

BC14

A Reader's Prayer

Guide my mind to choose the right books and other written works, having chosen them, to read them in the right way. When I read for profit, grant that all I read may lead me nearer to you. When I read for recreation, grant that what I read may not lead me away from you. Let all my reading so refresh my mind that I may the more eagerly seek after whatsoever things are pure and fair and true.

Message from Dr Coughlan, Principal

Friday 28th April 2023

Over Easter, Challoner was once more represented on the national and international stage as a team of students were sent to Coventry to support the Billie Jean Cup as the ball crew for this event. It was a magnificent occasion that was screened live on the BBC. Offering these incredible opportunities to our young people is an intrinsic part of the fabric of our school and already our younger students are preparing to be the ball crew at the Birmingham Classic event in June. My thanks to Miss Shirley, Mr Wilson and, of course, our magnificent ball crew who were such wonderful representatives of our school.

It has been a busy start to the summer term. This week we have had French speaking exams, art exams and our performing arts final piece. Congratulations to all students involved in these assessments. The next few weeks will be a busy time for our students undertaking public examinations and they will very much be in our thoughts and prayers.

A group of students ventured down to the City Council Offices this week to present their active travel management plans. Their proposal was extremely well received, and they were presented with a cheque for £250 to support their project. Well done to all involved.

After Easter we returned to two brand new science labs that were refurbished over the last half term. This was made possible through a successful bid for funding from

the Wolfson Foundation that Dr Osbourne and a team of staff submitted. These are wonderful new facilities that will benefit many generations of students.

This week we have launched our summer reading homework scheme with Key Stage 3 groups. Across the summer term, the core of our homework programme is a highly ambitious reading programme in which students will read a challenging text in each of their subjects, and answer questions on what they have read. The texts chosen not only relate to what students are studying in class, but they also add to and enrich classroom lessons. All texts have been chosen because they reflect 'the best of what has been written and thought in our subjects'. Please take a look at the scheme which is available via this web link <https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/about/curriculum/reading-programme>.

We are passionate about reading at Challoner and I know that many parents and carers will enjoy reading the articles and extracts as well.

Next week we will have various events taking place in school to mark the historic occasion of the Coronation of King Charles III.

My best wishes to all our families for the bank holiday weekend.

Coronation Celebration

We have started planning a celebration to mark the Coronation of King Charles III. On Friday 5th May 2023 students can come into school wearing an item of red, white and blue clothing with their school uniform. Please note this is not a non-uniform day and the standards of appearance with hair, makeup, jewellery etc remain unchanged. A donation towards charity would be most welcome.

Kitchen '72

We had a trial of a brand new on trend lunch solution, very similar to the kind of food offered at Nando's in the canteen on Tuesday this week. It was extremely popular with students and we are pleased to say that it will soon be on offer as a permanent feature alongside our daily menu.

Year 7 Revision Club

A Year 7 revision club begins on Wednesday 3rd May and will then run every Tuesday until the end of the P2 assessments. It will be held in E8 from 3.10pm-4.10pm. Your child is welcome to come to revise and learn some tips on successful revision.

Year 7, 9, 10 and 12 Assessments

Please visit the school website and follow the homepage links for subject information and guidance on the Summer assessments.

National Thank A Teacher Day

On 21st June it is National Thank a Teacher day. Our teachers work so hard to give the best experiences possible to our students, and it would be wonderful if any parents wanted to recognise the work teachers do on this day.



Please visit the Parent page here, where there is a link to send a postcard of thanks to any teacher who has particularly helped your child, as well as some competitions to enter: <https://thankateacher.co.uk/national-thank-a-teacher-day-parentsandpupils/>

It should only take a minute, but would really be meaningful to our wonderful teachers, doing the best they can for our students every day.



It is hard to miss the storm that generative AI has produced in the news in recent months. The recent developments in this field are a breakthrough for public use, and platforms such as ChatGPT are likely going to change many working practices going forward. Of course, education is no different and the implications of generative AI will also be found here. There are many advantages to generative AI and many times savings can be found by using the platforms complete everyday tasks. However, there are also some inherent dangers and concerns with such technology:

Accuracy – there is no guaranteeing that what a platform generate is 100% accurate. The onus will still be on the person using the platform to proofread and check.

Plagiarism – with all aspects of schoolwork, it is intended that the student completes all work themselves and is accountable for the accuracy and honesty of such work. The use of a platform such as ChatGPT to complete work Will be treated the same as copying someone else's work.

Bias – one area of AI, which is consistently under scrutiny, is bias amongst both the data used to generate, and the outcomes that it produces. This has always been a worry with AI, and this concern will no doubt grow exponentially as more, and more people become aware of the powers of such platforms.

We are encouraging parents and carers to engage in a conversation with their child, and to discuss the aspects of accuracy, plagiarism, and bias, and what this means to schoolwork, students should be completing work on their own.

Bishop Challoner Training School - GOOD NEWS!

As you know, we have been filling places on our Summer Internship Programme with undergraduate students in a range of subjects. This paid opportunity allows University students to see if teaching may be a career option after their studies. After successfully filling 70 place, the DfE have granted us some more places!! So, if you know a student who would like 3 weeks paid experience in June/ July, please make sure they see the flyer and apply as soon as possible! Subjects this year are: Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Computing, French, Spanish, Mandarin and German.

More details here: <https://www.bctsa.org/605/teaching-internship-programme> and also an application is on this web page.

TEACHER TRAINING applications are also open for a September 2023 start for Primary and Secondary subjects. See our website for information and join us for a free session to find out more: <https://www.bctsa.org/602/train-to-teach-events>

IMPORTANT First Aid Reminder

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. We also need current emergency contact details, if these have changed you must contact the school with new details for our records.

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.

TEACHING INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

Earn
£900



Places are being filled now ready for the summer!

3 weeks @
£300 per week

Monday 19th June to Friday 7th July 2023
Apply **now** for a place on this popular programme!



Have you ever thought about a career in teaching Physics, Computing, Maths, Chemistry, or French, Spanish or Mandarin?



Are you currently studying for an under-grad degree in these or a related subject (in any year)?

If so, apply to take part in our Teaching Internship Programme. Spend 3 weeks on our programme and discover the power of teaching to improve the life chances of students. Previous interns unfortunately cannot apply. Interviews taking place now!!

Apply now: <https://forms.office.com/e/Wxjse7Zt5r>

www.bctsa.org



Bishop Challoner TSA, Institute Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7EG

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.

Sports Updates

Basketball

Congratulations to the year 9 boys basketball team on a fantastic cup run. After an unbelievable run of 7 victories in a row, the boys finally tasted defeat in the Basketball England National Cup competition as they were edged out by a very good Sale Grammar School at the quarter final stage. The commitment and resilience which has been so evidently on display throughout the year has been the driving force behind such an incredible achievement.



Boxing

Michael is the new midlands county boxing schools champion for his age and weight, this is an incredible achievement and the first of many within the sport. Well done, Michael.



Rugby

Year 7&8 Rugby match vs Lordswood Boys was a brilliant opportunity for many of our pupils to gain their first experience of competitive rugby, with all pupils representing the school with exceptional determination and resilience with Bishop Challoner recording an impressive victory and several impressive team and individual try's being scored.



The Year 9&10 boys rugby team were also in action vs Lordswood Boys, recording another win for Bishop Challoner. This was a great opportunity for a range of pupils from experienced rugby players to those playing in their first competitive match to experience rugby and its core values that were demonstrated exceptionally by both sides throughout, along with some impressive rugby on display from both sides.

Duke of Edinburgh

A huge well done to our year 9 and year 12 students who have this week completed their bronze and silver Duke of Edinburgh awards. The students were exceptional in their efforts, walking for 6 hours on day one before camping in the cold for the night! They then completed the second part of their award walking to the Waseley Hills on Wednesday. Great efforts from everyone involved, well done everyone!

School Games

On 18th and 20th April, Mr McDermott organised two multi skills festivals at Billesley Tennis Centre for just under 2,000 pupils from local primary schools. The event was supported by approx. 200 staff, and it was great to see all the pupils having so much fun whilst being active, especially during the indoor snowball fight!

Thanks to: Hannah Reed from Hall Green School, Warwickshire Cricket Board and Billesley Tennis Centre for providing coaches, the staff from Swanshurst Girls School and Moseley School and the brilliant sports leaders who made the event so special and memorable for the pupils, Mr Carter and Mr Talwar from the PE department who provided invaluable help and ensured all activities ran smoothly and to all parents/carers who popped in to say hello and were able to watch their children being active and having fun.

Extra-Curricular

An abundance of new extra-curricular clubs this term! [Click here](#) to download from our website.

Times:	Sports Hall:	Dojo:	Lunch Time (12:10-12:50)
MONDAY	7:45-8:30 Trampoline Miss Ellis Year 9 & 10 (Mixed Gender)	Movement Group Mr Brade (Invite only)	
	3:10-4:30 Chance to shine Girls Cricket Miss Edwards/ Mr Gunn 7, 8 & 9 (Girls Only)	Rugby Mr Cole/Mr Carter All Years (Mixed Gender)	
	4:30-5:30		
TUESDAY	7:45-8:30 Volleyball Mr Moon All Years (Mixed Gender)	Tchoukball Mr Wilson All Years (Mixed Gender)	
	3:10-4:30 Football Mr Noone (Wk2) Mr Carter/Mr Gunn (Wk1) Year 9 & 10 (Mixed Gender)		
	4:30-5:30		
WEDNESDAY	7:45-8:30 Badminton & Table Tennis Miss Edwards/Mr Talwar All Years (Girls)		Football/ Basketball Mr Malley Year 7, 8 & 9
	3:10-4:30 Netball Miss Law/Miss Stoica All Years (Girls)		
	4:30-5:30		
THURSDAY	7:45-8:30 Basketball Mr Laight All Years (Mixed Gender)		
	3:10-4:30 Basketball Mr Brade/ Miss Stoica Year 7/8 (Mixed Gender)		
	4:30-5:30		
FRIDAY	7:45-8:30 Football Mr Malley/ Mr Talwar Year 7 & 8 (Mixed Gender)	Dodgeball M Cole All Years (Mixed Gender)	
	2:30- 3:30 N/A		

Faith formation in the family

The start of a new year provides a perfect opportunity for families to reflect upon their faith and how we can come together to support each other on our journey of faith during 2023.

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 Philip Harrop	10am 12noon 6.30pm	5.30pm
St. Jude's	B14 5PE	Fr Philip Harrop	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.



Please remember to use easyfundraising every time you shop online! Over 7,000 brands will donate, so you can raise FREE donations for us no matter what you're buying. These donations really help us out, so please sign up if you haven't yet. It's easy and FREE! You can get started at https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bishopchallonercatholiccollege/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=rm-en-n2

Attendance Update

Year 7 - %
Year 8 - %
Year 9 - %
Year 10 - %
Year 11 - %
Whole School - %

Timings of the school day - September 2023

[Click here](#) for more information.

Monday to Thursday: Start: 8.40am. Finish: 3.20pm **Friday:** Start: 8.40am. Finish: 2.30pm

Schools and Colleges Early Support Service Parent/Carer Webinars

How to manage exam stress

Stress levels can be higher than usual around exam time. A bit of stress can help us to stay motivated but too much can be unhelpful. This webinar will help your young people to find the best ways to manage their stress levels and stay calm before, during and after their exams.

[Click here](#) to register to watch.

Passcode to watch webinar on demand: **N7dqw!=C**

How to manage low mood

We all experience low mood in different ways. It can not only impact upon how we feel but it can also affect how we live our lives day to day, including our relationships, eating and sleeping patterns, concentration and school/college work. It can lead to feelings of hopelessness and stop us from enjoying the things we normally would. This webinar will help your young people to understand what low mood is, help them to spot the signs of low mood and support them to look after themselves by using self-care strategies.

[Click here](#) to register to watch.

Passcode to watch webinar on demand: **8u*8j+NI**

How to manage anxiety

Anxiety is a normal part of life and can affect anyone. A bit of anxiety from time to time is normal, it can help with motivation at school/college, sport or work. However, if anxious feelings don't go away, they can interfere with our ability to concentrate, socialise with friends and generally enjoy life. This webinar will help your young people to recognise the signs of anxiety and understand how anxiety impacts on their thoughts, feelings and behaviours. The webinar will also support them to reduce and manage anxious feelings by using self-care strategies.

[Click here](#) to register to watch.

Passcode to watch webinar on demand: **CWuA+2#2**



Anna Freud
National Centre for
Children and Families

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. Bishp 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.

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 school skirt (not lycra or stretchy). 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.

In order to complement the smart school uniform we insist that students' hair is smart in appearance and that students do not have shaved/razored hair styles or lines/patterns shaved into the hair. Extreme changes of hair colour are also not permitted. Headscarves must be black. Braids are allowed. 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.

Please note that lycra or stretchy skirts are not allowed to 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.

Scarves

A recent trend appears to be the wearing of scarves. Scarves should only be worn with a coat and should not be worn inside, the same as coats.

Upcoming Events

School Closed May Bank Holiday

Monday 1st May

School Closed - King's Coronation

Monday 8th May

Strike Day - Y7-10 Remote Learning

Tuesday 2nd May

BC Tea Party

Wednesday 10th May

Robotics Events
Year 9 PD Day

Wednesday 3rd May

8LUK Penalty Shootout
BGT Spiritual Life
Y10 Synagogue Trip
Y12 Media Photoshoot

Thursday 11th May

Sixth Form Jobs - Interview Window Closes

Thursday 4th May

Northfield Music Festival
Year 13 Leaver's Service

Friday 12th May