



BGN Newsletter

A WORD FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends of BGN

This spring term has been a vibrant and inspiring chapter in the life of Blessed George Napier School. Across the school community, students have worked diligently both inside and beyond the classroom, consistently demonstrating the BGN Way through their words, actions, and commitment to excellence.

At the heart of all we do remains our mission: to be a hub of faith and learning with Christ at the centre. Guided by scripture and our shared mission, this term we have journeyed together in preparation for Easter. Through meaningful services of reconciliation, students and staff have reflected deeply on faith, renewal, and spiritual growth, living out our core values of truth, service, compassion, respect, and forgiveness.

Our *'Faith in Action'* Leaders have been exemplary in putting their faith into practice. Through their initiative and generosity, they have organised cake sales and toast sales to raise funds in support of the ongoing refurbishment of the school chapel—an important project for our whole community. We are also proud to have trained a team of Dignity Ambassadors [please see picture below], who are already making a positive impact across the BGN community. Through planning dignity-focused campaigns, participating in the Dignity Apprentice course and amplifying pupil voice, they are helping to foster a culture rooted in respect, inclusion and understanding.

Beyond the classroom, students have embraced a wide range of enriching opportunities. Year 8 students demonstrated resilience and teamwork during their trip to Glasbury, taking on outdoor challenges and building confidence. Our commitment to global learning was evident in the Modern Foreign Languages programme, with students attending a Languages Day at the University of Oxford. In addition, our Language Leaders have been working closely with Year 4 pupils at Queensway Primary School, inspiring younger learners and fostering a love of languages.

Sporting success has also been a highlight this term. We are especially proud of the Year 7 boys' football team, who achieved an outstanding victory by winning their league unbeaten—a testament to their dedication, teamwork and perseverance.

Sean Masterson - Headteacher



Diary dates

Friday 27 March

School closes at 12.30 pm for the Easter holidays

Monday 13 April

School re-opens at 8.40 am [Week A]

Thursday 23 April

Year 7 Parents' Evening

Monday 4 May

Bank Holiday
School closed to all pupils

Tuesday 5 May to Wednesday 24 June

External exams

Thursday 7 May

Year 13 Leavers' Mass

Thursday 21 May

Year 11 Leavers' Mass

Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May

May half-term

Monday 1 June

School re-opens at 8.40 am [Week A]

Wednesday 17 June

Year 6 Information Evening for parents

Please log in to the Arbor Parent Portal. If you have not received login details, please ensure we have an up-to-date email address and that your contact details are correct in case we need to contact you in an emergency.

Easter Mass times



EASTER MASS TIMES IN OUR PARISHES

Parish of St John the Evangelist, Banbury

Maundy Thursday 2 April

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper @ 7 pm

Good Friday 3 April

Solemn Liturgy @ 3 pm

Holy Saturday 4 April

Easter Vigil @ 8.30 pm

Easter Sunday 5 April

Mass @ 8.30 am

Mass @ 11.30 am

Parish of St Joseph the Worker, Banbury

Easter Sunday 5 April

Mass @ 10 am

Parish of the Immaculate Conception, Bicester

Maundy Thursday 2 April

Mass of the Lord's Supper @ 8 pm

Good Friday 3 April

Solemn Liturgy @ 3 pm

Holy Saturday 4 April

Easter Vigil @ 8 pm

Easter Sunday 5 April

Mass @ 9 am and 11 am

Aston-le-Walls

Please note there are no services at Aston-le-Walls.
Kindly refer to the Parish of St Augustine's, Daventry for
Mass times over the Easter period.

[Please do check your Parish Newsletters for any updates]

CELEBRATING RECONCILIATION AT BGN IN PREPARATION FOR EASTER

On the Feast Day of Saint Joseph, we gathered for our Services of Reconciliation. Saint Joseph is known as many things, but the role we focussed on for his feast day was that of being a servant. This characteristic was alive and well in our school, beginning with the fine work of 10 Edith who set up the display in the Rachel Smith Hall during their tutor time, in readiness for the whole school.

Our next blessing of service came in the form of the clergy who joined us for the day, namely Fr Tony Joyce from Charlbury, Fr Harry Curtis from Cowley, Fr Des from Southam and we were utterly delighted to welcome Fr Noel and Fr Liam from the Carmelite Order in Boars Hill, Oxford. They could not have been more complimentary about the students in our school saying that "The work you are doing here is nothing short of miraculous". The children reciprocated that feeling and really shared in the joy, with one Year 7 student commenting: "I wish we could do this every day".

The day was a wonderful opportunity to take time out of a busy schedule and focus on one's own faith journey. We explored the key themes of Lent in how we can offer **prayer**, how we **fast**, such as in the toast sales on Fridays for CAFOD, and how we **give** the gift of love to our neighbour. The behaviour of our students was prayerful, reverent and respectful throughout and they should be wholly complimented for their engagement with the service and the sacrament. We felt truly blessed.



[Mrs Mawn – Assistant Headteacher]



CELEBRATING MASS WITH FR HUDSON'S

On Tuesday 3 February a group of Year 8s from the Faith in Action team travelled to Our Lady's in Cowley to join schools from the PFMAC in celebration of the Father Hudson's Mass. We are blessed to work closely with Father Hudson's charity and it was the most joyful occasion to join together with students of all ages in the celebration of Mass.

And no, it wasn't just a broken boiler, oh no! The workers thought they were in to carry out a quick fix, but no, the whole system had to be replaced, and they were going to be spending a fortnight in our sacred space installing new piping, new radiators, the lot.

So, whilst they were in there [with the Blessed Sacrament removed, of course], we relocated our Friday Liturgy to C6. The Sixth Formers did a sterling job in reconfiguring the room and turning it into a beautiful space for worship. It was so silent and still and we had some really moving moments in there.

And then from beyond those cold, icy moments in the Chapel, the heating hit a new level and our wonderful site team painted the Chapel over the February half-term. So now, we have a beautifully heated and beautifully decorated Chapel which makes our sacred space even more inviting than ever. It is definitely easier to feel the warmth of God in our sacred space now!



WHAT A REFRESHING CHANGE!

Sometimes when things go wrong, they end up going right!

It was December, it was freezing... and the heating in the Chapel broke! Brilliant!

So, there we all were, in the Chapel, still going about our normal duties: Rosary every Tuesday morning; Liturgy of the Word every Friday lunchtime – all wearing our coats and just coping. Oh yes, and we did our Day of Adoration without any heat too! It was actually colder inside the Chapel than it was outside – we could all see our breath.



THE BGN WAY SHAPED ANSWERS IN ACTION!

This term in RE Year 11 have prepared for and taken part in a debate on the issue of women priests in the Catholic Church. We had a boys vs girls competition in which both sides prepared thoughtful and well evidenced arguments.

The first and second chairs presented their points eloquently and passionately. The whole class took part in question time and were able to listen respectfully to their peers, but also pose challenging questions.

I was very impressed with how articulate and persuasive our Year 11s can be. Most importantly, the results are in and the final vote secured a win for the girls!

[Mrs Harris – Head of RE]



FAITH IN ACTION

A few weeks ago in our Faith in Action group we raised funds for the CAFOD Family Fast Day by selling toast at break and lunchtime. This was to encourage living and eating simply. The price for one slice of toast with a topping was 50p. Unsurprisingly, our most popular options were Biscoff and Chocolate Spread!

It was really fun to sell so much toast and raise a lot of money for charity. It was quite stressful at times when the toast was in very high demand, but customers [students!] were very polite and appreciative. One person even bought ten slices of toast!

The sale was so popular we decided to run it every other Friday during Lent. We will let you know the final amount raised after the Easter holidays.

[Sara – Form 8 Assisi]



'PLANTED IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD THEY WILL FLOURISH' [PSALM 92]

Some of our Faith in Action team have been inspired by the words of Fulton Sheen and have quite literally been planting good seeds this Lent! The students are cultivating three beds which will hopefully grow flowers that we can use in the chapel, along with a herb bed which will be used by the Food and Nutrition Department.

[Mrs Harris – Head of RE]



ST JOHN'S LENT RETREAT

After much preparation we arrived at St John's Primary School ready for the retreat. We were a bit nervous!

We began with an introduction to explain to Key Stage 1 students about what Lent is and what it means. The children were a bit of a challenge at first since they got distracted, but we were able to get them back on task.

The whole session ended with a fun egg hunt for the pupils. We would love to do it again as it brought out our creative side and we enjoyed sharing our faith with the younger children.

*[Scarlett, Ancelin and Nathalie
Form 8 Bakhita]*



Glasbury trip



A JOURNEY OF RESILIENCE AND PERSEVERANCE

On Monday 19 January excitement was mounting as the Year 8s set off for Glasbury, accompanied by Mr Thornton, Mr Williams, Miss Bisson and myself. Upon our arrival, as students said a painful goodbye to their phones for the next few days, we were introduced to the centre, had lunch and then launched into a set of problem solving and team building activities. Although students had chosen their bedroom groups, they had no idea who they would be working with all week until lunchtime. It was from here that students had to learn to work together with unfamiliar faces, and some unsure of names. After the team building activities, a dinner of chicken and chips was followed by a walk into the surrounding countryside. Some took it in their stride; others struggled with the slippery and muddy slopes, but were rewarded with a rest and some star gazing at the top.

Tuesday to Thursday were filled with daytime activities of caving, canoeing, climbing walls and high ropes. It was during these days that we saw the magic of Glasbury. Reluctant cavers were encouraged to step outside their comfort zone. At first, the 'letter box' looked daunting. Some had second thoughts, but with a gentle "Put your head through, how about your arms now? You've done the hard part, how about finishing off?" they slid through the gap and challenges were then met head on. The climbing wall was conquered quickly by some, others took a few goes to reach the top, and some were relieved to take an extra couple of steps up on each go. Groups approached the high ropes with supportive comments and some on the ground 'help conversations' with those in the trees to keep their minds relaxed and thinking about anything other than heights! Canoeing was a relaxing day on the canal. This proved a challenge of communication for some who mastered spinning their canoe on the spot, or steering it into the bramble-covered bank, but couldn't quite communicate for long enough to keep going in a straight line. However, once rafted up, some students took on the challenge to stand in the canoe, stand on the seat, or stand with each foot on the side of the canoe. At the end of the day, some took the opportunity to jump into the canal! On the whole though, canoeing starts with teamwork, unloading the trailers, and ends with teamwork to reload the trailers. I was particularly pleased by Group 4s teamwork here as they loaded the trailers in the pouring rain with no complaints and everyone helping each other.

Friday ended with a mountain walk up Twmpa or Hay Bluff. It was daunting for those who struggled on Monday as both of these mountains reached 600m high. Thankfully, the heavy downpour that was forecast stayed away, but gusty winds met us at the top. Upon reaching the minibus and looking back to the summit, many students couldn't quite believe how high they had climbed.

Blood, sweat and tears summed up the week: there were a few drops of blood (easily stopped with a band aid), sweat from all the walking, climbing and paddling and finally, tears of joy and relief after facing fears and conquering challenges. I know many students went home with lots of stories to tell and many memories that they will look back on fondly with time.

[Mr Parrish – Head of Humanities]

Glasbury trip photos



Group 1



Group 2



Group 3



Group 4

"As one of the students who went to Glasbury, a common highlight was the caving which pushed us out of our comfort zone and made us feel a great sense of pride when pushing ourselves in other challenges."

[Nathalie – Year 8]

"I feel more confident in my abilities and believe I can overcome what falls in the path of my life"

[Ancelin and Genevieve – Year 8]

"I made friendships with people I never thought I would ever even speak to."

[Scarlett – Year 8]



Whole group

YEAR 9 LANGUAGES DAY AT THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

On 12 February a group of us went to The Queen's College, Oxford with Mrs Morgan for a Languages Day, hosted by the Faculty of Medieval and Modern Languages.

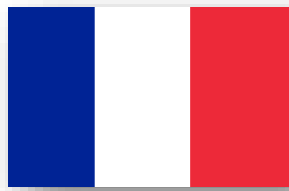
First was a film subtitling workshop in French and Spanish. We were given several cognates and other words that were used to subtitle a short film with a length of two minutes, which challenged our linguistic skills very much. The presentation on linguistics was superbly interesting, especially for the short window of time it had, providing new insights on a subject not covered in GCSE language learning. Next, we had an Italian workshop where we learnt the basics of how to have a conversation in Italian. This was a really fun experience and an interesting thing to engage in.

Then we had a Catalan workshop where we learned that Catalan was a language very similar to French and Spanish. We also had a conversation in Catalan. It was a really engaging session! This was followed by a presentation about why we should learn languages, where we learnt that 80% of the world's population does not speak English, so languages are very important when travelling. We also learnt how useful languages are for jobs and the economy.

Finally, there was a Q&A session with undergraduate language students which gave us a better insight into where languages can take us. It was a very enjoyable and inspirational day.

*[Simas, Domonkos, Alana, Caio, Lucy and Nicola
Year 9 students]*





PARTY THE FRENCH WAY...

What was the play about?

Léa and Théo are the ultimate 'YOLO' couple, so when Léa decides they are going to throw a big party, it's all go, go, go.

There's just one small problem: no venue, no food, no outfits, no invites sent, no theme and no real idea!

With just hours to organise the perfect [and very French] party, chaos takes over: think dream party meets total meltdown. Also, to make it even more entertaining, members of the audience get pulled into the story and action as characters in this play.

Léa dreams of Parisian vibes and Théo just wants something low-key; their friendship, the vibe, and the whole party hangs by a thread. Is it really about the party — or just proving something to their friends?

What was expected: big laughs, bigger drama, French culture, audience participation, and fast action.

What did our pupils think?

"I thought the French play was great because it was very funny and interesting. I also thought that it was a great way to practise my French skills."

[Alex – Year 7]

"In my opinion, the show was gripping and fun to watch! It was very understandable and had an amazing story."

[Noah – Year 7]

"I thought it was very good and funny. I liked how they involved the audience. It helped me understand my French more and more as the show went on. I hope they do another one next year."

[Isla – Year 7]

"I thought the French play was very good and I really liked it when they pulled people from the crowd into the play – I was one of them! They gave me a script so we knew what to say, and a costume as well. It was very, very good. It also helped everyone to get better at their French pronunciation."

[Lucy Year 7]





LANGUAGE, CULTURE AND A GLIMPSE INTO UNIVERSITY LIFE

Our recent Spanish trip with BGN was an unforgettable experience, bringing together both Year 10 and Year 12 students in a day that combined language, culture and a glimpse into university life. The day began with our journey to Oxford—on what turned out to be the hottest day of the year—which made exploring the city even more memorable.

One of the highlights of the trip was attending a lecture on the novel *Como Agua Para Chocolate*. The session gave us a deeper understanding of the themes, symbolism and cultural context of the book, bringing it to life beyond the classroom. It was particularly beneficial for both Year 10 and Year 12 students, as it helped reinforce their studies while also offering new insights suited to each year group's level.

We also had the opportunity to meet and speak with university students who study Modern Foreign Languages. Hearing about their experiences was both inspiring and insightful for all of us. It helped Year 10 students start thinking about future opportunities, while giving Year 12 students a clearer idea of what studying languages at university could be like.

After an engaging and academic day, we ended the trip in the best way possible—with food. We enjoyed a delicious meal of tapas at Al-Andalus, where we experienced authentic Spanish cuisine. Some of our favourite dishes included patatas bravas, croquetas and calamares, which we shared together. It reflected the social and cultural importance of food in Spain and was the perfect way to relax after a busy day.

We would especially like to thank Señora Saccaro for organising such a well-planned and enriching trip. Her effort and dedication made the whole experience smooth, enjoyable and memorable for everyone involved.

Overall, the trip was not only educational, but also exciting and inspiring. It supported both Year 10 and Year 12 students in their learning, brought our studies to life and left us with memories we will not forget anytime soon.

[Thomas, Daniel, Samrat and William
Year 10 students]



UNLOCKING POTENTIAL THROUGH LANGUAGE LEADERSHIP

The Young Language Leaders [YLL] programme gives students the opportunity to develop leadership, communication and teaching skills by sharing their language knowledge with younger pupils. As part of the programme, students help introduce primary school children to new languages in a fun and engaging way. Taking part in Young Language Leaders is also a valuable addition to a student's curriculum, as it demonstrates initiative, teamwork, confidence, and the ability to work with younger learners—skills that are highly valued by colleges, universities and future employers.

Recently, seven students from our school visited Queensway Primary School to work with Year 4 pupils and introduce them to Spanish and French. The Language Leaders worked in small groups of two or three, planning activities and helping the children learn basic words and phrases about colours and holiday destinations.

The Year 4 pupils were enthusiastic, quick to learn and extremely well behaved, which made the sessions both enjoyable and productive. Despite the limited time available, the Language Leaders showed patience and enthusiasm while guiding the children through the activities.

The experience was also beneficial for the Language Leaders themselves. It helped them understand how quickly younger children can grasp new languages, while also giving them the opportunity to recognise when pupils may need extra support.

Overall, the visit was a fun and rewarding experience for everyone involved. Both the primary pupils and the Language Leaders gained valuable learning from the day, making it a memorable and educational opportunity for all.

[Daiana – Year 10 Student]

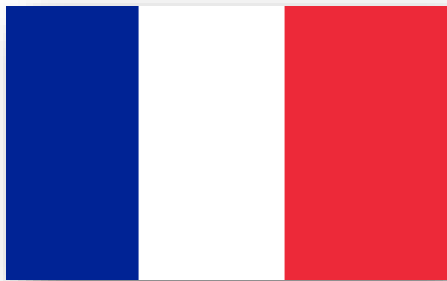


UNLOCKING POTENTIAL THROUGH LANGUAGE LEADERSHIP

On Tuesday 17 March, the other seven Language Leaders visited St John's Primary School to teach their lessons to their Year 4. There were three lessons, one each in French, Spanish and Polish. The staff and pupils were very welcoming, and our Language Leaders really enjoyed teaching them. The children especially enjoyed learning through games. For two of our Language Leaders, it was a case of déjà vu to be teaching in their own primary schools.

We are really looking forward to our next visits in the summer term.

[Mrs Morgan – Head of MFL]



IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME!

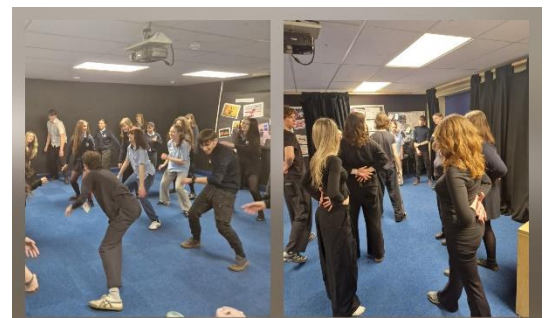
BGN's Drama Department was pleased to host second year acting students from The Oxford School of Drama who performed 'The Bacchae' for students in years 10 to 13. This rambunctious, creative and jaw dropping piece of theatre had the audience in rapt silence. With Brazilian techno music, an excellent ensemble and truly great central performances from the leads, this was truly a treat to behold.

The company then ran an acting workshop for Drama students focussing on the process of creating animalistic characters to perform on stage.

Our students threw themselves into the practical work and created some really memorable moments.



[Mrs Stewart – Head of Drama]



A NATION HELD ITS BREATH

The Drama Department arranged a trip to see the National Theatre's multi-award-winning production of 'Dear England' at The New Theatre, Oxford. Performing Arts and PE students enjoyed an evening of nail-biting highs and lows as we watched Gareth Southgate's England face the trials and tribulations of the 'Beautiful Game'. The play explores themes of identity, resilience and what it means to be part of a team.

GCSE Drama students Nicole, Finley, Marcia, Melissa and Maria were analysing and evaluating the performance in preparation for their written exam in the summer, and there will certainly be a lot to write about!



STEPPING UP

Year 12 BTEC Performing Arts students, Eloise and Eleanor, attended an Open Day at the Oxford School of Drama. They participated in professional training sessions, with movement directors, vocal teachers and acting coaches, putting their BTEC practise to the test, alongside students of all ages and backgrounds from across the UK.

They really enjoyed the day, gained a lot of practical tips and advice about the Industry, and are excited to take these new skills into their lessons at BGN.

[Mrs Stewart – Head of Drama]



PHOTOGRAPHY CHALLENGE 2 'TEXTURES IN NATURE'

This term's photography challenge invited Key Stage 3 students to step outdoors and explore the beauty hidden in the natural world. The theme: *'Textures in Nature'* encouraged pupils to capture between one and three original photographs showcasing a variety of natural textures such as the rough surface of tree bark, the delicate veins of leaves, the patterns on stones, or any other organic detail they discovered.

As part of their compulsory homework, students were asked to observe their surroundings more closely, paying attention to shape, form, surface and pattern. The challenge not only developed their technical photography skills, but also promoted creativity, mindfulness and appreciation for nature's tiny details. Whether taken in gardens, parks, woodlands, or even on a walk to school, the photographs revealed just how much visual interest is hidden in the everyday environment when we take the time to look for it.

From crisp macro shots to bold compositions highlighting contrast and texture, students rose to the challenge impressively. And the winners were...



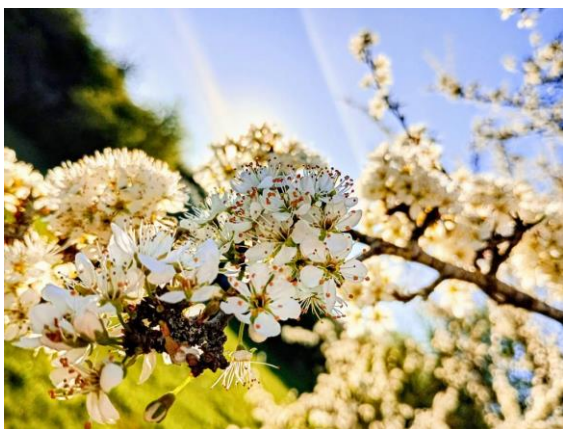
Year 7 winner and overall winner: Maggie

A richly layered composition that transforms fallen leaves into a vibrant tapestry of colour and texture.



Year 7 highly commended: Oliver

Strong natural textures and earthy tones combine to create a striking study of weathered stone.

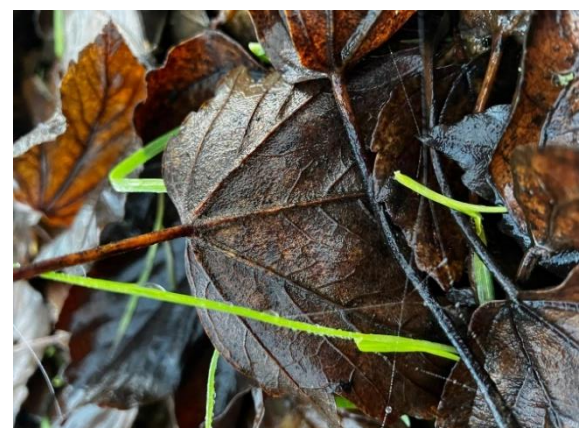


Year 8 winner: Ethan

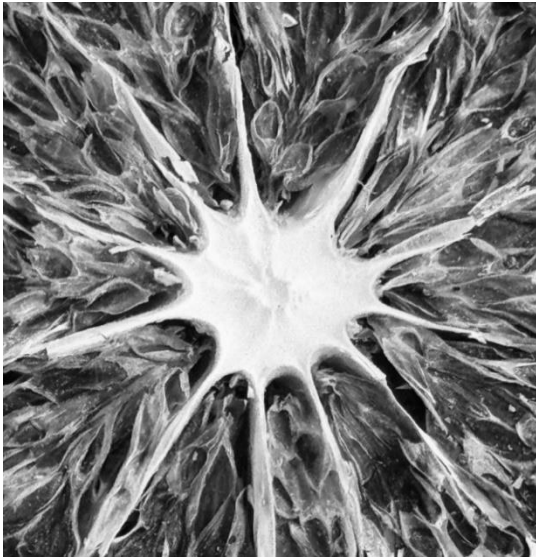
A beautifully focused close-up capturing the delicate detail and softness of blossom against the light.

Year 8 highly commended: Elise

An engaging observation of nature at ground level, highlighting contrast between crisp new growth and decaying leaves.



PHOTOGRAPHY CHALLENGE 2 'TEXTURES IN NATURE'



Year 9 winner: Caeden

A bold and creative black and white image that reveals the dramatic structure hidden within natural forms.



Year 9 highly commended: Stephanie

An atmospheric monochrome photograph that emphasises surface, pattern and fine detail in the natural world.

Looking ahead: Photography Challenge 4: 'My Culture' – an invitation to share your story

For our compulsory Art homework and our fourth Photography Challenge of the year, students are encouraged to celebrate the rich diversity that makes our school community so special. With the theme *'My Culture'*, this challenge invites students to think about what represents their background, their traditions and the unique experiences that shape who they are.

Students are asked to take one to three photographs that express something meaningful about their culture. This could be anything: a family tradition, a special celebration, a treasured object, a favourite meal, or a moment that reflects their heritage or identity. Every culture has its own beauty and this challenge gives our students the chance to share theirs with the school. The deadline is Friday 27 March 2026.

[Please note if iPhone users are struggling to upload their images, make sure you change your file settings before you take the photo from HEIC [High Efficiency] to JPEG [Most Compatible].

[Miss Williams – Head of Art]

SIXTH FORMERS STEP INTO THE WORLD OF GENE AND CELL THERAPY

On Friday 13 March twenty-six Year 12 A Level Biology students attended the 'British Society for Gene and Cell Therapy' symposium at the Oxford University Natural History Museum.

Here, students had the opportunity to learn about cutting edge research by scientists at UCL on stem cell and gene therapy in a variety of conditions, including SCID, urea cycle disorder and Hirschsprung disease. Students learned about gene delivery viral vectors and the use of CRISPR in gene editing, alongside the use of mRNA transient treatment of monogenic diseases.

It was wonderful to hear from a mother of a boy who had Spinal Muscular Dystrophy Type 1. He was considered to be untreatable and most children with the disease do not survive beyond the age of two. Her son was treated with gene-therapy and is now five years old. He still has considerable mobility issues and has still several surgeries and treatment to maintain his mobility.



The students then had an opportunity to peruse the Museum displays and activities, including making 3D models of DNA, practising DNA complementary base pairing through making DNA bracelets, extracting DNA from bananas and having a virtual reality look inside a cell. In addition, they were given the opportunity to talk to scientists and clinicians from a range of backgrounds.

The day had excellent links to the AQA A Level Biology specification, including the application of stem cells, virus structure, genetic modification and gene therapy.

The day consisted of four speakers who came from a range of professional backgrounds, followed by a panel Q&A session and online opinion poll. Students gained experience about the ethics of research, the scientific community, how it is funded and the aims of many different researchers to cure disease. The students enjoyed the opportunity to speak to PhD students, post-doctoral researchers and professors to gain a better understanding of life as a research scientist or clinician.

The Year 12 Biologists found the experience both interesting and educational, helping them to consider the career options that are available after degree level.

[Dr Reed – Head of Science]





INTERMEDIATE MATHS CHALLENGE

On 28 January, we had nearly 120 Year 9, 10 and 11 students who competed in the Senior Maths Challenge. Everyone did very well and it was brilliant to see the problem-solving taking place. Well done to all those who took part!

Special congratulations go to the certificate winners who were as follows:-

Gold Certificate

Benedek Year 11 [*Best in year and best in school!*]
 William Year 10 [*Best in year*]
 Thomas Year 10

Silver Certificate

Oscar Year 11
 Sophie Year 11
 Marek Year 11
 Milena Year 11
 Iliana Year 11
 Bianka Year 11
 Ihekamma Year 10
 Kaia Year 10
 Maisie Year 10
 Ema Year 10
 Harinie Year 10
 Ava-Grace Year 10
 Lily Year 10
 Angeliya Year 10
 Manna Year 10
 Toby Year 9 [*Best in year*]
 Preston Year 9
 Sylvia Year 9
 Luan Year 9
 Harry Year 9

Bronze Certificate

Bethy Year 11
 Dylan Year 11
 Serena Year 11
 Jesse Year 11
 Sophie Year 11
 Matteo Year 11
 Leonal Year 11
 Krissa Year 11
 Chis Year 11
 Nicolas Year 11
 Maia Year 11
 David Year 11
 Marcello Year 11
 Patryk Year 11
 Olivia Year 11
 Ana Year 10
 Beatrice Year 10
 Julia Year 10
 Ricardo Year 10
 Morgan Year 10
 Samrat Year 10
 Yizeng Year 10

Bronze Certificate

John Year 10
 Flo Year 10
 James Year 9
 Jonathan Year 9
 Nicola Year 9
 Liliana Year 9
 Talia-Rose Year 9
 Thea Year 9
 Domonkos Year 9

Benedek and William also qualified for the follow-on competition and competed in that on 19 March – massive congratulations to them. We wait to hear the results and wish them the very best of luck

[Mr Pike
 Maths Department]



YEAR 7 CAFOD WALK

Laps are underway for our Big CAFOD Walk 2026. It has been wonderful walking around with the children, watching them have fun and interacting in such a positive way. We have even enjoyed some sunshine!

Hopefully, the pupils are busy collecting sponsorship money which should be handed into their form tutors the first week back after the Easter break. We thank you in advance for your generosity for this very special charity who work in the poorest of communities around the world.

As well as walking in the mornings during Lent, the Year 7 pupils have had another busy term representing the school in sports fixtures and taking part in leadership opportunities. It is wonderful to see them all settled and following the BGN Way. I am very proud of all their achievements.

I wish you all a very happy Easter.

[Mrs Phillips – Head of Year 7]



CAFOD A better world needs all of us



STAMPING OUT POVERTY ON

CAFOD A better world needs all of us



CAFOD A better world needs all of us



CAFOD A better world needs all of us



RUNNING FOR A CAUSE: WHY I TOOK ON THE 'RUN THE MONTH' CHALLENGE

In January, I took on the **Prostate Cancer UK 'Run the Month'** challenge, completing a marathon distance of **26.2 miles**. My goal was simple: to support the thousands of men currently battling prostate cancer and to shine a light on men's health issues that are too often ignored.

Breaking the silence

I believe that men's health—both physical and mental—is too often brushed under the carpet. Whether it is the pressure on men to 'toughen up' and hide depression, or the misconception that seeking help for prostate cancer is a sign of weakness, the stigma can be incredibly damaging. I ran because it is time to change that idea. We need to spread awareness and ensure no man feels he has to suffer in silence.

A Community Effort

Thanks to the incredible generosity of my sponsors, I raised a total of **£270**, far exceeding my original target of £50.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to everyone who donated. I am especially grateful to:-

- **My Parents:** for their support throughout January.
- **Mr Masterson:** for checking in constantly and helping me spread the word.

I am forever grateful to everyone who supported this journey. Together, we are helping to ensure that men's health gets the attention and the funding it truly deserves.

[Ollie – Year 9]

PROSTATE CANCER UK

LOGIN

£270

RAISED

31 mi

DISTANCE

My Story

I'm running 26.2 miles throughout January for Prostate Cancer UK. Prostate cancer now affects 1 in 8 men in the UK. That's thousands of dads, partners, brothers, grandads, uncles and mates. I'm raising money to help fund lifesaving research and support for men and their families affected by prostate cancer.



'GUIDED BY COMPASSION, DRIVEN TO SERVE' MR LONG AND MR MASTERSON RUN THE BATH HALF

This year, two members of the Blessed George Napier community, Mr Long and Mr Masterson, ran the Bath Half Marathon in support of SSNAP — Support for the Sick Newborn and their Parents.

Joining 15,000 other runners, they lined up in the beautiful city of Bath to take on the challenge of the race's undulating thirteen-mile course. With crowds lining the streets and a fantastic atmosphere throughout the city, the event is one of the UK's most popular road races. For Mr Long and Mr Masterson, however, the day was about far more than completing the distance — it was about raising awareness and support for a cause that makes a real difference to families.

SSNAP provides vital support to parents whose babies are born sick or prematurely and require specialist neonatal care. The charity works closely with families connected to the neonatal unit at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford, offering emotional support, practical help and funding for equipment and facilities that improve care for newborn babies.



At Blessed George Napier, *Compassion* and *Service* are essential values that guide our community. Mr Long and Mr Masterson's decision to run the Bath Half Marathon for SSNAP is a powerful example of these values in action. By dedicating their time, effort and determination to this challenge, they are helping to support families during some of the most difficult moments of their lives.

SSNAP

Support for the sick newborn and their parents

'GUIDED BY COMPASSION, DRIVEN TO SERVE' MR LONG AND MR MASTERSON RUN THE BATH HALF

Training for a half marathon requires commitment, perseverance and many miles of preparation. Through their efforts, Mr Long and Mr Masterson have not only pushed themselves physically, but have also helped raise valuable funds and awareness for an important charity.

Mr Masterson is also continuing with this challenge and hopes to complete it by running the Brighton Marathon during the Easter break. Taking on a full marathon will be another significant test of endurance and determination.

Through acts of *Compassion* and *Service*, even a single challenge — or many miles of running — can make a meaningful difference to the lives of others.

If you'd like to support Mr Masterson's runs and contribute to the charity, donations can be made by scanning the QR code below:



Thank you for your continued support.



SSNAP

Support for the sick newborn and their parents

Attendance DCES matter



96-100%

EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE

Well done! On track for achieving 5 Star Attendance!

ACTION: Ongoing daily attendance monitoring

93-95%

50 MISSED LESSONS

Form Tutor review and discussion. Head of Year attendance monitoring

ACTION: Letters sent home to parents/carers about attendance concerns

90-92%

100 MISSED LESSONS

Head of Year/SLT attendance meeting and Attendance Manager Letter 1

ACTION: Letters sent home to parents/carers about attendance meeting and contract to improve attendance in place

85-89%

150 MISSED LESSONS

Local Authority Monitoring with Attendance Manager Letter 2

ACTION: Possibility of a fine. Continuation of a Stage 2 contract in place with agreed targets to improve attendance

Below 85%

200+ MISSED LESSONS

Local Authority ACTION

ACTION: Letter sent to parents warning of a Fixed Penalty Notice following 10 sessions of unauthorised absence. Local Authority will issue a fine

Friends of BGN



GIVE A LITTLE, CHANGE A LOT

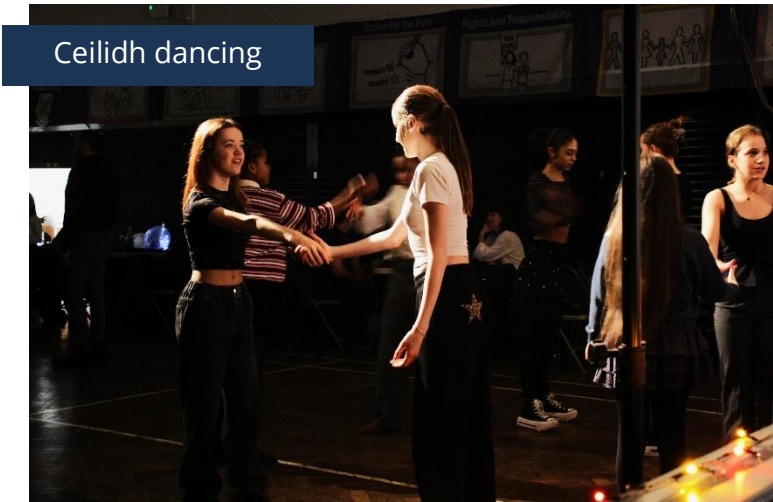


Lourdes group fundraising

Thank you to everyone who supported the recent Ceilidh evening at BGN. It was a great success and everyone who joined us for the evening's entertainment had a lot of fun.

This was a joint event hosted with the help of the Year 12 students attending the Lourdes pilgrimage this year and the evening raised over £600.

Our next fundraising event will be a quiz night on Friday 24 April. Tickets are on sale through the school online shop via the website at £7 each. You can find further details on the poster.



Ceilidh dancing

Some of our staff getting into the spirit of the evening



Friends of BGN **BLESSED GEORGE NAPIER** **Friends of BGN**

QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 24 APRIL 2026

7 PM FOR 7.30 PM START

TICKETS - £7 PER PERSON
NOW ON SALE FROM THE ONLINE SCHOOL SHOP VIA THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

MAXIMUM OF EIGHT PEOPLE PER TEAM
PLEASE BRING PAYMENT RECEIPT WITH YOU ON THE NIGHT

LICENSED FUNDRAISING BAR AND NIBBLES!
[PLEASE DO NOT BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS]

QUIZ

Help raise funds for BGN



easyfundraising

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising free donations for Blessed George Napier School with *easyfundraising*? There are over 8,000 retailers onboard ready to donate including Amazon, eBay, Argos, John Lewis & Partners, Compare the Market, ASOS, Booking.com, Sainsbury's, Debenhams, Next, Moonpig, Just Eat and M&S, to name but a few. Even better, it will not cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds.

All you need to do is follow these simple steps:-

1. Go to [BGN cause page](#) or scan the QR code below to join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping, or download the 'Donation Reminder' tool.
3. After you have checked out, the retailer will donate to Blessed George Napier School, at no extra cost to you.

There are no catches or hidden charges, and Blessed George Napier School will be really grateful for your donations.

Thank you so much for your anticipated help and happy online shopping!



BGN 200 Club



Why not join our 200 Club? For just **£5** a month you have the opportunity of winning **£100** every month whilst donating to a very worthy cause – your child's school.

We currently have spare numbers available, so if you are interested or require any more information, please contact our 200 Club Administrator at finance@bgn.oxon.sch.uk.

December's winning number was **42**

January's winning number was **17**

February's winning number was **41**

YEAR 7 TAKE ON THE WALLS AT CLIP 'N CLIMB BICESTER

A group of Year 7 students recently spent the day at Clip 'n Climb in Bicester, and what a brilliant adventure it turned out to be. From the moment they clipped in, it was clear we were in for a day full of energy, determination and more than a few surprised faces.

The students threw themselves into every challenge, and it was fantastic to see how quickly their confidence grew. Some arrived feeling a little unsure, eyeing the towering walls with a mix of curiosity and caution. By the end of the session, those same students were conquering climbs they never imagined they would have attempted. A few even managed to overcome some genuine fears—proof that courage sometimes looks like taking one small step off the ground.

Of course, at the other end of the spectrum were the natural-born climbers who seemed to defy gravity entirely. While some were carefully planning each move, these students shot up the walls so fast we considered checking for hidden jet packs! Their enthusiasm was infectious, and they encouraged everyone around them to push a little higher.

Most importantly, the day was filled with laughter, teamwork, and a real sense of achievement.

Whether students reached the top or simply challenged themselves to try something new, every single one of them walked away with an achievement to be proud of.

It was a fantastic experience for everyone involved.

[Mr Mawle – Head of PE]



SUCCESS AT THE RADLEY RELAYS

Our cross-country teams enjoyed a fantastic day of racing at the Radley Relays, a highly competitive team event that brought together over 80 teams from 30 different schools. The field included many strong independent schools, such as Eton and Wellington, making the standard of competition exceptionally high.

Conditions were memorable to say the least. For cross-country enthusiasts the weather might have been described as 'fair to good', but for everyone else 'torrential' would not be an exaggeration! Heavy rain and extremely muddy conditions turned parts of the course into deep bogs, making the races even more challenging.

Despite this, our runners showed outstanding determination and resilience. The Junior Boys produced an excellent performance to finish tenth overall, while the Junior Girls ran superbly to secure ninth place against a very strong field.

There were impressive efforts across both teams, but a particular highlight came from Stylianos, who recorded one of the fastest relay legs of the day. In a remarkable display of perseverance, he completed nearly half of his leg in his socks after losing his trainers in a shin-deep section of mud!

Well done to all the runners for their fantastic effort, teamwork and determination in truly challenging conditions. A memorable day of cross-country and a result the whole team can be proud of.

[Mr Mawle – Head of PE]



Sport leadership



Sport leadership plays a prominent part in the BGN school community. During the Spring term Blessed George Napier has delivered Sportshall Athletics Competitions and Inclusion Orienteering festivals for Key Stage 2 children in our Cluster Primary Schools.

100 Year 7 and 8 Student Leaders have applied their leadership skills to support and encourage participating children in each event. Almost 500 children took part in the four events.

Please find a selection of the comments received below.

Sportshall Athletics

"BGN students were very helpful and encouraging towards the primary children. They were engaging and made the day a lovely experience."
"The BGN pupils were amazing in the way they explained things, gave advice and cheered on our team."

[St John's School]

Orienteering

"Relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere. Student Leaders were really helpful and motivated the children."

[Bishop Loveday]

"I loved the activities. We loved finding the clues and our BGN Student Leader was fun."

[Child at St Mary's Aston-le-Walls]

"I liked being a Student Leader because I helped the primary children to locate the clues."

[Reeve - Form 7 Bakhita]

"I enjoyed being a Student Leader as I encouraged my group to work as a team by listening to each other and sharing ideas."

[Yeva - Form 7 Bakhita]

Year 7 Active Leaders

15 Year 7 Active Student Leaders visited Bishop Loveday Primary School on Thursday 12 March to deliver fun and inclusive activities to Year 2 children. Bishop Loveday staff were full of praise for our Student Leaders and we would love to have them back again.

[Mr Mawn - School Sports Co-ordinator]

Year 7 Active Leaders working with Year 2 Bishop Loveday pupils



Year 3/4 Orienteering



Year 5/6 Orienteering

