

BC14

Message from Mr D Hearnden, Vice Principal

Friday 20th September 2024

This academic year has begun in earnest, and it is great to see our new Year 7 and 12 students settling into the hustle and bustle of school and college life.

Our Open Evening this week was an incredible success and was undoubtedly one of our busiest ever. Huge congratulations to all our staff and to all of our student helpers on putting on an outstanding display of excellence. The feedback from visitors as they left was extremely positive. Special praise goes to our Year 11 Guides- they were a credit to the school and a credit to themselves.

The extra-curricular timetable is now up and running which offers numerous clubs and activities. There is a hive of activity from early in the morning to time well after school and it is inspiring to see so many students taking full advantage of the plethora of clubs and activities on offer. Please encourage your child to engage in at least one club as I have no doubt that the experience of attending clubs offers students many new skills, the opportunity to form new friendships and helps to increase confidence too.

The year 13 A level Biology field trip was our first residential trip of the year. The weather remained fine for them and a successful time was had. We are looking forward to Monday 23rd September for our annual Drayton Manor trip we are sure this will be a successful trip and we look forward to many more exciting day and residential trip opportunities for students across the year.

This academic year is 'The Year of Hope'.

Attendance and punctuality remain a significant focus for all schools, not just ours this academic year. There have been some important messages given to students and you will have already received communication regarding the 5 Foundations and a letter from the local authority. On the whole students are attending well and most students are on time. Please continue to ensure that your child is in school every day and on time. This really is a collective approach, and we greatly appreciate your support, the children will be the beneficiaries in the future.

Lord our God, may we grow as people who think of others and see their needs never "passing by on the other side", but being willing to make sacrifices and be generous for the good of others. Amen.

Attendance Champions League

Our new attendance Champions League kicked off this week with forms going up against each other across all year groups to battle it out for the highest attendance percentage for the week. Look out for our league table in future newsletters to see how they are doing.



September is The Season of Creation
Prayer for Creation from Laudatio Si'
All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.

Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction.

Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain

at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,

to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognise that we are profoundly united

with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.

Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle for justice, love and peace.

5 Foundations of Effective Attendance Practice



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.

Welcome to Bishop Challoner Library

Over the next couple of weeks all Year 7 students will have an introduction to the library lesson with their English teacher. This will include a short talk from myself (Mrs Newton) Library Manager and then a chance to choose a free book as part of the BookBuzz scheme.

You can find out more about this scheme here: <https://www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/programmes-and-campaigns/bookbuzz/>

If you want to know more about the library please take a look at the attached welcome booklet.

We also produce a termly library newsletter called The Bookshelf. This can be viewed on the library page on the school website.

<https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/library>

To access the library catalogue please use this link:

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

Click the image to view our School Library Welcome Booklet.



Young Poet Laureate

Click the link for more information
<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/youngpoetlaureate>



Drayton Manor Important Information

We kindly ask parents/carers to collect their child away from Institute Road where possible on Monday 23rd September when they return from Drayton Manor.

We are expecting 12 coaches to bring 700+ students back to school between 4.30pm-7pm. Typically this will coincide with rush hour traffic, and with cars parked on each side, Institute road often comes to a standstill.

We advise parents/carers not to park on Institute Road to help reduce the congestion of traffic during this time.

Students that need insulin, Epi Pens, Inhalers and any other medication, must carry it on them on Monday for the trip. Thank you for your support.

Nasal Flu spray-protecting against infectious disease

Please see below a message from the Immunisation Team. Please [click here](#) to view the Flu Jab letter. This can also be viewed by visiting the Latest News section of our website.

Your child is due to have their Nasal Flu spray immunisation. The School Aged Immunisation Service (SAIS) will be offering these immunisations in school.

Please see the attached letter with details about the immunisation being offered.

Please use the link in the letter to let us know whether you do or do not wish your child to have the recommended vaccine.

We advise that you copy and paste the link into Google Chrome

If you need help or advice completing the consent form, please contact the SAIS team on the phone number 0121 466 3410 or via email BirminghamImms@nhs.net

Yours sincerely

Immunisation Team
Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Easy Fundraising

Our extra curricular and enrichment programme enriches the lives of young people in our school and gives them the opportunities to fulfil their full potential. Our programme runs 40 clubs per week ranging from book club to gymnastics.

Join easyfundraising and you can collect free donations for us every time you buy something online.

Sport

Well done to our Year 9 netball team for winning their first game of the school year.



A copy of the whole school timetable can be downloaded from our website by [clicking here](#).

Monday	STEM Club 3.20-4.20 (T4) Mrs O'Connor	Cookery Club (week1) 3.20-4 (T5) Mrs Higginson	Art Club 3.20-4 (A2) Miss Neal	Maths G&T (Y7&8) 3.20-4 (M3) Mrs Khatun	Vocal Ensemble 3.30-4.15 (PA2) Mrs Choudhury
Tuesday	Chess Club 3.20-4.20 (MC2) Mr Welch	Textiles Club 3.20-4 (T1) Mrs Dane	Interfaith Forum 3.20-4.20 (R1) Miss Reynolds	Music Club 3.30-4.15 (PA1) Miss Hughes	
Wednesday	Eco Club 3.20-4.20 (G2) Ms Rogers	Maths Drop In 3.20-4.20 (M1)	Cyber Girls Club 3.20-4.15 (C3) Mr Ebrahim	Book Club (Week 1 only) 3.30-4 (Library/ES) Miss Chance & Mrs Newton	
Thursday	Approaching Shakespeare: Critical Reading Group (week 1 only) KS5- English Lit students only 3.20-4.15 (E4) Mr Welch				
Friday					

TESCO Tokens for Breakfast Club

Please collect and deposit the blue tokens when shopping in any of the following TESCO stores to vote for Breakfast Club at Bishop Challoner Catholic College:

Hall Green Stratford Express, Small Unit, B28 8AB
Hall Green, Large unit, B90 3LU
Kings Heath Birmingham Express, Small unit, B14 6EB
Robin Hood Birmingham Express, Small unit, B28 0LG
Birmingham Alcester Exp, Small unit, B47 5PN



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.



LEARN IRISH NOW

Irish language course for beginners starting
October 24. In-person classes once a month
with online and printed resources to study at
your own pace at home.



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

All-Britain Fleadh, Bishop Challoner School, Kings Heath,
28th/29th June 2025

www.gaeilge.uk

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	10am 12noon 6.30pm	5.30pm
St. Jude's	B14 5PE	Fr John Peyton	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
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	Bishop 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.

Pre-loved Uniform

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, pleated skirts, trousers, ties, PE kit (all items), royal blue sweatshirts, maroon sweatshirts. Thank you in advance for your support.

Assembly and Form Resource Focus

This week, all students have been part of our Welcome to the New Year assembly which focuses on our Catholic ethos and how we can be prepared for the academic year ahead. These were led by both Dr Coughlan and our Heads of Year. It is wonderful to welcome back our students into what promises to be another exciting year ahead.

The form resource explored our Standards for Learning Curriculum and the core set of character virtues. The focus for this week was 'Faith-filled', the key message being that we can all lead in Jesus' example and be Faith-filled in our beliefs and hopeful for the future.

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.

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 co-operation.

First Aid

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.

First Aid and 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

Autumn Term 2024

Term Starts: Monday 2 September 2024

Half-term: Monday 28 October 2024 to Friday 1 November 2024

Term ends: Friday 20 December 2024

Spring Term 2025

Term Starts: Monday 6 January 2025

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

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: Monday 21 July 2025

Drinks

Fizzy drinks and energy drinks are not allowed in school, if they are seen they will be taken and disposed of. Please encourage your child to bring in a clear bottle of water, there are 2 water stations in school where they can re-fill.

Autumn Term 1

Autumn Term 1	
Monday 23rd September	Drayton Manor Launch of the Shoe Box Appeal Year 12 Bonding Day Year 13 UCAS Preparation Day
Wednesday 25th September	Rosary Sixth Form Senior Tea Party Year 9 Bletchley Park
Thursday 26th September	European Day of Languages Mass
Friday 27th September	BICA Ceili Cake Sale London Science Trip
Tuesday 1st October	Bishop's Got Talent Sixth Form Senior Maths Challenge Year 7 Mass
Wednesday 2nd October	Dementia Trip Rosary
Thursday 3rd October	Mass