

BURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Careers Newsletter



Dear all,

In the first half-term of this academic year, we have been busy welcoming our new Year 7 pupils and watching our Year 12 students settle into Sixth Form and begin their A Levels. In the last week of term, our Year 13 students participated in our mock interview weeks, which was held virtually. Our students met with a professional or an academic and were asked questions about their chosen field of study and their career aspirations. Feedback from students and interviewers alike was very positive; thank you to all involved. After half-term we will have a mock MMI (multiple mini-interview) afternoon for our Year 13 students who are applying to study Medicine or Dentistry. This carousel activity will be led by alumni, BGS staff and local doctors and dentists who have volunteered their time.

In this month's newsletter there are links to virtual careers-related events, webinars and a range of careers-related opportunities. There are also links to virtual open days and HE (Higher Education) fairs and links to careers updates in the news.

UCAS Updates

Over a third of our Year 13 students have sent off their university applications to UCAS and students are starting to receive their offers. For those in Year 12 and below who are thinking about their choices, please see below a range of links for further information.

UCAS

[UCAS](#) - the official UCAS website of information and guidance which includes [City Guides](#), [Key Dates](#) and [Subject Guides](#).

Open days are taking place online this year and [UCAS Open Days](#) is one place to start finding information on dates and virtual tours. A good example is [The University of Leeds](#), who have a superb virtual tour.

[Student Finance](#) - Applications open in 2022, follow this link for information and guidance.

[Unifrog](#) - use this platform to record your extra-curricular and super curricular activities and your personal statement. You can also research and compare courses here.

[WhatUni?](#) is available for guidance and advice for students choosing courses and writing personal statements.

Online talks, lectures and events

Online lectures available from The University of Law (Years 10-13) throughout November and December

- Tuesday 9th November - *Does The World Need More Entrepreneurs?* - Students will explore what it takes to become an entrepreneur, whether they are born or made and their value to society. This session will also discuss how to exploit market opportunities and consider the impact of the external environment using SWOT and PESTLE analysis.
- Saturday 13th November - *Business Spotlight Day: From Concept to Reality - The Journey of a Product* Join the University of Law Business School to look at the different marketing aspects of the lifecycle of everyday products plus hear first-hand how the topics we cover in the sessions are applied in the real world of business.
- Tuesday 14th December - *How do you Defend Reasonable Force?* - Students will enhance their learning in Law topics including self-defence, reasonable force, and malicious revenge. We will cover what is self-defence and reasonable force; the subjective and objective tests; historic self-defence cases; can you defend your home from an intruder.

Click [here](#) to register for any of these events.

Online talks with Oxplore (All years) – Below are details of upcoming events led by Oxplore, an engaging digital resource from the University of Oxford.

- **3rd November, 2pm** - [Oxplore Live: Do Aliens Exist?](#) Dr Tom Crawford (Tom Rocks Maths) explores the possibility that we're not alone in the Universe. Tom will be joined by the astrophysicist and popular science YouTuber Dr Becky, Sci-Fi expert Simona Bartolotta, and the behavioural scientist Hubert Au. Suitable for students aged 11-18.
- **24th November, 4pm** - [Oxplore Book Club author Q&A with Philip Pullman](#) *Northern Lights* is November's recommended read and we're excited to announce that students will have the opportunity to share their thoughts and questions about the text with Philip Pullman himself! Suitable for students aged 11-14.
- **15th December, 4pm** - [Oxplore Book Club author Q&A with Nikki Sheehan](#) - Nikki Sheehan is the author of our December Book Club read, *Who Framed Klaris Cliff?* Join us live on Zoom from 4pm for a book chat with Nikki and a special Christmas quiz! Suitable for students aged 11-14.
- **26th October - The Great Vaccine Rollout: Covid-19, Cooperation & Global Public Goods** – International experts in economics and public affairs discuss vaccine nationalism: why do some countries cooperate, and others go it alone? And what are the consequences? Suitable for all years. Please click [here](#) to register for the talk.

- **Online Exhibition: Global Conversations (All years)** - This online exhibition was created from an international open call for art and is part of the 20th Anniversary programme of the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH). The exhibition will run until the end of December. Click [here](#) to register for the event with Cambridge University.
- **The Travels of the Arctic (All years)** – This online exhibition is curated by Dr Anna Gielas (University of Cambridge), launches on gloknos' website on 1 August 2021. Dr Anna Gielas is a European Fellow at the Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge, where she investigates discourses on the Arctic in scientific periodicals during the long nineteenth century. Click [here](#) to register for the event.

Online Masterclasses

Love Languages Masterclass – (Year 11) - The programme is designed to bring language learning to life, build confidence and make learning a language exciting for young people. We hope to encourage you to continue with language learning beyond GCSE and to understand the importance of languages in a global context. Throughout the programme, you'll learn about the benefits of being multilingual in the working world, practice using your target language inside and outside of the classroom setting and have a go at learning some other languages on offer at Cambridge University. **Deadline: 1st November 2021**

https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8cCQTMoez0wLYR8

The Easy As Pi Programme (Year 11) this is open to Year 11 Female and Non-binary Mathematicians. This programme will open your eyes to the magic of Maths and its use in solving crucial problems in today's world. Through a series of hands-on extra-curricular online workshops, students all over the UK will meet to explore the subject in innovative and interesting ways. The masterclasses are led by inspiring workshop leaders who come from a variety of backgrounds. They will share their enthusiasm and experience with the participants, nurturing their curiosity. The programme allows students to gain a deeper understanding of the scope, creativity, relevance and potential applications of Maths. **Deadline: 1st November 2021**

https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cZvzij8yjjb1R4

MAT Livestream 2021 (Years 11-13) If you are thinking of applying to study Mathematics at university, Oxford University are running a weekly livestream, talking about maths problems, and discussing problem-solving strategies, with a particular focus on Oxford's Mathematics Admissions Test (MAT). The sessions are free and available for everyone. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Competitions

Oxford Essay Competition – International Development (Year 11-13) The Oxford Forum for International Development (OxFID) essay competition is a new initiative for secondary school students in the UK and across the world. This year, the theme is: “*Aurora: Redefining Progress and Navigating Transition*”. Students are asked to write an 1800-word essay responding to one of the competition’s set questions. To see these and find out more details, please check out the website [here](#). Applications close on Friday 31st December.

David Garlick Prize (Years 12 and 13) – The department of Theology and Religious Studies at the University of Nottingham invites entries for the 2021 David Garlic Prize. Submit your A Level essay for the chance to win £100 in book tokens. The deadline for entries is 30th November, click [here](#) for more information.

The Special Species Game (All years) - Any student interested in STEM subjects, especially those with an interest in Biology/the natural world. The competition presents a wonderful opportunity to harness both your creative imagination and scientific knowledge. You can come up with your own Special Species by combining together different Latin or Greek words and imagining what the species would look like and why the species might have developed those features through evolution. <https://www.linnean.org/learning/content/special-species>

Searchlight Writing for Children Award (Years 11-13) – Searchlight Writing for Children Awards is a new rolling competition for aspiring authors writing for children or young adults. Their purpose is to shine a bright light on exceptional writing. They publish winning entries and act as a stepping stone for children’s authors to achieve their literary dreams. <https://www.searchlightawards.co.uk/>

New College of the Humanities Essay Competition (Year 12) – The selection of essay titles engages across a broad range of humanities and social sciences topics. The deadline for all essays is Monday 1st January <https://www.nchlondon.ac.uk/pre-university-programmes/essay/>. There are essay titles for Art History, Creative Writing, History, Law, Economics, Politics, Philosophy, English, Psychology, and Data Science.

The Prismatic Jane Eyre Schools Project - Entrants are asked to produce a poem in another language inspired by a selected passage from *Jane Eyre*. The competition accepts submissions in any language, and all entries need to be accompanied by a literal translation into English. The competition deadline is March 2022. For more details please visit this website <https://bookshelf.mml.ox.ac.uk/2021/07/14/prismatic-jane-eyre-schools-project/>.

The David Raeburn Prize (Years 7-13) - The Faculty of Classics, in partnership with the Archive of Performances of Greek and Roman Drama (APGRD), is proud to launch the David Raeburn Prize, an exciting new performance competition for young people from across the UK. Perform a piece of ancient drama or deliver a spoken word composition and be in with the chance of winning great prizes. The deadline for entries is Thursday 2nd December 2021.

<https://clasoutreach.web.ox.ac.uk/drama-competition-2021>.

Virtual Open Days and HE (Higher Education) Fairs

What Career live? – 12th and 13th November - (Years 11-13)

With so many options to choose from when you leave school, it can be hard to know where to start. Get your free ticket to this live virtual event to explore your options. Log in to this essential event for 15 - 19 year olds to chat to top universities and leading employers, watch a packed programme of free talks and get expert advice to help you achieve your career goals. With exhibitors including NHS, Capita, Rolls Royce, AON, UCFB, Jaguar, Land Rover and universities including University of Southampton, University of Bath, University of Reading, Liverpool Hope University, De Montfort University, Keele University, Ravensbourne University London, University Of Lincoln and many more!

For more information: <https://vmg.6connex.eu/event/vmgevents/WCL21/register>.

Oxbridge Access Conference – 6th November 2021 – The Sikh Societies of Oxford and Cambridge Universities run an annual access conference to help, support, and encourage young Singhs and Kaurs to get into some of the top universities in the country. This year, the conference will take place on 6th November 2021 and will be hosted at St Catherine's College, Cambridge. <https://oxbridge.sikhsoc.org/>.

Virtual National Apprenticeship Show – 17th November (Years 11-13) Registration is now open for the virtual National Apprenticeship show. This educational event highlights apprenticeship opportunities and offers information from your region's top employers and training providers. Click [here](#) to register.

If you are looking for an open day, in-person or virtual, you can visit UCAS to search for those you are interested in –

<https://www.ucas.com/ucas/events/find/type/open-day>.

Careers in the News

Youth Voice Census report 2021 - [This census captured data from 14 – 24 year olds](#) across the UK earlier this year. Over 3,400 young people shared their views on a range of issues across education, work, job hunting, the impacts of COVID-19 and much more. [Youth Voice Census Report 2021: Young people's mental health is suffering; they feel increasingly disconnected from support - Youth Employment UK](#).

Guardian UK universities 2022 rankings – The Guardian's [league table](#) ranks universities by subject, student satisfactions, staff numbers, spending, and career prospects.

UCLan creates a Veterinary School - The University will join an elite list of universities as it opens the 11th Veterinary School in the UK and Lancashire's first. Based at the Preston Campus, the new Veterinary School will deliver foundation,

undergraduate and postgraduate courses in areas such as veterinary medicine, bioveterinary science, veterinary physiotherapy and rehabilitation, and clinical animal behaviour and training. Visit UCLAN's [School of Veterinary Medicine](#) to learn more.

Arguments for a shorter working week – The Guardian recently discussed the arguments for shorter working time

(<https://www.theguardian.com/books/2021/oct/11/should-we-work-less>).

A timely discussion given the twin challenges of decarbonisation and great automation that many workers face.

Upcoming Opportunities

Future Placement Schemes at IBM: The Futures Placement scheme offers an invaluable opportunity to work with a world-leading company for 12 months, broadening your horizons and giving you a head start in your career. IBM offer Business, Technical and Design Placements. Click [here](#) to apply.

Volkswagen Group Apprenticeship: This apprenticeship programme offers the opportunity to learn and earn through gaining a nationally recognised qualification while working for one of the world's leading automotive brands such as Audi, SEAT, SKODA, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles, Volkswagen Group Paint and Body or TPS. To find out more click [here](#)

[Updates on apprenticeships – For the latest news and opportunities related to apprenticeships click here](#) for October's newsletter and [here](#) for September's newsletter.

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