

Dear Lord, please help me to appreciate the value of giving. Help me to realise that the giver is bigger than the receiver. Encourage me to believe that love has nothing to do with what I expect to get and it is only centered on what I am expecting to give. May I be encouraged to see that there's always joy in giving. Guide me to recognise opportunities to make someone happy through acts of giving. AMEN

Friday 10th November 2023

Message from Mr Hetherton, Senior Vice Principal

Welcome to the first edition of BC14 this half term and to the month of November – a period of remembrance and a time that we can give thanks to God our Father for all our loved ones who have gone before us. The month of November is represented by the liturgical colour green with green representing a symbol of hope and the colour of sprouting seeds and new beginnings.... Although November can bring with it a sense of real sadness, in remembering the past, we can also be encouraged to embrace the present and, similar to the sprouting seed, look forward to new beginnings with a renewed sense of hope, optimism and faith. As we prepare for what will undoubtedly be an extremely busy and active half term, let us hope that we all experience new beginnings in our lives.

This year, to commemorate Remembrance Day, The Royal British Legion are remembering and honouring significant anniversaries united by the theme of Service. This year also marks the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the Empire Windrush. Bishop Challoner Arts Hub will continue to build on the yearly Art installations, performances and projections by exploring the connections between the Armed Forces and the Windrush Generation, and mark their service and the part they played in rebuilding post war Britain. The focus of remembrance in November will be an outdoor photography display of historic Windrush images supported by the large soldier silhouettes, poppy sculptures and wall hung poppy piece. Installations will be complemented by projections of musical and dramatic performances. It promises to be a wonderful month.

The heartbreaking images coming from Israel, Gaza and Ukraine continue to highlight the senseless destruction of war and the devastation that this brings to so many families. More than ever these images depict a world in need of peace and reconciliation. Perhaps hope, optimism and faith, words often associated with the month of November, can inspire world leaders to demonstrate the necessary character to bring to an end the terrible suffering currently taking place around the world. To achieve this will require all parties to be humble and to show trust in one another, tolerance of one another and love for one another.

As we move into the second half of the autumn term I would like to share with you our school prayer for November – a prayer that will feature during form time and year group assemblies. It is a prayer that honours the memory of those who are no longer with us and a prayer of hope for the repose of their souls.

Merciful Father, hear our prayer and console us. As we renew our faith in Your Son, whom You raised from the dead, strengthen our hope that all our departed brothers and sisters will share in His Resurrection. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Amen

God Bless you all.





As we approach the festive period, it is likely that many of us will be increasing the number of deliveries we have to the home. Whilst the texts and emails from reputable companies act as a key reminder for times and dates, unfortunately, scammers are using these channels to trick people into handing over personal details or more. As we move into a period of increased home deliveries, please remember the following when interrogating a message, you have received:

1. Legitimate companies will never ask for personal details! They will have provided a tracking code at purchase.

- 2. To my knowledge have I ordered anything?
- 3. Ask others in the home if they have ordered anything.
- 4. Do I recognise the company name, is what I have ordered with them?

If you are unsure, do not click the links contained within the message.

Relationships & Sex Education

Over the course of the next few KS3 students will be looking at RSE in their RE lessons. Each year group will be learning about the following:

Year 7 unit

'Person I want to become'. Students will recognise themselves as a child of God, worthy of dignity and understanding themselves as they grow and mature into adulthood.

Year 8 unit

'Created & Chosen'. Students will become aware and appreciate our individual uniqueness and grounding in dignity as we navigate through different relationships.

Year 9 unit

' Search for Love'. Students will recognise that we are in control of our own choices, consider how we can be kind and bring dignity to different relationships.

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.

Year 10 Mock Examinations & Information Evening

<u>Please click</u> here for subject information and guidance on the upcoming Year 11 mock examinations.

GET IN TOUCH

In order for us work together, to best support our young people, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have information to share regarding the safeguarding or wellbeing of your child.

This is particularly important if there has been a change in circumstances for the young person.

Please contact Mrs K Peckover, Mrs M Nutt or any DSL or member of the Wellbeing Team.



BCTSA Training School

Bishop Challoner Training School paid Summer Internship

Our interviews have already started for next Summer 2024!

Applications for Teaching Internships are now open!

- Experience the teaching profession
- Start from June 2024
- · 3 week placement
- Be paid £300 per week
- Boost your CV

If you're an undergraduate in any year or studying for a Masters and interested in teaching secondary chemistry, computing, maths, languages or physics, you may be eligible to apply.

If you know someone who is at Uni at the moment who would like to have a 3 week, paid internship trying out teaching as a possible future career.

Some previous interns have gone on to be teachers with us and other schools around the country. Others just enjoyed the internship and gained some great new skills ready for other careers.

Please spread the word. A simple application form is on our website here:

https://www.bctsa.org/605/teaching-internshipprogramme

Attendance Updates

 Attendance Percentage
 w/c 06/11/23

 Year 7 - 95.2%
 Late Marks

 Year 8 - 94.1%
 Year 7 - 17

 Year 9 - 92.3%
 Year 8 - 20

 Year 10 - 90.9%
 Year 9 - 69

 Year 11 - 92%
 Year 10 - 38

 Whole School - 93%
 Year 11 - 46

Sports Updates

Chance to Shine Cricket on Monday was a leadership course in Cricket for year 7 girls

BGT before half term was a great success and was delivered in the Sports Hall for KS3. The sport was Tchoukball

On Tuesday, the Year 7 and 8 netball teams played in the school games

Skirts

Students should now be wearing a pleated skirt or trousers. Where families were provided until October half term to rectify some uniform/footwear issues please ensure that your son/daughter is now wearing the correct uniform. We thank you for supporting the school in ensuring that all students look smart and ready to learn each day.

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

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

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

Uniform Standards

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 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. Headwear that has religious or cultural purpose should 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.

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.

Faith formation in the family

Below is a list that reminds us of when and where Mass is celebrated in our local parishes.

You may wish to consider using this information to help direct your family to particpate frequently in the celebration of Mass in 2023.

Church	Postcode	Parish Priest	Sunday Mass Times	Saturday Vigil Mass Time
St. Dunstan's	B14 7JN	Fr John Peyton	10am 12noon 6.30pm	5.30pm
St. Jude's	B14 5PE	Fr John Peyton	9.15am	-
Our Lady Of Lourdes	B13 OEU	Canon Sean Grady	9am 11am	6pm
St Catherine Of Sienna	B5 7BE	Fr. Jagadishmario Kurapati (Fr. Mario)	10.30am	5pm
St Edward's	B29 7DB	Fr Denis McGillycuddy	10.15am	6pm
St Mary's	B17 0DN	Fr John Reid	8am 9.30am 11am 5pm	6pm
Sacred Heart and Holy Souls	B27 6RG	Canon Jonathan Veasey	8.30am 10am 12noon	5pm
English Martyrs	B11 3JN	Fr Robert Murphy	9.45am	6pm
St Chads Cathedral,	B4 6EX	Mgr Tim Menezes	9.30am 11.30am	4.30pm
Our Lady And St Brigid	B31 5AD	Fr Cecil Rogerson	9.00am 11.45am	10am 5pm
Our Lady Of Fatima	B32 1LL	Fr Philip Long Nguyen	9.00am 11.00am	6pm
St Ambrose Barlow	B28 8QU	Fr Paul Johnson	10.00am 5.30pm	5.30pm
The Oratory Of Saint Philip Neri	B16 8UE	Fr Anton Guziel	8.30am 10.30am 12pm 5.30pm	5.30pm
St Peters	B32 3QG	Fr Gary Buckby	9.30am	-
Our Lady And St Rose Of Lima	B29 5DY	Fr Gary Buckby	11am	5.15pm

Prayer and Worship

Each Monday morning we begin our school day with a reflection on the Gospel shared in Mass on Sunday.

Each week we share our reflection on the school website, you can view it <u>here</u>.

We would strongly encourage parents/carers to engage in developing their children's faith by sharing this reflection together as a family. As a family you can discuss the message of the Gospel say the prayer together and share what personal messages we can take from this going forward.

Pre-loved Uniform

We are hoping to be able to sell some pre-loved uniform at forthcoming Parent Consultation events. Thank you to parents/carers that already send in uniform that children have grown out of. If you have any of the following items in good reusable condition that you are willing to donate please bring them into reception and we will look to include them in future pre-loved uniform sales- blazers (boys and girls), pleated skirts, trousers, ties, PE kit (all items), royal blue sweatshirts, maroon sweatshirts. Thank you in advance for your support.

Upcoming Events

PE Sports Council World Kindness Day H&SC Controlled Assessment Anit-bullying Week Monday 13th November

Y8 Vocations Retreat Day Y12 Work Experience Workshop **Tuesday 14th November**

Sixth Form Open Evening Sixth Form Media Trip Y8 Rosary Wednesday 15th November

> Remembrance Event Thursday 16th November

Bishop's Got Talent Friday 17th November KS3 Chaplaincy Trip Road Safety Week Monday 20th November

St Chad's Mass Tuesday 21st November

> RED Wednesday Y8 Rosary Wednesday 22nd November

Flu Vaccine Mop Up KS4 Maths Challenge Y12 Maths Inspiration Trip Sixth Form Mass Thursday 23rd November

Y11 BTEC Sport Controlled Assessment Bishop's Got Talent Friday 24th November

Term Dates INSET School Closed: Friday 22nd December

Spring Term

Term Starts: Monday 8 January 2024 INSET School Closed: Friday 9th February Half Term: Monday 12 February 2024 to Friday 16 February 2024 Term Ends: Friday 22nd March 2024

Summer Term 2024

INSET School Closed: Monday 8th April 2024 Term Starts: Tuesday 9th April 2024 Half Term: Monday 27 May 2024 to Friday 31 May 2024 Term Ends: Friday 19th July 2024 INSET School Closed: Monday 22nd July 2024







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