

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been an incredibly busy and rewarding spring term for all at Bishop Challoner.

Our assemblies this term have focussed on our core values and Catholic mission. Themes have included, the school prayer, the mission statement and our school motto "Laus Deo". You will see countless examples within this newsletter of how our wonderful young people live out our mission statement in their daily work and undertakings.

In March, three of our students, together with Mrs Jethwa and Mr McDermott, attended a Commonwealth Celebration event in London hosted at Westminster Abbey. The event took place in the presence of His Majesty the King and other members of the Royal Family. Our students were on the front row and within touching distance of the Royal Family. The event was screened live on the BBC and several images of our students appeared. This was a magnificent occasion for those involved and they represented our school superbly.

Challoner students have always put others first and our wider community work embodies our mission statement of "service to others". Our regular foodbank collections and acts of charitable giving for our whole school charity, St Chad's Sanctuary, epitomise this. In addition, students sang and performed for the St Patrick's Day parade at the MAC and on March 17th students wore green to raise funds for charity. Our sixth formers continue to provide outstanding commitment to our local Dementia Café. Fortnightly tea parties for local parishioners take place

in the sixth form Common Room and are well-attended. This is work to be proud of.

We are expecting public examinations to return to complete normality this summer. I congratulate our students on their preparatory work for these examinations and for the tremendous commitment they give to their studies.

March is always a great month for careers. We hosted National Careers week, National Apprenticeship week, Year 9 aspirations day - supported by a number of excellent external workshops - and our Year 9 pathways event. Sadly, our annual careers fair had to be postponed due to the snow.

Student attendance has been a regular topic for debate in the national press, so, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support in ensuring your children regularly attend school. Good attendance will mean that your children are able to achieve the best grades for their ability and have real opportunity in further education and the world of work.

Our spring musical soiree took place just last week and it was a wonderful occasion. Students sang and performed on a wide range of instruments. It was great to see all year groups in the school represented. Student in year 7 have also been attending traditional music workshops which have proven to be extremely popular.

We have had several international trips go out this term including our ski trip and A-level French trip to Paris. There have been a variety of sporting fixtures and competitions and several new trophies are

adorning our cabinets.

We are blessed to have some incredibly talented staff at Bishop Challoner (many of whom are national leads in their subjects) and so I was delighted when Mrs Giubertoni and Mr Cunnane were recently published in Impact Magazine discussing the Cunnane/Giubertoni Professional Growth model! One of our members of staff has also been shortlisted for the Pearson National Teaching awards.

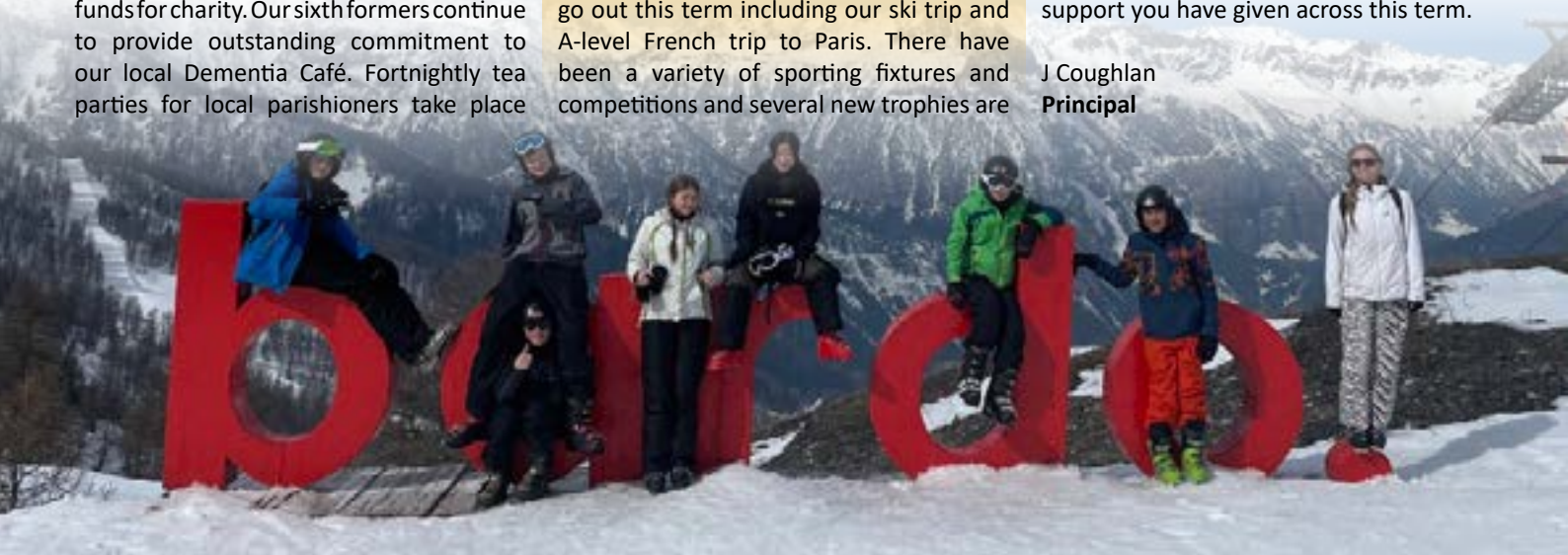
Our annual Malympics event; a Maths and PE themed day took place in March. Around 60 young people from the Tolkien partnership schools attended. Our Year 9 Young Leaders led the sessions superbly. We also hosted the Catholic School games Maths competition which was brilliantly put together by students and staff.

Work has recently begun on our science lab refurbishments and students should return after Easter to some brand new teaching spaces. These refurbishments were secured through significant funding from the Wolfson Foundation obtained by Dr Osborne and a team of staff across the school.

At the end of term we will be saying farewell to Mrs Wheeler our SENCo who has secured a promotion to an Assistant Head post at another local school; we wish her well and thank her for all her work for the school.

I wish you and your families a very happy and holy Easter and thank you all for the support you have given across this term.

J Coughlan  
Principal



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# ART AND DESIGN

## A Level Fine Art

Our A level and GCSE students have excelled themselves this year in Fine Art, producing a series of diverse outcomes. They are working on Component 2 which is an externally set assignment. This involves a preparatory sketchbook and portfolio of developmental studies culminating in a 15 hour practical examination. The concepts explored get more expressive and confidently executed each year. The boundaries are continually being pushed with students working on diverse scales and utilising mixed media, material and surface. Plaster, latex, thread and roof tiles are just some of the materials being explored. Themes for concept development include: 'shoes', 'travel', 'concealment', 'crowds', and 'sleep'. Students are at the sampling stage now, using artist responses to inform their direction. Shoes are being used in sculptures, 100's of post-it notes are being used creatively as a surface to draw detailed portraits on and the laser machine is being utilised to cut a series of town plans for an architectural sculptural project. The Art department are excited to exhibit this portfolio of work at the annual South Area Network exhibition in July at School of Art, Birmingham City university. Watch this space!



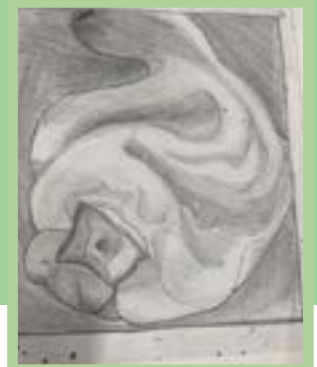
## GCSE Fine Art

Year 11 students have been adding the final touches to coursework projects alongside developing the preparatory sketchbook for the exam. We have some exceptional talent at GCSE level this year with the evidence in some sketchbooks being on a par with the standard at A level. Students are relishing the freedom art brings and are utilising every moment of their lessons to explore and experiment as they pursue their creative journeys. It is rewarding to see such passion at this age. Equally in Year 10, students are demonstrating a real love of the subject as we expose them to new disciplines and techniques. Alongside the development of fundamental drawing and painting skills, we encourage year 10 to explore personal concepts linking to a range of artists and themes.



# Key Stage 3 Art - Year 7

In the final phase of their natural forms project, Year 7 students created a mixed media final piece showcasing all the skills they have learned at Bishop Challoner. This 'pak choi' drawing showcases their finest pencil tonal shading, textured biro drawings, bold stick and ink studies and colourful oil pastel transfers. So far, all of the students' work has been mostly monochromatic, focusing on building their understanding of the formal elements – line, shape and proportion, tone, and texture – however, their new and current project focuses on drawing objects from still life and colour theory. They have made tremendous progress since starting secondary school, and we are excited to see where this project takes them!



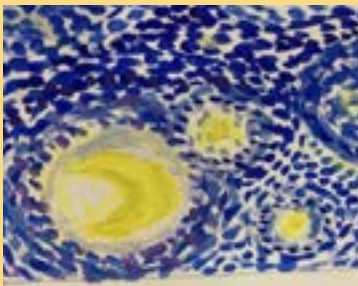
## Year 8

Year 8 have been finalising their memorial and commemorative artwork project by creating beautiful butterfly drawings inspired by the guerrilla artwork of Tasha Lewis. They have been incredibly mature and engaged during such an emotional project, and we are so impressed with their commitment to creating high-quality work as a response to these complex themes. Students are now focusing on the theme of Architecture, looking at the variety of styles we have right here in Birmingham and looking at the expressive artwork of Paul Kenton. Keep up the great work, Year 8!



## Year 9

Year 9 have been continuing their artistic travels through time. Recently, the students have been introduced to the artistic movement of Expressionism and, more closely, the eerier and darker works of Edvard Munch and Ludwig Kirchner. Through watercolour painting, stick and ink, and expressive sgraffito portraits, students have built their understanding of how the world and moments throughout history can influence art's deeper meaning and how it looks. Next, we will delve into more current and conceptual art and be introduced to female art pioneers, such as Georgia O'Keeffe, to link back to International Women's Day.



## Art Club

Art Club is still proving to be a hit with our Key Stage 3 and 4 students, with approximately 15 students attending every week. Each week, there is a new artistic process available for them to learn, including creating abstract and expressive string paintings, oil pastel sgraffito techniques, and holiday-themed artwork, such as Valentine's Day monoprints! Students really enjoy themselves and bring great enthusiasm and energy to A1 each week! We cannot wait to watch them grow into exciting and individual artists and expand on their art education.



# Design Technology

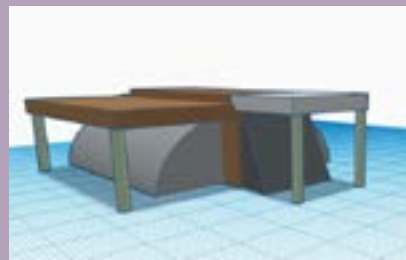
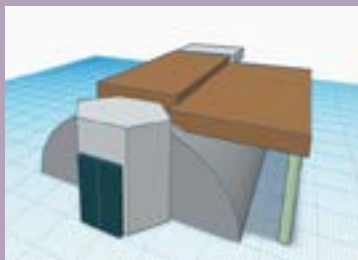
## Excellence in CAD

In Design and Technology we have designed our curriculum so that students are introduced to CAD from Y7 and have an opportunity to build upon and refine these skills as they move up through KS3. The speed at which our young people develop into confident and skillful users of CAD continues to astound us. They are constantly pushing the boundaries, questioning, probing, experimenting and inventing new ways of using this technology to their advantage.



Year 7 have explored laser cutting as a process, learning how to create vector designs in the program 2D Design which can then be outputted to the laser cutter. In one of our Y7 projects they have designed a light up decoration for a festival of their choice, and drawn up a design which will be laser etched into an acrylic screen. The intricacy of their designs is to be applauded, many producing examples which would not look out of place if seen next to GCSE outcomes.

In Year 9, students have used the online 3D modelling program TINKERCAD to generate proposals for a new train station in Kings Heath. This free online platform can be accessed anywhere, with no downloads required. This has provided an opportunity for students to continue tinkering with their designs away from the classroom, building upon the foundations laid down within lessons.



## Polymer recycling

In Design and Technology we are perfectly placed to help our young people learn about the environmental impact of their choices as designers, makers and users of products. It is important that students learn where the materials they use in the classroom come from and whether there are any implications of this choice. They explore how the way products are manufactured and how they are used by consumers has an effect on the planet, as well as what happens to them when they reach the end of their useable life. We have joined a movement which is spreading across schools to try to generate our own material through recycling. Staff have been collecting HDPE bottle tops for a number of months and will soon be extending this request to students, parents and carers, to increase our supply. We are at the early stages of exploring how the tops can be remoulded using heat to generate sheet polymer material that can then be utilized by students in curriculum projects.



We have introduced the concept to small groups of students within STEM Club and the Y10 D&T GCSE class who have had a go at forming the polymer sheets and then shaping it using coping saws and piercing saws. Y10 were able to use this process to manufacture some heart shaped badges and keyrings on Valentines Day which were sold in the staff room to raise money for the Turkey/Syria earthquake appeal. We are continuing to experiment with shaping and forming techniques so that we can develop this into a KS3 curriculum project for September. Our aim is that students carry out the whole process from start to finish, taking the raw material of bottle tops and transforming them into useful new products.



# Y7 STEM @ Lickey Hills

On Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th July, we will once again be delivering the Lickey Hills STEM event involving the whole of year 7. These collapsed timetable days provide unique opportunities for students to break free of the constraints of the classroom and engage in hands on, problem solving STEM activities in the outdoors. It will allow for the development of skills such as leadership, teamwork, communication, resilience, and virtues such as being curious, active and learned. In the past, students have worked together on activities such as a bearings trail, kite building, bridge building, soil analysis, mini beasts identification and an orienteering trail. It also provides a unique opportunity for the STEM departments to unite and collaborate in order to design a day that is engaging, exciting, challenging and memorable for our students and helps them to see the links between the subjects.



## KS3 Textiles

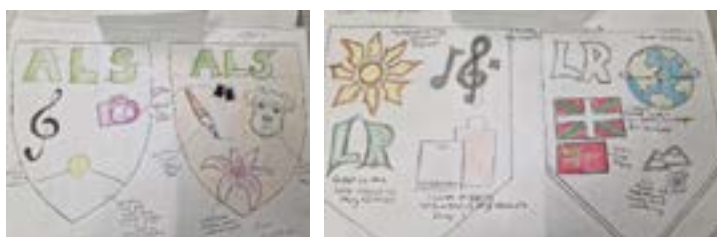
Year 7 students have been working on the pen pot holder project, using the Design Movements as inspiration for their designs. This term they have focused on creating a motif for a repeat pattern. This motif is based on their investigations into a design movement such as Memphis to create a pattern repeat, this has then been drawn up on their netbooks using 2D design software and will be sublimation printed onto their pen pot.



In Year 8 students have been developing a range of designs based on their chosen sport. They are now working on producing these design using Applique and embroidery techniques including a range of stitches.



Year 9 students are working on a wall hanging project linked with their identity, they have focused on producing a range of printed samples including screen, block and transfer printing which will be used to produce their final wall hanging. This term students have focused on communicating their design ideas.



Textiles club is currently working on a fashion project. They have purchased their own fabric and learned how to take their own measurements to help choose the correct pattern size for themselves. The pattern is by 'The Avid seamstress' and is a cuff sleeve top.

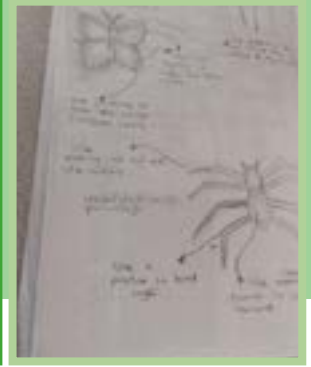


In our Y7 project which focuses on metal, students have been investigating the metal working history of Birmingham. Year 7 have learnt how to research working designers local to Birmingham from jewellery designers to blacksmiths, creating pieces of art from metal. Students have been developing and applying a range of practical skills to help produce their product, including piercing, rolling and texturing.

They have product fabulous design ideas and annotated them to show where they will use the different methods they have practiced on their sample pieces in their final product.

Year 8 students who have spent this rotation in the workshop are making a working prototype of a passive amplifier.

Students have been developing their hand skills by sampling woodworking techniques. They have used a coping saw and hand file to form their sample as well as developing their CAD skills to design and produce an acrylic element for their speaker.



Year 9 students who have been based in the workshop have learnt about the 6 r's of sustainability. This project challenges students to take an empty plastic bottle and upcycle it into a quirky animal themed task light. The main body of the light must be made from discarded corrugated cardboard packaging, an amazingly versatile material which, when laminated together, provides excellent strength whilst remaining lightweight. Both the bottle and cardboard are products that can be found as waste in bins around the site. Transforming them into useful, functioning products is an excellent lesson in reusing, reducing and rethinking.

# Eco

## Health for Life school Wheelbarrow Competition

This year we are taking part in the school Wheelbarrow competition at BBC Gardeners' World Live. The concept is to produce a 'meal in a barrow'. The theme is to choose a specific meal from a country around the world. The contents of the barrow must reflect the main ingredients of the meal. The students have to also consider the pressing issue of global change and incorporate this into their wheelbarrow design thinking particularly about ways in which the issue is being tackled around the world. The climate change element will be represented as a model structure which will involve a collaborative project between Eco and STEM club students. This will afford the students the opportunity to show off their creative flair, working as a team and have the satisfaction of seeing their final creations on display at the show, enjoyed by thousands of visitors. The structure will be attached to the wheelbarrow which will demonstrate how climate change has a wider impact on food production and how it can be mitigated.



## Sixth Form Green keepers

This term the 'greenkeepers' have been focussing on the BC Kitchen Garden and they will continue with that moving forward as there are so many tasks to do in this large area. They have cleared the old rotten raised beds and they are going to install new ones ready for spring planting. There will not be as many so that there is more room for classes of students to visit and use it. They are researching ideas for the garden such as suitable useful plants for use in the kitchen. They have also pruned all bushes and tidied up the area in general. Over the Easter break they will they will start to spruce up green areas such as sweep up leaves and pull up weeds and tame overgrowth.



# Whole School Food bank Collection

The Challoner Community Foodbank Collection starts on the 13th March running until Easter. It is promoted throughout form time, the school website and Twitter. We have in the past donated the biggest ever single donation at 408 kg. From the table below you can see just how your donation is helping to make a difference to local families in crisis. The Challoner Community will be updated weekly through Twitter and the school website and the students through form time about the most needed items.

Figures for the week ending 26th February 2023

Donations received, 2603 kg

Food given out, 2667 kg

No of people fed, 278 in 128 households



## Food Studies

### Key Stage Three Curriculum

Year 7 have now moved into the second rotation of the Design and Technology rotation. The students have learnt a variety of skills when making a healthy lunch box, an 'Eatwell Guide' inspired pizza, apple crumble and muffins. They are now focussing on practical skills such as peeling and refining their knife skills by practising cuts such as julienne, batonette, brunoise and small and medium dice. They have considered what chefs do with food waste such as vegetable peeling and how to conserve energy during the preparation and cooking of food. During 'Fairtrade Fortnight' year 7 investigated the origins of the Fairtrade Foundation and considered the positive affect it has on farmers' and their communities. They enjoyed finding out how much farmers were paid for their contribution to the production of a chocolate bar and were rewarded with a Fairtrade bar of chocolate at the end of the lesson.

Students in year 8

Year 8 have concentrated on different cooking methods such as frying, boiling/simmering and stir-frying as well as baking. They have made a range of products that can be adapted to suit a variety of diets such as Bolognese and stir-fry; for example some students used Quorn instead of minced steak. They have also considered food provenance and traceability of the ingredients used. They continue to investigate what to do with food waste such as bananas and vegetables, for example they made banana cakes with bananas past their best quality and stir-fry with commonly left over vegetables such as mushrooms.

This rotation year 9 students have also enjoyed visits from Animal Aid where the presenters Steve Palmer and Harriet Macintosh introduce vegetarianism, veganism and they discuss how the food choices we make affect the environment that we live in. The students enjoyed tasting vegan food products such as 'sausage' rolls, 'fish fingers' and 'chicken' nuggets. These visits always open up lively debate and interesting conversations. They have made a variety of products to include a chilli, spicy rice, apple cake, pizza and lemon drizzle cake.





# KeyStage Four –year 10

Year 10 students have completed two of the seven content areas of the NCFE Level 1 / 2 Food and Cookery course which is mainly theory based as well several elements of the content areas five, six and seven which are practical based. They have worked with yeast to make bread rolls, pizza and Chelsea buns. They are now working on focussed practical tasks where they are working on components of a recipe. They have started with the carbohydrate component such as 'Hasselback' potatoes, mash, rice and pasta. This will help build up the skills required to complete their controlled assessment later in the course. It will help them to understand how to present completed dishes, develop garnishing and decorative techniques.



Year 11 are now near completion of their written controlled assessment, unit 2 of the Level 1 / 2 Hospitality and Catering course. They worked to a set brief set by the examination board and are researching nutrients, their functions and special dietary needs of various clients. They have now completed their practical assessment where they made a two-course meal with sides dishes following a carefully dove-tailed plan of action. The dish and their written work had to show consideration of the use of local ingredients; showcase the food of their country; be environmentally friendly; consider food miles and seasonality as well as food waste. They had to showcase a range of food preparation techniques and cooking methods with competence, precision, speed and independence.



## KS3 'Bring a Mug Cookery Club'

With the rise in foods costs we were looking for an initiative way to do cookery club on a budget. Each student brings a mug to the club and makes product for one. It works well as it's cost effective, there is less food waste and it's something the students can do independently at home. They have made a variety and sweet and savoury products such as Jelly donuts, chocolate cake, S;mores cake, chocolate chip cookies and Cheddar and bacon muffins.



# Business

It has been a busy term since Christmas with analysis of year 11 mock exams and completion of year 13 mock exams. All courses in year 13 and 11 are approaching the end of content delivery and we will be moving into revision after Easter. In the Business department all of our classes are exam classes and as such, this time of year is very intensive for us, in terms of exam preparation and coursework completion for the vocational courses.

Some year 13 students conducted a focus group on the 2nd March as part of one of their units for their OCR Level 3 qualification. They are investigating the use of food ordering apps. A number of teachers agreed to attend and take part. We hope they have gained some valuable information for their course. In addition, some more students are carrying out Observation, primary market research in Costa Coffee, some good examples of market research in action.

Some members of the department are involved in Microsoft training. Part of this involves using OneNote. We have been trialing this with two classes to enhance the learning experience of students. Mr Tsintas kindly helped us with this by letting us observe one of his lessons and having a number of discussions about the OneNote platform. We are already seeing the benefits to students.

We received the examination results for the Level 1/2 Business and enterprise course which accounts for 40% of the qualification. The results were good and we feel that with a good piece of coursework, all learners will make good progress when the final results come out in the summer.

We are now delivering the last unit of work for A-level Year 13, so are on track to finish the syllabus by Easter, which will allow us enough time for revision and exam practice before the first exam in May. The recent January mock exams were positive and allowed the students to see how much they know, and how they need to refine their exam technique to maximize their chances of gaining higher grades.

Year 11 GCSE students have started their last unit of work (Human resource management) and similar to year 13 will be in a good position for the run-in to their first exam which is on the 23rd May.

Vocational Year 13 are still working hard to complete current units and there are a few students that need to complete outstanding units. We have just received exam results for Unit 2 'Working in Business', we are very pleased with these results.



# Computing and ICT

## Key Stage 3

Year 7 students are currently engaging with Python and exploring the use of a text-based language to give a computer instruction. This is always an interesting unit of work, as it sees the student's transition from the block-based programming skills that they learned in primary, into text-based programming languages.

Year 8 students recently sat their T1 assessment. This was the first year that innovative assessment solutions have been utilised in year 8, with their T1 assessment being entirely digital and completed using Microsoft Forms.

Year 9 recently finished network and security a topic that saw them look at networks, appliances as well as explore the vulnerabilities and type of attacks that exist. As part of this unit of work, they explored attacks such as hardware, spyware, and means of delivery such as Trojan horses. They then went on to explore security measures that could be used to prevent this such as encryption.

These students recently began a piece of work on searching and sorting algorithms, fundamental tools used by computers and programmers to work with the vast array of data that is now collected and stored every day. As part of this process, they will be exploring the step-by-step solutions for algorithms such as Bubble and Insertion sort, as well exploring the benefits of Binary Search over Linear Search.

## Key Stage 4

Our year 10 computing cohort recently completed a mini-mock to assess the topics taught since January. The results of these mini mocks were highly pleasing, and it is great to see the progress that our students are making. Going into the summer months they are continuing to engage with core aspects of computer science and will begin to engage further with the programming side of the course.

Year 11 computing cohort are working diligently as they prepare for their external exams in May. As a department we are supporting them in class, before school, and outside of the school day through Microsoft Forms and Teams. We wish them every success in their upcoming public exams.

Year 10 iMedia students are currently engaging with their first piece of coursework. For this they are to create pre-production documents and a final product for a given scenario. To further enhance their understanding, students from the iMedia groups took part in a VR experience event on Monday 6th March – more on this below.

Year 11 iMedia students are currently working on the completion of their website design piece of work – a project that has seen them design, create, and then evaluate a website for a given client. For this, they have sourced and/or created the resources and then used website development software to put it together – a great effort! During March we received positive news about their January exams, well done all!

# Key Stage 5

Our year 12 computing cohort have recently begun work and understanding towards their programming project – a component worth 20% of their overall grade. All of the students have come up with their own concept for a 2-D game, which they will program using Python.

Our year 13 computing cohorts are beginning to wrap up their programming project with a deadline of the Easter holidays. There are some exceptional projects amongst them, including some very high Fidelity 2-D games. Alongside this, they are also preparing for their summer examinations for which we wish him all the best.

Both our year 12 and year 13 IT cohorts sat the unit one exam in the January window – for this, we will receive the results around mid-March; we hope their efforts have been rewarded. Year 12 are beginning their work on unit 6, a unit in which they explore website developments, and ultimately, create their own for a given scenario. Year 13 are putting the finishing touches to both unit 3 and unit 6 coursework, with a unit 2 exam to sit in the summer.

## Enrichment Activities and Club External Drone Professional

On Thursday 19th January we were lucky enough to be visited by Impact Aerial Limited, a drone specialist company specialising in CAA Approved Commercial Drone Operators providing Remote Visual Aerial Services & Data Capture Solutions. This was a great opportunity for our students to see how their skills acquired from drone club can be applied in the real world with real careers. It was also an opportunity for students to engage with expensive and professional drone equipment, the very which they use in industry.



## CyberFirst Finals 2023

On a cold Saturday morning in February, four amazing Year 8 students got up early, put on their uniforms, and arrived at the school gate at 8:00am to take part in the final of the CyberFirst competition at Warwick University. More than 8500 students took part in the competition this year and reaching the final was a huge achievement for them. They gained so much experience and skills from the start of the competition in November 2022 up to today, and I am sure this will have a positive impact on their lives. Their journey does not end here as they will continue to take part in many more opportunities and lead many primary and secondary computing events. The legacy of last year's winner and this year's finalist from Challoner will inspire the next generation of students in our school to follow in their footsteps.



A massive thank you to Miss Zenkic and Mr Ebrahim for giving up their Saturday (we got back at 4:30 pm) to go with them.



# Robotics Trip

On Tuesday 14th February, a mixture of year 7, 8, and 9 students were taken to the University of Birmingham to engage with a robotics lab. Birmingham University uses this lab in Tysley to recycle electric car batteries using robots due to the hazard they impose on humans. In addition, they use this lab for developing hydrogen fuel cars. Multiple universities are involved in the project which is led by the University of Birmingham, including Imperial college and the University of Newcastle. They keep their research confidential, and it was a privilege for our students to have the opportunity to see the lab and robots in real-life applications. During the day a number of their staff approached Mr Ebrahim and praised our students for their behaviour. An exciting opportunity for our students!



# Bishop's Got Talent

On Thursday 2nd March, the computing department took over the library to showcase the innovation skills of the department and our students. We used this time to publicly demonstrate the use of assessment quizzing software Kahoot, with Mr Ebrahim leading the session which saw students partaking in a quiz; part binary conversions, part name that song! The session was a success with the winner receiving a gaming headset from the department; well done Imogen!



# Computing day at JHNCC

We took 25 of our own students over to John Henry Newman Catholic College to lead computing activities for the students at JHNCC. These students diligently designed their activities, which included coding Lego robots, a drone race challenge, a drone obstacle course, a robotic arm challenge, and code-breaking activities such as the Caesar Cipher and Pigpen Cipher, as well as a cyber security challenge and more. Our students were the stars of the day, perfectly and seamlessly delivering the sessions that they had planned, much to the delight of the students and staff at JHNCC. Feedback has been highly positive, and we thank both Mr Ebrahim and Miss Zenkic for their efforts in organising this day.



# VR Experience

Kabuni, an international leading company on immersive technology, centred around education, came into Bishop Challoner and took over the library to deliver VR sessions to both staff and students. The experience is aimed at expanding students understanding of VR technologies and the applications that it can have in both an entertainment and workplace perspective. The experience provided the perfect accompaniment for our year 10 students, who are about to begin a piece of coursework centred around the use of VR and the 'metaverse'. The students had a great time, and we thank Kabuni for supporting the school with this opportunity.



# Extra-Curricular Activities

We continue to offer a wide variety of extra-curricular opportunities for our students:

Monday-	Drones Club
Tuesday-	Robotics Club
Wednesday-	Girls Cyber Security Club
Thursday-	Digital Art Club

Wednesday and Thursday morning before school is Girl's Coding Club, Monday and Tuesday morning before school is Boy's Coding Club



## English Debate Mate

Debate Mate continues to be a popular club, especially among our Year 7 cohort. We were able to enter three teams in the Urban Debate League this year - one team with lots of debating experience and two brand new teams, for whom this was their first competitive debate. All three teams were excellent representatives for our school! Our younger debaters worked hard to overcome any nervousness in order to compete. We are very proud of them! We also hosted round 2, here at Bishop Challoner which was an evening full of incredible debating. Three students came straight off the coach from seeing Romeo and Juliet and into planning their debate!



## Catholic KS4 Public Speaking Competition

On Friday 3 March, a group of five Year 10 students attended the Catholic Key Stage Four Public Speaking Competition which took place at St Thomas Aquinas: Faith, Cassidy, Hannah, Tilly and Saoirse. 14 teams from ten local Catholic schools were represented, the highest number since the competition first started.

The annual competition involved students speaking from the perspective of a Shakespearean character, tasked with convincing others that theirs was the greatest. There were presentations from Lady Macbeth, Prospero (The Tempest), Viola (Twelfth Night), Beatrice, Macbeth, Hamlet, Trinculo (The Tempest), Rosaline (Romeo and Juliet) and Yorick (Hamlet).

The judges and teachers present were all exceedingly impressed by the standard of competition. Throughout the event, there was a fantastic atmosphere in which students celebrated one another's involvement and success, with several students from each school present in a supporting capacity.

We were incredibly proud that Cassidy's entry as Prospero won the competition. Both judges felt that the passion shown for the character and minimal use of notes for support were the elements which particularly justified their final decision. Well done to all those who took part!



# Year 12 and 13 Trip to see A Streetcar Named Desire – Almeida Theatre

For a couple of hours in January, Year 12 and 13 English Literature students were transported back to 1940s New Orleans when they saw a performance of the classic Tennessee Williams play 'A Streetcar Named Desire' at the Almeida Theatre in London. Not only was everyone very excited to watch a live version of a play they have studied for their A-Level course, but a number of students were even more thrilled by the prospect of seeing the Academy Award-nominated actor Paul Mescal, star of the TV series Normal People and the film Aftersun, who was playing the iconic role of Stanley Kolwalski.

The performance itself was captivating, with the director making innovative use of staging, music and lighting to enhance the play's powerful moments, and the acting was deserving of the many plaudits it has received in reviews. Despite this performance being the first time that the understudy was taking on the role of Stella (indeed, she had to perform with the script in her hand, as she only found out at the last minute that she would be playing the part for that performance), it did not detract at all from what was a thoroughly mesmerising show which all of the students greatly enjoyed. As an added bonus, many of the students even managed to snap some selfies with some of the actors afterwards, including the main man himself, Paul Mescal, who was kind enough to spend some time posing for photos and chatting to the students. To paraphrase Tennessee Williams himself, you can always depend on the kindness of strangers!



## Creative Writing Club

Since September, Creative Writing Club has been successful in engaging members of KS3 and KS4 to develop their creative writing skills. Every Thursday afternoon, the club now welcomes around 15 students ranging from Year 7 through to Year 10. So far this year, students have created many different forms of writing, from poems, raps and songs to short stories and speeches. These have been inspired by a "Spin the Wheel for a Title" randomisation activity, where students each put forward a key word to be written about. In November, students wrote stories based on a picture prompt from the book *Tsunami Girl*, which was inspired by the discussions had by staff at the Reading Teachers, Reading Students group earlier that month.

For the first half of this spring term, club members have been working on written pieces they submitted to the Young Writers competition titled *The Power of Poetry: Their Worlds, Their Words*. Excitingly, these are now being printed in a student creative writing anthology. Pieces ranged from poems about mental health, stories about war and peace and speeches about the importance of tackling the climate crises. This month, we will be making cross-curricular links, entering creative pieces in accordance with our new competition theme *Integer: Stories inspired by numbers*.

## Book Club

A new Book Club, run by Miss Chance and Mrs Marsh (called Chance and Marsh) started running on Wednesday 22nd March. Students at Bishop Challoner are given multiple opportunities to read in their lessons; however, we noticed a gap amongst students in how often they are reading at home, the opportunities they have in school to read for pleasure and the ability to discuss young adult literature, so we decided to offer a reading club to address these gaps.

Our hope is to engage students across KS3 in reading for pleasure and discussing their opinions of the book in an informal setting, rather than through the formal classroom setting, to encourage a love for reading. The club is planning to meet up twice every half term to allow students time to read the whole book and then have time to develop some ideas for discussion. We will be starting with a book called 'The Outlaws Scarlett and Browne' by Jonathan Stroud. We hope that this will bring in a lot of interest from students due to its fast paced, fantasy action plot and that we can spark a lifelong love of reading in previously reluctant readers.



# Geography

## Year 7

Year 7 have continued to develop their knowledge and understanding of the country in which they live, the UK. The students learning has enabled them to explore 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 and helping to monitor the progress of our students. This half term Year 7 have been introduced to the next unit, one of the world's superpowers, China. This topic has already sparked great enthusiasm amongst the year group who have been excited to share their knowledge and learn more about a country that is so frequently in the news. The students' curiosity has been 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 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. Within this unit we have been assessing why people continue to live in areas of hazard risk and have used this as an opportunity for debate with students arguing for or against living in danger zones. The students rose to this challenge demonstrating their team work, independent research, persuasive writing as well as their geographical understanding. Our Iceland topic continues to not only help develop the skills needed for GCSE Geography, it sparks the curiosity and engagement of the students and has cross curricular links with Science.

## Year 11

Year 11 have completed their final topic: The Challenge of Resource Management. The students are continuing to show determination and resilience in their preparation for the public examinations and we are impressed by their motivation to achieve their potential. Study sessions continue and some students will be invited in over the Easter break to take part in revision workshops. These revision workshops have been proven to boost students' knowledge and will target key areas that have been identified from lessons and assessments. Year 11 are encouraged to continue to use their Bishop Challoner Revision Guide as well as the knowledge grids and checklists they have been given.

## Trips

Our Iceland trip has officially been booked for February 2024 and we are working with Discover the World travel company to organise what is set to be a phenomenal trip with Year 9 and Year 10. On the itinerary we currently have excursions to waterfalls, the Blue Lagoon, glacier walks, geysers, whale watching and much more.

## 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. The T1 assessment focuses on knowledge, understanding and geographical skills. The students are becoming more confident with using Microsoft Forms as a method of assessment and we have been so impressed by the commitment and resilience the students have shown to both their revision and in particular the extending writing elements of the T1 – well done Year 8!



## Year 10

Year 10 have now completed their first unit 'The Living World' whereby they have studied the opportunities and challenges within some of our of earth's major biomes and students are now soon to complete the topic of Urban Issues and Challenges. Within Urban Issues and Challenges, Year 10 have taken a closer look at the causes of urban change within Birmingham including the process of deindustrialisation and the opportunities and challenges that have arisen as a result. This has then been compared to urban change within a city from an NEE country – Brazil. Students have evaluated the similarities and differences between the cities and analysed how the cities have addressed their urban issues.

## Key Stage 5

The department continues to be very impressed with the dedication shown by Year 13 to their upcoming examinations. The students have recently completed their NEA investigations and we have been delighted by the uniqueness of their investigation titles and the hard work that has clearly taken place. We have marked some truly outstanding pieces of work.

# Bishops Got Talent

In January the department ran our second BGT event. This time KS3 were challenged with creating a favela with scrap materials that were provided to them. The students used their teamwork and problem solving skills to create some fantastic infrastructure, resembling what they have been learning about in the topic of Brazil.



# History

## Year 7

This term, Year 7 have been making a study of the causes and consequences of the Crusades and will shortly be preparing for their second key piece of assessed work on this topic. This will take place shortly before we break up for Easter. When we return to school after Easter, we will be starting a new topic looking at how powerful medieval monarchs really were considering a number of key events and stories linked to several male and female rulers, including Queen Matilda, King John, Henry II, Edward I, and Richard II.

## Year 9

Students in Year 9 are examining the causes of the Second World War. They begin by studying the lingering bitterness created by the Treaty of Versailles before turning their attention to the economic global depression of the 1930s and how this led to dramatic changes in international relations. They further examine the weaknesses of European nations in combating the rise of aggressive nations like Germany in the form of the League of Nations and the policies of appeasement. The topic allows for significant comparison to be made to modern day international conflict and the challenges faced in dealing with aggressive expansionism. This study will culminate in students examining various historians' interpretations in order to produce their own which they will deliver to the class.

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!



## Year 8

Students in Year 8 have now completed their studies of the Industrial Revolution with a focus on the ways in which lives changed during the period. In January all year 8 students sat their T1 assessment on the aforementioned topic which measured a range of skills including factual knowledge, source analysis and their skills in formulating and sustaining an argument in a piece of extended writing.

As a reward for students efforts we took 88 students to the Black Country Museum for a day of interactive and exciting learning. The trip was a great success.



## 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 Elizabeth England and the Spanish Armada. Year 10 have been learning about how the allies of World War Two became enemies.

## Berlin Trip 2024: Nazi Germany and the Cold War

**Are you currently a GCSE history student in Year 10?**

**Are you a Year 9 student planning to do GCSE history?**

The History Department is offering current GCSE Year 10 students and Year 9 students the opportunity to travel to Berlin. You will see a number of famous historical sites throughout the visit.

Please see Miss Watson for a letter.



# Lessons from Auschwitz Project

Two Year 12 students - Lucy Byrne and Isobel Matthews – have participated in the Lessons from Auschwitz Project run by the Holocaust Educational Trust. As part of this experience, they visited Auschwitz-Birkenau Concentration and Death Camp and found the experience harrowing. They are now completing their Next Steps Project, in which they will deliver an educational experience to Year 8 on 'Humanizing the Holocaust'. As a consequence of being involved in this project, Lucy and Isobel will become Holocaust Education Trust Ambassadors – a title and responsibility which will stay with them for life.



## Mathematics

### Academic mentor

Within the department we are lucky enough to have the assistance of our academic coach, Mr Cox. Mr Cox is a fantastic academic mentor who is passionate about helping students improve their maths skills. Working under the supervision of Mr Clarke, he has been working with the students across all key stages who require the most support. His impact has been evident and the students he works with are continuously monitored and updates.

### Homework Club

Support for KS3 students continues to be provided through the form of KS3 homework club which takes place every Wednesday in M1. This has enabled students to succeed whether it is in regards to those who require additional support to receive it from their teachers or it facilitates homework completion for students who cannot access the internet at home.

### Catholic Games

This year we had the opportunity to host the Catholic Games for the first time in the maths department and were delighted to showcase what our fantastic students had to offer. Our Year 10 students helped to organise each of the activities and ensured that the day ran seamlessly. The biggest takeaway from the day was how members of staff from the other schools commended our Year 10s for their brilliant leadership.

We had 9 schools represented with 16 teams in total. We had teams of Year 8 students from Archbishop Ilsley, Bishop Challoner, Cardinal Newman, Cardinal Wiseman, Holy Trinity, St Peters, St Edmund Campion, St Thomas Aquinas and St Pauls' Girls.

The event comprised of a range of engaging activities, such as Drone flying maths activity, a Coordinates activity, a Junior Maths Challenge relay, and a Computer Hacking Maths activity. The participants were a group of immensely talented Mathematicians, who demonstrated their skills in a fiercely contested competition. The ultimate winners were the students from Cardinal Newman, who scored an impressive 35 points. We extend our warmest congratulations to the winning school for their excellent achievement.

We look forward to welcoming these schools back next year and adding this event to our calendar.



# Malympics

Our maths and PE departments held our annual “Malympics” event on 8th March. Eleven of our Catholic feeder schools brought teams of year 3, 4 and 5 to take part in maths and PE events which had been organised and were run by around twenty of our year 9 students. The sports hall was alive with throwing, running, scoring goals, and shooting hoops - all punctuated with answering maths problems! The year 9 students excelled themselves and were incredible ambassadors for the school, looking after and supporting the primary children, whilst encouraging them to have fun. Feedback from the teachers from the primary schools was excellent and the children all seemed to have a great time.



## Primary

This half term Miss Humphreys and Mr Mahmood ran two G+T enrichment sessions for the tolkein cluster primary schools. In the latest session, year 6 students competed in teams of 4 to answer a relay of problem solving questions. They had to use their knowledge of scientific formulae, logical reasoning and geometry, as well as communicating clearly with their team mates to get all of the questions done. We're looking forward to inviting them back at the end of March for the next session!



## Paris trip

The Paris trip is still running along in the background. The biggest challenge so far is ensuring every family tries to meet the financial commitment, and also ensuring passports and GHIC cards are brought into school for checking. Further details of the trip are being finalised in conjunction with the travel company – NST.

## Intermediate Maths Challenge

Our Year 10 and Year 11 top set students undertook the “Intermediate Maths Challenge” at the beginning of February. It was sat online, with students using laptops to participate. The challenge involved multiple-choice questions, with five possible answers. The possible answers include common misconceptions. It was a very challenging paper! Never the less we had some fantastic results!

**Year 10**  
11 bronze certificates

6 silver certificates

1 gold certificate

**Year 11**  
9 bronze certificates

6 silver certificates

4 gold certificates - all 4 through to the next round. 3 pink kangaroos, and 1 Maclaurin Mathematical Olympiad



## Extra curricular

Over the coming weeks Year 10 students attending a ‘Maths and Beyond’ event at the University of Warwick are in for an enriching experience. This event aims to introduce students to the world of mathematics beyond the school curriculum, giving them an insight into the exciting and diverse field of mathematics. The event is designed to showcase how mathematics is applied in different disciplines such as science, engineering, and finance. Students will have the opportunity to attend interactive workshops, engage in problem-solving activities and hear from experts in the field. This event aims to inspire students to pursue further study in mathematics and related fields. Overall, the Maths and Beyond event is an excellent opportunity for Year 10 students to explore the wider applications of mathematics and discover the diverse career opportunities that lie ahead.

Year 10 students will also be attending the Maths Feast competition and they are in for a challenging and exciting experience. The Maths Feast is a nationwide competition for students in the UK, designed to test their mathematical skills and problem-solving abilities. The competition aims to foster teamwork, creativity, and analytical thinking among students, as they work together to solve complex mathematical problems under time pressure. The Maths Feast is a great opportunity for students to showcase their mathematical abilities, as well as to meet and compete against like-minded peers from other schools. Overall, the Maths Feast is a fun and engaging way for students to develop their mathematical skills, while also having a great time.

# Media Studies

The Spring Term is inevitably a busy one in the Media Studies department. At both GCSE and A-level, students are moving through the final pieces of course content whilst aiming to put the finishing touches to their coursework products.

It is a feature of the subject that Media Studies specifications change frequently: a reflection of the fast-moving, ever-changing nature of the contemporary media. Our Year 12 group has enjoyed the teaching of new challenging and diverse texts. In the Radio unit, we have explored 'Have You Heard George's Podcast', considering how in form, style and content this innovative programme takes audio media in a new direction. Meanwhile, studying the 'SuperHuman' advert for the Channel 4 coverage of the Tokyo Paralympics has opened up fascinating discussions about the representation of disability and other minority groups in society. At GCSE, our Year 10 students are most enthused by the new set text for the Sitcom unit: 'Man Like Mobeen'. The BBC3 show, set in the Muslim community around Small Heath, Birmingham, is vibrant, engaging and relatable.

## Yr 12 Media: BBC Production Unlocked Trip

Last half term, we were fortunate to be allocated free places to the BBC's Production Unlocked event, held at Millennium Point, for our A Level Media class. The aim of the day was to introduce 16-18 year olds to various career pathways related to media. The course of the day gave us insightful interviews with a local radio presenter for BBC Radio 1XTRA, the BBC Apprentice Hub Business Advisor, a BBC apprentice, two screenwriters, and a Production Buyer, exploring different pathways into careers and the range of technical, creative and production roles. Throughout the day, the group also participated in workshops with industry professionals on the use of Immersive Media and VR, using Tiktok creatively for short-form media, and how channels target audiences.



Overall, this was an enlightening day for both staff and students on the various careers involved in media production and the different ways students can forge their careers, both within and outside of, traditional Higher Education and newer Apprenticeship routes, with rich opportunity for local training as Birmingham hopes to become a leading media production hub in the coming years. It was great for students to develop teamwork and communication skills in a professional location, and to hear from real people working in the industry, to create aspiration in the subject beyond A Level.



# MFL

## Pen pal letters with Year 10

In order to inspire our GCSE students and give them an opportunity to reuse their linguistic skills in a real-life context, Mr Paillette and Mis Crutchley's Year 10 students have written their second round of letters to their Swiss pen pals. Each year, these letters come with great surprise and anticipation to discover their pen pals and the cultural differences with this foreign country. The students have been representing school on the international level very well considering the efforts they put in their letters.



## Year 10 French breakfast



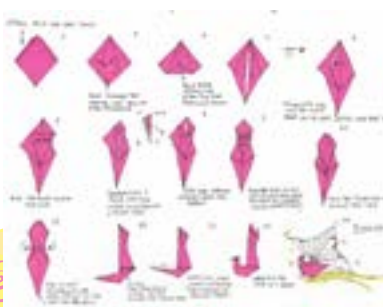
Sometime earlier this year, Ms Mazabraud kindly organised a French breakfast for the teaching group 10B. Students had the opportunity to try some well-known French delicacies such as croissants, pain au chocolat, tartine de beurre et confiture.

For the less faint-hearted, there was also Brie, and Roquefort!

## Friday film club

Every Friday, we are offering our KS4 and KS5 students the opportunity to join the French film club. Week after week, they discover more French-speaking films whether it is a comedy, a thriller or a drama. Furthermore, it has been really pleasing to see that this club had generated some enthusiasm amongst students not doing French at A-level. Indeed, we have seen some individuals coming along repeatedly just for the fun of it or wanting to learn more about this culture and language.

Recently the students have watched *Les Misérables* by Ladj Ly, taking place in the Parisian suburbs, and *Le Petit Nicolas*, a comedy adaptation of the novel.



## Year 11 French Speaking examinations

Our year 11 cohort is getting prepared for their fast-approaching GCSE examinations.

The French speaking examinations will take place between the 24th and 27th April, this is 2 weeks before the start of their other GCSE examinations. In order for students to be prepared for these, they should ensure that they have practised speaking for the:

- Role play (15 marks)
- Photo card (15 marks)
- Conversation (30 marks)

For the Conversation, students should be able to have a conversation, without any support, on any of the given GCSE topics. For this, we advise them to practise some WOW phrases that they can easily reuse in a conversation with their teacher.

## Thursday language club

### Japanese club

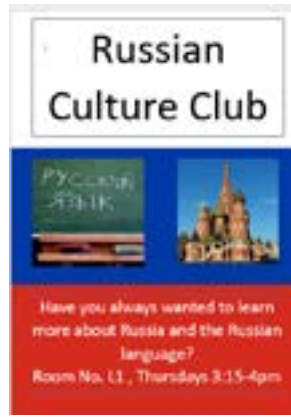
Shortly after Christmas, Students at Languages club learnt the Japanese popular art of paper folding.

Mrs Tan has been instructing students how to transform a flat square sheet of paper into a finished sculpture through folding and sculpting techniques.

The Japanese word origami itself is a compound of two smaller Japanese words: "ori" (root verb "oru"), meaning to fold, and "kami", meaning paper. Until recently, not all forms of paper folding were grouped under the word origami. Before that, paper folding for play was known by a variety of names, including "orikata" or "origata" (折形), "orisue" (折据), "orimono" (折物), "tatamigami" (畳紙).

# Russian club

Since February half term the languages club will be testing out a new language: Russian. This club is run by our brilliant associate teacher Lauren Watkins who is on a short term placement with us from Swanshurst school.



# Trips

A-Level Paris: In the week of the 13th -16th March, Ms Mazabraud, head of MFL, and Mrs McGowan, Head of year 12, Helen McGowan took 8 year 12 and 13 French students on a linguistic and Trip to Paris. On this trip students attended lessons in a French sixth form school. They were able to take part in maths, English and History-Geography lessons.

The rest of the trip will involved walks around Paris, visit of museum, and other landmarks such as Notre-Dame and Sacré-Coeur and a trip to the cinema to watch a film in French without subtitles! The trip was memorable went extremely well. We are very proud of all of our students, and how well they communicated and behaved in the French capital.



# Year 7 Day trip to Boulogne

As we do every year, we have already launched the day trip to Boulogne, which was sold out on SchoolComms in 3 minutes! Once again, we will be taking the students to a French café for breakfast, a snail farm ☺, and to the beach. This trip will be running at the end of June 2023, and we are all very much looking forward to it!

Parents will receive communication from the school to attend a meeting early June about the proceedings of the trip.

In the mean-time, if families do not plan to travel before the trip, students can hand over their passports to the Pastoral office, they will be kept safe until the trip.

# Valentines cards for refugee week

Some year 7 and 8 classes created valentines day cards for refugee children. We discussed reasons why people might have to flee their homes and families, said prayers and came up with messages to show compassion to refugees that they are welcome here and that we are praying for them.

The French department led this initiative in line with our whole school value and "Commitment to character" of compassion.



# Performing Arts

The Spring term always offers students multiple opportunities in the arts, whether they are as part of an audience, supporting their peers or professionals, or performing.

## KS3 Music

In music, Year 7 students are continuing their exploration of World Music, and have spent several weeks studying music and sounds from Africa and beyond. They learned about traditional instruments and sounds, tested their rhythm and ensemble skills on the djembe drums, broadening their knowledge of musical cultures. 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, I am pleased with their progress and some of our students are surprised at what they have accomplished!

This term our Year 8 students are studying Music for Royal Occasions. With a particular landmark royal event approaching very soon, this is a very fitting time to explore this topic! Developing their music theory skills, our classes will explore how to notate different pitches and rhythms on a staff, and compose a piece of music which would be suitable for a special occasion.

The Year 9 music scheme of work this term focuses on Music and the Media. The students explore how music is used to convey different moods, enhance a story, and prepare the audience for the advert, TV show, film or video game they are experiencing. Through listening and practical activities, the classes are exploring a number of compositional techniques favoured by film composers to evoke a certain response, and are working on keyboards to prepare a composition to accompany an extract from Lord of the Rings.

## Performing Arts

On Wednesday 1st March, a group of 30 students visited the Birmingham Hippodrome to see the professional touring production of Six: The Musical. This was booked over 6 months ago and sold out within a matter of days, so we were very lucky to have the opportunity to attend. It did not disappoint, and both staff and students alike thoroughly enjoyed witnessing, arguably, one of the most important and well-written contemporary musicals of the 21st century. Our Year 10 BTEC students have been studying the conception, rehearsal and production of this musical as part of their BTEC coursework and it was so beneficial for them to actually see it live on stage. Overall, a wonderful experience which many of us will never forget!

Our Year 11 Performing Arts group have been commissioned by their exam board to create a piece of theatre based on the title "Truth and Lies". This brief was set by a well-known regional arts centre who are hosting a celebration event, funded by the local council. The event will showcase work created by and for young people, and creates an important opportunity to support the creativity and achievements of young people and their positive impact on the wider community. Students are well underway with the planning and devising stages and complete their first ever controlled assessment next week. Rehearsals will subsequently begin on their performance, which will take place after the Easter break - we are very excited to see the final result!



## Symphony Hall

On February 7th over 100 students were fortunate enough to attend a special concert at Symphony Hall. This is always a special date in our musical calendar as the students get to experience some of the city's finest musicians from the CBSO performing a range of pieces to show off the orchestra and players. This year's theme was 'This World' and featured compositions by Elgar, Brahms and Copland. Our students thoroughly enjoyed themselves, conducting from their seats and positioning themselves so they could clearly see some of their favourite instruments. Our favourite moment was when the CBSO played the Portals music from Avengers: Endgame, which was epic in terms of sound and scale. We are already looking forward to booking for next year's event.



# Traditional Irish Music Workshop

An exciting new musical venture kicked off this term with a series of Traditional Irish Musical workshops. Expertly led by professional musician Jobe Sullivan, two groups of Year 7 students assembled in the library to play bodhran, mandolin and accordion. After a crash course in playing, we realised that the opportunity for more of these workshops was too good to refuse. Starting on March 2nd, we invited Jobe back in to work with four small groups on the mandolin and banjo, with a view to working towards future performances at concerts and other events. We look forward to watching their progress and seeing our Irish musicians at Soirees and BGTs in the future!



## Year 10

Year 10 have been given some amazing performance opportunities: not only did they perform at our Remembrance Event, Christmas Show and on Irish TV last term, they were also chosen to perform live at the MAC for the St Patrick's Day celebrations, along with our Year 11 Irish dancer and 3 musicians from Year 10 and Year 7. We created a 15 minute piece of theatre in which we celebrate Ireland and St Patrick through dance, singing, poetry and music. We are so proud of our students for not only performing to such a high standard, but for also giving up part of their weekend to help others celebrate.

## Instrument Lessons

The teachers from the Music Service continue to work weekly with our students who receive instrumental lessons. Following a cello workshop with Mrs Mulenga, a number of Year 7 students showed an interest in learning and we now have the biggest cello cohort this school has ever seen! Our brass teacher, Mr Gifford, worked with Sophie in Year 13 to prepare and perform an excellent trombone duet of The William Tell Overture which was recorded on video and shared online as part of the Services for Education Virtual Music Festival. Sophie has attended lessons loyally since she started in lower school and, despite the pressures of her upcoming A Level exams, took time to play for this event.

## Steel Pans

Our steel pan players have been taught by Mr Philip for many years and he also gave one of our groups the chance to perform in the online festival. They played a typically up-beat number with flair and precision, which was uploaded to Twitter as part of the event. In addition, the woodwind, guitar, piano, violin and drum kit teachers are continuing to develop the skills of our young musicians and teach them performance skills and music theory.



## St Patrick's Day

In the run up to St Patrick's Day, a number of musicians performed in the library for a special Irish-themed Bishop's Got Talent event. Ailish (Y7) and Emiliano (Y8) played Mayo Morrins, a delightful violin duet, and the Woodwind Ensemble performed The Irish Washerwoman, Brian Boru's March, and the classic Danny Boy. Zac (Y7), who plays a multitude of instruments, chose to perform a selection of traditional Irish pieces on the tin whistle. We were delighted to include the Y10 PA cohort who contributed their wonderful voices to this event, and Emma in Y11 who performed a traditional Irish dance. This was a wonderful lunchtime event which the audience truly enjoyed, and are very proud of all our performers.



# Dementia Cafe

Prior to this St Patrick's Day concert, many of the instrumental performers, accompanied by Miss Hughes and Mrs Newton, visited the Dementia Café in Cotteridge to play for members of the local community. Two sixth formers, Zahara and Oisin, also came with us to chat to the people there and provide some company during their St Patrick's celebratory lunch! The music was so well received that some of our students performed extra solos (thank you Sophie and Ailish) and the woodwind ensemble played a moving encore of Danny Boy to finish. The students and staff were made to feel very welcome and we are very proud of our students for performing in a new venue and for striking up conversations with new people in such a warm environment.



# Spring Soiree

Our annual spring concert, the Spring Soiree, took place in the auditorium on Wednesday 22nd March. As always, we love to provide a friendly and encouraging platform for as many of our musicians as possible, whether they are solo performers, or part of an ensemble. This is another of our events which is only possible with the extensive support from our instrumental staff from the Music Service, who rehearse with the students to prepare them for the event. This year's lineup included a lively performance from our Steel Pan groups, solo vocalists, woodwind ensembles, and BC Band who performed an arrangement of 'Don't Stop Believing'. Arts, crafts and refreshments were available to friends and families on the night, and artwork from our talented art students was on display to audiences. The soiree is always an upbeat yet relaxed way to see in the Easter holidays and our confident students did a great job of presenting this wonderful evening of music.

# Physical Education

## Year 7 Football

Success for U12 girls football team as they qualify for the final of the West Midlands County cup 9-a-side competition. They won the semi-finals 11-1 vs Stoke Park from Coventry.



travelled to the University of Worcester Arena to compete in a 3x3 competition organised by the University and Worcester Wolves Basketball. All four teams picked up wins on the day and a team from Year 7 managed to win all the games to be crowned champions. Coach Dean Blake from the University of Worcester came to Bishop Challoner to present the students with their winner medals.

The Year 8 Boys Basketball team have played 6 matches so far in the Junior NBA Midlands League and have won all 6! With the few fixtures that remain, it is likely that they will advance into the later rounds, where they will attempt to reach the Junior NBA Final, which will take place in the summer term. The team have also won 3/4 local matches in their division of the Birmingham Schools League, which have featured schools such as Kings Norton Boys, Queensbridge, Lordswood Boys and Wheelers Lane. We have been very impressed with the attitude and quality that the team has shown so far this season, and it would be nice to top this off with a trophy (or two)! Well done to all involved.

## Year 7 Basketball

Year 7 have been entered into the Jr NBA tournament which brings schools from across different counties together to compete for play-off places. Year 7 started the competition with an incredibly rocky start marginally losing 2 games in a row. After weeks of training, developing skills and tactics, it was clear to see that training was beginning to pay off. Year 7 have won 4 out of their last 5 games and this has enabled the team to successfully obtain a play-off place in the next round of this prestigious tournament. A fantastic achievement for all involved.

## U13 Boys Basketball

Bishop Challoner basketball teams are still competing in several local, regional, and national cup competitions. Both Year 7 and Year 8 teams have progressed from their group stage to qualify for the knockout rounds of the West Midlands Jr NBA. Year 8 have managed to win 7 of their 8 games and have qualified as top seeds for the first knockout round. Teams from Year 7 and 8 have also





## Year 9 Basketball

Year 9 have been busy playing in the Basketball England National School Cup. The boys have won all six of their games so far and are progressing through the knockout rounds. Challoner convincingly beat Corpus Christi in the first round of the knockout stages who are the current Lancashire champions. This was a dominant display with Challoner scoring 56 points to Christi's 32. Fantastic win and we wish the boys all the best in the next round.



## Year 9 Football

The Year 9 football team have been in tremendous form beating Bishop Walsh 4-0 in the quarter finals of the Birmingham cup. The boys progressed to the semi-finals facing Tudor Grange, Challoner played extremely well managing to score 3 goals to win the tie 3-0. Bishop Challoner now progress to the final of the Birmingham Cup, which is scheduled to take place at Villa Park, the home of Aston Villa FC. This was a Cup that the team lifted last year at Bodymoor Heath, so they are hopeful to retain it this time around. In addition to this, the Year 9 Boys Football team are also due to play St. Michael's (Wolverhampton) in the Quarter Final of the West Midlands Cup, with the match due to be played after Easter. The Boys are super excited for this one, as it is a Cup that has eluded them thus far! We have been very impressed with each of their attitudes and dedication to the team so far, with many miles travelled in a very busy fixture schedule. Hopefully, the hard work pays off and the team can add to their trophy hall. Well done to all involved.

## Outstanding achievements Boxing

Alfie in Year 10 who represents Hall Green Boxing Club, has just become the Midlands Champion in his weight class. This is an astonishing achievement, and we are all incredibly proud of him.



## Synchro Swimming

Imogen has recently competed in a Midland synchro swimming competition; she has worked tirelessly and relentlessly training six times a week to perfect her routine. After an extensive training programme, Imogen and her team won GOLD. This was also her first time competing in an age group above her own. She also competed in an individual performance against 35 other athletes with some of them representing GB. Imogen managed to stun her opposition finishing 3rd and receiving a gold medal. Furthermore, Imogen has been invited to swim and train with the GB Team, which is utterly outstanding.



## Extra-Curricular - Duke of Edinburgh

We have taken on the mammoth task of offering both Year 9 and Year 10 the Bronze DofE award this year and have had a brilliant response and uptake from both year groups.

Training for their expedition has begun with a fantastic effort from students and staff across all departments being involved in the delivery of training sessions.

Students are working hard to learn everything they need to complete their expedition. Their training includes camp craft, first aid, countryside code, map reading skills and route planning. They also have a practice walk coming up in preparation for the expedition. Students in both Year 9 and 10 have been extremely conscientious in getting their independent sections started (volunteering, skill and physical) and we have been really impressed with their volunteering by helping the school community.

We also have a small group of Year 12 students completing their Silver award this year. Their training for expedition also starts this half term. They have also been fantastic in completing their independent sections, and we have some helping to restore the school Peace Garden. They have been working on weeding and cleaning up the area for several weeks now to improve the area for all to enjoy.

## Year of Character

As part of the 'Year of Character', the PE department has decided to review their rewards scheme and have introduced a system where students are rewarded if they are able to 'Commit to Character' and demonstrate/evidence certain virtues within lesson's, club's and/or fixtures. The system asks students to be resilient, compassionate, ambitious, and learned (amongst many others) and as a result, are rewarded with a staff signature in their reward booklet. The booklets are then reviewed termly by class teachers and the students with the most, are taken on a rewards trip and receive a wristband which states that they have 'Committed to Character'. Trips will take place termly, and the autumn term trip was to 'Go Karts' & 'Laser Quest', where 24 lucky students were able to attend. Well done to all involved.



# Trips

## Boys football development tour - Porto 2023

Preparations have been continuing for the boys' football development tour to Portugal in May 2023. On Thursday 30th March, the PE department will be hosting families and friends of the students who will travel to Porto for the annual Bishop Challoner Quiz and Curry Night. The night will provide parents and students with an opportunity to meet staff who will be present on the trip and allow them to ask any questions they may have. Students will also can socialise with others while raising funds towards the trip.

## Twickenham Rugby Trip

Our Rugby trip to Twickenham to watch England vs Italy in the Six Nations was a brilliant day out. Of the 30 students, many had never watched a rugby game live and only 2 students had been to Twickenham before. All the students loved the day, and it was great to see England put on a great show and win the game. This has led to an increase in students attending rugby club after school and we have 10 rugby fixtures booked in for different year groups over the next few weeks, with plans currently taking place for Bishop Challoner to host a rugby tournament day in the summer at Moseley Rugby Club.

## Cricket Summer T20

Bishop Challoner have been signed up to a new initiative called Six4Schools. It is an initiative by Birmingham Bears cricket club which offers adult tickets starting at £13 (normally £25) for their T20 matches this summer. Apply discount code BCCC23 on the web address below for discounted ticket prices. U5s are free, and 5-15-year-olds are £5.

<https://tickets.edgbaston.com/list/partnerAdvantage?code=BCCC23>

Every ticket sold will result in Bishop Challoner receiving £6 towards PE equipment or cricket training sessions. It's a great opportunity for the school and hopefully a chance for you to enjoy some cricket at Edgbaston cricket ground this summer.



# PSHE

## Year 7

The PSHE curriculum continues to be an influential aspect of the students' lives at Bishop Challoner and Year 7 have now explored health and relationships, the universal declaration of human rights and are currently embracing money matters! This is a hands-on project that sees the students reflecting on financial wants and needs and developing some savvy shopping skills as they plan a healthy eating meal plan on a budget. This will culminate in the Spring term with a visitor from Lloyds Bank; students will engage in an interactive workshop with money experts, which is an absolute life skill in today's climate.

**Mix and Match the Key Terms**  **WORDS**

1. Debit card
2. Salary
3. Balance
4. Credit card

**A.** in banking this means the amount of money in your bank account.

**B.** a plastic card which allows you to buy goods and pay for them later. If you don't pay for them within one month the bank charges you extra.

**C.** a plastic card which allows you to pay for goods immediately using money that is already in your bank account.

**D.** payment given to employees in return for their work.

## Year 8

Year 8 have been exploring liberty and freedom this term, displaying the character virtues of discernment and compassion as they delve into debate on issues surrounding prejudice and discrimination. Classes have gained knowledge and empowerment by focusing on the Equality Act of 2010 and forming thought-through ideas to prevent discrimination in society today, using protected characteristics as the foundation for discussion. Each student has created their own informative leaflet or poster and these will form part of a display in school.

Discrimination means treating someone unfairly as a result of prejudice. Prejudices are opinions that we form without knowing all the facts.

As a community we can stop discrimination by speaking to the police, by kind and forgiving them for being mean to you.

If you are being discriminated then you can tell a trusted adult and start ignoring them and stay away from them. The problem with stereotypes is that it can start as something small but then that little bit by bit it will get more serious it will turn into war and genocide.


The equality act was created in 2010 while Gordon Brown was the prime minister this was to give us more protected characteristics. So if we commit any of these crimes this could be considered illegal.

Examples of discrimination in schools is bullying in school is bullying of your race, skin colour, height, weight, disabilities and what you wear.

### Equality act

By Emma

**Protected characteristics:**  
 Age  
 Disability  
 Gender Re-assignment  
 Marriage or civil partnership  
 Pregnancy and maternity  
 Race  
 Religion or belief  
 Sex  
 Sexual orientation



# Year 9

Year 9 lessons have focused on pathways and progression and have incorporated vital information for Bishop Challoner students as they embark on their Key Stage 4 journey. Inspired by Eleanor Roosevelt's words 'I am who I am today because of the decisions I made yesterday', Year 9 have been guided through the unique pathways procedure and have a full understanding of the requirements during Year 10 and 11. With the expert help of Miss Darby and using Unifrog, all students have had the opportunity to browse the online subject and careers library and had time to consider which subject options will suit them the most. Careers and The Job Market have been researched taking into account the current financial climate; life post-covid; the development of automation and the environmental crisis. These lessons have been crafted alongside subject option assemblies and the Year 9 Aspirations Day to ensure that students have access and guidance for informed decision making. Students have said how inspired they feel for their future careers!



## Year 9 PSHE Choices and Pathways - Session 1

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



# Year 10 and 11 BTEC Personal Growth and Wellbeing

The two groups that study BTEC Personal Growth and Wellbeing have had the most productive term. The external Standards Verifier was nothing but congratulatory about the course that we have established at Bishop Challoner and was duly impressed with the experiences that the students have. With a focus on life skills and health and well-being, students have engaged in four units across the course. These range from Health and First Aid, Financial Wellbeing and Emotional Wellbeing, to Human Rights and Responsibilities. Year 11 are drawing to the completion of their course and Miss Hampson and Mrs Jethwa could not be prouder of their achievements! They are thoughtful and well-rounded students who are now even better equipped to confront some of the emotional challenges that face them as they venture towards their post 16 pursuits.



# Year 7 Personal Development Day

Year 7 had their Personal Development drop down day just before half term and feedback was outstanding, showing that students had an insightful and reflective experience. The day couldn't have commenced with a more energetic start than with the powerful Prevent Presentation from Minus Violence speaker, Ray Douglas. Year 7 sat, pin drop silent, as they listened to the story of how young people can sometimes be groomed into extremism – from the surveys we undertook, this was also their favourite part of the day. The entire year group were deeply engaged and absorbed the important messages that he delivered. Students then dispersed to classroom-based sessions which ranged from the Realities of Social Media to Resilience and Wellbeing and Peer Pressure and Relationships. The materials were carefully coordinated around the needs of the Year group, in an ever-changing society. Teachers and students alike enjoyed the variety and pace of the day and the impact was shown through the buzz around the school and foremost from the insightful conversations that were being held within the classrooms. These drop days are invaluable to the students and could not take place without the support that we get from all the staff who deliver with such energy and vigour.



**Free Speech**

- Freedom of speech is a human right. We have the right to express feeling, viewpoint and ideas **however this must not incite hate.**
- Hate speech is abusive or threatening speech or writing that expresses prejudice against a particular group, especially on the basis of race, religion, or sexual orientation. Unfortunately, many people use social media as a platform for hate speech.
- In pairs, think of examples of those who have used freedom of speech **positively** in history or society today and those who have taken it too far and used social media as a platform to **incite hate.**
- As a class, create a mind map on the board of those in history and society today who have used freedom of speech.

# Assemblies and Form Resources

The assembly and form resource programmes continue to enrich the curriculum of Personal Development, Safeguarding, Prevent, Spiritual Life and Cultural themes. Each week, two resources are created; one to be presented live in assembly and the other is pre-recorded and delivered in form rooms. This term we have already covered topics ranging from a focus on our School Prayer, Respect and World Book Day to Holocaust Memorial Day and World Religions Day. Each resource is current in terms of social and political accuracy and they also run parallel and enhance our Bishop Challoner Character Virtues. For example, when looking at Children's Mental Health Week, we also focused on the virtue of Compassion and how we can use this to show and spread kindness to others. All of the assembly resources are prepared in consideration of our Spiritual Life curriculum and students are all encouraged to join with the school prayer and present either a poem or thoughtful message to their year group. As we move into the summer term, students will be encouraged to lead on some of our assemblies and we look forward to their participation over the coming months.



**BRITISH VALUES**  
February 14<sup>th</sup> 2023

**Prayer**  
Who am I God?  
Why am I here?  
What do you want me to do?  
You made me special  
to do something wonderful  
in this life of mine.  
Show me what I might be,  
what I might do,  
who I might help  
And I'll do it for you.  
Amen

In the English language the word  
**'value'** has 2 meanings.

1. **Something's worth or usefulness.**
2. **Standards of behaviour; a judgement of what is important in life**

**Final Thoughts**

1 John 3:18: "My children, our love is not just to be words or mere talk, but something real and active."

Be Active and Compassionate by:

1. Buying Fairtrade and looking out for the logo
2. Donating or fundraising at [www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk)
3. Campaigning and talking to others about Fairtrade.

**YOUTH FOR FAIRTRADE**  
Join the Youth to Fairtrade your school  
The way Fairtrade shows change across the business.

## Year 10 Precious Lives Speaker

Two weeks ago, we were graced with the presence of Precious Lives speaker, Gary Williams. Year 10 were in awe of his life story. Gary delivered an inspiring and thought-provoking autobiography of how his early childhood neglect soon led him into a life of crime. Spending his teenage years in and out of custody, Gary turned his life around. His journey captivated our students and his message was loud and clear – a life in crime is not a life to be in. The questions that students presented to Gary at the end were sensitive and thought through. Students said that they were inspired by the way that he had turned his life around and it made them think about choosing the right direction in their own lives. Our strong relationship with our Police School Liaison Officer ensures that we have these opportunities brought into school and we look forward to experiencing the Anti- Gang and Knife Crime Virtual Reality Experience at the end of the month, which is also in affiliation with the Violence Reduction Unit.



## Fox Hollies

The Fox Hollies project that ran just before Christmas was inspiring for staff and students alike! 10 wonderful Year 9 students visited Fox Hollies for four consecutive weeks and formed some wonderful relationships with the students that they were working alongside, whilst there. We engaged in curriculum activities from art to maths and when it was time to leave, none of our students wanted to come back to school! The experience was so positive that we are now taking part in a joint collaboration, next week. Students from Fox Hollies will join us at Bishop Challoner for what promises to be a productive and busy day, exploring drama and music and creating a shared performance. This is such an important project that we have re-kindled, post covid. It teaches our students the importance of inclusivity and raises disability awareness in the most engaging way, possible. Thank you to Year 9 and especially to our Fox Hollies colleagues for making this venture a success.





## School Council

Our whole school council is made up of 14 representatives from Years 7 – 13 and they are the most incredible group of students. This year has seen them not only meeting formally each half term to discuss and unpick important issues across the school, but also develop their own healthy living and transport plan under the guidance of the Mode Shift, Active Travel Ambassador scheme. We are due to hold our fourth Travel Ambassador session next week and after extensive site and local area research, we will launch our Active Travel Plans in Birmingham, late April. You may think that there is absolutely no extra time to fit in our ever important charity work but with Abigail Grace Thompson leading us on our way, we have already held some charity events around school and the Spring and Summer term has over 20 confirmed activities! Our whole school charity is St Chad's Sanctuary and at present we have raised over £500 for this worthy cause. We have promoted 'Wear Green for St Patrick's Day' which was held last week and we also have the Easter Fair to look forward to. Watch this space for further updates on our fantastic work.



# 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 bring us ever closer and remind us of our dependence on You for all the blessings I enjoy.”***

***Amen.***

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.

Enclosed 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

At the end of their current unit, Year 7 and 9's 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

Our Year 7's have settled into the routine of secondary school and in the students survey **80%** of students said they 'have enjoyed RE lessons when in school'. The positive attitude to learning from students is a reflection of the joy of learning our staff share.

Our students have studied to date Creation & Covenant; RSE – 'The Person I want to Become' (delivered through the Ten:Ten provisions as endorsed by the Birmingham Diocese) and Prophecy & Promise.

We will be continuing our learning journey in Christianity as we delve into what it means to be a Christian, the ministry of Jesus, his life and how this impacts the lives of his disciples.

From Galilee to Jerusalem

This has enabled students to reflect on the following:

Jesus' Ministry, Jesus' Relationship with the vulnerable, The Gospel, Origins & Concept of Jubilee, What we learn about Jesus, How we can live out His Mission today, How we can share the Gospel in artistic expression, How the Church shares and lives out the Gospel, Sacraments, Evangelisation.

This unit is an exploration of the person of Jesus Christ, his ministry and mission and the impact his life had on those at the time, disciples now and the impact he continues to have on our lives, our choices and behaviours. We are excited to continue to bring in the living aspect of the faith and the artistic connections.

## Year 8

Our Year 8 students have completed their first formal assessment across the school. During which time they revisited and built on good study habit practices, building positive motivation for practicing written responses and applying subject knowledge in different ways to better support long term memory. We are delighted to say that their attitude to learning in Religious Studies is positive and supported by actively participating. The assessment focused on the skills needed throughout all key stages: knowledge, contextualisation, communication, analysis and evaluation.

To date students have studied:

How do I find happiness & fulfilment?

Why might there be suffering?

Why are relationships important?

Our Year 8's will be moving into the RSE unit- '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

Our year 9's 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. 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 Year 9's will be moving into RSE- 'Search for Love' as we understand how we are infinitely loved by God. Recognising that the love we have for ourselves and for each other brings us closer in solidarity and unites us as God's greatest creation.

## 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.

This means our students have had the opportunity to explore:  
Origins & Meanings  
Good & Evil

Students 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 - CORE

We are delighted to have been able to explore some highly academic topics with our sixth formers. We have considered the injustices and justice of the world in our unit *Pacce En Terris*. Key concepts we considered were Catholic Social Teachings alongside Free Trade, Prisoners of Conscience and St Thomas Aquinas' Just War Theory.

We will be continuing our journey in a Critical Thinking unit which challenges students to identify strong arguments based on validity, avoidance of assumptions and ambiguities and incorporating appeal.

We have been especially proud of our 'core' participants who continue to exude Jesuit Virtues in their behaviours: resilience and compassion to name a few.

## A-Level: Philosophy, Ethics & Study of a Religion

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.

# Spiritual Life

## The Epiphany

We were delighted to begin 2023 with the opportunity to celebrate Mass together with the feast of The Epiphany. We thank the students who supported the Mass through taking roles as altar servers and readers in what was a lovely way for the community to come together to close the Christmas season.

Our chaplaincy team continue to grow in confidence and their excellent contributions helped the community to mark the feast of the Epiphany with the outstanding video reflection they created which was used as our whole school collective worship resource. Furthermore, the chaplaincy team liaised with St Dunstan's church to provide blessed chalk which was used to mark the door post of all form rooms with their own special Epiphany blessing. This enabled all form classes to mark their door and reflect upon the long held Epiphany tradition of marking the occasion with sacred signs and symbols to indicate places of Christian hospitality and peaceful outposts of the Kingdom of God.

The school chapel is marked with a special blessing to celebrate The Epiphany.



# Chapel

We are delighted that the chapel continues to grow as a place to offer students with opportunities to engage in leadership, prayer, community and service. Before school, during break, lunch and lesson time, we are increasingly developing opportunities for students to develop their faith, form friendships and contribute to the Catholic life of the school.

We are delighted to see students attending and leading the rosary club each Wednesday and it is lovely to see students participating in activities during break and lunch times. The chapel band provide wonderful praise and worship each week and classes are attending the chapel to participate in pause for prayer moments, whilst our Wednesday weekly class Mass continues to provide precious time for students to celebrate The Eucharist together.

As we enter the season of Lent we are providing classes with reconciliation and station of the cross services in the chapel and Fr Mario has kindly scheduled weekly availability to provide opportunities for staff and students to attend confession.

Students are attending chaplaincy club at break time to produce beautiful art reflections on powerful scripture, alongside some of our year 8 students writing beautiful prayers for people suffering across the world.



# Chaplaincy Team

The Chaplaincy team continue to grow in strength and skill in taking a leading role in promoting the Catholic life of the school. Students planned, organised and led a fantastic cake sale for the Saint Vincent De Paul society as an excellent example of implementing Catholic Social Teaching and we look forward to seeing students across the school being inspired by this teams leadership and going forth in their own contributions to support the whole school charity focus in coming weeks and months.



The chaplaincy team have continued to play a powerful role in the planning and leading of collective worship across the school, and we continue to be inspired by their beautiful video reflections that regularly contribute to our morning acts of collective worship.

It was particularly inspiring to see our year 8 students lead the prayer and worship sessions for our year 7 students during Holocaust memorial week, where students planned the content of the prayer sessions, which included guiding students in writing their own prayers and reflections. Additionally, the chaplaincy team continue to support staff and students through the creation of Catholic Life posters for each month, which enable staff and students to deepen their understanding of the liturgical year and the significant monthly themes across the year.



# School Environment

We are grateful to the Art and Design department for their excellent contributions to the development of our Catholic school environment. In recent weeks we have added our Catholic virtues sign and our school prayer sign to our foyer area and we have further plans to enhance the environment of our school in collaboration with the Art department.





# Collective Worship/Values and Virtues

We continue to promote our Catholic virtues with this half term focusing on the virtues of Learned and Wise. Each week our collective worship is centred on prayer and reflection on these virtues and we continue to reward and recognise acts, in accordance with these virtues through our character reward system, assembly nominations for character of the week, alongside recognition on our wall of character.

We continue to share the Sunday gospel message in our Monday collective worship, which enables students to reflect on the weekly message across the year and consequently maintain and develop their understanding of the powerful and beautiful messages found in scripture. We are delighted to share a weekly link to these reflections on the website, alongside links in the BC 14 editions to enable parents and families to share this weekly gospel together, in support of the development of their children's faith journey.

Furthermore, we have dedicated significant assembly and form time recently towards helping our students reflect upon our school prayer and our school badge that states 'LAUS DEO'. Collective worship and assemblies have focused on helping students understand the beauty and significance of these to our school community, and we look forward to spending time reflecting upon the school mission statement in forthcoming assemblies, as we look to develop our students understanding of charism of the school community.



## The Catholic Curriculum

We continue to explore opportunities to promote the Catholic ethos of the school through all areas of the school curriculum and we are delighted with the excellent examples taking place across the school. Our school of Sanctuary focus continues and most recently we were delighted to see the French department take the lead with producing messages of love and hope for valentine's day. This initiative enabled students to read and select beautiful scripture from the bible and translate their given verse into French, alongside designing valentine cards of love which have been displayed in our library.

Furthermore, our DT department have dedicated curriculum time to allow students to combine their creative skills with reflection, compassion and charity support for victims of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. During lesson time students designed beautiful heart key rings which were sold to raise money to support victims of the earthquake. A powerful example of Catholic Social Teaching in action, excellently led by the DT department.

Students in French lessons translated beautiful Bible messages into cards of love, hope and compassion for refugees suffering across the world.

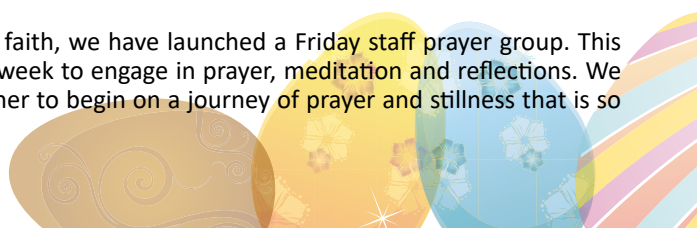
Students in DT lessons produced beautiful heart key rings that were put on sale and all proceeds went to support those impacted by earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.



## Staff Faith Formation

We were delighted to begin our most recent staff inset with prayer and reflection, providing an opportunity for the staff community to pray, reflect and worship at the conclusion of the half term. It was a lovely opportunity to share the Gospel with staff and to provide an opportunity for staff to lead prayers and reflection together.

As part of our focus on developing opportunities for staff to develop their faith, we have launched a Friday staff prayer group. This group provides staff with opportunity to take quiet time at the end of the week to engage in prayer, meditation and reflections. We look forward to seeing this group grow in numbers and encourage each other to begin on a journey of prayer and stillness that is so valuable in our ever busy world.



# Science

## Curriculum delivery

The material studied by students since January is shown in the table below:

### Year 7

- Sexual reproduction in animals
- Acids and alkalis
- Current and electricity

### Year 8

- Food and nutrition
- Combustion
- Fluids

### Year 9

- GCSE transition topics:
- Biology- Key Concepts
- Chemistry – States of Matter, Methods of separating and purifying substances
- Physics – conservation of energy

Year 10- Continuing through GCSE specifications  
Year 11- Finished GCSE content delivery by February half term to enable revision to take place in lessons.

Year 12- Continuing through A Level specifications  
Year 13- Finishing A level content delivery.

## Years 7, 9 and 10

Year 7, 9 and 10 will all be having end of year exams from mid-May. The content they need to learn 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: GCSE Pearson specification

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: Topic 3 Conservation of energy

Revise all work covered since January

## Year 11

All students in Year 11 have recently sat mock exams and are well-rehearsed for their GCSEs. It is important that students set time aside during the Easter break to build on their hard work and continue with their revision. In September, students were issued with course summary notes and revision mats to help them learn and organise their notes. They must also continue to use the past papers, topic questions and flashcards on the website: <https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/>

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 10

The numbers below refer to the teaching points in the GCSE specifications: GCSE Pearson specification

### GCSE Biology topics

#### Triple Science (X1 and X2)

Higher and foundation: Topics 1,2,3,4,5

#### Combined Science (X3, X4, Y and W bands)

Higher: Topics 1,2,5

Foundation: Topics 1,2,3,4,5

### GCSE Chemistry topics

#### Triple Science (X1 and X2)

Higher and foundation: Topics 1,2,3. Electrolysis is included.

#### Combined Science (X3, X4, Y and W bands)

Higher and foundation: Topics 1, 2 and Acids from Topic 3 (electrolysis not assessed).

### GCSE Physics topics

#### Triple Science (X1 and X2)

Higher: Topics 2, 4, 5, 6

Foundation: Topics 3, 4, 5

#### Combined Science (X3, X4, Y and W bands)

Higher : Topics 2, 4, 5

Foundation: Topics 2, 3, 5

# Revision guides

Revision guides and workbooks can be purchased for all year groups. Students need to bring in money to Mrs Shore any day of the week.

- Year 7 and 8 - Revision guide: £3.50, Workbook : £6.00
- GCSE: Separate sciences (10X1 and 10 X2)- Each revision guide: £3.50, Each workbook and answers: £5
- GCSE: Combined science (10X3 and X4; 10 Y1, Y2 and Y3; 10 W1 and W2)- Revision guide: £6.00, workbook and answers : £7.50

## Extra-curricular- Science Club

We have been thrilled to welcome a number of new students to science club this term, including a number of students from Year 7. Currently, we have a mixed group of Year 7 and Year 8 students who regularly attend science club and participate in a range of activities. Since Christmas, we have been lucky to be hosted by Mrs Newton in the library to read and review some brand new and exciting science books as part of a library project. Students have also participated in a number of fun practical activities including an egg parachute competition, displacement of metals and an exciting alkali metals demonstration.



## University of Birmingham Visit

This term some Year 10 students had the opportunity to meet Grace Ball, a Chemistry PhD student from the University of Birmingham. Grace visited lessons to tell students about her journey from GCSE Chemistry to her current research role, looking at Antimicrobial Resistance. This is a global issue affecting us all as bacteria become increasingly resistant to antibiotics.

During the sessions, Grace was able to showcase the huge variety of careers available to Chemistry students, from Crime Scene Investigation to Nuclear Engineer, with STEM jobs being the fastest growing job sector in the UK! Her studies have also taken her around the world, including a year carrying out research in the French Alps!



## Lab refurbishment

On Monday 20th February, work started on the refurbishment of two of the science labs, S2 and S6. This work was made possible by the success of a £100,000 grant achieved from the Wolfson Foundation, lead by Dr Osborne.

Here are the "before" pictures. Work is scheduled to finish by the end of the Easter holidays so I look forward to sharing the "after" pictures in the summer newsletter.



# Sixth Form

## Key Dates

Year 13 study leave begins-	Friday 12th May.
Year 13 Prom-	Thursday 29th June.
Year 12 Mock exams-	15th May to 26th May.
Year 12 visit to University of Birmingham will take place on	Friday 23rd June.
Year 12 Work Experience-	10th to 14th July.

## School Community

We are delighted with the the work Sixth Form students have done in our local community. The fortnightly tea party hosted in the common room is going from strength to strength. Students have also been supporting local initiatives in the area such as the Dementia Café community project.



Student gardeners have been working on developing the green areas of our school and improving the environmental aesthetics around the sixth form block. We have been really pleased with the efforts of these students in supporting this great initiative.

Students have also been employed as Sports Technicians welcoming external visitors to our school in the evening and most recently as netbook technicians gaining valuable work experience in the schools netbook shop.

Sixth Form have also been supporting our lower school students with their reading in a great initiative hosted by Mrs Newton in the library.

## International Student Committee

A new extra-curricular group is being set up called 'The International Student committee', we see this as an exciting opportunity to support a new generation of global citizens in our Sixth Form.

Within this new enrichment there will be a variety of opportunities such as:

- Students learning about global citizenship
- Students learning about the United Nations Development Goals
- Students learning about the cultures of other people in other parts of the world
- Student fundraising events
- Student leadership events
- Developing our links with other schools around the world
- The possibility of subsidised international travel to other countries in the world such as Vietnam, Tanzania and Peru.



## Applications to Sixth Form

We are delighted that a number of our Year 11 students have applied to join our Sixth Form next year. Students should have now received a conditional offer letter and we look forward to welcoming many students from Bishop Challoner and from other schools into our Sixth Form.

We still have some limited places available for next year so if students would still like to apply please ask them to see Mr Mullins, Head of Sixth Form, and he will help explain the options available.

## UCAS

Student applications to universities and apprenticeships have now been completed and sent and we are delighted to hear about the many exciting offers students are receiving, including notable offers from Oxford and Cambridge University.

Mrs Darby continues to lead the way on this unique area for our Sixth Form, where students receive outstanding support and advice in supporting them to reach their goals and ambitions for the future.

Year 12 students are now in the process of arranging and securing work experience placements for the summer. Students that need some extra help with this can see the Sixth Form team.

## Student Finance Talk

Many thanks to all the students and parents/carers who attended the recent talk hosted by Birmingham City University on student finance – we hope it was helpful.

The evening helped explain the types of finance available to students who are applying for university next year. If students need further support with this please can they see one of the Sixth Form team of staff who can provide further advice and support.



# Preparing for summer exams

Sixth Formers now have access to well-equipped designated study rooms. The new BE1 study room is now also available should students be looking for a quiet space to study.

Year 12 students have been allocated silent study periods on their timetables, supervised by staff in school, who can offer support and guidance to students where needed.

Guidance provided by academic mentors has been provided this term for students. Students have been shown the best approaches to revision and other useful information that students should be considering such as ways to manage exam stress, getting enough sleep and the benefits of exercise.

Well done to all students who are really working hard now, in preparing for mock or real examinations scheduled for the summer.

## Student leadership team

Year 12 and Year 13 leadership teams and student councils have been meeting regularly to discuss important matters and to offer their feedback on ways to improve our Sixth form community.

Feedback on improving the student canteen, the student work spaces and the use of ICT have all come from our student leaders.

Students have also supported in whole school events such as the external interviews of students to our sixth form.



## Duke of Edinburgh Award

Y12 students have started the preparations, volunteering and the training needed to achieve their Bronze, Silver and Gold awards during their time in college. A fantastic experience and opportunity for our students to be involved in and fantastically led by Mrs Ellis.

Good luck to students on next terms expeditions.



## Y13 Prom

We are delighted that we have secured Highbury Hall for the location of this year's prom celebration event. Tickets will soon be on sale for students to purchase and we look forward to students celebrating all of their hard work and efforts this year.



## For updates and further news please follow us on:

Instagram – [Bishopchallonersixth](#)

Twitter - [@BCCSix](#)



# Careers

## Year 9 Aspirations Day

On Wednesday 8th March Year 9 students were off timetable to attend three chosen workshops, based on their career interests. The students had the opportunity to ask lots of questions to professionals already in the industry, to gather as much information as possible about potential future career choices. Workshops included: Irwin Mitchell, CG Fitness, An Illustrator, Lloyds Bank, Playground Games, A statistician for cancer research, A Psychologist, A Children's Counsellor/Wellbeing, A councillor, UOB Engineering, ND Digital

Following the workshops students had the opportunity to hear a vocational talk by Birmingham Metropolitan College and a university talk by Birmingham City University. The day was a huge success, inspiring students in their possible future careers, in readiness for their Options Evening, which took place on Tuesday 14th March.



## Year 10

Year 10 students had an interesting, extended assembly from Zurich Insurance and two year 10 classes had an inspirational talk from Grace Ball, a PhD student from The University of Birmingham who is currently working on the resilience of antibiotics. A targeted group of students in Year 10 also took advantage of a visit to The University of Birmingham to find out first-hand what it would be like to be a student there, this included experiencing the fantastic food hall! By having a tour of the campus, playing degree Pictionary and taking part in a Q and A session, students became more aware of the requirements of getting into HE but also that income should not be a barrier to attending. On a similar theme, Year 13 students and parents were able to find out more about the student finance process when Tom Gidlow from BCU came in for a Student Finance information evening and delivered an insightful talk which answered a lot of questions and helped to allay any fears that parents had about how their child's university education will be funded.



## Year 11

Year 11 had two careers related assemblies this term. Firstly, Azets came in to talk to them about Accountancy as a career pathway and then the Department for Work and Pensions came in to re-inforce the full range of Post 16 options that Year 11 students have as well as making sense of apprenticeship types and levels and focusing on some specific apprenticeship vacancies. All Year 11 students have now received at least one face-to-face careers interviews with a Careers Adviser from Birmingham Careers Service. Advisers will continue to work with Year 11 students who need support, so please let me know on [e.darby@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:e.darby@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk) if your son/daughter requires a follow up interview. Advisers have now started to work with Year 10 students.

## Work Experience

Year 10 and 12s will be going out on work experience again this year and work is ongoing to ensure that students secure relevant and quality placements for the summer term. The Aimhigher workshops with selected Year 10 students continues also in the hope that these students who have the potential to go on to higher education in the future, will be inspired enough by the programme to consider it as a real and accessible option for them. To help prepare Year 10 students for work experience and the world of work, they have taken part in CV building workshops this week and, after Easter, they will have a mock interview with an employer where they will be interviewed for their dream job and given valuable feedback on their performance. No doubt students will gain a lot from this impactful activity as they prepare for their work experience in July!

## Sixth Form

Careers support has continued in the sixth form also. The majority of students who applied to UCAS have now received decisions from some, if not all of their choices. Many have secured some wonderful offers to study some exciting degree programmes. Many students are now applying for apprenticeships in a range of sectors; a number of students have already secured high quality apprenticeships in the area that they were looking. I'm sure this trend will continue.

# Key Dates

A reminder of some key dates coming up:  
Year 10 Work Experience  
Monday 3rd July - Friday 7th July 2023  
Year 12 Work Experience  
Monday 10th July - Friday 14th July 2023

You can view all of the Work Experience information along with the relevant consent forms on our website on the Careers Hub here:  
<https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/about/careers/parent-carer-zone/work-experience>  
Careers Fair for Years 8-10 will now be on Tuesday 27th June

# Useful resources:

My way into the world of work  
Unifrog.org If you want to access Unifrog as a parent, please use the following sign up code: BSCCparent

Bishop Challoner Opportunities bulletin (sent out weekly)

# Library

*"Is the spring coming?" he said. "What is it like?"*

*"It is the sun shining on the rain and the rain falling on the sunshine..."*

*- from The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett*

# What's Been Happening In Your School Library This Term?

We're thrilled with our new reading area. Thanks to some DLP funding we were able to buy soft seating and tables to create a space specifically for our students to read for pleasure. Its been a real hit and a great place to chat with friends, read a good book and more importantly for us to showcase some new titles.



# Access It

We are now using a new library software package called Accessit. To view our new library dashboard use the link below.

<https://uk.accessit.online/bsh09/#!dashboard>



# Ebooks, Audiobooks & Online Magazines And Newspapers

This term we have been busy promoting the benefits of ebooks and other online reading resources to our students. As well as access to Wheelers e-Platform there is another app available called Libby. This is available to all students and parents and has a huge range of books, magazines, newspapers and resources. See the information below on how to access both of these amazing resources.

# ePlatform

ePlatform is a library lending system designed to make the borrowing and reading of eBooks as well as the listening of Audiobooks simple and enjoyable. All our students can use this fantastic resource and have access to over 2000 titles either as a download or an audiobook.

<https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/library/wheelers-E-Platform>

To login students should use their usual computer username and the password - BCRReading1!



# Library App

Birmingham Public Libraries. To access their e catalogue (Overdrive) you just need to register via the link below:

It will then give you access to the Libby App.



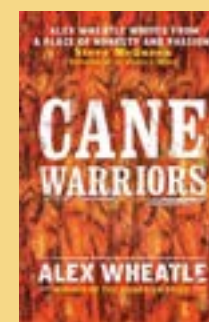
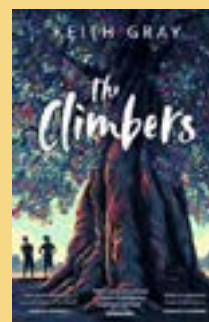
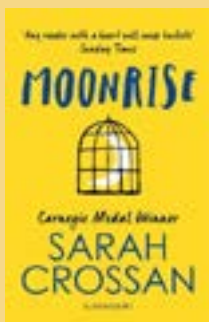
Once you have registered and receive a SELFREG number you just need to email : [enquiries@libraryofbirmingham.com](mailto:enquiries@libraryofbirmingham.com) and request an account. It takes just a couple of minutes to do this and then you will have access to some great resources - new titles, trending titles, classics, non - fiction and over 1700 magazines - all FREE to borrow.

Birmingham Public Libraries - <https://birmingham.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/MSGTRN/WPAC/JOIN>

# Reading Teachers - Reading Students

Reading Teachers = Reading Students (RTRP) ignites a love of reading in teachers and children.

Our RTRP group are nearly at the end of this years book selections. We're now on our penultimate title and have loved the whole process. We have not always loved the books and they have certainly caused a lot of discussion but that's the great part about it ... books are meant to broaden your horizons, encourage discussion and hopefully promote a love of reading. To find out more about RTRP go to: <https://www.cheltenhamfestivals.com/rtrp>



# Paired Reading

Our paired reading programme had a great boost at the end of 2022 with our reading mentors taking part in the Reader Leader training through The Children's Literacy Charity. We have a targeted group of Yr9 & Yr10 students who regularly meet with their Sixth Form reading mentor. Progress is measured regularly via their reading diaries and a twice yearly online assessment and we're delighted to say that recent tests indicate our readers are doing extremely well.

For more information the programme and the charity visit: <https://thechildrensliteracycharity.org.uk/>



We love to show off our wonderful library and our displays are one way for us to promote what's new, celebrate an event, or just highlight what we have on the shelves.

If you want to keep up to date with what's happening in the library follow us:

bishopchallonerolc

@BC\_OLC



# Library Opening Times

Mon - Thurs - 8.00am - 4.00  
Friday - 8.00am - 2.30pm





We have had an excellent winter term at Central Midlands SLP, with an exciting and innovative programme of CPD opportunities for primary and secondary science teachers and technicians.

Our extensive programme of CPD events this term has consisted of the following:

- Radiation Protection Supervisor Training
- Remote Physics Network – with Practical Training Days
- Leading Assessment, Tracking and Moderation in Primary Science
- Science in EYFS
- Primary Science Leads Development Programme

We are also running a strand of courses in collaboration with neighbouring SLPs including the North Midlands and Cheshire. All of our courses continue to be evaluated positively and we have made all of our targets for the academic year.

We are continuing our work with strategic partners and here is a list of partners we are currently working with (in addition to those based at Bishop Challoner):

- Birmingham Education Partnership (BEP)
- Birmingham City University
- University of Worcester
- Coventry University

- President Kennedy School, Coventry
- Sidney Stringer Academy, Coventry
- Tudor Grange Academy TSH, Solihull
- Origin Maths Hub
- Lawrence Sherriff TSH, Rugby
- Solihull Local Authority
- John Taylor TSH, Burton on Trent

Strategic partners host courses for us, provide facilitators and market our courses for us as well.

During autumn term 2022, we were successful in securing Enthuse Partnership funding from STEM Learning for the Tolkien partnership of schools, to include Bishop Challoner. As an Enthuse Partnership, we will receive £25,000 of funding to be utilised by all participating schools for CPD, collaborative projects, and community and outreach programmes.

The induction period for the partnership will take place during the spring term, with funded activity beginning in the summer term, and continuing for 5 further terms. This is an extremely exciting opportunity for the Tolkien science cluster to build on the successes of our existing collaborative work, to further widen opportunities for staff and students, and ultimately aim to improve outcomes for all.

## Training 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>

[bctsa.org/train-to-teach-events](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](mailto: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 Master's 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, 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.

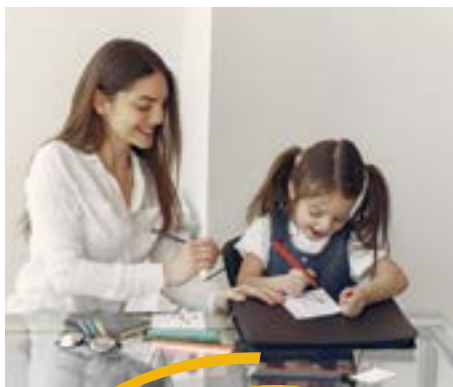
Applications are open now and places are filling up quickly! You can find more details and an application form on our website here: <https://www.bctsa.org/teaching-internship-programme>

## TRAIN TO TEACH WITH



# School Direct Programme

## Primary and Secondary places available



- ✓ 100% pass and employment rates across our programme.
- ✓ Train with us to join our alliance of over 60 local schools.
- ✓ Support throughout your whole teaching career; dedicated Initial Teacher Training and Early Career support, as well as Leadership Development programmes for aspiring Headteachers.

Government Bursaries up to £24,000 are available. [Click here to find out more](#)



[Find a BCTSA course](#)



[trainingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:trainingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk)



[@bctsa\\_training](https://twitter.com/bctsa_training)



[www.bctsa.org](http://www.bctsa.org)



# TEACHING INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

Earn  
£900



3 weeks @  
£300 per week

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022  
Apply now for a place on this popular programme!



Have you ever thought about a career in teaching Maths, Physics or Computing?



Are you currently studying for an under-grad degree in these or a related subject (in any year)?

If so, apply to take part in our online Teaching Internship Programme. Spend 3 weeks on our programme and discover the power of teaching to improve the life chances of students. Previous interns unfortunately cannot apply. Time in schools if restrictions allow.

Apply now: [www.bctsa.org/teaching-internship-programme](http://www.bctsa.org/teaching-internship-programme)

[www.bctsa.org](http://www.bctsa.org)



# Maths Hubs Professional and School Development Opportunities



## What is the cost? ~~££~~FREE~~--££~~

Maths Hubs Work Groups, programmes and projects are all fully so are completely FREE to state funded schools/colleges in Birmingham, Dudley and Sandwell.

## Teaching for Mastery

### Primary



Be part of the continuing programme to develop teaching for mastery in maths in primary and secondary schools.

### Secondary



## Specialist Knowledge for Teaching Maths (SKTM) & Mastery Related Work

Early Years	Primary	Secondary	Post-16	Leadership
Early Years SKTM	Primary SKTM Teaching Assistants SKTM Early Career Teachers (ECT)	Mathematical Thinking for GCSE Years 7-11 Coherence Years 5-8 Continuity Early Career Teachers (ECT) Secondary non-specialist maths teachers	Supporting Post-16 GCSE Resit New to teaching Core Maths A-level Pedagogy	Secondary Maths MAT Leads Secondary Subject Leadership PD Lead Accreditation



[@centralmathshub](https://twitter.com/centralmathshub)

Email: [mathshub@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:mathshub@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk)

[www.centralmathshub.com](http://www.centralmathshub.com)

# School Games and PE & Sports Premium Programmes

## Commonwealth Day Service and Celebration

On Monday 13th March, Mrs Jethwa, Dario, Cameron, Faith and Mr McDermott were lucky enough to attend the annual Commonwealth Day Celebration at Westminster Abbey. Commonwealth Day marks the beginning of a week-long series of events and activities happening around the globe – including faith and civic gatherings, debates, school assemblies, flag-raising ceremonies and cultural events and marks the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Commonwealth Charter, which was signed by Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 11 March 2013. This is the first Commonwealth Day since Her Majesty's passing, and the first presided over by His Majesty King Charles III as King and Head of the Commonwealth. The event was shown live on BBC1 and broadcast in countries from the Commonwealth all across the world. As you can see from the photos, the students had a front row view!



## Professional Development

It has been a very busy few months with numerous PE staff, including Mr Noone, Mr Laight, Mr Malley, Mr Brade, Miss Ellis and Miss Hampson all delivering whole school CPD to primary staff on a range of topics including gymnastics and games. We have also delivered 1:1 coaching sessions at Heath Mount Primary School around planning and teaching in PE.

Professional development opportunities have also been organised in games, gymnastics, dance as well as a 'SHARP' principles workshop, which was led by Dr Lorayne Woodfield and Dr Emma Powell from Newman University. The SHARP Principles (Powell, Woodfield and Nevill, 2016) have been designed to help teachers and coaches to increase the amount of time children engage in physical activity during primary physical education lessons. The SHARP Principles place a focus on active learning time in lessons, which provides the children with opportunities to practice their movement skills. Practitioners are then able to apply the SHARP Principles to their existing planning.



On Tuesday 21st March, we have organised a primary PE and Sport Conference aimed at sharing good practice and giving colleagues an opportunity to network to discuss how we can all provide more opportunities for young people to be physically active. At present, we have over 50 colleagues attending and look forward to a great afternoon.



# Bishop Challoner School Games and Primary PE/Sport Conference 2023



<b>Tuesday 21 March</b>	<b>Time</b>	12pm-4pm. Lunch will be available from 12pm.
	<b>Venue</b>	Becketts Farm Conference Centre, Wythall, Birmingham, B47 6AJ.
	<b>Parking</b>	There are sufficient parking spaces available.
	<b>Registration</b>	Make your way directly to the conference centre where you will be required to sign in.
	<b>Target audience</b>	Head Teachers, Senior Leaders and PE Leads.
	<b>Refreshments</b>	Lunch and refreshments will be provided, please advise ASAP if there any dietary requirements we are not aware of.

<b>Intent</b>	1. To listen and discuss with colleagues ways in which more opportunities can be provided for young people to be physically active.	2. To provide an opportunity for senior leaders and teaching staff to network and share good practice.
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## Guest Speakers

<p><b>Pauline David</b> Head Teacher at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School A Head Teachers perspective - a practical case study of PE, School Sport and Physical Activity (Including Sports Leadership):</p>	<p><b>Dr Lorayne Woodfield and Dr Emma Powell</b> Newman University "The SHARP Principles" (Powell, Woodfield and Nevill, 2016). These have been designed to help teachers and coaches to increase the amount of time children engage in physical activity during primary physical education lessons. They place a focus on active learning time in lessons which provides the children with opportunities to practice their movement skills. Practitioners can apply the SHARP Principles to their existing planning. For more information: <a href="https://www.newman.ac.uk/knowledge-base/active-learning-time-in-physical-education-the-sharp-principles-teaching-resources/">https://www.newman.ac.uk/knowledge-base/active-learning-time-in-physical-education-the-sharp-principles-teaching-resources/</a></p>
<p><b>Jim Morris</b> National Development Manager at Youth Sport Trust "Power of an Active Mind".</p>	<p><b>Lisa Marie Adams</b> PE Lead at St Mary's Primary School <b>Nick Moon</b>, Associate Principal at Bishop Challoner Catholic College "Experience of an Orbital Deep Dive in PE".</p>
<p><b>Matt Trevor</b> Deputy Head Teacher at Woodthorpe Primary School "Using external pathways/tools to reflect, evaluate and develop PE and school sport across the whole school"</p>	<p><b>Ger Noone</b> Head of PE at Bishop Challoner Catholic College "Using the 'Head, Heart Hands' model for planning and assessment within PE lessons".</p>
	<p><b>School Swimming</b> Swim England support for school swimming (including resources available and updates).</p>

**Contact**  
To book a place or for more information, please contact Derek McDermott on [d.mcdermott@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:d.mcdermott@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk)

## School Games

We continue to organise a range of sporting and leadership events for all 38 schools in our cluster. The table below also lists events and training courses etc. for the spring term. There are many more events planned for 2023, including boy's and girl's athletics, Y1-2 multi skills festivals, netball, rounders and cricket.

Event title	#teams	#boys	#girls	Intent
Y8-9 boys basketball	8	40	0	Adapting the competition environment
Y8-9 girls basketball	6	0	24	Adapting the competition environment
Y5-6 Playleader Training	15	6	10	Widening the competition environment
Steps to Success Leadership Training	2	10	10	Adding fun elements to engage new audiences
Y5-6 Playleader Training	NA	52	56	Widening the competition environment
KS4 fitness challenge	13	20	6	Adapting the competition environment
Y5-6 Dodgeball	13	75	55	Adding fun elements to engage new audiences
KS2 SEND sitting volleyball	6	20	16	Adapting the competition environment
Personal Best Competition - Endurance		47	36	Adding fun elements to engage new audiences
Year 7/8 Girls Active Festival	NA 2	0	23	Adding fun elements to engage new audiences

## Primary and Secondary Sports Leadership

In February, Mr McDermott organised refresher training for Y4-6 students and teaching staff from 12 schools. This was an opportunity to see how well all the leaders had progressed and gave us a chance to show them some different playground games and develop some basic officiating skills.

# BC Wellbeing News

#4  @BCCCWellbeing

Easter 2023

## May this Easter bring you feelings of gratitude, love, hope and faith!

Easter is the most important event in the Christian calendar, a celebration of Jesus' resurrection; commemorating His sacrifice that we may have a chance of eternal life. Yet, long before Christ, pagans marked this season with celebrations to welcome the arrival of Spring; a time of rebirth and renewal.

So, let's try to shrug off the winter sluggishness, make use of the lighter evenings and warmer weather to regenerate and set ourselves some new targets for our own well-being.

The well-being team wishes everyone a very Happy Easter! To those students preparing for exams in the summer term, remember, it is natural to feel concern about something that matters but we also have some advice about how to go about your preparation, without being overcome with anxiety. We have also prepared an Easter Well-being challenge that we hope the whole household will be able to enjoy.

## 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.

## 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.

### The following links may be useful:

- <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/exam-time/>
- <https://charliewaller.org/resources/an-emotionally-healthy-approach-to-gcses-a-guide-for-parents>
- <https://charliewaller.org/resources/looking-after-yourself-during-your-gcses-a-guide-for-pupils/>

## School holidays- Yet more time In-front of a screen?

It would be nice to think we could all spend much of our holidays outside, enjoying the better weather. Unfortunately, there may be a host of reasons why this is not always possible- not least the British weather! Inevitably, that will mean that many young people have a lot of spare time on their hands and may immediately turn to their screens. The mental health charity Place2Be has a useful short video and article on supporting healthy online gaming habits in children.

## Useful Website

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/article/supporting-healthy-gaming-habits-for-children>



## Managing Revision and Exam Stress

### 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.

# Easter Wellbeing Challenge

1

## Eat out without splashing out!

Have a picnic in your garden or the local park. It could be as simple as some pizza slices and a drink but if you want to be a bit more adventurous, follow the link for some other quick ideas. <https://realfood.tesco.com/curatedlist/seven-last-minute-picnic-ideas.html>

2

## Try some stress-busting yoga!

Yoga is proven to aid physical health and good posture, reduce stress and anxiety and improve sleep quality and concentration. Try out a short class especially for teens here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f8nfwlcK-g>

5

## Make an Easter Tree!

Blow out some eggs, decorate them with pens or paints and hand on some twigs in a jar for an easy Easter Tree! <https://www.firstpalette.com/quick-how-to/blowing-out-an-egg.html>

3

## Do some Easter baking!

Who doesn't love a chocolate nest? You don't even need to turn the oven on for those! If you're feeling a bit more creative, how about some spring lamb cupcakes with a 'fleece' of mini marshmallows?



4

## Get gardening!

Sow some flower seeds to attract pollinators to your plot or start a sunflower contest and see who's is the tallest by the end of the summer. No garden? You could still grow some of your favourite herbs in yogurt pots on the windowsill, or even easier grow some cress for your salads and sandwiches in less than a week!

6

## Discover your city's parks!

There are 5km walking routes throughout the city. A great way to get some exercise and enjoy nature close to home.

[https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/downloads/download/781/5-kilometre\\_walking\\_routes\\_in\\_parks](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/downloads/download/781/5-kilometre_walking_routes_in_parks)

7

## Help someone out!

Could you run an errand for an elderly neighbour? Look after younger sibling for an afternoon to give your parent/carer a break? Take responsibility for tidying and cleaning your own room? Take old clothes, toys, books to the charity shop? Doing things for others is known to improve ours self-esteem and emotional well-being. [curatedlist/seven-last-minute-picnic-ideas.html](https://realfood.tesco.com/curatedlist/seven-last-minute-picnic-ideas.html)

8

## Pop it in the post!

Send a card to a friend or relative you don't see every day. In these days of instant communication, a handwritten note is a real treat!

9

## Keep a gratitude journal

Before you go to bed, write down 3 things you are grateful for that day. It doesn't have to be an expensive diary, you could keep a record on your phone or, if you feel like being a bit artistic, download a bullet journal template.



10

## Get lost in a book!

Again, you don't need to spend money buying expensive new copies, why not swap books with friends, check out your local charity bookshop or borrow from our library where there are over 2000 titles either as a download or an audiobook <https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/library/wheelers-E-Platform>. To login students should use their usual computer username and the password: BCReading1!



Today I am  
thankful for:

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I am feeling  
happy about:

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Oh, give  
Thanks To  
The Lord,  
for He  
is good!  
Psalm 136:1



**If you need help:**  
**PAUSE drop-in Centre, Digbeth**  
<https://forwardthinkingbirmingham.nhs.uk/pause/>

**CHILDLINE**  
**0800 1111** <https://www.childline.org.uk/>

**SAMARITANS**  
**116123** <https://www.samaritans.org/>

# Other BC News

## Standards and 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 and boots of any kind are not allowed.

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. Headscarves must be black. Braids are allowed. 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.

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 in ensuring that standards of uniform and appearance are maintained.

## Scarves

A recent trend appears to be the wearing of scarves. Scarves should only be worn with a coat and should not be worn inside, the same as coats.

## First Aid

Please inform First aid of any new medical conditions, investigations or concerns of your children using [enquires@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquires@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk) for the attention of First Aid or call the school main line and ask for first aid

Please ensure you inform the school of any change in emergency contact information such as new telephone numbers. It is extremely important we can contact you in an emergency.

## Schoolcomms

Please ensure that your child's school meal account is topped up and there are sufficient funds available for them to purchase items at break and lunchtime if required. The easiest and quickest to top up is by using the Schoole Gateway app. You can download this on to your smartphone here- <https://login.schoolgateway.com/0/auth/login>

## 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 or serious cases, phones may only be returned to parents/carers.

## Allergy Management

Bishop Challoner Catholic College aims to minimise the risk to students and staff with allergies, including those who are allergic to nuts.

It is vital that staff and parents/carers and students adhere to the Allergy Management policy, as we have both students and staff in school who suffer from allergies, including nut allergies.

Persons with allergies, including a nut allergy can suffer life-threatening consequences if they come into contact with allergens, including nuts, either through ingestion or through touch. Parents/carers, students and staff must not bring or send, any food into school either for packed lunches or for snacks/treats with nuts in (including sesame seeds). For example, the following items should not be brought into school:

- Packs of nuts
- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
- Cakes or biscuits made with nuts
- Nutella
- Muesli bars

Care should be taken when exchanging gifts, in particular at Easter, Christmas and birthdays. We appreciate your support with this important matter.

## Timings of the school day - September 2023

[Click here](#) for more information.

**Monday to Thursday:** Start: 8.40am. Finish: 3.20pm  
**Friday:** Start: 8.40am. Finish: 2.30pm



# Attendance and Punctuality

## Reporting Student Absence

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 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. Please do not email staff to report an absence, this is not the procedure and your messages may be missed.

The school attendance target is 96%.

Year 7- 95%

Year 8- 92%

Year 9- 92%

Year 10- 91%

Year 11- 91%

Whole School- 92%

## 5 Foundations of Effective Attendance Practice

You will be aware that we have adopted the 5 Foundations framework to manage and monitor attendance. There have been two monitoring letters now sent and you can expect further communication in early March. Please continue to ensure your child is in school every day and on time. Thank you for your ongoing support.



### Foundation 1

**Whole School Thinking  
Culture & Climate**



**Foundation 2  
Supportive Policies,  
Systems and Processes**



**Foundation 3  
Professional Learning  
Staff Development**



**Foundation 4  
Implement Targeted  
Programmes And Intervention**



**Foundation 5  
Connect Appropriately With  
Approaches To  
Behaviour Management**



# Behaviour for Learning and Standards

## BC BASICS

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**

## BC 7

We have 7 whole school rules that all students must follow

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

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.**

# Important Dates

**School open**  
Monday 17th April

**6th Form Job Interviews Begin**  
Monday 24th April

**School Closed -  
Bank Holiday Monday**  
Monday 1st May

**Y13 Leavers Service/  
Study Leave Begins**  
Friday 12th May

**BTEC Sport Controlled  
Assessments**  
Tuesday 18th April -  
Wednesday 19th April

**Y9 DofE Bronze Assessed  
Expedition**  
Tuesday 25th April -  
Wednesday 26th April

**B'ham Uni Robotics Trip  
Y8 Personal Development Day**  
Wednesday 3rd May

**KS3 Football Development  
Tour**  
Saturday 13th May -  
Wednesday 17th May

**Y9 & 10 Sponsored Football**  
Tuesday 18th April

**Y10 DofE Bronze Assessed  
Expedition**  
Wednesday 26th April -  
Thursday 27th April

**6th Form Job Interviews  
Closes**  
Friday 5th May

**Y10 & 9 Assessments Begin  
Year 12 Mocks Begin**  
Monday 15th May

**Mock interview day for Y10  
RAF Museum Robotics Trip**  
Wednesday 19th April

**Y7 & 8 Junior Maths  
Challenge  
Allergy Awareness Day -  
Canteen**

**School Closed -  
King's Coronation  
Y10 Synagogue Trip**  
Monday 8th May

**Ascension of Jesus - Mass  
Birmingham Connect Event**  
Thursday 18th May

**Y7 & 8 Sponsored Football  
Aston University Computing  
Workshop**  
Thursday 20th April

**BC Tea Party**  
Wednesday 26th April

**BC Tea Party**  
Wednesday 10th May

**BC Tea Party**  
Wednesday 24th May

**8SEB Lunchtime Cinema  
PE Reward Trip**  
Friday 21st April

**Y9 Personal Development Day**  
Thursday 27th April

**8LUK Penalty Shootout  
Bishop's Got Talent**  
Thursday 11th May

**8CEC Bake Sale  
Battle of the Bands**  
Thursday 25th May

**Y12 DofE Practice Expedition**  
Monday 24th April -  
Wednesday 26th April

**Bishop's Got Talent**  
Friday 28th April

**Northfield Music Festival**  
Friday 12th May -  
Saturday 13th May

**School Closed -  
Half Term**  
Monday 29th May -  
Friday 2nd June





# Teach Computing



Please remember to use easyfundraising every time you shop online! Over 7,000 brands will donate, so you can raise FREE donations for us no matter what you're buying. These donations really help us out, so please sign up if you haven't yet. It's easy and FREE! You can get started at [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bishopchalloneratholiccollege/?utm\\_campaign=raise-more&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=rm-en-n2](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bishopchalloneratholiccollege/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rm-en-n2)



# Follow us on Twitter

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



*He is risen*

*Happy Easter*