



Message from Mrs Baptiste, Associate Assistant Principal

Friday 2nd May 2025

Welcome back to the start of the Summer term after a well-deserved Easter break. As we return refreshed and renewed, we walk forward together under the guiding light of our Catholic values, mindful of the joys of Easter and the hope it brings to our school community.

It is with deep sorrow that we acknowledge the passing of His Holiness Pope Francis. His unwavering commitment to compassion, peace, and justice has left a profound legacy that continues to inspire us all. Our school community will come together in prayer in the coming weeks to honour the life and legacy of Pope Francis with the heartfelt 9-Day Novena. Each day offers a powerful reflection and prayer of thanksgiving, hope, and intercession—lifting up the Church, the poor, the sick and the faithful in mourning. Today, Day-5-Novena consists of a short reading from Scripture and prayer:



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said, "Simon, Simon, behold Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat, but I have prayed that your own faith may not fail; and once you have turned back, you must strengthen your brothers." Peter said to him, "Lord, I am prepared to go to prison and to die with you." But Jesus replied, "I tell you, Peter, before the cock crows this day, you will deny three times that you know me." (22:31-34)

Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that the soul of Francis, your servant and Priest,
whom you honoured with sacred office
while he lived in this world,
may exult for ever in the glorious home of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Following Pope Francis' legacy 'a Pope among the people, with an open heart towards everyone', we continue to embrace our 'Year of Hope and Service to Others', organising fundraising events across all year groups. Students are engaging in projects that demonstrate their commitment to hope and service, actively planning activities to raise funds and awareness for those in need. Building on last term's successful charity initiatives; Readathon, Easter hampers, tuck shops and Easter Fair, we are looking forward to the upcoming Father's Day hamper raffle, sports day tuck shop, Year 7 disco and Ice Cream Friday. All in full support of Father Hudson's Caritas.

In addition to our fundraising initiatives, a selection of year 9 students will embark on a collaborative project with Fox Hollies Special School this week. They will be supporting their Fox Hollies peers alongside working with an artist in residence as they engage in PE and Dance workshops. This is an outstanding project that has been running for just over a decade, bringing together two school communities fostering meaningful partnerships through creativity, encouraging inclusion, empathy and shared learning through sport and the arts.

Creative expression continues to thrive throughout our school. Last term, we proudly hosted our annual Spring Soirée, a truly special evening showcasing the outstanding musical talent across all year groups. Pupils performed a variety of pieces featuring guitar, violin, steel pans, flute, piano, and other instruments. This event is always a joyful expression of our students' dedication, creativity, and musical growth, and this evening did not disappoint. Thank you to our incredibly talented pupils and their families who joined us in celebrating their achievements.

This term also marks a pivotal period for our Year 11 and Year 13 students, who are working hard to complete coursework and prepare for their upcoming GCSE and A Level public examinations. We commend their focus and perseverance, and we hold them in our prayers as they approach this important stage of their educational journey.

We are filled with hope and enthusiasm for the term ahead—grounded in faith, strengthened by purpose, and enriched by the gifts and efforts of every member of our school community.

Attendance Champions League Knockout Phase!

League Table

Week ending Friday 11th April

Position	Club	Played	Wins	Draws	Losses	Points
1	7SEB	26	20	0	6	60
2	7BOS	26	19	0	7	57
3	9BER	26	18	0	8	54
4	7TER	26	18	0	8	54
5	7LUK	26	18	0	8	54
6	9LUK	26	17	0	9	51
7	8BOS	26	17	0	9	51
8	7CEC	26	16	0	10	48
9	11CEC	26	15	0	11	45
10	11BOS	26	15	0	11	45
11	10BOS	26	15	0	11	45
12	9SEB	26	15	0	11	45
13	8SEB	26	14	0	12	42
14	8LUK	26	14	0	12	42
15	11SEB	26	13	0	13	39
16	10CEC	26	13	0	13	39
17	9TER	26	13	0	13	39
18	9CEC	26	13	0	13	39
19	8BER	26	13	0	13	39
20	10TER	26	12	0	14	36
21	9BOS	26	12	0	14	36
22	8TER	26	12	0	14	36
23	11LUK	26	11	0	15	33
24	7BER	26	11	0	15	33
25	10LUK	26	9	0	17	27
26	10SEB	26	8	0	18	24
27	8CEC	26	8	0	18	24
28	11BER	26	5	0	21	15
29	10BER	26	5	0	21	15
30	11TER	26	1	0	25	3

Round 1 Fixtures

Week beginning Tuesday 6th May

7SEB	VS	11TER
7BOS	VS	10BER
9BER	VS	11BER
7TER	VS	8CEC
7LUK	VS	10SEB
9LUK	VS	10LUK
8BOS	VS	7BER
7CEC	VS	11LUK
11CEC	VS	8TER
11BOS	VS	9BOS
10BOS	VS	10TER
9SEB	VS	8BER
8SEB	VS	9CEC
8LUK	VS	9TER
11SEB	VS	10CEC

Summer Uniform

In light of the weather forecast summer uniform can be worn as of tomorrow, Wednesday 30th April 2025.

Students **DO NOT** have to wear a-
Tie
Blazer
Jumper

Students **MUST** wear-
Shirts tucked in
Shoes not trainers

If a 2nd layer is worn, this **MUST** be a blazer **NOT** a jumper or other outer wear, any item other than a blazer will be confiscated.

Girls must wear natural or black 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 in the lobe of the ear.

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.

Sport

Latest Results

Netball

Year 10 girls Netball played in the school Games competition at Christchurch winning 2 out of their 3 games and advancing to the finals next term. Well done to all involved!

Football

U14 girls football play on Friday 2nd May in the Trevor Giles Quarter Finals. Good luck!

Year 11 & Year 13 Prom Reminders

Year 11 Prom:

Monday 30th June

The Abbey Hotel
Hither Green Lane
Dagnell End Road
Redditch
B98 9BE

Year 13 Prom:

Thursday 3rd July, 7.30pm - 11pm

Highbury Hall.
4 Yew Tree Rd
Moseley
Birmingham
B13 8QG

Please ensure that consent and payment has been made via Schoolcomms.

TESCO Stronger Starts Tokens

Please remember to add blue tokens and vote at the following stores after making a purchase to enable us to potentially receive up to £1,500 to provide some of our most vulnerable students with a complimentary bagel and bottle of water each morning:

Solihull 2344 Hall Green Strtfd Exp Small unit B28 8AB
Solihull 2624 Hall Green Large unit B90 3LU
Solihull 5498 Kings Heath Birm Exp Small unit B14 6EB
Solihull 5656 Robin Hood Brmham Exp Small unit B28 OLG
Solihull 6685 Birmingham Alcstr Exp Small unit B47 5PN

Voting will commence in store from the first week in **April 2025 until the end of June 2025**. Every little helps!

Fr Hudson's Donations

We are delighted to be dropping off our food donations to Fr Hudson's this week! We would like to say a huge thank you to all families and staff who so generously donated! They are going to Fr Hudson's Caritas in Coleshill, and will be greatly received by a group of refugees who are supported there.



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	Bishop Tim Menezes	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

Prayer and Worship

Each Monday morning we begin our school day with a reflection on the Gospel shared in Mass on Sunday.

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.

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.

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.

First Aid Information and Procedures

Medication; All medication should be handed into first aid and not carried by the students. Exception EpiPen, Asthma inhalers, insulin. 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 they can re-fill at our water stations provided or they can purchase a drink from the school canteen.

Students with Asthma must carry with them their own personal inhalers. 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.

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.

Summer Assessments

Please follow the links below for subject information and guidance on the Year 7, Year 9, Year 10 and Year 12 assessments/mocks.

Year 7 - <https://tinyurl.com/2838wtrs>

Year 9 - <https://tinyurl.com/mw9zd5h9>

Year 10 - <https://tinyurl.com/4rh59xw>

Year 12 - <https://tinyurl.com/bdcpjy5r>

Leave in Term Time

Leave in Term TimeTerm time holidays cause significant concern. The direct correlation between attendance and attainment is undeniable. Absence from school interrupts teaching and learning and compromises progress. As per the letter regarding legal action sent at the start of the academic year, Birmingham local authority seeks to support Birmingham schools and academies in reducing the amount of education lost to student leave of absence in term time. Bishop Challoner Catholic College and Birmingham City Council strongly discourages student leave of absence during term time and parents/carers could be subject to court action and hefty fines. Recent leave in term time absences have resulted in fines of £701 and £433. Please support the school and your child and ensure all leave is taken in the school holidays.

Assembly and Form Resource Focus

It has been a wonderful to welcome back all the students after the Easter break and our assemblies across all year groups have of course, acknowledged the sad passing of Pope Francis with a fitting tribute and prayers. Pope Francis was a servant of God throughout his whole life, displaying ultimate respect for everyone he met, no matter their background. We used this as the impetus for talking about respect and how it underpins everything we do in school including being the foundation of our Faithful Virtues and Standards for Learning Curriculum. Students were therefore reminded of the key aspects of standards in school both within the classroom and throughout the school community.

The form resources this week focused on a fitting and wonderful to tribute to Pope Francis alongside a celebration for St George's Day. St George is the patron Saint of England and his feast day was on 23rd April 2025 but was celebrated on 28th April due to it falling over Easter. Students looked at a video of what we know about his life and how he died as a martyr, persecuted for being a Christian. There was an interactive quiz and discussion tasks based around how we can all be inspired by our patron Saint, focusing on the Faithful Virtues that he displayed.

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
Monday 5th May	School closed - May Bank Holiday
Tuesday 6th May - Thursday 8th May	Year 13 Art Exam
Tuesday 6th May	Year 10 Careers Visit Year 11 Leavers Mass
Thursday 8th May	VE Day - see text sent 02/05/25 Year 13 Leavers Mass Year 8 Immunisations Fox Hollie's Visit
Tuesday 13th May	Year 8 Chaplaincy Visit
Wednesday 14th May	Catholic Competitions - Chess Tea Party
Thursday 15th May	Catholic Competitions - Golf
Monday 19th May	DofE Silver Parent/Carer meeting
Tuesday 20th May	Year 10 Mass
Thursday 22nd May	Fox Hollie's Visit
Friday 23rd May	Cake Sale
Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May	School Closed - Half term holiday

2024-2025 Term Dates

Summer Term 2025
Term Starts: Monday 28 April 2025
Half-term: Monday 26 May 2025 to Friday 30 May 2025
Term ends: Friday 18th July 2024

INSET Days

Monday 21st July 2025

Job Opportunity at Bishop Challoner

As well as Teaching vacancies, we have fantastic non-teaching job opportunities at and we would really appreciate your help in spreading the word. If you, or someone you know, would be interested in joining our school community, please get in touch.

Design Technology & Art Technician

We are seeking for a DT & Art Technician, a fantastic opportunity for someone practical, organised and passionate about supporting creative learning.

This role is term-time only, with school hours—meaning the candidate would benefit from school holidays.

Who Should Apply?

Those with experience or an interest in design technology, art or workshop management.

Practical individuals who enjoy hands-on work and supporting students.

Key Responsibilities:

- Preparing materials and maintaining equipment, including CAD/CAM machinery.
- Supporting teachers in lessons and ensuring health & safety compliance.
- Assisting with displays, exhibitions and extracurricular clubs.

Why Work at Bishop Challoner Catholic College?

Our school is a place where every member of staff is valued and supported to achieve their best. We take pride in offering a positive, inclusive working environment with clear opportunities for professional growth.

Staff at Bishop Challoner Catholic College benefit from:

- A structured induction programme, opportunities for shadowing and high-quality training.
- Supportive line managers who provide regular feedback and guidance.
- Teaching staff have access to the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS), which is one of the most generous public sector pension schemes in the UK.

- Support staff have access to the Local Government Pension Scheme, offering long-term financial security, including immediate life cover.

Whether your expertise is in administration, pastoral care, IT, premises management, catering or specialist services, we provide tailored pathways for development and career progression.

To apply or find out more about the role, visit <https://www.bishopchalloner.org.uk/vacancies>

Thank you for your support in helping us find the right people to join our school community.

**Comhaltas
Ceoltóirí Éireann
Birmingham Branch**

Traditional Irish Music Classes
at Bishop Challoner School,
Institute Road, Kings Heath B14 7EG
Thursday evenings at 7.00pm
from 12th September 2024
All ages and all instruments welcome.
Contact:
Branch Sec. belindahutchings@yahoo.com
Branch Chair, Marian Dwyer, Text 07939 094797

Irish Music SESSION
on the second Sunday of the
month at Norton's, Digbeth, B5 5LS
from 3.00pm onwards.

Everyone Welcome

Regional Fleadh, Newman University, 6th April 2025
All-Britain Fleadh, Bishop Challoner School, Kings Heath,
28th/29th June 2025

**Craobh Birmingham
Conradh na Gaeilge**

**POP UP
Gaeltacht**

Second Sunday of the month
At Nortons Digbeth 1pm-3pm
Come along and listen or join in with a cúpla focal
Everyone is welcome to this monthly event.

**Craobh Birmingham
Conradh na Gaeilge**

LEARN IRISH NOW
Irish language course for beginners starting
October 24. In-person classes once a month
with online and printed resources to study at
your own pace at home.

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