

BC14



Message from Mrs M Moon, Assistant Principal

Friday 17th January 2025

Happy New Year!

This year marks the Jubilee Year, themed “Pilgrims of Hope”. The Jubilee Year began with the opening of the Holy Door at St. Peter’s Basilica and will finish on Tuesday 6th January 2026. This year of grace offers the Catholic community an opportunity to continue on the path of spiritual renewal, emphasising themes of forgiveness, reconciliation and holiness.

Our school community also embark on a path of significant decisions and growth. The upcoming weeks and months are filled with important decisions for our school and sixth-form community. Many of our Year 13 students are making crucial choices for their UCAS applications. We thank our teachers for their guidance and support throughout this process.

Year 11 and 13 students will soon shift their focus from mock exams to revision and exam preparation, gearing up for their final exams. We commend their resilience and dedication and wish them every success in the coming months. Additionally, Year 9 students will soon embark on their Pathway journey, making significant decisions about the GCSE subjects they wish to pursue at KS4. More information will be provided as this process begins. Year 8 students are currently completing their KAP 3 assessments. Please keep all our students in your thoughts and prayers over the next few weeks and months.

As we embark on the year of hope, let’s pray for hope for our school community, that they might continue to grow in faith and love through the challenges they may face and help us to be kind and show compassion for all, over this term.

A prayer of hope

God, our loving Father, in this Jubilee Year, you remind us of our call to love creation. Help us to work together to replant, repair, and renew.

Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope.

Jesus, our light, In this Jubilee Year, you remind us of our call to love our neighbours and to set free those who suffer. Help us to treat everyone with dignity; to be fair, forgiving and kind.

Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope.

Holy Spirit, our inspiration, in this Jubilee Year, you remind us of our call to grow in faith and love. Help us to hear you in scripture, to see Jesus in others, and to be united as God’s global family. Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope.

Amen

Year of Hope

Pope Francis has declared that the year 2025 will be a Holy Year of Jubilee for the Catholic Church, an event that takes place once every 25 years.

The theme for the 2025 Jubilee is “Pilgrims of Hope”, an invitation to showcase the hope of our Christian faith to people right across the world at a time when there is so much suffering from the impact of war, poverty, climate change, and the lasting effects of the COVID pandemic.

The Pilgrims of Hope Jubilee presents each one of us with an opportunity to reignite the flame of our faith in our own hearts and to share the light of that faith with those in darkness.

Here at Bishop Challoner Catholic College, we are excited to celebrate the Year of Hope with our students and our community and each week we look forward to sharing examples of what is happening to mark this special occasion.

This week during form time prayer and worship, students have been learning about the symbolic meaning of The Pilgrims of Hope logo and have been reflecting upon scripture and prayers that celebrate the beautiful messages of hope that can be found in scripture.



Next week we are looking forward to taking time across the school to join the official diocese Year of Jubilee launch on Friday 24th January. Students across the school will watch the launch and gather an understanding of the significance of the jubilee year. Our school choir are learning the songs associated with the launch and we look forward to hearing their recording and sharing this with the diocese for sharing as part of the celebration.

Furthermore, on Friday 24th students from our community will be joining a cluster Mass at St Dunstan’s Church to mark The Jubilee Year. Our students will join members of St Alban’s, St Jude’s and St Dunstan’s primary schools in a time of prayer and reflection to celebrate Pope Francis’ call to foster hope in our world.

We look forward to keeping you updated weekly on how we continue to mark the Year of Hope across our community.

Attendance Champions League

League Table

Week ending Friday 17th January

| Position | Club | Played | Wins | Draws | Losses | Points |
|----------|-------|--------|------|-------|--------|--------|
| 1 | 7SEB | 15 | 14 | 0 | 1 | 42 |
| 2 | 7BOS | 15 | 12 | 0 | 3 | 36 |
| 3 | 9LUK | 15 | 11 | 0 | 4 | 33 |
| 4 | 8BOS | 15 | 11 | 0 | 4 | 33 |
| 5 | 7TER | 15 | 11 | 0 | 4 | 33 |
| 6 | 7LUK | 15 | 11 | 0 | 4 | 33 |
| 7 | 9BER | 15 | 10 | 0 | 5 | 30 |
| 8 | 8LUK | 15 | 10 | 0 | 5 | 30 |
| 9 | 7CEC | 15 | 10 | 0 | 5 | 30 |
| 10 | 8SEB | 15 | 9 | 0 | 6 | 27 |
| 11 | 11SEB | 15 | 8 | 0 | 7 | 24 |
| 12 | 11BOS | 15 | 8 | 0 | 7 | 24 |
| 13 | 10TER | 15 | 8 | 0 | 7 | 24 |
| 14 | 10LUK | 15 | 8 | 0 | 7 | 24 |
| 15 | 10CEC | 15 | 8 | 0 | 7 | 24 |
| 16 | 11CEC | 15 | 7 | 0 | 8 | 21 |
| 17 | 10BOS | 15 | 7 | 0 | 8 | 21 |
| 18 | 9TER | 15 | 7 | 0 | 8 | 21 |
| 19 | 9SEB | 15 | 7 | 0 | 8 | 21 |
| 20 | 8TER | 15 | 7 | 0 | 8 | 21 |
| 21 | 8BER | 15 | 7 | 0 | 8 | 21 |
| 22 | 10SEB | 15 | 6 | 0 | 9 | 18 |
| 23 | 9CEC | 15 | 6 | 0 | 9 | 18 |
| 24 | 9BOS | 15 | 5 | 0 | 10 | 15 |
| 25 | 11LUK | 15 | 4 | 0 | 11 | 12 |
| 26 | 7BER | 15 | 4 | 0 | 11 | 12 |
| 27 | 11BER | 15 | 3 | 0 | 12 | 9 |
| 28 | 8CEC | 15 | 3 | 0 | 12 | 9 |
| 29 | 10BER | 15 | 2 | 0 | 13 | 6 |
| 30 | 11TER | 15 | 1 | 0 | 14 | 3 |

Results

Week ending Friday 17th January

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|----|-------|------|
| 7BER | 96.45 | VS | 94.12 | 9LUK |
| 9SEB | 94.85 | VS | 90.63 | 9CEC |
| 9TER | 92.19 | VS | 90.31 | 9BOS |
| 10BER | 92.58 | VS | 93.87 | 9BER |
| 10BOS | 95.67 | VS | 93.33 | 8TER |
| 10CEC | 95.88 | VS | 96.76 | 8SEB |
| 10LUK | 94.52 | VS | 95.29 | 8LUK |
| 10SEB | 96.00 | VS | 97.43 | 8CEC |
| 10TER | 89.69 | VS | 98.79 | 8BOS |
| 11BER | 86.18 | VS | 98.18 | 8BER |
| 11BOS | 95.81 | VS | 96.36 | 7TER |
| 11CEC | 91.03 | VS | 96.36 | 7SEB |
| 11LUK | 93.46 | VS | 97.65 | 7LUK |
| 11SEB | 94.64 | VS | 94.85 | 7CEC |
| 11TER | 90.32 | VS | 94.71 | 7BOS |

Fixtures

Week beginning Monday 20th January

| | | |
|-------|----|-------|
| 9CEC | VS | 7BER |
| 9BOS | VS | 9LUK |
| 9BER | VS | 9SEB |
| 8TER | VS | 9TER |
| 8SEB | VS | 10BER |
| 8LUK | VS | 10BOS |
| 8CEC | VS | 10CEC |
| 8BOS | VS | 10LUK |
| 8BER | VS | 10SEB |
| 7TER | VS | 10TER |
| 7SEB | VS | 11BER |
| 7LUK | VS | 11BOS |
| 7CEC | VS | 11CEC |
| 7BOS | VS | 11LUK |
| 11TER | VS | 11SEB |

RSE Updates

Year 8, 10 and 11 will be engaging in their RSE units during RE lessons this half term. All lessons are created by Ten:Ten and approved by the Catholic Church:

Year 8 'Created & Chosen'. Students will become aware of and appreciate their individual uniqueness and grounding in dignity as they navigate through different family relationships and friendships.

Year 10 'Authentic Freedom'. Students will gain an understanding that there are different beliefs, attitudes and values in the world, alongside recognising their own.

Year 11 'Self Worth'. Students will gain an understanding to support their own dignity in all relationships and an understanding of life cycles.

Liquid Paracetamol

We do not provide liquid paracetamol such as Calpol please provide this to school if your child can not take tablets and you wish for them to take paracetamol. This will be kept safe in first aid for your child only.

UoB School of Chemistry

We are looking forward to a team of students from, the University of Birmingham, School of Chemistry, joining us in two Year 10 classes to run sessions looking at the effects of Toxicology on plant growth.

The team will visit for 2 lessons with each class, as part of a national project which gives students the opportunity to participate in a real research project and gather data which will be used by the University.

Born For This

Calling all parish youth groups and young people to join Kenelm Youth Trust on Saturday 29th March 2025 at Thomas Aquinas Catholic School & Sixth Form at 10am-7:30pm to present 'Born For This' (BFT).

Born For This is an incredibly compelling and dynamic depiction of the Stations of the Cross in words, drama, and music - with songs, written by Jo Boyce, who was inspired by the incredibly powerful poetic reflections on the Stations of the Cross by Jude Martin in January 1994. This is an excellent opportunity to invite your Chaplaincy team or Parish Youth Group to be a part of this incredible production. Follow the link for more information.

<https://www.kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk/born-for-this-2025.html>

Eco Club

In Eco Club we have been working hard on our Active Travel Ambassador campaign ahead of the Campaign Junction event on Thursday 13th February with other Birmingham schools. We are hoping to encourage walking to school more, watch this space for our campaign!

Easy Fundraising

A reminder that we are registered with easyfundraising, an amazing platform that partners with over 7,000 brands to help raise funds for good causes - and it costs you absolutely nothing!



Here's how it works:

1. Sign up for free at the link below or QR code
2. Shop online as you normally would through easyfundraising.
3. The brands you shop with will donate a percentage of your purchase to our school - no extra cost to you!

It's simple, free, and those little donations really add up to make a big difference for our school community.

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bishopchallonecatholiccollege/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=email-1

Assembly and Form Resource Focus

The assembly themes so far in this new term have covered New Beginnings and The Importance of Attendance. We welcomed back our students with a cultural literacy themed assembly on the origins of how New Year began back in the Roman Times with the Gregorian Calendar and how the God of Janus' two faces represented saying goodbye to one year and welcoming in another. Students were reminded about the Year of Hope and in the Church's Jubilee Year how Pope Francis has called us all to spread Hope to others. This week the assembly on Attendance and Punctuality has reminded students how much we want them to be in school and how important good attendance is to our overall achievements both academically and for good mental health and well-being. Students have been reminded again that staff are always here to discuss any issues that may be affecting attendance or punctuality.

The Form Resource topics have been a January reset on our Standards for Learning Curriculum and our Faithful Virtues. At the core of everything we do in school, we have our BC Basics and encourage our whole school community to live out our Mission Statement and show respect to others. Students engaged in an interactive session, led by form tutors, and reset some of the expectations and standards for 2025. This week the theme in form was looking at the origins of Blue Monday and how many say that the third Monday in January is just a PR stunt to encourage money to be spent and holidays to be booked! We discussed the meaning of true happiness and how to spread Joy and Hope in January; particularly pertinent in our Year of Hope. Our focus was on the climate crisis and how we can all take small actions to help make changes and bring hope to our shared world.

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 participate frequently in the celebration of Mass throughout the year.

| Church | Postcode | Parish Priest | Sunday Mass Times | Saturday Vigil Mass Time |
|----------------------------------|----------|---|--|--------------------------|
| St. Dunstan's | B14 7JN | Fr John Peyton | 11.30am 5.30pm | 4pm |
| St. Jude's | B14 5PE | Fr John Peyton | 10am | - |
| Our Lady Of Lourdes | B13 0EU | Canon Sean Grady | 9am 11.30am | 6pm |
| St Catherine Of Sienna | B5 7BE | Fr. Jagadishmario Kurapati (Fr. Mario) | 11am | 5.30pm |
| St Edward's | B29 7DB | Fr Denis McGillicuddy | 10.15am | 6pm |
| St Mary's | B17 0DN | Fr John Reid | 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 | 8.15am 10.30am | 6pm |
| St Chads Cathedral, | B4 6EX | Bishop Tim Menezes | 9.30am 11.30am | 4.30pm |
| Our Lady And St Brigid | B31 5AD | Fr Cecil Rogerson | 10am 5.30pm | 5pm |
| Our Lady Of Fatima | B32 1LL | Fr Philip Long Nguyen | 11am | 6pm |
| St Ambrose Barlow | B28 8QU | Fr Paul Johnson | 10am 5.30pm | 5.30pm |
| The Oratory Of Saint Philip Neri | B16 8UE | Fr Anton Guziel | 7.30am 8.30am 10.30am 12.15pm 5.30pm | 5.30pm |
| St Peters | B32 3QG | Fr Gary Buckby | 8.45am | - |
| Our Lady And St Rose Of Lima | B29 5DY | Fr Gary Buckby | 11.30am | - |
| St John and Martin's | B12 9RG | Fr Baburao Pureti | 9.30am | 4pm |

Prayer and Worship

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

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.

School Reminders

Contacting School

Communication between home and school is very important, in the event that you need to contact school please be reminded of the following procedures.

School telephone number- 0121 444 4161

Option 1- To report an absence

Option 2- Head of Year/Pastoral concerns/enquiries

Option 3- Sixth Form enquiries

Head of Year Contact

All Heads of Year and Assistant Heads of Year have teaching commitments; therefore any Head of Year/Pastoral enquiries should be directed through Option 2 for students in Year 7-11 or option 3 for students in Year 12 or 13.

If student services staff are not available to answer your call in person, please leave a message with the nature of your enquiry/concern and you will get a call back from the most appropriate member of staff at their earliest convenience. We aim to respond to all contact by the end of the next working day.

Senior Staff Contact

Contact with Head of Year and/or Head of Department is expected to have been made before issues are escalated to Senior staff. Should you need to speak to a Senior member of staff, please contact school by phone and select Option 2 or 3, depending on the year group of your child and request a call and the most appropriate Senior member of staff will contact you at their earliest convenience.

Meeting Staff

Any requests for a face to face meeting with staff should be made using the same contact details as above. Please ensure that the purpose of any meeting request is made clear. A member of staff may contact you before a meeting is arranged if more information is required.

Please do not attend school without an appointment unless there is a safeguarding emergency.

Safeguarding Concerns

If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact school and ask to speak to a DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). Mrs Peckover is the Senior DSL.

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.

To report an absence please call the main school number 0121 444 4161 and select the correct option for your child's year group.

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

Thank you for your co-operation.

First Aid Reminders

Medication; All medication should be handed into first aid and not carried by the students. Exception EpiPen, Asthma inhalers, insulin. Tranexamic acid in special circumstances.

Please make sure we have the correct medical information and emergency contact details, if you have changed your phone number or there is any change in medical conditions or concerns, please contact first aid using the enquiries email or the main school phone number.

Please send children into school with a water bottle they can re-fill, it is important children stay hydrated.

Students with Asthma must carry with them their own personal inhalers. This includes offsite activities and school trips to ensure they can participate safely.

Mobile Phones

Students should not be contacting parents/carers when they feel unwell and requesting to be collected from school. In the event that a student is unwell they MUST go to the First Aider who will deal with them. In the event that a student is not well enough to stay in school, the First Aider will contact parents/carers to arrange collection.

Students who contact their parents/carer directly and do not follow the procedures in place will be sanctioned, this may result in their mobile phone having to be handed in to the Pastoral office each day. The use of anyone else's mobile phone risks that person being sanctioned also.

Please do not arrive at school to collect your child unless school have contacted you to do so. We do not have school staff readily available to collect children. Thank you for your support and co-operation.

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.

2024-2025 Term Dates

Spring Term 2025

Term Starts: Monday 6 January 2025

Half-term: Monday 17 February 2025 to Friday 21 February 25

Term ends: Friday 11 April 2025

Summer Term 2025

Term Starts: Monday 28 April 2025

Half-term: Monday 26 May 2025 to Friday 30 May 2025

Term ends: Friday 18th July 2024

INSET Days

Wednesday 5th February 2025

Monday 24th February 2025

Monday 21st July 2025

| Spring Term 1 | |
|---|--|
| Every Tuesday | Rosary |
| Every Thursday | Community Mass 11.30am |
| Wednesday 22nd January | Tea Party |
| Thursday 23rd January | Year 10 UoB Chemistry Visit |
| Sunday 26th January | Basketball Super League Trip |
| Tuesday 28th January | Bishop's Got Talent Year 10 Mass Year 9 Emerging Careers |
| Wednesday 29th January | UCAS Application External Deadline Year 10 and 11 (select groups) Intermediate Maths Challenge |
| Thursday 30th January | Catholic Games Year 10 UoB Chemistry Visit |
| Wednesday 5th February | INSET - School closed to students |
| Thursday 6th February | Canteen - Caribbean day Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening (more details to follow) Year 12 Auschwitz Visit |
| Monday 10th February - Friday 14th February | National Apprenticeship Week |
| Tuesday 11th February - Sunday 16th February | Ball Crew |
| Tuesday 11th February | Bishop's Got Talent Year 7 Disco Year 9 Emerging Careers |
| Wednesday 12th February | Tea Party |
| Friday 14th February | Demntia Ambrose Valentines Day Hamper Year 9 National Space Centre Trip |
| Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February | Half Term |



 **Comhaltas**
Ceoltóirí Éireann
Birmingham Branch

Traditional Irish Music Classes

at Bishop Challoner School,
Institute Road, Kings Heath B14 7EG
Thursday evenings at 7.00pm
from 12th September 2024

All ages and all instruments welcome.

Contact:

Branch Sec. belindahutchings@yahoo.com
Branch Chair, Marian Dwyer, Text 07939 094797

Irish Music SESSION

on the second Sunday of the
month at Norton's, Digbeth, B5 5LS
from 3.00pm onwards.

Everyone Welcome

Regional Fleadh, Newman University, 6th April 2025



Second Sunday of the month

At Nortons Digbeth 1pm-3pm

Come along and listen or join in with a cúpla focal
Everyone is welcome to this monthly event.



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