



St Sebastian
Patron saint of: Athletes
St Sebastian, martyr,
Your body was strong
and the executing arrows weak.
May athletes be strong in
body and spirit.
Amen

Message from Mrs Giubertoni, Assistant Principal

Friday 20th January 2023

A warm welcome to all our families

Winter can seem like a cold and quiet time of year, but school life continues to buzz with enthusiasm, trips, brilliant lessons, and new projects for staff and students alike. The spring term at Bishop Challoner continues to be a busy term as students make the most of the opportunities outside the classroom. A year 12 trip to London to see A Streetcar Named Desire has been a particular highlight. Geography have been running field trips. We have made bookmarks in the library for our Bishop's Got Talent event, have run penalty shootout charity fundraisers, and run our most recent well-attended Bishop Challoner Tea Party event. Alongside this, our enormous roster of extra-curricular trips continues to run, and it is wonderful to walk around school at 8am or 4pm and see so many students taking part in the many clubs, from sports, to Warhammer, to creative writing, to drone club.

Academically, we congratulate our Year 12 and 13 students on the completion of their mock exams. As Year 13 come to the end of their UCAS applications, we thank all the teachers who supported them through the important process of writing personal statements, and generating references. As offers start to arrive, our students will be turning their attention to the final few months of exam preparation, and we will be supporting them through these final few steps to success. Lower down the school, Year 11 are working hard for their own approaching exams, with just a few short months left until the first exams begin. We spend a lot of time working with students to refine their revision techniques, and it is always worth a conversation at home. Our top tips for Year 11-13 revision can be found by [clicking here](#).

Year 8 are also approaching their 'T1' exams, and there is a host of advice and guidance on the website for parents/carers to help you understand the process and support your child. Please [click here](#) for information.

As a Catholic community, caring for others is at the heart of our values, and we are continuing to work towards School of Sanctuary status, through our ongoing commitment to caring for refugees. Please have a read by [clicking here](#) of just a few snapshots of the work we have done so far in lessons to support this, and don't hesitate to get in touch if you have ideas yourselves for how the school can further support refugees in Birmingham.

My best wishes to all our community

Timings of the school day - September 2023

[Click here](#) for more information.

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

5 Foundations of Effective Attendance Practice



Foundation 2 Supportive Policies, Systems and Processes

The approach to improving attendance is built on clear policies, systems and processes. This ensures continuous and sustainable improvement drives attendance practice. The attendance policy is understood by all stakeholders and allows the school to set, and maintain, high expectations to improve the culture of attendance.

Strike Action

You will have no doubt seen in the media that the National Education Union (NEU) has announced national and regional strike action for teachers in England on the following dates-

Wednesday 1st February 2023
Wednesday 1st March 2023
Wednesday 15th March 2023
Thursday 16th March 2023

We are in the process of assessing the impact strike action may have on staffing levels in school. Every effort will be made to ensure that school remains open on the above dates, any changes will be clearly communicated in due course.

Please be reminded that if school is open for your child you have a legal duty to ensure that they attend.

Year 8 T1 Assessment Window

Please visit the school website by [clicking here](#) for subject information and guidance on the upcoming Year 8 T1 assessments.

Crypto Currency became headline news during 2020 and 2021 as Bitcoin rose to a record high valuation. Alongside Bitcoin, many other 'coins' saw a sharp increase in value, that is until, the crash towards the end of 2021; Bitcoin lost nearly 30% in value from its peak. Many people wrongly interpret crypto currency as a quick money spinner with little to no risk, this is not true. Like any financial market, there are winners and losers with many people having lost savings, pension funds, and other substantial investments during the crash.



Due to the digital nature of the currencies, it is very easy to trade in large monetary amounts from a smart device. We encourage parents and carers to discuss crypto currency with their children, in particular the notation that financial and stock markets come with considerable risk. A risk compounded when individuals are entering a complicated field, they know very little about.

More resources on crypto currency and the dangers can be found here: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides/cryptocurrency>

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.

Parent/Carer Webinars

Weathering the storms of strong teen emotions: do's, don'ts and when to consider talking to someone

Date: Monday 30th January & Monday 6th February

Time: 12-1pm

Venue: Virtual via Zoom

More information can be found in [Latest News](#) on our website.

Register in advance for this meeting:

Monday 30th January - [Register](#)

Monday 6th February - [Register](#)

English Trips

A reminder that the following English Department school trips are selling fast on Schoolcomms!

Year 8

The Tempest trip on 10th March at The Globe

Year 9

The London theatre trip on 9th Feb to see "Much Ado About Nothing"

Year 10

The theatre trip to see Romeo and Juliet on 8th March

Don't miss this opportunity to see the plays in action as we are studying them!

Teacher Training and Internships with Bishop Challoner

We are pleased to share news about our 2023 paid summer Internship Programme! The DfE have granted Bishop Challoner the funding to host undergraduate University students for 3 weeks this June/July. Those currently studying for a degree in Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Computing and Languages can apply now for a place. You will get to spend time in the classroom and get paid!! A great way for students to see if Teaching may be a future career. Interviews will be starting from next week - so please share this with any University students you may know!

School Direct PGCE places are filling up, but we still have a range of secondary subjects and primary places available for a September start. Please visit ww.bctsa.org for further information.

TEACHING INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

Earn
£900



Places are being filled now ready for the summer!

3 weeks @
£300 per week

Monday 19th June to Friday 7th July 2023
Apply **now** for a place on this popular programme!



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



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

If so, apply to take part in our Teaching Internship Programme. Spend 3 weeks on our programme and discover the power of teaching to improve the life chances of students. Previous interns unfortunately cannot apply. Interviews taking place now!!

Apply now: <https://forms.office.com/e/Wxjse7Zt5r>

www.bctsa.org



Faith formation in the family

The start of a new year provides a perfect opportunity for families to reflect upon their faith and how we can come together to support each other on our journey of faith during 2023.

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 in 2023.

| Church | Postcode | Parish Priest | Sunday Mass Times | Saturday Vigil Mass Time |
|----------------------------------|----------|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| St. Dunstan's | B14 7JN | Fr Philip Harrop | 10am 12noon 6.30pm | 5.30pm |
| St. Jude's | B14 5PE | Fr Philip Harrop | 9.15am | - |
| Our Lady Of Lourdes | B13 0EU | 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 McGillicuddy | 10.15am 6pm | 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 [here](#).

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.



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

Sports Updates

Football

Congratulations to Chanelle who has successfully been selected to represent England in the U15 English Schools squad, this is a fantastic achievement, and we wish her all the best with this endeavour.



Year 7 played away at Lordswood Boys school in their 1st football league game of 2023. Challoner conceded two early goals in the first 10 minutes of the game. Challoner showed desire it and managed to equalise before the half. The boys stormed the second half, scoring 4 goals in emphatic fashion to win the game 6-2.

Fantastic win for the U12 girls in the West midlands cup, the girls will now progress to the next round.



Basketball

Year 8 Boys Basketball team still undefeated after 4 wins from 4.

2 wins out of 2 in the Junior NBA League and 2 wins out of 2 in the Birmingham Schools League.

Challoner beat Bromsgrove School 16-14, Yardley's School 38-4, Queensbridge 16-2 and Wheelers Lane 6-0.



3 x 3 Tournament

Students from year 7 & 8 participated in the 3x3 tournament. Great skills displayed from all teams, with our year 7's finishing 1st and 2nd in their competitions.



Bishop Challoner Extra-Curricular Clubs



| | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|--|--|---|--|---|--|---|---|
| Mon | <u>Breakfast & Games Club</u> 8-8.30am BC4 Mrs McGowan | <u>We Sing Choir</u> 3.15-4pm Mrs Choudhury FA1 | <u>Homework Club</u> 3.10-4pm Miss Wray | <u>Robotics Club</u> 3.10-4pm MC2 Mr Khatab/ Mr Ibrahim | <u>Art Club</u> 3.10-4pm A1 Miss Neal | | | | |
| Tues | <u>Breakfast & Games Club</u> 8-8.30am BC1 Mrs McGowan | <u>Touch Typing Club</u> 8-8.30am C2 Miss Wray & Miss Smith | <u>Y7 Literacy Club</u> 3.10-4pm BC4 Miss Wray & Miss Wheeler | <u>Textiles Club</u> 3.15-4pm Y1 Mrs Dana | <u>Drama Club</u> 3.10-4.10pm FA4 Miss Jethwa | <u>Chess Club</u> 3.10-4.30pm MC2 Mr Welch | | | |
| Wed | <u>Breakfast & Games Club</u> 8-8.30am BC4 Mrs McGowan | <u>We Sing Choir</u> 3.15-4pm FA2 Mrs Choudhury | <u>Homework Club</u> 3.10-4pm BC4 Miss Wray | <u>Girl's Cyber Security</u> 3.10-4pm MC2 Mrs Zekeic/ Mr Ibrahim | <u>Yr 7 Science Club</u> 3.15-4pm S1 Miss Start | <u>Gifted and Talented Maths</u> 3.10 - 4:10 M6 Miss Humphreys | <u>Maths drop-in Club</u> 3.15-4.10pm M1 & M3 | <u>Cookery Club in a Mug</u> 3.10-4.10pm T5 Miss Lynch | <u>Warhammer Club</u> 3.15-4.00pm Library Miss Flynn-Vilic |
| Thurs | <u>Breakfast & Games Club</u> 8-8.30am BC4 Mrs McGowan | <u>Keyboard Club</u> 3.15-4pm FA1 Mr Wertz | <u>Homework Club</u> 3.10-4pm BC4 Miss Wray | <u>Digital Art</u> 3.10-4pm MC1 Mr Ibrahim/ Miss Zekeic | <u>Dance Club</u> 3.15-4pm FA4 Miss Williams | <u>DI/STEM Club</u> 3.15-4 Y2 Mrs O'Connor | <u>Creative Writing Club</u> 3.15-4pm E7 Mrs Hodges | <u>BC Band</u> 3.10-4.10pm FA2 Miss Hughes | <u>Language Club</u> 3.30 - 4:00 L1 Ms Ton |
| Friday | <u>Breakfast & Games Club</u> 8-8.30am BC1 Mrs McGowan | <u>Debate Maze</u> 2.30-3.30pm Library Miss Lloyd | | | | | | | |

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 school skirt (not lycra or stretchy). Girls are also reminded that if they choose to wear a skirt, then they should wear plain, black, opaque tights. Students are reminded that black leather school shoes should be worn and that trainers/trainer style shoes are forbidden.

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

In order to complement the smart school uniform we insist that students' hair is smart in appearance and that students do not have shaved/razored hair styles or lines/patterns shaved into the hair. Extreme changes of hair colour are also not permitted. The final decision as to whether a particular haircut/style is appropriate is at the discretion of senior staff. **Braids are allowed.**

Make up, nail varnish and jewellery are not permitted with the exception of one pair of plain stud earrings which may be worn.

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

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

Attendance Update

Year 7 - %
Year 8 - %
Year 9 - %
Year 10 - %
Year 11 - %
Whole School - %

Winter Infections UKHSA Advice

Please see our [Latest News](#) section of the website for important information about winter infections

Sarves

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

Tesco Tokens Appeal

We have applied to Tesco for a grant for Breakfast Club, to provide free bottles of water and snacks each morning to our vulnerable students.

Please could I ask if you are shopping in Hall Green, to collect blue plastic tokens at the till and vote for our Breakfast Club.

We have previously been successful with grants from Kellogg's and Cash for kids but with costs rising and more students attending we really need these funds.

Upcoming Events

BC Tea Party
Canteen - Chinese Day
Rosary
Wednesday 25th January

Year 8 Assessment
Window
Monday 30th January -
Friday 17th February

Debate Mate's Urban
Debate League
Monday 30th January

10M1/11M1
Intermediate Maths
Challenge
Rosary
School closes at
Wednesday 1st February

KS4 Public Speaking
Competition
Friday 3rd February



Secondary



| Event Title | Event Description | Date/ time | Booking details |
|---|---|--|---|
| SECONDARY Non-specialist teachers | Specialist Knowledge for Teaching Mathematics (SKTM) | Session 1 – Jan 6th (still sign-up for Sessions 2-6 there is a catch-up for session 1) | SKTM Secondary Non-specialist teachers (link) |
| SECONDARY Y7-11 Coherence | This work group will help to incorporate elements of the Key Stage 3 Non-Statutory DfE Guidance into your curriculum | Session 1 – started in November (still sign-up for Sessions 2-4 there is a catch-up for session 1) Session 2 is online on Monday 30th January | Y7-11 Coherence |
| SECONDARY Y5-8 Continuity | Participants will explore a selection of high-quality resources. Checkpoints, Multiplicative Reasoning and Algebraic, Thinking materials. | Session 1 of 4 starting in February 2023 (twilight 4pm-6pm) | Y5-8 Continuity |
| SECONDARY Mathematical Thinking for GCSE | This is for teachers of KS4 who want to further understand mathematical thinking, and devise related practical classroom strategies. | Session 1 of 4 starting on Friday 20 January 2023 (ONLINE ONLY) | Mathematical Thinking for GCSE |

All programmes are fully funded so are FREE to participating schools/colleges.

View all programmes at: centralthub.com