

**It has been a very busy and positive term across the school, with a wide range of opportunities, events and achievements for our students. From trips and enrichment activities, to careers guidance and Sixth Form initiatives, there has been a great deal happening across the community. This is not to mention the recent Ofsted visit which took place during the first week back, making it an especially eventful start to the term!**

At the time of writing, pupils are also collaborating with neighbouring Catholic schools through the 30th anniversary production of *Born for This*, with 40 students involved as narrators, actors and choir members. This is set to be a magnificent event at Birmingham Symphony Hall and a wonderful witness to our faith.

Chaplaincy provision continues to flourish and it has been particularly encouraging to see pupils taking an increasingly active role in the spiritual life of the school. We have introduced a new format for our weekly Prayer and Liturgy resources whereby a different year group prepares and records the liturgy each week. Pupils have delivered their reflections with confidence and reverence. Pupils are increasingly writing their own prayers for assemblies, form time and sacred spaces, allowing them to express their faith in thoughtful and personal ways.

Opportunities for faith formation continue to grow. Fr John has been leading Journey in Faith sessions for both pupils and staff, supporting those who wish to deepen their faith as well as those exploring the Catholic faith for the first time and preparing to be received into the Church at Pentecost. Demand for the Sacrament of Reconciliation continues to grow and Fr Toby has arranged additional opportunities for pupils to receive the sacrament.

Students continue to live out their faith through service and outreach. Our newly formed Young Vincentians group has begun working with the St Dunstan's SVP to support vulnerable members of the local community. Students have been showing service to others supporting our local Dementia café and regularly coordinating the tea party for local parishioners.

We were also honoured to welcome John Pridmore to the school as part of the St Dunstan's Parish Mission. His powerful testimony of faith and conversion made a significant impression on pupils across all year groups.

Attendance remains a key national priority. Our overall attendance remains above national figures and compares extremely favourably to similar schools. My thanks to parents and carers for continuing to support their children in regularly attending school on time.

It has been a busy term for public exam preparation. The students deserve great credit for their hard work, careful revision and general resilience. We sincerely hope they achieve the grades they deserve given their undoubted efforts and look forward to seeing the results in the summer.

During National Careers Week, students took part in daily form-time activities themed "Owning Your Future," encouraging them to view careers not as a straight ladder but as a flexible journey with many possible pathways. Years 9 and 10 also attended the annual Careers Fair, where they spoke with a range of employers, universities, and colleges, demonstrating growing confidence in networking and asking thoughtful questions. Year 9 students will also take part in a follow-up Insight event, where Year 10 and 11 students share their experiences of GCSE subjects to help inform Pathway choices and link these to students' skills, strengths, and career interests.

Before half term, the Geography department took 55 students on a four-day trip to Iceland. Students explored the country's unique landscapes and natural wonders through a range of exciting excursions. The trip provided a memorable, once-in-a-lifetime learning experience, and students represented the school exceptionally well throughout.

The Sixth Form has launched a new super-curricular resource package to support students in deepening subject knowledge, developing independent learning skills, and strengthening university applications. Sixth formers also marked Children's Mental Health Week by focusing on practical ways to maintain wellbeing, including sleep, routine, and staying connected. Year 12 students have continued their Reader Leader programme, supporting younger students with reading. Recruitment for our sixth form for next academic year is open and there is a large volume of interest. Just last week, we held a very successful "Meet the Sixth Form" event led by our current students.

As part of our work at Bishop Challoner, we regularly train 100 new teachers each year. We have teacher training programmes available to join for both primary and secondary, together with part-time options. If someone you know is considering a vocation in teaching then please contact our SCITT team for more details via <https://www.bctsa.org/>

It is a pleasure to see our students continue to demonstrate enthusiasm, ambition and a strong sense of community and we look forward to celebrating more successes across the school in the months ahead.

I wish you all a very happy and holy Easter and thank you all for the support you have given across this term.

**J Coughlan, Executive Principal**



## SIXTH FORM NEWS

**APPLY NOW**

### MEET THE SIXTH FORM

Last week, we were delighted to welcome prospective students and their families to our Meet the Sixth Form event. The evening provided a valuable opportunity for visitors to experience our Sixth Form community first-hand and to gain further insight into the wide range of courses available.

A particular highlight of the event was the contribution of our current Sixth Form students, who acted as outstanding ambassadors for both their subject areas and the Sixth Form as a whole. They spoke confidently about their experiences, shared their knowledge of course content, and offered honest, helpful advice to those considering their next steps.

We hope that the event provided prospective students with useful information and reassurance as they begin to make important decisions about their course choices for the next academic year. Thank you to all who attended, and to our students and staff who made the evening such a success.

### EASTER FAYRE

Well done to Miss Shirley and the Sixth Form students for running the Easter Fayre yesterday. It was lovely to have the Year 8 students and St Dunstan's students in the Sixth Form area, taking part in games such as 'Hook the Duck' and 'Mini-golf'. Total money raised for Father Hudson's Caritas was £426.64.

It was also great to have so many Year 11 students and Sixth Formers involved in the Easter quiz, as a reward for their good behaviour, attendance and ASPIRE rewards. Well done to George, Liam, Roman and Archie for coming 1st place. Thank you to the Year 11 team, the Sixth Form team and our host of the quiz Mr Robinson, for their organisation and planning.



### STUDENT FINANCE EVENING

We were pleased to welcome a guest speaker from Birmingham City University, who delivered a clear and practical overview of how to apply for student finance. The session covered key steps in the application process, important deadlines, and helpful tips to avoid common pitfalls, particularly valuable given how complex the process can sometimes feel.

We hope that those who attended left the evening feeling more confident and better equipped to manage their student finance applications. Thank you to everyone who joined us for this event. The Sixth Form team are, of course, on hand to support with any further questions or guidance needed throughout this process.

### SIXTH FORM STUDENTS SUPPORT LOCAL DEMENTIA CAFÉ

Our Sixth Form students have been making a positive impact in the Birmingham community by volunteering at a local Dementia Café. Through regular visits, students spend time talking with elderly members, playing games, and helping to create a warm, welcoming environment.

These small but meaningful interactions provide companionship and support for those living with dementia, while also helping students develop empathy, confidence, and valuable communication skills.

The café staff have praised our students for their kindness and enthusiasm, highlighting the difference they make each time they visit. This initiative strongly reflects our Sixth Form values, particularly our commitment to service and supporting others in the community.

We are incredibly proud of their dedication and the way they represent the Sixth Form. We look forward to continuing this partnership and encouraging more of our students to get involved with this brilliant local charity.

### ★ SIXTH FORM AWARDS

AWARD	YEAR 12	YEAR 13
<b>AMBITION</b>	Tia M-K	Tensay S
<b>SERVICE TO OTHERS</b>	Kunashe M	Matipa D
<b>PROGRESSION</b>	Sugar F	Michael S
<b>INDEPENDENCE</b>	Helena C	Thea W
<b>ROLE MODEL</b>	Brendan S	Ramlah BK
<b>EXCELLENCE</b>	Millie H	Isabel H

# CATHOLIC LIFE

## PRAYER AND LITURGY

8 led Prayer and Liturgy for the 4th Week of Lent. The Gospel of healing the blind man, helped us to reflect on how we can see Jesus more clearly in our lives. Thank you to Ayvah M, Erin Q, Maggie, Temperance, George McD and Finley.



Our focus for the week was to consider how we might open our eyes for what truly matters

- Notice someone who is overlooked. A moment of kindness can be a moment of healing
- Speak truth with kindness. Stand up for what is right, even if it is difficult
- Make space for God. Take a moment for a quiet prayer to say 'Lord, help me to see'
- Have faith that God is working in you. Even when you are sure, let God gently guide you into the light

Our Year 10 pupils led us through Prayer and Liturgy during the 5th week of Lent. We reflected on the Gospel of the raising of Lazarus and how Jesus showed his humanity through the pain he felt on losing his friend, and his divinity by raising Lazarus from the dead. The Gospel has reminded us of the power of Christ's death and resurrection. 'I am the life and the resurrection'. Thank you to Dillon, Sachin, Rohi, Ailbhe, Patrick, Jasmine, Amelia J and Ava.



Our focus was to consider how to let Jesus into our lives:

- Take a small action to overcome something that is holding you back – a worry, disagreement or a mistake you've made. Ask for help or forgiveness
- End each day, naming three signs of life you noticed—moments of hope, kindness, or growth.
- Take two minutes daily to pray for someone who's struggling—by name.

Pupils from each year group have led their assemblies this week by delivering powerful reflections on the events and significance of Holy Week. It is beautiful to watch our students lead prayer so eloquently and respectfully.



We encourage families to continue this journey at home by reading and reflecting on the Sunday Gospels together. The Wednesday Word is a weekly resource that helps connect home, school, and parish through the Sunday Gospel. It offers a simple way for families to share scripture and prayer each week.



You can access the resources at: [www.wednesdayword.org](http://www.wednesdayword.org)

*Lord Jesus, I humbly come before You this Holy Week, reflecting on Your great sacrifice. Fill my heart with deep gratitude for the love that held You to the cross. Help me to understand Your suffering, embrace humility, and live a life that glorifies Your name. Strengthen my faith and guide my actions to reflect Your compassion and mercy. May my heart always remember Your sacrifice and share Your love with others. Amen.*

## YEAR 11 LENTEN MASSES

Fr Toby celebrated a beautiful Lenten Mass with Year 11 where he spoke to pupils about the power of God's unfailing love and that he accompanies us through our lowest and happiest times. It was especially relevant to Year 11 students as they continue to work hard in the lead up to their exams. As always, students fully participated in the Mass through their prayers and reverence.



## LUNCH TIMES IN THE CHAPEL

The last fortnight has been particularly busy in the chapel as pupils have been praying the Stations of the Cross and preparing their hearts for Easter. We are in constant awe of how many pupils give up their lunchtimes to pray, individually and collectively, and it's so encouraging to see new faces. It's a testament to the whole of the Bishop Challoner community that our young people engage with their faith so freely and without fear or embarrassment.

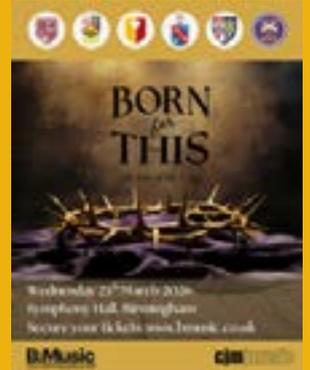


Follow us on X – @BC\_chaplaincy

Instagram - @bc\_catholiclife

## BORN FOR THIS – A MOVING AND MAGICAL EVENING

It is hard to articulate just how proud we are of our pupils who performed in the 30th Anniversary production of Born for This at Symphony Hall this week. To perform such a powerful work on the Feast of the Annunciation made the occasion even more meaningful. On that day, we remember Mary's courageous "yes" to God. Our pupils also responded to a call and gave so much to make the evening more than a performance, it was a beautiful expression of faith. The choir, actors, solo vocalists, readers and narrators were first rate and will remember the occasion, as will the audience, for years to come. Thank you to everyone who supported the event; parents and carers who committed to the hours of rehearsals and drop offs, BC staff rehearsal team, BFT production team, all the staff involved in the behind the scenes admin and logistics, teachers for accommodating pupils being taken out of lessons and all those who attended the evening. The biggest thank you is to each pupil who took to the stage – you are an inspiration to all and you will never truly understand the impact your performance in Born for This had on those who watched.



## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

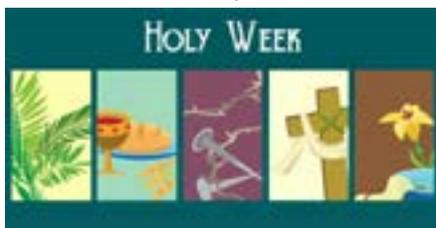
Thank you once again to Fr Toby, Fr John and Canon Sean for hearing confessions this week. We are blessed to have such wonderful priests who serve our school community. All pupils from all year groups have had the opportunity to make the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent in preparation for Easter,



During Holy Week we are encouraged to receive the sacrament of reconciliation. We believe that to be fully immersed in the joy of the resurrection we are obliged to go to confession and would like to draw your attention to the penitential services in our local parish

Tuesday 31st March Penitential service 7.30pm

Good Friday confessions after 3pm service until 5pm



## LENTEN FOOD COLLECTION

Thank you for your generous food donations this Lent. Everything we have collected will make a huge impact on our local community. We are so proud of how our school community lives out the Catholic Social Teachings and has responded to our Lenten duty of almsgiving,



## HOLY WEEK SERVICES AT ST DUNSTAN'S CHURCH

**Palm Sunday**

Saturday vigil Mass 4pm, Palm Sunday **Passion of the Lord** 11.30 am and 5.30pm

**Maundy Thursday**

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm

**Good Friday**

Solemn Liturgy with The Lord's Passion 3pm

**Holy Saturday**

Easter Vigil 8pm

**Easter Sunday**

Holy Mass 11.30am

# 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	11.30am, 5.30pm	4pm
St. Jude's	B14 5PE	Fr John Peyton	10am	-
Our Lady Of Lourdes	B13 0EU	Canon Sean Grady	9am, 11.30am	6pm
St Catherine Of Sienna	B5 7BE	Fr. Jagadishmario Kurapati (Fr. Mario)	11am	5.30pm
St Edward's	B29 7DB	Fr Denis McGillicuddy	10.15am	6pm
St Mary's	B17 0DN	Fr John Reid	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	8.15am, 10.30am	6pm
St Chads Cathedral	B4 6EX	Very Rev Canon Brian McGinley	9.30am, 11.30am	4.30pm
Our Lady And St Brigid	B31 5AD	Fr Cecil Rogerson	10am, 5.30pm	5pm
Our Lady Of Fatima	B32 1LL	Fr Philip Long Nguyen	11am	6pm
St Ambrose Barlow	B28 8QU	Fr Paul Johnson	10am, 5.30pm	5.30pm
The Oratory Of Saint Philip Neri	B16 8UE	Fr Anton Guziel	7.30am, 8.30am, 10.30am, 12.15pm, 5.30pm	5.30pm
St Peters	B32 3QG	Fr Gary Buckby	8.45am	-
Our Lady And St Rose Of Lima	B29 5DY	Fr Gary Buckby	11.30am	-
St John and Martin's	B12 9RG	Fr Baburao Pureti	9.30am	4pm
Ss Joseph and Helen with St Paul's	B30 1JG/ B38 9JB	Fr Barry	9am (Ss Joseph and Helen) 11am (St Paul's)	5pm (Ss Joseph and Helen)

## SEND

This term has been so busy in BC4 our SEND area, with external LA professionals such as Speech and Language therapists, Play Therapist, Communication and Autism Team, Language and Learning Service and Educational Psychologist regularly visiting to work with students. This is in addition to our own internal interventions and class support. We have also supported with assessments and most recently, Mock exams for Year 11. We have completed all of the Exam Access Arrangements for Year 11 and Year 13 in advance of the public examination window starting in May. Our students have worked diligently in this process and we are very proud.

The Easter holidays will be a great opportunity for students to unwind. How about taking time to enjoy nature, get crafty, visit the local library or play some board games. If you are looking for days out or activities this particular company S.E.N.D Socials Birmingham offers specialist SEND social opportunities throughout the Easter holidays via this charity:

<https://sendsocialsbirmingham.co.uk/services/>

The screenshot shows the website for S.E.N.D Socials Birmingham. The header includes the logo and navigation links: Home, About us, Services, Events, Get involved, Support us, News. The main heading is "What services do SEND Socials offer?". Below this, there is a paragraph of text: "As our name suggests, we offer lots of social opportunities for children with special educational needs and disabilities and their immediate family. The bulk of our delivery happens during the school holidays when we offer multiple activities Monday - Friday. We also have a provision for children who don't access school, youth provision, regular meet-ups for parents and carers, regular exclusive activities throughout the year and parent / carer workshops." To the right of the text is a circular image of a child wearing a colorful bunny mask.

# SAFEGUARDING AND WELLBEING

## SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SEND ONLINE

For many young people with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND), the internet can be a place where they feel safe, calm and in control. Somewhere they can make friends without having to communicate face-to-face, and build a community which they may not have in their offline life. Whilst recognising the internet is a great resource which young people enjoy using, life online for a child with SEND may pose additional challenges that require careful management and support.

Supporting young people with SEND online | Childnet is designed to support you in understanding the risks of online activity, ensure that you know what to look out for, and provide practical ways in which you can help your child to enjoy their time online.

[Help & advice | Childnet](#)

## 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 a member of the Wellbeing Team.

Click image to view content

## ONLINE SAFETY DURING THE HOLIDAY

- Please click the link to view an important letter.
- <https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/news/2026-03-27-online-safety-in-the-holidays>

**Skips Safety Net** Keeping children safe online

### When Something Goes Wrong Online – A Simple Action Plan for Parents

- 1. Stay Calm First**  
If your child tells you something worrying:
  - Thank them for telling you
  - Avoid blaming or panicking
  - Reassure them: "We'll deal with this together."
- 2. Keep the Evidence**
  - Take screenshots (include usernames and dates)
  - Save messages
  - Keep profile links
- 3. Use Official Reporting Routes**  
Grooming or exploitation – CEOP: [www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre](http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre)  
Illegal images – Internet Watch Foundation: [www.iwf.org.uk/report](http://www.iwf.org.uk/report)  
Nude images shared (under 18s) – Report Remove: [www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/report-remove](http://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/report-remove)  
If in immediate danger, call 999.
- 4. If You Feel Overwhelmed – Use Structured Support**  
You can use free ChatGPT to help structure next steps. ChatGPT  
Free access: <https://chat.openai.com> Example prompts:
  - My child received inappropriate messages. What steps should I take in the UK?
  - How do I report online grooming?
  - What should I say to my child after cyberbullying?
 Important: ChatGPT is a support tool and does NOT replace official reporting or police action.
- 5. Ongoing Protection at Home**
  - Keep regular, calm conversations
  - Review privacy settings together
  - Monitor gaming contacts
  - Encourage early disclosure
 Children will make mistakes online, just as they do offline. Trust and communication protect them more than punishment.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.  
Skips Educational Email: [info@skipssed.com](mailto:info@skipssed.com) Tel: +44 121 227 1941

**Skips** [www.skipssafetynet.org](http://www.skipssafetynet.org)

### SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO DEAL WITH UPSETTING CONTENT

#### A Guide for Parents and Carers

Being children in the digital age seems to be getting tougher, with the world contentedly presenting us with a constant stream of images and videos that can be shocking, right from children across the globe on screens or online without being exposed to anything when they were last seen. However, a government-led effort to help you in discussing upsetting events with young ones.

- FIND OUT WHAT YOUR CHILD KNOWS**  
There are many ways that children are exposed to content, so it's important to have a conversation with them about what they know and what they don't know. This can help you understand their perspective and what they might be feeling.
- RIGHT TIME, RIGHT PLACE**  
It's important to have these conversations in a calm, private space where your child feels safe to talk. Avoid discussing upsetting content in front of others or in public places.
- KEEP IT AGE APPROPRIATE**  
Different children have different levels of understanding and maturity. Tailor your conversations to your child's age and developmental stage.
- EMPHASISE HOPE**  
It's important to emphasize that most people online are good and that there are ways to deal with upsetting content. Encourage your child to talk to you if they feel worried or confused.
- MONITOR REACTIONS**  
Pay attention to how your child reacts to the content. If they seem particularly upset or distressed, it may be a sign that they need more support.
- CONSIDER YOUR OWN EMOTIONS**  
It's important to be aware of your own feelings and reactions to the content. If you're feeling upset or angry, it's important to take a break and calm down before talking to your child.
- SET LIMITS**  
Establish clear boundaries around screen time and what types of content are allowed. Consistent limits can help your child understand what is acceptable.
- TAKE THINGS SLOWLY**  
Don't rush into discussing upsetting content. Take your time to explore the issue together and provide support as needed.
- ENCOURAGE QUESTIONS**  
Encourage your child to ask questions and express their thoughts and feelings. This can help you understand their perspective and provide support.
- FIND A BALANCE**  
Help your child find a balance between online activities and offline activities. Encourage them to spend time with friends and family offline.
- BUILD RESILIENCE**  
Help your child develop resilience by teaching them coping strategies and encouraging them to talk to you if they feel worried or confused.
- IDENTITY HELP**  
Help your child understand that online identities are not real people and that they can't be harmed by what they see online.

Meet Our Expert: National Online Safety #WakeUpWednesday

### What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SNAPCHAT

With over 300 million active monthly users, Snapchat is one of the most popular messaging apps among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family using disappearing photos. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

- WHAT ARE THE RISKS?**  
Snapchat is a social media platform that allows users to share photos and videos that disappear after a short period of time. While it can be a fun way to connect with friends, it also poses several risks, including sextortion, inappropriate content, and privacy concerns.
- ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**  
Snapchat uses artificial intelligence (AI) to filter and censor content. However, AI is not perfect and can sometimes fail to detect inappropriate or harmful content.
- SCREEN ADDICTION**  
Snapchat can be addictive, leading to excessive screen time and potential impacts on mental health and academic performance.
- SEXTORTION**  
Sextortion is a form of online harassment where someone threatens to share intimate photos or videos unless the victim pays a ransom or provides more content.
- ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB**  
Snapchat offers a Family Safety Hub for parents and educators to help manage their child's or student's Snapchat account. This includes features like monitoring contacts, setting time limits, and enabling location sharing.
- ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS**  
Open communication is key to helping children and young people understand the risks of Snapchat and make informed decisions about their online behavior.
- BLOCK AND REPORT**  
If you encounter inappropriate or harmful content on Snapchat, you should block the user and report the content to Snapchat's safety team.
- USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER**  
Encourage children and young people to use Snapchat's privacy settings to control who can contact them and view their content.

Advice for Parents & Educators

Meet Our Expert: Wake Up Wednesday The National College

## YEAR 10 IMPACT PROJECT

A group of Year 10 students completed the Impact Project at South and City College Birmingham last week, they were an absolute credit to us. They pushed their comfort zones whilst working collaboratively with students from other schools to complete and then present their project.



## DofE

41 Year 9 students went to Blackwell Adventure where they undertook all of the training that will be needed for their upcoming Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Expedition. Pupils participated in First Aid, Countryside Code, Map Navigation and Team Building activities. They were all exemplary in their behaviour and really lived out our mission statement of "developing our full potential". Students now have all of the skills needed for a successful expedition which will take place at the end of April.



## MALYMPICS

On Monday 16th March, Bishop Challoner hosted students from all 11 primary schools in the Tolkien cluster for the annual Malympics event. This much-loved traditional event combined mathematics with PE through a series of seven activities. The activities were led by our wonderful year 9 student leaders, who worked hard behind the scenes to make the day a success. A huge well done to St John and Monica for coming 1st place.

## CYBER GIRLS

The Cyber Girls trip to Aston University was a truly inspiring and enriching experience for our Year 8 students. The girls had the invaluable opportunity to engage with leading female professionals in technology, as well as representatives from the West Midlands Cyber Unit, gaining real insight into future careers in cybersecurity.

A particular highlight was the one-to-one conversations with a real naval intelligence officer, which captured the students' imagination and brought the world of cyber and national security to life. Throughout the day, students enthusiastically participated in a range of interactive activities, working collaboratively to decipher codes and prevent simulated cyber-attacks, developing both their problem-solving and teamwork skills. The impact on the students was clear to see, and it is experiences like this that help to raise aspirations and broaden horizons.



## STEM

60 students from Year 7 & 8 took part in an engineering challenge delivered by the Royal Academy of Engineering. Students had to build a satellite tower and raise a satellite 500m remotely using an autonomous drone which they had to design and build. Quite a feat two days before breaking up for Easter!

Rob, the visiting engineer, commented on how struck he was by the resilience, teamwork and professional presenting skills demonstrated by our students throughout the day. In his words, "The best school I've worked with all year". He delivers this type of workshop most days.

The event provided a wonderful opportunity for students of all abilities to develop aspects of their character that the constraints of the classroom do not always allow for, while also building valuable employability skills that will support them in their future pathways.



# SPORTS

## Football results

### U15/16 Girls Football

Alderbrook 6 v 0 Bishop Challoner. Player of the match - Grace E  
.The girls lose in the Semi Final of the West Midlands Cup.

### U12 Boys Football

Lordswood 2 v 1 Bishop Challoner. Goalscorer - Matthan A.  
Player of the match - T. Hall. The boys lose in the Semi Final of  
the Kings Norton & South B'Ham League/Cup.

### U14/15 Girls Football

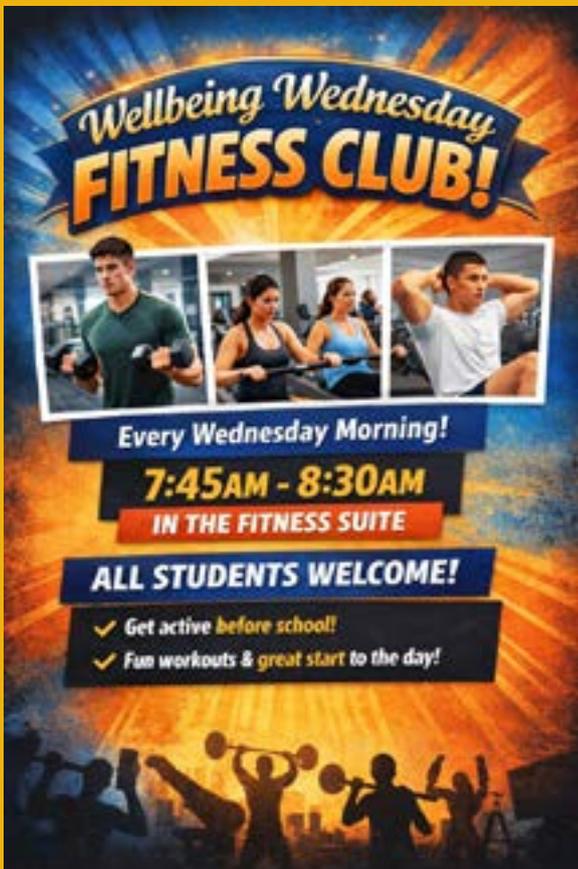
Bournville 0 v 7 Bishop Challoner. Goalscorers - Maisy H x3,  
Grace E x 4. Player of the match - Grace E. The girls win the U15  
Kings Norton & South B'Ham League.

Year 8 boys lost 3-1 to Kings Norton Boys' School in the semi  
final of the KNC league. Player of the game - Jah-Zi W.

## Year 9/10 Girls Football results -

16/3/26: St. Thomas Aquinas 1 v 5 Bishop Challoner. Goalscorers  
- Trinity C x2, Sapphire N B x2, Megan S. POM - Trinity C.

17/3/26: Shenley Academy 1 v 8 Bishop Challoner. Goalscorers -  
Maisy H x 4, Sapphire N B x2, Megan S x2. POM - Maisy H



# LONDON SCIENCE MUSEUM

Year 8 students recently enjoyed an exciting trip to the London Science Museum, bringing their classroom learning to life through interactive exhibits and immersive experiences.

Throughout the day, students explored a wide range of galleries, from space exploration and engineering to medicine and technology. They had the opportunity to engage with hands-on displays, deepening their understanding of scientific concepts in a fun and memorable way. Many students were particularly fascinated by the real-life spacecraft models and the history of innovation showcased throughout the museum. A highlight of the trip was the visit to the IMAX cinema, where students watched an inspiring film about the journey of the International Space Station. The film offered a breathtaking insight into life in space, the challenges faced by astronauts, and the incredible engineering behind maintaining a habitable station orbiting Earth. The large-screen experience made students feel as though they were part of the mission themselves, sparking curiosity and excitement about the future of space exploration.

Staff were very proud of their enthusiasm and engagement throughout the day. Overall, the visit to the London Science Museum was a great success, leaving students inspired and eager to learn more about the world of science. A big thank you to Mr Knowles, Mrs Gallagher-Barton, Miss Reynolds, Mr Manning, Mrs Souakri, Miss Short, Mrs Grata, Miss Rehman for helping to run the trip smoothly and allow the event to take place.



## YEAR 8 FOCUS

Year 8 have had a fantastic Spring Term, demonstrating both strong academic progress and excellent commitment to school life. Students recently completed their KAPs (Key Assessment Points), and we are delighted with the outcomes. Many students achieved impressive results, reflecting their hard work, resilience, and positive attitude towards learning.

During the recent Ofsted visit, Year 8 students truly did themselves and the school proud. Their behaviour, engagement in lessons, and willingness to contribute showcased the very best of our school community, leaving a lasting positive impression. Reports this term have also been exceptional, highlighting the continued progress and effort across the year group. A special congratulations goes to the 11 students who were rewarded with a well-deserved trip to Air Nation in recognition of their outstanding achievement and conduct.

Beyond the classroom, students have embraced enrichment opportunities with enthusiasm. One hundred Year 8 students attended a trip to London to visit the Science Museum, where they engaged brilliantly with the exhibits and represented the school impeccably throughout the day.



We are also incredibly proud of those students who performed at Symphony Hall in Birmingham as part of the "Born for This" production. Their performance was truly phenomenal and a testament to their talent, confidence, and dedication.

Overall, it has been a hugely successful term for Year 8, and we look forward to seeing their continued progress and achievements in the months ahead.

## PARENT/CARER SURVEY

We would like to understand more about how we can support you to engage with your child's learning and our school community. We would appreciate it if you could spare a few minutes to complete the short survey on the link below.

[Parent/carer engagement – Fill out form](#)

Your feedback is valuable and will help us improve our communication and engagement with families.

## YEAR 7 & YEAR 9 ASSESSMENTS

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

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

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

## 10LUK FUNDRAISER

10LUK have done an amazing job over the past couple of weeks selling raffle tickets and putting together hampers. They have led on every aspect.

The grand total raised is £217.

The winners were drawn by Archie B and adjudicated by 10X1:

- Lego: ticket 760 Sophie R - 8BOS
- Hamper: ticket 235 Ms Shezadi (RE associate teacher)
- Hamper: ticket 6 Jake R - 8LUK
- Hamper: ticket 621 Kazim H- 11BOS
- Chocolate egg: ticket 553 Leilah W- 10TER



## YEAR 7 & 8 READATHON

Thank you to everyone that has supported this years Readathon. unbelievably, we have broken last years record!

Year 7 were the clear winners, but it was a valiant effort by both year groups. HUGE thanks go to our incredible finance team and all of you guys for doing what you do. What an achievement!

Year 7 raised - £2322.95

Year 8 raised - £1679.51

**Grand Total - £4002.46**



## MESSAGE FROM THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

### Community Safety Partnership Manager

As we approach the end of term, we are writing to ask schools for their support in reinforcing key safety messages with pupils, particularly those who may be making their way home independently.

Experience from previous end-of-term periods shows increased footfall and activity in Birmingham city centre and other busy locations. While there is no specific cause for concern, we are keen to work together to help ensure young people travel home safely and avoid unnecessary risk.

We are asking schools and parents/carers to:

- Encourage pupils to go straight home at the end of the school day
- Discourage congregating in the city centre or other busy public spaces
- Remind pupils to look out for one another and seek help if they feel unsafe
- Birmingham Youth Service and partner agencies will be visible in key areas, offering support and guidance to young people. Schools play a vital role in helping reinforce consistent messages that promote safety, responsibility and wellbeing.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping Birmingham's children and young people safe.

## ASSEMBLIES

We have had a very busy and exciting couple of weeks with our school assemblies.

Last week, Year 9 took part in a Provider Access Legislation (PAL) assembly, where they experienced an encounter with an approved provider of apprenticeships and technical education. This construction-themed assembly was both insightful and engaging, giving students the opportunity to speak with experienced professionals and consider the wide range of career pathways available to them.

Meanwhile, Year 10 enjoyed an alumni assembly from Matthew Roberts, a former student, who returned to share his journey since leaving school and a career in underwriting. He spoke about his experiences, the choices he made, and the opportunities available to students beyond school, helping to inspire and motivate our current cohort.

All other year groups focused on the benefits of a good night's sleep as we celebrated National Sleep Day. Students took part in a quiz to bust common myths about sleep and explored ways to improve their sleep habits, including using mindfulness techniques and reducing screen time before bed. We discussed the importance of aiming for around 9 hours of sleep, highlighting how essential sleep is for both physical and mental health, as well as its role in supporting long-term memory.

These assemblies are a valuable part of our wider curriculum, helping students to make informed decisions about their futures and wellbeing.

This week, we have been very proud of our students, who have led their own year group assemblies on Holy Week. Holy Week is the most important week in the Christian calendar, remembering the final days of Jesus' life, including his suffering, death on the cross, and resurrection on Easter Sunday. It is a time of reflection for Catholics, focusing on sacrifice, forgiveness and hope.

Thank you to the wonderful students who prepared and delivered these assemblies so reverently.

## FORM RESOURCES

Form time at Bishop Challoner continues to play a vital role in supporting our students' personal development. Last week, students explored the important topic of criminal exploitation, gaining an understanding of how young people can be targeted, the risks involved, and how to recognise the warning signs. They discussed practical ways to keep themselves and others safe, both online and offline, and the importance of speaking up if something does not feel right. We are committed to safeguarding all students and encourage anyone with concerns to speak to a member of staff or our Designated Safeguarding Lead team.

This week has been full of activity as we prepare for Easter. Year 7 students have been busy creating their own Easter headbands in readiness for the community lunch, while Year 8 enjoyed a "Guess My Job" careers event, helping to broaden their awareness of future pathways. Year 10 students have been preparing for their mock interviews after the Easter break, developing valuable skills for the future. Meanwhile, Year 9 and Year 11 have been learning about the wide range of charity work taking place across the school. This has been a major focus this half term, with cake sales, hampers, Readathon and the Easter Fayre all contributing to our fundraising efforts. We look forward to sharing our end-of-term total, with all proceeds going to Father Hudson's Caritas.

# + FIRST AID INFORMATION AND PROCEDURES

Medication; All medication should be handed into first aid and not carried by the students. Exception EpiPen, Asthma inhalers and insulin as well as Tranexamic acid in special circumstances.

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 which they can re-fill at our water stations provided. Alternatively, they can purchase a drink from the school canteen.

Students with Asthma must carry their own personal inhalers with them. This includes offsite activities and school trips to ensure they can participate safely.

Parents/Carers of students with a known allergy must provide school first aid with antihistamine; this also applies to those with anaphylaxis in addition to their EpiPen.

We do not provide liquid paracetamol such as Calpol. If your child cannot take tablets and you would prefer them to have liquid Calpol, please send this in to the school first aider with your child's name on it. This will be kept safe in first aid for your child only.



## STUDENT REWARDS

YEAR GROUP	MOST POSITIVE LOGS		YEAR GROUP	MOST POSITIVE LOGS
YEAR 7	Amira M Effie K Thanduxolo Olivia A Montgomery Freddie H	Crisdean B Olivia A Maia-Rose K Harrison W Elijah R Orlaith K Phoenix F	YEAR 10	Luke Do Holly H Dillon K Bailey B Emmy C Maisy M
YEAR 8	Milaan L Aydin K Freddie K Tymofii K Lillie-Mae G Ava L	Astrid R Isaac K Noel C Kye L Ava L	YEAR 11	Lily L Daisy W Emily P Megan N Betiel T Chardae P
YEAR 9	Bernedette O Angelina E-R Luke W Harry W Charlie H-B	Kaiden G Kiryah-Shaer W Munana D Daniel B-G Luke C Giovanni A Janet N Olivia W Filip B		

## YEAR 11 EASTER INTERVENTION

Please follow the link for information shared this week via email and on the school website:

<https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/news/2026-03-26-year-11-easter-intervention-update>

## FIRST AID AND MOBILE PHONES

Students should not be contacting parents/carers when they feel unwell and requesting to be collected from school. If a student is unwell, they MUST go to the First Aider who will deal with them. If 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 student services 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.

Any questions or concerns please email them using the main enquiry email for the attention of first aid or call to speak with first aid on the main school number 0121 444 4161.

**NETBOOK DROP IN!**

GET HELP WITH YOUR NETBOOK!

- TECH SUPPORT
- TROUBLESHOOTING
- SOFTWARE HELP & MORE!

**EVERY TUESDAY**

**3:20PM - 4:00PM**

**ROOM M8**



## 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 gold or silver 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.



## REPORTING AN 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.

To report an absence, please call the main school number 0121 444 4161 and select the correct option for your child's year group.

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.

## 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.

## SCHOOL OPEN REMINDER

This is a reminder that school is open on Monday 13th April from 8.40am for staff and students.

## EASTER ATTENDANCE RAFFLE

Well done to all of our Easter Attendance Raffle winners and all students that received a Creme Egg for having 100% attendance since September!

**Form Group Winners -7SEB.** All students one a chocolate bar for having the highest form attendance since Monday 23rd February.

**Stages Easter Egg Raffle.** The following students won an Easter egg for having 100% attendance since Monday 23rd February.

Year 7 winners - Stefan M and Rosie C

Year 8 winners - Esme-Lily H

Year 9 winners - Niamh W and Jess M

Year 10 winners - Edison M and Mia L-D

Year 11 winners - Tommy T and Alexa K

**Easter Hamper Raffle.** The following students won an Easter Hamper for having 100% attendance since Monday 23rd February.

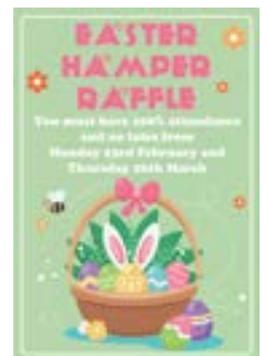
Year 7 - Jethro Jose S

Year 8 - Aoife T

Year 9 - Eliza W-M

Year 10 - Alice B

Year 11 - Lily R



## SCHOOL YEAR 2025 TO 2026

### SUMMER TERM 2026

**Term starts:** Monday 13 April 2026

**Half-term:** Monday 25 May 2026 to Friday 29 May 2026

**Term ends:** Friday 17th July 2026



### INSET DAYS

Monday 20th July 2026

\*New Date\* Friday 1st May (Moderation Day)

### NOTE

**Amendment - Monday 13th April is no longer an INSET day.**

Apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused.

## FACILITIES HIRE

We offer a wide range of classes for the local community and our facilities are also available for private hire. For session bookings and all other enquiries please feel free to contact one of the team.

Bishop Challoner Sports Centre is an exciting and innovative sports complex, comprising:-

A full sized Sports Hall

Olympic sized Dojo specifically designed for Martial Arts  
Meeting Conference Room

<https://widget.bookteq.com/bishopchallonersportscentre/43f86d02-be0c-4249-ba4a-637f57cfbea0/book-online/b1be746a-fcf8-4de0-a44e-2497d3876911/activity>

### Summer Term 1

Every Wednesday	Rosary
Every Thursday	Community Mass - 11.30am
<b>Monday 13th April</b>	<b>School Open</b>
Tuesday 14th April	Bramshaw Close Hall Event
Monday 20th April - Thursday 23rd April	Year 7 Paris Maths Trip
Monday 20th April	7CEC Cake Sale Catholic Secondary Schools Swimming Gala - Y7 & Y&
Tuesday 21st April	Year 7 & Year 8 Easter Mass
Wednesday 22nd April	Year 9 Shakespear Performance
Monday 27th April	San Francisco Parent Meeting 5.30pm
Tuesday 28th April - Wednesday 29th April	DofE Year 9 Bronze Qualifying Expedition
Tuesday 28th April	Year 12 Forensics Masterclass - Wolverhampton Year 9 & Year 10 Easter Mass
Wednesday 29th April	Year 7 & Year 8 Junior Maths Challenge
<b>Friday 1st May</b>	<b>School Closed - INSET Day (Moderation Day)</b>
<b>Monday 4th May</b>	<b>School Closed May Bank Holiday</b>
Tuesday 5th May	Year 13 Leavers Mass
Wednesday 6th May	Holocaust Day Speaker Silver DofE Parent Meeting Year 11 Leavers Mass
Thursday 7th May	Year 11 Leavers Service Year 11 Shirt Signing
Friday 8th May - Saturday 9th May	Northfield Music Festival
wb Monday 11th May	Mental Health Awareness Week
Monday 11th May - Wednesday 13th May	DofE Year 10 Silver Practice Expedition
Wednesday 13th May	Year 12 Dementia Mary Vale Trip Year 7 & Year 8 Ascension Mass
Thursday 14th May	Catholic Secondary Schools Golf Event
Friday 15th May	Year 7 & Year 8 Chance to Shine Cricket Festival
Monday 18th May	7CEC Cake Sale
Wednesday 20th Male	7BOS Ice Cream Sale
Friday 22nd May	Last day before Half Term
<b>Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May</b>	<b>School Closed - Half Term</b>
<b>Monday 1st June</b>	<b>School Open</b>

# Parents & Toddlers Day

Happy Children and Families

FREE  
EVENT

## Humpty Dumpty's Soft Play

3B, 3b Ewhurst Avenue  
Selly Oak, B29 6EY

Wednesday 25th March '26

10am - 12pm or 1-3pm

BSL Interpreters available



## Children welcome - play activities

Join us for a hot drink and share

- Ideas on Potty Training toddlers
- Tips on Sleeping, Eating & Feeding
- Free Community Childcare
- Info on Healthy Start and
- Family Hub Support

Come for a chat ....

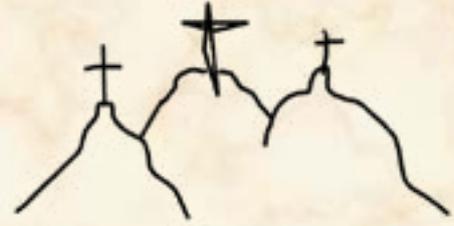
Free  
Refreshments  
and  
Goodie Bags



For more information you can contact us at  
Hallgreen.families@greensquareaccord.co.uk or call 07570 953519

THE REAL

# EASTER EXHIBITION



SUNDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH  
2PM-5PM

LIVE MUSIC, CRAFTS, ORIGINAL ART,  
AFTERNOON TEA, GOODIE BAGS

FREE ENTRY

KINGS HEATH COMMUNITY CENTRE,  
8 HEATHFIELD ROAD B14 7DB

PARKING ON SITE  
CONTACT: 07972708661



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for me and my family's health."

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opportunities  
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programme earning  
you up to  
£455 a week

22nd June - 10th July 2026

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Masters students currently  
studying for a degree in or  
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- ✓ Languages
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