

# BC14

Friday 6th January 2023

We pray that you and your loved ones had a healthy and happy Christmastide and share hopes of good tidings this year 2023.

## Message from Dr Coughlan, Principal



O God, faithful rewarder of souls,  
grant that your departed servant Pope Benedict,  
whom you made successor of Peter  
and shepherd of your Church,  
may happily enjoy for ever in your presence in heaven  
the mysteries of your grace and compassion,  
which he faithfully ministered on earth.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

A very Happy New Year to all of our families.

Today we celebrate the feast of the Epiphany and we remember the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child in Bethlehem.

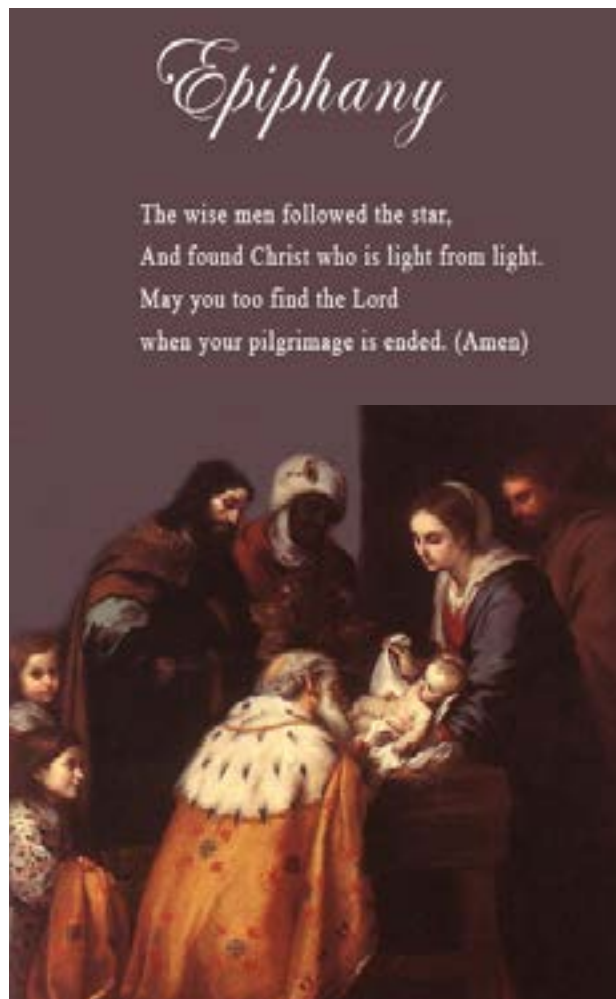
Within the past week we received the sad news of the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. Of course, Pope Benedict will always be fondly remembered by the people of Birmingham having visited the city back in September 2010. He celebrated Mass at Cofton Park which was a Holy Mass of the Beatification of John Henry Newman. Students and staff from Challoner were privileged to be in the congregation and choir. I vividly remember leaving Challoner at 3:30am in the morning to arrive in good time at Cofton Park ready for the celebration of Mass.

The weather was typically overcast and grey as thousands of people waited for Pope Benedict to arrive. There was a magical moment as Pope Benedict arrived by helicopter and the choir began to sing. Suddenly the skies cleared and the sun shone down on all assembled to celebrate Mass; a truly wonderful occasion. We pray for the repose of the soul of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI and we give thanks for his life as a true and faithful servant of God and to the Catholic Church throughout the world.

As we start 2023 it is always a good time to think about new resolutions we can make. I encourage all of our young people to reflect on positive changes they can make to their lives. As ever, we have a wide range of extra-curricular clubs and activities on offer and this may be the ideal point in the year to try something new.

Although we have only been back for a few days it has been a purposeful and busy start to the term with students working hard across the school. Our Year 11 students have just completed their mock examinations and worked exceptionally hard to prepare for these. Next week our Year 13 students commence their mocks. We have a number of public examinations taking place in the coming weeks and we wish our students well.

My best wishes to our whole school community for 2023.



## 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

BeReal is an app launched in 2020 that rose quickly in popularity last year. Its main feature is a daily notification that encourages users to share a photo of themselves and their immediate surroundings given a randomly selected two-minute window every day. The resulting media is a capture of both the front and rear facing camera on the device.



### Why are we concerned as a school?

- A BeReal post could show a user's location, personal details such as school or workplaces.
- The app does not have an explicit image moderation process, and thus does not restrict the users from posting inappropriate photos.
- The minimum age to use BeReal is 13 although there is no formal verification process.
- There are no privacy features.
- Anxiety of not sharing or sharing something seen as 'boring'.
- Comparison and competition amongst peers.

We encourage you to talk to your child about the BeReal app. Resources to support this conversation can be found here: <https://oursaferschools.co.uk/2022/08/19/be-real/>

## 5 Foundations of Effective Attendance Practice

Further to our communication in December, Parents/carers of students who have already been absent from school for 4 days-18.5 days this academic year will be receiving stage 1, 2 or 3 letters via email by Monday 9th January. Whilst we acknowledge that genuine reasons (such as illness) can make school attending school difficult we also want to focus our attention on one of our school Commit to Character virtues, resilience, and work together to keep building resilience in our students.

Over the course of the next 5 BC14 publications, we will introduce you to each of the foundations-



*The school has a fully embedded ethos in which excellent school attendance is expected, developed and nurtured. The escalated approach to supporting attendance is built on foundations of belonging and connectedness.*

## Train to Teach with Bishop Challoner Training School this year!

We are delighted to share several opportunities with you this year - from a paid, summer Internship suitable for University students, to online public information sessions about our School Direct PGCE, and even chance to come into school and spend a day in the classroom! Teaching in a Primary or Secondary school can be a truly rewarding and exciting career and we offer the chance to see if it would be right for you.

For the Internship, you can apply here: <https://forms.office.com/e/Wxjse7Zt5r>

For dates and booking information for info sessions and school experience, please check our website event page: <https://www.bctsa.org/602/train-to-teach-events>

## 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. 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. Punctuality

Please [click here](#) to view a recent communication about punctuality to school.

### Attendance Update

Year 7 - 95.1%  
Year 8 - 92.0%  
Year 9 - 91.7%  
Year 10 - 91.6%  
Year 11 - 90.9%  
Whole School - 92.3%

## 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	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

## Interested? Self-employed Cleaner

Columban Missionaries Britain are seeking a self-employed cleaner for Saint Columban's office in Solihull.

You will be expected to do a weekly clean on Saturday mornings. Detailed tasks and responsibilities will be discussed in due time.

This is a long-term arrangement, and you will report to the Mission Office Administrator, and you will meet with them when needed to plan the work required and to monitor progress.

For more details about this arrangement, please contact or email the HR Advisor at 07562657382 or Hr@columbans.co.uk



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## 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.

## Tesco Tokens Appeal

We have applied to Tesco for a grant for Breakfast Club, to provide free bottles of water and snacks each morning to our vulnerable students.

Please could I ask if you are shopping in Hall Green, to collect blue plastic tokens at the till and vote for our Breakfast Club.

We have previously been successful with grants from Kellogg's and Cash for kids but with costs rising and more students attending we really need these funds.

## Happier January 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Find three things to look forward to this year	2 Make time today to do something kind for yourself	3 Do a kind act for someone else to help brighten their day	4 Write a list of things you feel grateful for and why	5 Look for the good in others and notice their strengths	6 Take five minutes to sit still and just breathe	7 Learn something new and share it with others
8 Say positive things to the people you meet today	9 Get moving. Do something active (ideally outdoors)	10 Thank someone you're grateful to and tell them why	11 Switch off all your tech at least an hour before bedtime	12 Connect with someone near you - share a smile or chat	13 Take a different route today and see what you notice	14 Eat healthy food which really nourishes you today
15 Get outside and notice five things that are beautiful	16 Contribute positively to your local community	17 Be gentle with yourself when you make mistakes	18 Get back in contact with an old friend	19 Focus on what's good, even if today feels tough	20 Go to bed in good time and allow yourself to recharge	21 Try out something new to get out of your comfort zone
22 Plan something fun and invite others to join you	23 Put away digital devices and focus on being in the moment	24 Take a small step towards an important goal	25 Decide to lift people up rather than put them down	26 Choose one of your strengths and find a way to use it today	27 Challenge your negative thoughts and look for the upside	28 Ask other people about things they've enjoyed recently
29 Say hello to a neighbour and get to know them better	30 See how many people you can smile at today	31 Write down your hopes or plans for the future				



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

## Upcoming Events

**Geography Longbridge Trip**  
Monday 9th January

**Bishop's Got Talent**  
Friday 13th January

**Y13 Mocks**  
Monday 9th January - Friday  
20th January

**Immunisations Y7, 8 & 9**  
**Flu**  
**Y9 HPV**

**BC Tea Party**  
**Y12 English Trip**  
**Rosary**  
Wednesday 11th January

**UoB Robotics Lab, Y9**  
Monday 16th January

**10TER Penalty Shootout**  
**Rosary**  
Wednesday 18th January

**Geography Longbridge Trip**  
Thursday 12th January

## New Staff

We welcome the following new members of staff this term:

Lunchtime Supervisors/Till Operatives- Mrs Latif, Ms McAssey, Mrs Shaheen.

General Assistant- Catering, Ms Anstey  
Learning Support Co-ordinator, Ms Hamilton





Archdiocese of Birmingham  
**Saint Martin de Porres Catholic Primary School**

Oakland Road, Moseley, Birmingham, B13 9DN  
Tel: 0121 464 5500 www.stmartindeporres.org.uk



## **Building Services Manager**

### **Permanent Contract**

(Will consider part time (mornings) or full time (split shift) positions from 30 – 36.5 hours per week)

**Grade 3** (£21,269 - £27,514 per annum)

**Required as soon as possible.**

Due to the retirement of our existing manager, the Governors of St Martin de Porres Catholic Primary School are seeking to appoint a highly motivated Building Services Manager to join our wonderful school community.

We are seeking someone to supervise the provision of high quality maintenance, security and cleanliness of the school buildings and grounds which ensures that pupils & staff have a comfortable, clean, safe and well maintained environment in which to work or otherwise use the school facilities.

#### **The successful candidate will:**

- Live within a short driving distance of the school
- Have high standards and take a pride in their work
- Ensure the site is maintained and cleaned to an excellent standard
- Be able to identify and prioritise their own workload
- Have proven DIY and repair skills enabling maintenance tasks to be undertaken
- Undertake janitorial services including cleaning
- Be able to engage and manage external contractors
- Have an understanding of (or willing to learn) Health and Safety regulations and work within them
- Have a commitment to training and professional development

#### **In return we offer:**

- A caring family environment with fantastic children who are well behaved
- Friendly and supportive families and staff
- An opportunity to use your skills and develop professionally
- A welcoming and supportive Governing Body

*The successful applicant must be sympathetic to the Catholic ethos of the school and will be required to sign the Catholic Education Service contract. This post is covered by Part 7 of the Immigration Act (2016) and therefore the ability to speak fluent and spoken English is an essential requirement for this role.*

Further information about our wonderful school is available on our website: [www.stmartindeporres.org.uk](http://www.stmartindeporres.org.uk)  
Visits to the school are highly recommended and warmly welcomed, please arrange by contacting the school office. Application Packs are available from the school office or from our website.

**Closing Date: Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

**Interview Date: Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

*Saint Martin de Porres Catholic Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. A Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Check and Disqualification by Association statement will be required for the successful candidate.*

*The successful candidate will be expected to sign the CES Contract.*