

BC News



Spring 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had one of the shortest Easter terms in recent memory – only ten weeks. In typical Challoner fashion, the school has been alive with many events and enrichment opportunities including educational visits to Berlin and Iceland.

The Year of Challoner is in full flow as we continue to celebrate our Platinum Jubilee. Plans are underway for the celebration evening on April 25th and we look forward to seeing many parents/carers and their families at this event. The school will be blessed by Archbishop Bernard Longley as part of this evening.

Just outside our canteen entrance we have a wall of celebration of wonderful images from the archives that demonstrate the rich history of our wonderful school. It is lovely to see many students and members of staff stopping to look at the pictures. We have a wide range of events taking place including a BC Tea Party for past pupils, the spring fair and a student “bake-off” competition which will be filmed and made into a special edition documentary for the school. Students have been able to take part in the 70 day doodle challenge and they will be able to order a platinum jubilee keyring as a special memento to mark our celebrations. Our poet laureate AJ has been commissioned to write a poem for our 70th anniversary and this will be shared on the evening of the 25th.

Catholic life continues to thrive in the school with tremendous support from Fr Toby and Fr John and outstanding leadership from our Chaplaincy team. Weekly Rosary takes place with different groups of students and they love the glow in the dark Rosary beads Fr John hands out! Fr Toby has kindly switched our weekly Mass to a Thursday morning. Each year group has attended a Mass this term and their reverence and participation has been exceptional. Students and staff have had regular opportunities to receive the sacrament of reconciliation across the season of Lent. I remain in awe of how many of our young people receive this sacrament. We had Jimmy Mitchell in to give inspirational talks to most year groups in the school. Several of our sixth form students are attending the HCPT pilgrimage at Easter and aside from the brilliant cake sales they have coordinated, they arranged a superb Ceili night at St Anne’s raising over £1,700.

Our students really live out their mission of service to others in a variety of ways. We continue to support the local dementia cafe and to provide a regular tea party for parishioners. Our year 9 students have been working with some of the young people at Fox Hollies school. This is a brilliant partnership and provides a fantastic opportunity to work together on joint projects. Students and staff took part in the St Patrick’s day parade. Our Chaplaincy team have led sessions in some of our Tolkien partnership schools. We have hosted our annual Malympics maths and PE event for around 60 primary school children with year 9 young leaders coordinating the event. We also hosted the Catholic School games Maths competition which was brilliantly put together by students and staff.

In the final week of term, our students took part in “Born for This” a dramatic retelling of the Stations of the Cross. This performance was in partnership with four other Catholic secondary schools and it was an incredibly powerful witness to our faith.

Our students have been working hard this term with mock exams taking place for Year 13 and various controlled assessments and interventions for our examination groups. Year 8 students have just completed their key assessments for the year. I congratulate all our young people on their hard work in lessons and continued pursuit for excellence.

March is very much the month of careers. We hosted National Careers week, Year 9 aspirations day and our Year 9 pathways event. This year the snow stayed away and we hosted an outstanding careers fair that would be the envy of many universities.

In the world of sport, we have seen both individual and team success across the school. One of our teams will return to Villa Park for the third season in a row to contest the Birmingham cup. Several students have represented their country in their chosen sports – we are incredibly proud of their achievements.

We continue to host regular Bishop’s Got Talent events – these are extremely popular with our students. This term we have hosted a virtual reality event, landscape in a shoebox, 24 and an incredibly powerful tribute to Birmingham’s own Benjamin Zephaniah.

We continue to have a sharp focus on attendance and 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.

Bishop Challoner has a well-established and highly respected history in the training of teachers and we are currently recruiting for our programmes for September. If you know of any friends or family members who feel called to teach, then please do direct them our way. We offer a full range of training programmes across both the primary and secondary phase. Please take a look at our Bishop Challoner Training School Alliance webpage for more details www.bctsa.org

At the end of term, we will be saying farewell to Mr Ravenscroft who is moving on to a promotion at another school; we wish him well and thank him for his superb leadership of innovation across 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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Platinum Jubilee

Visit our Platinum Jubilee webpage for regular updates from around the school. <https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/platinum-jubilee>



The poster features a background collage of religious figures and a central circular logo for the Platinum Jubilee (1953-2023) with the motto 'LAUS DEO'. The text is arranged as follows:

BISHOP CHALLONER **CATHOLIC COLLEGE**

INVITATION

Platinum Jubilee Remembrance Event

on

Thursday 25th April 2024

Doors open at 4pm. Events will take place between 4.30pm and 6.30pm

Spring Fair
School Tour
Range of students' activities

RSVP via Eventbrite by Friday 12th April

Scan code to RSVP or visit <http://tinyurl.com/5n6m7wre>

MISSION STATEMENT
In our community of faith in Bishop Challoner Catholic College we give glory to God by developing our full potential and in our service to others. In the name of the Father and of the Son and the Holy Spirit.

SCHOOL PRAYER
Who am I God?
Why am I here?
What do you want me to do?
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.



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. Year 13 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, materials and surfaces. Mirrors, concrete slabs, tree branches and corrugated plastic sheeting are just some of the materials being explored. Themes for concept development include: 'Vivid', 'Travel', 'Mundane', 'Portraiture', and 'Time'. Students are at the exploration stage now, using artist responses to inform their direction. Final touches are being made to the Component 1 project with outcomes finally being realised. The large-scale pieces are impressive with dramatic visual impact. Last year's study trip to Berlin has been instrumental in generating concepts for creative journeys with graffiti and urban regeneration inspiring an installation of concrete pavement slabs and stencilled billboard pieces. Vinyl records are being used to complement graphic illustrations of musicians, shoes are being used in sculptures and coated mirrors are providing a surface to paint distorted portraiture compositions. The Art department is excited to exhibit this portfolio of work at the annual South Area Network exhibition in July at the School of Art, Birmingham City university.



Year 12 Fine Art

Year 12 Fine Art students have been exploring their own chosen themes within their coursework projects. Students have started to work on a larger scale, creating pieces outside of their A3 sketchbooks that have immediate impact and are fantastic representations of their skills. Students are taking inspiration from traditional, modern and contemporary artists, and it's brilliant to see that each student's flair, style and interests are emerging through their creative practice.



GCSE Fine Art

Year 11 students have been adding the final touches to coursework projects alongside developing the preparatory sketchbook for the exam. Pupils are currently engaged in their exam unit of work, exploring themes such as Portrait, Transport, Places and Spaces, Entwined, Fragments, Boundaries Borders and Edges, and Celebration. These themes provide a framework for their artistic exploration and allow them to create their own artistic journey influenced by artists, techniques, and knowledge from previous projects and their chosen topic.

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. Building on their Key Stage 3 artistic knowledge, pupils are experimenting with new and challenging mediums not previously used in their Year 9 lessons. The incorporation of these new materials into their coursework helps to expand their technical knowledge and deepen their engagement with the subject matter and artistic technique. This blend of influences, techniques, and mediums indicates a promising showcase of talent as these young artists progress on a developmental journey, centred around natural forms, landscapes, and architecture.



Year 8

Students in Year 8 have been exploring different Architecture styles across Birmingham's history. They started the project creating expressive cityscapes in the style of Paul Kenton, working with biro to emulate rainy weather. They have then worked with multiple media, including book paper collage to explore the surface textures of Roman buildings. Stick and ink, and monoprinting have been the techniques and materials of choice for Tudor, where students have learnt to create wooden textures through dry brush and stippling techniques. We are excited to see what they create for the rest of their chronological journey!

Year 7

Year 7 pupils have had an extraordinary year so far, filled with artistic exploration and growth. Throughout the year, they have delved into a wide range of materials and discovered the endless possibilities of artistic expression. Over the next few weeks, pupils will explore colour theory, still life, and how to create more realistic-looking pieces – with a focus on sweets and treats! Year 7 have excelled in their art journey, and we cannot wait to see them improve further over the next few weeks of this half-term and throughout their time here at Challoner.



Year 9

Year 9 Art students have been working with acrylic paint to explore Van Gogh's *Starry Night*, thinking about expressive brushstrokes to create the emotion behind the piece. Following on from this, they have looked at the work of Kathe Kollwitz and Ernst Kirchner, creating dramatic tonal pieces using stick and ink and monoprint to evoke the style of the time, as all artwork should do. Year 9 are working in a small sketchbook this year to create intricate yet expressive works that investigate how artists across time have chosen to express themselves, something that we think is very important for the students at this time in their studies. Next, we will be working with vibrant colours and flat tones, all in the name of Pop!



Art Club

Art Club members attend every week and have the opportunity to work on their ideas within a creative setting, as well as trying out different materials, techniques and processes each week with their teachers. Students across Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 form the small but lively community in A1 on Tuesday afternoons, and we are really proud to provide a space for them to explore their interests, passions and personalities through Art! Students are excited to take part in the 70 Day Doodle Challenge in celebration of BC's Platinum Jubilee Year, showing off their imagination and skills!

Art Study Trip

The A-level study trip to London with the Art department was an enriching and culturally immersive experience for our students. The itinerary included visits to a range of exhibitions and museums that showcased the vibrant art scene alongside taking in the historic landmarks and cultural hubs. From the Tate Modern to the National Gallery, our students had the opportunity to witness masterpieces firsthand, gaining invaluable insights and inspiration. This trip is more than an educational endeavour; it's a journey that promotes cultural exchange, broadening perspectives and nurturing a lifelong appreciation for the arts.



Design Technology

Year 7

Throughout the Spring term, Year 7 pupils in product design have actively engaged in a hands-on and environmentally conscious project. The project revolves around repurposing discarded plastic bottle caps, into an innovative and eco-friendly product.

The pupils started the project by collecting a minimum of 40 plastic bottle caps each, which are often overlooked contributors to environmental pollution. These are then melted down - using some high-tech panini presses - creating a vibrant plastic sheet that forms one half of their device holder, which is crafted entirely from 100% recycled materials.

The focus on recycling and sustainability has offered these pupils a unique opportunity not only to explore their creativity, but also to gain a deeper understanding of the impact that everyday disposable items can have on the environment.

Through lessons and discussions, pupils have gained insights into the origins of plastic and its detrimental effects on the environment, wildlife, and ecosystems. This knowledge has not only hopefully heightened their environmental consciousness, but has also inspired a sense of responsibility to make sustainable choices in the future.



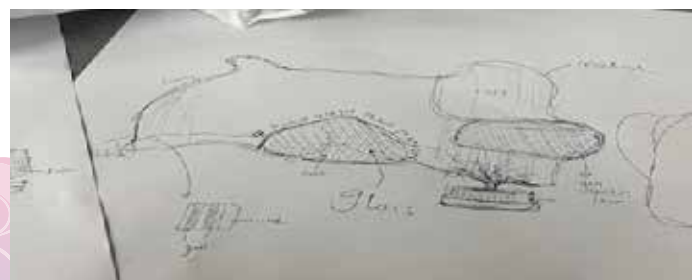
Year 8

Throughout the Spring term, Year 8 pupils in product design have engaged in a project specifically designed for music lovers. The focus of the project is to create a portable speaker, which will enable pupils to play music from their smartphones without the need for electricity, resulting in a user-friendly final product for music lovers, who are always on the go!



This project allows pupils to demonstrate their abilities in sawing and filing pieces of soft-wood, and creating a finished final product that demonstrates both functionality and aesthetic appeal.

Additionally, students are utilising CAD design to create a vibrant and interesting acrylic speaker grill, adding a touch of individuality to their project. This comprehensive approach not only demonstrates their technical skills, but also fosters innovation and personal expression in the realm of product design.



Year 9

Throughout the Spring term, Year 9 pupils in product design have embarked on an exciting and visionary project centred around the design of the new Kings Heath train station. With a focus on inclusivity and accessibility, the pupils have delved into the principles of universal design, ensuring that their creations are not only aesthetically pleasing, but also cater to the diverse needs of all commuters.



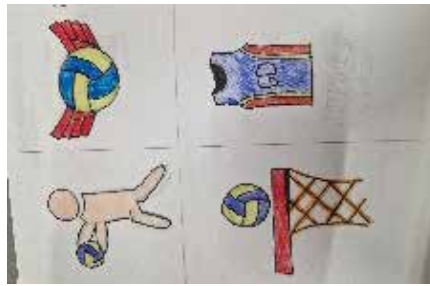
In their pursuit of creating an accessible train station, pupils have extensively studied and analysed existing accessible designs, and information designs, such as signage, exploring how various elements can be incorporated to make train stations welcoming, yet functional for everyone.

Drawing inspiration from renowned designers and architects, they have learned how innovative and thoughtful design can enhance user experience and contribute to the overall well-being of the community.

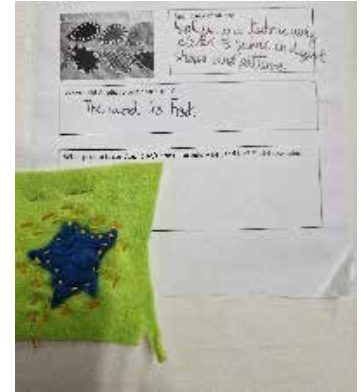
Equipped with a newfound understanding of materials and their properties, Year 9 pupils have made informed decisions regarding the selection of materials for their designs. This research-informed approach ensures that their creations not only meet aesthetic standards but also adhere to practical considerations, sustainability, and durability.

KS3 Textiles

Year 7 pupils are improving their basic textiles skills in a new project based on a 'Quiet book'. Each pupil will design and make a page



from the alphabet which will be put together as a whole book when completed. This term they have produced samples of Applique and hand embroidery and taken an image from the Bayeux tapestry and made a sample of backstitch and stem stitch. In year 8 pupils are working on the sport armband project and have focused on producing their own sports logo for the armband. They have come up with a wide range of creative and colourful ideas. Year 9 pupils are working on a wall hanging project linked with their identity, they have focused on communicating their design ideas through sketching and the use of 2D design to produce a stencil for screen printing.



Textiles club

This term Textiles club have been making storage cubes in 3 sizes. These are fully lined and finished with Bias binding. Our next project is 'The Back Pack' from The Makers Atelier pattern company.



Food Technology KS3

Students in key stage three have been working through a curriculum of theory and practical lessons in the build up to Easter. Year 7 students are now skilled when using knives and demonstrated these skills through the making of fruit salads and healthy wraps. They have also explored seasonal fruit and made fruit muffins. They are beginning to work more independently as they become more competent and confident in the food room. They are also gaining confidence with their understanding of healthy eating and balanced diet after learning about the Eatwell Guide and the food groups. Year 8 have been putting theory into practice where they have been working with high risk foods such as meat and chicken and have made Bolognese and chicken fajitas. Some students opted for 'meat free, options. They are now competent when using knives and are able to finely chop chilli, garlic and fine herbs without instruction. Many year 9 students are becoming skilled, confident and competent practitioners when using equipment and ingredients in the food room. They have made chilli- con – carne and pizza and are now confident in working with bread dough. Students are always given the opportunity to do a vegetarian or vegan option when meat or poultry is used.

KS4 - Year 10

Students at key stage 4 are doing a vocational course; NCFE Food and Cookery. Year 10 have just started working on Content Area 3, which focusses on nutrition. The students have already developed knowledge and understanding of issues relating to food safety, the environment in which food handlers operates, how they meet health and safety requirements and how food can cause ill health. They have just had an assessment focussing on policy, legislation and why we process food. The year 10's continue to achieve excellent test results in their assessments. This second term the students have developed their practical skills further by concentrating on simple ingredients and side dishes.

Year 11

Year 11 have begun their controlled assessment journey and are preparing for their first practical exam. They have been working hard to amend a recipe provided by the exam board of chicken pie and will be tested on their hard work before Christmas. They have experimented already with a lasagne recipe and successfully made all the elements. The students have also explored the relevant theory needed to ensure their amended recipes are successful and put into practice their knowledge of seasonal vegetables by making soups.

Y11 GCSE D&T

The year 11 D&T GCSE group are nearing completion of their final manufactured prototypes which together with the supporting design portfolio is worth 50% of their GCSE. This year, students have had the following 3 AQA briefs to choose from: Climate change, securing or storing personal possessions and playing games. As in previous years, it has been a pleasure to observe how each student has pursued their own unique design journey, identifying a problem to solve, securing a client and then taking an iterative approach as they explore a range of alternative responses to the design brief. Their final outcomes range from a transportable recycling collection unit to a sustainable pull up bar used for home exercise.

Ultimaker 3D Printers

We are delighted to now have two Ultimaker rapid prototyping machines in the department, opening up many new possibilities to students in terms of how they realise their ideas. Additive manufacturing will provide a fast and accurate way for students to produce complex 3D standalone outcomes or small parts which can be integrated into larger hand produced prototypes. A year 11 student has employed 3D printing to produce four clips to secure refuse bags into his mobile recycling unit whilst KS3 students are designing and manufacturing cake toppers to grace the winning Jubillee bake off creation. The possibilities are endless and we look forward to seeing our young designers embrace this exciting new piece of kit.



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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.

Year 12 A level are studying operations management and currently looking at capacity and capacity utilization. Year 12 Vocational Business are revising for unit 1 with Miss Sadler and have started their first coursework unit (Customers and communication), which is based on The Belfry Golf complex. Year 13 A level are about to embark on the last of their units with me (Implementing Strategies), where we will be particularly focused on Critical Path analysis. Year 13 vocational pupils are working on Marketing coursework with Miss Sadler and Human resources with me, with a particular focus at the moment on motivational theorists.

Year 11 GCSE pupils 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 in May.

The Business and Enterprise groups are completing their controlled assessments at the moment. On the 4th March and the 8th March the two groups are off timetable for the whole days so that we can get the majority of the controlled assessment completed. We hope to have everything done by Easter. After Easter all groups will have finished their courses and we will revise each week for the exams that in May.

In the run up to the school's Jubilee celebrations each pupil in every Business class will be producing a profile of a local business to show the variety of different Businesses in Kings Heath and Birmingham.

English

Readathon

What better way to celebrate World Book Day than with BOOKS? Here at Team English HQ we are passionate about reading - the doors it opens for our pupils, the impact literacy will have on their future endeavours and also the enjoyment it provides our pupils in getting to live a thousand lives from the comfort of their classroom!

With this in mind, we held a Readathon event for Year 7 and Year 8 pupils, for what is better than reading for an hour? Reading for FIVE hours, of course! And that includes the Teachers! And as if all of this wasn't exciting enough, pupils will also be given a free book from the school library! The event is set to be a huge success, raising much needed funds for St Chads Sanctuary. A great day is sure to be had by all!



Public Speaking

On 23rd February, we were delighted to participate in the Catholic Schools' KS4 Public Competition at Holy Trinity Catholic School. This annual tradition involves brave and bold Year 10 students, pitted against each other to perform a dramatic monologue, in role, arguing that they are "Shakespeare's Greatest Character". Our team of Year 10s worked hard on preparing and practicing the speech, performed by Cara, as Beatrice from Much Ado About Nothing – a play they had studied in Year 9. While Cara was a most convincing female icon in Beatrice, unfortunately we were pipped by an extremely impressive Lady Macbeth from Cardinal Wiseman and a Juliet Capulet from Holy Trinity. While we couldn't defend our title from last year's success, we are now looking forward to the KS3 competition later in the year – the only trophy of the annual competitions that still eludes us!



Key Stage 5

In a bid to strengthen links with Higher Education and develop the academic expertise of our A Level English Literature students, we are looking forward to hosting two guest lecturers from Aston University's English department later this month. They will be delivering a lecture and seminar on one of the A Level texts 'Dracula' for all 70 of our Key Stage 5 students, acting as a perfect revision opportunity for Year 13 who will take their exam a short while later. We hope this will also give aspirational insight to Year 12 on what studying English beyond A Level could be like, as they begin to consider their university options later this year.

Along with a recent visit to Wolverhampton University with Year 12 Media, we are also hoping to host teaching staff from University of Birmingham English department later in the year when Year 12 begin preparations for their Non-Examined Assessment coursework.

Book Club

In Book Club recently, we have finished a book called The Blackthorn Branch, which was based on Welsh mythology. Students enjoyed the fantasy element of the novel and found it very easy to follow. However, they did have many ideas of how the story could be improved and developed, such as changing the ending to be more realistic, which led to in-depth discussions across the group. Based on this, we decided to challenge them to write their own ideas down. Using the book as inspiration and an image inspired by the story, we tasked students to write a creative story. Students were able to use their creative imagination to reinterpret the story; the stories produced were fantastic to read and showcased their true passion about the story.



Here is an extract from one of the stories written:

"A golden light emitted from the teeth like rocks. A sea of colours twisted and turned around its jagged peaks. But where the water came from was the most abnormal thing ever. A beacon of enchantment sat there glowing: a lightning blue gleam. As I stepped closer, it was as if the world was rebuilt with more beauty than ever before. Minuscule waterfalls trickled down he wrinkled crevices. Branches painted majestic patterns from above."

Recently, we have collectively made the decision to pause Book Club for the spring term and will reconvene in the summer term in an attempt to revamp and grow the club. Our aim would be to have the Club become more student led with students having a greater say on what we read and how we interact with the books during our time together. A student-led club would hopefully be more appealing to students across Key Stage 3 and would allow more students to engage with books. We have also had the idea of sending out invites to those who are the top borrowers of books from the library. We will be planning how to restructure book club in the next few weeks, using student feedback and ideas to do this.



Creative Writing Club

Over the past few months, members of Creative Writing Club have eagerly engaged in numerous activities ranging from poems to short descriptions and persuasive speeches. In the run up to Christmas, the students enjoyed writing their own Christmas song lyrics and poems and writing descriptive pieces from the perspectives of various 'Christmas-themed' items. These were then performed to the rest of the group, who guessed to which objects their peers had attributed a voice. January saw us working on fantasy writing, inspired by images and front covers of various texts. Specifically, these activities were informed by staff discussions at the 'Reading Teachers, Reading Pupils' workshop earlier that month, which focused on the short fantasy story *The Blackthorn Branch* by Elen Caldecott. Whilst undertaking a creative writing KS3 scheme during English lessons, the club decided they wanted to broaden their scope of writing; to differentiate from lessons, during the first half on the spring term, members worked on more persuasive writing activities, including speech and advertisement writing, which concluded in a small debate at the end of the half term. Since returning, the club have now begun to work on their second Young Writers competition entries of the year: Mission Catastrophe. Students have been looking at the conventions of dystopian fictions and are currently creating and redrafting their own apocalyptic plotlines for submission on 29th March.



Year 13 Trip to the Ashmolean

On the 21st January, a small group of Year 13 students were given the opportunity to visit "The Victorians In Colour" at the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford. The trip was planned to support students' understanding of Victorian Culture in order to deepen their readings of our Victorian poet: Christina Rossetti. The day was a fantastic success and Mrs Giubertoni was able to bring back a number of ideas and articles to strengthen the KS5 curriculum and the knowledge of teachers and students.



Jubilee Day Celebrations

Excitement is building ahead of the school's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, and the English Department are joining in by delivering a lesson which will allow students to complete the same writing task carried out by some Bishop Challoner students of years gone by. The 1960 school newsletter contained a sample of students' writing, who had completed a task capturing a snapshot of a moment in their lives, starting with the phrase 'One day...' Now, over 60 years later, our Year 7 and 8 students will undertake the same task. It will be interesting to see how the typical life of a 1960s child and 2020s child differ- or perhaps they will be more similar than we might expect! We look forward to seeing the results, and- who knows- maybe the students of 2094 will look back at the snapshots produced by the class of 2024.

Geography

Year 7

Year 7 have continued to develop their knowledge and understanding of one of the world's superpowers, China. This topic has already sparked great enthusiasm amongst the year group who are 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 has also allowed students to debate the controversial topic of the One Child Policy whilst evaluating its success and failures.

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 have been investigating the human geography within Brazil such as their culture and the wide disparity between living conditions and opportunities and on the other, students have been learning 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 KAP3 assessment which incorporates both countries that have been explored so far this year.

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 Eyjafjallajökull 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. The Iceland unit helps to develop the skills needed for GCSE Geography, it sparks the curiosity and engagement of the students and has cross curricular links with Science.

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 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.

Year 11

Year 11 are completing their final unit of work prior to the public examinations. Students are continuing to work hard within their lessons and study sessions and some classes have been invited into school to partake in revision sessions every Wednesday morning. An increasing number of our students have also expressed a desire to study Geography at A level which is pleasing to see.

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.

Trips - Iceland, Year 10 and 11

In February we took 40 Year 10 and 11 students to Iceland for 4 days. The students were fantastic and were able to explore the unique landscape and amazing natural wonders – we even got to witness a live eruption (from a safe distance)! Each day was filled to the brim with once in a life time excursions including: the Blue Lagoon, traversing glaciers, walking between continents and whale watching. An unforgettable experience!



Longbridge – Year 10

This half term our year 10 students have visited Longbridge to collect data on the regeneration of the local area. The aim of the fieldwork is to investigate whether the regeneration undertaken by St. Modwen has improved the area socially, economically and environmentally. The trips were a success and students were a credit to the school in their mature conduct on all of these visits. In lessons now, we are currently analysing and evaluating our primary data collection results in preparation for their unit 3 exam.



Digbeth - Y12 & 13

A significant case study for our A Level students is Digbeth whereby they investigate how it has changed and what the impact has been demographically, economically and on lived experience of different groups of people. Mr Tsintas seized the opportunity to take our A Level students to Digbeth to experience this first hand. The students interviewed 10 businesses, enquiring about the changes that have occurred and what impact they believe that has had. The students' conduct was excellent, demonstrating enthusiasm and great subject knowledge.



Bishop's Got Talent

For our Bishop's Got Talent event, Year 7 were challenged with creating a Landscape in a Box. The students chose an inspiring landscape and used a range of resources to create it in a box. Alongside their landscape they were asked to describe their location and the geographical features that were present. The landscape in a box idea aimed to bring together students' Geographical understanding whilst also providing an opportunity for research, creativity and independent learning. The projects that Year 7 created were outstanding and we were blown away by the entries. We had over 130 entries which we displayed in the library for staff and students to enjoy. The work was truly remarkable and it was extremely difficult to choose our winners – Habiba, Gabe, Matteo, Mary, Ednah, Maisie and Dilara.



History

How have the English celebrated Easter in the past?

Today, sweet, plump Hot Cross Buns can be spied on supermarket shelves as early as January, but traditionally, they were a treat to be tucked into on Good Friday. Good Friday was always one of the two national days off – the other being Christmas Day.

It was believed that if hot cross buns were cooked on Good Friday, they would never go mouldy and could be used to treat a range of medical complaints. Good Friday bread would be hung from a string from the kitchen ceiling, and pieces would be broken off and soaked as and when needed through the year. It was also believed that they would bring good luck!

Meanwhile, Easter Eggs have their origins in the medieval period. In medieval times eggs couldn't be eaten during the fast of Lent. The fast ended on Easter Sunday, and egg-giving and eating was an important part of the celebrations. This was especially true for the poor, for whom meat was expensive and eggs were a more affordable luxury. But royals got in on the act too, and the earliest specific record of an Easter egg in England comes in 1290, when Edward I purchased 450 eggs. They were decorated with colours and gold leaf and given to members of his household. In the 16th century, before England's break with Rome, the Pope sent Henry VIII an egg in a silver case as an Easter gift.

Hitler on Trial – Year 10

At the end of February we took 40 year 10 students to the theatre to watch 'Hitler on Trial'. The production is set in a fictional alternative reality where Hitler was captured and put on trial at the end of World War 2. Students acted as the jury and were presented with a series of witnesses who explain their relationship with Hitler and from this evidence the students decided if he is guilty or innocent of deliberately instigating war. The production also included an exam busting workshop where students were shown various model answers and encouraged to identify the grade based on specific criteria.



Berlin Trip – Y10 & Y11

In February students in Year 10 and Year 11 went to Berlin. The students were an excellent representation of the school. Immersed in the rich historical tapestry of the city, they displayed profound respect and genuine interest in every site visited. From the sombre memorials of the Holocaust to the iconic remnants of the Berlin Wall, their curiosity and empathy shone through. Engaging with local guides and absorbing every detail, they demonstrated a deep understanding of the past and its relevance to the present. Their conduct reflected the school's values of empathy, curiosity, and respect. It was a trip enjoyed by students and staff alike.



Year 12 - Lessons from Auschwitz Project

Two students from Year 12 – Ciara Carney-Bird and Liam Corcoran - have been participating in the Lessons From Auschwitz Project. They have attended a virtual seminar and flew to visit Auschwitz on Tuesday 27th February. Their reflections so far have been insightful and they will be participating in a number of other seminars, before delivering Holocaust education to their lower-school peers. This project will culminate in them becoming Holocaust Educational Ambassadors. Their maturity and enthusiasm were a real credit to the school.



Mathematics

Homework Club

Support for KS3 students continues to be provided through the form of KS3 homework club which takes place every Thursday 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.

Primary

The maths department have hosted 5 out of 6 maths enrichment events this year, welcoming 25 students from across 10 Tolkien cluster primary schools. Students have taken part in creative maths problems and worked in teams to complete puzzles, stretching their reasoning abilities. We have been extremely proud of our year 7 and 8 students who have helped us to plan and even run these events, with many of them remembering having attended these sessions themselves in the past.



Intermediate Maths Challenge

Our Year 10 and Year 11 top set students undertook the "Intermediate Maths Challenge" at the end of January. 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!



There were some fantastic results – and a huge number of students got a certificate this year - wow!

Year 10
14 bronze certificates
8 silver certificates
2 gold certificate

Year 11
7 bronze certificates
14 silver certificates
8 gold certificates

Catholic Games

After hosting the Catholic Games last year and how successful that event was, the event organiser asked us to make it a permanent fixture in the calendar and for us to once again host the event. Our Year 9 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 9s for their brilliant leadership.

We had 8 schools represented with 13 teams in total. We had teams of Year 8 pupils from Bishop Walsh, Cardinal Wiseman (Coventry), Archbishop Isley, Cardinal Newman, Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School, Bishop Challoner, Holy Trinity and St Edmund Campion.



The event comprised of a range of engaging activities, such as Drone flying maths activity, a Coordinates activity including robots, 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 19 points. We extend our warmest congratulations to the winning school for their excellent achievement.

We look forward to welcoming these schools back next year.



Malympics

Our Maths and PE departments held our annual "Malympics" event on the 13th March. Eleven of our Catholic feeder attended with teams of Year 3, 4 and 5 students. They took part in Maths and PE events which were designed and run by around twenty of our Year 9 students. The event was in the sports hall with a series of exciting activities which engaged our visitors in both PE and Maths. The preparation was fantastic and the Year 9 students involved approached it with creativity, dedication and commitment.

Extra curricular

Mr Bloxidge took two teams of 4 students from year 10 to the "Maths Feast" run by the national Advanced Mathematics Support Programme. Mr Carpenter from our school was hosting the event, down at Myton School in Warwick. The event, with 21 teams from independent, grammar and comprehensive schools was a great success. It was very engaging for the pupils and our Year 10s thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Unfortunately they weren't in the prizes this time, but represented the school brilliantly.



Maths Inspiration

Many thanks to Mr Carpenter for organising a brilliant Maths inspiration day in partnership with Aston University for our Y12 students!

They listened to a lecture on pendulum swings - and exposed them to radians and showing that when a pendulum swings, it represents a sine wave. They then looked at some mathematical modelling through the guise of spreading Christmas cheer, and had a workshop too on fractals, and drawing and representing these! After lunch, our very own Mr Carpenter ran a workshop on some problem solving which got students thinking very hard about Maths. Finally, they finished the day with a research talk on the 'flows of weird and wonderful fluids' - and how ketchup acts and gets stuck when you are trying to remove it from a glass bottle.

We were particularly impressed by the technology available at Aston University - including presentations which were then reflected on television screens around the room.

Many thanks to Mr Carpenter, the AMSP and Aston University!



Senior Maths Olympiad

A massive congratulations to Joe Berenshtain and Adam Anwar North, who completed the British Olympiad round 1. This was an impressive feat: 3.5 hours of focus to answer up to 6 questions! Joe achieved a merit on the award, and Adam achieved a certificate of participation. We are excited to see what these two mathematicians get up to next!



Media Studies

In the first half of the Spring Term, Year 12 Media Studies students enjoyed a day of media-production activities hosted by the Screen School at the University of Wolverhampton. The programme opened with a presentation from the Film Production course leader Russell Prior. He explored with our students the hundreds of creative decisions involved in a short film of only a few minutes. In addition to promoting the range of Media Production courses available at the university, he outlined how the strength of the UK's creative industries means that graduates with skills in broadcast, film and video game production tend to be in high demand. A comprehensive tour of the Screen School impressed Challoner students with the state-of-the-art facilities and equipment available to undergraduates. Nevertheless, undoubtedly the highlight of the day was the opportunity to use the industry-standard studio space to film a short drama. Provided with a two-page script involving two friends debating the influence of social media on relationships, students were tasked with filming the scene on a multi-camera set-up. Roles

were assigned (director, actors, camera operators, editors, and the all-important 'clapper') before rehearsals began. Teams were responsible for planning the camera angles to be used alongside the appropriate shot types. During filming, three students in the 'gallery' next-door took responsibility for mixing the camera feeds as requested by the director. Our Y12 students quickly realized how precise planning and clear instructions were crucial in realizing a creative vision. We await with excitement the arrival of the finished products from Wolverhampton.

Elsewhere, the Spring Term is always a busy time for the Media Studies department. Both Year 11 and Year 13 cohorts are putting the finishing touches to their NEA productions ahead of the final deadlines. Furthermore, there is a significant amount of course content to fit in. Year 11s are finishing the Music Video unit and Year 13s completing Television before attention will turn in earnest to revision and exam preparation.

MFL

Year 7

Recently, Year 7 have been studying a poem - 'les sept couleurs magiques' (the seven magical colours). They have been analysing it to understand new vocabulary but also link it to their prior knowledge of adjective and noun position in a sentence. After learning the key vocabulary, Year 7 students attempted to write their own poems using a variety of adjectives and noun. There were some superb entries!

Year 9

Students have been learning all about food and healthy lifestyles in French. They have also been recapping on the uses of the present, perfect and future tenses, as they are moving closer to starting their GCSE options in Year 10.

Choosing options has been a very hot topic since Christmas with the various events organised at Bishop Challoner to inspire our students to choose an educational path that suits them best. We have been discussing the importance of studying a language at GCSE, and most importantly how languages help you gain employable skills that are highly desirable in the world of work.

A message from Ms Mazabraud

I always hear students say:
"I don't need to study French because I'm never going to live in France."

And I always hear adults say:
"I wish I'd learn a foreign language at school"

Studying GCSE French is not just for students who want to go and work in France in the future: Yes, a language GCSE will teach you practical use of a language – which could help you in almost any career and open up opportunities at home and abroad.

But this is not just the reason why you are studying a foreign language.

Many universities do not look twice when they see French GCSE on your CV. It is both a challenging and rewarding subject that will help you develop your own language. It is a must for anyone who sees themselves studying at university.

Currently just over 55% of students at Bishop Challoner study French at GCSE.

French GCSE revision

What should you do?

Learn vocabulary

Try to spend a lot of your French revision on www.quizlet.com, revisiting all the 12 topics that you have covered between this year and last year. (see topics below). Here is a link to the GCSE folder with all the vocabulary lists.

Practice listening and reading exam type questions

You can find lots of listening and reading practise on www.kerboodle.com (login needed), www.revisionworld.com, <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse/french-8658/assessment-resources> and on BBC Bitesize (free)

Know your verbs and tense

Please make sure that you are confident with your verbs and tenses for the writing paper. If you need more help/ practice go to www.languagesonline.com. **Tip:** AVOID making up phrases that you have never learnt before.

Year 8

Well done to year 8 on all your hard work with your KAP3 assessments! This year we have been trying out some new assessments with more focus on phonetic accuracy.

In these assessments, students read a script to their teacher and translate the words and sentences they see on the spot. This new method is very similar to the sort of activities student will encounter in the new French GCSE.

Year 10

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

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 on the 29th and 30th April, this is only a few days 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.

Range of vocabulary

Revise WOW phrases that you have learnt in class to help you with expanding your range of structures and vocabulary in the writing paper.

Revision guides

We sell 3 types of revision guides at discounted prices of £3 per guide. Please go to SchoolComms to purchase them.

- Revision guides
- Workbook with answers
- Paper Practice Plus with exemplars of good answers

Topics

Theme 1 - Identity & Culture

Relationship with family & friends (marriage/partnership)
Technology in everyday life (mobile/social media)
Free time activities (sport, TV/Cinema/music/eating out)
Customs & festivals in French speaking countries & communities

Theme 2 - Local, national, international and global areas of interest

Home town, neighbourhood, region
Social issues(charity work/ healthy lifestyle)
Global issues (environment/poverty & homelessness)
Travel & tourism

Theme 3 - Current & future study & employment

School life
School rules and improvements
Education post 16
Career choice



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.

Year 7

In music, Year 7 students are continuing their exploration of World Music and have spent several weeks studying music and sounds from Africa 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!

Year 10

At GCSE, our Year 10 Cohort have explored the rudiments of music theory and the areas of musical analysis which underpin the curriculum. They are a delightful cohort and have already finished their studies of the first two set works on the syllabus, Sonata in C Minor by Beethoven and Killer Queen by Queen. Each piece brings its own challenges, but the students are hugely impressing us with their application of theory and their engagement in the course.

BTEC Performing Arts

The BTEC Performing Arts cohort in Year 10 have been extremely lucky to learn original choreography from the hit musical Hairspray. They are studying this musical as part of their BTEC coursework for Component 1 and are studying the conception, rehearsal and production of this musical, working hard to apply their knowledge and understanding to the written aspect of the coursework, which is no mean feat.

Year 11 PA

Our Year 11 Performing Arts group have been commissioned by their exam board to create a piece of theatre based on the title "Treasured Memories". This brief was set by a local museum and students are invited to take part in the programme of events, funded by the local council. The programme will include work from all performing arts disciplines and, as the museum is committed to being an inclusive place to visit which aims to attract visitors from all cultures and backgrounds, students have been tasked with creating a piece of theatre with this in mind, based on the title "Treasured Memories". 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!

Year 8

This term our Year 8 students are studying Music for Royal Occasions. 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.

Year 9

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 of Lord of the Rings.

Year 11

Year 11 are focusing on coursework and exam preparation and have already completed one of their compositions and recorded their solo instrumental performances. We have had some exceptionally professional performances this year which will stand the students in good stead in the approach to their exams. To prepare for their listening exam, the class are partaking in focussed revision tasks, whilst completing their study of the final set work, John Williams's iconic score from Star Wars.

Symphony Hall

On February 7th over 60 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 programme featured compositions by a diverse range of composers, and we were pleased with the way the students engaged with the live music and the flurry of questions that followed the concert about the instruments, the building, and the performance. The highlights of the event were Ravel's 'Bolero' and the magical 'Harry's Wondrous World' from Harry Potter by John Williams.

We are grateful to have the CBSO on our doorstep and with funding for the arts in the UK at a precarious point, enrichment trips such as this for our students are opportunities we cannot miss.



Opportunities

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 have now been chosen to perform live at the Mat for the St Patrick's Day celebrations, along with our Year 11 Irish dancer and 3 musicians from Year 10 and Year 7. We have 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.

City Music Festival

This year's City Music Festival is a collaborative celebration of students' achievements in music across Birmingham. Select students performed a piece they had been working on, recorded it and uploaded it to social media using the hashtag #CFECMF – check some of them out on Twitter and Instagram – and this from Bishop Challoner we had Mr Philip's Steel Pan ensemble and Mrs Allin's flute student, Sophie in Year 9 who played Bach's Sonata in G Minor.

St Anne's, Digbeth

On Thursday 7th March a number of students from KS3 spent the day at St Anne's in Digbeth for a special event. The day consisted of Irish dance, music, singing and entertainment for a group of dementia patients in the community who visit the centre for company and support. Markas from Y7 and Kaitlyn in Y10 played beautifully on the piano, members of our Trad Irish ensemble played banjo and mandolin with the expert guidance of their tutor Jobe, Mary played festive tunes on her tin whistly and Elisse switched effortlessly from Irish music to steel pans! The members of the community loved the entertainment and so did our students. We were very proud of how they helped and supported the visitors, upholding the values of the school by being respectful, understanding and providing valued company.



Instrument Lessons

A record number of Year 7s signed up for instrumental lessons this year and we are delighted to add the names of keen musicians to the waiting lists for our wide range of instruments. Our cohort of teachers from Music Service and independent tutors continues to provide instrumental tuition on piano, drums, woodwind, strings, all types of guitar, brass and steel pans. In addition to tutoring our students weekly, the instrumental staff support us with a number of projects each term.



St Patrick's Day

St Patrick's Day is always a huge event in Birmingham, and we have been involved this year more than ever. Preparation began early and one of our students even created the Parade map for people to follow! Waving a Bishop Challoner banner through the city centre, dressed in festive green, a group of our students joined Miss Hughes and Mrs Choudhury to join the parade through Birmingham. It was wonderful to see our school represented in such a huge event and they got to experience some of the music and entertainment being hosted in our city.

At 12.45 the parade halted for a tribute to Irish legend Shane McGowan, where the Birmingham Irish Pipes and Drums led a special rendition of Dirty Old Town. This was another amazing opportunity for our students to be part of the wider community and to reflect on the power of music and the legacy of musicians.

Born for This

15 of our Performing Arts Students are currently rehearsing for a very special performance of "Born for This". This a moving and powerful depiction of the Stations of the Cross through words, music, and drama and therefore provides a variety of opportunities for students with different talents. The event is planned to be extremely powerful and the intention is to bring people who see it closer to Jesus in this Year of Prayer. This is an inaugural event for us all that hopes to bring local Catholic schools together to strengthen our Catholic mission. A group of our students are preparing the songs and narration ready for an intense one-day rehearsal where they will join alongside students from other schools. The event will be staged on the evening of 21st March at St Thomas Aquinas School and we look forward to reporting on its success next term.

Summer Term

The Summer Term will be another eventful one for our department and preparations is already underway for two of our calendar's biggest celebrations, the Spring Soiree and the Bishop Challoner Platinum Jubilee celebration. For the soiree we are assembling a team of presenters and stage crew as well as our programme of performers, and we are hoping to see some ex-Challoner musical alumni at our Jubilee event in the Summer Term.

In addition to our Twitter @BCPAMusic and @BCPAPA1 we also have two Instagram accounts which will be used for showcasing events, sharing links and resources for students as well as revision tips and links. Follow us on Instagram at @bishopchalmusic and @bishopchallonerartshub to see what is happening in the arts at our school.

Physical Education

Netball Excellence

Our senior netball teams in years 10 and 11 have truly excelled this season! Demonstrating exceptional skill and determination, they triumphed over tough opponents such as UOB, Hall Green, KE Five Ways, and Shenley schools. Their hard work and teamwork paid off, clinching a well-deserved league victory.

Year 7 Football

Our Year 7 football team has made an impressive debut in competitive football this term! Competing fiercely in both the Birmingham and West Midlands Cups, they've showcased remarkable talent and determination, securing notable victories. It's been an outstanding first year representing our school in football!

Year 8 Football

Building on last term's success, our Year 8 boys' football team continues to excel! Their dedication and perseverance have earned them a spot in the district leagues final, where they aim to defend their hard-earned title. We wish them luck for what promises to be an exciting climax to the term!



Year 9 Boys Football

Despite facing setbacks in some competitions, our Year 9 Boys Football team has demonstrated remarkable resilience and skill. They are also set to compete in the semi-final of the Kings Norton & South Bham Cup, with the final eagerly anticipated in the Summer Term at West Hills!

Year 11 Football Team

Our Year 11 Football Team has had an impressive season, reaching two semi-finals in prestigious competitions. Despite narrow defeats against Colmers in the West Midlands Cup and Arthur Terry in the Birmingham Cup, their journey to the semi-finals is a testament to their talent and perseverance. They are now gearing up to face Colmers in the final of the Birmingham League Cup later in the year, and we have every confidence in their ability to deliver a stellar performance.

Year 10 Boys Football

Our Year 10 Boys Football team has showcased exceptional talent, advancing into the semi-final of the prestigious all B'Ham Cup. They are slated to compete against Tudor Grange (Solihull), with the winners progressing to the final at the illustrious Villa Park. Additionally, they are gearing up for the semi-final clash in the Kings Norton & South B'Ham Cup, with the final scheduled for the Summer Term at West Hills. Their impressive performances reflect their hard work and commitment to the sport.

Basketball & Cricket Victories

Our basketball and cricket teams continue to shine brightly! From qualifying for Junior NBA finals to maintaining unbeaten records in cricket, our students are showcasing their prowess and dedication on the court and field. Their achievements are a testament to their hard work and commitment.

Ball Crew Excellence

Thirty of our students had the honour of serving as the Ball Crew for the ITF World Tennis Tour. It was an unforgettable experience, allowing them to immerse themselves in the world of professional tennis and demonstrate their skills on an international stage. Their enthusiasm and professionalism were truly commendable!

PSHE

Year 7

The PSHE curriculum continues to be a vital aspect of the students' lives at Bishop Challoner and having studied the importance of Human Rights, Year 7 are now focused on health and relationships. This Well-being centred unit of work, is a hands-on project that sees the students reflecting on important matters in today's society, such as self-regulation and dealing with life's challenges, to road and public safety and homelessness. As ever, the lesson content is designed to promote critical thinking and well-rounded students who live out our school mission statement.

Rough Sleeping
When somebody is forced to sleep anywhere outside or in buildings not designed for human habitation such as stairwells, stations or cars.
This is the most visible and dangerous form of homelessness.
The longer someone experiences rough sleeping the more likely they are to face challenges around trauma, mental health and drug misuse.
Rough sleeping accounts for less than 1% of homelessness.

Statutory Homeless
Local authorities have a duty to find a home for families. These households are initially offered temporary housing such as private sector housing, nightly paid accommodation (shelters) or bed and breakfasts. This should be a precursor to finding a more permanent solution.

What is Homelessness?

Homelessness doesn't always, and in fact very rarely, look like this.

Hidden Homeless
Many people who become homeless aren't counted in official figures. They may not ask for, or be asked to, help with housing, and so won't receive the support they need. Many 'sofa surf' with family and friends, or sleep out of sight in hostels, squats, public transport or other insecure and unsuitable accommodation.

Year 7 Lesson 3
How can I regulate my emotions?
Date : _____


Lauren feels like she must get up and hit Jayden. He has been making faces at her across the classroom. Now he's just insulted her family. She feels disrespected and insulted. She is so angry she can no longer even hear anything the teacher is saying.

STARTER:
Challenge: What would happen if Lauren did get up and hit Jayden? What would the consequences be?
More challenging: What would be the best thing for Lauren to do now?
Mega challenging: Explain what we mean by the term 'anger management'.

Year 8

Year 8 have been exploring liberty and freedom this term, displaying the character virtues of discernment and compassion as they debate on issues surrounding prejudice and discrimination. We even had a visit from our School Liaison Police Officer for some of our classes, who talked about laws and freedoms in the UK. Classes have focused on the Equality Act of 2010 looking at how to tackle discrimination in relation to our protected characteristics.



Students have also looked at different civil rights that we have in the UK with a new focus on the rights of refugees. Some classes have been so inspired by this, that they are currently writing to our local MP to discuss the matter. Of course, this is a direct example of Bishop Challoner students living out the character virtues that we promote throughout our curriculum. This will also be relevant as we move on, to look at online safety and safe relationships, after Easter.

Key Terms:

Asylum Seeker - An asylum seeker is a person who has left their country and is seeking protection from persecution and serious human rights violations in another country.

Refugee - A refugee has fled their country to seek protection and is legally recognized with refugee status in a different country. An asylum seeker is awaiting legal recognition.

ASYLUM-SEEKER:
AN INDIVIDUAL SEEKING PROTECTION FROM PERSECUTION OR SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN ANOTHER COUNTRY.

REFUGEE:
A PERSON LEGALLY RECOGNIZED AS FLEEING THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN WHO IS UNABLE TO OVERCOME PERSECUTION BECAUSE OF A WELL-FOUNDED FEAR OF PERSECUTION.

SEEKING ASYLUM IS A HUMAN RIGHT
MOST OF ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES GO



Year 9

Year 9 lessons have focused on pathways and progression and have incorporated vital information for students as they embark the next phase of their education at Bishop Challoner. 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 GCSE and vocational requirements during Year 10 and 11. With the lesson focus and the promotion of Unifrog, coupled with a series of options assemblies, all students have received guidance and had time to consider which subject options will suit them the most. Careers and The Job Market has been researched taking into account the current financial climate; the development of automation and the technological and digital world; as well as the environmental crisis. These lessons have been crafted alongside the Year 9 Aspirations Day and Careers Fair to ensure that students have access and guidance for informed decision making. Students have said how inspired they feel and cannot wait to start their next key stage.

THE JOBS (LABOUR) MARKET INUK 2024:

Which areas of work (sectors) do you expect to grow the most in the next couple of years?

- Green jobs
- Technology and digital (including AI)
- Education
- Healthcare

KEY STAGE 4 AND BEYOND

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 congratulated us for our work as a centre, and we know that the course we have crafted provides our students with some essential life skills. From focusing on physical and mental health to financial well-being, students take part in assessed coursework which documents their journey through the course. From studying the detrimental effects of vaping, alcohol and illegal drugs, to the benefits of healthy eating and regular exercise, the students are becoming equipped for life, post 16. Year 10 especially enjoyed their healthy eating practical lesson where they took over the food room and made healthy dishes from wraps and fruit salad to sushi! Year 11 have just completed a section on financial well-being and have not only looked at what different bank accounts can offer, but investigated financial security and how to budget. They absolutely thrived in this unit and we hope that their learning will guide them through their next steps when they take on apprenticeships through college.



Year 9 Personal Development Day

Year 9 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 started with a thought provoking and entertaining theatre production from Sudden Productions. Year 9 were very engaged with the one act show that looked at issues surrounding equality and conflict. The entire year group were deeply engaged and absorbed the important messages that were delivered through the theatre in education piece; they also asked sensible and thought through questions in the post theatre talk. Students then dispersed to classroom-based sessions which ranged from Knife Crime, Basic First Aid and Mental Health and Well-being. 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. Students and teachers alike reported that their favourite sessions were the First Aid – especially looking at how CPR is conducted using the Annie dolls – and the creative tasks in the well-being session. Our windows around school can now be seen displaying some wonderful affirmations that the students created.



Assemblies and Form Resources

The assembly and form resource programmes continue to enrich the curriculum of Personal Development, Safeguarding, Spiritual Life, Preventative and Cultural themes. This term we have already covered topics ranging from World Kindness Day, Safer Internet Day and Careers Week to County Lines Awareness, World Book Day, Holocaust Memorial Day and World Religions Day. Each resource is current in terms of social and political accuracy, and they also run parallel to 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. Students created thoughtful affirmations, rooted in the Gospel, which were displayed during Children's Mental Health Week in the foyer. It was encouraging to see so many students reading these throughout the week. All 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 a 'going forth' message to their year group.

Random of Acts of Kindness Week

February 2024

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

ONE kind word can CHANGE someone's ENTIRE DAY

Active Travel

Last year, the Active Travel Ambassadors achieved the Bronze Award with their wonderful pitch that they delivered and carried out in the summer term. This year was just as exciting and rewarding, as the 8 ambassadors from Year 7 and 8 created an amazing pitch which focused on the reality of having a school site that is situated in a densely populated area. The students homed in on the fact that the local roads are often congested and cause frustration for commuters and residents alike. After completing a variety of surveys and talking to Sandra Greene from Birmingham City Council, the team decided to create a unique and relevant proposition called 'Drop and Thrive'. The main concept involves creating a map that utilizes a 10-minute walk radius and encourages students (and their parents and carers) to drop them outside of the main congested areas and walk the remaining distance. This would alleviate some of the gridlock on the local roads and promote a healthier start to the day – that 10-minute walk being at the centre of physical and mental health. Last week, the eight students performed their pitch to a group of panelists at the prestigious Birmingham Council Chamber. They were professional, clear, motivating and made us very proud when they were awarded a cheque for £225 and came second out of nine schools. They were also the youngest ambassadors there. A huge well done and do watch out for them promoting the venture during Walk to School Week in May!



Fox Hollies

The annual Fox Hollies project has been just wonderful (again) this year! It started with Teresa Fadden joining a team of 13 students back in the winter term to deliver some disability awareness training. There were mixed emotions from our students – keen, excited and slightly apprehensive, but they all were committed to the activities that were planned. An initial visit in January left the students excited for the forthcoming Arts Day and we had a great visit, popping into classrooms and meeting the wonderful staff and students at Fox Hollies Special School. One student actually said that she wanted to pursue a career working in a similar setting because she had enjoyed it so much. Last week, we had the pleasure of spending a whole day with our Fox Hollies friends engaging in music, dance and felt making workshops. It was a highly energetic day and watching the students – who were nervous – go in and work alongside Fox Hollies students and help, guide and enjoy their experience, was simply inspiring. There were conversations, music created, dance routines learnt and stress balls made! Harrison Steward even led a dance warm up in his sessions, whilst Eve Alexander and Jayden Rogers sang a duet from the musical Hamilton! The project continues into the summer term but Teresa Fadden said that the day had given her so much faith that there were great young people in the world and that our students were an absolute credit to the school!



School Council

Our whole school council is made up of 14 representatives from Years 7 – 13 and they are a dynamic group of students. There are also 7, year group councils with 12 members on each, making our student voice team as diverse and conversational as ever! This year has seen them not only meeting formally each half term to discuss and unpick important issues across the school, such as Safety and the Year of Challoner. The feedback from all council meetings is shared with the senior leadership team and action is taken from this. For example, looking at transition duties in hot spots around the school to avoid students feel unsafe at the changeover of lessons. Some of the school counsellors are also charity ambassadors for the school. With every form group committed to a specific fundraising task, there is always an event to partake in, to work together as a community, to raise funds for our school focus charity, St Chad's Sanctuary. From chocolate hampers to Easter fairs and penalty shoot outs, we have already raised over £1,400 this year and we are looking to increase that with the many exciting events that we have planned throughout the summer term!



Religious Studies

Key Stage 3

We are delighted with the progress we are making as a department in our design and delivery of the new Religious Education curriculum that we commenced last year.

Our students have been incredibly receptive to the content and we are now at a place where all year 7 and 8 students are studying the new curriculum.

In recent weeks we have particularly focused on how we can bring in creativity to this new curriculum and we have been delighted to see students create beautiful artwork and displays across the department that display their understanding of the importance of The Eucharist.

In recent weeks our year 7 students have been studying the unit 'From Galilee to Jerusalem'. This has allowed them to reflect upon themes such as:

- The Trinity
- The Incarnation
- Jesus as a role model
- Was Jesus just a nice man
- Humble service

We are delighted with how our year 7s have progressed with some incredibly challenging theological terms and concepts and it is clear that the knowledge embedded will be invaluable to them as they progress across the key stage.



Our Year 8 classes have been highly engaged in their study of a range of interesting themes and it is clear that what they have learnt in year 7 has laid a strong foundation for further knowledge. One of the units of work year 8 have studied this term is 'Prophecy and Promise' where students have been considering themes such as:

- Examples of prophetic texts
- Prophets from Elijah to John The Baptist
- Witnesses to Christ
- Prophetic texts linking to Advent
- The Jesse Tree ornament
- Is prophecy relevant today

Year 8 have shown real maturity in their learning as they reflect upon challenging concepts with The Bible and we are really looking forward to seeing them progress further as they prepare for the final year of the new syllabus in year 9.

In order to support the learning of our KS3 students, we have now successfully implemented an assessed piece or work at each sixth lesson interval. This may include; multiple choice questions, an extended writing piece or a targeted improvement task. These regular assessment points are proven invaluable in helping students and teachers regularly gauge their levels of understanding as we progress across the units of work.

Finally, as our school community comes together to celebrate our Jubilee, we are looking forward to Jubilee week where our students will spend the week in RE learning focusing on the encyclicals of the Catholic church from 70 years ago. We look forward to seeing students reflecting upon the key focuses of The Church in the year our school opened and exploring how relevant these issues are in today's society. The week will allow students the opportunity to create pieces of art on these encyclicals as a chance to celebrate their creativity and understanding. We look forward to seeing what is produced.

Key Stage 4

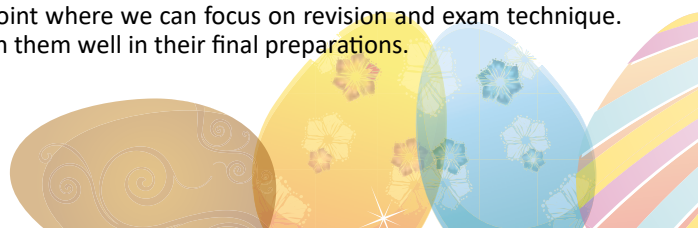
Well done to students in year 10 who are making excellent progress towards learning the content of their GCSE examination.

This term our students have been reflecting upon the topic of Good and Evil, which has allowed them to consider ideas such as:

- The example and teaching of Jesus as the authoritative source for moral teaching
- The existence of the Natural Law and conscience as evidence of God's goodness and the role of suffering in the development of the virtues
- The nature of the Trinity as expressed in the Nicene creed – One God in three persons: Father, Son and Spirit
- Catholic perspectives on the origin of evil: Original Sin and evil as a "privation", with reference to St Augustine, The Enchiridion (3.11)

The commitment of year 10 students towards these areas has been excellent and this has been reflected in the two excellent assessments that have now been completed. We now look forward to teaching year 10 students the unit on Judaism where we will build upon knowledge already built in KS3 to help get our students exam ready.

We are very proud of our year 11 students who have shown exceptional maturity as they come to the end of their GCSE studies. Our students have now learnt all the content and we are delighted to be at a point where we can focus on revision and exam technique. Our students have been excellent across the two years of study and we wish them well in their final preparations.



Key Stage 5

Our year 12 students are currently making excellent progress against the specification as we arrive at a point where they have studied half of both the Philosophy paper and the Ethics paper.

More recently we have begun the study of Christianity which will see students study issues such as:

- The extent to which the birth narratives provide insight into the doctrine of the incarnation.
- The relative importance of redaction criticism for understanding the biblical birth narratives.
- The nature of the resurrected body.
- The historical reliability of the resurrection.
- The relative value of the Bible as teaching on the meaning and purpose of life.
- The extent to which the Psalms studied offer a guide to living for Christians

Our year 13 students are arriving towards the end of their examination content. Students are working extremely hard to blend both knowledge and skills together to ensure they are ready for their June examinations. We wish them well with these final preparations and ask God to bless them as they makes plans for their future.



Catholic Life

Supporting our Tolkien schools

This term we have been delighted to see our chaplaincy students increasingly getting involved in supporting our local primary schools in helping them to consider how and why we engage in acts of service in our local community. Ellen and our students have been superb in their leadership with helping student to set goals and targets in terms of how they are supporting the misison of their school and how they hope to lead their community going forward.



Students Leading Worship

We are delighted to see our students continue to grow in their confidence regarding their ability to lead worship across the school. During assemblies, we are delighted to see students lead the going forth messages as they consider the theme of the assembly and create a prayer and message for their peers to take forward. Students have responded very positively to opportunities to led prayer for their peers and we look forward to opportunities to develop this area across all key stages.

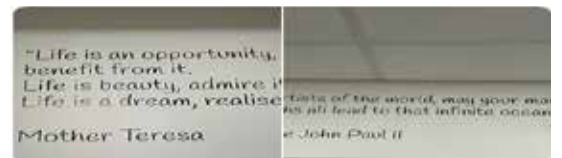
School Environment

During this half term we are delighted to see the continual expansion of inspirational quotes appearing across the school. As part of our five year plan to enhance the Catholic environment of the school, we have seen a gradual growth of quotes appearing across the school and we have been delighted to see students positive reactions to these as they comment and their meaning and purpose. We look forward to seeing more areas of the school reflect our Catholic nature as the next few years progress.

Weekly Rosary

We are delighted to see the continued growth of the weekly Rosary, led and supported by Fr John as he continues to lead sessions each Wednesday in the chapel.

So far we have been able to accommodate all year 8 and 9 classes to be part of a Rosary session and we have been absolutely delighted to see the positive reaction of the students as they have clearly engaged with the opportunity to take time in the chapel to engage in a time of prayer and reflection at the end of the day. We thank Father for the time he has given to our students and we look forward to expanding this across all year groups as the year progresses.



Parish Mass

We have been delighted to continue our relationship with St Dunstan's parish with our presence at weekly Mass each week. Our students are increasingly growing in confidence as they take responsibility for leading prayers and worship each week. Students from across KS3 have attended Mass on a weekly basis and we look forward to continuing our students growth and responsibility and leading prayer in the parish.

Confessions

We are delighted to have taken time this Lent to offer students the opportunity to receive confession as they prepare for Lent.

We have been delighted with our students' responses to the opportunity to attend confession and we look forward to further opportunities to invite students from KS4 and KS5 as we continue our Lenten journey.



Science

Curriculum delivery

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

Year group	Content
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 11

All pupils in year 11 have recently sat mock exams and are well-rehearsed for their GCSEs. It is important that pupils set time aside during the Easter break to build on their hard work and continue with their revision. In September, pupils 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/>

Pupils 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.

Years 7,9 and 10

Years 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 10

The numbers below refer to the teaching points in the GCSE specifications (see above for links)

	GCSE Biology topics	GCSE Chemistry topics	GCSE Physics topics
Triple Science (X1 and X2)	Higher and foundation: Topics 1,2,3,4,5	Higher and foundation: Topics 1,2,3. Electrolysis is included.	Higher: Topics 2, 4, 5, 6 Foundation: Topics 3, 4, 5
Combined Science (X3, X4, Y and W bands)	Higher: Topics 1,2,5 Foundation: Topics 1,2,3,4,5	Higher and foundation: Topics 1, 2 and Acids from Topic 3 (electrolysis not assessed).	Higher : Topics 2, 4, 5 Foundation: Topics 2, 3, 5

Revision guides

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

Years 7 and 8

Revision guide: £4

Workbook : £6.00

GCSE: Separate sciences (10X1 and 10 X2)

Each revision guide: £3.50

Each workbook and answers: £4.50

GCSE: Combined science (10X3 and X4; 10 Y1, Y2 and Y3; 10 W1 and W2)

Revision guide: £6.00

Workbook and answers: £7.00

Extra-curricular Challoner does LAMMA

Bishop Challoner Catholic College was one of only a few schools in the area who were awarded a grant of £500 from the NFU (National Farmers Union) to take 14 year 9 BAME girls to the LAMMA show at the NEC on the 18th January 2024. Lamma is the UK's leading agricultural machinery, equipment and technology show, which attracts more than 40,000 visitors each year. LAMMA connects farmers and contractors from all sectors with companies which provide cutting-edge machinery, technology and equipment for the farming industry. When we arrived at the NEC, we were taken to the careers area where the



students learnt about careers in farming and agriculture, which were promoted by various members of the Farmers Guardian. They focused on editorial and social media careers, which really resonated with the students' career ideas. They were given a task to make a "reel" about their day at LAMMA, which they could enter into a competition after the event. The students set to work making some really entertaining videos about the machinery and technology that they saw in the day. The students were genuinely interested in the exhibits and found the machinery fascinating. Some of them got the opportunity to sit in the largest tractor in the world, which had a cost of £700,000. They learnt about how farming is changing and becoming more environmentally friendly and the new technologies that are allowing this to happen. The students got the opportunity to use locktronics kits to make circuits and measured current and voltage in these circuits using digital multimeters. Lastly, they had a "planting workshop" and were given a real life financial problem to solve. The students were thoroughly engaged with this activity and gave some ingenious solutions to the problems. The students were a credit to the school and I was proud to be their teacher and to have organised the trip. Thanks goes to Mrs Whelan who helped me to organise the trip and Miss Newton who assisted me on the trip as the first aider.



Jubilee activities







To mark the school's 70th anniversary, pupils are being invited to enter a competition to make models linking to key events that have taken place in Science over the past 70 years. Information relating to this competition has been put on Classcharts. Looking forward to seeing some creative creations!

Sixth Form

Catholic Life in the Sixth Form

The Sixth Form now have a new prayer. Our prayer links to the whole school prayer and follows the teaching of Oscar Romero who was Archbishop of San Salvador until he was sadly assassinated in March 1980. The Archbishop was well known for his courageous efforts and support of the poor in a time where corruption, social injustice and criminality was rife in the country of El Salvador. Our Sixth Form motto 'Aspire To Be More' and prayer now reflects the teachings of Oscar Romero. Our Sixth Form community prays together in morning and afternoon form time and brings glory to God through our service to others.

Lord, We follow the teachings of Oscar Romero as we pray, asking for the courage to 'Aspire not to have more, but to be more.' We take these teachings as we strive to see you in all things, in everything we do, and with your help, we will do it for you. In Jesus' name. Amen

Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Grateful and Generous	Attentive and Discerning	Compassionate and Loving	Faith Filled and Hopeful	Eloquent and Truthful	Learned and Wise
					

Father Toby

We have been delighted with the support provided by Father Toby in delivering mass and supporting the Sixth Form with our assemblies. Father Toby has kindly agreed to deliver a mini curriculum for our students on highly engaging and relevant local and global affairs.

- Peace and Conflict – with a view to what is going on around the world
- Solidarity – working as a student community
- The common good – looking after the world and each other
- Supporting the most vulnerable on society
- The power of silence

Character Virtues

Students in our Sixth Form should be role models to our younger students. We want students to continue to develop character traits that will set them up for the rest of their lives. With this in mind each half term we have a different focus and carry out activities and assemblies that help students reflect how they as individuals or as a community can demonstrate these important traits and values.

Lourdes Trip

A group of sixth form students will be going to Lourdes on a pilgrimage in South West France over Easter. One of the most unique aspects about the Lourdes pilgrimage is the social and spiritual journey students take during the months leading up to the pilgrimage. During the coming months students have hosted a number of fundraisers to help support the Hosanna House and Children's Pilgrimage Trust, a charity that helps support disadvantaged and disabled children around the United Kingdom.

Mr Rowan, who is leading on the trip, recently organised a fantastic Ceili in combination with the Birmingham Irish Association. The event raised £1723 for the charity and visitors gave brilliant feedback of our the Sixth Form students, who were a real credit to the college. A huge thank you to Mr Rowan for his brilliant organisation and leadership here.



Easter Fair

Exciting plans are underway to host a Sixth Form Easter Fair in our common room. We will be inviting in lower school students and local primary school students to enjoy the celebrations and to support this terms fundraising efforts for the whole school charity St Chads Sanctuary. Year 12 Sixth Form students have been coming up with great ideas for the day. It looks to be another fantastic example of how our Sixth Form students have really brought into the ethos of the Sixth Form.

GCSE English Language re-sits

A huge congratulations to all of the students that re-sat their important English GCSE exams in November. We were delighted with the news that all students successfully passed these exams at grade 4 or above.

Creative Media Trip

A Level Media students this term went out to Wolverhampton University for a creative art and media experience.

Students had the opportunity to use and learn about some of the latest technology involved in creative digital media and film production. A brilliant experience and opportunity for the students.



Art Trip to London

Year 12 and 13 Art students had the opportunity to visit some of the world's leading Art museums in a residential trip to London. A great opportunity and learning experience for our students.



UCAS

Miss Darby and Mrs Colgan have led fantastically on supporting students through the UCAS process. From supporting them with personal statements, obtaining references and carrying out personalised one to one meetings with all students. The support received here by students is a real strength of what we offer in our Sixth Form. It has been really exciting to hear about the many offers coming in from universities all over the country and we wish students all the very best in securing their preferred choices for higher education.

Students are now encouraged to start to look at the student finance process. We hope the talk by Aston University was useful and provided students, parents & carers a good overview of what this process involves. Good advice now would be to carry out some research as to whether students may also be eligible for any extra financial support, such as through university scholarship and bursary schemes.

A Level History Trip to Auschwitz

Two A level History students had the fantastic opportunity of visiting Auschwitz in Poland to learn about the history surrounding the Nazi concentration camp. A real life-long learning experience for our students who once again were a credit to our Sixth Form. The students are now Holocaust Educational Trust Ambassadors and have shared their experiences with other students in our Sixth Form.



Geography Trip to Digbeth

Geography students this term visited Digbeth in Birmingham to learn about how the geography of the area has changed over time through concepts such as de-industrialisation and the more recent gentrification and regeneration of the area.



English Trip to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford

Year 12 English Literature students has the opportunity to visit the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford. This trip helped inspire and bring to life some of the literature they have been studying in lessons.



Cambodia and the International Student Committee

We are delighted to have been successful in our application for the government's Turing scheme grant. We will be taking a group of 14 Year 12 students to Cambodia for a once in a lifetime experience in June 2024. In Cambodia students will be delivering community development initiatives mostly based around two primary schools outside of a city called Kong Batebang and students will also have the opportunity to see some of the amazing sites that Cambodia has to offer and learn about its fascinating history and diverse geography.



Work experience

Year 12 have been securing some fantastic work experience opportunities that they will be carrying out in the summer term. Students have been introduced to Unifrog which offers excellent guidance into the types of experience needed to get into particular careers or university courses. We have also showed students how personal branding can also help them build up a portfolio of experiences and achievements and how this can be can hugely beneficial to them in the future. Students have been shown examples of students who have secured high level work experience places such as Aiden I (Mercedes F1 team) and Sophie F (working alongside Jess Philips the Labour MP for Birmingham) and how they went about gaining these brilliant and lifelong experiences.

Students are encouraged to see the Sixth Form team of staff if they are struggling to secure a relevant placement.

Year 13 Prom

Tickets for the Year 13 Prom are now on sale for students to purchase. This year's prom will take place at Highbury Hall on Thursday 11th July.

Summer public examinations

The summer examinations timetable has now been published. Please see the link below for full details of these examinations.

<https://bishophalloner.org.uk/sixth-form/welcome/gce-examinations-timetable>

Students should now be using all of their time effectively to prepare for these final examinations.

Year 13 study leave will commence on Friday 10th May.



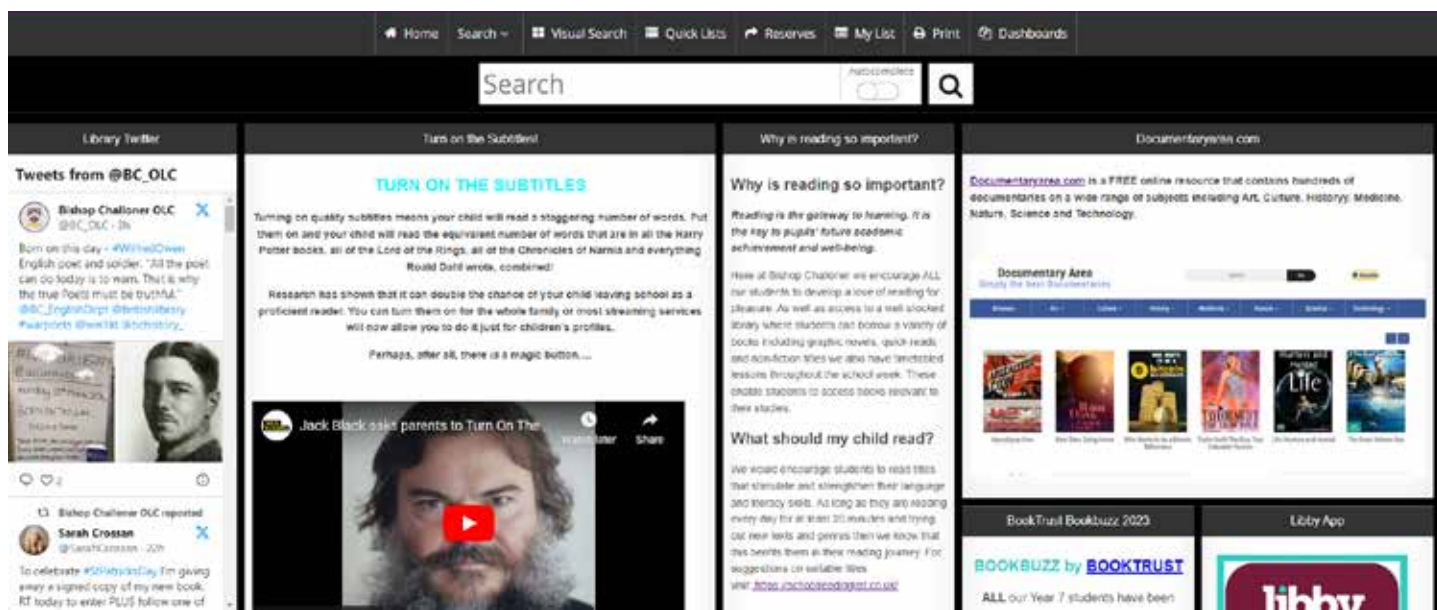
Library

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

Our library catalogue can be accessed by our Library dashboard hosted by Accessit - <https://uk.accessit.online/bsh09/#!dashboard>. You can search for books by title, author, subject, keyword, series, genre and ISBN. Once you have found the book you are looking for you can see lots of linked information such as a summary of the book, information about the author, reviews and even links to other similar titles.

You can also reserve books via the dashboard and will receive a notification when it is available.

The dashboard also includes links to various resources such as - Library Twitter, documentaryarea.com, LibbyApp (you can access thousands of free ebooks, magazines and periodicals here) Birmingham Library Catalogue, National Literacy Trust - and much more.



Work Experience

Year 10 & Year 12 Work Experience weeks are only a few weeks away. It is vital that all placements have a thorough H & S check to ensure our students have the best possible experience whilst in their chosen workplace. To enable these checks to take place we would ask that you can secure your child's placement as soon as possible. Ideally we would like all placement confirmation forms in by Tuesday 9th April.

For more information on our Work Experience programme please visit : <https://www.bishopchalloner.org.uk/about/careers/student-zone/work-experience>

For any queries please contact:
Mrs Newton - Yr10 Work Experience
b.newton@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

Ms Jacques - Yr12 Work Experience
a.jacques@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

Bishop Challoner on Social Media - As well as Facebook and Twitter you can now also follow us on Instagram. Check out the latest news from BC here:

<https://theheathbookshop.co.uk/THBF2024-Programme-Web.pdf>

Overdue Library Books

We currently have 361 library books that are overdue. If the average cost of a book is £10 then you can see how the cost of replacing these really does add up. Please take a few minutes over the Easter break to check your child's room, schoolbag or bookshelf and encourage them to return any library books they may have out that are overdue.



2024

Do you want to become a Local Leader of Maths Education?

Recruitment now open

Local leaders of mathematics education (LLMEs) are the teachers and education professionals who lead the work of the Maths Hubs at a local level.

Most are current classroom practitioners who spend some of their time leading the activity of their local Maths Hub.

Maths Hubs have the autonomy to identify, recruit and develop their own team of LLMEs, and, in doing so, create a vibrant professional learning community that reflects local need.



We are recruiting for the roles of:-

Primary Mastery Specialists

Secondary Mastery Specialists

Post-16 Mastery Specialists

Professional Development Leads

School Development Leads

To apply, please visit:



www.ncetm.org.uk/maths-hubs/about-maths-hubs/local-leaders-of-mathematics-education/



NCETM
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE
IN THE TEACHING OF MATHEMATICS

Closing date for applications:
1700 on Friday 29 March 2024

Training School



Did you know you can train to teach with Bishop Challoner? We are an accredited teacher training provider, and we have schools offering training in secondary and primary across the whole of the West Midlands. Wherever you live and whatever you want to teach, we have the school and course for you! One of the best things about our QTS/PGCE courses are that they are led by teachers and experts from Bishop Challoner and local partner schools - training with us means learning from outstanding practicing teachers. We support those just out of University, and career changers from all fields. We support you through the application and training year. Email trainingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk, call on 0121 444 4161, or email Emily Giubertoni, e.giubertoni@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk to talk about how we can help you get into teaching.



We've been working hard to continue supplying high-quality CPD to science teachers, technicians and department leaders over the last term. After hitting 76% of our annual income goals by Christmas, we're very pleased to now (at time of writing) be at 133%!

We've been busy running exciting courses in areas such as Microbiology, Climate Change and Radiation, alongside important practical courses supporting new subject leads, health and safety, and supporting students with SEND. We've also been working hard to put together our Summer Primary Conferences and our Secondary Subject Leaders' Development Days, both of which are recruiting well and looking to be really engaging and beneficial days for delegates.



We've been continuing to work with our Enthuse Partnership schools. Enthuse Partnerships provide up to £25,000 of CPD and support to disadvantaged schools, an exciting opportunity for these schools that enables school-led sustainable change, utilising the resources already available through the SLP to help them to improve their institution across the board. We've arranged large events specific for certain EPs, such as the STEM Conference for St Margaret's in January (pictured), which had over 100 attendees, and several courses that are available to whole EPs, such as our upcoming Working Scientifically Webinars (which has already got up to 30 bookings per session!).

We're continuing to train up new PDLs who will be delivering our CPD for us, letting us run more courses and helping us to network with new schools across the West Midlands.

We have an innovative and dynamic CPD programme for some of the country's largest MATs including Ormiston Academies Trust and Outwood Grange Academies, and we are in the process of organising CPD for Ark Trust and Academy Transformation Trust. Our work with OAT provides a high proportion of our closed CPD, and we anticipate similarly productive relationships with Ark Trust and Academy Transformation Trust.

All in all, we've had a highly productive and positive Spring term, and we eagerly await continuing our exciting plans in the upcoming Summer term.

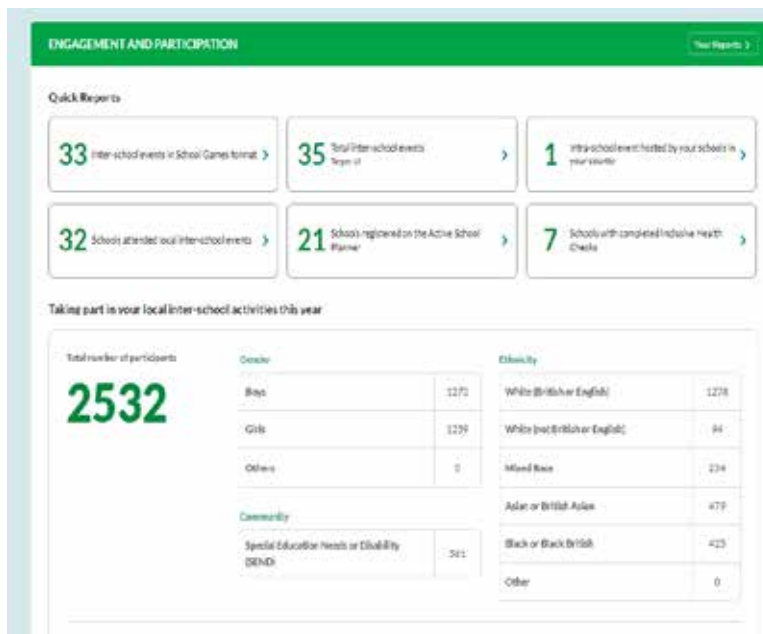
slp@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk



School Games and PE & Sports Premium Programmes

School Games Events

It has been another busy term with over 1700 pupils from Y2-11 taking part in our School Games events. These have included competitions and festivals in boys and girls indoor athletics for Y5-6 and Y7-8, girls football for Y3-4, Y5-6, Y7 and Y8-9, Y2-3 boys multi skills, Y3-4 badminton, Y3-4 and Y5-6 dodgeball and Y5-6 basketball. Thanks to all schools who have taken part and who have hosted events.



Girls Football

On International Women's Day, 8th March, we organised several football events for Y3-4, Y5-6, Y7 and Y8-9 pupils as part of The FA's 'Let Girls Play' initiative. We had 10 teams from Y3-4, 10 teams from Y5-6, 5 teams from Y7 and 6 teams from Y8-9. This totalled over 300 girls playing football, having fun and being active. Events were hosted at Christ Church School and Birmingham City FC Training Ground, so thanks to Miss Potter and Mr Wells from Christ Church School and Mr Minchin from St Catherine of Siena for running the Y5-6 competition

Primary and Secondary Sports Leadership

In February, we provided refresher training to over 100 pupils and staff from 6 primary schools. We discussed successes and challenges, demonstrated new games as well as the STEP (Space, Task, Equipment and People) principle of adapting playground games to make them easier or harder.

We have also recruited, trained and deployed sports leaders from Bishop Challoner, Christ Church, Moseley and Swanshurst Girls Schools and these students have officiated at a range of events including boys and girls football and our Y2-3 multi skills event. We have also recruited and deployed students from South and City College to officiate at events, such as football festivals and a dodgeball competition.

Bishop Challoner visited the Year 6 Play Leaders and Year 5 Wake Up Shake Up Team today. Outstanding Leaders keeping all children active at break times and lunchtimes. 🦋🦋🌟 @ourladyoflourdessports @BCSGO



Professional development for primary schools

We have delivered numerous CPD sessions to teaching staff in local primary schools this term. These have been led by various members of the PE department and we really appreciate their time and commitment in supporting primary school PE. Sessions delivered include SHARP practical and theory at Park Hill and Ark Tindal by Mr Noone and Mr Brade at Our Lady of Lourdes and 'What does an outstanding PE lesson look like' by Miss Rigby at Park Hill. 1:1 coaching sessions have also been led by Mr Noone, Mr Carter and Mr McDermott at Woodthorpe, Cotteridge and St Mary's in SHARP principles and gymnastics planning and modelling. Staff courses have also been organised by Miss Ellis in Gymnastics, Miss Shirley in athletics and by Billesley Primary School in EYFS physical development.

Social Media

You can follow all our work on 'X', @BCSGO, where we now have over 1400 followers. Some examples are below.

Woodthorpe J&I @woodthorpeji · Feb 27

Well done to our Y5/6 Basketball Team who travelled over to @BishopChalloner to take part in the latest @BCSGO festival. 🏀 The team played games against 6 other local schools, with plenty of great basketball on show. Many thanks to Mr McDermott and parents/carers. #WJISPESSPA



ourladyoflourdes @ourladyoflourd1 · Feb 7

Well done for showing great determination and team work year 2 boys! #OLOLPE @BCSGO



@stjosb30school
@stjosb30school

Well done to our children who represented the school at their first basketball festival. They had a great time and scored some fantastic points! Thanks to @BCSGO for organising 🏀

Billesley Primary @BPrimary · Feb 20

Amazing evening of badminton at @CCSecondary with @BCSGO. Our year 4 children absolutely lived the opportunity to develop and learn new skills. The @CCSecondary leaders were excellent. Thanks to all involved in helping organise the event. @ElliotFndtn



You reposted

SS John & Monica's @SSJohnMonicas · Jan 17

Our Year 5 and 6 children did us proud today at our Athletics event! They all gave their best, supported and encouraged each other and celebrated each other's success! A massive thank you to all involved in organising and running the event 🙌💛 @BCSGO



Billesley Primary @BPrimary · Jan 23

Thanks to @BCSGO and Mr McDermott for organising this evenings Year 3/4 Dodgeball festival at @MoseleySchool. The children had an amazing time and well done to all the other schools who made the event so enjoyable. @ElliotFndtn



Bishop Challoner SGO @BCSGO · Feb 20

Up and running with our @BadmintonEngnd Y3-4 Racket Pack festival with pupils from @BPrimary @StAlbans_Sch @St_Martin_Sch and excellent leaders from @CCSecondary. Great skills and teamwork being shown by all. Well done, @BishopChalloner



Careers

Despite the shorter term, there is still plenty to report on from the Careers team. 31st January was the UCAS deadline this year. A total of 83 Year 13 students made UCAS applications this year and applied for a range of degree courses at a range of universities throughout the UK. The next steps for these students is to secure their accommodation if they are living away from home and completing student finance applications. We are continuing to support students looking for employment or apprenticeship opportunities as a preferred pathway.

The beginning of March was National Careers Week and there were a number of Careers events taking place. Wednesday 6th March was Year 9 Raising Aspirations Day involved a wide range of employers delivering a series of one-hour sessions to Year 9 students throughout the day. Students also heard about vocational courses, apprenticeship and university as post 16/18 pathways. Thursday 7th March was the annual Careers Fair for Year 8, 9 and 10 as well as Year 12 and 13 students. As well as the fantastic variety of training providers, colleges and universities in attendance there was also a large number of employers representing the construction, creative, business, engineering, healthcare, digital and sport sectors to name a few. Feedback from students has been really positive. It was particularly inspiring to welcome former students Finn Monaghan (representing Edge) and Jack Ruane (representing RPS and RICS) to talk to our current students about their career pathways and job roles. Year 13 students who are looking for a degree apprenticeship in Quantity Surveying were encouraged to bring their CV with them so that they could talk to the companies in attendance who are recruiting. Some really positive discussions were had on the day, and I know that interviews are being set up as a result of these.



University of Birmingham Trip

This week we took a large group of Year 10 students to The University of Birmingham to start forming ideas about their Post 18 ideas. The students enjoyed a student ambassador led tour around the campus, which was looking very spring-like with all its blossom and daffodils. Students also enjoyed guessing the name of degree courses and asked the student ambassadors some brilliant questions in the Q&A panel.

Alongside all of these events, Year 11 students have continued to receive their one to one careers meetings and taken part in focussed group works delivered by our Careers Advisor, Mrs Colgan. If you have any concerns or queries about your son/daughter's next steps, please contact Mrs Colgan on (e.colgan @bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk).



BC Wellbeing News

#3 @BCCCWellbeing

Easter 2024

Wishing you a grateful Easter! May the holidays bring you feelings of gratitude, hope and renewal!

Easter is the most important event in the Christian calendar, a celebration of Jesus' resurrection, which offers us the chance of eternal life. It is time when Christians reflect with gratitude on Jesus' sacrifice. Yet, long before Christ, this season was marked with celebrations to mark the arrival of Spring: a time of rebirth and renewal. So, whatever your faith, and however you celebrate Easter, it might be a good time for some grateful reflection as well as making use of the lighter evening and warmer weather to regenerate and set some new well-being targets.

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. 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.

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.



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.

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.

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/>

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/>

Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid:

0808 800 0028
<https://bswaid.org/>

How can we best help young people manage their well-being?

This is a question we are often asked. With fast-paced lifestyles, exam pressures, image under scrutiny and no escape from worries with the ever-present online world, it can seem that people today have it so much harder than previous generations. Here are some suggestions, collected from a variety of sources:

1

In all things, set a good example by modelling the behaviour you want your child to adopt.

2

Have purposeful time away from your phone/ electronic devices

3

Value your sleep and develop good habits around sleep

4

Demonstrate the value of being organised- plan for the week ahead

5

Eat healthily and keep well hydrated

6

Be active life- find a physical activity you enjoy and participate regularly

7

Stay calm when things go wrong. Avoid catastrophising

8

Take time each day to be grateful

Get Outside to Boost Well-being

Let's assume we will be blessed with some better weather in the coming weeks and plan for more time outside!

Do some gardening

Even if you only have room for a couple of pots or a window box- it's very mood enhancing watching something grow.



Discover a new country or city walk

We are fortunate to have some lovely countryside on our doorstep! Why not take a bus out to the Lickey Hills? Or if you don't want to go that far, how about a wander along the canals?



BIRMINGHAM

Do some nature spotting

Are we all so glued to our devices that we've forgotten how to appreciate the natural world on our doorstep? Just walking down the street or across the park, take some time to listen to the birds, admire the blossom and you may even spot some more exotic visitors!



Have a picnic

Who says picnics are only for when you are away from home. If the weather's nice, why not have you lunch on a bench or patch of grass somewhere?



Exercise in the fresh air

An outdoor exercise routine costs nothing in gym membership and does you just as much good. You can get the same fitness benefits, plus the natural mood enhancers of green space and daylight.



The following links may be useful:

<https://www-youngminds-org-uk/parent/parents-a-z-mental-health-guide/exam-time/>

Rail Safe Friendly Team

<https://learnliveuk.com/network-rail-secondary-school-safety-talk/>

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 pleated school skirt. Girls are also reminded that if they choose to wear a skirt, then they should wear plain, black, opaque tights. Students are reminded that black leather school shoes should be worn and that trainers/trainer style shoes are forbidden.

Please note that school shoes must be kept completely black and boots of any kind are not allowed.

Our uniform requirements are complemented by a smart appearance and as such, hair styles that should not have a distinct contrast in length. Hair that is dyed must be of a natural hair colour and may not contain more than one colour. To avoid a health and safety risk, long hair must not impede vision or cover the face, except for a fringe which must not cover the eyes. Long hair must be tied up for practical lessons. Religious or cultural head coverings must be black and securely tied for practical lessons. Hair bands or accessories must be for functional use to secure the hair. Where hairbands are worn they must be black. 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. Necklaces and bracelets must not 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.

Year 7 Summer Term

From Monday 8th April, Mrs Jethwa will assume the role of Head of Year 7 for the remainder of the academic year.

Mrs Jethwa will be assisted by Mr Fell and Mr Keeley who we welcome to the team. We would like to thank Miss Beard for her outstanding service to the Pastoral team.

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

Please click here to view our latest communication on the usage of mobile phones in school.

First Aid Reminders

Please inform the school of any new medical conditions or investigations, this is extremely important in helping us to correctly support your child's medical needs in school. We also need current emergency contact details, if these have changed you must contact the school with new details for our records.

Emergency Contacts

It is imperative we have your current correct contact information on our systems. Please inform the school if anything has changed, especially telephone numbers.

Asthma

Asthma is a chronic long term condition, it can be well managed and in many cases some don't suffer severely, however if you have been diagnosed with Asthma even if you have it well managed you must carry an inhaler on you.

Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Diabetes

In order for your children to participate safely with Trips and offsite events including offsite PE, they must carry their medication with them. This is imperative for their safety and to avoid disappointment if unable to participate. Other medications must be handed in to first aid or the trip lead on the day.

Online safety out of school hours

We would like to remind you of the responsibility that parents and carers have, and the crucial role they should play in discussions regarding internet safety and in monitoring their child's online activity outside of school hours and throughout the holidays.

The link below will take you to some very practical advice from the NSPCC.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/safeguarding-child-protection/social-media-and-online-safety>

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- 93.6%

Year 8- 93.4%

Year 9- 90.9%

Year 10- 89.1%

Year 11- 92.0%

Whole School- 91.8%

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

At Bishop Challoner Catholic College we have a shared set of values and beliefs which enable students to fully engage with learning.

In order to live out our mission statement and develop our full potential, we are:

Learned in the classroom, always punctual, organised and prepared.

Attentive and listen to what is being taught, remaining silent when others are addressing the class.

Intentional and active and we follow all instructions the first time of being asked.



BC 7

Our 7 whole school standards help students to fully engage with learning and our school mission:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

1. We have good attendance and punctuality
2. We follow instructions given by adults
3. We are polite and show consideration, care and respect for others
4. We respect the right of everyone to engage with teaching and learning
5. We respect the environment, school property and the property of others
6. We abide by the school dress code and come to school with the correct equipment
7. We do not bring valuable items into school

Consequences will apply when either BC Basics or BC 7 standards are not met

Important Dates

INSET Day - School Closed
Monday 8th April

School Open
Y12 & Y10 Cyber Girls Day
Tuesday 9th April

Tea Party
Immunisation Mop Up
Y10 Judaism Synagogue Trip
Spring Soiree
Y8 Rosary
Wednesday 10th April

Y10 Health & Social Care Controlled Assessment
Wednesday 10th April -
Thursday 11th April

Y8 Cyber Girls Day
Tuesday 18th April

Y10 BTEC Sport Controlled Assessment
Thursday 11th April - Friday 12th April

Bronze DofE Practice Day Walk
Sunday 14th April

Y10 Health & Social Care Resit
Monday 15th April

Y10 Hospitality Insight Day
Tuesday 16th April

Allergy Awareness Day - Canteen
Y11 Geography Intervention
Y8 Rosary
Y10 Mock Interviews
Wednesday 17th April

Y10 BTEC Sport Controlled Assessment
Thursday 18th April - Friday 19th April

Y8 Personal Development Day
Thursday 18th April

DofE Silver Practice Expedition
Sunday 21st April - Tuesday 23rd April

Y11 French Speaking Exams
Monday 22nd April - Tuesday 30th April

KS3 Boys Football Development Tour
Parent/Carer Meeting
Monday 22nd April

Tea Party
Dementia Cafe
Y12 Jesus Christ Superstar Musical
Y8 Rosary
Wednesday 24th April

Early Finish 1.15pm
Platinum Jubilee Celebrations
Y10 Tuck Shop
Y7 & 8 Junior Maths Challenge
Thursday 25th April

Y8 HPV Immunisations
Friday 26th April

Parent/Carer Support Surgery
Tuesday 30th April

Y7 Personal Development Day
Y8 Rosary
Wednesday 1st May

San Francisco Parent/Carer Meeting
Thursday 2nd May

Y7 & Y9 Assessments
Monday 6th May - Friday 17th May

Y10 Carding Mill Valley Trip
Tuesday 7th May - Wednesday 8th May

Tea Party
Y8 Rosary
Wednesday 8th May

Ascension of Jesus Mass
Y10 Judaism Synagogue Trip
Thursday 9th May

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

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

Bronze DofE Assessed Expedition
Northfield Festival
Friday 10th May - Saturday 11th May

BGT
Y13 Last School Day
Friday 10th May

Y10 Assessments
Monday 13th May - Friday 21st June

Y12 Mock Exams
Monday 13th May - Friday 24th May

Y12 Challenges Abroad Trip
Monday 13th May - Sunday 19th May

KS3 Football Development Tour
Monday 13th May - Friday 17th May

Germany Day - Canteen
Y10 Mass
Y8 Rosary
Wednesday 15th May

Y10 Warner Brothers Studio Tour
Thursday 16th May

Tea Party
Y8 Rosary
Wednesday 22nd May

Culture Day
Cake Sales
Thursday 23rd May

Half Term
Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May



Follow us on Twitter

Official School Twitter
@BishopChalloner

Careers
@BCCareersSmart

Chaplaincy
@BC_Chaplaincy

Computing
@BishopChalComp

English Dept
@BC_EnglishDept

Green Group
@educating_eco

History
@bchistory_

Music Department
@BCPAmusic

PE Department
@BCPEDepartment

Teaching and Learning
@BcTeaching

Makes
@bc_makes

Wellbeing
@BCCCWellbeing

Chess
@bccchess

Performing Arts
@BCPAPA4

Social Sciences
@BCSocSciDept

Biology
@BCCbio

Sixth Form
@BCCCSix

Art Dept
@BCChallonerArt

BFood Department
@BishopFood

Judo Club
@BCJudoClub

MFL
@BishopMfl

OLC
@BC_OLC

SGO
@BCSGO

Sports Centre
@BishopCentre

TSA
@bctsa_training

1-1 Maths
@BC11M1maths

Central Maths Hub
@centralmathshub

Central Midlands SLP
@CentralMidSLP

Geography
@BCGeogDept

Maths
@BCMathsDept

Friends of BC
@bc_friends

STEM
@STEMBC

Teach Computing Central
Midlands
@BCComputingHub

Tolkien Cluster Schools
@PrimaryTolkien







He is risen

Happy Easter