

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends

Nothing tells me that we are speeding through the summer term more than the DofE expeditions and it was great to see that the Year 9s got their practise walk done recently. Well done to them all.

I hope that these young people will be amongst the 0.3% of DofE participants who go on to eventually achieve their Gold Award. I say this because I attended Buckingham Palace last

Friday to listen to various celebrity speakers and HRH The Earl of Wessex talk about the Gold Award and just why it is so special. Nick Hewer, of Apprentice and Countdown fame, explained how completing the Award shows determination and Mike Bannister, the former Chief Pilot of British Airways Concord Fleet, told his story about how the Gold Award set him apart from the 240 applicants to the pilot training programme he went on to do, helping to secure his place at the start of his career. We also heard from James and Oliver Phelps, aka The Weasley Twins from Harry Potter, who spoke about the DofE Awards allowing young people to challenge themselves and build resilience when times are tough, perhaps on the long treks, which sets them up for how to deal with the challenges they will no doubt face in adulthood. They all spoke about failures and having the nerve to keep going, which is what DofE helps with – it's character building. So please do encourage your child to take part, as the whole afternoon really did underline exactly why the DofE Awards are worthwhile. I was delighted that 3 of our former pupils were at the Palace to celebrate their Gold Award achievement, they are the first from the School to do so since we introduced the Gold stage in our Sixth Form in 2016. Well done to Katie Davies, Owen Daniel and Ieuan Daniel (yes, I got to be a proud Dad as well as a proud Principal).

Sadly, as we come to the end of this half-term, we have to say goodbye to one of our staff, Mr Wyatt, who has been a great help, always happy to volunteer his time and he will be sorely missed. I thank him on behalf of the governors, staff and pupils for his contributions and we all wish him well as he moves on to new pastures.



From this at the start of the DofE journey

Do DofE with BGI



to this – being part of the 0.3% who go on to achieve the Gold Award



Our Year 2 pupils had their first residential trip last week, which I am sure was a big deal for the parents as much as for the youngsters involved, particularly considering that these children have been more used to staying at home than ever before due to COVID. I dropped them off at Chellington and the manager was keen to show me around the facilities, which were impressive and it did seem a lovely place for their first adventure away from parents. From the smiles on their faces in the pictures, they looked like they enjoyed the experience. Thank you to the staff who attended the trip, Mrs Van der Sande, Miss Glennon and Miss Leeburn.



As I have said previously, it is a joy to see our pupils being able to participate in the usual school activities that we all took for granted prior to the Pandemic. The Year 6 pupils are pictured here enjoying themselves at the Young Voices Choir event at the O2 Arena on Tuesday.

Young Voices gives children from around the globe the opportunity to perform alongside artists and other schools, which helps to build self-belief, self-motivation and confidence, as well as the ability to communicate as part of a team, which is an important skill to learn. The concert was the culmination of the hard work put in by the staff and children, so well done to everybody who

went along. We must never underestimate the value of music in life or as part of the school curriculum.

Sports News



BGI School played hosts for the London Region Athletics this week, which is something we have been doing for many years. It is a prestigious competition and we are very proud to be able to organise it. As a small school, we certainly punch above our weight when it comes to organising sports events such as this and the ISA Regional Cross Country and Rugby events.

Thank you to Mr Pugh, Mr Thomas and the rest of the sports team for making all the arrangements and well done to all the pupils who competed in the events.

We are very proud of the Year 4 Group Team event winners and the senior winners were Tyler Roach, Freddie Wells, Willoughby Creasey, James Wookey, Zaphaniah Bryan, Nashiya Reed and Bronwyn Phillips.



Pictured: Year 4 ISA Group Team Event Winners.



We are all incredibly proud of our fantastic Under 9s Quadkids Team who came first out of 31 schools at this week's competition to qualify for the County event. Superb effort from all involved – well done!

Personal Achievement



Well done to Freddie who represented Bedfordshire in rugby as part of the Northampton Saints DPP, fantastic achievement!

Congratulations to Megh who graduated from brown belt to yellow belt in her martial arts class this week. We are very proud of you Megh.



Junior Stars of the week

Class	w/c 16 May 2022	w/c 23 May 2022
Reception	Humza Mughal	Olivia Canning
1ZL	Harry Elliot-Willey	Chloe Forton
2KGL	Harry Stock	Scarlett Muniu
3JM	Isla Hawkins	Henry Kotecha
4STH	Suri Hutchinson	Ethan Canning
4NVDS	Audrey Jones	Matilda D'Cruze
5ET	India Ward	Jonah Steer
5CR	Kyan Sohal	Alex Barker
5JF	Esme Wood	Anna Brown

Principal's Awards

- Ali Babajide for outstanding work and progress.
- Max Costa-Hale for excellent work in Maths.
- Will Trew for effort in Chemistry and Physics.
- India Ward for outstanding knowledge of the Tutors.
- Oscar Brenchley for creating a charity WWF presentation on behalf of the school council who held an assembly to the Junior pupils.

Nursery News

This week the whole Nursery have been celebrating the Queen's Jubilee! In Forest School the children made leaf crowns and Pre-School enjoyed a wonderful celebratory 'street' party in the playground with party food and music and lots of bubbles! All the babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers got together for a group photograph.



Other News

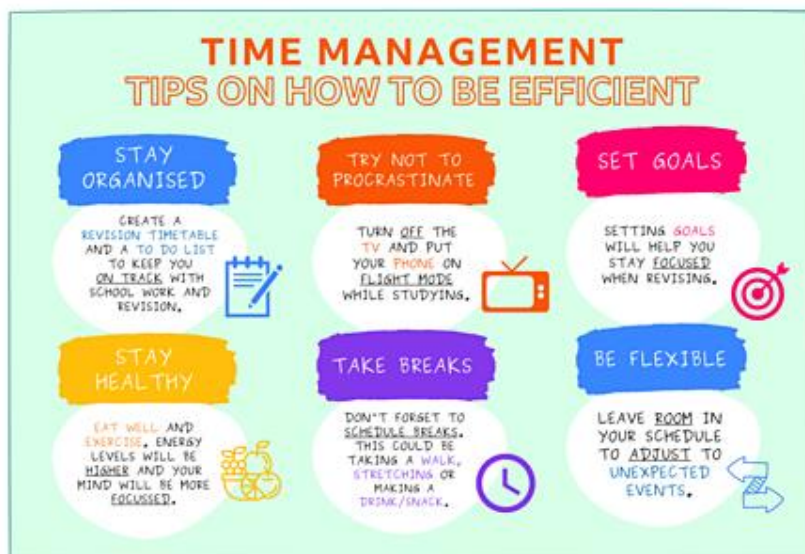


Last Saturday, 21st May, a number of staff gave up their time to attend the Bedfordshire Young Farmer's Rally, which is an event we usually support as many of our families have farming links. Thank you to the staff volunteers for going along to represent BGI School, it is greatly appreciated.



With May half-term upon us, it is the official start to exam leave for our Year 11 pupils. Exam season is already in

full swing and half-term still needs to be a time for sensible revision. Please do let us know if your child needs any help or support whilst they are on exam leave and remind them that teachers are available if they have any last-minute concerns.



Polite Reminder

Please **DO NOT** mount the kerb, outside the Shakespeare Road site, the volume of children on the pavement makes this really dangerous and inconsiderate. In addition, there are double yellow lines in place which should make it obvious not to stop/park/mount the pavement outside the school.

Also, please **DO NOT** park on the zigzag or double yellow lines outside the Pemberley Avenue entrance. We have **received complaints from local residents** who have reported incidents to the authorities.

Please ensure everybody who drives your child to and from school is aware of this request. Thank you for your consideration.

I hope the pupils enjoy their half-term break.

Kind regards



I M Daniel, BA (QTS), NPQH
Principal