



BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Year 8 October Half Term Newsletter 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 8 have made an excellent start to the academic Year. It has been a pleasure taking over as their Head of Year and I look forward to being part of all of the students journey throughout their time at Bishop Challoner Catholic College.

Covid 19 Test Results

If your son/daughter develops any of the Covid 19 symptoms and is therefore tested over the half term break it is very important that the school is made aware. Please inform us of the test result by emailing result@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk, within the email please include the date of the onset of symptoms and what the symptoms were. A team of staff will be picking up these emails and will respond accordingly. If a positive test is received, we may require some further information, in this instance a member of staff will contact you via a telephone call.

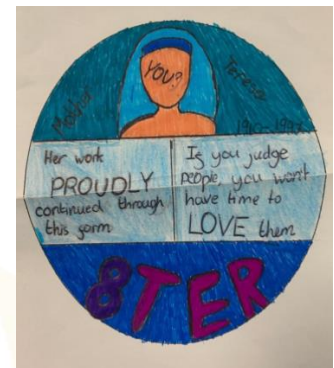
There have been many changes this year due to the pandemic which have all been put in place to best support and protect our school community. Masks are worn in all corridors and the one way system is strictly adhered to. Likewise, hand sanitising is encouraged throughout the school day. It is of vital importance that all continue to adhere to such high standards of hygiene and distancing that have been implemented for their safety. Thank you to Year 8 for complying and continuing to uphold our values and safety precautions to best support all of our health.

The last few months are going to have a continual impact. If there are any concerns that we can help with, any anxieties that need to be discussed, please do not hesitate to contact the school and we will endeavour to support you as much as possible.

New Tutor Group names

This academic year each tutor group has had a change of name to celebrate our BCCC Saints. These are 8SEB to celebrate Saint Sebastian, Patron Saint of athletes. 8LUK to celebrate Saint Luke, Patron Saint of artists. 8BOS to celebrate Saint John Bosco, Patron Saint of Young People. 8CEC to celebrate Saint Cecilia, Patron Saint of musicians. 8BER to celebrate Saint Bernadette, patron saint of the ill and 8TER to celebrate Saint Theresa, Patron Saint of Missionaries.

Each form group has created form badges to celebrate their Saint and create a form identity. Here is the form badge for 8TER, designed by Faith A.



Form Competition

Each week students take part in a weekly competition in their tutor groups including riddle challenges and quizzes. Well done to 8CEC who currently top the leader board.

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Tutees of the term

The following students have been named as Tutees of the Term, well done!

- 8TER** Faith A- For always being helpful during form and designing the form badge.
Nikola C- For helping to design our form badge.
Sid T- For always working so hard and contributing well to form discussions.
- 8SEB** Lola T for having a positive attitude in form and setting a brilliant example to other students.
Madison M for taking an active part in form discussions and scribing for the form competitions.
- 8BOS** Anne Roseline- Always willing to participate in all activities, contributing and active in all form times.
Alfie L-Tries his best in all form times, very courteous and polite at all times.
- 8LUK** Eugenie L-for displaying a positive attitude.
Oliver O- For enthusiasm and displaying a keenness to work.
- 8BER** Kyah D- for an improved attitude and work ethic in form.
George Shaji- For always being polite and helpful during form time.
- 8CEC** Alife B-for producing some excellent work for black history month.
Ava M- For designing our form badge.

Black History Month

October is national Black History Month. The aim of this month is to raise awareness and celebrate black history. To begin the month, all year groups have attended an informative form time sessions about black history in the UK. The form session included information about how our diverse country came to be and how black history dates back over 2000 years in the UK. Famous and influential black figures both modern and historical, from the UK, were also shared. These role models demonstrate exceptional skill, resilience or influence and through those examples, we challenge all students to believe they can do anything they put their mind to.



Alfie B produced an amazing piece of work, writing a newspaper report highlighting racism that previously occurred in his favourite sport of Boxing.

BOXING OUTRAGE

Racism in Boxing

ALFIE BANKS
14th OCTOBER 2020

During the 1900's white men were not allowed to fight black men as it would be 'unfair' as black people and white were seen as separate they and their black didn't have fair fights, but over the years things changed and opened doors for black young, black champions 100 years later, still there is Jack Johnson.

Jack Johnson

ALFIE BANKS

Jack Johnson is a successful black, American boxer who would win by 112 years old (born in 1878) but was captured by the racist boxing black history and their career. Johnson was a powerful man and was the black heavyweight champion. He had an amazing 100 wins that made him the most successful boxer in the world. He was the first black man to win the world title in 1908. He was a star in the boxing world and was the first black man to win the world title. He was a star in the boxing world and was the first black man to win the world title. He was a star in the boxing world and was the first black man to win the world title.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Book Club

Five Year 8 students have been attending the Carnegie Book club. We are reading eight books over a few weeks, discussing the books and voting for the one we think is the best. The students who attend are very articulate in describing their passion and love of books. All the students have agreed to become 'Reading Ambassadors' for the school.

Dance Club

The following Year 8 students have been attending dance club every Thursday after school. Holy H, Seren C, Francina G, Sofia B, Benedict, Rosisin Hayes, Faith A, Lydia M. They have been looking at "Tutting" and also learnt some Choreography from Hamilton the Musical to celebrate Black History Month. They have also been working on their stretching and technical exercises.



Chaplaincy

In Year 8, we have been focusing on mindfulness and reflection. Students have the opportunity at lunchtime on Thursdays to come into the chapel for a time to pause for reflection. They have been given the opportunity to apply to be a part of the Chaplaincy Champion Team. We are currently looking through the applications and look forward to working with the chaplaincy champions throughout the year. We really appreciate all the work Year 8 have done and they are fully living out the school mission statement of "Giving Glory to God in our service to others". They have had the opportunity to help with our initiative of the Colm Smyth Shoebox Appeal by wrapping and packing shoeboxes in their lunchtime. Their service is truly embodying the Gospel of [Matthew 5:16](#) "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven."

Class Charts

Class Charts, a system introduced during lockdown, is a phenomenal resource for parents/carers to see and view how their child is performing in school. It illustrates their behaviours and positive logs as well as homework set, due dates

and whether it was completed. Indeed, if homework is completed via class-charts, the feedback is also available to see here. I would encourage you to use this system. Please contact school if you need your parent/carer access code.

Timings of the day

The timings of the day have altered for Year 8 whereby their lessons start, as you are aware, at 8.40am. Please be aware that this is the start of lesson and therefore it is important that students are prompt.

Schoolcomms

As you are aware we operate a cashless catering system and Schoolcomms is the only system to make payments for your child's school dinners and school trips. There is only one money loading machine in operation in the school so it is imperative that Schoolcomms is used. For further information please visit our website www.bishopchalloner.org.uk

Uniform and Appearance

Students are required to wear the standard uniform of blazer, tie, white/blue shirt with black straight leg school trousers (not skinny or boot cut) or girls can wear a knee length black school skirt. Girls are also reminded that if they choose to wear a skirt, then they should wear plain, black, opaque tights. Students are reminded that black leather school shoes should be worn and that trainers/trainer style shoes and boots are forbidden.

Please note that school shoes must be kept completely black. There are a number of styles, particularly for girls, currently in fashion with wood style soles. These are not suitable for school. School shoes should also be leather and not patent.

In order to complement the smart school uniform we insist that students' hair is smart in appearance and that students do not have shaved/razored hair styles or lines/patterns shaved into the hair. Extreme changes of hair colour are also not permitted. The final decision as to whether a particular haircut/style is appropriate is at the discretion of senior staff.

Make up, nail varnish and jewellery are not permitted with the exception of one pair of stud earrings which may be worn by girls.

Mobile Phones

With most students in school now owning mobile phones for use to and from school, it is important that they are also not a distraction to study. Students found with mobile phones during lessons and around the school will have them confiscated and they will be returned at the discretion of senior staff/Heads of Year. In more persistent cases, phones may only be returned to parents/carers.

I know that you will, as always, support us in maintaining the smart appearance of your children and high standards of discipline, so that our focus in school can be on educational achievement.

Attendance and Punctuality

- Year 8- 94%
- Whole school- 94%

Considering the situation we find ourselves in the attendance of Year 8 this half term is very pleasing. We hope that this will continue for the remainder of the academic year. We will continue to strive to meet our attendance target of 97%.

If your child is absent from school, a notification phone call needs to be made to the school on the first day of the absence and every further day that they are absent too. Upon return to school, a written note needs to be handed in to their form tutor, stating the reason for absence. Please encourage your child to be at school by 8.30am to instil the important life skill of good punctuality.

Absence Reporting and Covid-19

If your son/daughter is required to self-isolate in line with government guidance work will only be made available via Class Charts when the school is informed. Please keep school informed of any progress regarding testing. **If your son/daughter's is confirmed positive please inform the school immediately.**

Bike Safety

It is good to see a higher proportion of students cycling to school, we will be providing additional bike parking racks in the near future. It is essential that your son/daughter rides responsibly and they MUST wear a helmet. Should we have any concerns re your son/daughters road safety we will be in touch.

I hope that all students and their families can enjoy a relaxing half term before their return on **Monday 2nd November**.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Clarke
Head of Year 8

Miss Williams
Assistant Head of Year 8

Key Dates

Monday 2nd November-

Thursday 5th November-
Monday 9th November-
Wednesday 11th November-
Monday 30th November-
Thursday 3rd December-
Tuesday 8th December-
Wednesday 9th December-

Friday 11th December-
Tuesday 15th December-

Friday 18th December-
Monday 4th January-

School Open

All Souls Day
Year 11, 12 & 13 Parent Consultation
Anti-bullying week
Sixth Form Open Evening
Food Bank Collection starts
KS3 Rewards, Year 8
Christmas Fair
Christmaths Day
Winter Soiree
Year 7, 9 and 10 Parent Consultation
Christmas Show
Year 7/8 Sponsored Football

School Closed- Inset Day

School Open



Remember – follow our many twitter feeds for updates on what is happening at BC!

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