheets about different volcanoes, learnt about why volcanic eruptions occur and even watched our own eruption courtesy of Mr. Howell. There was a lot of excitement waiting for the big moment and it was definitely worth the wait as the children watched in awe as the cork exploded into the air, followed by streams of lava down the bottle. Luckily, Mr Howell had some good handwash and it didn't take too long for him to scrub the food colouring off his hands!

It is great to learn some non-fiction facts but the real excitement came when the children were introduced to some stories that were set in Mt. Vesuvius and Pompeii. This was when their imaginations really began flowing (like hot molten lava) and they have since written some masterpieces of their own. A walk down the Year 3 corridor and a glimpse inside some of the Excellent Work books on display will allow you a peek into some of the magic that the children have created. Be sure to hold onto your hats though, their stories are truly explosive!!



Primary School

Huadu Residential

Chris Rees
Year 4 Teacher

From Wednesday 20th to 22nd November, the Year 4 students and staff went on their incredible residential to Huadu. The 3 fun-filled days included: Hiking, Team Games, Fire Making, High Ropes, Shelter Building and Camping! These wonderful activities provided the children with excellent opportunities to learn new skills, collaborate within a team as well as demonstrate respect for others.

Throughout their time on their residential, the teachers saw the children grow in confidence as well as mature as individuals. Mr Stevens added: "The residential provided the children with the chance to complete activities in a safe but challenging environment. We certainly see the children grow up in such a short time as they have to deal with different situations, develop problem solving skills and learnt to become more independent!"

One particular memory that will stand out, was how one of the groups were becoming frustrated when trying to build a shelter and the team could not find a solution. However, through perseverance and resilience, the children kept trying until eventually their team work skills paid off. One child reflected: "It was so difficult when we were trying to work together and build the shelter, I just wanted to give up! But my friends helped me to find the confidence to keep trying and eventually we did it. In future, I will remember this moment and always try, even if it is difficult!"

All in all, going away from home and out into a completely different environment has provided the children with experiences that they can cherish for a lifetime. It is safe to say that all of the children (and even staff!) are now inspired to spend more time in the great outdoors and built the confidence to tackle new challenges head on!



Exploring Africa

Robert Connolly
Year 5 Teacher

Recently the Year 5's have been exploring the continent of Africa, studying cultural, geographical and political elements of the continent as part of their Diversity topic.

After initially looking at South Africa and Nelson Mandela's struggle for equality within the country, we expanded our search and investigated aspects of life around the whole continent – from Nigeria to Zanzibar to Madagascar and beyond – in order to produce fact files about our chosen countries.

While this was going on, we were given the wonderful opportunity to work with Maggie, our Art expert, and produced amazing art books and masks (which will be making their way home soon!). Influenced by art styles from across the continent, we used a variety of artistic techniques to create our finished masterpieces.

The thoroughly engaging unit culminated in our celebration of South Africa at our stand on International Day; from traditional dances and games to naming a leopard there were plenty of smiles to be seen as children and parents from around the school were able to see the hard work we have put into the unit and fun we have had doing it.



Traditional tales with a twist

Laura Elsmore
Year 6 Teacher

As part of their end goal, Y6 visited South Park to read their Traditional Tales with a Twist to the Year 1 students. For their topic, they had produced stories which were based on traditional tales but were written from an alternative point of view. They then had to simplify their story to be understood and enjoyed by the Year 1 students.

They had already shown off their design skills in turning their traditional tales into books, working collaboratively to produce some amazing illustrations and appealing front covers. They then decided who was to read each section of the story and practised reading with expression and enthusiasm.

Both the Year 6 and Year 1 students extremely enjoyed the experience of sharing stories together and in particular, the Year 6 students learned a lot about how to interact with a younger audience.



NAE Academic Olympiad China

Amy Stather
Year 6 Teacher

The usual silence that BSG Nanhu campus enjoys after 4pm was nowhere to be seen (or heard) on Thursday 21st November. Over 100 excited children were attending the Opening ceremony of the first Academic Olympiad. All those keen young minds, eagerly awaiting the start of the competition was a sight to behold. It was a truly amazing sight watching our 16 children acting as ambassadors, welcoming the visiting schools, even though they were our competition!

The competition started first thing on Friday morning with the maths section of the Olympiad. The tension in the room was electric as each child sat an individual test for an hour. With a quick shuffle round of tables, it was straight into the team maths challenge, followed by some in depth data analysis. After 3 solid hours of number crunching it was time for a hearty lunch... brain fuel for the afternoon.

The afternoon session was the Humanities section. The geography based task involved naming landmarks, capital cities and flags. I am still stunned as the speed in which both our Navy and Teal team whizzed through this challenge – the flags all became one blur to me as they matched them with such speed and accuracy. The day was finished with a ‘fun’ quiz. All the children were mixed up as an opportunity to make friends and wind down.

Day 2 was just as intense. The earlier start was dedicated to the history side of the Humanities challenge, based around in-depth knowledge of the Roman Empire. Both BSG teams again stampeded their way through this task. I really don’t know how their brains managed to retain so many facts, names and dates – I mean, they only have little heads!



The rest of the day was the logic and reasoning style challenges. This was where team work was vitally important. I can honestly say I have never felt prouder of a group of children for the maturity and team spirit they showed here, especially after such long and intense days. The final challenge was the Rubik Cube speed challenge. One member from each team was selected to compete. Enosh from the BSG Teal team won this challenge – I almost jumped out of my skin when Mr. Marwood let his impartial composure slip at this last challenge, yelling “GET IN”, which I’m sure they would have heard in Tonghe Metro Station!

The event was concluded with a Gala dinner and presentation of medals and trophies. Both BSG teams ranked with the Navy Team winning second place and the Teal Team winning third. It was also fantastic to hear three of the BSG children’s names being called out as nominations for the Academic Olympiad ‘Dream Team’, voted for by all the visiting staff members.

Hosting the first ever NEA Academic Olympiad at BSG was a pleasure and an honor, but the biggest honor for me was working with these 16 children – dedicated and committed, not only for the event, but in the months leading up to the event. I couldn’t be prouder!



Nord Anglia Academic Olympiad, China Arts Festival

Denelope Wright
Head of Art

Following on from the success of the Nord Anglia Festivals and Olympiads so far, we were really excited to announce the very first Arts Festival. This took place at Hua Quan Village, Jiangxi, China in November with a group of 12 BSG students. The three-day festival was arranged to support the learning at GCSE and A level, exploring a range of skill-based activities to enhance students' knowledge and art experience, as well as working with other pupils from the Nord China family.

Hua Quan Village is an art and cultural community located in Dragon Tiger Mountain, one of China's beautiful UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The village was created as a place for all people to create their own personalised journey of creative exploration. Workshops run by artists allowed students to engage with oil painting, photography, calligraphy, and ceramics, as well as traditional cooking, tai chi and a visit to the cultural museum. One of our favourites was definitely found in ceramics, where students used a potter's wheel to make vases and bowls of many shapes, sizes and success rates! We also took inspiration from the surrounding landscapes when painting using oils on canvas, building colours and compositions bravely over the afternoon. Our students were an absolute pleasure to have on the trip.

They took on challenges with open minds and creative drive – a wonderful representation of the school and parents. Its fair to say, our week was packed full of amazing activities, making friends, eating lots of food and reflecting on the days' events - we cannot wait for the details of next year's festival!



Visiting artist & the Big Draw!

Anna Ozemoya
Art Teacher

October was another very busy month in the art department. We were really fortunate to have Leanne Claxton, a textiles and visual artist, visit us to run a whole day workshop for Year 11, 12 and 13 art students. Leanne has produced some wonderful floral designs for Zara Home, Esprit and Disney to mention just a few. She states that her workshops “are designed to inspire, challenge and extend creative practice”, and there was certainly no shortage of creativity during the workshop. Students utilised both their own and Leanne’s drawings of flowers and plants, and after experimenting with different coloured inks, transferred both their drawings and their wonderful colour palettes onto fabric using our brand-new heat-transfer machine. The results were outstanding and the excitement and creative energy was tangible in the room, as students saw their drawings come to life with the vibrant colours of the inks reacting to the heat. Some of the experiments produced have since become part of students’ sketchbooks, linking into their exploratory theme of ‘Natural Forms’, whilst finished pieces were put on display as part of the ‘Arts Celebration Evening’ in November.

October also saw the excitement and colour that comes with The Big Draw, welcomed back to BSG for the fifth year running! Students from years 7-10 took part in a selection of spectacular activities, driven by the theme of ‘Drawn to Life’, with additional workshops run for Year 13 students and secondary teachers. From relief printing using cross-sections of trees, to Karl Blossfeldt-inspired mono-printed flowers and plants, to creating etching prints from their own photographs, our students embraced the various challenges with open minds and fantastic attitudes.

The theme ‘Drawn to Life’ was seen most dramatically in the year 9 and 13 workshops, where students studied real-life animal hearts and lungs before creating large scale experimental paintings using ink, charcoal and acrylic, in the style of Irish artist Chanelle Walshe. These paintings were complimented by the drawings of skulls and skeletons borrowed from the science department, as students considered the beautiful anatomical drawings of Leonard Da Vinci. All in all, this year’s ‘Big Draw’ showcased a wonderful range of exploration and experimentation within the student’s art work.



Secondary School

Arts Celebration Evening

Emily Hart & Tarleen Kaur
Head of Secondary Music

BSG's annual Arts Celebration Evening is an event devised to showcase the fantastic efforts of our students in all their creativity, culminating in more than 100 students performing live. Originally inspired by the Art Department's Big Draw theme 'Drawn to Life', each specialism used this as a starting point to create a responsive piece in their respective fields. Tavleen in Year 10 took numerous opportunities to participate, here is what she has to say about the evening:

"At BSG I have enjoyed the range of activities and opportunities that the Arts have provided me. I took part in the drama, dance and choir pieces and was very impressed with the Poetry readings and the Art work on display. Initially I felt very nervous because it was my first time performing in front of such a big audience, but I was proud of my performances. I really enjoy being part of the choir, I even got to play the drums and encourage the audience to join in. In dance, I had great fun doing a hip-hop routine which I had a part in choreographing. As a GCSE Drama student, we devised our own scene based on "Drawn to Life" where I got to hold a real heart in my hand. These were all fun and empowering experiences which I learned a lot from whilst growing in confidence."



Addams Family!

Holly Hale
Head of Drama



You all know that this year's secondary school production is set to be a spooky one and what with the show creeping up on us all, rehearsals are starting to hot up indeed! Since the casting of the show was announced the whole cast started learning the songs and choreography to some of the show's biggest numbers, such as 'When you're an Addams' and 'Full Disclosure'. On Wednesday evenings the main cast have been getting into character in extra rehearsals to make sure that we will have you howling with laughter and gripped to your seats this February. For now though, we still have work to do, so back to the rehearsal room for us, however we promise that you won't be able to stop yourselves from clicking your fingers along with these terrifying tunes when you come to see 'The Addams Family Musical' on February 26th & 27th 2020 in Nanhu Theatre.

Music Update

Emily Hart & Tarleen Kaur
Head of Secondary Music

It has been an exciting start to the new school year in Secondary Music both in and out of the classroom. In year 8 and 9, students have been enjoying the opportunity to utilise their iPads to produce their own compositions using music software linked to the piano keyboards, allowing greater freedom for creativity.

With over 100 students to date actively getting involved in a musical performance so far this term, music students have certainly been busy. Whether it was performing at International Day, Secondary Arts Evening, assembly performances or playing for parents in the Nanhu reception, every student who has participated should be very proud of their achievements.

Live performances in weekly KS3 and KS4 assemblies and piano playing at the end of the school day in the Nanhu reception is a new initiative this term which has inspired and encouraged students to share their musical skills, with an extra special music performance to celebrate STEAM week. The introduction of a new Youth Music Choir has been particularly popular with just over 75 members rehearsing weekly and producing some truly stunning performances. We are also looking forward to next term in which we will see our very first student led pit band in the school production of "The Addams Family"; those musicians have been working hard to rehearse all the music throughout this term.



Dance around the world

Lindsey Elkins
Director of Performing Arts

Tango, Bharatanatyam, Bhangra, Bollywood, Hip Hop, are a few of the dance styles that have been studied in the Dance studio this term as students at BSG have found their dancing feet.

Year 7 students have been working on developing their creativity by studying Bollywood dance and have managed to establish a basic technique in both Indian dance and Hip Hop, whilst year 6 students have been developing their locking and popping technique through studying the Juilliard core work 'Continuum', which is a professional Hip Hop dance piece.

Our worldwide theme has continued into our extra-curricular dance programme. The auditions for our Secondary Dance Company were held in September and saw 20 talented dancers selected, ranging from year 7-10. The dance company have created a piece titled 'Libertango' which was performed at our Arts Celebration evening and also International Day, accompanied by our talented musicians. With more dance events happening throughout the year, I look forward to seeing an even wider range of dance styles performed here at BSG.

Are you sitting comfortably?

Holly Hale
Head of Drama

The Drama students at BSG want to tell you a story. This year has seen the implementation of Juilliard into the KS3 Drama curriculum and the students have begun their exploration of the Corework, 'Storytelling'. Students have been experimenting with all of the skills required to become expressive storytellers, bravely exercising their abilities to engage an audience without the barrier of technical elements. Through performance and the crafting of their very own mythical tales, KS3 have been on an ineffable journey taking inspiration from all corners of the Globe, such as African Folktales and Greek mythology. Reflection is key to the Juilliard approach to ensure what is learned is not lost and our students have been encouraged to ask themselves many questions along the way, continually refining and developing their practice.

I will leave you with the words of Charlotte Alston: "The storyteller's role was the preservation and oral transmission of his people's history, traditions, and shared cultural beliefs...the full breadth and scope of the human experience is not going to be embodied in a single story, but in the wealth of stories of the varied people of the earth."

Creative Writing Competition

James Ray
Assistant Head of English

Our students explored a range of short stories; examining the ways in which writers employ a variety of different techniques to create interesting and thought-provoking compositions.

Introduced by award winning author, Margriet Ruurs, this year's competition is based on the theme of "Home" in relation to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Margriet's Ruurs' intriguing story, entitled 'Stepping Stones', depicts the plight of a refugee family's journey, fleeing the brutal Syrian civil war. Margriet's poignant depiction of their tumultuous journey is accompanied by stunning visual images, created by the artist - Nizar Ali Badr. Our students also participated in a number of activities on Global Campus designed to deepen their understanding of the true meaning of 'home' and how the UNCRC helps to protect children's basic needs at home. Student entries will be reviewed by a panel of judges, including UNICEF and Margriet Ruurs.



Word Mania

Annette Owen
Head of English

Students at BSG were manic about words, words, words during October and November. Literacy Planet were hosting their twice annual international Word Mania* competition that involved students creating words from a letter grid to score and win.

Year 7 championed the way with words such as 'millipedes' getting a score of over 1300 points! Students challenged themselves and their friends to work towards championship status.

No pressure BSG, but we have won for the last 3 years



Reading Millionaires

Annette Owen

Head of English

This year's reading challenge got off to a resounding start with 2 students gaining millionaire status over the summer vacation – congratulations again to RouYu and Flora! However, they were quickly pursued by dedicated readers across the year groups with 11 millionaires being presented with their badges in October and a further 14 in November.

Could this be a record-breaking year for reading millionaires?

Will we have another student reading 10 million words in 2020?

Never standing still, BSG is extending the celebration of reading and to further encourage students, this year we have introduced the Reading Certificates to celebrate key landmarks in reading. We will be encouraging students to get the full collection and have already seen dozens handed out in year group assemblies.

Accelerated Reader* continues to be a useful tool for teachers and we would encourage you to have a look at your child's home page if you have not already done so. You can see their progress and share their success with their reading.



Motivating EAL learners

Shaila Samtani
Head of Secondary EAL

How do we motivate our EAL learners? As a teaching professional who works closely with non-native speaking students, I have often asked myself that question. It is the application of intrinsic motivators, which truly enhance the learning experiences of students. They are able to complete tasks with passion; this often leads to a greater sense of achievement. Noticing this, Mr. Stewart designed a project that granted our Y8 EAL class the freedom to choose a subject topic of their choice.

Our Y8 EAL class was set the challenge of researching and writing their own magazine articles as part of their course work. All students accepted this demanding challenge head on and their hard work produced excellent results. A range of subject areas were covered including; marine pollution, international DJ superstars, how to spend your money, food from all over the world and the history of computers. It was quite interesting to see Mr. Stewart engage with their work, as some students were successful in furthering Mr. Stewart's understanding of various topics - especially those in relation to music.

I would most definitely consider this task to have been an enjoyable learning experience for both the Y8 students and Mr. Stewart!



Computer Science is changing everything

Mark Newton

Head of Computer Science



As experienced educators, we know that the world is changing at tremendous speed and at the heart of all of these changes is computer science. In the Computer Science department at BSG, we ensure that students are taught relevant, dynamic and engaging topics which are linked to the real world.

During term 1, our students have developed new knowledge and skills within our computer science lessons by being provided with opportunities to develop their computational thinking skills in a variety of ways. Students in Key Stage 3 have been exploring different number systems and examining the importance of binary and hexadecimal in computing. Furthermore, students have been investigating the concept of control systems and have been creating control algorithms based on real life scenarios.

STEAM week provided students with an excellent opportunity to develop their knowledge of image editing tools. By using their skills in Adobe Photoshop, students were able to use imagery to “explore places they’ve never dared to look”, and went on to investigate how advancements in technology could help save the environment.

So much has been achieved by our students in so little time. As ever, we are looking forward to providing new and exciting prospects for our students, including the introduction of physical computing in Year 7, more programming opportunities for pupils across all key stages and the potential for the first ever BSG Drone ASA– watch this space for further information!

Urban Maths

Chris Drake

Mathematics Teacher



On Wednesday 18th September the Mathematics Department took the whole of Year 7 on their annual ‘Urban Maths’ trip. The students got to go up to the viewing platform of The Canton Tower and had to think about how mathematics is involved with the tower. The students had a great time and the brave ones got to have their pictures taken whilst standing on the glass floor. After this we went to Flower City Square where we stopped for a quick photo in front of the tower. The students ate their lunch and took part in a maths-based treasure hunt which Romans team completed in the fastest time, earning some House Points as a reward.

Once they returned to school they were asked to write up their findings in the style of a magazine article entitled ‘Mathematics at The Canton Tower’.

Learning through a lens

Stuart Geraghty
Communications Manager

Lights. Camera. Action! In October, BSG welcomed Bowstring Studios to the school as part of a global video project organised by Nord Anglia to capture footage for four short films.

Over three days, the crew shot interviews with staff and students, taking cameras into classes and even flying drones over the campus to grab a love of learning across Early Years, Primary and Secondary.

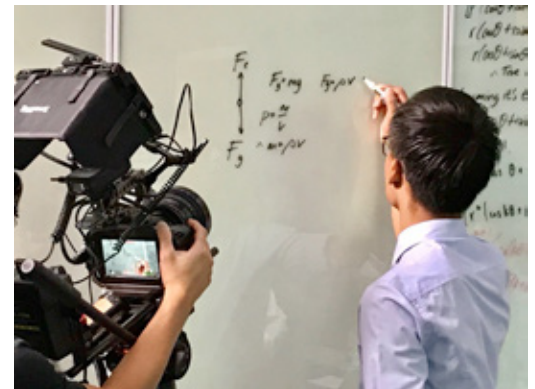
Chris Weger, videographer and project lead, said: “Your students are naturally so smiley!”

It was a fantastic project to be part of, as everywhere the crew went, something special was happening — a lot of shots came from a fleeting glimpse of an activity and the flurry of movement through corridors.

Everything from performing arts to sport, STEAM to socialising, there was a huge range of opportunities to see the very best of what BSG brings to learning.

Our community at BSG does have a magic energy and togetherness that helps students thrive, and I must say a huge thank you to staff, students and our dedicated parents for jumping into action at the drop of a hat — even as the odd coffee shop prop!

The four films are in the editing phase, and we hope to share them towards the end of Term 2.



Secondary School

STEAM Week

Adrian Howell
Science Teacher

This year's first STEAM week (21st to 25th October), Extreme Exposure, featured the work of Dr. Allan Adams from MIT. Following Dr. Adam's lead, BSG students created imaging tools that let them explore places they'd never dared to look.

The event was a huge success starting with a wonderful under the STEAM themed assembly in which all the K3 – 4 students joined in with the singing of 'Under the Sea', they all love Disney tunes -really!

Our students hacked the Ipads and cameras to get some wonderful images, and then followed up this work in other subjects. Some particular successes being humanities work with how images change public perception the photographing of small items using so call 'Fish Eyed Lenses', The fantastic imagery generated in computer science where the students learnt how to use Photoshop to make more prominent images, not mention the very cleaver work in mathematics looking at scale.



Sports Overview

Tom Hart

Head of Secondary PE

The first term has been bursting with sport and the Rhino's teams have performed fantastically. BSG are currently the Cross Country U14 Guangzhou Cup and Peral River Champions, with the U19 girls and boy's teams taking 3rd and 2nd place respectively.

The U14A football teams continue to develop and progress, with the girls finishing in 2nd in both the league and cup competitions and the boys taking 3rd place in both. The U14B football team players have been pushing for positions in the A team squad, with the B team boys finishing in a convincing 1st place and girls in 3rd during the Pearl River exchange and tournament.

The U13 and U15 NAE football competitions saw the Rhino's teams make the semi-finals across all teams, finally finishing in 4th position. Both the girls and boys U19 Volleyball teams have had a rollercoaster season with the girls finishing in 5th place in both the league and cup competitions and the boys taking 3rd and 4th in the league and tournament respectively.

The Aqua Rhinos have brought home plenty of individual medals this year, with the U19 leading the way with a 1st place overall finish in the Pearl River Exchange, with U14 team finishing in 4th.



Secondary School



Secondary School

Sports Day

Tom Hart

Head of Secondary PE

Wow... What an action-packed day of sport!

The entire secondary school descended upon Nord Anglia School Foshan on Thursday 14th November for a fantastic sports day. Both students and staff had a great day.

The students worked incredibly hard and demonstrated fantastic house spirit and sportsmanship throughout the event. The final finishing positions saw Saxons in 4th with 449 points, Romans in 3rd with 458, Normans took second place on 468, with Vikings this year's champions with a massive 516 points.

Congratulations Vikings!



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