

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi (Prayer for Peace)

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Message from Mr E O'Connor, Vice Principal

Friday 4th October 2024

"It is a hope that leaves peace and joy inside, regardless of what happens outside. It is a hope that has strong roots, which no storm of life can uproot. It is a hope that 'does not disappoint' – hope does not disappoint! – which gives the strength to overcome all tribulations." Pope Francis.

This academic year, as we approach the Jubilee year, will be dedicated to our 'Year of Hope'. Through our typical Challoner spirit, and direction inspired from our school ethos, 'Giving glory to God by developing our full potential and in the service of others', we will give 'Hope' to others. Already this term staff and students have come together to raise money, give clothes, and donate food, to various charities. Our whole school charity focus will support Fr Hudson's. Through taking part in our charitable events, our students grow in confidence, become compassionate and more self-aware of those in greater need, many of whom live amongst us in our community. Our Sixth form students visited the Maryvale Dementia Centre this week where they engaged in conversation, played games, and facilitated bingo. I adore the picture below which captures a precious moment between a student and a client... the power of a smile and for a moment at least some happiness shared.

Mrs Mazabruad organised our Macmillan Coffee morning last Friday. As a school we always look to support this incredible charity, especially as so many of us can connect with the organisation. Staff baked some delightful treats, and we took time to remember our dear colleague Kevin (Cheshire) who sadly passed in August.

Our ongoing charitable work allowed us to achieve the accolade of becoming a 'School of Sanctuary' in July. A school that is committed to being a safe and welcoming place for all, especially those seeking sanctuary. We are very proud of our students and staff that enabled us to achieve this award.

Our dedicated staff continue to engage with research to develop their teaching pedagogy to ensure our young people are getting the best learning experience both inside and out of the classroom. All students have had a wonderful start to the term and our Yr13 and Yr11 studnets are focused as they prepare for the year ahead. Our extracurricular programme is in full flow, with students taking part in a variety of clubs daily including STEM, Art, G&T Maths, Programming, Volleyball, and Basketball. Our four mini buses leave the school each day carrying our future sporting stars as they compete against schools across Birmingham. We encourage families to take advantage of our free extra-curricular programme.

The curriculum focus for October is Black History Month where students will look at 'reclaiming narratives' across all subjects. The month of October is also dedicated to the Holy Rosary. The Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on October 7. October falls during the liturgical season known as Ordinary Time, which is represented by the liturgical colour green. Being a proud Irish man I am quite fond of the colour green. The school has forged a brilliant relationship with the Birmingham Irish Association (BIA), and we are looking forward to our students performing at the Benjamin Zephaniah Memorial event at St Annes on the 12th November and the Birmingham Irish Christmas Toy Appeal in December. We are also supporting the BIA and BBC Radio West Midlands in the build up to the 50th Anniversary of the Birmingham Pub Bombings with a memorial event taking place at New Street on 22nd November where selected students will perform on clarinet, flute, and recorder.

Students break up for this half term on Thursday 24th October as Friday 25th is a teacher training day. As we approach half term, and the evenings are drawing in, we remind our students to take care as they travel home from school. We thank them for their ongoing commitment in upholding our school standards and we instil hope and resilience as they prepare for upcoming exams and assessments.

"God helps us to be builders of good, consolers of hearts. Everyone can do a little good, without waiting for others to start."

Pope Francis



Attendance Champions League

League Table

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

Results Week ending Friday 27th September

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



Wednesday 13th November 6pm - 8.30pm



Click here to book your tickets



Please follow the links below for subject information and guidance on the upcoming Year 7 and 9 assessments.

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

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

5 Foundations of Effective Attendance Practice



The school prioritises developing a team of attendance experts, with a shared vision and core purpose. The Attendance Leader delivers bespoke training to support all staff to fully understand their role in improving attendance. External partnerships support attendance improvements through a multi-disciplinary approach for identified children and families.

News from KOOTH Particularly for parents/carers of Year 7 students



Helping young people stay safe on their new smartphone With over a third of parents and carers feeling uneasy about their child having their first smartphone, Kooth has put together a session to explore supporting a child's mental wellbeing whilst using the device plus information on UK law and social media usage and online safety tips. students on staying safe on your new smartphone.

KoothTalks for families: Follow this link to book

Careers Support in Year 11

Students in Year 11 have had an assembly discussing their Post-16 options and the support available for making decisions about what and where they want to study after Year 11.

Every student in Year 11 will have a meeting with a qualified careers adviser and this is a chance for students to ask questions about jobs, colleges, sixth form, apprenticeships, interviews, skills, and anything related to careers.

After their meeting, students will be emailed an action plan which will include links to helpful websites and action points for students to help with their career planning.

More information about Post-16 options can be found on our website here: https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/about/careers/student-zone/post-16-options or on the Birmingham Careers Service website, here: https://www.birminghamcareersservice.co.uk/

If you have any questions about careers support in Year 11, please contact Mrs Colgan, Careers Adviser: e.colgan@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

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	10am 12noon 6.30pm	5.30pm
St. Jude's	B14 5PE	Fr John Peyton	9.15am	-
Our Lady Of Lourdes	B13 OEU	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 McGillycuddy	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	Bishop 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.

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.

Assembly and Form Resource Focus

This week, all students across the school have been introduced to this year's theme for Black History Month; Reclaiming Narratives. 'Reclaiming narratives' encourages us to tell the stories of the contributions, achievements and successes of Black people, who have might have been forgotten or misrepresented. This has been delivered through a focus on the rich diversity of pre-colonial Africa and the thriving continent that was steeped in culture, art and governance. To complement this assembly, every department across the breadth of the school is creating their own resources to celebrate this theme, throughout the rest of this half term. From the poetry of Benjamin

Sport

Year 9 Football Results

BC 8 vs Lordswood boys 0 - B'ham Cup Round 1

BC2 vs Barr's Hill 1- West Midlands Cup Round 1

Zephaniah in English to Saints and role models in RE. There is also a wonderful historical trail throughout the main building of the school that looks at key Black figures who were prominent in UK history. Students are invited to complete a short quiz; the sheets are available from Mrs Newton in the library.

The form resource explored our Standards for Learning Curriculum and the core set of character virtues. The focus for this week was 'helpful', the key message being that we can all lead in Jesus' example and helpful supporting others in our school and wider community. Students are rewarded for displaying any of our Faithful virtues with specific positive logs on Class Charts.

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 childs 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

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.

Nasal Flu Vaccine

A polite reminder to fill the online consent forms for Flu vaccine, whether you are consenting or not please fill out the form, the letter is on the website with instructions and numbers to call if struggling with the forms. The vaccination is offered to Year 7 to Year 11.

First Aid and 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 you support and co-operation.

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.

2024-2025 Term Dates

Autumn Term 2024

Term Starts: Monday 2 September 2024

Half-term: Monday 28 October 2024 to Friday 1 November 2024

Term ends: Thursday 19th December 2024

Spring Term 2025

Term Starts: Monday 6 January 2025

Half-term: Monday 17 February 2025 to Friday 21 February 2025

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

2024-2025 INSET Days

Friday 25th October 2024 Friday 20th December 2024 Monday 24th February 2024 Friday 11th April 2024 Monday 21st July 2025

Drinks

Fizzy drinks and energy drinks are not allowed in school, if they are seen they will be taken and disposed of. Please encourage your child to bring in a clear bottle of water, there are 2 water stations in school where they can re-fill.

Autumn Term 1			
W/C Monday 7th October	World Space Week		
Monday 7th October	Year 9 Aquarius Day		
Wednesday 9th October	Rosary Tea Party		
Thursday 10th October	Community Mass 11.30am Year 7 Mass 1.55pm Year 10 DT Trip		
Friday 11th October Year 8 London Science Trip			
Monday 14th October Year 12 & 13 Law/Criminology Court Trip			
Tuesday 15th October	Bishop's Got Talent UCAS Early Application EXTERNAL DEADLINE Year 8 Mass Year 9 Art Trip Year 12 Criminolgy Crown Court Trip		
Wednesday 16th October	Rosary Tea Party Year 11 Mass		
Thursday 17th October	Canteen - Italian Day Coomunity Mass 11.30am		
Friday 18th October	Cake Sale Year 12 Law Crown Court Trip Year 7 Animal Experience		





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.



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www.gaeilge.uk

