



May He support us all the day long, till the shades lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in His mercy may He give us a safe lodging, and a holy rest and peace at the last.

Message from Mr Hetherton, Senior Vice Principal

Friday 26th April 2024

Dear all

I hope you and your families are well and like me, are waiting for some warm weather to finally signal that we are in the season of Spring!

At the time of writing plans are well underway for our Platinum Jubilee Remembrance Event which will be taking place on the afternoon and evening of Thursday 25th April.

It promises to be a truly special occasion with a series of activities and displays across our school. This will be supported by a Spring Fayre on the front playground, spoken word and musical performances, art exhibitions, department displays of Jubilee Projects, alumni interviews, and photographic displays documenting Bishop Challoner Catholic College's history. His Grace, Archbishop Bernard Longley, will be in attendance and will be providing a blessing to mark this special occasion.

Seventy years of service to the local community of Kings Heath and beyond is something our school, and all its stakeholders should be immensely proud of. Although much has changed in that time, one thing that has remained a constant throughout is the school's commitment to promoting the virtues of Catholic education and instilling in our young people their own sense of uniqueness and worth. Preparing our young people for the future is an immense privilege and I think we would all agree how much of a contribution Bishop Challoner Catholic College has made to the lives of thousands of people over many years – it is certainly something worthy of celebration and thanks.

May is recognised in the Catholic Church as being the month of Mary – a month where we honour the Blessed Virgin and pray to her to intercede on our behalf. In this month, the world remains united in prayer – prayers for our families and our friends, prayers for a peaceful resolution to the conflicts taking place in Europe and the Middle East, and prayers for our Year 11 and Year 13 students as they embark on their GCSEs and A levels.

The act of prayer gives us all the opportunity to reflect and give thanks for everything that has gone before as well as praying for a better future. As we reflect on and celebrate the first seventy years of our school's history, let us ask Mary to intercede on our behalf to secure an even brighter future for our school, and for the world that we live in.

God Bless.

Exam Anxiety

As we approach the public exam period, it is understandable that many of our students will be feeling some nervousness. This is very natural response that we all experience when faced with challenges that are important to us. We hope that our students are feeling well-prepared and ready to do their. Below are some links which may help students and their parents/carers to respond to feelings of anxiety at this time.

- NHS Help your child beat exam stress
- Anna Freud: How to identify the signs of academic stress, and ways to help
- Ofqual: Coping with exam pressure – a guide for students

We would like to share with you the Anna Freud Summer Term webinar series specially tailored for parents and carers of adolescents, in collaboration with the Schools and Colleges Early Support Service.



Anna Freud
building the mental
wellbeing of the
next generation

The topics have been chosen to reflect core developmental processes in adolescence and common difficulties parents can struggle with. The content is psychoeducational, strategy-based and solution focused. The webinars will cover the following topics:

- How to support your young person with low mood
- Anxiety in adolescence: how can parents and carers help?
- Understanding the impact of bullying on a young person's mental health: practical strategies to help you support your young person to get through their experience and feel okay again
- Managing teen behaviour that challenges: tips and tricks
- Weathering the storms of strong teen emotions: do's, don'ts and when to consider talking to someone
- Building resilience, staying connected and nurturing your relationship with your teen
- Understanding the adolescent brain: strategies to help you understand and support young people's mental health and wellbeing
- Supporting your young person through exam time
- Transitioning to secondary school
- Supporting young people who experience panic

Further details on each webinar can be found on our website by [clicking here](#).

Measles Update

Please [click here](#) to see an update from Birmingham City Council regarding Measles.

Examination Timetables

[Click here](#) to view the summer examination timetables.

Bishop Challoner Training School

Are you considering teaching as a career? Did you know that you can train to teach with us here at Bishop Challoner!

We are an accredited teacher training provider with over 20 years of experience and are actively interviewing for our new SCITT programme, beginning in September this year.

Our programme has been designed by teachers, for teachers and is delivered by experienced teachers from Bishop Challoner and local partner schools. Training with us gives you the best of both worlds - excellent theory based training with an opportunity to put learning into practice in a classroom in a school local to you.

Our helpful team are on hand to help you through the application process and answer any questions that you may have. Contact them via email - trainingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk or via phone on 0121 444 6175.

Sports Updates

Tennis

Year 7/8 tennis on Thursday was very competitive against Camp Hill, which we narrowly lost. Player of the game was Isaac F.

Ball Crew

Ball Crew training is now in full swing and training continues again this week - please see Ball Crew timetable for updates in the PE office

Basketball

Year 7 Basketball narrowly lost to Shireland school in the Year 7 NBA playoff's - Preston Miles was player of the game

Year 8 Basketball, Junior NBA will play in their playoff game V Holly Lodge on Tuesday 30th April

Football

Year 10 Boys Football this week V Christchurch in the semi final of the Kings Norton League on Thursday 25th April

Year 8 Football, the boys will play against Christchurch in the final of the Kings Norton League

D&T Bottle Tops

We are continuing to collect HDPE bottle tops which our Y7's recycle into useable products. We would be very grateful if you could collect plastic bottle tops with a number 2 recycling code (usually visible on the underside of the lid) and deposit in reception for the attention of Mrs O'Connor (alternatively, send in to school in a bag with your child who can deliver to T4). If you have time to wash the lids this would be of extra benefit to us. All colours and sizes are acceptable. HDPE lids are commonly used on milk cartons, fizzy drink and smoothie bottles. Many thanks in advance for your support.

Summer Assessments and Mock Examinations

Please follow the links below for subject information and guidance on the upcoming assessments and mock examinations.

Year 7 - <https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/examinations-information/year-7-mock-examinations>

Year 9 - <https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/examinations-information/year-9-assessments>

Year 10 - <https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/examinations-information/year-10-mini-mocks>

Year 12 - <https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/sixth-form/welcome/year-12-mocks>

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.

Term Dates

SUMMER TERM

Term Starts: Tuesday 9th April 2024

Half Term: Monday 27 May 2024 to Friday 31 May 2024

Term Ends: Friday 19th July 2024

INSET School Closed: Monday 22nd July 2024

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.

Upcoming Events

Parent Support Surgery
Monday 29th April

French GCSE Speaking Exam
Monday 29th April - Tuesday 30th April

PA Practical Exam
Y7 PD Day
Y8 Rosary
Wednesday 1st May

San Francisco Parent/Carer Meeting
Thursday 2nd May

Boreatton Park Newball Tour
Friday 3rd May - Sunday 5th May

School Closed - Bank Holiday
Monday 6th May

Y7 & Y9 Assessments Begin
Tuesday 7th May

Y10 Carding Mill Valley
Tuesday 7th May - Wednesday 8th May

A Level Art Exam
Wednesday 24th April - Thursday 9th May

BC Tea Party
Y8 Rosary
Wednesday 24th April

Ascension of Jesus Mass
Y10 Judaism Synagogue Trip
Thursday 9th May

Bronze DofE Assessed Expedition
Friday 10th May - Saturday 11th May

Northfield Festival
Y13 last day in school
Friday 10th May

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.

Mobile Phones

Further to our previous communication ([click here](#)) if your child has their mobile phone confiscated the school reserves the right to only return it to parents/carers. We request that you reinforce the school rules on phones with your child- never seen or heard. Thank you.

Attendance Updates

Attendance Percentage
Year 7 - 93.9%
Year 8 - 93.9%
Year 9 - 91.1%
Year 10 - 88.9%
Year 11 - 92.3%
Whole School - 92.1%

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.

Money Loader

As previously communicated, the money loader in school will not be operational from the end of April. Please ensure that you top up lunch money via schoolcomms. If you need any support please contact the Pastoral office.

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.

Emergency Contacts

It is imperative we have your current correct contact information on our systems. Please inform the school if anything has changed, especially telephone numbers.

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.

First Aid Emails

Please be advised First Aid may contact you regarding your child visiting during the school day or informing you of an expiry date on your child's medication. **The email address of such communication will be from donotreply@medicaltracker.co.uk, please read these emails.**



BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE
SUPPORT SURGERY
ALL WELCOME - SAVE THE DATE

WHEN Monday 29th April, 10am-4pm

WHERE Bishop Challoner Sixth Form Centre, Institute Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7EG

WHAT Our drop-in support surgery will be joined by external providers from multiple agencies that can offer support and guidance for young people. You will have the opportunity to meet with the professionals and gather information about any concerns you have about your child. Also in attendance will be a Bishop Challoner Designated Safeguarding Lead, a member of our Well Being team and our SENCO.

Confirmed agencies include:
Early Help team
Coaching and Resilience Worker
All Saint's Youth Project
Police Community Support Officer for Bishop Challoner
Literacy Trust
Better Pathways
Mencap
Livingwell Consortium
Brews Education
Autism West Midlands
Meridian Counselling
KOOOTH
Forward thinking Birmingham
Sparkbrook Children's Zone

(Please note not all services will be available all of the day)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION Please note that our Sixth Form Centre is in St Dunstan's social club. Please enter by the church glass doors. Please be aware there is now a parking charge when using the St Dunstan's carpark.



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.

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.