

BURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL Careers Newsletter



Dear all,

In this month's newsletter there are links to virtual careers-related events, webinars, competitions and work experience placements which are currently on offer. There are links to virtual open days and HE (Higher Education) fairs and links to careers and UCAS updates in the news.

This month, we have launched our first alumni mentoring scheme for eight Year 11 pupils who are interested in studying Law at university. They have been matched with four BGS alumni who currently work at barristers and solicitors. We are very grateful that they have offered to share their time and expertise and we look forward to sharing the success of the mentoring scheme.

Virtual Events

Rethinking how we regulate Big Tech (Year 9 - 13) – Big tech companies seem to have been implicated in every social and political disruption of recent years, from the rise of the anti-vaxxer movement to the storming of the Capitol. Influenced by the theory of "surveillance capitalism", policymakers have sought to curb tech companies' power with stricter laws on data privacy, and robust enforcement of competition regulations. But when we think about the influence of Facebook and Google, are advertising-based business models and market power over competitors really the things that should most concern us? Join experts at Cambridge University for a discussion representing all perspectives of the debate on regulating Big Tech. This is a free event, offered by the University of Cambridge on Wednesday 19th May. To sign up for this, click [here](#).

(Re)discovering the Sutton Hoo Ship Burial (Year 9 - 13) - In Summer 1939, Charles W. Phillips, Fellow of Selwyn College, supervised the team responsible for excavating Britain's greatest ever archaeological discovery – the Sutton Hoo ship burial. This spectacular grave, perhaps of a seventh-century king, dispelled the myth of the 'Dark Ages' and revealed a world of artistic brilliance, complex beliefs and far-flung international connections. In this lecture, curator Sue Brunning presents the burial from Sutton Hoo through the diary and photographs of Charles W. Phillips. His first-hand testimony provide a thrilling glimpse of what it was like to make the find of a lifetime, recovering material culture of a nature and quality never seen before – and all as the world hurtled towards the Second World War. To sign up for this free event, offered by the University of Cambridge on Wednesday 21st May, click [here](#).



The Really Popular Book Club: Wolf Hall (Year 12 - 13) Tuesday 25th May - The Really Popular Book Club is the new reading group hosted by Cambridge University Library. Everyone is invited to join us and our special guests to discuss a really popular book, one that we all know and perhaps or perhaps not love. Join us for this club meeting where we will be discussing Wolf Hall, the first book in Hilary Mantel's trilogy about the rise and fall of Thomas Cromwell, the blacksmith's son who attained extraordinary power at the court of Henry VIII. Wolf Hall traces the initial rise of this brilliant 'Renaissance Man' to favour amid a rich historical backdrop encompassing Henry's divorce proceedings against Catherine of Aragon, the ascension of Anne Boleyn, and the beginning rumblings of Reformation. Further information about The Really Popular Book Club, including their FAQs, can be found [here](#).

University of Nottingham's Maths Taster Sessions (Year 12 - 13) - The School of Mathematical Sciences is launching a series of free online taster lectures and popular maths talks in April and May, so students can experience what a first-year maths lecture is really like. Topics include how to use mathematics in the fight against Covid-19, and tasters of first year modules - Suitable for Year 12/13 A level maths students. Talks will be available using Teams Live and on demand. Each session will usually include some interactive maths, information about our maths courses, a Q&A session, and the opportunity to meet some of our current maths students - [Find out more](#).

Competitions

[Cottrell Essay Prize for Medicine and Veterinary Medicine](#) - The prize is open to all students in Year 12 (or equivalent). Students are invited to choose one question from either Medicine or Veterinary Medicine and submit an essay between 1,000-1,500 words. **The deadline for entries is midnight on 31 May.**

Webinars

Liverpool Universities webinar (Year 11 - 13) – Join the five Liverpool area based Universities for this special talk celebrating studying in the city. Hear from staff and students about student life and the different opportunities Liverpool has to offer. This will take place Tuesday 18th May at 6pm, sign up [here](#).

Explore Criminology with The University of Law (Year 11 - 13) – This talk will introduce you to career paths across Criminology and the skills required – includes a practical taster session around Knife Crime Prevention based on Statistics, as well as a quiz and Q&A with a professional in a related career. This will take place Monday 24th May at 5pm, sign up [here](#).



Apprenticeship panel: Hear from the apprentices (Year 11 - 13) – Hear from current apprentices at Google, Morgan Stanley, and The New Schools Network about what it's really like to do an apprenticeship remotely, how apprenticeships prepare you for the world of work, and what to consider when applying for one. This will take place Tuesday 25th May at 5pm, sign up [here](#).

CV and Cover letter writing masterclass (Year 11 - 13) – Learn how to make your CV and Cover letter stand out. Hear from two experts – Sarah Ward, Owner of Hope is Here Careers Consulting, and Emma Rosen, an author, TED Speaker and Work Happiness Expert. This will take place Wednesday 26th May at 5pm, sign up [here](#).

Explore Policy with The University of Law (Year 11 - 13) – This talk will introduce you to career paths around Policing, how you can become a Constable or a Detective, and the skills required. This includes a practical taster session around Crime Scene Search, alongside a quiz and a Q&A with a professional. This will take place Monday 7th June at 5pm, sign up [here](#).

Virtual Work Experience

Many of Unifrog's 130 virtual WEX opportunities are still open for applications. Here is how to find them:



On the Special opportunities tool, students first select which country they are from.

- 1) The tool then asks which country they are interested in searching opportunities from. To find all the virtual WEX opportunities, select 'Online/ Worldwide'.
- 2) Students then select up to 10 subject areas they're interested in which takes them through to the longlist.
- 3) From here, students pick their top placements to create a shortlist of up to 10 opportunities. The shortlist gives information about what to expect from the placement and how to apply for it.

Insight into University (Year 11 - 12) - With additional places now available on the Insight into University course, the application deadline has been extended until 31 May 2021. This is a unique course for Year 11 and 12 students, offering a flexible access to a specially developed STEM content designed by leading UK universities and global STEM companies.



[Routes into STEM \(Year 9 - 10\)](#) starts in only 4 weeks. Here you can find out all the necessary information on different pathways: college and university and apprenticeship routes through industry.

[Year in Industry Placements \(Year 13\)](#) - Applications are still open for Year in Industry Placements 2021/22 – this is a fantastic way to test drive a future career if unsure whether to continue into HE (Higher Education) or go straight into employment and considers a paid gap year before an apprenticeship or studying a degree at university.

Virtual Open Days and HE (Higher Education) Fairs

Oxford University Virtual Open Days: 30th June and 1st July - Anyone who would like to attend is encouraged to [register their interest](#) in the event to make sure they receive all the information they need.

Queen's University Belfast, Virtual Open Day Festival: Saturday 5th June 1-5pm - The aim of the event is to provide prospective students with as much information about our suite of Undergraduate courses, the University and the student experience as possible, to enable them to make informed choices. Please find attached a promotional flyer for our June Virtual Open Day Festival for circulation among your students and parents/guardians. [Register here](#).

[UCAS/Discovery virtual events on 5 May, 10am – 6pm](#)

[UK University Search Virtual Fairs on 14 July, 12 - 6pm](#)

University conference - The Universities of Bath, Cardiff, Exeter, Lancaster and Warwick are hosting a series of online conferences aimed at providing information, advice and guidance on what is available and how to apply. This conference will include sessions on: Applying to a competitive university, UCAS process, choosing a course, personal statements and how to make the most of virtual open days. Saturday 24th April, 13:00 - 15:30 and Saturday 8th May, 13:00 - 15:30 [Click here for more details](#).

Careers in the News

HEPI published a report looking at reform to the UK admissions systems considering topics such as 'Should the UK admissions system move to a model of post-qualification admissions and if so which: post-qualification applications, decisions or



offers?' or 'Are predicted grades the problem or would using achieved grades make the system less fair?'. Click [here](#) to read the report.

The UK Student Loans' Company ran a webinar understanding post-Brexit student finance. [Click here to view](#).

Details about the **Turing Scheme**, The UK's global programme to study and work abroad can be found [here](#).

Changes in patterns of EU applications to UK universities have been examined in this [blog](#).

Information about changes to Oxbridge offer making were published by [Schools Week](#).

International Student Applications To U.S. Colleges Are Rebounding. Is It A Biden Bounce? [To view the article, click here](#).

BBC Radio 1 Big Weekend Connects: Would you like tips from experts in film, music, gaming and more about how they got their big break? Or are you looking for some advice and inspiration? Radio 1 is putting on a series of free career advice sessions, taking place this month. Find more details [here](#).

Careers resources

All about apprenticeships – In the April issue of the newsletter you can find information on Stress Awareness Month, Typical Interview Questions, T Levels, Degree Apprenticeships in the Digital Sector and details about apprenticeships in construction. [Click here for more information](#).

For more information about [Careers & Options Advice at Bury Grammar Schools](#) please follow the link. Finally, I am available for appointments to talk through any questions you might have, please email me hgreene@burygrammar.com to make an appointment.

Ms Hannah Greene

Head of Careers

