

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT GOLDINGTON?

MARCH 2019

By Isma

### BEDS BAND FACTORY

On 27<sup>TH</sup> February students who played musical instruments as part of the Bandits lunchtime club took part in the Beds Band Factory which highlighted young musical achievement. This took place at the Inspiring Music Education Hub at Redborne Upper School, Ampthill.



### INTERVIEW WITH TAMSIN – BEDS BAND FACTORY

**Q: How did you find taking part with the Beds Band Factory?**

*A: It was an exciting opportunity to show our varying musical talents, hear other pupils perform and it was nice to know what you were up against. This gave you insights into what other students prepared for.*

**Q: What did it involve and what instrument did you play?**

*A: It involved teamwork and coordination. As a group we had to make sure that everybody had a role that they were happy with. My role was singing which I thoroughly enjoyed. Also in December I took part with singing at Goldington's Got Talent.*

**Q: In this event did it include an audience and if so how did they react?**

*A: Yes the event did include an audience. This involved the parents and carers who were very supportive. The 3 schools that participated were put into rooms and in those rooms we could hear the audience clapping all the way from the performing area!*

**Q: Do you attend musical activities/clubs and would you recommend other students doing so?**

*A: I attend the choir club at Goldington Academy which runs on a Monday morning at 8:30 am. I also attend singing lessons inside and outside of school. I would recommend other students doing so if they're interested because it is an escape from reality especially when you're really stressed out. It also helps relieve your mind.*

## GEOGRAPHY LECTURE

On 26<sup>th</sup> February years 9 and 10 pupils had the opportunity to experience a geography lecture by Richard Walker at Bedford School. The lecture focused on vulcanicity in New Zealand and natural hazards.

Following this on 19<sup>th</sup> March Richard Hodgkins presented a lecture about Climate Feedbacks in Polar Environments. The presentation focused on facts about how global warming and global climate change is affecting glaciology and arctic regions. Engaging quizzes, question and answer sessions with discussions were included. For example one discussion involved, *ice caps are melting due to global warming*.

If you would like to discover more information about glaciology and arctic regions and vulcanicity and natural hazards visit the websites below: <http://nsidc.org/arcticseaicenews/>

<https://www.munichre.com/australia/australia-natural-hazards/australia-volcano/volcanoes/index.html>



## U DANCE WORKSHOPS AND PERFORMANCE

On 9<sup>th</sup> March students who attend the club U Dance which runs on Fridays after-school, with Mrs Mahoney had the chance to visit and perform, at Bedford University Education Studies Department, Alumni. Workshops and rehearsals took place throughout the day and finished with an exceptional performance from all the students that participated.



## **INTERVIEW WITH POPPY – U DANCE MEMBER**

### **Q: How was the experience of performing at Bedford University and did you enjoy it?**

*A: It was a fantastic experience. It was nerve-wracking to perform but it was enjoyable. The performance was energetic, and you definitely needed stamina and adrenaline to perform and carry on.*

### **Q: What were the workshops/rehearsals about?**

*A: The U dance workshops were with Lindsey (University of Bedfordshire theatre lecturer to students). They were based on contemporary dance, martial arts, hip – hop (upbeat) and theatre based skills.*

### **Q: What did the performance involve?**

*A: The performance involved bringing together two generations: the old and the young. This involved joining in and helping with the older generation, in their weekly dance groups. We were also able to bring back projections/pictures of their time in the dance groups. This was displayed on the wall at the dance workshops.*

### **Q: How could students get involved if they were interested in dance?**

*A: Contact Mrs Mahoney, Head of Dance or you can participate with dance clubs at lunchtimes. Years 8, 9 and 10 dance club runs on Thursdays at 1:00 pm and years 6 and 7 dance club runs on Fridays at 1:00 pm.*

## **BEDFORDSHIRE FESTIVAL OF MUSIC, SPEECH AND DRAMA**

On 9<sup>th</sup> March 8 students represented Goldington Academy at The Bedfordshire Festival of Music, Speech and Drama which is a charity that showcases high – level talents in the arts. Alex Felice won the Best Speech and Drama performance in the festival for the under 15s age category. If you would like to find out more information about the festival watch the video: <https://youtu.be/tta9tbiEnYc>



## **INTERVIEW WITH ALEX – BEDFORDSHIRE FESTIVAL OF MUSIC, SPEECH AND DRAMA PARTICIPANT**

### **Q: What was your performance and what did it involve?**

*A: It involved 5 performances: writing and performing a separate poem, musical theatre, gala theatre, dramatic solo and performing poems. I got through to the gala concert because of my*

dramatic solo presentation. Additionally the performance involved singing, acting, performing skills and musical theatre.

**Q: How did you find taking part?**

A: This is the third year I have been doing the Bedfordshire Festival of Music, Speech and Drama. This time round I have particularly enjoyed it and I didn't expect that I was going to do, so well.

**Q: How did you feel when you heard that you had won in your category?**

A: I couldn't believe it when I heard that I had won. I was shocked and wasn't expecting this to happen. It took a couple of days to sink in.



Alongside other students Alex is taking part in Goldington Academy's upcoming drama production of, 'Into the Woods' which will be performed at The Place Theatre in July. Tickets will be on sale soon.

**NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SHOW, MILTON KEYNES**



On 13<sup>th</sup> March year 10 students attended The National Apprenticeship Show. There were different businesses and companies that provided lots of helpful information about apprenticeships, in differing fields. Students who visited the fair, engaged in activities that enabled them to better understand what apprenticeships involve.

## **MOUNTFITCHET CASTLE, STANSTED**

Year 7 students have been studying The Battle of Hastings and the Norman era in history lessons. To develop their understanding they visited the Norman castle, Mountfitchet on 14<sup>th</sup> March. Activities were mainly outside where students were able to explore Norman village life. It is the only medieval castle and village in the world that has been built and reconstructed on existing Norman land. If you would like to find out about this castle and its history visit the link: <https://mountfitchetcastle.com/>



## **ROBOTICS COMPETITION**

The year 10 GA Girlbots won the Judges Award at the Regional Finals of the VEX robotics UK competition back in January. As a result they have gone on further with the National robotics competition and performed really well on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> March. Through hard work and determination the team came 14<sup>th</sup> place against 60 teams nationwide.



## **THE BIG BANG NEC BIRMINGHAM**

On 15<sup>th</sup> March year 8 PLP (Personalised Learning Programme – taster lessons picked by students to help them decide what they would like to do for their GCSE options) advanced science pupils, got the exciting chance to spend the day at The Big Bang NEC. The Big Bang Fair is aimed at bringing students together to explore STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) through a range of competitions, presentations and hands on activities/workshops.

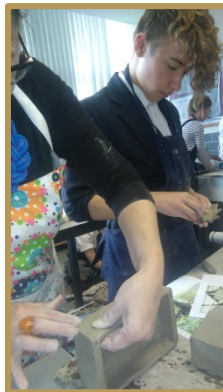
## ANNE FRANK EXHIBITION AT GOLDINGTON ACADEMY

This month Anne Frank student tour guides at Goldington Academy have been very busy. They have been presenting and leading, the exhibition of Anne Frank to pupils in our school library. There was a display of interesting, historical information about the life of Anne Frank and World War 2. Here is a link below which shows a presentation demonstrated by a GA student tour guide:

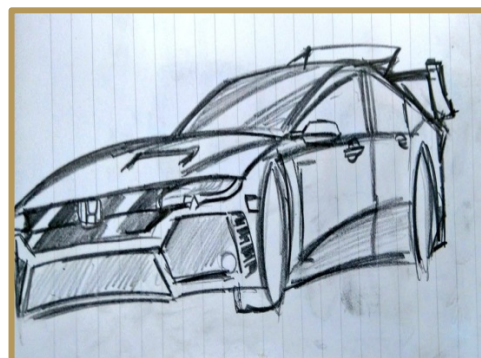
<https://twitter.com/i/status/1106217523580678151>

## CERAMICS WORKSHOP WITH AMANDA SILK

As part of the Art GCSE curriculum year 10 pupils on 8<sup>th</sup> March have been using ceramics to create Amanda Silk inspired art creations. Amanda Silk is a local artist who is well - known for working with ceramics and clay. The GCSE art pupils have been preparing and planning ideas in preparation for this workshop which was enjoyed by all. If you would like to find out more about Amanda Silk, her work and workshops visit the website: <https://www.amandasilk.com/>



## ILLUSTRATION CLUB AT GOLDINGTON ACADEMY



Pupils who attend illustration club, group B have been hard at work this term. The illustrators have created inspiring art pieces which show their artistic talents and flare. The after – school club runs on Wednesday afternoon and is very popular. Group A illustrators were attending from September – February and now group B have started. If you would like to find out further information please contact Miss Prior in the arts department.

## **MUSIC MARK AWARD AT BEDFORD SCHOOL**

On 21<sup>st</sup> March Goldington Academy along with other schools visited Bedford School to receive the Music Mark Award from Bedford Music Hub. This is in recognition for their dedication in providing high quality music education. Mr Galbraith (Principal), Mrs Lodder (Head of Creative Arts) and the music ambassadors all attended. At Goldington Academy there are musical clubs which range from: choir, ukelele club (run by a music ambassador, Raahimah), the string group, bandits and handbells alongside music lessons. There have been lots of music events that have taken place this year which have inspired pupils to further develop their musical talents . Upcoming events include: KS4 Bedfordshire Battle of the Bands, the guitar event and the Summer concert.



## **GCSE DRAMA WORKSHOP WITH SINGLE SHOE PRODUCTIONS**

On 22<sup>nd</sup> March Single Shoe Productions visited Goldington Academy to teach years 9 and 10 GCSE drama pupils devising skills. To develop their drama skills further, on 2<sup>nd</sup> April GCSE drama students will be watching the theatre show, 'A Disappearing Act' at The Place Theatre, Bedford. Filipa and Bradley who visited will be starring in the magical, enchanting show.



## STRINGS IN SPRING

On 22<sup>nd</sup> March students at Goldington Academy who play string instruments got the opportunity to perform in the annual Strings in Spring event which took place in our newly refurbished drama studio. Pupils from The Hills Academy music department also performed alongside GA students. Lots of teamwork took place from the different age categories in order to bring together musical collaborations. This highlighted not only the achievements but also the talent of all who participated.



## MUSIC OUTREACH PROJECT

In the last week of March students that play percussion instruments from Goldington Academy and Mark Rutherford took part in the Music Outreach Project which took place at Bedford Modern School. They worked on musical pieces which included “Wallop” alongside BMS student percussionists. Tim Gunnell, percussion artist was there to give lots of expert musical skills, tips and techniques.





## **COMPETITIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES:**

### **March/April 2019**

#### **20th - 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

- Book fair @ Goldington Academy in the school library @ break and lunch  
More than 200 choices of books  
World Book Day tokens accepted on purchases

#### **26<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

- Author visit rescheduled – Dan Freedman @ Goldington Academy  
For years 6 and 7 pupils

#### **26<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

- Maths feast @ Goldington Academy

#### **27<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

- KS4 (Key Stage 4) Bedfordshire Battle of the Bands @ The Stables, Milton Keynes

#### **29<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

- Ceramics workshop @ Goldington Academy

#### **29<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

- Year 8 PLP advanced science air bus workshop with Nick Chapman@ Goldington Academy

#### **1<sup>st</sup> April 2019**

- Arts Award Silver Event @ the University of Bedfordshire – Goldington Academy students

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> April 3 pm & 7:30 pm**

- The Place Theatre, Bedford  
'A Disappearing Act' presented by Single Shoe Production – age group: 10+ families welcome. For further info t: 01234 354321 or e: info@theplacebedford.org.uk or website: [www.theplacebedford.org.uk/tickets](http://www.theplacebedford.org.uk/tickets)

#### **4<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

- The National Museum of Computing @ Bletchley Park – Goldington Academy students  
Visit the link for further info: <http://www.tnmoc.org/>
- Guitar event @ Goldington Academy

### **Easter half term activities:**

- **Pattern Tracker Trail with The Higgins Bedford, John Bunyan and Panacea Museums**  
During Easter the museums above will be running a pattern tracker trail which will enable those who participate to explore the museums and what they have to offer. To find out more visit the websites:  
[www.bunyanmeeting.co.uk/museum](http://www.bunyanmeeting.co.uk/museum)  
[www.thehigginsbedford.org.uk](http://www.thehigginsbedford.org.uk)  
[www.panaceatrust.org](http://www.panaceatrust.org)



**Mon 8<sup>th</sup> –Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> April 2019 (excluding Wed) at 10:30 am – 11:30 am and Mon 15<sup>th</sup> – Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> April 2019 (excluding Wed) at 10:30 am – 11:30 am**

- Yoga for family/ children and teenagers with Mo @ Trinity College, Bedford  
Places available to pre-book - to find out more info parents to t: 01234 291777 or visit the website: <https://ommoshantiyoga.co.uk>

**8<sup>th</sup> April 2019**

- Young Writers Club with Project 229 Bedford, Kempston  
Young Writers Club with author Jonas Lane.  
Parents to register your interest t: 01234 720532 or e: [jonaslaneauthor@gmail.com](mailto:jonaslaneauthor@gmail.com)
- MK Dons football training off Ashmead Road, Woodlands Park  
T: 12:00 – 2:00 pm Age group: 7 – 12 years  
T: 2:00 – 4:00 pm Age group: 13 -16 years  
Limited places - to book your place online visit the link:  
<https://brickhill.info/EasterCourses2019>

**10<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

- YMCA physical activity day @ Brickhill Primary School  
Age group: 5-12 years  
Limited places - to book your place online visit the link:  
<https://brickhill.info/EasterCourses2019>

**18<sup>th</sup> April at 6:00 pm – 8.00pm**

- Youth Cabinet monthly meeting @ Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford  
Age group: 11-18 years  
The Engagement & Development Team believes that Children and Young People should be SEEN and HEARD ...if you are a young person who has something to say then The youth Cabinet needs you! Run by young people, for young people, the Youth Cabinet works to make things better by listening to the key issues and working to bring about change!



If you are interested in finding out more information parents to register interest e: [voice@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:voice@bedford.gov.uk) and or visit website: [www.bedford.gov.uk/youthcabinet](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/youthcabinet)

## **Ongoing**

### **3rd June 2019 (closing date)**

- Draw a comic strip - creative competition with John Bunyan Museum, Bedford Draw a comic strip showing life in prison from a mouse view. If you are interested in finding out more visit this website: <https://www.bunyanmeeting.co.uk/creative>

### **31st July 2019 at midnight (closing date and time)**

- Betjeman Poetry Prize - open to ages 10-13 years Write a poem on the theme of PLACE. If you are interested in finding out more visit this link: <https://www.betjemanpoetryprize.co.uk/>



- Yoga for family/children and teenagers with Mo Robinson PGCE @Trinity College, Bedford Monday T: 4.30 – 5.30pm. Places available to pre-book - to find out more info parents to t: 01234 291777 or visit the website: <https://ommoshantiyoga.co.uk>
- Youth Rehab Pilates 11-16 years coming soon with Project 229 Bedford, Kempston Improving flexibility, overall strength, prevention of injury and relaxation Parents to register interest t: Johanna – 07753 418170 or e: [johannaspilatesbedford@gmail.com](mailto:johannaspilatesbedford@gmail.com)