

BCC14



God of love, You are the God who takes the side of the oppressed. You are the God who is close to the brokenhearted. You are the God who raises high the humble. We pray for refugees around the world. May they be welcomed with open arms. May their needs for food, shelter, clothing and love be met. May their wounds – emotional and physical – be healed. We pray that the world will hear their plight. We pray that the world will have compassion. We pray that the world will take action on their behalf. AMEN

Friday 21st June 2024

Message from Mrs Nutt, Assistant Principal

This has been a very busy week in what is always a very full school calendar. We have been marking Refugee Week across the school, with special lessons in all subjects. Students have learnt about the plight of refugees in the world today, the history of refugees in the Bible, written prayers for refugees and composed letters to politicians, to mention just a few of the activities that have taken place.

Today, in the early hours, a group of Year 12 students, accompanied by Mr Mullins and Mrs McGowan have set off on their long journey to Cambodia, where they will spend some of their time teaching English to local children. We wish them safe travels.

We have also welcomed visitors into our school for our Catholic Schools Inspection. This has been a tremendous opportunity to celebrate and demonstrate how wonderfully our young people respond, not just in their RE lessons, but their mission as compassionate young people, speaking out and acting on behalf of the most vulnerable and in leading worship in our school. How appropriate that today's saint's day is that of St Aloysius Gonzaga, a young man from an aristocratic 16th century Italian family. Aloysius died whilst still a student, caring for victims of an epidemic. He is also one of the patron saints of youth. St Aloysius Gonzaga, Pray for Us!



Leave in Term Time

Term time holidays cause significant concern. The direct correlation between attendance and attainment is undeniable. Absence from school interrupts teaching and learning and compromises progress. As per the letter regarding legal action sent at the start of the academic year, Birmingham local authority seeks to support Birmingham schools and academies in reducing the amount of education lost to student leave of absence in term time. Bishop Challoner Catholic College and Birmingham City Council strongly discourages student leave of absence during term time and parents/carers could be subject to court action and hefty fines. A recent leave in term time absence has resulted in a fine of £433. Please support the school and your child and ensure all leave is taken in the school holidays.

Assembly and Form Resources

This week, all students have been part of our Refugee Week assembly which focuses on being a School of Sanctuary and the fact that Jesus was himself a refugee. Students have interacted and been a huge part of our collective worship.

The form resource explored Water Safety with important messages for the warmer months. Key Stage 3 students have also looked at Active Travel, where they are being encouraged to have a more active approach to getting to school. The objective being to stop congesting our local roads and to boost our physical and mental health.

Year 12 Parent/Carer Consultation Evening

Year 12 Parent/Carer Consultation Evening will take place on Wednesday 3rd July, 4.30pm-7pm. Please follow the link to book your appointment: <https://bctsa.schoolcloud.co.uk/>.

Appointments must be made by the end of the day on **Monday 1st July**, if you have not made an appointment by this date, a subject teacher will make the appointment for you.

For more information please [click here](#).

Year 7 & 10 Parent/Carer Consultation Day

Year 7 and 10 Parent/Carer Consultation Day will take place on Friday 12th July, 8.30am-3pm. Please follow the link to book your appointment: <https://bctsa.schoolcloud.co.uk/>.

Appointments must be made by the end of the day on **Wednesday 10th July**, if you have not made an appointment by this date, a subject teacher will make the appointment for you.

Students are to attend in full school uniform.

For more information please [click here](#).

Hayfever

If your child suffers with hay fever, please provide medication Antihistamine/ eye drops etc. to school first aid clearly labelled in order for us to help support and make them more comfortable whilst here.

Drowning Prevention Week

This week is Drowning Prevention Week. Students have been learning about water safety in form time and have watched a very thought-provoking clip.

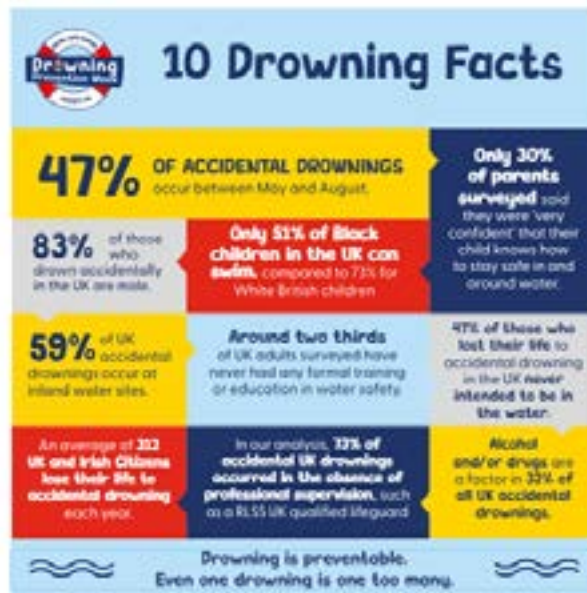
The Royal Life Saving Society has produced a booklet for parents which can be downloaded here:

<https://www.rlss.org.uk/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=0e8cadee-eeb5-419c-8e0d-4fe306c70cdc>

They have also produced animations aimed at young people of different ages.

<https://www.rlss.org.uk/drowning-prevention-week-animation>

As the holidays approach, we suggest you take some time to view these and have another conversation about water safety with your children.



2024-2025 Term Dates

Autumn Term 2024

Term Starts: Monday 2 September 2024

Year 7, 11 & 13 return Wednesday 4th September

All return Thursday 5th September

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.

Junior Maths Challenge - Kangaroo

Two students from Year 8 qualified highly enough in their UKMT (United Kingdom Mathematics Trust) Junior Maths Challenge, that they were invited to participate in a subsequent round of the competition called the Pink Kangaroo. Congratulations to Nigel T and Petro Y who completed their Pink Kangaroo Challenge. Petro achieved a certificate of merit in this, which is a fantastic achievement.

Summer Uniform Standards

In the event of warm weather it will not be compulsory for students to wear a blazer, they will be able to wear just a shirt and tie. If a second layer is required, it must be a blazer and not any other item such as a hoody or outdoor coat.

There is no requirement to purchase any additional uniform items.

Students will be permitted to wear skin tone or black tights.

All other uniform requirements will remain unchanged and only in the event of extreme weather conditions will there be any further adjustments, these will be clearly communicated if required.

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.

Attendance Updates

Attendance Percentage

Year 7 - 93.8%

Year 8 - 93.6%

Year 9 - 91.5%

Year 10 - 89.2%

School Closures and Early Finishes

Please see below details of school closures, early finishes and return dates:

Wednesday 3rd July and Thursday 4th July 2024- Year 6 Induction days

Year 8 students will not be required to attend school on **Wednesday 3rd July**.

On **Wednesday 3rd July** there will be a **late start** for Year 7 and Year 9. Registration will commence at **9:40am**. Students are respectfully reminded not to be on the premises before **9:30am**.

Year 6 Induction will start at **8:25am**.

Thursday 4th July is a normal school day for all students in Years 7, 8 and 9

Friday 12th July 2024- Parent Consultation Day

School closed to facilitate Parent Consultation Day for Year 7 and 10. Year 7 and 10 students to attend appointments in full school uniform.

Friday 19th July 2024- Last day of term

Early finish, school will close at 12:40pm

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.

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.

Summer Term 2

Saturday 22nd July - Sunday 7th July	Year 12 Cambodia Trip
Monday 24th June - Friday 28th June	Tolkien Primary Science Week Year 10 French Speaking
Monday 24th June	Year 8 Aston Cyber Day
Wednesday 26th June	STEM Year 5 Year 9 Rosary
Thursday 27th June	Battle of the Bands Year 10 Synagogue Trip Year 12 Aston University
Friday 28th June	Year 11 Prom Year 7 and 8 Catholic Secondary Schools Sports
Monday 1st July - Friday 5th July	Year 10 Work Experience
Monday 1st July	Year 12 Photoshoot KS3 Ball Crew Wimbledon Trip
Tuesday 2nd July	Culture Day KS3 Mass
Wednesday 3rd July	Year 6 Transition School closed for Year 8 Late start for Year 7 & 9 BC Tea Party Year 12 Parent/Consultation Evening Year 9 Rosary
Thursday 4th July	Year 6 Transition Year 6 Parent/Carer Evening Canteen - USA Day/Wimbledon
Friday 5th July - Thursday 11th July	San Francisco Trip

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 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 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	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.

First Aid Reminders

In the case of an Emergency it is imperative we can contact parents or carers, please make sure you provide your current contact numbers to the school and inform of any changes.

It is important to stay hydrated all year round please provide your child with a water bottle so they can refill at our water stations around school.

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.

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.