

# BC14

**Saint John Bosco**  
Friend of the young,  
Teacher in the ways of God,  
Your dedication to empowering the needy inspires us still.  
Help me to work for a better world,  
where the young are given the chance to flourish,  
where the poor's dream for justice can come true, and  
where God's compassion is shown to be real.  
Intercede for me as I bring my needs to you  
and to our heavenly Mother, the Help of Christians.  
Saint John Bosco,  
Pray for us!

## Message from Mr J Cunnane, Assistant Principal

Friday 31st January 2025

### 'Hope Never Disappoints' Pope Francis

The Holy Father has announced that 2025 will be a Jubilee Year, something which happens every 25 years. The theme for Jubilee 2025 is "Pilgrims of Hope," and it will be a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19 pandemic, and the climate crisis.

Here at Bishop Challoner we are excited to share Pope Francis' call for Hope though our whole school Year of Hope. It was a powerful moment to see the whole school community watch the diocesan official live launch for The Jubilee Year of Hope and across the year we will be working together to celebrate joy throughout our community of faith. This week we have seen students from all form groups write beautiful prayer which will be displayed on our 'Tree of Hope' in the foyer as a powerful sign of the hope our students wish to spread across our school.

It was also a joy to see students from all year groups receive a blessing from Fr Toby this week as he commissioned them as our 'Pilgrims of Hope' who will lead on initiatives across the year. As our students continue to strive towards our mission statement, 'We give glory to God by fulfilling our full potential', hope can be the anchor that steadies them and helps them to persevere towards achieving their goals.

With the end of January approaching, we begin to reflect upon the month of February which is dedicated to the Holy Family. This wonderful tradition began in the 17th century as a means to encourage families to look to the example of the Holy Family as a model in our everyday lives. It is so easy to sometimes lose sight of the reality that Jesus, Mary, and Joseph were a real-life family that had to do very ordinary things like cook, clean, laugh, work, fix, and learn.

As we approach February we pray that the Holy Family be a guiding light in our everyday lives, and may we always strive to be examples of the Lord's extraordinary love in our families each day.

## Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening

Parent Consultation Evening will be held on **Thursday 6th February 6pm-7.30pm**. Appointments are now open in School Cloud. You will need to login using the details that the school holds for your child's priority 1 contact. Appointments must be made by the end of the day on **Tuesday 4th February**, if you have not made an appointment by this date, your child's Consultation Tutor will make the appointment for you.

Students are required to attend in full school uniform.

## Leave in Term Time

Term time holidays cause significant concern. The direct correlation between attendance and attainment is undeniable. Absence from school interrupts teaching and learning and compromises progress. As per the letter regarding legal action sent at the start of the academic year, Birmingham local authority seeks to support Birmingham schools and academies in reducing the amount of education lost to student leave of absence in term time. Bishop Challoner Catholic College and Birmingham City Council strongly discourages student leave of absence during term time and parents/carers could be subject to court action and hefty fines. Recent leave in term time absences have resulted in fines of £701 and £533. Please support the school and your child and ensure all leave is taken in the school holidays.

## Year of Hope

'A tree of Life' display is being created by the whole school - students are invited in to the Chapel and library to write a message of Hope on a cut out of their hand to stick a tree display which will end up a permanent feature in the Chapel for the remainder of the Jubilee year.

Two represents from each year group have been picked as "Pilgrims of Hope". Fr Toby came in to school on Wednesday 29th January for a commissioning ceremony, blessing our framed jubilee artwork, and giving his blessing to the "Pilgrim of Hope" representatives, to send them out as pilgrims of Hope into the school.



# Attendance Champions League

## League Table

Week ending Friday 31st January

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

## Results

Week ending Friday 31st January

7BER	96.45	VS	94.12	9LUK
9SEB	94.85	VS	90.63	9CEC
9TER	92.19	VS	90.31	9BOS
10BER	92.58	VS	93.87	9BER
10BOS	95.67	VS	93.33	8TER
10CEC	95.88	VS	96.76	8SEB
10LUK	94.52	VS	95.29	8LUK
10SEB	96.00	VS	97.43	8CEC
10TER	89.69	VS	98.79	8BOS
11BER	86.18	VS	98.18	8BER
11BOS	95.81	VS	96.36	7TER
11CEC	91.03	VS	96.36	7SEB
11LUK	93.46	VS	97.65	7LUK
11SEB	94.64	VS	94.85	7CEC
11TER	90.32	VS	94.71	7BOS

## Fixtures

Week beginning Monday 23rd February

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

# Sport

## Latest Results

Year 7 Boys Indoor cricket team played Moseley and King Edwards Five Ways narrowly losing both games. The boys have represented the school brilliantly as always and have enjoyed the experience so far this term.

Year 7 and Year 9 boys' basketballers won convincingly against St Georges with some outstanding performances across both games. This was their first game of the year, and it is very exciting for the rest of the year.

Year 7 Footballers are out again on Wednesday this week playing Kings Norton Boys in the Kings Norton League. They are flying high so far this year in the league and will secure top spot if they win on Wednesday.

Y9/10 Girls Football result: University of Birmingham 0 v 4 Bishop Challoner (Kings Norton & South Birmingham League). Goalscorers: MH x2, JB, AB. POM: MK

## Uniform Standards

Students are required to wear the standard uniform of blazer, tie, white/blue shirt with black straight leg school trousers (not skinny or boot cut) or girls can wear a knee length black pleated school skirt. Girls are also reminded that if they choose to wear a skirt, then they should wear plain, black, opaque tights. Students are reminded that black leather school shoes should be worn and that trainers/trainer style shoes are forbidden.

Please note that school shoes must be kept completely black and boots of any kind are not allowed.

Our uniform requirements are complemented by a smart appearance and as such, hair styles that should not have a distinct contrast in length. Hair that is dyed must be of a natural hair colour and may not contain more than one colour. To avoid a health and safety risk, long hair must not impede vision or cover the face, except for a fringe which must not cover the eyes. Long hair must be tied up for practical lessons. Religious head coverings must be black and securely tied for practical lessons. Hair bands or accessories must be for functional use to secure the hair. Where hairbands are worn they must be black. Headwear that has religious or cultural purpose should be black. The final decision as to whether a particular haircut/style is appropriate is at the discretion of senior staff.

Make up, nail varnish and jewellery are not permitted with the exception of one pair of plain stud earrings which may be worn.

Students found to be wearing an inappropriate item of uniform may be asked to change this or in some cases parents/carers will be contacted and requested to bring replacement uniform to school.

We appreciate your support in ensuring that standards of uniform and appearance are maintained.

## Assembly and Form Resource Focus

We celebrated World Religions Day in assembly for the week prior to this special event. Students were invited to share in our Jubilee Year of Hope to think about what interfaith dialogue means and the importance of it, as we are called to learn and understand by Pope Francis on this important matter. This of course, is rooted in our Faithful Virtues and calls to action all of our young people to listen to each other, embrace diversity and come together for the common good of all, promoting understanding and harmony.

This week's theme has looked at Safety. Something pertinent in all of our lives and especially at the forefront as we remembered in our prayers, Leo Ross, who sadly lost his life as a victim of knife crime. Students were reminded of key safety rules to follow both in and outside of school and also the lawful facts about weapon and prohibited item possession, as stated in The Crime Act and Criminal Justice Act. As always, the safety of our community is paramount and students were advised that speaking to a trusted adult with any concerns, is absolutely imperative in safeguarding everyone.

Our Form Resource programme has focused on Holocaust Memorial Day and Pilgrims of Hope over the last fortnight. Holocaust Memorial Day was delivered to all students, marking the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau, the largest Nazi concentration camp complex, and the 30th anniversary of the genocide in Bosnia. Whilst learning about the atrocities of The Holocaust, students were asked to consider some of the many things they can do to create a better future. Speaking up against Holocaust and genocide denial and distortion; challenging prejudice; encouraging others to learn about the Holocaust and more recent genocides. All in relation to our Faithful Virtues and showing respect to all.

Following on from the Diocesan live event that all students had the opportunity to watch, launching the Jubilee Pilgrims of Hope, this week we have looked at the message from Archbishop Bernard Longley. Be the start of a new hopeful era with a focus on those around you. By doing this, you will spread peace and joy to each other. Students have had the opportunity to create pledges that focus around:

- 1)Prayer – anchoring our lives in Christ
- 2)Social Action – reaching out to those in need, help for the poor, caring for creation and building a culture of peace.
- 3)Fundraising – supporting the work of Hope. We come together to fundraise for Father Hudson's Caritas supporting vital projects in education, health care and social care within our Archdiocese.

These pledges have been written on the back of card logos that will be displayed in our foyer area.

## Easy Fundraising

A reminder that we are registered with easyfundraising, an amazing platform that partners with over 7,000 brands to help raise funds for good causes – and it costs you absolutely nothing!



# 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.

## Eco Club

Eco Club are taking on the Sustainability Challenge from Eco Birmingham over the next few weeks. How many of these can you do with your family? See the Eco Birmingham website for more details: <https://ecobirmingham.com/2025/01/07/living-sustainably-lets-play/>





# 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.

## 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.

## First Aid Reminders

**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, it is important children stay hydrated.

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

## Mobile Phones

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

# 2024-2025 Term Dates

## Spring Term 2025

**Term Starts:** Monday 6 January 2025  
**Half-term:** Monday 17 February 2025 to Friday 21 February 25  
**Term ends:** Friday 11 April 2025

## Summer Term 2025

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

## INSET Days

Wednesday 5th February 2025  
 Monday 24th February 2025  
 Monday 21st July 2025

Spring Term 1	
Every Tuesday	Rosary
Every Thursday	Community Mass 11.30am
Monday 3rd February	<b>NEW</b> - Parent/Carer meeting for the football trip
Wednesday 5th February	INSET - School closed to students
Thursday 6th February	Canteen - Caribbean day Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening (more details to follow) Year 12 Auschwitz Visit
Monday 10th February - Friday 14th February	National Apprenticeship Week
Tuesday 11th February - Sunday 16th February	Ball Crew
Tuesday 11th February	Bishop's Got Talent Year 7 Disco Year 9 Emerging Careers <b>NEW</b> - Symphony Hall Trip
Wednesday 12th February	Tea Party
Friday 14th February	Dementia Ambrose Valentines Day Hamper Year 9 National Space Centre Trip
Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February	Half Term



**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




**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.



**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.

[www.gaeilge.uk](http://www.gaeilge.uk)

# Safer Internet Day 2025

## Tuesday 11 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

[saferinternetday.org.uk](https://saferinternetday.org.uk)

