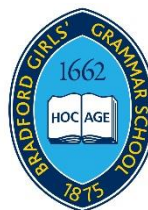


Friday 11 June 2021



ASPIRE • SUCCEED • LEAD

BRADFORD GIRLS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Co-educational up to 11, Girls only 11-16

Dear Parents and Carers,

Collection for Dennis Gilmore

Before the half term break, I wrote to parents to inform you of the sad news of the death of our Groundsman, Dennis Gilmore. Dennis was much-loved by colleagues, students and parents, and we all want to commemorate his life in a fitting way. We have therefore decided to purchase a bench, which we will have inscribed, so that students and staff can sit and reflect on his life in the beautiful school grounds that he cared so much for and was rightly so proud of. If you would like to contribute to this tribute, then please make a donation via ParentPay.

Red Kite Peer Review

As part of our membership of the Red Kite Teaching Alliance, we arranged for a Peer Review to take place this week. We were fortunate to have five current/ex-Headteachers spend two days in school reviewing all aspects of the school, but particularly focusing on the work we are doing around the curriculum.

Led by Tudor Griffiths, Headteacher of Kettlethorpe High, and an experienced Lead Inspector from Ofsted, they spent time interviewing Senior and Middle Leaders; Governors; visiting lessons; speaking to children; and reviewing data. We were delighted to receive a very positive report, with the team stating that the degree of school improvement is 'remarkable' given the challenging context we have all experienced due to Covid-19. They also provided us with a useful steer on what to prioritise over coming months to continue this period of rapid improvement. We are extremely grateful for the professional generosity of these colleagues, who gave up their time during such a busy time of year.

Senior School Sports Day

This year's Senior Sports day will be on **Friday 2nd July**. All senior students should therefore come to school in school PE kit on the day. We also advise that students make sure to bring additional water and sunscreen, and even a spare jumper – dependent on the weather.

| | |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Period 1: 8.45-9.45am | Year 8 |
| Period 2: 9.45-10.45am | Year 9 |
| Period 3: 11.05-12.05pm | Year 7 |
| Period 4: 1.05-2.05pm | Year 10 |

Given the current Covid restrictions, each form will be entering two representatives for each event, which includes a range of track and field athletic disciplines. Those students not entering will be able to support their peers on the day. Rewards will be given to students for displaying ASPIRE values, and the winning house from each year group, as well as overall winning house will be announced during school assembly in the final week of term.

Regrettably, given the high numbers of the Delta variant still in our community, we will not be inviting parents onto the school grounds to watch the events.

Junior Cricket

Great Horton Church Cricket Club is looking to add to their existing 10 junior teams by starting a girls' section. Girls of all abilities are encouraged to attend.

Venue: Great Horton Church Cricket Club, Allerton Road, Bradford

For: Girls – aged 6-14 years

When: Every Thursday, 6.30-7.30pm

Contact: [Great Horton Church CC \(play-cricket.com\)](https://www.play-cricket.com)

Sexual Harassment

This week, Ofsted released its report into sexual harassment in schools and colleges. This followed thousands of testimonies about abuse posted on a website, 'Everyone's Invited,' and hundreds of calls to a dedicated NSPCC helpline.

It was widely reported that sexual harassment has become "normalised" among school-age children, with girls telling Inspectors they regularly receive sexually explicit images from boys or men.

This is clearly extremely concerning and, as stated by both Ofsted's Chief Inspector, Amanda Spielman, and Education Secretary Gavin Williamson, is a cultural issue and not something that schools can solve by themselves. However, I do want to reassure parents how seriously we take these issues and what we do to develop a culture where all kinds of sexual harassment and online sexual abuse are recognised and addressed.

- We have a highly trained safeguarding lead, Miss Harris, who is a member of the Senior Leadership Team and does not teach so that she is available to deal with any safeguarding issues. She is supported by Designated Safeguarding Leads, whose names can be found on our website.
- Students can report any concerns to any adult or by using the dedicated email address safe@bggs.com or through the anonymous reporting link on our website.
- We have a carefully sequenced Relationships Sex and Health Education programme, based on the DfE's statutory guidance, that includes sexual harassment and sexual violence, including online.
- Our safeguarding system, CPOMS, includes a specific category used to record and monitor any incidents of sexual harassment.
- Our behaviour policy makes specific reference to sexual misconduct and serious sanctions, including permanent exclusion, may be applied for sexual assault.
- We have provided two training inputs already this year to ensure that all staff are able to:
 - better understand the definitions of sexual harassment and sexual violence, including online sexual abuse;
 - identify early signs of peer-on-peer sexual abuse;
 - consistently uphold standards in their responses to sexual harassment and online sexual abuse.
- In addition to the above training, all our staff are currently undertaking an assessed course on peer-on-peer abuse, which focuses on sexual violence and harassment and covers:
 - What peer-on-peer abuse is, including definitions of key terms like sexual harassment, sexual violence and consent
 - What to do if a child makes an allegation
 - How to address and prevent peer-on-peer abuse by contributing to a positive safeguarding culture

The dedicated NSPCC Helpline, **Report Abuse in Education** can be contacted by phone on 0800 136 663, or by emailing help@nspcc.org.uk. The helpline is for children, young people and adult victims of sexual abuse. The helpline will provide victims of abuse with the appropriate support, advice and onward action, including on contacting professionals or the police if they wish. The helpline will also provide support to parents and professionals too. The helpline will run for a further four months until October.

Standards

For the rest of this academic year we are having a weekly push on standards – starting next week with jewellery. Please remind your daughter about the school uniform policy which states:

Jewellery is not allowed with the exception of a watch and one plain stud earrings in the lobes of the ear. Other jewellery and/or piercings are not allowed. If a student has an existing nose piercing then a small, plain stud would be deemed acceptable for school, to prevent the piercing from closing.

Students will be asked to remove any unacceptable items, and repeated incidents will lead to confiscation for the remainder of the day. Any refusal to do so will lead to sanctions in line with the behaviour policy.

School Website

Over the last year, we have been working on our website, to make it up-to-date, user-friendly and informative. We are delighted to report that this is now 'live'! Please take a look at www.bggs.com.

Covid-19 Updates

Anyone living in the areas listed below is asked to get tested, whether they have been vaccinated or not, either on the doorstep when one of the team visits or at one of the local testing sites. This is the best way to stop the virus spreading even further.

- Bowling & Barkerend
- Bradford Moor
- Clayton & Fairweather Green
- Little Horton
- Manningham
- Royds
- Thornton & Allerton
- Toller

Vaccination Drop-In Clinic

The other ways to protect yourself are to get vaccinated (both doses) and to continue washing your hands, wearing a face covering, staying 2m apart and letting the fresh air in.

This Saturday, 12th June, there is a **vaccine drop-in clinic** at the Whetley Medical Centre, 2 Saplin St, Manningham BD8 9DW. Anyone aged 30+, carers or frontline health and social care staff, as well as those aged 18+ who are clinically vulnerable can get their **first or second dose**.

Please encourage anyone you know to go to the vaccination clinic.

Hope you have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely



Clare Martin
Principal

BRADFORD GIRLS' GRAMMAR SCHOOL
& LADY ROYD PRIMARY

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