



Senior Newsletter

21st November 2018



Dear Parents

I hope you enjoyed a restful Home Weekend and are looking forward to the end of term celebrations. As you may know we try to concentrate our charitable fund raising into a whole School charity and this year are raising funds for the Lord's Taverners and Farms for City Children. I have recently been approached by two Christmas charities to ask for our support and I would like to share the details with you now. The first is "The Peoples' Picnic" which asks volunteers to fill a sock with useful items for homeless people. Our charity coordinator Mr Burnett will be aiming to collect some of these socks for this charity at the end of term. In the meantime, they have a [Facebook](#) page and will be happy for any support you felt you wish to give.

The second is the Buckingham Emergency Food Appeal (BEFA) which was established by OG Mike Buckingham in 1985. This has grown to the point where they provide the ingredients for 17,000 Christmas lunches in a large geographical area of refuges and charities in London and throughout East Anglia. BEFA are very keen to hear from any parent who may be able to support their work. Their website is www.befafoodappeal.co.uk

I hope to see as many of you as possible at the School musical and the carol services.

With all good wishes

Douglas Robb
Headmaster



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World War One Commemorations



Gresham's commemorated the centenary of World War One by holding a special Remembrance Service in the School's Memorial Chapel on Friday 9th November to remember the 115 pupils and staff who lost their lives in the Great War and on 11th November joined the local community in Holt for their Sunday Remembrance Service.

Pupils, staff and invited guests marked the end of the First World War at a special service organised by the School Chaplain Fr Bryan. Members of the three contingents from Gresham's Combined Cadet Force marched from Big School to the School Chapel to mark the start of the service. The Chapel Choir sung beautifully led by the Director of Music, Mr John Bowley.

Over the past four years, Head of History, Mr Simon Kinder, has researched the stories of the 112 pupils and three staff who attended Gresham's and lost their lives in the Great War and has been retelling their stories at assemblies and chapel services at the School. Thanks to Sue Smart, former Deputy Head of Gresham's and Archivist Liz Larby for their support with this project.

On Saturday 11th November was the anniversary of the death of St. John Davies, one of the Old Greshamians (OGs) who lost his life in World War One and the School was delighted to welcome members of his family to the service on 9th November; Michael Davies (St. John's uncle) and Michael's daughter Helen Ormerod. Helen joined the School in a procession of lanterns to remember those OGs and staff who lost their lives and it was particularly special that Helen carried a lantern in memory of her great uncle.



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In 1918, Gresham's headmaster George Howson saw the installation of a memorial to the pupils and staff who died fighting in World War One; the names of the fallen appear in a six-panel memorial board in the School Chapel. 100 years later, Gresham's has raised over £8,000 for a new memorial stone, which includes the names of 15 pupils and staff who were later discovered and are now included on this fitting tribute. Thanks to research by staff, pupils and information published by former Deputy Head, Sue Smart, in her poignant book about the fallen – *When Heroes Die* in 2001, this memorial stone is installed in Chapel as a reminder of the 115 staff and pupils who lost their lives.

Friday's Remembrance Service culminated with a moving performance by piper Rod Caird who played 'When the Battle's O'er' and 'The Bloody Fields of Flanders' on the pipes.

Following the service a presentation of the Agreement of Affiliation between the Royal British Legion (Holt & District branch) to Gresham's School Contingent Combined Cadet Force was made by Major General Sir William Cubitt, KCVO, CBE, DL County President of the Royal British Legion to Lieutenant Colonel Simon Gates Contingent Commander. *Pictured.*





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World War One trench competition

Year 9 pupils have created some impressive replicas of World War One trenches for a competition organised by the History department following their recent trip to the Somme Battlefields in France and to mark the centenary of the Great War.



Ben Hunt, was awarded first prize for his outstanding tribute entitled "Far Field" made all the more poignant as he had individually made 115 poppies for his trench to represent the staff and pupils from Gresham's who had lost their lives in the Great War. (*Pictured above*)

Ben said, "I feel extremely proud of what I have created as I spent so much time perfecting my model to ensure it looked as authentic as possible." He used a shoe box, wood, barbed wire and even some clay that he had gathered on a recent trip to France to help recreate his trench.

Head of History, Mr Simon Kinder said, "This term we are studying the Great War and I have been really impressed with how the pupils researched and developed their entries for this competition. The standard this year has been particularly high and this is a consequence of how important commemorating the Great War centenary has been at Gresham's. The students have clearly embraced the challenge and learned so much from constructing their trenches."



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World War One trench competition cont/d

More than 500 former pupils fought for their country, leaving a lasting impact on the School and the local community.



Gresham's Knitting Group



You may be aware of the knitted poppies which have been used throughout the country in displays commemorating 100 years since the end of the First World War. Gresham's Knitting Group contributed magnificently to this project by producing in excess of fifty poppies during last month's Field Days. Having mastered the art of casting on, garter stitch, decreasing and finishing skills in the first few weeks of term, the group – seventeen strong and growing – spent two days fervently knitting their poppies and packaging them to deliver to Sheringham WI, who, in turn, used the poppies to make a display in Sheringham Church remembering those who lived in and around Sheringham who had given their lives to serve their country.



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Gresham's Knitting Group cont/d



Sheringham WI was delighted by the effort and hard work of our students which helped bring this project to fruition. Well done all – you did yourselves (and Gresham's) proud.

Ms M Masters and Mrs N Gates



Soldier silhouette

If you are visiting the parish of Letheringsett with Glandford look out for the soldier silhouette which forms part of the Armistice memorial. This moving tribute was produced by the skilled team in the Art, Design and Technology department at Gresham's.

*Mr T Keen
Chair of Letheringsett with
Glandford Parish Council*



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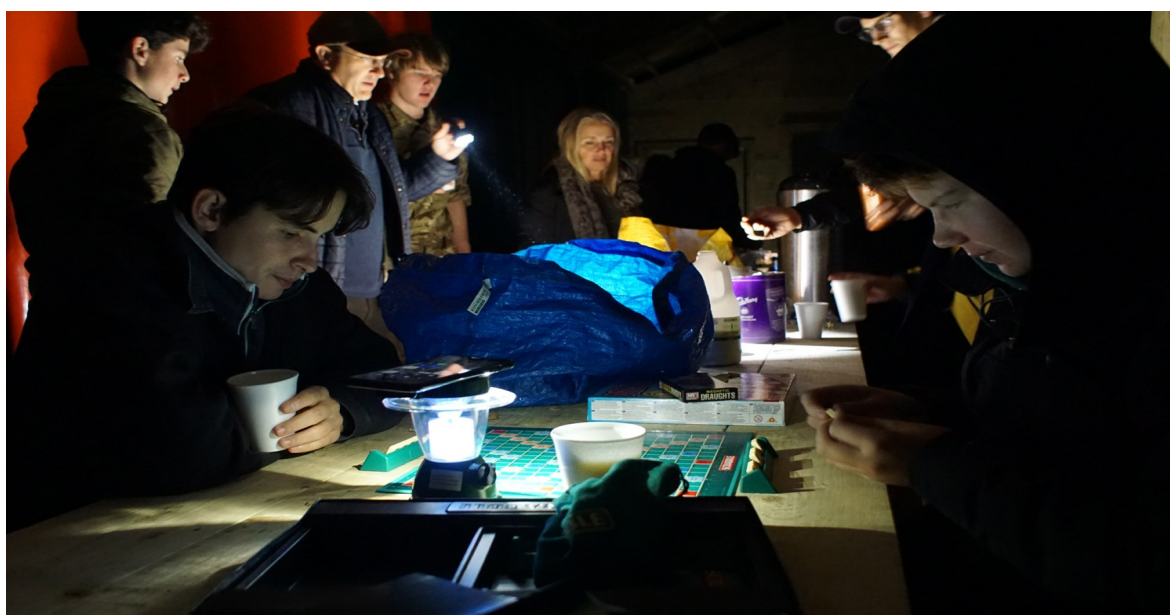
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Farfield remembers

On the eve of The Armistice, on a dark and stormy night, Mr Detnon took the Farfield boarders across to the new lodge in the woods, together with Mr Atkinson, Mr Burnett and matron, Mrs Brigham.

The twenty-six boarders spent some time in the rustic timber building using only lanterns to provide a dim light, much in the same way that a shelter in the Great War would have been lit.



Jeremias Klingenhage read a letter describing the positive, forward looking mood in his home town of Munich on the 7 November 2018, Moritz Kessler read 'The Awakening', a war poem from the German poet Ernst Stadler. Kit Riley, Segolame Milofe, Nureyn Mwang'ombe and Johnny Derbyshire all read well known British war poems and Mr Detnon read reports about how difficult life in the trenches was, whilst Jack Stewart Richardson and Wilf Short read the stories of two Farfield boys who died in The Great War.

Mr P Detnon, Head of Economics and IB Co-ordinator



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Spanish Bake Off

Pupils in Year 9 have been busy this term learning about different Spanish foods and invested a huge amount of effort learning new recipes to bring into School. The results were exceptional and we may have some future contestants for the Great British Bake off from Gresham's!

Amongst the offerings were:

Pan con tomate y jamón, bizcocho de limón, y de chocolate, palmeritas, flan, melón con jamón magdalenas, empanadas and tortilla española.

Well done to all pupils for rising to the challenge and they now have a good insight into local specialities for when travelling to Spain.



Miss J Challis, Head of Spanish



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Getting to Gresham's

New bus routes from
Eaton, Norwich
and Cambridge

greshams.com



Expansion of the Gresham's bus service

Due to increased demand, the school will be running additional bus services.

From January a bus will run from Eaton, Norwich on a daily basis.

From September a service will run on weekends to and from Cambridge, leaving school after games on Saturdays, returning either Sunday afternoon or Monday morning.

Further details will be finalised and placed on the school's ['Getting to School'](#) webpage shortly.



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Iceland trip to Geography



Iceland is an ideal place for a School trip despite the hazardous physical geography. We returned to Hotel Cabin, which despite its name is an enormous hotel in the banking district of Reykjavik. This part of the city is trying to reinvent itself after the 2008 financial crisis.

Our tour guide had taught geography at Hamburg International School for 25 years, and had visited Iceland 21 times. A short ride from the airport is the Bridge between the Continents. This is a symbolic footbridge spanning one of the major fissures between Europe and North America. It is named in honour of Icelandic explorer Leifur Eiriksson, famous for being the first European to land in America, 500 years before Columbus.



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Iceland trip to Geography cont/d

On the first day, we viewed a highly active geothermal area of mud pools and steam vents on the southwest part of the Reykjanes Peninsula. The groundwater here is 100% seawater, unlike other geothermal areas on the island. Gases such as carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulphide make the water acidic, which changes the fresh lava rock into clay. The group also walked to the largest public swimming pool, next to the national football stadium where Icelandic people regularly meet .



On the second day the group travelled to the small village of Flúðir, which has the Secret Lagoon, a naturally occurring hot spring pool where we had a very tranquil experience. The lunch stop was at Gullfoss, Iceland's most famous waterfall. It is located on a glacial river, which drops 32 metres into a narrow canyon which is 70 metres deep and 2.5 kilometres long. Next stop was the Strokkur Geysir, erupting every 6 to 8 minutes with its boiling waterspout reaching a height of 15 metres. Nearby is the Great Geysir, once inactive, but after the June 2000 earthquakes, now erupts twice a day. We ended the day at Þingvellir, the location of the national parliament of Iceland, which was established at the site in 930 AD. It is claimed to be the oldest democratic institution in the world, with sessions held at the location until 1798. Nowhere else in Iceland is the rift between the European and North American plates more obvious, with long deep cracks running from the northeast to the southwest, giving the landscape the appearance of a crevassed glacier.



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Iceland trip to Geography cont/d

The third day began at a brand new exhibition called the Lava Centre. This museum shows past and present volcanic activity, and explains the country's frequent earthquakes. Before lunch the group had arguably the biggest PAGM (phenomenally awesome geographical moment) of the trip; the hike of Sólheimajökull Glacier. Towards the snout various moraine ridges are crossed with kettle hole lakes. One of the dominant features of the glacier is the dirt cones that cover the lower snout area. We ended the day at Reynishverfi Beach and a walk along the black basalt sands where columnar basalt can be seen on the cliff faces.

The final day began at Hellisheiði Geothermal Power Plant, the largest power station in Iceland. The cloud and light rain would not shift, and so we hiked to a thermal river. The tour was completed with some free time in Reykjavik, the world's most northern capital and home to 65% of the country's population. Hallgrímskirkja is an imposing church, designed to resemble a mountain of basaltic lava.



The 18 students who came on the trip were: Iris Lo (E), Meganie Li (O), Karina Mak (Q), Joe Kooreman (T), Arthur Fox (T), Jack Gibson (T), Thomas Bennett (T), Ben van Buuren (W), Charlie Carpenter (H), Lorenz Romeni (F), Teddy Chapple (F), Ed Bowden (T), Scarlett Ebdale (Q), Fleur McRitchie Pratt (Q), Tristan Tancred (F), Rocco Lum (F), Lucy Matthes (E) and Foivy Scamell-Katz (T).

Mr S Brown, Head of Geography



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RAF Cadets take to the skies

Cadets from the Royal Air Force (RAF) Section of Gresham's School Combined Cadet Force (CCF) have the opportunity to fly with No. 5 Air Experience Flight (5 AEF) who are one of twelve Air Experience Flights (AEFs) run by the Air Cadet Organisation of the Royal Air Force.



Pictured Cadet Corporal Lorenz Romeni (F)

The opportunity to visit RAF Wittering takes place three times a term with twenty four cadets getting an air experience flight.



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House Music 2018

What better way to end the half term than with an incredibly competitive, House-spirited afternoon of music. After three weeks of preparation, hard-work and endless rehearsals, the Senior School gathered in the sports hall and kicked off the first part of the event, Instrumental, with an amazing and confident performance from Farfield. The atmosphere grew, as each House performed their own renditions of everything from classical to jazz and even the Wii theme tune. All were very high-quality performances, but it was **Tallis** who claimed the winning title!



The second part of the event was Part Song. Each House gave it their best as the atmosphere grew and the chanting upped its game. Howson's seemed to have almost their entire House on stage with their rendition of *'Guide me, O Thou Great Redeemer'* and Queens' were tough competition, singing a song from Pitch Perfect, with two different songs in one, but they were no match for Edinburgh who clearly won with their version of a Glee song, *'Somebody to Love'*. The audience were so quiet, you could have heard a pin drop.

Unison, the final part of the evening, was something else. Each and every pupil got up on the stage to sing, dance and perform and the competition was fierce. House chants were erupting every few seconds, and some pupils have even said that it should be renamed, 'House Chanting' instead of House Music, due to the competitiveness and House spirit! This was a much more level playing field, with no-one really knowing who was going to win, it was all to play for. Howson's started the section with an incredibly entertaining musical theatre song from West Side Story, followed by Queens' with their performance of *'Voulez-Vous'* from Mamma Mia, Edinburgh singing *'This is Me'*, and mash-ups from Farfield, Oakeley and Tallis. One of the highlights of the event has to be Woodlands with their rendition of *'You're Welcome'* from Moana. A row of Upper-Sixth boys in giant afro-wigs, hula skirts, shirtless and covered in tattoos singing their heart out on stage really shows what Gresham's House Music is all about!



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House Music 2018 cont/d



Our experienced adjudicator, world class singer, composer and choral leader, Joanna Forbes L'Estrange, who has also featured in many well-known, recent Hollywood movie soundtracks gave very positive, professional and encouraging feedback to all Houses.

The overall winner, however was yet to be announced and with anticipation high, everyone waited whilst watching the previous winners of the other two sections perform. First was the important announcement of the winner of the Unison, and this was by **Queens'**. Huge congratulations to the whole House!

Those quick on the draw with their calculators could work out that the overall winner was... **Edinburgh!** A close competition but very well deserved. Bring on next year!

Jemima Porter (E)





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Recital evening

On 5th November some of our musicians gave an enchanting recital in the Fishmongers' Recital Hall at the Britten Building. It was such a pleasure to see and hear how these musicians are progressing this term. An appreciative audience enjoyed a wonderful hour's entertainment of instrumental music and singing.



The pupils who performed included:

Paige Broadhurst (Q): piano - *Dr Gradus ad Parnassum* : Debussy
Freddie Smith (H): voice - *Where'er You Walk* : Handel
Poppy Robinson (O): piano - *Kinderstücke No.2, Andante Sostenuto* : Mendelssohn
Marta Tallinn (O) voice: - *How Far I'll Go* : Lin-Manuel Miranda
Charlotte MacDonald (E): voice - *Being Alive* : Stephen Sondheim
Oliver Thomas (H): guitar - *Introduction to Variations on a Theme by Mozart* : Sor
Iris Croft (E): voice - *Return O God of Hosts* : Handel
Rachel Heath (E): cello - *Titania* : Austin
Caspar Schlueter (F): voice - *Die Forelle* : Schubert
William Johnson (T): piano - *I Giorni* : Ludovico Einaudi
Amelia Fox (E): voice - *Fly me to the Moon* : Howard
Libby Noy (O): voice - *I had Myself a True Love* : Mercer & Arlen
Iris Croft & Ella Fairbairn-Day (Q): vocal duet - *Barcarolle* : Offenbach
Clementine Chapple (E): voice - *Stop and See Me* : Ellen Green & Alan Menken
Adrian Leung (F): harmonica - *Toledo* : James Moody



Mr J Bowley, Director of Music



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Music - Dates for your diary



Sunday 2nd December, 4pm —Advent Service

Please join us, for this beautiful Advent service at Cley Church

Sunday 9th December, 7.30pm —Handel's Messiah

3.00-4.30pm chorus rehearsal (you are invited to sing!)

Auden Theatre

Thursday 6th December, 1.20pm— Final Music and Munch of term—Festive Theme!

Tig's, Britten Building



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Success for Gresham's netball teams



Many congratulations to the Netball 1st VII (*pictured above*), who qualified for the East Region finals of the Under 19 National Schools' Netball Competition at the University of East Anglia last week.

The girls won all of their pool games, which included victories over Langley School and Norwich High School, and they went on to beat Wymondham College in the semi finals. Their only loss came at the hands of Norwich School in the final, but the girls are safely through to the next round, which will be held at Welwyn Garden City on Saturday 26th January 2019.

Well done as well to the Under 14 girls' netball team who also qualified for the East Region





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Inter House Cross Country

On Saturday 10th November the Junior and Senior girls took part in the Girls Inter House Cross Country through Gresham's school woods and grounds. The weather was surprisingly mild for this time of year which provided lovely conditions to complete the course. Those who took part had their individual challenges around the course and were supported by staff and fellow students along the way. The students should be congratulated for their enthusiasm this year and their warm up activities which ranged from the hokey cokey to some gentle jogs!



Certificates were awarded to the top three finishers in each year group and to the winning House overall. Congratulations to Edinburgh House the winning House.

David Saker, Head of Physics and Master I/C of Cross Country



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Team GB selection for Gresham's rifle shooter



Congratulations to Will Cubitt (H) who has been selected for the U19 Great Britain Rifle Team and is now preparing to tour with the team to South Africa in April 2019. Wishing Will and the squad the very best of luck.



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GRESHAM'S FOUNDATION

Small Grants to Enhance

Twice a year The Gresham's Foundation invites applications from Gresham's Heads of Department, and this year, adding House Masters and Mistresses, for small grants that positively affect a large number of Gresham's pupils. The greater number of students who benefit, the greater the likelihood of acceptance!

This year we have renamed the scheme 'Small Grants to Enhance' and it is just that. Grants for projects and initiatives from the Pre-Prep, Prep and Senior School, which are not part of the School budget, can apply for up to £2500. Several of last year's winners were Pre Prep Outdoor Learning Furniture, Prep Drama 'Hanging Microphones' and Senior School Sport Playback Video Camera to take coaching to an even higher level!

'Small Grants to Enhance' for this term was announced on 19th November and the Foundation Trustees Committee is looking forward to receiving the evermore innovative project funding requests by Monday 10th December.

The Gresham's Family Bursary

Chairman of Governors and OG, Michael Goff announced at the annual 'OG Over 60's Lunch' a new initiative to be added to The Gresham's Foundation programme of support - The Gresham's Family Bursary. This new Bursary, which will help support OG's currently unable to send their children to Gresham's, is currently being established.



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2016



OG CLUB



The OG Club would like to congratulate **Michael Goff** (F 1968-73) on becoming the first OG Chairman of Governors. Michael is a past OG Club Chairman and has been a tremendous supporter of the School for many years. We wish him every success in his new role.

Sunday Times Sportswoman of the Year

OG sporting pioneer **Alex Paske** (E 2004 – 08) was awarded the Sunday Times Sportswoman of the Year Grassroots Award for her inspiring business The Mintridge Foundation.

The Foundation works with young people across a range of sports in schools and sports clubs all over the UK supported by a team of 30 professional athletes.





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2016



OG CLUB



Congratulations to alumnus Toby Little (k & W 2010–18) who has been selected for the Great Britain Under 21 Rifle Team which will compete in the World Championships in New Zealand in January and February next year.

This competition takes place every four years and Toby is one of seven team members selected.

Autumn Lunch for Over 60s

One hundred OGs and guests attended a reunion event for over-60s on the 10th November. The day began with a Chapel service, where guests were able to view the newly commissioned, complete memorial stonework dedicated to OGs who fell in World War One.





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Autumn Lunch for Over 60s

The autumn lunch was well attended with many guests staying on after lunch to watch some hockey and rugby against Norwich School.



-Ends-