BC News

Spring 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been an incredibly busy and rewarding Easter term. We are increasingly seeing a return to normality across the school with fewer COVID cases impacting on us and a small proportion of our school community needing to isolate and access remote education. We have been able to start up many of our trips and events again and they bring such richness to our school. The mass testing that took place upon return in January seems like a distant memory. I sincerely hope things continue to move forwards positively in the months to come.

The Ukraine situation remains a concern for all of us. As a school we have been praying daily for those impacted by the invasion. Mrs Dane has produced ribbons to wear to show solidarity and on St Patrick's Day students wore green; funds raised are going to the CAFOD Ukraine appeal. Our food bank collection is also going to Ukraine.

It is now highly likely that public examinations will take place this Summer. Examination boards have published "Advance Information" that provides students, teachers and parents some steer as to what will be assessed on the papers. I congratulate our students on their preparatory work for these examinations and for the tremendous resilience they continue to show.

Our basic needs new build is nearing completion and we look forward to being able to use the new English block shortly after Easter. Internal works are complete with the exception of some minor snagging issues. The link corridor that joins the maths block up to the humanities corridor is a great addition and has caused quite a stir with students. Most recently, the newly installed partition in the auditorium will bring us real flexible use of this space, allowing lessons to take place at the same time as assemblies and other events.

Earlier this term our Cyber First Girls, Harriet, Tia, Andrea, and Catherine achieved tremendous success for the school winning the national competition. Over 7,000 girls entered this event, so this is quite a remarkable achievement.

In February, we had the pleasure of seeing Eva in Year 9 perform at the Alexandra theatre in town as part of the national School of Rock tour. Eva was quite magnificent and performed superbly each night. She also made an appearance on BBC1 in "The Big Night of Musicals" performing at the Manchester Arena.

We are tremendously excited to announce that we will be screening a Challoner-written play Cluedo at Highbury Hall this summer. This will replace our usual summer show. Casting is now complete and Mrs Swingler has written the script for the play. This is very much a play inspired by King Heath and it has been suggested the Cluedo board is actually based on Highbury Hall.

The true brilliance of a family of Catholic Schools working together was showcased at our annual Malympics event; a maths and PE themed day. Around 70 young people from the primary Tolkien partnership schools attended. Our Year 9 Young Leaders led the sessions superbly.

March is always a great month for careers. We hosted National Careers week, National Apprenticeship week, Year 9 aspirations day, our Year 9 pathways event and our annual careers fair. Our careers fair was once again a stunning event and rivals anything seen at University or in FE colleges. The atmosphere in the auditorium was excellent and students gained a lot from the experience.

Finally, on behalf of all of the staff, I wish to convey how immensely proud we remain of all of our young people and the tremendous resilience they are showing and continue to show. This has been a great and enriching term for our students, as you will see when you read our newsletter.

As we approach Easter Sunday, may you be inspired to new hope, happiness, prosperity, and abundance.

Wishing you and your families a very happy and Holy Easter,

Dr J Coughlan Principal

> 2022 Cybe Champions

Bishop Cha

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ART AND DESIGN

Key Stage 3

Students have been working on building on their existing skills and artistic knowledge through a range of material experimentations and processes. This has led to exciting, vibrant and high quality outcomes. Students have enjoyed taking part in the 'teaching' aspect of the lessons, modelling their skills by using the visualiser for their peers.





Year 9

Within Year 9, students were invited to work collaboratively in their independent study time to research a chosen historical art movement. In pairs, students had to present their findings through an engaging and informative presentation to their class, as well as through an artistic response to their particular movement's style. This has awarded students will building wider cultural capital, embedding awareness of Art's importance as a commentary and revolutionary act across societies throughout time. Students across the year group produced interesting and exciting presentations, with some fantastic visual outcomes as support to their contextual understanding.





Key Stage 4

Due to the fact that the last full academic year that Year 10 students had was Year 7 (!), focus has been on providing an enriching and effective recovery curriculum for our KS4 students. We have seen great results from students working more independently than they were used to in previous years, and the quality of their outcomes reflect that.

Year 11 students have embraced the return of the art classroom in their learning (since lockdown disruption) and are creating exciting and mature pieces as part of their coursework development. With only a few weeks to go, they have proven themselves to be sophisticated and curious artists - many opting for further study at Challoner for A level Fine Art too!



A Level

A level Art students travelled to London at the end of March to explore the National Gallery's collections alongside permanent exhibitions at Tate Modern. For some of our students, this was their first time visiting the capital, and proved to be a fantastic experience for our young people; gathering imagery and inspiration for their own artistic practice, as well as promoting wider curiosity and understanding of London's lifestyle.



We have 47 students studying Fine Art A level across Year 12 and Year 13. 10 students in Year 13 are going onto further art-based undergraduate study, with all students going onto higher education settings. We have been lucky that our current cohort is so studious and passionate about Art and are excited to see what they produce in their forthcoming final exam.







School of Jewellery Trip

On Wenesday 5th January 35 students from Year 8, 10 and 12 visited the School of Jewellery and the Assay Office in Birmingham's famous Jewellery Quarter. Here, they took part in a practical copper ring making workshop run by the head of the undergraduate study programme, as well as attending a Gemmology workshop exploring the science and technology that goes behind such practice. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to see the possibilities of a practical university course for themselves, as well as possible future career pathways surrounding Art and Science that are available in our own city!









Cluedo

As an initiative to bring a summer theatrical production back to Bishop Challoner, Ms Swingler, Mrs Jethwa and Miss Hughes are working together to produce 'Cluedo: The Play'. Cast members across Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 have been cast as the infamous Cluedo suspects and the staff of 'Tudor Hall' - which is rumoured to have been based on Highbury Hall! The shows will take place at Highbury Hall on the 27th, 28th and 29th June from 6pm, and reservations for seats can be made via Ms Swingler. Due to a licensing clash for the original Broadway version of the play, Ms Swingler is writing the script herself - embedding the 'homegrown' feel of the show - as Cluedo the board game was actually invented by a Kings Heathen back in the 1940s! The cast are so excited about the show, as are many staff, with volunteers coming forward from different departments to be involved. More information will follow in due course, but so far, rehearsals are filled with strong character development and physical theatre exercises.







Design Technology

Year 7 - Metal Work Project

The year 7s, this term, have been exploring a metal work project. The focus has been on Birmingham's metal working history and the importance of this vast industry within the West Midlands. The students have researched important and key designs originating from Birmingham and using these as inspiration to develop their own final, collaborative, metalwork piece. They practised their research and development skills by looking at 19th century design and designers and used their new knowledge of manipulating metal to sample many different techniques. The students have focused on using hand skills and sampled techniques such as piercing metal, engraving metal using the rolling mill and texturizing metal using a variety of hammers. They are currently working on their own individual piece, which has been planned carefully to incorporate as many of their new skills as possible, before bringing all the designs together for the final collaborative piece.

LED Lights

In the second Year 7 project, students have been manufacturing LED lights to celebrate a festival of their choice. Each student has developed their CAD skills by learning how to use the software 2D Design. The package which is part of the software suite on their netbooks, has

enabled them to develop their hand drawn design into a vector image which can be outputted to the laser cutter. Through this they have been able to make an acrylic 'screen' for their light featuring a design etched into the surface which will be backlit by an LED. For all of the students it has been the first time they have used the CAD package yet the outcomes produced demonstrate a high level of understanding of the capabilites of the program. The next step will be to build the circuit board by hand soldering a range of components onto it such as a battery holder, switch and colour changing LED.



During this term Year 8 students have been researching and developing passive amplifiers. They have experimented with different ways to amplify sound using simple timber structures and have put their hand tool skills to test by shaping and forming pieces of pine wood. Through this project, the students have furthered their design skills by using 2d Design. This allows them to build upon the foundations laid in Y7. They have just finished their speaker grill designs and these have been laser cut out of acrylic (pictured). To complete this project, the students will now use coping saws, the pillar drill and the belt sander to form the main structure and base of the passive amplifier. The students are currently finishing off and putting together their completed speakers.



be outputted to the laser cutter. Threed into the surface which will be back ge yet the outcomes produced demo build the circuit board by hand solde







Pewter Cast School Badge

An alternative project studied in Y8 is the pewter cast school badge. This year, students have looked to the design opportunity provided by the introduction of the new form groups based upon Saints (St. Bernadette (BER), St. Cecilia (CEC), St. John Bosco (BOS), St. Luke (LUK), St. Sebastian (SEB) and St. Teresa of Calcutta (TER) and have generated designs for a school badge that can be worn on the blazer lapel. Students have been researching the lives of each Saint in order to generate designs which reflect their insprational qualities. The badges will be cast in pewter in laser cut MDF moulds using the gravity pour method. Students carry out this process themselves with teacher supervision by heating the pewter until molten using the gas torch on the brazing hearth before pouring it into a three part mould and then allowing it to cool after which the casting is removed. A competitive element has been added to the project in that each design will also be submitted to a judging panel, following which, a winning design will be selected to represent each form and will be used across the school community. This includes a visual display in the foyer area as well as in each form room.









Year 9 - Eco Project

This term year 9 are exploring a new eco project. Our focus is on using recycled materials to create a planter. Throughout the project the students have been learning about the changes happening in our environment and how we can and should improve sustainability. We have looked at the lifecycle of a product and how the affect on our environment could be minimised at each stage of production including extraction, manufacture, distribution and disposal. We have explored the 6 Rs, for example recycle, reuse, refuse and again ways in which we can use these methods to live more sustainably. Currently, the students are exploring their own design ideas for their





planters, using a variety of techniques. They have taken their designs and discussed these with their clients to gain further feedback. The next stage over the next few weeks will be to sample different techniques to manipulate their chosen recycled materials, such as piercing and using the heat press, before developing their final prototypes.

Architecture Project

Some classes are working on an architecture project, designing and modelling their idea for the new train station in King's Heath. This is a live project with work to prepare the site currently underway and constrution due to start in 2023. Through this project, students are learning about the work of iconic architects such as Frank Gehry, Santiago Calatrava and Zaha Hadid as well as investigating celebrated architectural structures such as Sophia in Bulgaria, Liège-Guillemins in Belgium and Waterloo International in the UK. The project places a large focus on the use of 3D modelling using card to realise ideas rather than sketching. This is good preparation for GCSE D&T where 3D modelling is used extensively throughout the NEA.



We have also found that students who find 3D drawing challenging have greater success with manipulating materials to create a model of their ideas. Students are encouraged to take risks and experiment, producing creative outcomes that are the result of happy accidents rather than over thinking ideas. There have been opportunities to investigate inclusive design with students identifying the challenges faced by users with disabilities as well as a chance to think about the environmental imapact of buildings and how they can be designed with sustainability in mind.



GCSE

Year 11 are now nearing completion of the NEA components of the course, worth 50% of their GCSE. They have each chosen one of three contexts set by the exam board and have identified a problem relating to this context for which they have designed a prototype. Several of this year's cohort have selected the theme of 'keeping fit and active', designing products which make exercise easier and

more accessible. A fundamental part of the project is the collection of feedback at various points in the design process from 'third parties' or potential users. We are deeply grateful to various members of staff in the PE department who have provided extremely valuable feedback to many students in the group, identifying strengths and limitations of their ideas and supporting them in developing their concepts further. Mr Bloxidge, a keen golfer, has also lent his support to a student designing a product to help transport golf clubs and accessories around the course for users with restricted mobility.



BGT Event

On Monday 24th January, the D&T department hosted a Bishop's Got Talent event in the library in celebration of Chinese New Year. In order to welcome in the year of the tiger, students were invited to make components for a good luck charm using a variety of materials and techniques. Paper folding, hand decoration and metal embossing stations were set up around the library with students and staff moving around each area in a carousel. Once three components were produced, they were attached in a linear arrangement to produce a charm and each one made has been installed in the foyer as part of a temporary installation to shower us with luck as we cross the school threshold! There was also a chopstick handling competition and Miss Crutchley set up a display of beautiful traditional Chinese artefacts collected during her time living there.











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Textiles Year 7

The 7 students have been working on the pen pot holder project, using art movements as inspiration for their designs. They generated shapes through paper modelling after studying art movements such as Memphis and Arts and Crafts for the pen pot shape, then created a repeat pattern on 'Grid Magic' software which was sublimation printed onto the fabric.





Year 8

Students have been experimenting with a range of felting techniques including Nuno, resist and wet felting. They have all designed and made their own sports arm bands for their chosen sport. There have been some excellent designs and many students have improved their practical sewing skills on the machines.





Year 9

Students in Year 9 are working on a wall hanging project linked with their identity, which was inspired by the Tolkien Primary project from last summer. They have been experimenting with a variety of printing techniques including block, sublimation, transfer and screen printing. They have produced a range of ideas for the wall hanging using images and text which they will then make into their own personalised design. Currently they are working on producing a stencil for a screen print using 2D design and the laser cutter.



Ribbons for Ukraine

Ribbons have been produced in Textiles to help raise funds for CAFOD to support those who have been displaced by the war in Ukraine. The ribbons have been available for the staff to wear and make a donation to CAFOD, more are being produced and will be on sale to students who wish to make a donation. So far over £80 has been raised.



Textiles club

Textiles club have been working on an embroidery project this term. They have taken inspiration from the work of Vincent Van Gogh and put it into stitch form. They have used a variety of embroidery stitches including seed, cross and satin stitch in the work.



STEM Tolkien Primary Schools

We have an exciting collaborative project in the pipeline where by our Tolkien Primary schools will be engaging with us in a design challenge linked to the Commonwealth Games. We have secured funding from The Royl Academy of Engineering to provide CPD and electronic resources to each of our feeder Primary schools so that teachers can develop their knowledge and understanding of programmable components, a requirement of the NC in both D&T and Computing. A group of students accompanied by a member of staff will take part in an introductory workshop at Bishop Challoner to launch the project; learning about a programmable component called a 'crumble' which can have a range of outputs attached to it such as LEDs motors and buzzers. Students will be taught how to program the crumble using specialist software so that they can explore the possibilities it offers when integrated into a product. Following this, the group will return to their respective schools and will act as STEM leaders, disseminating training to a wider group of students. Each school will then have 12 weeks to design a prototype product that incorporates an element of electronics and could be used to solve a design problem associated with the Commonwealth Games. All school will come together with their prototypes in a celebration event at Bishop Challoner in July where students will present their concepts to a panel. A member of the Commonwealth Games planning team at Birmingham City Council will be attending and a range of official merchandise will be presented to shortlisted teams.

Commonwealth Games Pin Badge Competition BEBOLDBE BIRMINGHAM

As a school, we have been given an unpresendented opportunity for one of our students to design an enamel pin badge which will be produced as part of the 'BE BOLD BE BIRMINGHAM' official campaign to celebrate our city as it hosts the 2022 Commonwealth Games. Up to 10,000 of the winning design will be manufactured and distributed as part of the official merchandise package. The competition has been opened to all students with a closing date of 1st April. Birmingham City Council will judge the entries and select one design to be taken forward into manufacture. This is an amazing chance for one of our students to see their design mass produced and become part of Birmingham's design history!

STEM Club

STEM Club have enjoyed working on activities produced by the Royal Academy of Engineering, in particular, their 'Engineering in a Pandemic' resource. This includes a range of activities which illustrate to students how engineers have used their problem solving skills to develop products to help in the fight against COVID 19. The group had a go at making 'Virus Bioart'; 3D sculptures made from thermoplastic moulding sticks that can be used to teach others what viruses look like and how they work. They also set up a mini chromotography lab in order to seperate inks; simulating how biochemical tests work through the seperation of proteins. They then moved on to the 'Respirator Challenge'; learning about the respirators developed by Southampton University for local healthcare workers by constructing their own device to test airflow through different materials. Their work has been submitted to the Royal Academy to claim a digital STEM badge which can be used for their online profiles and applications.



Health and Wellbeing

Staff got a chance to unwind whilst channeling their inner creativity in a spring wreath making workshop on 25th March. The one hour session allowed staff across a range of departments in the school to come together in a relaxed setting and produce some beautiful bespoke dried flower wreaths. Look out for one of these stunning wreaths gracing a door near you.





Our Eco Group spent a lovely day at Martineau Gardens recently, combining fun with learning about our environment and planning for our forthcoming Peace Garden. The group played games in the woodland, gleefully going on a minibeast hunt, and identifying trees they'd been led to whilst blindfolded by using their other senses. They then spoke to a horticultural therapist, who gave them a lot of ideas for planning their garden, inspiring them to look at the symbolism of plants when thinking of what to include. After that, they tasted a variety of herbs to decide which ones to plant around school - chives were especially popular! After lunch, the staff at Martineau Gardens helped them to create mood boards for the Peace Garden, which they then presented to each other. They arrived back at school with lots of ideas and enthusiasm for creating green spaces around school! Our next project is to create a wheelbarrow which will be displayed at BBC Gardener's World Live in June as part of a West Midlands-wide competition - watch this space!







Business

We are very much looking forward to the year 13 consultation afternoon in a couple of weeks so that we can feedback current student performance and meet parents face to face for the first time in nearly two years. Year 13 A level Business have nearly finished the syllabus and they are now starting their last set of mocks. This will give them an important insight as to where they are in their learning and give them further valuable exam practice. The year 13 vocational students are progressing well with their coursework units and received the results of their latest external exam a couple of weeks ago. The results were very pleasing and we are now able to predict final outcomes for these students

Recently, Miss Sadler and myself did an options assembly for year

9, which was well received, and we hope to welcome another broad and enthusiastic cohort of new year 10 students into studying Business in September 2022.

Year 11 GCSE students are now finishing the last unit of work for the year and preparing for the mini mocks which will be in the week commencing Monday 21st March. The advanced information from the exam boards is particularly useful for this last unit of work because half of the Human Resource content has been removed. The vocational year 11 groups are well into their coursework, which accounts for 60% of their overall marks.

All other groups in year 10 are progressing well and we are happy as a department where we are in our schemes of work and how the next year is looking. We hope to be able to organise some educational visits over the next year as businesses start offering them again.

Computing and ICT

CyberFirst Girls Competition

The CyberFirst Girls Competition aims to support girls interested in computing.

CyberFirst Girls Competition is run by the **National Cyber Security Centre** (NCSC) – a part of **GCHQ** – with one aim: getting more girls to start their careers in cyber security. The world of technology is ever-changing and so are the online threats facing us. That's why NCSC created the CyberFirst Girls Competition, designed to help girls between the ages of 12-13 understand what a career in cyber security looks like, why it matters, and where it could take them. It's a chance for more girls to discover a career where they can play a part in protecting the nation – and have some fun with their friends too.





At Bishop Challoner several current Year 8 students have been attending the Cyber Security Club for Girls since Year 7. This year eight of those girls entered the CyberFirst competition in the form of two teams. Team 1; Harriet, Tia, Andrea, and Katherine, and Team 2; Ella, Amy, Mary Jo, and Giovanna. They worked as a team and helped each other to increase the chance of one of the teams getting into the final. During the week of the qualifying stage of the competition, all-girls showed a great level of commitment, arriving at school early in the morning, using their lunchtime and after school to complete as many challenges as possible. Their hard work paid off and to our delight and their surprise, Team 1 qualified for the final.

On the day of the final, while Bishop Challoner was closed to most students the girls came to school to compete against other finalists in the region. At 10am, the CEO of NCSC, Lindy Cameron welcomed the students, and the competition officially began. In the final they stayed 100% focused and worked well as a team dividing the tasks between themselves to solve problems within their expertise as well as helping each other. The competition was closed at 2:30pm. The epic work of the

girls paid off when Chris Ensor Deputy Director for Cyber Skills at NCSC confirmed Bishop Challoner Catholic College as the winner of this year's CyberFirst Champion for the West Midlands region. Over 7000 students, 5000 schools took part in this year's CyberFirst Girls Competition and what the girls have achieved is truly remarkable and their story will inspire many more young girls at Bishop Challoner. We are very proud of you. Well done!

Cyber Taster Days

This half-term the computing department organised two Cyber Taster Days for Year 8 girls students at Aston University's campus. The day consisted of interactive activities, cybersecurity talks, coding workshops, gadget guru competitions, and amazing prizes. Isabellwon the first prize at Aston University for her work on designing a cyber-security system.





Drone Club

Robotics

physic of drones.





The computing department has been providing On Tuesdays, students learn how to build and program robots using Leo-Spike opportunities to students in the afterschool club, on Robots. The UK Rising Robotic is running a robotic competition on 3rd May Monday students can fly drones and learn about the 2022 and we are entering a robotic team (10 Year7 and 8 students) into this competition.



Cyber Security for Girls

On Wednesdays, we have the Cyber Security for Girls Club with the aim to encourage more female students to study computer science at the GCSE level and beyond. This is the second year of running this club and it has been popular with Year 7 and 8 students. In this club, students learn about modern cyber technologies and encryption techniques as well as solve logic problems.



Girls Can Code





In addition, at the start of 2022, the computing department has launched a new club "Girls Can Code" on Wednesday morning with the aim to encourage more girls to take GCSE computing and pursue careers in this field as this industry is under-represented by females.

Digital Art Club

On Thursdays, Digital Art Club is on after school. In this club, students learn the skills and techniques how to edit photos and create flyers and digital posters. Recently we have started looking at making and editing videos including adding texts and sound.



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Amazon Web Services

We have taken part in the Amazon Web Services (AWS) GetIT programme and competition for the 2021-22 academic year. AWS GetIT is a programme aimed at year 8 students, to help them to gain digital skills, challenge gender stereotypes within the industry, and consider a career in technology. The programme enables students to design and create an 'app for good' that makes a real, tangible social change within their school and community. The programme was launched by an Amazon ambassador during Year 8 assembly the last term and now 11 Year 8 students in the form of two teams are working on designing and making Apps. The teams had their Bootcamp session "How to make a winning App" this week and are keen to present their projects to the Amazon representative at the end of this month.



Drone Project

The computing department is also expanding the drone project to primary schools by providing and delivering drone sessions at their schools. There are 11 primary schools involved in this project. The aim of the project is to equip the primary school teachers with knowledge and skills to eventually deliver drone sessions without our support. The aim of the project is to increase the engagement and interest in computing and STEM within children from early years. At the end of this academic year, Bishop Challoner will host a completion day where all the 11 schools take part in some form of drone challenges to demonstrate their skills and win prizes.

English

Debate Mate Update

Our weekly debating club began again in earnest after the Christmas holidays, focusing on the upcoming first round of the Urban Debate League competition. As bad luck would have it, the event fell during the week of the school's gas leak. However, we didn't let a little thing like a school closure put us off and thanks to plucky volunteers, we could scramble a debate team to turn up after school anyway and, using the

Sports Hall classroom, we were able to participate in the two debates over Zoom. Happily, we won both of our debates and ended up 4th in the West Midlands league, ahead of the next and final round later in March. The team won this round and narrowly missed out on the West Midlands Cup by one point!

This half term, we have also entered the 'Debate with Hart' international competition, organised by a school in Dubai and involving a number of different English-speaking schools across the globe. With two rounds of debating for each team, plus the second round of the UDL, there has been huge amount of commitment from our debaters in preparing and competing for this in their own time after school. Jack Knowles is supervising our KS4/5 team, Sarah Flynn-Vilic is supervising our KS3 team, while Rosita Lloyd also judges two other competitions.





This is a new style and format of debating, against totally unknown competition, so we are keen to see how our teams fare in this environment. Success or not, it great to have a range of Yrs 7-12 all involved with debating this half term.

Pen Pals

We have set up a UK-US pen pal initiative in partnership with former Bishop Challoner teacher, Mr Takhar. A group of Year 10 students have been writing to freshman students at Casa Grande Union High School in Arizona. Through the letters, they have learned about life in a very different part of the world, enriching their cultural awareness. Their pen pals have written about living in a desert state, the hobbies and sports they enjoy, and culturally specific events such as



quincineras and living on a Native American reservation. Our students have been sharing their own cultural knowledge with their American counterparts, whilst also learning how to structure letters and practise their writing skills; they have especially enjoyed dispelling the myth of British tea-time!

Geography

Staff News

Well done to Mr Tsintas who has recently raised over ± 650.00 for the charity Young Minds by hosting a show with his local school band.

Year 8

Year 8 have completed their unit of work on Russia and have now begun to study the country of Brazil. The unit of Brazil enables the students to enquire into a wide range of geographical concepts. On the one hand students will investigate the human geography within Brazil such as their culture and the wide disparity between living conditions and opportunities and on the other, students will learn about the physical environment such as the Amazon Rainforest including deforestation within the rainforest, the damage it is causing, who it is impacting and why different stakeholders have varying opinions. Year 8 have also been diligently preparing for their T1 assessment which incorporates both countries that have been explored so far this year.



Lapworth Museum

A group of Year 8 students will this term will also be going on a trip to Lapworth Museum at Birmingham University where they will learn about climate change and plate tectonics whilst having a tour of the local university campus.



Key Stage 3: Year 7

Year 7 have continued to develop their knowledge and understanding of the country in which they live, the UK. The students have been exploring some of the UK's physical features such as rivers and coasts. Within this, Year 7 have investigated issues regarding erosion and flooding and the social, economic and environmental impacts these can have. Human concepts such as development and migration have also been studied. At the end of the unit Year 7 have completed an assessment on Microsoft Forms, bringing technology into the classroom. This half term students have been introduced to new topic and one of the world's superpowers, China. This topic has already sparked great enthusiasm amongst the year group who excited to share their knowledge and learn more about a country that is so frequently in the news. The students' curiosity will be captivated through exploring China's human and physical environments and enquiring into why China is expected to have the largest economy in the world by 2040. The unit of work will also allow students to debate the controversial topic of the One Child Policy whilst evaluating its success and failures



Year 9

The start of the Spring term saw Year 9 continue their new unit of work, Iceland. The topic begins by introducing students to the location of Iceland and the theory of



plate tectonics. Throughout the unit students have learnt about the hazards associated with plate boundaries, using Eyjafjallajokull volcano as an example. With Iceland being the only country in the world which obtains 100% of its electricity and heat from renewable sources, Year 9 have also had the opportunity to investigate why the country has been so successful with using energy sources such as geo-thermal energy. Iceland was introduced into our KS3 scheme last year and it has been found to not only help develop the skills needed for GCSE Geography, it sparks the curiosity and engagement of the students and has excellent cross curricular links with Science. Many students who have chosen to study GCSE Geography next year will be delighted to hear that plans are underway to run the international trip to Iceland when they are in Year 11.



Key Stage 4: Year 10

Year 10 have been working well on the AQA GCSE course and are currently midway through a topic area called Urban Issues and Challenges. Students have been learning about the opportunities and challenges people face living in cities such as Rio de Janeiro in Brazil. They are currently learning about our local Geography here in Birmingham. Investigating how our city can overcome challenges such as de-industrialisation, labour outsourcing, and deprivation.

Revision guides for the course are still on sale on school comms and students can collect them from the Geography office.

Year 11

Year 11 are working really hard in Geography in preparation for their final exams. Students are at the moment in the final stage of completing the course in completing the last unit of work The Challenge of Resource Management. This has been a really topical unit of study given the current issues we are seeing around Europe in regard to energy supply and generation in a time where parts of Europe are at conflict.

All Geography students will be invited into school in the Easter break to complete an intervention day on Wednesday 20th April 9.50am – 2.30pm ahead of the first exam in May. We entrust students will take up this fantastic opportunity teachers are providing in support of their preparation for the final exams.

Please follow us on twitter @BCGeogDept



During the Spring term, Year 7 historians have been continuing with their studies of Medieval England and considering whether Medieval monarchs could do exactly as they wanted. They have explored the lives and challenges of several monarchs, including Henry II and King John. Recently, Year 7 asked the question: Is the Disney version of King John accurate? They used the information they have learnt about King John to create a more accurate interpretation of him. Year 7 are now looking at their first female monarch: Elizabeth I, and the religious problems she faced.

Year 8

Having completed their work on the Industrial Revolution, Year 8 are learning about the causes and experiences of the First World War. This has involved thinking about the role of imperialism and the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand. They have also started to look at trench warfare and will be watching original WW1 footage from 'They Shall Not Grow Old' to learn about the experiences of soldiers. Year 8 are also visiting the Black Country Living Museum next week, which will no doubt be a hugely enjoyably experience. Many are looking forward to having the 'best fish and chips in the world'!





Year 9

Year 9 have started to look at the Vietnam War as an example of a Cold War proxy war. They have approached this topic with great sensitivity and maturity, as they investigate why the USA got involved in a country so far away.

Many Year 9s spoke with their class teachers on Pathways Evening about the possibility of choosing history at GCSE. It was brilliant to see so much interest in the subject and we look forward to a new cohort of historians!

Key Stage 4

Year 10 and Year 11 continue to work hard and engage in their various topics. Year 11 are currently conducting an investigation into Whitechapel, 1870-1900 and they are using primary sources, such as the census, to learn about the victims of Jack the Ripper. Year 10 have been learning about how the allies of World War Two became enemies.

Bishop's Got Talent – Viking Workshop

History led a Viking Workshop event as part of BGT in early March. Students were able to construct their own Viking Dragonship, practice writing Viking Runes and play some classic Viking board games among other activities. Students particularly beating Mr Fell at the board games!



Mathematics

Malympics

Maths have held our annual Malympics event on Thursday 10th March. We hosted 11 primary catholic schools from our Tolkien cluster and invited them to send six students from Years 3, 4 & 5 for a day of maths and PE led activities. Like our hugely successful and well attended Christmaths event, this day was designed by the Year 9 Maths Ambassadors who delivered a day of competitive activities with both school and year group competitions throughout the day. The winning Year Group was Year 5, and Best School 2022 was St Alban's. A big thank you to all schools for taking part.







Catholic Games - Year 7

Thursday 10th Feb was the 1st face to face Catholic Schools 7 students from Bishop Challoner enjoyed a trip to Edmund Maths Challenge event. They had 4 competitive rounds their maths knowledge. Round 1 Problem solving, Round Individual Pursuit and the final round was TT Rockstars All students were a credit to the school showing resilience Participating students were: Sarah Djuidje, Freya Carroll,





Year 8

On Wednesday 23rd March, Miss Hebbes took eight volunteers from 8X1 to the Catholic Partnership Year 8 Maths Games at St Edmund Campion School. The students were split into 2 teams of 4 and competed against 5 other schools in a mixture of challenges, ranging from logic puzzles to an escape room activity. All of the students were brilliant representatives for Bishop Challoner but one of our 2 teams won the competition. Participating students were: Olivier, Thomas, Sonny, Ismail, Beatrice, Harriet, Malakai, and Joshua.





Primary

On Wednesday 23rd March, we hosted the final in a series of Year 6 enrichment sessions for 9 Tolkien primary schools. We held a maths 'Easter escape room' with St Mary's winning the event. Overall St John and Monica won the series. All the children who took part were a huge credit to their schools as were the Y7 helpers from Bishop Challoner over the last 5 months.



Maths Feast

Miss Stone took 8 students from Year 10 to the AMSP's "Maths Feast"; a free competition that sees students extend their mathematical problem solving skills. It was at Camp Hill Boys School on Thursday 17th February, and was brilliant! Although we did not have a podium finish, both teams were brilliant and held their own against the grammar schools with which we were competing.

Media Studies

Year 10

Year 10 are about to start their coursework on Science Fiction and Romantic Comedy films over the next few weeks. They have been working on Sitcoms, Magazine analysis and a James Bond case study throughout their exam lessons.

Year 11

This year's GCSE Media Studies NEA (Coursework) brief has invited students to devise, design and produce film marketing products for a new release in the Coming-of-Age genre. Inspired by an eclectic range of films from The Breakfast Club to Lady Bird, and Kes to Submarine, Year 11s are in the final stages of creating a poster and DVD cover for a film of their invention.

After researching genre codes and conventions, students developed ideas for their own coming-of-age film. They have taken original photography to feature across the marketing products, with many choosing the school environment as an appropriate setting for the action. Students have learned how to use Adobe Photoshop to manipulate and organize text and imagery in realizing their DVD cover and portrait movie poster.

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ROLE MODEL

The brief has allowed many students to harness their experiences of playground break-ups, the pressure to fit in, and the whole messy gamut of teenage angst in developing narratives and character representations which will appeal to a target audience of young adults like themselves.

Year 12 and 13

Year 12 are currently studying music videos and will soon be planning their own over the next term. The brief has just been released for next year's NEA which is to make a magazine and music video for a new artist on an independent label. Year 13 are just finishing off their coursework, alongside exam revision for the Television and Online Media modules. Look out on our youtube channel for their music videos which will be uploading in April!

MFL

Twitter

Are you following the new MFL twitter page yet? Follow us @BishopMFL and see our latest news.

KS3 - Year 7

After covering the basics of the French language until the Christmas period, year 7 have now moved on to more complex language building. They are learning to talk about their schools, as well as the difference between the French and British educational system. Year 7 teaching groups have also recently seen a major reshuffle of which French was part of.

Year 8

Year 8 have just finished the topic Paris je t'aime, where they found out a little bit about Paris. The topic focused strongly on the use of the past tense (perfect tense). Now that they have completed their T1 assessments, Year 8 will now move on to communicating about their free time activities, and friendships. Bishop Chaltener MFL (0)(introd/M1 - Mar 20 ----On Thursday 21st March, join us at first break in the Earary for an immersive French cells experience. You will be able to ender French treate and speak in French, better still, all proceeds go towards our Chusine appeal.

ABC



Year 9

Year 9 students have been learning about social media and new technologies in French. This topic is key for the year group as it is also one covered in the GCSE. It is an opportunity for students to think about their future subject choices. Furthermore, now that year 9 students have received their pathway options, discussions around choices have been important, and time was dedicated to the importance of studying languages in lessons.

Hinterland news - La Saint Valentin

In February, students in KS3 French lessons have been learning about a particular French cultural event.

In France, almost every day in the calendar has a saint's name assigned to it. February 14th is known worldwide as Saint Valentine's Day. Today it revolves around the giving of cards and gifts to the one you love. But where does this tradition come from?

The popular account is of Saint Valentine of Rome who was imprisoned for conducting weddings for soldiers who were forbidden to marry. This became associated with February 14th. During his imprisonment he fell in love with the daughter of his jailer and before his execution, left her a letter signed 'Your Valentine'. The tradition developed from there and the 14th February became the day of love that we know today.



In KS3 classes, students combined dictionary work with creating poetry to produce 'les poèmes d'amour' (love poems).

These poems translate as "Without you, I am like without"; But with you I am!

Students demonstrated great creative thinking, by finding translations of objects which usually go together (e.g. trees and leaves) and including these in their poems. It also reinforced the skill of using a dictionary, a skill which can be lacking for many with the over-reliance of Google Translate.

Qui a volé la Joconde ?

The topic preceding the Year 8 T1 assessments was "In Paris" and looked at tourist activities and monuments there. The final subtopic was Qui a volé la Joconde? (Who stole the Mona Lisa?) where the classroom was set up as a crime scene for the lesson.

Students entered the dark classroom to the Mission Impossible theme tune a little perplexed. There were crumbs and souvenirs left in the classroom as evidence and three postcards sent from Paris had been seized from three different suspects. The class had to work together to deduct from the French postcards where they had been and at what time. Who left the crumbs in the Louvre? 8X1 and 8W1 detectives worked it out successfully, but then the suspect had left another clue in French; they had to take the bold letters from the confession and rearrange them to find out which classmate was guilty. They cracked the code and found the Mona Lisa stuck under the thief's chair! The classes really enjoyed using their French and problem-solving skill s in this mystery lesson.

Year 9 options

Thank you to all parents and students who have attended the year 9 option evening. If you did not manage to attend, but still have questions, do not hesitate to speak to a French teacher. You will also find lots of information on this webpage https:// frenchbc.weebly.com/le-gcse-cest-quoi. html

KS4 News - Year 10

Recently, Year 10 have studied the topic of the environment. They have been building up their own knowledge of structures and vocabulary in able to formulate their own ideas of local and global environmental issues. To finish off this topic they have been placed into groups, to brainstorm ideas of environmental issues they can identify in their local area. They have presented these in French and will now independently learn about letter writing in French in order to write to the mayor. Some of these amazing letters have been displayed by the languages rooms.

Penpals

Some of the year 10 students have carried corresponding with their Swiss penfriends. After their initial letters they are now starting to get to know each other better. Some are choosing to share some photos of themselves. We are looking forward to receiving the next letters.



Year 11 – revision time

The date of the speaking examination is now fixed to the week beginning 2nd May. This means there are only a few weeks left for year 11 students to be prepared before their very first GCSE examination.

Students will find all of the GCSE vocabulary lists that they need on the Quizlet folder https://quizlet.com/FrenchBCCC/folders/ gcse?x=1xqt&i=yjxm5

KS5 News

Year 12 students have been learning about the changes in family structures in France and the world of work.

To encourage year 12 students to embrace the speaking skill, that they have scarcely practised in the last 2 years, we have organised some classroom debates where students had to take side on current issues

In Year 13, the focus has been to master the art of essay writing, with the study of the novel Un Sac de Billes, and of the film La Haine.



Masterclass at UoB

As part of our department's focus to support our 6th form students with their speaking skills and understanding of grammar concepts, we have enlisted them to be part of a masterclass organised by the University of Birmingham outreach office. This (Boost up your languages) masterclass usually includes a variety of interactive exercises (including, for example, songs in the target language) based on key grammar points that the students need to use at A-level. Some examples from the 2019 Masterclass are the use of the subjunctive and position/type of adverbs in French.

Language assistant

In addition to this event, KS4 and KS5 students are currently given the opportunity to meet and speak with a French language assistant at once a week on either Mondays or Wednesdays: the aim being to boost their confidence and fluency in French as well as developing their spontaneity to make them become better linguists.

Performing Arts

Spring term brought with it a flurry of musical activity and it is wonderful to see venues open and welcoming students back to experience live music, theatre and dance again. Well rested after the winter break, students returned to school committed to rehearsals, keen to learn new instruments, and to take advantage of the activities offered in the Music and PA departments.

Music Year 7

In music, Year 7 students are continuing their exploration of World Music, and have spent several weeks studying music and sounds from Africa. They learned about traditional instruments and sounds, sang two African songs, and tested their rhythm and ensemble skills on the djembe drums. They are now learning about music from the Caribbean and rehearsing a performance of a melody on the keyboards; the students are now beginning to play with two hands and are learning what a challenge that can be! However they are persevering and we look forward to hearing their final performances.

Year 8

In Year 8, our classes have learnt the social and historical history of Blues and Jazz music, and undertaken a number of keyboard exercises which involve playing in these styles. This term they have all learned to improvise, a difficult skill on any instrument, but have risen to the challenge and performed a short improvisation in a Jazz style. They have now moved on to a new topic which looks at Music for Royal Occasions. Over the forthcoming weeks students will explore how to notate different pitches and rhythms on a stave, advancing their musical theory skills, and compose a piece of music which would be suitable for a special occasion.

Year 9

After composing and rehearsing a Protest Song in groups based on a topical issue of their choice, our Year 9 students have returned to keyboards for their next composition project. This topic explores Music and the Media, and students analyse, through listening and keyboard tasks, the importance of music in TV, films and video games. They have already shown a strong understanding of the impact music can make in a piece of media. They are currently using a range of musical devices to compose an extended piece of music for a film soundtrack, and have made an encouraging start to their compositions.

GCSE

At GCSE, work has begun in Year 10 on the 8 set musical works on the exam syllabus. They have completed an in-depth analysis of two of these pieces, Killer Queen by Queen and Samba Em Preludio, a fusion of jazz and bossa nova; the weeks of music theory which they undertake in the Autumn term prepares them well for the rigours of musical analysis and terminology which each piece brings. Meanwhile our Year 11s are in the final stages of completing their coursework. Compositions have shown creativity and individuality, and a number of students have given up a lot of their own time to develop and refine their creations. In terms of the Performance aspect of the course, all students have now recorded their final pieces, each student having rehearsed extensively to give their best performance. From now on their focus will be on completing the set works, and then revising them in detail in preparation for their final exam.

Year 13

Our Year 13s have worked hard to complete the analysis of the set works on this year's syllabus, which most recently has included studying Bernard Herrmann's music from the 1960 film Psycho and Stravinsky's ballet score to The Rite of Spring. The syllabus at A Level is extremely diverse and requires a knowledge of music theory, as well as strong analysis and listening skills when it comes to the set works – and when approaching unfamiliar pieces of music. The students are also working on finalising their compositions and preparing a short recital which will be recorded in the next half term.

Symphony Hall Trip

Another event in the music calendar which thankfully returned this term was the Year 7 trip to Symphony Hall. Each year the CBSO host an exciting concert aimed at KS3 students, which is educational and inspiring. We invited 70 Year 7 students to attend, and those who came along certainly had a memorable afternoon. The programme of music was based on the theme of The Natural World and featured music by Stravinsky, Sibelius, John Barry and more, each piece taking us on a descriptive journey to exotic landscapes, flowing rivers and through the seasons. The Year 7s have spent a lot of time in the classroom learning about the instruments from the orchestra, and it was wonderful for them to see and hear these instruments live – and to experience the power of live music.



Battle of the Bands

A group of Year 7 students have formed a small band this year and are developing their guitar and drumming skills in preparation for this year's Battle of the Bands event. The students have shown dedication to working as an ensemble and have learned a number of new chords and techniques to play some songs as a group. They began by working on Let It Be by the Beatles and are now stepping up to cover a Queen song, and I'm delighted with how hard they rehearse and in our recording studio every week.

Instrument Lessons

Every week, a group of instrumental teachers from the Music Service visit our school to work with students on a one to one basis, developing their musical skills, sometimes entering them for instrumental exams, and supporting them in their musical assessments and performances. A large portion of the class work in music lessons at KS3 includes developing keyboard technique, and those students who have had piano lessons in school (and out of school!) have certainly benefitted from this support, as shown in their results. The guitar teacher now has a waiting list of students wanting to play acoustic and electric guitar, and I am thrilled to see so many of our students continuing with their instrumental tuition even during challenging times such as GCSE and A Level preparation. Our instrumental staff cover piano, guitar, brass, woodwind, strings, recorder, steel pan and drums, and it is always encouraging to hear our students rehearsing and playing in the practice spaces around school.

Bishop's Got Talent

Amongst the many musical students in our school, two in particular showed such talent, they performed a short set of songs in the library in the first musical BGT of 2022. Oscar and Molly in Year 9 are both incredibly talented students, and the duet performed a delightful, chilledout acoustic set with Molly on vocals and Oscar accompanying on guitar. As always the event drew a large crowd who were enthralled by the duo, performing their own covers of numbers by Ed Sheeran, Frank Sinatra and Paramore. I'm sure we will be seeing more of Molly and Oscar at future events.

Choir

This term, choir have been rehearsing for a number of different performance opportunities which are coming up towards Easter. They



have been selecting and arranging a range of songs to suit their small ensemble, including musical theatre numbers from the new Andrew Lloyd-Webber show, Cinderella, the new popular contemporary musical, Dear Evan Hansen, as well as an old classic by Lady Gaga! Their love of singing is contagious and we look forward to witnessing them perform in the forthcoming weeks.

Spring Soiree

The most recent major event in the musical calendar was our Spring Soiree. Our annual instrumental concert was moved to April this year and, as always, was an entertaining evening featuring a range of musical performances. The Soiree gave our instrumentalists a chance to play to an audience, and featured some seasoned veterans as well as beginners. The instrumental teachers from the Music Service had, with our students supported our performers, and the programme featured an eclectic mix – steel pans, solo guitars, a vocal ensemble, and woodwind duets. Performances like this are definitely a team effort both on and off stage, and we would like to thank everyone involved: performers, audience, backstage support and of course families, friends and carers who have encouraged these young people in their musical journey.

Performing Arts Year 10

The Year 10 Performing Arts group have recently filmed their performances based on the musical Les Miserables which will be submitted to the examiner. Additionally, they are currently filming a vlog on the musical Hairspray and began work this week on a number from Billy Elliot: The Musical.

Year 11

Year 11 Performing Arts have been asked by their exam board to create a piece of theatre on "Why the Arts is important for Health and Wellbeing". They are well underway with the planning and devising stages and complete their first ever controlled assessment this week. Rehearsals will subsequently begin on their performance; this is the first time since 2018 that we have been able to complete this practical component of the course and we hope it will be a huge success for the students.

Year 9 Exploration Day

On 9th March, 28 students from Year 9 were invited to take part in a Performing Arts rewards and exploration day. This event was aimed at those students who always work to their full potential in Dramatic Studies and for those that have shown a keen interest in Performing Arts by taking in part in our extra-curricular clubs, shows and events.

The students spent the day with the Performing Arts Department and took part in workshops in singing, dance and acting. They also spent an hour performing what they had learnt, created or devised throughout the day. The final session of the day featured

the opportunity to watch a live musical: the students chose to watch In the Heights. They had learnt a section of choreography from the film version of this hit musical in their dance session earlier in the day. Other pieces they studied included a vocal number from Glee and a dramatic scene from "The Boy in the Dress". The students were outstanding and were an absolute pleasure to teach.





The REP

On 4th February, our Year 10 Performing Arts group were invited to The REP theatre to be audience members for the preview of a new play, Good For a Girl. The play included an all-female cast, exploring women's football. Following the play, students took part in a Q & A with members of the cast and creative/production team. It was a wonderful experience for our young people and we hope to continue to build links with the education department at The REP, in order to allow us to offer more of these opportunities to our students in the future.



Dance Club

Dance club have continued to meet weekly and are preparing for some special events which will take place in the summer term.



Drama - Bishop's Got Talent

Drama Club performed for the PSHE BGT in the library last week. The short performance entitled 'Stop!' had a small cast of four, but it spoke volumes! Based on the topic of county lines, the ensemble joined together to create a piece of theatre in education. The message was clear – county lines targeted 10,000 young people and vulnerable adults last year and our students know all the warning signs to prevent them falling victim. Using a blend of music, visuals, mime, spoken word and poetry, the Year 7 and 8 students created a real buzz amongst the audience. Well done to Beatrice M, Amy J, Erin H-L and Joceline N.





Physical Education

PE Curriculum

During the Spring Term, a wide range sports have been taught in PE lessons. Students have completed units of work in football, handball, badminton, basketball, volleyball, swimming, gymnastics and table tennis. Some students have also had sample sessions in rugby, which coaching provided by Worcester Warriors and Moseley Rugby Club.

Basketball

On Friday 25th March, students from Year 7-10 enjoyed a basketball development trip to Leicester's Morningside Arena. After an on court coaching session,

Football Round-up

Several of our football teams have been competing in the later rounds of both the Birmingham Schools Cup and the West Midlands County Schools FA Cup. Year 7 boys managed to reach a quarter-final and semifinal before losing out in two highly competitive matches against Kings Norton Boys and Arden Academy. Well done to year 8 Boys who have made it to the final of the Birmingham Schools Cup, a Kaysha hat trick secured a 3-0 win over Arden Academy; the boys will take on St Peters in the final which will played at Aston Villa's Bodymoor Heath Training Complex. Year 9 Boys are still hoping for glory in both cup competitions, they will take on St Peters and Phoenix School in their semi-finals in the coming weeks. Finally, Sixth Form Boys are through to the West Midlands Cup semi-final after a 3-2 victory over Coleshill School.

students watched BBL champions Leicester Riders take on Bristol Flyers, a thrilling contest which ended in an 87-82 victory for the home side. The evening was rounded of as students were able to meet the players for some photos and autographs.



Ball Crew

Bishop Challoner Catholic College has once again been invited to provide the Ball Crew for the prestigious Birmingham Viking Classic Tennis Championship which will be held from Saturday 11th June 2022 until Sunday 19th June 2022 at the Priory Tennis Club in Edgbaston. This is an exciting opportunity for the students to experience a top class sporting event.





Athletics

Well done to our Year 7 and Year 8 Athletes who competed at the Birmingham School Games Athletics Finals at the University of Birmingham Sport and Fitness Centre. They were all fantastic and put in some excellent performances. The event was also supported by 15 of our Year 10 leaders.



Cricket

Girls from years 7, 8 and 9 participated in a cricket workshop delivered by Chance to Shine, some excellent cricket skills were on display. The girls are looking forward to the next session which will look to develop their leadership skills. Well done to all involved.





Quiz and Curry Night

The PE departments fundraising Quiz and Curry night was a huge success. Over 200 students and family members packed in to the Sixth Form common room to enjoy a night that raised over £800 for the upcoming international football trips to Valencia and Villarreal.



PSHE Form Time Sessions & Assemblies

All our year groups have covered some very important topics in form time and assemblies over the last term. Below are some examples of the topics discussed:

- International Women's Day
- National Careers Week
- World Book Day
- Children's Mental Health Week
- Safer Internet Day
- Bishop Challoner Standards



PSHE Lessons Year 7 Global Rights

In this topic, our students have been learning about the

fundamental human rights all of humanity should have. Our classes have explored personal rights and global rights and how they should be valued. By learning about a mixture of studies laws, case and sharing their own perspectives, our classes have developed a sound knowledge of human rights ready for a greater look at democracy and the Equality Act in year 8



THE MAIN AIMS OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ARE:





action on issues of gender equality

to empower women and piris around the world

Year 8 Liberty and Democracy In this topic our year 8 students have researched their precious

In this topic our year 8 students have researched their precious liberties and how other nations lack certain freedoms. They have evaluated the positive aspects of living in a democratic society and explored modern examples of international laws and conflicting rights. By understanding what others go through across the world, our students are gaining a greater global understanding and reflecting on what is important to them in their society.



Year9PSHE&Pathways

During this topic, students have learnt about issues such as: drugs; alcohol; smoking; vaping; eating disorders; blood, organ and stem cell donations; vaccinations and career pathways. The subject content of these topics is taken from the statutory guidance and delivered with facts from reliable sources such as the NHS. Students are assessed on their overall knowledge of the key content through quizzing and short answer questions. Year 9 PSHE Choices and Pathways - Session 1

> "I am who I am today because of the choices I made yesterday." Eleanor Roosevelt



Year 7 Personal Development Day

Instead of the usual Character Week, this year we have opted to do stand-alone Personal Development days in order to ensure we cover topics missed due to COVID in a timely fashion. Our year 7 students have engaged in a 'Minus Violence' workshop and had an insightful presentation from Crime Stoppers on County Lines. In school presentations covered peer pressure, equality and gratitude. The other year groups will have their Personal Development days in the coming weeks.



Charity

Following the success of the CAFOD fundraising last year, our students selected new charities for each year group from January 2022. Each year group has collated plans for how to fundraise and is enabling students to develop their leadership skills by organising the activities themselves. Some examples of fundraising opportunities that are coming up include;

Year 8 are completing a lent self-reflection challenge that asks them to consider what they are thankful for. They are taking change they may have spent on things they do not need and filling jars up in each form room.

Year 9 forms are planning a range of events including a cake sale, car wash and football event.

Year 10 are planning a few events in aid of Mind UK including an inter-form quiz and a basketball competition

Year 12 are planning a massive Easter fair that will involve inviting all KS3 students and students from St Dunstans down to the common room to spend their money all in aid of Cancer Research. Each year 12 form is planning a few activities, sourcing the resources and prizes and managing the advertisements and money on the day.

Year 13 have already raised money from a valentine's day activity and are selling raffle tickets for an Easter prize.



Religious Studies

Liturgical Season

We are currently in Lententide, where we focus on the 40 days that Jesus spent in the desert in preparation for His Ministry.

This is the season of fasting, special prayer and almsgiving in preparation for Easter.

Students in key stage 3 have had the opportunity to reflect on the meaning and message of Lent. Jesus asks his disciples to be their best selves and this is a time where renewal in our prayers, fasting and almsgiving bring us closer to God and as a community.

Let us pray

God, may Your light guide my day, and your spirit bring me peace. May our Lenten intentions being us ever closer and remind us of our dependence on You for all the blessings I enjoy. Amen.

Easter Holiday

This year, Easter is during our school break. Our community parishes offer the opportunity to be ever present during Holy Week with services culminating with Easter Sunday. Check out your local parish website for Mass timings.

Here is a moment for mindfulness, as we take time to be present with God let us reflect on our actions and choices. May we continue to give our very best to each moment and strive to be more resilient.

KS3 Summary Assessments

At the end of their current unit, Year 7 and 9 will be preparing for an Assessment. What this means in Religious Education is that students will be assessed on the skills needed for success throughout the subject: Knowledge, Contextualisation, Communication and Analysis. These skills will be in conjunction with learning from each subject this academic year. Students will be provided with revision materials, sessions and reminders by their classroom teachers on the lead up to the assessments. This will allow students to build on good study habit practices, positive motivation for practicing written responses and applying subject knowledge in different ways to better support long term memory.



Year 7

This spring, not only have our Year 7's had units on 'Person I want to become?'; RSE – 'Who am I?' and 'Why does the universe exist', they are continuing their journey in Christianity as we delve into what it means to be a Christian, especially Catholic Identity over our next few units. We are currently exploring: Who is God and why be religious?

This unit mirrors nicely with our previous unit Why does the universe exist and leads into our next unit on Catholic Identity. This segment of the spiral curriculum is to set students up for motivation success, building on prior knowledge whilst instilling core values, beliefs and teachings that will continue throughout KS3 and into KS4.

Year 8

To date students have studied: How do I find happiness & fulfilment? Why might there be suffering? & Why are relationships important? Our Year 8's have completed RSE- 'Relationships' as supported by Ten:Ten. They are currently focusing on the liturgical season on Lent, with emphasis on Holy Week and Easter as this is the most important time of year in our faith.

Year 9

Year 9 have most certainly been exploring philosophical questions throughout their units and especially building on their application of contextualisation, analysis and evaluation throughout. Not only have they considered the constructs of Justice, they have contemplated opinions on the Value of life and God's existence. Each unit building on provocation of the year opened- year 9 considered different beliefs and applications of justice. This term they continue to evaluate the application of ethics in this thought provoking units that are rooted in Christian beliefs and enable appreciation, respect and acceptance of other viewpoints alongside our own understandings. Our current unit stands as a pillar in our spiral curriculum, building on year 7 & 8 units and exploring our faith in greater depth - How is the Catholic Church unique?

This unit reflects on our historical foundations, the construct of the organisation and the deeper roots of our faith. It opens opportunity for greater dialogue on our faith, our solidarity and enables reflection of individual relationships with God and ones faith journey.

KS4 Summary Year 10

We have concluded the first segment of our journey in Catholic Theology for our GCSE. Our exam board is EDUQAS and we are following Route B- Judaism in conjunction with the Birmingham diocese.

Student are now beginning the World Faith segment of our GCSE where we explore the beliefs and teachings alongside the practices in Judaism. This will include perspectives from different denominations whilst challenging students to consider and analyse with a Catholic perspective in solidarity and contrast where applicable.

Year 11

As the spring term comes to a close, our Year 11's are wrapping up their exploration of the GCSE content. Not only have they studied each component of the specification, they are now dedicated to revising and practicing the key skills needed to achieve success in the final examinations. Our study sessions have been streamlined to mirror the suggested examination features from EDUQAS to enable students to continue to feel confident in the course content and provide dedicated time to practicing. We wish them every success.

KS5 Summary - Year 12 & 13

Our A-level cohort continues to study their course content with reflection on good study habits as they prepare for and complete a mock examination as part of their preparation for examinations. This term and next are focused on refining our skills in investigating and critically analysing questions, arguments and ideas to then delve into analysis of their connective natures. We believe that the continual development of these skills will significantly benefit students as they go forth in future years to university or careers.

Science

Curriculum delivery

Below is a list of material studied by the students since January 2022:

Year 7

Year 9

Sexual reproduction in animals Acids and alkalis Current and electricity

Year 8 Food and nutrition Combustion Fluids

GCSE transition topics

Year 10 Continuing through GCSE specifications

Year 11 Finishing GCSE content delivery.

Year 12 Continuing through A Level specifications

Year 13 Finishing A level content delivery.

Biology- Key Concepts Chemistry – States of Matter (Methods of separating and purifying substances) Physics – Motion and forces





Years 11 and 13

Despite the interruptions of COVID, Year 11 and 13 are on track with their curriculum delivery and so are exactly where we would want them to be at this stage in the academic year to ensure ample time for revision. The advance information from exam boards has been shared with all students on TEAMS. During the Easter break, I would urge all students to familiarise themselves with these documents, if they have not already done so. Students will also find revision resources on Teams, including past papers that will all help them prepare well for the exam season.

Both Year 11 and 13 have recently sat mock exams and are well-rehearsed for their GCSEs and A Levels. It is important that students set time aside during the Easter break to build on their hard-work and continue with their revision. Students would also benefit from checking they have the necessary equipment for their Science exams before they return in April:

30 cm ruler – for any graph work Pencils – for graphs Scientific calculator – can be bought from Maths. Black biros, rubber and sharpener.

Year 7, 9 and 10 Assessments and Mocks

Year 7, 9 and 10 will all be having end of year exams from mid-May. The content they need to learn has been shared with all classes and is shown below:

Year 7 P2

- Cell structures, functions and unicellular organisms
- Tissues and organs
- Microscopy
- Puberty, menstrual cycle, fertilisation and pregnancy
- Laboratory equipment and hazard symbols
- Changing state
- Separating techniques
- Acids, Alkalis and neutralisation
- Types of energy and energy transfers
- Energy in food and types of fuels
- Electrical circuits equipment, series, parallel, potential difference and fuses

Year 9

The numbers below refer to the teaching points in the GCSE specifications. Click on the link below and select either the Biology, Chemistry or Physics specification:

https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/ edexcel-gcses/sciences-2016.html#%2Ftab-Biology

Biology: GCSE topics Topic 1 - Key Concepts in Biology. (1.1 -1.12)

Chemistry: GCSE topics Topic 2 States of Matter (2.1 - 2.4)Methods of separating and purifying substances (2.5 - 2.12)Topic 1 Atomic structure (1.1-1.12)

Physics: GCSE topics Topic 2 Motion and forces - (2.1-2.19, 2.27-2.30)

Year 10

The numbers below refer to the teaching points in the GCSE specifications. https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/ edexcel-gcses/sciences-2016.html#%2Ftab-Biology

	GCSE Biology topics	GCSE Chemistry topics	GCSE Physics topics
Separates (X band)	Higher and foundation: Topics 1,2,3,4,5	Higher and foundation: Topics 1,2,3. Electrolysis is included.	Higher: Topics 2. 4, 5, 6 Foundation: Topics 3, 4, 5
Combined Science (Y and W bands)	Higher: Topics 1,2,5 Foundation: Topics 1,2,3,4,5	Higher and foundation: Topics 1, 2 and Acids from Topic 3 (electrolysis not assessed).	Higher : Topics 2, 4, 5 Foundation: Topics 2, 3, 5

Revision guides

Revision guides and workbooks can be purchased for all year groups. Students just need to bring in money to Mrs Shore any day of the week. Years 7 and 8: £8.50 GCSE Combined science (Y and W bands): £13 GCSE Separate sciences (X band) : £21

Science club

After school science club has remained a popular choice for Year 7s, and we have a group of students who regularly attend each week, with a smaller number of students who attend when they can in circulation with other clubs. Our science club students are eager to learn and take part in practical activities, as well as joining discussions that relate the practical activities back to their work in lessons. Science Club will continue after Easter, see Mrs Coley if you want to find out more.





Spiritual Life

Evangelisation

We encouraging others to know God's love for them by inviting them to church, to pray and to encounter Christ, and to groups where they can learn about Him. Forming missionary disciples and missionary parishes.

Throughout the academic year our- the year of giving- our school community has continued to be ever present as disciples in our actions and words. During the spring term our Chaplaincy Champions have been working with our Tolkien Primaries to continue to share in the Good News.

CAFOD Live Simply Award

We are delighted with the progress and commitment our students are making in relation to the CAFOD live simply award. On February 19th, ten of our students visited Alton Castle for the day provided a time of refection on how and why our community should approach achieving this award. Subsequently, students have led successful planning meetings at school and have now drawn up a highly visionary plan of action that they will present to Dr Coughlan once finalised. We are delighted to be joining up with St Albans, St Dunstan's and St Jude's to with our student ambassadors to help each other with our visions and commitment to this project. On Thursday 10th February, we hosted a highly successful meeting at Bishop Challoner where our students presented our plans to these primary schools and began planning joint areas of collaboration for our schools and we look forward to the development of this project in coming months.



Some of Our Live Simply Chaplaincy Champion Leads with our Primary Leads.

SYNOD contribution

Our Chaplaincy Champions from Y7-10 met to discuss the key features of a SYNOD and how we can be ever present in our living faith. We shared our views with the diocese. Our students enjoyed being able to participate in a modern action with the Church.

Guardian Angels

Duringthisyear of Giving, our school staff have committed to solidarity for one another. We continue to shine in the Christian values, such as 'treat people the way you want to be treated' Matthew 7:12, upheld in our actions and words. We have been overjoyed at the number of shared stories staff have had where their Guardian Angel has made their day. This term, our staff continue to share support for one another as a community through our Guardian angel initiative. Prayers and pausing to check in on one another remind us that we are all together in Christ, wonderfully made and a joy to behold.

Ash Wednesday

After a wait of two years, due to continuous COVID-19 restrictions, we were delighted to see the return of our students to church to celebrate Ash Wednesday services.

These services were celebrated across two separate services, one for ks3 and a second for key stage 4. It was wonderful to see all our students back together for an act of collective worship and it was a lovely way to mark the beginning of the season of Lent.

We thank our students who read so beautifully at the services and are hugely grateful to Fr Kurapti for leading our services. We also thank St Dunstan's parish for allowing us to celebrate our services.

Emmaus Group

As a school community we continue to journey together to reflect on the Catholic life of the school for students and staff. On a termly basis, staff from a range of departments meet to discuss what can be implemented to help with Catholic life. A particular talking point at our last meeting was the commit to character virtues which have been launched across the school. Students can receive positive logs on Classcharts for displaying virtues such as compassionate, respectful, focused, active, resilient, cultured and eloquent. This has seen positive behaviour from students across the school. Living out our faith in the virtues we display.

Tolkien Award

Our feeder primary schools who signed up to the Tolkien Award are making good progress with their service to others. To achieve the award the primary chaplaincy teams must complete 10 hours of chaplaincy work, assist 5 times in a Mass, complete 3 hours of stewardship and host a charitable event at their school. The Year 5 students complete a booklet over the course of the year to achieve their bronze award before moving onto the silver award in Year 6, and then the gold award in year 7. The Bishop Challoner Chaplaincy team are looking forward to hosting an awards ceremony in the summer term.

Reconciliation services

To further aid our students in their Lenten journey, we are offering students to opportunity to participate in reconciliation services. Across Lent, students will have dedicated RE lesson time to attend the chapel and to participate in a reconciliation service. During the final week of this term, Fr Kurapati will be available in the chapel for the afternoon and all students across the school will be offered the opportunity to attend a private confession.

Collective Worship

Our school community continues to be ever present with the prayers we say each day. In light of the current conversations on the accounts in the world, our prayers have reflected Pope Francis' encyclical Fratelli Tutti and asked for Our Mother, Mary, Lady of Peace to be ever present. This is in conjunction with the Liturgical calendar where our hearts and minds are raised to God in prayer as we reflect on Lententide.

St. Dunstan's Youth Group

An opportunity to be active in faith is being shared with our school community by St. Dunstan's Parish Youth Group. Students in key stage 3 have been invited to participate in the delivery of a Stations of the Cross drama.

Stewardship

Pope Francis in Laudato Si called us to care for our common home. Our Eco-Warriors and Chaplaincy Champions have collaborated to make recycling a priority this term. Staff have done a virtual declutter, enabling a mindfulness to be present about what we use and how we are using it.

Sixth Form

Year 13 UCAS

Virtually all Year 13 students have received pleasing university offers, with a very small number still waiting for responses from Scottish universities. We are excited to see where your paths lead next year, with courses as wide ranging as Medicine, foundation degree in Media currently amongst our Year 13 offers.

Year 12

Many students are taking advantage of the opportunities advertised in the Opportunities Bulletin and have participated in a variety of university master classes, as well as securing places on summer programmes.

They are currently organising their work experience for the summer 11th-15th July. If your son or daughter has not got far with this, please encourage a proactive approach. Placements arranged at the last minute will not be able to go ahead, as there is a lot of paperwork to be completed and safety checks to be made.

Year 12 students have also taken on paid roles within school, including maths tutoring and gardening!

Year 12 students have also been acting as mentors in KS3 and primary school lessons this term, supporting in a variety of subjects.

Revision support

Mrs Healy continues to offer weekly revision support form Year 13 students.

Lenten Services

Each week on a Wednesday, Father Kurapati joins our students in the school chapel in a Mass. Our students lead in the readings and prayers. It is a delight to see our young people active in faith. During the season of Lent our Masses continue to reflect the readings of the Church and our prayers written and said by students share in a dedication to resilience.

The Food Bank

This term staff have been collecting food and toiletries for those in need. Making a special support for the refugees here in Birmingham. In conjunction, BC Makes created ribbons for the Ukraine with donations for CAFOD's relief emergency funding. Staff are wearing them in solidarity.

We continue to share in the year of giving.

Solidarity

Pope Francis in Fratelli Tutti called us to recognise our brothers and sisters and be more mindful of our impact for and with them all. Our school community has continued to work with the Tolkien Primaries in sharing our commitment to the community as a whole.

Student Finance

On 8th March we held a Student Finance Information Evening for parents/carers. This was very well attended and a colleague from Newman University gave a presentation which made the whole process very clear and debunked some myths about student finance. Parents and carers left not only better informed but also reassured. The link to the presentation can be found here:

https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/ news/2022-03-14-year-13-studentfinance-parents-information-evening

Year 11 applicants

This term we have held meetings with all of our own Year 11 students who have applied to the Sixth Form and also held after-school interviews for applicants from other local schools. Huge thanks to Leah and Malachy in Year 12 who have assisted us on every occasion, greeting visitors and acting as fantastic ambassadors for the Sixth Form.

Fundraising

Sixth formers held their own fundraiser for Ukraine last week. Most students chose to buy a blue and yellow ribbon to wear in solidarity with those suffering. Others really took the challenge a stage further and were a very visible reminder that we cannot ignore the suffering of our brothers and sisters.



Year 13 students have also been donating prizes and selling tickets for the massive Easter Egg Raffle. There are going to be a lot of happy winners, the cabinet in the foyer is bursting with generous donations.

Easter Fair

Dr Osborne and Year 12 students are currently planning an Easter Fair to take place on 5th April- our usual Christmas Charity Fair was postponed due to the surge of the omicron variant. Year 12 will be inviting all KS3 students as well as primary students from St Dunstan's. Monies raised will go to Cancer Research UK. They have been planning this for a number of weeks and it looks like it will be a great event!

Our sixth form students are really fulfilling our mission statement in so many ways:

"...developing our full potential ..in service to others"



Library READING FOR

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN YOUR SCHOOL LIBRARY THIS TERM?

It's all about promotion!

Our foyer displays are the perfect way to celebrate special events whilst promoting some different book genres. The goals of creating interesting library displays are:

- To promote reading
- To highlight materials in the library
- To showcase books related to particular topics
- To show students what books will help with their learning
- To attract students to the library



READING FOR 6 MINUTES A DAY REDUCES STRESS BY 68%.

The Big Red Reading Chair

We have a new chair in our library. It's proving very popular with our students and a perfect way to encourage them to pick up a book.



"The aim of the library is to create the environment and facilities where students and staff may read, study and seek information."

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Aim Higher Mentoring

Aim Higher Mentoring is back for 2022. A selected group of year 10 students are taking part in the mentoring programme which aims to raise their aspirations and their future ambitions. They met with their mentors recently to prepare for the sessions which will commence after the Easter break.

To find out more about Aim Higher WM: https://aimhigherwm.ac.uk/parents-carers/

National Storytelling Week

Our students had a great time during NSW. Activities included a viewing of a classic Jackanory episode (Rik Mayall reading George's Marvellous Medicine) wordsearch sheets, book quizzes, comic book creations, 5 word story challenge and a first lines book trail... Special mention to our students pictured who managed to guess them all correctly.



World Book Day

This year we celebrated 25 years of WBD. Students took part in a variety of events including a guess the book trail, mindfulness colouring and a whole school storytelling session listening to some of the staff reading Malorie Blackman's "Jon for Short." ALL students were given a WBD book token to use towards a book of their choice. www.worldbookday.com



Warhammer Club

Thanks to Mrs Flynn-Vilic we now have an official Warhammer Club. It runs every Monday afternoon 3.10pm – 4.00pm. **All students are welcome.**





World Poetry Day

Our theme for this years World Poetry Day on March 21st was alternative poems. We challenged our students to write a limerick. They didn't disappoint us.



Reading Teachers - Reading Students Book Club

Following the launch of the RTRP book club back in the Autumn term we've enjoyed reading some fantastic titles. The group meet regularly to discuss the books which are then added to our library stock so students have the opportunity to read them also.

Set up in 2016, the national network of teachers reading groups aims to inspire reading for pleasure because research shows that children who read for pleasure experience high levels of well-being, engage in learning and are successful in life.

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Careers

National Apprenticeship Week

It has been an action packed term for all things relating to Careers. We kicked off with National Apprenticeship Week in February, where students had an Apprenticeships themed assembly, through which students understood that apprenticeships have been a part of our history since medieval times and how they have helped to shape our city of 1000 trades over the years. In addition, students completed short, daily, apprenticeship themed activities in morning form time. These consisted of videos, quizzes, anagrams etc.

National Careers Week

National Careers Week came shortly after this. In addition to further daily, form time activities students had a Commonwealth Games inspired assembly which showcased a range of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths (STEAM) careers which are working together to create the biggest event ever put on in the West Midlands. The highlight of National Careers Week had to be the Careers Fair though. It was wonderful





to have an auditorium packed with students having focussed and thoughtful conversations with a range of employers, colleges, universities and training providers. It was certainly the most interactive and visually engaging Careers Fair we have ever done. We had a barber's chair, VR headsets, architect models and remote control pickup trucks all in operation. There were two Bishop Challoner alumni in attendance: Louis Simmonds

(representing the University of Law) and John Chihoro (representing RMF Group). They were both delighted to be back at Bishop Challoner talking to, and clearly inspiring, our current students. There were 22 different organisations being represented in total and well over six hundred students (the whole of Year 8, 9 and 10) taking part. Visitors included marketing company, Team ITG, WM Police, Creative Access, Apprenticeship Works, Birmingham Ormiston Academy, Solihull College, Birmingham Electrical Training, University of Birmingham, Screen and Film School, NHS, engineering firm, Curtins, local architects, BM3, local construction services companies RMF Group and Fortem and property and construction consultancy, EDGE. You can check out all of the pictures on the Careers Twitter page @BCCareersSmart

Students who attended the Careers Fair all had a lesson before hand which allowed them to research the organisations and prepare questions. Years 8 and 9 also had a follow up lesson which aimed to make sense of the conversations they had had with the visitors and link the event with the Pathways process. To conclude Year 9's Pathways process and support their decision making about GCSE choices, they had an Aspirations day, which was yet another opportunity for them to talk to employers and representatives from a range of sectors about their industries.

Careers Meetings

Throughout the term, Year 11 have continued to have careers meetings with Mrs Colgan (Careers Adviser). If your son/daughter is in Year 11 and you have concerns about their plans for next year, please contact Mrs Colgan on e.colgan@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk All in all, it has been another varied and busy term and we look forward to more of the same in the Summer term.

Careers Conversations at Home

If parents/carers are looking to speak to students about careers and jobs in the future, a new booklet that has been created by Birmingham Careers Hub might be able to help! The 'My Way into the World of Work' booklet, which is available in the Parent Zone section of the Careers HUB on the school website, provides a wealth of information about the labour market in Birmingham and the West Midlands. There are videos and information on qualifications and pathways after school, as well as employability skills and apprenticeships. It would be great to discuss these areas with students, so they have a good awareness of their options when they leave Bishop Challoner and are prepared for the world of work in the future.







Another section of the booklet looks at growth industries and sectors specifically in the West Midlands. With spotlights on sectors such as logistics, retail, low-carbon and energy and creative and cultural, there are

video case studies, useful links and information on in-demand roles. This is great for getting students thinking about which jobs will be available in the future, allowing them to make informed decisions about their future.

You can find the booklet here, along with lots of useful resources in the Parent Zone: https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/about/careers/ parent-carer-zone Page 35

School Games and PE &

Sports Premium Programmes

School Games

The table below lists the School Games events we have organised since January. There are many more events planned for 2022, including boys dodgeball, boys and girls handball, Y1-2 multi skills festivals and Commonwealth Games events in cricket, athletics, netball and basketball.

Event title	Event date	Event type	Total number of schools participating	Total number of participants	Intent
Y7-9 boys volleyball	13/01/2022	Festival	3	40	To develop sport specific skills
Y5-6 dodgeball	19/01/2022	Development	9	90	To engage new audiences
Y8-9 boys basketball	24/01/2022	Pathway	6	60	To support individual development in sport
KS3 boys badminton	07/02/2022	Development	4	16	To support individual development in sport
KS3 girls badminton	07/02/2022	Development	5	22	To support individual development in sport
KS2 and KS3 Para- Athletics	10/02/2022	Pathway	14	144	To develop physical skills
Y7-8 girls handball	10/02/2022	Development	3	30	To develop character and life skills
KS4 boys badminton	14/02/2022	Development	3	16	To support individual development in sport
KS4 girls badminton	14/02/2022	Development	4	20	To support individual development in sport
KS2 SEND sitting volleyball	16/02/2022	Festival	2	20	To engage new audiences

Commonwealth Games 2022

We are very excited about the opportunities that are ahead of us with Birmingham hosting the CWG 2022 this summer, some of which are detailed below.

There are two test events, organised by Sport Birmingham, for all secondary schools on 6th April and for primary schools on 7th April at Alexander Stadium. We have nominated seven primary schools for this event and they are Woodthorpe, Billesley, Colmore Juniors, St Dunstan's, Moor Green, Our Lady of Lourdes and St Jude's. The events will be set over four 'villages' across three areas of the new Flagship Alexander Stadium:

Sports and Physical Activity Villages - to include Squash, Badminton, Boxing, Archery, Orienteering Maze, Cricket, Rugby & much more.

Media and Tech Village - to include VR Headsets, Sphero Robots, Batak Machines, Camera Operation and Media Skills.

Arts and Culture Village - to include Cultural Dance, Art, Music, Origami, Photo Opportunities & Perry the Mascot!

We have also organised two CWG 2022 roadshows at the Irish Centre (Transport Ground on Wheelers Lane) on 15th and 22nd June, 9.00-3.00pm. Six schools, each bringing 2 teaching staff and 15 students from KS2 who do not normally represent the school and are amongst the least active will be invited to each day. The roadshows will feature African drumming, a climbing wall, archery, cricket, tag rugby, hockey and boxing. Head Teachers, governors and local MPs will also be invited.

At a recent primary PE meeting, we spent a lot of time discussing school's plans for the event, and every school has been asked to allocate 1 week in the summer term dedicated to raising the profile of the event and to give students the opportunity to participate in a range of CWG 2022 sports and activities. Resources (see below) have been produced for EYFS, KS1 and KS2 to promote the CWG 2022 in the classroom and these resources have been shared with all schools.


Primary School PE

At the meeting, Mr Moon discussed assessments in Primary School PE and we shared good practice between schools, such as staff and students using iPads to video PE lessons to provide feedback and then inform future planning. We also discussed School Games Mark, which is an award that schools can apply for, and dependent upon responses can achieve bronze, silver, gold or platinum. Staff have been asked to spend time familiarising themselves with the SG Mark criteria and applications open in May. An example of the criteria to achieve bronze as shown.

Feedback and Social Media

See below for examples of some of the excellent feedback we have received recently.





This term we have offered a wide variety of CPD opportunities for primary and secondary science teachers and technicians including courses such as:

- Leading primary science
- Designing your secondary science curriculum for success
- Improving English and maths through inspirational primary science
- Leading assessment, monitoring and tracking in primary science
- Radiation Protection Supervisor Training
- Health & Safety for science technicians

All of our courses continue to be evaluated positively.

If you are interested in attending any of our CPD for science teachers please get in touch via slp@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk.

Computing Hub

We have had another successful term delivering computing training to primary and secondary teachers across the West Midlands.

One exciting development is that we now have physical computing kits (Crumbles, Micro:Bits and Raspberry Picos) available for schools to borrow.

To find out more about our CPD or to borrow our kits please email:

teachcomputing@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

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School Games Mark Bronze Criteria

Before beginning their application, ist exhorts are acked to confirm that the information held about them is the upsteen is convect, to ensum that the application is being completed by the right periods that the right school.

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Are you employed in a school? If the answer is yes, why not take a look at our free CPD opportunities.

Free and Funded Teaching for Mastery opportunities for primary and secondary schools in Birmingham, Dudley and Sandwell. Over 20+ Work Groups and programmes

Early Years

Primary

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website

https://www.centralmathshub.com

Teaching School

Train to Teach with Bishop Challoner!

With our Spring marketing campaign underway, we hope you have spotted our new banners on the railings outside Bishop Challoner and some of our primary and secondary partner schools here in South Birmingham. It is more important than ever to attract people into this wonderful profession, and we regularly enjoy seeing former students from the school return to start their Teacher Training with us.

We have a few events for people to attend, either to gain more information about the School Direct/PGCE route into teaching, or to spend a day with us and see what teaching is really like! We welcome career changers as well as recent graduates, so why not come along and 'try before you buy'. You can book on these experience days here:

https://schoolexperience.education.gov.uk/candidates/schools/103560



Alternatively, you are welcome to join us for a free, online, information session, where you can ask all your questions about the application process, the training year itself and also about future career options. The dates can be found here:

https://www.bctsa.org/train-to-teach-events



And if these dates don't work for you, please just email us to arrange a 1:1 chat at a time to suit you. 0121 441 6114, or email us at: trainingschool@ bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

We offer teacher training in a wide range of Secondary subjects and also for Primary. As well as our Primary General programmes we offer Primary with Maths, Primary with SEND and Primary with PE. Our three University partners – Newman University, University of Warwick and Birmingham City University, ensure the academic side is covered at Masters level – so you will need a degree, ideally a 2:2 or above.

This year, there are some decent bursaries available for certain subjects to train to teach in 2022/23, depending on which subject you are looking to train in. You will need a degree in that subject, or a related subject, with a 2:2 classification or above, as well GCSEs grade 4/C or above in Maths and English (plus a Science for Primary teaching). Again, details can be found on our website – or join us at a free information session to find out more.

Teaching Internship Programme

We were delighted to receive confirmation from the DfE in January, that we have been awarded the contract to run our popular Teaching Internship programme again this summer. This year it will be a 3-week programme, and Computer Science has been added as a further subject to the previous Maths and Physics programmes that we have run for several years. The aim of the programme is to give current University undergraduate students in these subject areas a taste of life as a secondary school teacher, so we hope that they will 'train to teach' once they have graduated and join the teaching profession. The Internship takes place from Monday 13th June – Friday 1st July, with a bursary of £900 on completion of the whole programme.

Applications are open now and places are filling up quickly! You can find more details and an application form on our website here: https://www.bctsa.org/teaching-internship-programme.



www.bctsa.org

Bishop Challoner TSA, Institute Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7EG

BC Wellbeing News

🔰 @BCCCWellbeing #5

Easter 2022

The true meaning of Easter for Christians is, of course, the celebration of Christ's resurrection; an overcoming of death and sin. Yet even in pagan times, there was a feast at this time to celebrate the coming of spring; rebirth and renewal. It is time to shed our winter worries and try to develop a new, refreshed sense of self, ready for spring. Let's use our time off to regenerate; make use of the lighter evenings and embrace the incoming warmer weather.

Sometimes it is easy for us to spend our breaks completely relaxing and forgetting about our responsibilities. However, we should all try to bear in mind that a healthy routine is an essential tool that will help us return to school and our workplaces focused and prepared. Why not try getting up in the morning and doing the one thing in the world that makes you happiest? In this way you can still enjoy the day to its fullest and you won't ruin good sleeping patterns. Rest and rise at appropriate times. Have a great Easter!

Loughborough University's 8 OUTDOOR

activities to boost wellbeing



1. Do some gardening



4. Forage for fruit and flowers



2. Discover new walks



Take your workout outside



Make Time to be active and play. This could include ball games in the garden. Creating a play or performance with siblings or keeping our mind active with a board game.

Limit screen time: Set yourself a challenge that for every ten minutes you are active you earn 5 minutes of screen time



Reading for pleasure

Take a theme and set a challenge of reading as many books as you can around that theme. Try to write a report about the book you have read. Feedback to the rest of your family about the book.

treats Making Easter treats

together is a great way for the family to spend time together, communicating and relaxing. Making your own Easter treats also means you can control the amount of sugar going into the treats!

Compromise

As a family write a list of activities you would like to each day. Compromise so you do at least one activity from everyone's list





6. Have a picnic Page 40



8. Get crafty

Managing Revision and Exam Stress

Set Clear boundaries for work and relaxation time

If you are revising or completing coursework set start and finish times and plan for a break every twenty minutes. Your revision will be more effective if your mind is not tired and having a clear structure will allow you to enjoy your relaxation time and not think about work throughout the day.

Stay Connected

Spending time with friends or family can help reduce the stress of exams. If you are not able to meet in person consider scheduling in times to video call friends or family in revision breaks.

Listening to music

Consider listening to music while you study or to help you unwind. A new study from the British Academy of sound therapy found that 9 minutes of music is all you need to spark joy and 13 minutes is the amount needed to relax and release sadness. Try it and see how different types of music impact your mood.

Movement

If you're feeling stressed, consider moving your body. Exercise is great for the mind as well as the body. Starting an online workout regime or getting outside for runs, walks or cycling is great but if that's not for you starting small can still have a positive impact. Consider stretching for 5 minutes, doing 5 star jumps every time you finish a chapter, walking around the flat if you're feeling overwhelmed, or taking 2 minute dance breaks throughout your day. No matter how small movement can positively impact your mental well-being.

"My Child and I Keep Getting Into Arguments"

Any of us who are parents of teens (or younger perhaps?) will be very fortunate if we have never had that thought. With two weeks of holiday ahead of us, bringing us the great joy, and occasional challenges of



Improving children's mental health

spending more time together in our families, Place2Be has an interesting article and a short clip on the subject of parent/ child disagreements, on their Parenting Smart pages. Please follow the link below:

https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/article/my-child-and-i-keep-getting-into-arguments

I Am Me

Our Year 12 Wellbeing Ambassadors have been trialling the iamme app, which focuses very much on prevention of mental health issues, resilience and positivity. This is how they describe their mission:

"We want you to be able to cope better when challenging times occur and be so familiar with yourself that you can spot the small symptoms and changes in yourself before they become bigger problems.

That's why we have created a free app just for you. If you are aged between11-24 download the app and start taking control of your own wellbeing."



Young people can download the app here: https://app.iammeapp.com/home

Other BC News Uniform

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 **(not lycra or stretchy).** 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 are forbidden.

Please note that school shoes must be kept completely black.

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 plain stud earrings which may be worn.

Skirts

Please note that lycra or stretchy skirts are not allowed to be worn. Students found to be wearing an inappropriate item of uniform may be asked to change this or in some cases parents/carers will be contacted and requested to bring replacement uniform to school.

We appreciate your support is ensuring that standards of uniform and appearance are maintained.

Reporting Student Absence All students are required to attend school/college on time every day. If for any reason your

All students are required to attend school/college on time every day. If for any reason your child is unable to attend, please ensure that the school attendance policy is followed, and their absence is reported before the START of the school day (8.40am) and on each day of absence. Please provide a reason for their absence and the likely length of absence, if known.

If your child is in Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 please call 0121 444 4161 and select OPTION 1.

If your child is in Year 12 please call 0121 441 6113.

If your child is in Year 13 please call 0121 441 6144

If your child is absent due to Covid, there are some details that the school are required to take. It is likely that a member of the Student Services team will contact you to ascertain the information that is required.

If you receive a text message or phone call from school/college because you have not reported your child's absence, please contact us on the most appropriate number as detailed above as soon as you can.

Thank you for your co-operation.

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.

Assessments & Mocks

In the Summer term some year groups will be sitting assessments and mock examinations. Parents/Carers will have already received an email with detailed information regarding this. Please follow the links below to view subject information and guidance.

- Year 7 P2 Assessments
- Year 9 T2 Assessments
- Year 10 Mini Mocks
- Year 12 Mini Mocks

Key Dates

School Opens St Bernadette Mass Monday 125th April

Allergen Awareness Week Monday 25th April-Friday 29th April

Valencia Parents/Carers Meeting Year 8 Trip to UoB and UCB Year 9 Vaccinations Tuesday 26th April

> Year 10 Rewards Trip Wednesday 27th April

Year 8 Lapworth Museum Trip Thursday 28th April

> Bishop's Got Talent Friday 29th April

Bank Holiday - School Closed Monday 2nd May

STEM Collaboration Day Tuesday 3rd May

> Valencia Trip Vegetarian Week Monday 9th May -Friday 13th May

Year 8 STEM Event Wednesday 11th May

PGL Liddington Netball Trip Friday 13th May -Sunday 15th May

British Sandwich Week Monday 2nd May -Friday 20th May

Golf Competition Wednesday 18th May

Year 10 Synagogue Trip Thursday 19th May

Bishop's Got Talent Friday 20th May

San Fransico Trip Parents/Carers Meeting Tuesday 24th May

> Year 7 Reward Afternoon Wednesday 25th May

> > Half Term Monday 30th May -Friday 3rd June

Behaviour for Learning and Standards



In order for all students to be able to fully engage with learning inside the classroom we insist that students:-

Do not call out

Do not talk when the teacher is addressing the whole class

Follow all instructions at the first time of asking



1. Have good attendance and punctuality

- 2. Follow instructions given by adults
- 3. Be polite and show consideration, care and respect for others
- 4. Respect the right of everyone to engage with teaching and learning
- 5. Respect the environment, school property and the property of others
- 6. Abide by the school dress code and come to school with the correct equipment

7. Do not bring valuable items into school

Sanctions will be applied when either BC Basics or BC 7 rules/standards are not met.

BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE



I-LEVEL

Are you in Year 10?

What are T Levels?

In September 2023, Bishop Challoner Catholic College will be offering T Levels as a new choice after GCSE's, the T Level course will run alongside A Levels. The first T Level offered will be in Digital Business Services, which will be the equivalent to 3 A Levels.

Future Careers **Digital Marketing Strategist** Data Analyst Future Trends Strategist Technical Consultant

T Levels are designed in partnership with employers and businesses to provide practical knowledge and skills valued by employers.

T Levels provide classroom teaching alongside high-quality 45 day industry placement.

Benefits of an industry placement

Working together with local employers will allow students the opportunity to gain valuable experiences of the skills, knowledge required and the essential employability expertise needed, when moving into the world of work.

What are my options after T Levels?

or vesse just or the selection of the se T Levels are welcomed by universities across the country, T Levels attract UCAS points which means they can be used for university entrance. For example "The University of Warwick welcomes the development of T Level qualifications as a technical route into Higher Education and believe they could be of particular interest to learners wishing to further their academic and professional development."

Alongside university entrance, T Levels can also be a stepping stone to higher-level apprenticeships and the working sector.

> For any questions about T Levels, contact Mrs Moon at Tlevels@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk or Mr Ravenscroft at I.ravenscroft@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

For all enquiries please email: sueevanslatham@gmail.com



Easy Fundraising

seppok

Our extra curricular and enrichment programme enriches the lives of young people in our school and gives them the opportunities to fulfil their full potential. Our programme runs 40 clubs per week ranging from book club to gymnastics.

Join easyfundraising and you can collect free donations for us every time you buy something online.









Would you consider sponsoring our termly Newsletters?

If you kindly sponsor us, we will make sure that we advertise your business in our Summer newsletter. We only require your advert to be sent by email to us and we will do the rest.

If you would like to sponsor our newsletter and support Bishop Challoner, please email:

Gerald Noone g.noone@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk or call on 0121 4444161.

Follow us on Twitter

Official School Twitter	@BishopChalloner
Careers	@BCCareersSmart
Chaplaincy	@BC_Chaplaincy
Computing	@BishopChalComp
English Dept	@BC_EnglishDept
Green Group	@educating_eco
History	@bchistory
Music Department	@BCPAmusic
PE Department	@BCPEDepartment
Teaching and Learning	@BcTeaching
Makes	@bc_makes
Wellbeing	@BCCCWellbeing
Chess	@bcchess
Performing Arts	@BCPAPA4
Social Sciences	@BCSocSciDept
Biology	@BCCbio
Sixth Form	@BCCCSix
Art Dept	@BCChallonerArt
BFood Department	@BishopFood
Judo Club	@BCJudoClub
MFL	@BishopMfl
OLC	@BC_OLC
SGO	@BCSGO
Sports Centre	@BishopCentre
TSA	@bctsa_training
1-1 Maths	@BC11M1maths
Central Maths Hub	@centralmathshub
Central Midlands SLP	@CentralMidSLP
Geography	@BCGeogDept
Maths	@BCMathsDept
Friends of BC	@bc_friends
STEM	@STEMBC
Teach Computing Central Midlands	@BCComputingHub
Tolkien Cluster Schools	@PrimaryTolkien

Local Events

UKRAINE HUMANITARIAN FUNDING APPEAL

BIRMINGHAM CONCERT BAND with Jacaranda Recorders

present

A CONCERT FOR UKRAINE

at ALL SAINTS CHURCH 2 VICARAGE ROAD, KINGS HEATH, BIRMINGHAM B14 7RA 11th April 2022 Starting at 7.45PM

ALL FUNDS TO BE SENT TO THE APPEAL

Tickets Adults £5 under 18's £2.50 available from Parish Office (0121 444 0760) Email: parishoffice@allsaintschurchkh.org or pay on the door Brumside Radio Ukraine Appeal



DJs Dave & Dan 12 Hour Fundraiser Monday 4th April 10 am till 10pm Tune in to <u>www.brumsideradio.com</u>

https://www.facebook.com/lovethe70sandmore

Follow the link on Facebook to make a donation @ GoFundMe

Your Parish Church in the Diocese of Birmingham



Every Wednesday through out Easter we have compline in church 9pm

10th April 2022 Palm Sunday 10am Holy Communion

14th April 2022 Maundy Thursday 7.30pm Holy Communion, remembering the Last Supper and Jesus washing the disciples' feet, followed by The Watch, remembering Jesus' time in the Garden of Gethsemane.

15th April 2022 Good Friday:

Ecumenical Service led by All Saints at New Life Baptist Church, 11.15am followed by Walk of Witness along the High Street 1-3pm Meditations on the Characters at the Cross.

16th April Saturday 6.30pm Vigil: a simple service of watching and waiting

 17th April
 Easter Sunday:
 6am, Dawn Service in the Square

 followed by breakfast
 10am Holy Communion

All Welcome



Quality Day Care at the Heart of Kings Heath



Our dedicated staff are experienced and qualified.

includes opportunities for

engagement in varied

activities.

A day at the centre

The Robin Centre offers both regular and occasional day care. We are dementia-friendly, providing a comfortable, safe environment for our clients.



As part of the care we also provide breakfast, a choice of hot meals at lunch-time and two tea breaks.

Transport to and from the centre is available, with a staff member to accompany clients.

Open Mondays - Fridays 9.30 am. to 3.30 pm.

The Robin Centre Quality care for clients: a valuable respite for carers

All Saints Centre 2 Vicarage Road **Kings Heath** Birmingham B14 7RA

Registered Charity No. 1161844

For further information: Phone: 0121 483 4400 Website: www.allsaintscentrekh.co.uk E-mail: opc@allsaintscentrekh.co.uk

EASTER SPORTS CAMPS

This is a FREE, fun, inclusive holiday scheme for children who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals, aged 6-16 years old. There will be a range of sports including football, tag rugby, netball, cricket and much more!

19th - 22nd of April 10AM - 2PM everyday

Bilesley Common, Yardley Wood Rd, Bilesley, Birmingham, West Midlands, B13 DHV





FAMILY DAY Easter Egg Hunt 725 Yardloy **Billesley Ark** Community Wood Road Centre

13:30 B13 9th OPT PRII 15:30



Easter