

BC14



Dear Lord,
On this joyous occasion of our school's platinum jubilee, we come before you with hearts filled with gratitude.
We thank you for the countless blessings that have shaped the journey of our school over the years. Bless our school community with wisdom, unity, and a continued commitment to excellence.
Guide us as we strive to nurture minds and hearts, fostering a legacy of learning and love.
May your grace illuminate our path as we embark on the next chapter of this educational journey.
AMEN

Message from Mr Hearnden, Vice Principal

Friday 8th March 2024

During half term, Christians celebrated Ash Wednesday as the beginning of Lent. Lent is a time we set aside each year to remember the love of God that is poured out through Christ Jesus. It is a significant season in the year for Christians- a time for solemnity and self-reflection. The liturgical colour for Lent is purple. The colour purple represents penance, preparation and sacrifice. During Lent, many people decide to give something up that they may love- perhaps chocolate, sweets or even using social media. Others decide to take up something, like helping out more or making an effort to do nice things for their family and friends.

This half term Bishop Challoner is also focusing on the virtues 'faith-filled' and 'hopeful'. To be faith-filled is crucial to human wellbeing- faith in myself, my emotions and judgements; faith in others and their faith in me; faith in my family and the communities to which I belong; and, ultimately, faith in God. To be hopeful means you know that when life gets hard you don't give up but carry on hoping that things will get better. We are well aware that life can be difficult at times for members of our school community, help and support is always available should it be required.

This half term has started at pace, we have had a plethora of activities taking place, including Aspirations Day and The Careers Fair, all supporting Year 9 students who are embarking on an important and exciting stage in their lives; Year 9 pathways. These choices will help to be a stepping stone for their future career choices, therefore students will need to be wise in their choices and use their time to ensure they make the right decisions for themselves about the subjects they will study at GCSE. Year 11 and 13 will similarly need to make wise choices, as they continue to prepare for their end-of-year exams; ensuring they commit to revision, to get the best outcomes.

Attendance has featured in the National press recently, highlighting the challenges schools are facing with the attendance of students, post pandemic. We have seen some pleasing improvements but there is still a way to go. It is imperative that students are in school on time each day. In line with our school mission statement, we want all students to develop their full potential, regular attendance to school is key to this. As a community let us continue to keep our students in our thoughts and prayers.

Careers Fair

It was wonderful to welcome back two former students to Bishop Challoner's careers fair yesterday. Jack R who was representing RPS and Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors and Finn M who was representing construction consultancy, Edge where he is currently completing a degree apprenticeship in Quantity Surveying. Finn was introduced to EDGE at the careers fair two years ago. It is fantastic to see how he is progressing in his role and some of the impressive construction projects he is involved in. It was great to see these former students inspiring our current year 8, 9 and 10 students and giving them ideas about potential pathways they could pursue.



Year 8 & 13 Parent/Carer Consultations

Year 8 Parent Consultation Afternoon will be held on Tuesday 19th March 2pm-4pm & the Year 13 Parent Consultation Evening will be held on Tuesday 19th March 4.30pm-6.30pm. For more information about making appointments please visit the school website. <https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/news>

Platinum Jubilee

Visit our Platinum Jubilee webpage for regular updates from around the school. <https://bishopchalloner.org.uk/platinum-jubilee>

BISHOP CHALLONER



CATHOLIC COLLEGE

INVITATION

Platinum Jubilee Remembrance Event

on

Thursday 25th April 2024

Doors open at 4pm. Events will take place between 4.30pm and 6.30pm

Spring Fair
School Tour
Range of students' activities

RSVP via Eventbrite by Friday 12th April

Scan code to RSVP or visit <http://tinyurl.com/5n6m7wre>



CALLING ALL BAKERS

HELP TO CELEBRATE OUR PLATINUM JUBILEE BY JOINING OUR

Bishop Challoner Jubilee Bake Off

This year, we're doing something special to celebrate 70 years of Bishop Challoner - a Bake Off! All cakes will be judged and tasted, and all proceeds from the cakes sold will be donated to our school charity.

How to Enter: assemble a team of 2-3 bakers and design a celebration cake, which you will bake and have judged in school. Deadline for entries is the 1st of March 2024. To sign up, see Mrs Higginson in T5. **Open only to Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 12.**

70 DAY DOODLE CHALLENGE!

DO YOU LOVE TO DOODLE? THEN JOIN OUR 70 DAY DOODLE CHALLENGE TO CELEBRATE OUR PLATINUM JUBILEE!

CREATE A DOODLE A DAY FROM ONE WORD PROMPTS / STARTERS FOR 70 DAYS.

OPEN TO YEARS 7, 8, 9 AND 10

WHERE?

SEE MISS NEAL IN T2 OR A2 TO COLLECT YOUR DOODLE BOOKLET ON WEDNESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY!



Celebrating
70 YEARS OF BISHOP CHALLONER



Please be reminded of the following resources that we signposted earlier in the academic year. The table below includes a list of resources that we have used and continue to do so, as part of our teaching and practice.

All these resources are free to use and provide appropriate content for a range of age groups.

NSPCC Online Safety – huge repository of guidance and advice around many topics related to online safety and talking to children about it. <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

UK Safer Internet Centre – source of information for children, parents, carers and teachers. Activities and resources can be downloaded for free. <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk>

Think U Know – Online safety learning resources which cover ages 4-14+. Also, resources for parents and carers are available. <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk>

Internet Matters – Resources for ages 0-14+ in relation to online safety and the use of devices. <https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/>

Common Sense Media – provides insight into media (tv, film, games and apps) allowing for a understanding of appropriateness for age. <https://www.commonse>

Save the Date!

We are sure that all parents/carers are very aware of the importance to all, but especially young people, of a good night's sleep! To mark World Sleep Day on 15th March, STICK Birmingham will be running a workshop for parents/carers on Sleep Hygiene, Weds 13th March 4pm-5pm, which will be delivered via Zoom. They will be discussing the issues, advice for good habits, challenges and offering some solutions. The link will be sent out shortly, but please make a note of the date and time. We hope you can join us.

Year 9 Pathways

Please [click here](#) to visit our Pathways webpage where you will find lots of useful information, guidance and support for your child's journey in selecting their GCSE subject choices.

Attendance Updates

Attendance Percentage

Year 7 - 93.6%

Year 8 - 93.5%

Year 9 - 91.1%

Year 10 - 89.3%

Year 11 - 92.1%

Whole School - 92.0%

w/c 04/03/24

Late Marks

Year 7 - 23

Year 8 - 33

Year 9 - 47

Year 10 - 50

Year 11 - 20



Bishop Challoner
Sixth Form College

Year 12 Easter Fair- Wednesday 20th March

Raising money for St Chad's Sanctuary!



- Years 7 & 8 will be invited!
- Lots of activities and prizes to be won!
- Please remember to bring lots of coins with you on the day!



Upcoming Events

Y11 Food Practical Exam

Monday 11th March - Wednesday 13th March

Bronze and Silver DofE Training Meeting

Y11 Biology Mock

Monday 11th March

Y8 Cyberfirst Event

Tuesday 12th March

KS5 Debate

Malympics

Parents/carers Sleep Workshop

Y13 Lecture Visits

Y10/11 Reconciliation

Y7 Rosary

Wednesday 13th March

BC Jubilee Bak Off

Y7/8 Mass

BGT - PSHE

Thursday 14th March

St Patrick's Day Parade

Friday 15th March - Sunday 17th March

BGT

Mothers Day Hamper Raffle

World Sleep Day

Friday 15th March

Y12 Criminology Controlled Assessment

Monday 18th March - Wednesday 20th March

St Patrick's Day - Canteen

Y11 Chemistry Mock

Y7/8 Sponsored Football

Y10 Health & Social Care Controlled Assessment

Monday 18th March

Early Finish

Y8 Parent/Carer Consultation Afternoon

Y13 Parent/Carer Consultation Evening

Y10 Uni of B'ham visit

Y10 Health & Social Care Controlled Assessment

Tuesday 19th March

BC Tea Party

Sixth Form Easter Fair

Y11 Physics Mock

Year 7 Rosary

Y10 Health & Social Care Controlled Assessment

Y9/10 Sponsored Football

Wednesday 20th March

Jubilee Bake Off Round 2

Easter Hamper Raffle

Cake Sale

Y7 French Workshop

Thursday 21st March

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.

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.

Term Dates

Spring Term

Term Ends: Friday 22nd March 2024

Summer Term 2024

INSET School Closed: Monday 8th April 2024

Term Starts: Tuesday 9th April 2024

Half Term: Monday 27 May 2024 to Friday 31 May 2024

Term Ends: Friday 19th July 2024

INSET School Closed: Monday 22nd July 2024

Examination Timetables

[Click here](#) to view the summer examination timetables.

First Aid Reminders

In the case of an Emergency it is imperative we can contact parents or carers, please make sure you provide your current contact numbers to the school and inform of any changes.

It is important to stay hydrated all year round please provide your child with a water bottle so they can refill at our water stations around school.

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.

Emergency Contacts

It is imperative we have your current correct contact information on our systems. Please inform the school if anything has changed, especially telephone numbers.

Asthma

Asthma is a chronic long term condition, it can be well managed and in many cases some don't suffer severely, however if you have been diagnosed with Asthma even if you have it well managed you must carry an inhaler on you.

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.

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.

If your child is in Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 please call 0121 444 4161 and select OPTION 1.

If your child is in Year 12 please call 0121 441 6113.

If your child is in Year 13 please call 0121 441 6144

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.

Mobile Phones

Please [click here](#) to view our latest communication on the usage of mobile phones in school.



Birmingham City University and The South Area Network of Schools are providing free adults counselling in your local community. This service is delivered by trainee counsellors, supported and supervised by qualified professionals from BCU's counselling team.

What the BCU & SAN community counselling service offers
BCU/SAN offers one-to-one weekly counselling sessions to adults experiencing mild to moderate levels of emotional upset.

- Explore difficult feelings
- Work through tough situations
- Discover more about yourself
- Consider what needs to change

This service is very inclusive and welcomes individuals with all kinds of life experiences, backgrounds, identities and cultures.

What to expect once you contact us

When you contact BCU/SAN counselling service, you will be offered an initial meeting to find out;

- A little about you
- What you are hoping to gain from counselling
- If its right for you

We will then discuss next steps and options for you

What does it cost?

This Counselling service is free of charge. We are able to offer the counselling for free because we are working closely with local schools and community spaces.

All the counsellors working in this service are giving their time as part of their work or studies



What next?

If you would like our help, then please email us at; sanadultcounselling@bcu.ac.uk or call 0121 3316615

In general, anything that is said in the counselling session stays confidential, and we will not reveal any such information to anyone outside the counselling team without your permission. In exceptional circumstances, for instance, where there is a potentially serious risk of harm to yourself or others, we may break confidentiality but your counselor would try to speak with you first before speaking to anyone else. Any personal data collected from you and obtained by Birmingham City University as part of the counselling services will be subject to the prevailing privacy policy which is available on its website and may be updated from time to time.



Adults Counselling Service

A free counselling service provided by BCU and SAN.

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 in 2023.

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 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.

Pre-loved Uniform

Thank you to parents/carers that already send in uniform that children have grown out of. If you have any of the following items in good reusable condition that you are willing to donate please bring them into reception and we will look to include them in future pre-loved uniform sales- blazers, pleated skirts, trousers, ties, PE kit (all items), royal blue sweatshirts, maroon sweatshirts. Thank you in advance for your support.