



God our Father,
 We give you thanks for the talents you have
 given to mankind and for the blessings received
 through those who use their gifts well.
 Amen

Message from Dr Coughlan, Principal

Friday 11th September 2020

We are absolutely thrilled and delighted to see all of our young people return to our school this September after a challenging past few months. Each and every one of our students have been greatly missed; a school is not a school without its students. Our young people make Bishop Challoner Catholic College a truly wonderful place and we are here to serve them this year more than ever.

school, I thank you all for your patience and kind words.

This is a most unusual of starts to a school year and we have had to re-imagine every minute of our school day to ensure we can keep our whole school community safe. Our students have made a magnificent start to the school year and have brilliantly adapted to new one-way systems, split lunches and breaks and revised playground use; they are a real credit to our school.

We were delighted and humbled this week to receive a letter from the Lord Mayor of Birmingham congratulating the school community on its work during lockdown. Our community produced over 1,200 visors and 380 gowns as well as offering numerous donations of other PPE; all of which was delivered to local care homes, hospitals, hospices and schools. Many of our students and staff also volunteered for the NHS and local charities during their evenings and weekends during lockdown. Well done to all involved.

In the short term, we ask all our students to enjoy being back in the classroom, enjoy being taught new things, enjoy spending time with their friends; take each day one by one.

Finally then, I think this lovely line from Matthew’s Gospel perhaps captures the importance of taking each day one at a time:

My sincere thanks also to all our parents and carers who have been a tremendous support in the reopening of our

“Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.”

My best wishes to our whole school community for the year ahead.

Remote Learning Questionnaire

To help the school with our remote learning contingency preparations we would be very grateful if you could spare a couple of minutes to please fill in the following form:

<https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/parent-carer-remote-learning-evaluation>

The information collected will allow the school to put the necessary plans in place to ensure all our students are supported with their continued learning if we are faced with a full or partial lockdown.

Teaching School Update

After several months of working remotely, the Teaching School Team is pleased to be back in a ‘real’ office and able to set up programmes and training courses for this new academic year. We had an especially busy June and July with recruiting new trainee teachers to our PGCE/School Direct Programme, and 70 trainees started on our course just last week! Working with our Primary and Secondary partner schools has meant that we have secured host schools for all our trainees. We are excited to not only continue working with the University of Warwick and Newman University, but also this year with Birmingham City University.

Recruitment will open in early October for trainees looking to start in September 2021, so we look forward the process starting all over again! If you want to know more about training to teach with Bishop Challoner TSA, just drop us an email at: teachingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk and read up about it on our website - www.bctsa.org

COVID-19 General Government Advice

Help control the virus

To protect yourself and others, when you leave home you must:

- wash hands – keep washing your hands regularly
- cover face – wear a face covering over your nose and mouth in enclosed spaces
- make space – stay at least a metre away from people not in your household

If you are feeling unwell, get a test and do not leave home for at least 10 days.

Further updates regarding Corona Virus COVID-19 can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

Art Club

Art Club will be beginning next Wednesday (16th September) for KS3 students. All are welcome, but there is a limited amount of spaces available so students must sign up with Ms Swingler in A1 before Tuesday 15th September.

Attendance

Year 7 - 98%	Year 9- 96%	Year 11- 97%
Year 8- 98%	Year 10- 97%	Whole School- 97%



As we return for a new academic year, it is always a good time to be reminder of free to use resources that exist to help us all ensure our students and children are safe when using technology. The table below includes a list of resources that we have used and continue to do so, as part of our teaching and practice.

All of these resources are free to use and provide appropriate content for a range of age groups.

NSPCC Online Safety – huge repository of guidance and advice around many topics related to online safety and talking to children about it.
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

UK Safer Internet Centre – source of information for children, parents, carers and teachers. Activities and resources can be downloaded for free. <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk>

Think U Know – Online safety learning resources which cover ages 4-14+. Also, resources for parents and carers are available. <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>

Internet Matters – Resources for ages 0-14+ in relation to online safety and the use of devices.
<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/>

Common Sense Media – provides insight into media (tv, film, games and apps) allowing for a understanding of appropriateness for age. <https://www.commonsensemedia.org>

OLC

It is great that we are all back in school, albeit with some restrictions. Nonetheless, we have two Libraries available to the whole school with the click of a finger!

1. Our hard copy library will operate a 'click and collect' service from the OLC .
2. Our e library with e books and e audio books can be accessed via the Wheelers phone app or via www.bishopchalloner.wheelers.co. The login is the student's computer login and the password is BCReading 1! (case sensitive).

Please encourage your children to read. We have plenty of stock to choose from, and there are so many benefits from reading. Start with just 10 minutes reading a day for the reluctant reader.

In addition to the library borrowing, half- termly boxes of books will be going out to year 7 and 8 forms so they have easy access to a variety of books.

Any overdue books should be returned to the OLC/Library or to reception.

Best Wishes
Mrs Fanning and Mrs Newton (Librarians)
Follow us on twitter on @BC_OLC

Sports Updates

7 Boys Football Trials

There will be one trial per week for the next 4 weeks, with the team announcement on Friday 2nd October.

Dates for trials are as follows:

*Interested students are to consent via SchoolComms. They will then receive an invite letter to one of the dates below. Students will only attend one trial and it will be on the day that they will have a double P.E. Lesson.

Trial 1: 7RC P.E. Group - Wednesday 9th September 2020, 3:25-4:45pm, Transport Ground

Trial 2: 7B P.E. Group – Tuesday 15th September 2020, 3:25-4:45pm, Transport Ground

Trial 3: 7RC P.E. Group – Wednesday 23rd September 2020, 3:25-4:45pm, Transport Ground

Trial 4: 7B P.E. Group – Tuesday 29th September 2020, 3:25-4:45pm, Transport Ground

PE Kit Reminder

All students are reminded that they must wear their full PE kit and their school blazer on the days they are timetabled to have PE. (hoodies are not allowed).

Upcoming Events

Year 7 School Photos	Year 9 HPV Immunisations
Internal Early Applicant UCAS Deadline	Monday 21st September
St Chad's Collection Starts	European Day of Languages
Monday 14th September	Friday 25th September
Virtual Open Evening	
Wednesday 15th September	

Instrumental Lessons

All instrumental lessons begin in the week beginning Monday 14th September. Every student taking lessons will have received a letter this week, detailing where they are and where to find the rotas. Please ask your child to come and see Mrs Choudhury or Miss Hughes in the Music Department if they have any questions about lessons. Email Mrs Choudhury on l.choudhury@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk for any further queries.

Sixth Form

Welcome (back)

We were delighted to welcome back our Year 13 students last week and to meet our new Year 12 students. Sixth Form induction was a little strange for all of us this year, as it was all delivered virtually. We hope students are settling in and enjoying their studies.

Year 12 - Masterclasses and Opportunities

We are keen for our students to make the most of the opportunities available to them and we encourage them to take part in extra-curricular events that can broaden their horizons and can be useful to reference in university personal statements and on application forms.

Year 12 is the perfect time for students to do this, ahead of preparing applications at the start of Year 13. The Sixth Form team sends to students via email a bulletin of upcoming opportunities and events each fortnight. As more events are being hosted virtually, we hope that there will be something on offer for all students.

Parents/carers and students can view any opportunities that we are aware of on the school website here:

<https://www.bishopchalloner.org.uk/sixth-form/enrichment/sixth-form-opportunities>

If students do wish to take part in any events, or university masterclasses that involve them being absent from college, they should see Mrs Newton in the Sixth Form Office to get a booking form, and parents/carers should request the absence to be authorised in the usual way, by contacting Mrs Reynolds.

Head Students

We are currently accepting applications for the post of Head Boy and Head Girl. The successful candidates will lead a team of student ambassadors who have traditionally played a key role in public events. We will be exploring how this role can develop in the current climate and welcome our students' suggestions.



Unifrog

All students at Bishop Challoner will shortly receive login details for Unifrog. Unifrog is an online platform which provides a one-stop-shop where students can explore their interests, then find and successfully apply for their best next-step after school.

The Unifrog Tools

- **Exploring Pathways;** Careers Library/Subjects Library/Knowledge library/MOOC
- **Searching for Opportunities;** UK universities/US universities/European universities/Oxbridge/Apprenticeships/College/Sixth Form/Canadian universities/Asian universities/Special Opportunities
- **Recording what you've done;** Activities/Competencies/Interactions
- **Drafting Application Materials;** Personal statement/CV/Resume/Teacher References/Common App Essay
- **Making Applications;** Post16/18 Intentions/Locker/Applications List

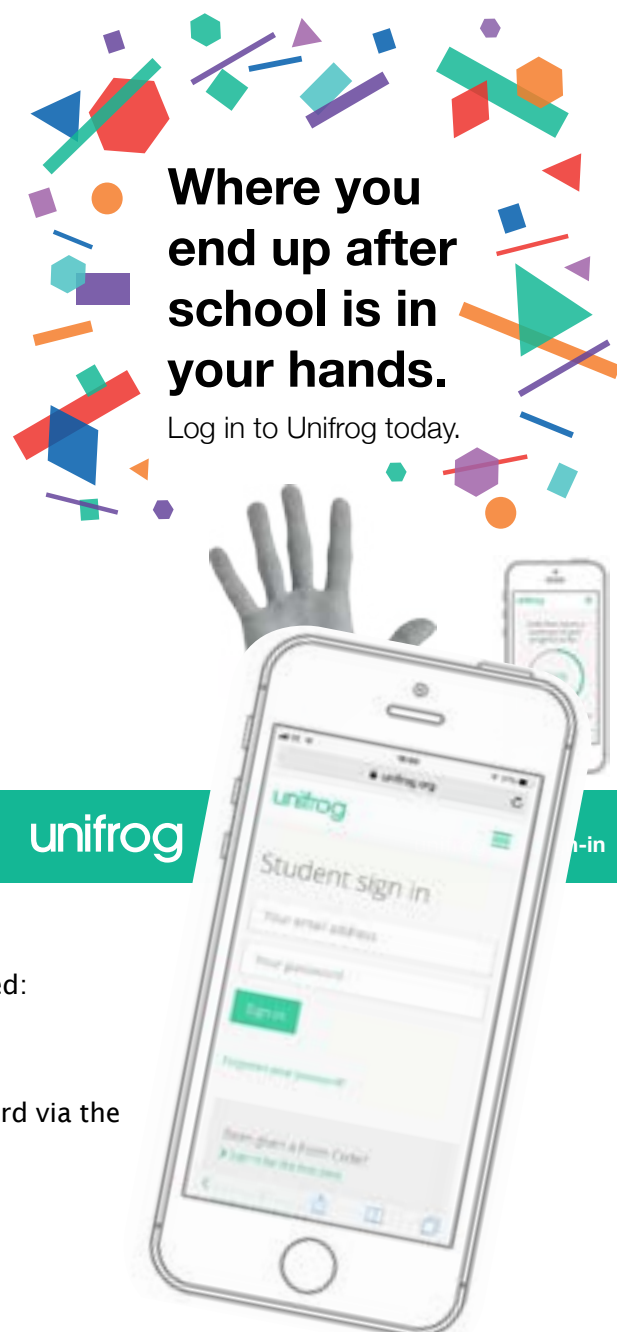
Parents/Carers, get signed up!

Go to www.unifrog.org/student and click 'Sign in for the first time'

You'll be asked for some details and a form code. This is what you need:

BSCCPARENTS

After signing up, log into Unifrog using your email address and password via the student sign-in page!



SEND BRIEFING PARENT WEBINARS

September 2020



Parent/Carer Webinars take place regularly throughout the year and cover a number of different topics. Please see the local offer website for further details. Each webinar should last approximately one hour and take the format of a presentation followed by an opportunity to ask questions.

A GENERAL INTRODUCTION TO OCCUPATION THERAPY AND SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY

Speakers: Victoria Caulfield – Speech and Language Therapist, Janet Tighe – Occupational Therapist, Katie Richard – Occupational Therapist

About this webinar: What do Occupational Therapists do? What types of advice and support can speech and language therapists offer? Find out more about Birmingham's Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy services at this webinar.

Tuesday 8th September at 2.00 pm

Tuesday 22nd September at 9.20 am

TEAMS - Online

To secure your place on this webinar please contact Parent Link Service: 0121 303 8461
email: parentlinkservice@birmingham.gov.uk



Follow us on Twitter

Official School Twitter:	@BishopChalloner	Library:	@Mrs F Library
Biology:	@BCCbio	Maths Hub:	@CentralMathsHub
Chaplaincy:	@BC_Chaplaincy	Maths:	@BCMathsDept
Computing Hub:	@BCCComputingHub	PE:	@BCPEDepartment
Computing:	@BishopChalComp	Performing Arts:	@BCPAMusic/@BCPAPA4
Design:	@BCCCDesign	School Games:	@BCSGO
English:	@BC_EnglishDept	Science Learning Partnership:	@CentralMidSLP
FOBC:	@bc_friends	Science:	@BCSciDept
French:	@BC_MFL	Sixth Form:	@BCCSix
Geography:	@BCGeogDept	Social Science:	@BCSocSciDept
History:	@history_GCSEBC	Teaching School:	@teaching_school