I have admired Bosworth Independent College from afar for over twelve years and so now to be at the helm feels like an enormous privilege. What instantly struck me when I first visited the college in 2002 was the sense of purpose of the staff and students. The ethos of the college was almost tangible; a culture of achievement. Yet simultaneously, there was a sense of fun too. I could feel an obvious warmth and care for the students and they reciprocated, with their appreciation of the college team. I am delighted to discover that this attractive balance of encouraging focussed study whilst promoting well-being has not been lost and I am very fortunate to have been handed this precious inheritance.

Bosworth Independent College remains in family ownership within the Broadway Education group. This makes a difference for staff, students and our local community. Our Directors are available, ready to listen and family-orientated. They genuinely care about the experience of those who invest their efforts in the college whilst responsibly ensuring the commercial success of the institution in a very competitive market.

With excellent academic outcomes and sound finances, we have the luxury of being able to concentrate on what we believe we do best – enjoying success. Bosworth Independent College provides an environment in which we can learn and grow, secure in the belief that whilst we meet the demands of our regulators, we are not ruled by them. We dare to be open-minded, provide welcome flexibility and delight in exceeding expectations.

Fiona Pocock MA PGCE

Academic Pathways Evening

Join us on THURSDAY 5TH MARCH 2015 for our ACADEMIC PATHWAYS EVENING.

Come along to find out more about options at both GCSE and A-Level, along with an informative talk about the UCAS application process. Bosworth Independent College has an excellent record of placing students at highly-ranked universities and our expert staff are keen to share their experience with you.

This free event is open to all, including existing students, prospective students, parents or those who are simply curious about future study options.

We shall be holding this event at BOSWORTH HALL (33 St. George’s Avenue, Northampton) and our doors will be open at 7pm.

We welcome you to talk directly to our staff and students who can help de-mystify subject choices and the university application process.
Well done to our 2014 GCSE cohort. We are delighted with their results, especially as the large majority exceeded the government benchmark of 5 subjects at A* to C, including Maths and English. We are proud of all our students and, although we do not like to pick out individuals, a special mention must go to the students below: 

Nicole Gray, British 5A*, 3A & 1B in the following subject order: Biology, Chemistry, Maths, English Language, Geography, Physics, Spanish, English Literature and Art

Masem Abbas, British 3A*, 5A & 1B in the following subject order: Physics, French, History, Biology, Chemistry, Maths, Economics, Geography and English Language

Chris Yang, Hong Kong 4A & 2B in the following subject order: Biology, Physics, Maths, Chinese, Chemistry and Geography

Bosworth students concentrate on academic and traditional subjects and with the successful addition of GCSE Economics to the subject list, we are now pleased to introduce GCSE Sociology and have noted it already has a high take-up.

Overall, students can take a lot of the credit for these results, but the family and teachers play a large part too. Students benefit from the small classes at Bosworth meaning each of them receives close individual attention. The teachers generally also teach A Level and may even be Heads of Department. We believe that this expert knowledge of curriculum beyond the GCSE exam, contributes not only to the success, but also the enjoyment of each subject by the students.

We offer congratulations to all of our students who achieved the grades to move to the next stage of their careers but in particular to our twelve students who achieved A or A* grades in all their subjects. For the full list of top performing students see the results section at www.bosworthcollege.com.

Cliff Chung achieved A* in Maths, Biology, Chemistry and Psychology and will read Psychological & Behavioural Sciences at the University of Cambridge. Evan Penn who achieved A* in Maths, Further Maths, Physics and Chemistry will read Mathematics at Durham University.

With 72% of final grades being A*, A or B, yet again, we far exceeded the national average.

Nationally A Level results were slightly down this year and this could be a reflection on the tightening up of opportunities to re-sit modules. New syllabuses in most subjects will be taught from September 2015 which will mean students will be sitting exams that test everything they have learnt at the end of the two year programme rather than exams being separated into AS and A2 units.

This linear rather than modular approach will potentially make studying at this level even more challenging. It will be interesting to see if these changes impact on results in the future and if the downward national trend will continue. Although at first glance it may seem that changing the parameters makes it unfair, all students within the year group will be treated in the same way.

However, it is important that schools keep up with these demands, so they can guide students through these changing times.
North of England University Tour

Bosworth Independent College’s North of England university tour took place during the October half term, organised by Karen Inman. During this week students had the chance to visit: Loughborough, Liverpool Hope, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Durham and York universities. The aim of this academic trip was not only to view the campuses but also the cities, to give a flavour of the North of England.

The main areas of interest for this year’s cohort were; engineering, economics, finance and law. At each university our students were greeted by tutors and student ambassadors and given a tour of the campus and relevant departments. Indeed, at Manchester university students had the opportunity to look round the engineering labs where one of the current PhD students gave them a chance to try out his ‘flight simulator’ in the aeronautical engineering lab. This PhD student had written the software that created an Airbus 300 on the flight path into Heathrow. Needless to say on their first attempts our students did not have safe landings and a few crashes ensued.

Another highlight was ex-Bosworth student Elizaveta Olkhova who was able to meet up with our AS cohort at Newcastle university and give us a tour of the campus and provide in-depth information on the pharmacology course that she is currently studying. Elizaveta was one of our top performers last year, gaining 1 A* and 4 A grades at A Level, so she was a great role model and the students really listened intently to her summary.

Kevin Jones, Vice Principal, told us, ‘Two real student benefits stood out to me. Firstly our students got to speak to university students, tutors and admissions staff at each university, so they gained first-hand information, including required entry grades and how to write a strong personal statement.

Secondly, they discovered the North of England, taking in a ghost tour in Newcastle and visiting Chinatown in Liverpool. Next year we aim to expand on this and add in a visit to a premier football club and one of the North’s of England’s largest shopping centres!

Experiencing how friendly and welcoming the North of England can be and going to five of the top universities in the UK over the course of a week is a worthwhile experience for any of our AS year group.’
Each year Bosworth AS Level students have the chance to compete in the C3L6 Olympiad. This stands for the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge Lower 6th and this event is sponsored by Saudi Aramco, St. Catharine’s College Cambridge and University of Cambridge Internal Examinations.

Bosworth has taken part in this challenge for the past three years and believe it is a good way to challenge our students beyond the chemistry curriculum. Of the 25 students who took part, we received ten Copper awards, two Silver awards and one Gold award.

To put this in context, our Gold award student is in the top 7.8% of participants in this event, our Silver award students are in the top 14.4% and our Copper award students are in the top 35.7%.

For our students’ participation, we have received a small prize and this is a crystal 2p orbital display, which will take pride of place in the Chemistry Lab.

Well done to all of the students who participated in this event. Those who received awards are listed below:

Gold: Qin YU (pictured opposite)
Silver: Ryan WEE and Jin ZHENG
Copper: Youssef AHMED, Kelenna AMADI, Anastasia GVOZDENKO, Lik Theng HO, Chi Chung HONG, Maryam JOLLADE, Anan LIN, Radhika PATEL, Mohamed TAHA and Huai Ling TAN

Mrs Elisabeth Carter, Principal of Bosworth Independent College officially leaves us at the end of the Autumn Term. Mrs Carter has been part of the Bosworth family for over 22 years; she began as a Biology Teacher, moving onto Head of Science, Director of Studies, and then Vice Principal & Principal for over 13 years. Under Liz’s care Bosworth has grown from strength to strength and she will be greatly missed by both staff and students. We wish her a long and happy retirement with her husband and of course her new family of baby tortoises! About whom we look forward to updates!

Liz is pictured here with the Cherry Tree she has donated for the College’s Spiritual Garden, along with Otto the Owl the College Mascot. It is a Cherry Tree that will provide beautiful blossom in the springtime. Liz has also very generously donated a quantity of Jersey Pottery mugs for the staff room; leaving us something to remember her by. Can you spot the significance of the design?
Have you ever wondered what Bosworth students would say about the College if they were asked? Well, take a look at our new student videos, as they give a real insight into life at Bosworth from a student’s perspective. The videos also illustrate the mix of nationalities and ages of the college cohort. View at http://www.bosworth-college.co.uk/video-gallery/- click on the student stories tab.

This year’s summer school proved as popular as ever. To provide an overview of life at Summer School we have put together a week in the life of Summer School, showing life in and out of the classroom, including trips and activities. View at http://www.bosworth-college.co.uk/video-gallery/ click on the summer school tab.

For anyone interested in tennis training as part of Summer School there is also a separate tennis video.

Following on from the success of Summer School, this year we are introducing an Academic Programme for students aged 12 to 14 years. The four-week programme will run from 19th July – 16th August and students can join for 2 to 4 weeks. This programme is aimed at students who have English levels of IELTS 5.5 or equivalent and want to study at GCSE Level. For full details go to www.bosworth-college.co.uk/summer-school
Bosworth art students attended a specialist workshop this month on Make-up for Film & Theatre. Make-Up Artist, Natalie Wood kindly gave up her time to give a talk and demonstration on the techniques, skills and materials required to produce a variety of effects.

From the photos you can see how realistic the final results were and the students were fascinated by the techniques and how they could re-create these themselves.

We asked Natalie some questions:

**What is your favourite type of work?**
‘Anything that is gory or features an injury. There is so much you can do in terms of different types of wounds and the artistry is in making it look authentic.’

**What advice would you give if someone is interested in this type of work?**
‘You can never practise enough. I constantly experiment with different methods and substances in order to achieve the most realistic or unique effects. You never stop learning.’

**What is the best part of your job?**
‘The artistic freedom, as I love creating effects. In fact I spend a lot of my free time developing new designs for productions on my friends and family.’

**What has been your favourite job and what would be your dream job?**
‘I have really enjoyed working on some amateur theatre productions, including ‘Treasure Island’ and an independent horror movie I did recently. But it would be my dream to work on a TV show such as ‘The Walking Dead’. Those actors can be in make-up for 7-8 hours to create their Zombie looks.’

The students were given an excellent insight into the time and passion that these looks take to create and we hope Natalie will come back and do more in the future!

---

Bosworth celebrated Guy Fawkes’ Night this year with a bonfire and firework display at Bosworth Hall. On the 5th of November 1605 Guy Fawkes and twelve others tried to assassinate King James I by blowing up the Houses of Parliament with barrels of gunpowder hidden under the chamber of the House of Lords. It is now customary on the 5th of November to light a bonfire and set off fireworks to celebrate the safety of the King.
Harry Potter studio tour

As many of our students have grown up with the Harry Potter books and films, the recent Harry Potter tour at Warner Bros studios allowed them to relive some of their childhood memories and see the film sets and props. On entering the exhibition visitors are led out to the Great Hall – the famous ancient dining hall which leads onto all the exhibits and attractions.

Particularly amazing is the life-sized Diagon Ally, the famous cobbled Wizard alley and shopping area and the scaled down Hogwarts Castle that was used for many of the exterior shots for the movies. The costume department is another main attraction; it featured many of the props used for the magical animals such as Fawkes the Phoenix, Aragog the Acromantula and Buckbeak the Hippogriff.

Finally, the opportunity to sample some of the edible delights that are described in the stories such as Bertie Bott’s every flavour beans and Butterbeer, as well as flying on the Quidditch broomsticks (captured on video) made the students feel like they were truly sampling life at Hogwarts.

day trip to Oxford

The trip began with an organised walking tour of Oxford and the university, by Mr Alasdair de Voil of Madhatters Tours (shown here in the hat). Alasdair is also an English Tutor, so he was great with the international students and kept the tour fun as well as informative. With Alasdair’s extensive knowledge of the City and the University, the walking tour covered much more than a bus tour could have and our staff would thoroughly recommend it.

After the tour, ex-Bosworth student Stanislau Yatskevich currently studying Biochemistry at Christ Church College Oxford came to meet with the students to give them an insight into life at the university. (Stanislau left us in the summer of 2013 with five A* grades at A Level).

Whilst talking to our current students, Stanislau was also very complementary about his time at Bosworth ‘I would say I am here at Oxford because of the grades I achieved at Bosworth and the friendly and warm atmosphere that allowed me to develop and grow. So if you would like to study here, work hard and it can happen.’ A big thank-you to Stanislau for his time and we continue to be very proud of him and look forward to regular updates.

The day was just the right balance of History, Heritage, Education and free time to explore/shop and we hope our students will have fond memories of their first trip to Oxford!
Thinking of applying to Cambridge University?

Bosworth was pleased to welcome back ex-students Shobo Shobo and Gilmore Wellig. Both students are currently studying at St. Edmund’s College, Cambridge University and they agreed to come back to talk to this year’s potential Oxbridge applicants. Shobo is currently in his second year of study reading Engineering and Gilmore is in his third year of study reading Chemical Engineering.

They both talked in detail about the application process and the interview day, including the TSA (Thinking Skills Assessment) Admissions Test that they had to complete. They expanded on how important a candidate’s personal statement is since Admissions Tutors do ask questions about it and are looking for more in-depth explanations about any topics discussed. Shobo and Gilmore’s advice highlighted to this year’s cohort how important reading around their chosen subjects would be to add weight to these discussions.

Shobo also gave details about how he was asked to calculate momentum in 2D, initially he did his calculations the hard way, so the interview panel then asked him if he could do this another way and he realised he could have done it an easier way, which he then did. This encouraged our future candidates to make sure that they take time to reflect before launching into an answer and also indicated that responding positively to interviewers’ prompts can indicate ‘teachability.’

Students were also interested in what life at Cambridge was like and how hard the studies had become. The boys elaborated that studying at Cambridge was fairly intense as the terms were split into three sets of eight weeks and in the last term the final two weeks are taken up with their end of year exams. Students are also not allowed to re-sit any exams so they are aware that they have to get it right first time. Alongside this, students will have practical assessments and project work every week throughout term, but the majority of the marks do come from the end of year exams.

It was also interesting for the students to learn more about the unique tutorial system that operates at Cambridge alongside lectures and practicals. Each student is given a study partner and they will share supervision periods with a lecturer, which can sometimes be the Director of Studies at least 3 to 4 times a week. This can prove challenging as the two of you are gaining lots of one to one time with your lecturer. It is a designated slot that allows students to talk more about any of their current topics and to go over things they possibly need to understand better. They both found it extremely useful and felt it was good to have the study partner system as it provided another person to bounce ideas off.

We were delighted to see how well Gilmore and Shobo were doing with their degree studies and we hope they will be back next year to provide us with further insights. This talk certainly helped to fire up this year’s Oxbridge candidates! We wish them good luck.