

BC14

O' my Lord,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
As receiving You sacramentally is not always possible for some, come spiritually into our hearts. We embrace You, unite and rejoice in Your presence. May we continue to show your Grace and Love to all we encounter as we are loved and strengthened by you. Amen

Friday 21st January 2022

Message from Mrs Breen, Vice Principal

I hope this BC14 edition finds you and your families well. It is hard to believe that the month of January is speeding by so quickly and our everyday routines are still being impacted by the pandemic. Our students have been fantastic in complying with the restrictions which have been placed upon them and for this we thank them.

I wonder too how you are getting on with any resolutions you may have made and maybe struggling to continue with. Elizabeth Eulberg, a young American author wrote "I'll never understand why everybody puts so much emphasis on January first. There are three hundred and sixty-four other days in the year that you can make a change" I think they are very wise words and ones which I will try to follow in the future!

We think about our Year 13 students who are just completing their mock exams and are very busy preparing themselves for the next chapter in their lives. Please keep all our students in your prayers as they strive to reach their potential. Pope Francis has a great fondness for all young people and is always encouraging them to shine and like Pope Francis we truly hope that our young people find the inner strength to follow their dreams of achieving great things whatever they may be.

Life at school continues to be a very busy place and it is great to see so many students taking part in so many activities and sharing their talents. The recent Bishop's Got Talent showcased many of our excellent musicians and singers. Our extra-curricular activities go from strength to strength and it is great to see so many young people attending Debate Mate, which is held at 2.30pm on Friday afternoons. The STEM club has just relaunched and Ms Lynch continues with her eco projects. A full schedule of all extra-curricular activities can be found on our website <https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/information-about-our-school/enrichment/extra-curricular-life>.

Our Year of Giving continues to be a focus and again we thank our students and families for all your generosity.



I know this is a little premature but I can see the evenings are getting a little lighter as we prepare for Spring, my favourite season of them all. I can see my daffodils beginning to peep through and I wait in anticipation to see more colour in the gardens again. I truly hope that we can all look forward to the lighter evenings and enjoy spending time outdoors, in the meantime please stay safe and as healthy as possible.

Training School Update

With the new year now well and truly started, we know that some people will be thinking of a new career - and teaching may be one of the options. Join us for an informal online session on Thursday 10th February, where a trainee teacher will be in the hot seat to answer your questions on what it's like to be a trainee teacher. To book your place, just email us at trainingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk.

An Audience With...
a trainee teacher

We invite you to join us online and find out if teaching is the career for you

Train to teach with BCTSA in Birmingham and beyond

Thursday 10th February 2022 6.00-7.00 pm

See our website and book your place: www.bctsa.org

Chaplaincy Champions

Our Live Simply team met with our Primary School partners at St. Alban's on January 12th 2022 and discussed the importance of living simply, sustainably and in solidarity. Our Chaplaincy Champion leads Ella Louise B and Beatrice M were a testament to our faith and Bishop Challoner Catholic College. They led conversations on the power of prayer and the impact we can make. We are continuing our journey for the Live Simply Award with renewed energy.

Our Chaplaincy Champions hosted a bake sale where their entrepreneurship shone. They were present and passionate about giving glory to God through service. They raised £150 for charity.



Year 11 Consultation

Year 11 Consultation Evening will now be held on Thursday 17th February 2022, 6pm-8.30pm. As it stands, this will be an in-person evening with parents/carers invited to come into school. Further information on the arrangements for the evening will be communicated in due course.



As TikTok increasingly becomes more and more popular, and shows more and more relevance within mainstream media (such as the amount of adverts that are currently on TV promoting it), it is important that we equip ourselves and our children with the necessary information regarding safety on the app.

The app has an age restriction of 13 years and over according to TikTok's own terms and conditions.

By default, all profiles on the app are public when created - this means that users can see any profile without the need to follow or for a person to accept a request to follow.

The following is taken from: <https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/esafety-news/tik-tok-app-safety-what-parents-need-to-know/#tiktok-peggi-age>

Digital Wellbeing

Like Facebook and Instagram, it has a digital wellbeing element (which is password protected) that alerts users who have been on the app for more than two hours. You can also turn on 'restricted mode' to filter out inappropriate content on the app.

Private account

You can set an account to be private so that all videos can only be seen by the creator and no one else on the platform. With a private account, you can approve or deny users and limit incoming messages to followers only. Please note that even with a private account, your child's profile photo, username, and bio are still visible to all users on the platform. You can manage who can comment, duet and direct message your child on the app.

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 your child is absent due to Covid, there are some details that the school are required to take. It is likely that a member of the Student Services team will contact you to ascertain the information that is required.

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.

Climate Change Chaplaincy Conference at Alton Castle

On Wednesday 19th January we had the pleasure of joining in on one of three conferences hosted by the Kenelm Youth Group at Alton Castle. Ten of our Chaplaincy Champions were present in faith, conversations of solidarity in commitment to living more sustainably for the future and learning how each of us can individually make a difference.

Sixth Form

Absences

At this time of winter illnesses and with Covid still taking its toll, many thanks to the parents/carers who report absences to college, without fail. A reminder that any absence should be reported by the parent/carer each day (unless the exact period of absence is known) by calling.

UCAS

We have had the final push on university applications this week, to ensure that students meet the deadline of Wednesday 26th January. Thanks to families who have assisted in the cajoling of the stragglers! We are sure that their efforts will soon be rewarded with university offers. Our early applicants have had some great responses; several interviews for medicine and an Oxford offer to a student currently on a gap year.

Mock Examinations

As Year 13 come to the end of their Mock examinations, they are, once again, to be commended for their resilience and commitment. Any student who was not well enough to attend or complete their mock under exam conditions via teams will sit a different paper in the coming week, to ensure the authenticity of the assessment process, should there be a need to consider Teacher Assessed Grades in the summer. Currently, we are assured that the public examinations will go ahead.

Year 12 opportunities

In addition to the many events listed in the Opportunities Bulletin, there are opportunities in college to get involved in leadership: Mrs Lynch is recruiting for an exciting Eco project and the Mental Health Team is advertising for Sixth Form Well-being Ambassadors.

Mental Health Team Newsletter

Please [click here](#) to view our January newsletter. This issue no. 3 has some handy hints for dispelling the winter blues.

Student Well-being Ambassadors

An exciting opportunity for Year 12 students. We are looking to recruit additional Well-being Ambassadors, who will receive specific training. Job description and application forms available from Mrs Nutt. Please return by Wednesday 26th January.

New Year's Resolutions?

If you've already forgotten yours, how about focussing on the 5 Ways to Wellbeing instead?



Mental Health and Well-being Support



"Mental health is a state of well-being in which an individual realises his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and is able to make a contribution to his or her community."
World Health Organisation, 2018

At Bishop Challoner Catholic College we aim to promote good mental health and wellbeing for our whole community: students, staff, parents and carers.

We aim to develop protective factors by being a community in which all:

- are respected
- have a sense of belonging and feel safe
- are able to talk openly with trusted adults
- see good mental health as something to be valued and nurtured

We want all members of our community to:

- feel confident in themselves.
- be able to express a range of emotions appropriately.
- be able to make and maintain positive relationships with others.
- cope with the challenges of everyday life.
- manage times of stress and deal with change.
- thrive and achieve.

We aim to achieve this through:

- living out our school missions statement "...we give glory to God by developing our full potential..."
- our P4HSE curriculum
- awareness raising (wellbeing assemblies, tips for good mental health)
- listening to our students
- gaining insights via student voice
- working in partnership with parents/carers where there are concerns about mental health
- signposting sources of external help and advice
- making referrals and working with external agencies to provide additional support to those who need it
- recognising the importance of staff mental health and wellbeing.
- modelling healthy attitudes and habits

We are not able or qualified to offer:

- counselling
- testing and diagnosis of mental health conditions
- specialist therapies



Sports Updates

Basketball

Year 7 Boys continued their unbeaten basketball campaign with a convincing victory over Queensbridge, Terrance B was named MVP with a great display of shooting. Year 8 Boys narrowly lost out to both Queensbridge and Kings Norton despite some great performances from Tyler J. Year 10 boys produced a fine display which resulted in a convincing win over St Georges, with Daniel C putting in a star performance.



Table Tennis

Year 10 and 11 boys put in a solid performance against St Georges to win their first table tennis tournament of the year, Ali A was named as player of the tournament by Mr Noone.

Football

Year 8 Boys progressed to the quarter final of the Birmingham Cup with a 3-1 win over Plantsbrook.

Arrangements in the event of extreme weather conditions:

In the case of a possible school closure and such decision affecting Birmingham schools a decision will be made by 6:45am, at the latest.

All weather warnings can be found on:

- The school website, www.bishopchalloner.org.uk
- Recorded phone message which can be accessed outside of school hours
- Text message to all parents
- Local radio - Free Radio, Heart FM, BBC Radio WM

Unless there is a general Birmingham School closure announcement on the radio, school should be regarded as open.

Local Community

We are lucky that our school is in the middle of an extremely vibrant and busy community and High St. With this in mind, we ask that you remind your son/daughter of their responsibility to conduct themselves appropriately on the way to and from school and representing our school. Whilst the attraction of a few local retail stores and eateries is clear, students must not hang around on the High St or in the local area for longer than they need to, students should go straight to bus stops or walk directly home.

Upcoming Events

BGT - Chinese New Year
Monday 24th January

St John Bosco Mass Y7-13
Monday 31st January

Flu Vaccines
Tuesday 25th January

Early Closure - 12.40pm
Wednesday 2nd February

UCAS Deadline
Wednesday 26th January

Covid Vaccines - dose 2
Friday 4th February

Vacancy at Columbian Missionaries Britain

Applications are invited for the position of Housekeeping Assistant. Please click here for more information.

Primary School Tuition

- Qualified practising teachers
- 19 years of teaching experience across the primary age range
- Extensive SATs and 11+ Knowledge

Subjects offered:

- English
- Maths
- SATs preparation
- 11+

Options:

- Group tuition*
- One-to-one
- Online

*Group tuition carried out in purpose-built classroom @ Bishop Challoner School, Kings Heath

☎ 07771 357 996 ✉ teachersforyou@outlook.com

THREE AWARD WINNING SOLUTIONS:

- LIVE GROUP LESSONS
- INDIVIDUAL TUITION
- HOME LEARNING SUBSCRIPTION

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