

# BC News



YEAR OF GIVING

Summer 2022



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# A Message from Dr Coughlan, Principal

## Dear Parent and Carer,

We have seen a strong sense of normality returning to the school this term. There have been incredible international trips and other educational visits taking place, huge sporting success, multiple enrichment opportunities and the return of public exams. It has been a truly great academic year and there is a feel of a return to years gone by for the school.

Catholic life continues to thrive in the school and we were delighted to be able to return to St Dunstan's for Mass as a school community; although we can't fit all year groups in at once. Our Chaplaincy team have done great work with litter picks and assemblies for our Catholic primary schools. We provided support for St Chad's Sanctuary with food and clothes donations and continue to work towards our Live Simply award. We celebrated National Refugee week as part of our own Creativity week and lessons were developed that focussed on the plight of those in need. Our year groups have raised significant funds for their chosen charities through various wonderful and inventive fundraising ideas.

This term, students from Challoner have literally travelled the world. They have been to San Francisco to visit the Silicon Valley, to Paris for the Maths Study tour, to Villarreal and Valencia on the football development tours and to France on a day trip. Nearer to home students have visited Warwick Castle, Dorset, the Royal Institution in London and many more local trips and visits. These opportunities are such an important part of the fabric of our school and we look forward to many more educational visits taking place next academic year.

Bishop Challoner has always had a strong national reputation for its support work and collaboration with other schools. I am delighted to inform you that the school is one of only 80 organisations nationally to be recently accredited to train teachers from September 2024. This is a huge accolade for the school and allows us to further build on our many decades of work training teachers through School Direct and other routes into teaching. The school has many staff working at national level on major projects including our Maths Hub, Science Learning Partnership and Computing Hub which continue to lead outstanding work across the West Midlands supporting hundreds of schools.

In June the inaugural performance of the play Cluedo, written by two Challoner staff Mrs Jethwa and Mrs Swingler, took place at Highbury Hall. The board game Cluedo is said to be based on the layout of Highbury Hall and the couple that invented the game actually lived in Kings Heath. Our student cast were absolutely magnificent and all credit to them for the hours spent learning lines and perfecting their acting skills.

It has been another great term for STEM and computing events. Our students have led two STEM fairs for Year 5 students and coordinated our first Cyber security festival. Students have had the opportunity to engage with virtual reality and took part in, and won, a recent E-sports competition.

In July we hosted two hugely successful Year 6 transition days. Our new cohort of students were exceptional across the two days and really enjoyed their time with us. This year we have a virtual tour of the school available that was filmed by the drones over the Easter break. It can be viewed via this web link:

<https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=qYWSvv5NHZE>

I never thought I would say this but ... we are all thrilled to see the return of public examinations this summer. Our students have been magnificent and it was clear how hard they have prepared for these exams. They have shown such incredible resilience, determination and character in their preparations; I am sure their families will be incredibly proud of them. I sincerely hope they achieve the grades they deserve given their undoubted efforts.

It has been another brilliant year for sporting success. Our U16 girl's football team won the West Midlands cup. Our Year 8 boy's team won the West Midlands cup and the Kings Norton Cup. Our Year 9 boys also won the West Midlands cup beating my old school Bishop Ullathorne on penalties. Sadly the Year 9's lost in the Birmingham Cup final at Villa Park but had a tremendous experience. A big thank you to our PE team for their hours of unseen effort in supporting these fixtures.

Our KS3 students once again represented the school superbly as the ball crew at the Birmingham Classic tennis event at the Priory. This is such a wonderful opportunity for our students and we have been the ball crew for many years for this event.

We were able to host a face-to-face sports day and students not taking part in this event remained in school for a Commonwealth themed day. Mr McDermott also hosted a magnificent Commonwealth event for around 500 primary school students at the Irish Centre. Events included a climbing wall, archery, tag rugby, cricket and African drumming.

Shortly after the Easter break our English department moved into their new block. We had a superb grand opening of the block on July 7<sup>th</sup> with an amazing showcase of musical talent, art work and spoken word. The block was blessed by Fr Kurapati our school Chaplain. The six classrooms on the

front of the playground is a stunning addition to our school. The students were incredibly excited to use the new space and are benefiting from large air-conditioned rooms and even more new toilets. You may have noticed that the cross at the front of school has also been repainted over the Whitsun break and has very much been returned to its former glory.

In June we were delighted to receive further good news as we secured £100,000 of funding to refurbish a number of our science labs through the Wolfson foundation. The application process was in two stages and was judged by a highly eminent panel the majority of whom are recognised leading names in science education. It has probably been the best part of 30 years since our science labs have had a makeover. Works are scheduled for next academic year. All credit to Dr Osbourne who led the bid with support from Mr Catto, Mr Noone, Mr O'Connor, Mrs Fletcher and Mrs Wall.

We have a small number of staff moving on at the end of this academic year for promotions and relocations and I thank each and every one of them for the great support they have offered our community during their time with us.

In addition to this, we have three incredible members of senior staff leaving at the end of this academic year after a staggering combined service to Bishop Challoner Catholic College of 72 years. Mrs Breen, Mr McGurran and Mr Shore have epitomised the meaning of vocation and led the school with absolute distinction. I can't possibly do justice to the impact they have had with countless generations of students during their time at Challoner in just a few words. I am sure many parents/carers and current staff will have fond memories of being taught by this magnificent trio. They will be sorely missed by everyone within the Challoner family and I thank them for everything they have contributed to our wonderful school. We wish them well in their retirements.

I wish you all a very restful summer and thank you all for the support you have given across this academic year.

I hope you enjoy reading our summer newsletter.

J Coughlan

**Principal**

## Statement from the Governing Body

All Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Birmingham have been asked to come together within families of schools to support the education of current and future pupils in our communities. 144 schools across the archdiocese are already academies within 16 'Multi Academies', including all of our Solihull schools, in Our Lady and All Saints Multi Academy, and many schools in South Birmingham in the Lumen Christi Multi Academy.

Bishop Challoner Catholic College along with our 12 partner schools in the Tolkien Partnership, have met recently to discuss the opportunities of coming together as a family of schools within a Multi Academy.

Colleagues and pupils from across all 12 schools have been working together to learn from each other, share best practice and provide mutual support for over 20 years. The schools who are in the Tolkien Partnership are:

- St Alban's Catholic Primary School
- St Anne's Catholic Primary School
- St Bernard's Catholic Primary School
- Bishop Challoner Catholic College
- St Catherine's Catholic Primary School
- St Dunstan's Catholic Primary School
- St Edward's Catholic Primary School
- SS John and Monica Catholic Primary School
- St Jude's Catholic Primary School
- St Martin de Porres Catholic Primary School
- St Mary's Catholic Primary School
- Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School

These are ongoing discussions and when we have more information, and before any final decisions are made, we will engage with our Parish and school communities on the future direction of our school.

Please note that other schools will be sending this communication out to parents and carers across the week.

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# Spiritual Life

*Most Precious Blood of Jesus*



## Current

In July, during Ordinary Times of the Liturgical Calendar we celebrate the Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ. 96 A.D. Says Pope Clement: "Let us fix our gaze on the Blood of Christ and realize how truly precious It is, seeing that it was poured out for our salvation and brought the grace of conversion to the whole world."

## Let us Pray

Lord Jesus, You became Man in order by your Passion and Death and the draining of your Blood on the Cross, might prove to us how much You, our God, love us. Protect us, dear Jesus, from ever running away from the sight of blood. Strengthen our weak human wills so that we will not only not run away from the cross, but welcome every opportunity to shed our blood in spirit in union with your Precious Blood, so that, dying to ourselves in time we might live with You in Eternity. Amen

## Evangelisation

We encourage others to know God's love for them by inviting them to church, to pray and to encounter Christ, and to groups where they can learn about Him. Forming missionary disciples and missionary parishes.

Our feeder primary schools who signed up to the Tolkien Award have completed the first year of the Tolkien Award.

60 Students from St. John and Monica received their bronze Tolkien Award on Wednesday 22nd June.

Also 12 Chaplaincy Team students from St. Dunstan's also received the Tolkien Award for their hard work over the course of the academic year.



To achieve the award the primary chaplaincy teams had to complete 10 hours of chaplaincy work, assist 5 times in a Mass, complete 3 hours of stewardship and host a charitable event at their school. The Year 5 students complete a booklet over the course of the year to achieve their bronze award before moving onto the silver award in Year 6, and then the gold award in year 7. We look forward to rolling out the award to more primary schools in the second year of the award in September 2022.

## CAFOD Live Simply Award

During this summer term our Live Simply lead team have been coordinating with St. Dunstan's and St. Jude's primary schools. As a part of this collaboration we have been planning an assembly on Laudato Si (Pope Francis' encyclical of 2015 which embeds the love and light on His creation in the care for our common home) as designed and led by our Chaplaincy Champions and delivered in the primary schools. We are excited to be delivering one this week and next, where we will be sharing on how we care for our common home. The pupils who have taken a lead on this, are and have been a real credit to themselves and the school.

In addition, St. Dunstan's and Bishop Challoner Catholic College collaborated to do a litter pick in our local area. We are delighted to have been a part of actively supporting our environment. Stewardship is an element of our Catholic Social Teachings we have been blessed to be able to support. Our Champions have really taken on board how we can each help to protect the environment for future generations.





# Month of Mary

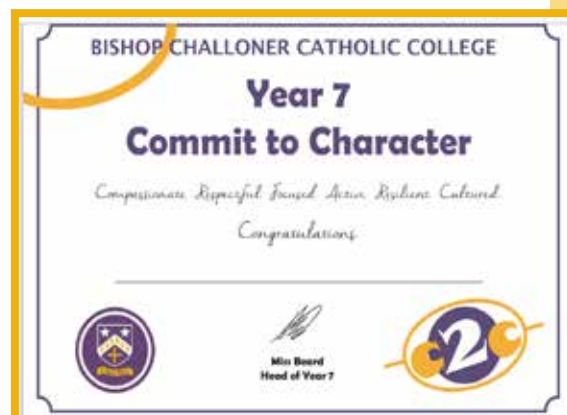
During the month of Mary we were blessed with the opportunity to be present and reflective in the chapel for devotions to Mary. Our Lady continues to be the Mother of Peace and providence of comfort for each of us, especially during these unprecedented times. Our Year 7 students enjoyed the opportunity to be reflective on the impact Mary has on our lives and faith and dedicate time in prayer.

Picture shows Year 7 in the chapel with Mr. Rowan, reflecting on the grace and love of Our Mother Mary.



# Emmaus Group

As a school community we continue to journey together to reflect on the Catholic life of the school for students and staff. On a termly basis staff from a range of departments meet to discuss what can be implemented to help with Catholic life. A particular talking point at our last meeting was the commit positivity surrounding the Bishop's Got Talent Stained Glass Window initiative held by the RE Department and we discussed how we could continue to provide opportunities to connect with God. A few key talking point at our last meeting was the commit to character virtues, live-simply award, school of sanctuary award and future residential retreats to Alton Castle, Soli house and joining the pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2023.



# Formation

Growing leaders in our churches, schools and parish communities, by providing both spiritual and pastoral formation and support, to help prepare us for new roles. Helping you to understand more about your faith in order to deepen your personal relationship with God.

This involves coming together as a whole community in faith.

# The Year of Giving

We continue to celebrate and deepen the wonderful virtue of 'Giving' that is so wonderfully embedded and growing in our school community. The 'Wall of Giving' continues to highlight examples of students giving their time, gifts, talents and service in such a wonderful variety of ways. It is wonderful to catch students looking at the wall to either spot themselves or to admire the examples of other students and it provides a beautiful reminder that our Catholic school is here to fulfil our mission statement 'We give glory to God by developing our full potential and in our service to others.'



# Catholic Character and Virtues

We are extremely pleased with the flourishing of our focus on students developing their character and virtues in a whole school approach.

Across the year students have participated in assemblies that have focused on developing an understanding of Catholic values and looking at how students can develop these qualities themselves as they journey through their school life.

Teachers have been using class charts as a tool to reward students for acts of character within lessons and across all aspects of school life. This approach has helped staff and students to collaboratively engage in working together to see all areas of education as an opportunity to learn more about who we are and who God wants us to be.

It has been wonderful to set up a system where students now receive certificates through assemblies to highlight examples of students who are flourishing with their character formation across the school.

## Liturgy & Worship

*invigorating and deepening our worship and sacramental celebrations so that we share in, and radiate, the divine life of God. Encouraging others to join us in prayer to our Heavenly Father.*

## Y11 & 13 Leavers Services

We wish the very best for our cohorts as they move into the next stage of their journey. We remember each individual in our community, and thank God for the gift of being able to be a part of their success. We hosted personal reflections and liturgical dedications in praise for their joys and wishes for their futures.

## Class Masses

Each week on a Wednesday, Father Kurapati joins our pupils in the school chapel in a Mass. Our pupils lead in the readings and prayers. It is a delight to see our young people active in faith. During the season of Ordinary Times our Masses reflected the readings of the Church and our prayers written and said by pupils share in a dedication to Christ and a devotion to celebrating in His Body and Blood which He has given for us.

## The Food Bank

During the Spring Term, culminating in a donation at the beginning of the Summer term. Moseley for Ukraine was delighted with the donations our staff were able to provide. It was a blessing to be able to offer support in solidarity.

This summer term we have been blessed to be able to Support Moseley for Ukraine for a second time as a whole school donation in July is planned.

We are especially grateful to be able to provide an emergency staff appeal for St. Chad's Sanctuary in June. Thank you to a large contribution from members of staff for their generosity. The donations and kindness were well received.



## Feast of St. Peter & Paul

We were delighted to be able to gather together as a community to celebrate the Feast of St. Peter and Paul. We were blessed to have each key stage present in St. Dunstan's church led in worship by Father Kurapati. The clarity and joy with which our Chaplaincy Champions read was a pleasure. We would like to especially thank each of them for their participation and devotion: Caolan, Daniel, Ryan, Jenson, Henry, Alem, Faith, Nathan & Mia

## Collective Worship

Our school community continues to be mindful and reflective together each day. During the Month of Mary we dedicated our thoughts and prayers to her intercession. This is in conjunction with the Liturgical calendar where our hearts and minds are raised to God in prayer as we reflect on Eastertide and move into Ordinary Times. We will continue this devotion in faith with particular emphasis on the Body and Blood of Jesus throughout June and July.

## Social Outreach

*Building up the common good through our charitable outreach in the giving of our time, our resources and our love to those who need it most. Inviting others to join us in our charitable work.*

Living our virtues as disciples, our school community continues to come together in faith and solidarity to share Jesus' love and mercy with all.

## Year Group Charities

Following the success of the CAFOD fundraising last year, our students selected new charities for each year group from January 2022. Each year group has collated plans for how to fundraise and is enabling students to develop their leadership skills by organising the activities themselves. Some examples of fundraising opportunities that are coming up include;

- Year 8 completed a lent self-reflection challenge that asked them to consider what they were thankful for. They took the change they may have spent on things they do not need and filled jars up in each form room.
- Year 12 planned an Easter fair that involved inviting all KS3 students and students from St Dunstan's to the common room to spend their money all in aid of Cancer Research. Each Year 12 form is planned a few activities, sourcing the resources and prizes and managing the advertisements and money on the day.
- Year 10 planned a few events in aid of Mind UK including an inter-form quiz and a basketball competition.
- Year 13 raised money from a valentine's day activity and sold raffle tickets for an Easter prize.

*'I have not come to be served, but to serve'- Jesus.*

We live out lives of service for others, for our community and for the world.



## NHS BIG Tea

As a staff community we collaborated to create delicious cakes and pause as a communi-tea to come together in solidarity and support the NHS.

Staff enjoyed guessing the amount of Tea and which tea created the stain- a fun way to get together and raise some money for a very important charity.

We raised over £80.00 for the NHS Big Tea and will continue to fundraise as a part of our pledge to support the NHS.



## Serving in a Co-responsible Manner

*Faithful to the mission entrusted to us by Jesus Christ, full of missionary disciples who work together co-responsibly in vibrant communities of faith, joyful in their service of God and neighbour.*

Living in Solidarity and Stewardship are a big part of our community goals and social outreach. Together with our wider community we have been striving to be ever present in stewardship and care for others. See CAFOD Live Simply Award

## The School of Sanctuary

We are delighted to have committed ourselves to the goal of Bishop Challoner Catholic College becoming a School of Sanctuary. A School of Sanctuary is a school that explicitly focuses on being a place of welcome for all, educates people about why people are forcibly displaced, recognises that the UK is enriched by new arrivals and supports pupils from all backgrounds to feel supported.

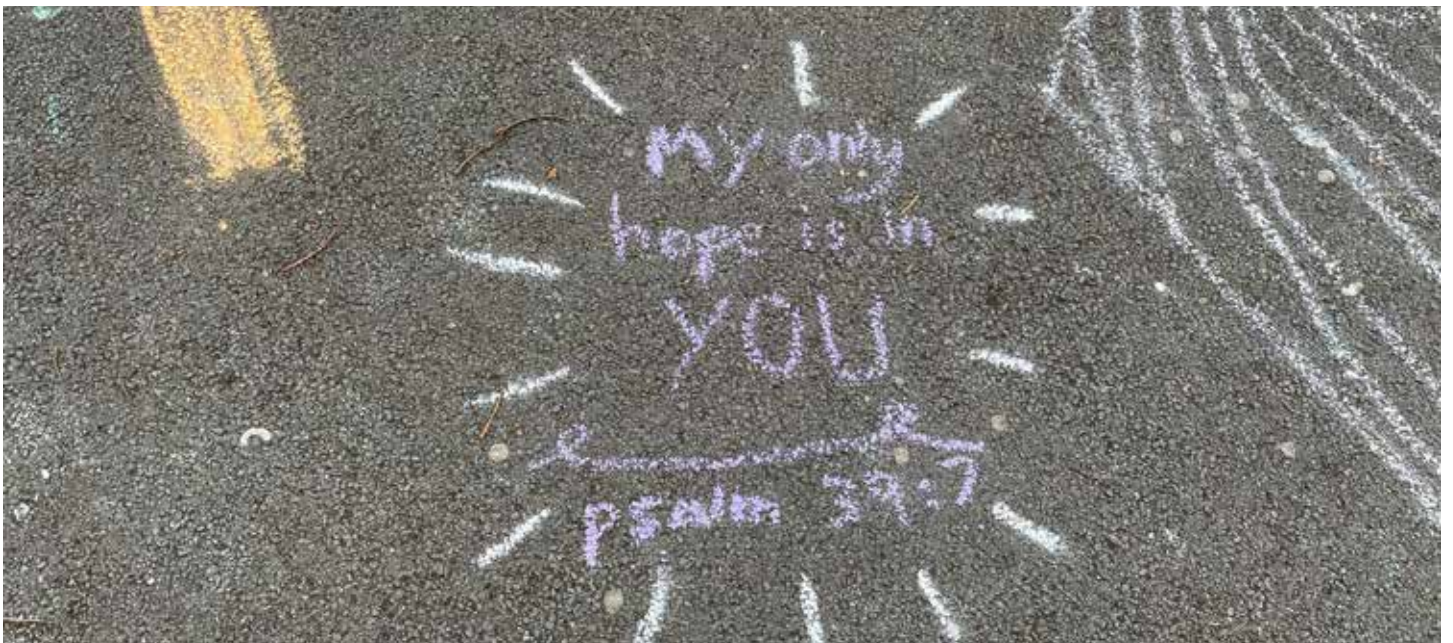
We recognise that the aims of a School of Sanctuary are fully inline with our ethos and mission as a Catholic school and we very much look forward to leading whole school initiatives that support those who are forcibly displaced and providing engaging opportunities for our students to deepen their awareness of these issues through engaging curriculum opportunities.

During national refugee week (20-26th June) students will be engaging in acts of collective worship that focus on asking God to hear our petitions as we recognise the challenges for refugees in our world today. Students will also participate in assemblies and form time activities which will focus on raising awareness and compassion within our community.

We also really enjoyed linking our school of sanctuary focus to the whole school theme of creativity week the week beginning 4th July. This week provided the opportunity for teachers and students to engage in delivering their content in a different style whilst also looking to link the content of their subject to deepening students knowledge, compassion and understanding of how we can support those who are disadvantaged in the world.

Taking time to be present with His Word, the RE department focused on sharing the Good News through chalk-art. Throughout the BCCC community such bespoke lessons can be seen focusing on the theme of supporting others through their learning across all areas of the curriculum.

Across the summer term, we will be asking staff and students to bring in further donations for St Chad's Sanctuary. The continued generosity and compassion of our students is something we will continually look to grow as we expand our work in developing Bishop Challoner Catholic College as a School of Sanctuary in the months ahead.



# Religious Studies

## Liturgical Season

We are currently in Ordinary times. During the Month of July we give particular devotion to the precious blood of Jesus. The Church was born from the pierced side of Christ, and that the sacraments were brought forth through His Blood.

The Precious Blood which we worship is the Blood which the Saviour shed for us on Calvary and reassumed at His glorious Resurrection; it is the Blood which courses through the veins of His risen, glorified, living body at the right hand of God the Father in heaven; it is the Blood made present on our altars by the words of Consecration; it is the Blood which merited sanctifying grace for us and through it washes and beautifies our soul and inaugurates the beginning of eternal life in it.

Let us pray:

Precious Blood, Ocean of Divine Mercy: Flow upon us. Precious Blood, Most pure Offering: Procure us every Grace! Precious Blood, Hope and Refuge of sinners: Atoner for us! Precious Blood, Delight of holy souls: Draw us! Amen.

**St. Catherine of Siena**

## Year 9

Our year 9's have most certainly been exploring philosophical questions throughout their units and especially building on their application of contextualisation, analysis and evaluation throughout. Not only have they considered the constructs of Justice, they have contemplated opinions on the Value of life and God's existence. Each unit building on different beliefs and applications of justice, dignity and solidarity. This term they continue to evaluate the application of ethics in this thought provoking units. Our Summer term has been devoted to better understanding Judaism.

This unit, though exploring the culture, history, laws, faith and nature of Judaism, remains rooted in Christian values- supporting appreciation, respect and acceptance of other viewpoints alongside our own understandings.

We have been delighted to have been able to offer bespoke lessons on Asylum Seekers and Refugees, in the additional lens of creativity. The week of July 4th we supported our belief that every person has dignity and as Christians we should provide support for the most vulnerable through different creativity sessions.

Pupils in key stage three were able to develop a stained glass window (made of Perspex paper), build an origami house, plant new seedlings, and chalk His words beautifully.



## KS3

Year 7's and 9's have undertaken their P2 and T2 assessments. The outcomes of these have been promising. We are especially proud of their resilience and application of skills (knowledge and conceptual pegs in religious beliefs and teaching, description on what these are and where they come from, explanation on why and how they are applied and analysing opinions weighing them up and considering their impact in behaviour in society) needed to succeed in RE.

## Year 7

This spring, not only have our Year 7's had units on 'Person I want to become?'; RSE – 'Who am I?' and 'Why does the universe exist', 'Catholic Identity' and have begun their studies on 'World Religions.' Taking time to support our own spiritual, moral and cultural values, we root these lessons in upholding Dignity and recognising each of us as Children of God. We consider the philosophical questions on what makes 'faith' and consider how it is expressed world-wide.

This segment of the spiral curriculum continues to set pupils up for motivation success, building on prior knowledge whilst instilling core values, beliefs and teachings that will continue throughout KS3 and into KS4.

## Year 8

To date pupils have studied: How do I find happiness & fulfilment? Why might there be suffering? Why are relationships important? RSE- 'Relationships' as supported by Ten:Ten.

Our Year 8's are moving into How is Judaism more than a faith? A foundation that supports three religions, this unit begins with Abraham. Pupils will learn more about Abrahamic faiths and consider the similarities between Judaism and Christianity.

This unit considers the faith, culture and heritage of the Israelites and challenges pupils to reflect on their own views and apply respect and compassion in understanding an Abrahamic Faith. With comparisons on our religions opportunities for analytical and evaluative skills continue.





## Year 10

We have concluded the first segment of our journey in Catholic Theology for our GCSE. Our exam board is EDUQAS and we are following Route B- Judaism in conjunction with the diocesan support.

The first component, which our pupils have completed, of the curriculum follows Catholic Theology and in addition to the first theme of Origins & Meanings, it builds upon the morality and ethical considerations within our faith and it is called Good & Evil.

This involves students looking at contrasting views in society regarding how evil exists within our world especially at the same time as an all-loving God and what the meaning and purpose of our responses to such evils and suffering could be.

Students are now beginning the World Faith segment of our GCSE where we explore the beliefs and teachings alongside the practices in Judaism. This will include perspectives from different denominations whilst challenging students to consider and analyse with a Catholic perspective in solidarity and contrast where applicable.

Students will explore key concepts such as;

- The nature of God in Judaism
- Prayers and Worship
- Covenants
- Theories on how evil originates & remains
- Creation of the world & expectations
- Holy Days
- Festivals
- Rituals such as Brit Milah, Bar Mitzvah & Marriage

## Work Experience

We were blessed with beautiful weather to begin the rejuvenation of our Peace Garden. Learning about the different herbs that are present in our garden, such as lavender, chives, sage, and mint enabled our work experience pupils to connect with His creation and learn more about their surroundings.

We were able to remove dead underbrush, and learnt how to prune and remove weeds.

We are looking forward to the next segment of the rejuvenation where we begin to plant and include areas for prayer and reflection.

If you and your family have any suggestions or donations, please contact: Mrs K Brown [k.brown@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:k.brown@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk)

## Year 11

We were filled with mixed emotions as our year 11 cohort finished their studies and completed their RE summer examinations. It was a pleasure to be able to celebrate in a service with them and to see them celebrating during their Prom. We wish them all the very best on this next chapter of their journey.

## Year 13

What an absolute delight to teach! We wish our theologians all the very best in the next chapter of their journey. May they continue to 'inspire to be more'- St. Oscar Romero

## Synagogue Trip

We were delighted to take a group of 30 pupils to Singers Hilly Orthodox Synagogue in Birmingham during the Summer Term. The pupils were led by congregation member Geoffrey who was delighted to share insights into the facets of a synagogue, Jewish worship and life.



## Year 12

Our A-level, year 12 cohort continues to study their course content with reflection on good study habits as they prepare for and complete a mock examination as part of their preparation for examinations. Class preparation time will be used to guide students towards a successful experience. Students continue in their two-year course that will ask them to explore issues such as;

### Unit 1 = Christianity

- Jesus's birth narratives
- The resurrection accounts
- Different theological and historical views of Jesus
- The nature of God
- Social developments in religious thought (Wealth, prejudice, discrimination, migration)
- Feminist theology
- Liberation theology

### Unit 2 = Philosophy

- Arguments for the existence of God
- The problem of evil and suffering
- Responses to the problem of evil and suffering
- Atheism
- Religious language

### Unit 3 = Ethics

- Natural Law
- Utilitarianism
- Situation Ethics
- Application of theories to issues such as; abortion, euthanasia, immigration.
- Determinism

This term focused on application on contextual arguments with sufficient evidence of validity continues to foster confidence and set pupils up for success.

We believe that the continual development of these skills will significantly benefit students as they go forth in future years to university or careers.

# English

## New Build Opening

As part of the new build opening celebrations, the English Department had a room dedicated to celebrating spoken word. As part of creativity week, Year 7 students had been considering the plight of refugees and created poetry representing the refugee experience. Three Year 7 students: Paige R, Alexander H and Luis S F performed the poems they created in front of a captivated audience. They were joined by our poet laureate, George (Y9), with his new build poem. They were also joined by our Year 11 poet, AJ F, who performed a selection of her powerful poetry. AJ, who is a prolific writer of poetry, performed these extremely professionally. Finally, we had a published poet, Leah Atherton who read a selection of wonderful poems from her published work *Wild Dreams and Louder Voices* (2018, Verve Poetry Press).



## Debate Mate

Last term, we were excited to enter a new international debating competition, organised by a school in Dubai and involving a number of different English-speaking schools across the globe.

We were delighted to bring back two of our Year 12 debaters, who had given many years to representing the school in lower years, to form a KS4/5 team, as well as a strong KS3 team of our regular attendees. The week of the competition fell with the second round of the UDL, requiring a huge amount of commitment from our debaters, involving three evenings of debating, as well as preparation time. Unfortunately, some rather harsh judging prevented the KS4/5 team from moving forward to the semi-finals, but our KS3 team were rewarded for an amazing second debate against the British School of Brussels to make it into the next round. Taking on a very strong team from Shropshire, the team won their semi-final and at that point, there were 6 schools in contention for the two finalist spots. Unfortunately, when points were tallied, the team came third, missing the final by just one point after three debates! It was a wonderful experience for our Yr 9 team and they really have become quite the professionals at debating over Zoom! We were also pleased to achieve a top 5 finish in the Debate Mate Urban Debate League this year.

Through Debate Mate, we were also invited to participate in an event partnered by Deloitte's Better Futures scheme, where schools could pitch for seed funding for a school/community based project. We entered two teams, both of which had inventive ideas for environmental projects – one transforming flat-roofed spaces around school and the neighbourhood into wild eco-

gardens, and another to develop compost waste and growing, to reduce the carbon footprint of the canteen. The former team in particular gave an extraordinarily strong pitch, receiving a wealth

of praise from the Debate Mate judge and the Deloitte employee volunteer judges. Unfortunately, only the top 4 teams in the country were selected for the funding and we narrowly missed out this year. However, the Better Futures project was an excellent opportunity for students to learn from the Deloitte volunteers, including hearing and asking questions about their career journeys, and to build confidence when collaborating in professional spaces.

On 6th April, a group of eight students took part in the Debate Mate Cup, having competed in several events leading up to this point. The tournament took place at the University of Birmingham and, splitting into two teams, the students competed against schools from across the country for a chance to reach the finals. Their preparation and experience of debating was on show as each

group made their way from the lecture hall, which formed the base of operations for the day, to their designated debating rooms. From the moment each debating topic was revealed, the teams organised their speaking order and talking points, whilst also predicting the arguments of their opposing teams in order to counter them more effectively. Though both teams narrowly missed out on the finals, one of their number received a commendation and prize for their brilliant question during the show debate put on by the Debate Mate organisers. Altogether a brilliant effort and successful day!





# Creative Writing Club

Writing club have been celebrating yet another success this term with news that our very own Charlie Hodder is to be published in an upcoming anthology. Charlie wrote a one hundred word "spine-tingler" that wowed the judges and we will be stocking a copy of the anthology in the library for all our pupils to see and read. Additionally, another of our writers, George Jones, was selected to write a poem celebrating the opening of our new English building, that will be performed during the ceremony. George is an incredible writer and has previously performed original pieces at our Remembrance service and our Open Evening. It is truly a gift to witness the creative talents our young people have!

# Eco

Representatives of the Eco Club will be visiting BBC Gardener's World Live at the NEC on Friday to see our school's entry in the annual Wheelbarrow Competition. This year's theme is the Commonwealth Games; Bishop Challoner's wheelbarrow represents Northern Ireland. We have grown the vegetables and herbs needed to make a traditional Northern Irish soup, and decorated it with models of Giant's Causeway and the Titanic. Around the edge, and displayed above our produce, are images of beautiful places in Northern Ireland, such as the Carrick-a-Rede Rope Bridge, the Mourne Mountains and two filming locations from Game of Thrones. We are very excited to see our wheelbarrow in situ, and will be taking photographs to share with the school community!

## School Fund and Match Fund

Thanks to all parents/carers for their donations to school fund. If you would like to donate, you can do this via Schoolcomms. If your employer helps schools with Match Funding, we would also like to hear from you. Please contact [g.noone@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:g.noone@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk)

## Facilities Hire for Parties and Events

For more info call Laura on 0121 441 6103



# Spelling Bee

We held our annual Spelling Bee which saw the Library filled once again! Ten brave pupils from our KS3 cohort fought bravely, spelling increasingly complex words out loud with no facility to write them down first. Alongside this, the eager crowd played along on paper!

As ever there could only be one winner, and the recipient of the Spelling Bee trophy this year was Year 7's Imogen S. Impressive! Who will it be (!) next year? I can't wait to find out!



## Would you consider sponsoring our termly Newsletters?

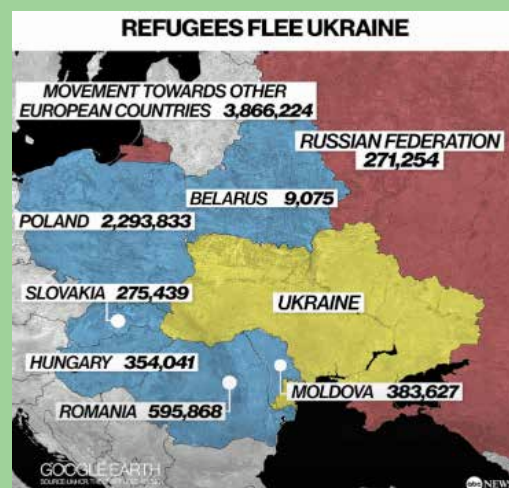
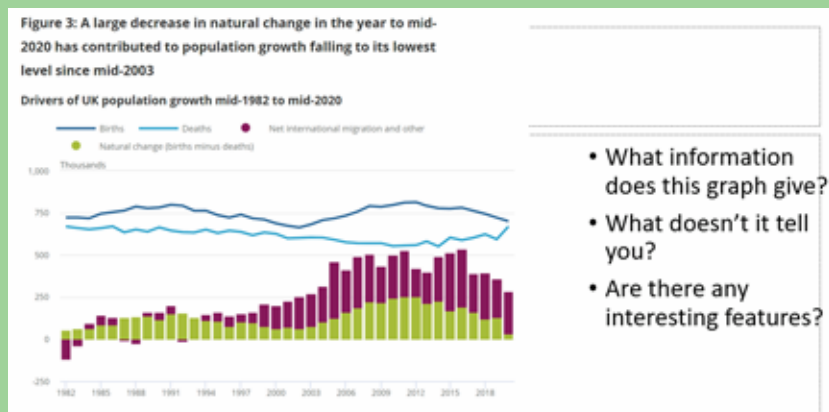
If you kindly sponsor us, we will make sure that we advertise your business in our remaining 2 termly newsletters at Easter and Summer. We only require your advert to be sent by email to us and we will do the rest.

If you would like to sponsor our newsletter and support Bishop Challoner, please email: Gerald Noone [g.noone@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:g.noone@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk) or call on 0121 4444161.

# Mathematics

## Refugee week

As part of the whole school “refugee week”, the maths department looked at the current conflict in Ukraine and the effect that was having on the number of refugees travelling to various neighbouring countries and across Europe. We looked at different forms of data, ways of analysing the data and how to compare seemingly similar information. We then calculated that about 0.7% of those fleeing Ukraine sought refuge in the UK.



## Creativity Week

Here are just a few examples of the work produced by KS3 students during creativity week. Many classes have been practising construction skills using compass rulers, and have created some beautiful patterns. It has been wonderful to add this into our KS3 curriculum.



## Junior Maths Challenge

Some keen mathematicians in Year 7 and 8 recently sat the “Junior Maths Challenge” - a United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT) competition. The results are in, and we are incredibly proud of the students that participated. In Year 8, there were four gold certificates, seven silver certificates, and eight bronze certificates. Particular congratulations goes to Olivier Pereira Pinto (who got the best in school), Thomas Chesworth, Sonny Feeney and Ali Khaki with the gold certificates. In Year 7, there was one silver certificate and 14 bronze certificates. Particular mention to Freya Carroll, who got the best in year and a silver certificate.

## Catholic Games – Year 10

Two teams of Year 10 students went to Cardinal Newman Catholic School for a Catholic Games competition, aimed at Catholic schools in the area. The competition was open to both Year 10 and Year 11 students, and the challenges required teamwork and resilience. Although we did not get a podium position, both teams enthusiastically took part and had an enjoyable morning out!



## South Area Network Challenge – Year 9

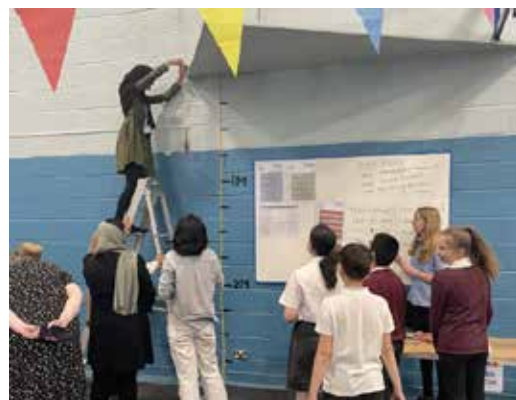
Six of our most talented Year 9 mathematicians attended the South Area Network Challenge Day. The day consisted of 4 different rounds combining mathematical, communication and teamwork skills and offered students another way to express and develop their enjoyment of mathematics.

The team performed brilliantly and really did the school proud. Overall the team finished in 3rd place, well done Year 9!



# STEM Fair

The maths department were delighted to organise some activities for the recent STEM Fair. Miss Stone worked with the interns, and a group of keen Year 7s, to deliver the longstanding, and ever popular, Barbie Bungee task. This sees primary students trying to allow Barbie to jump from a great height (3m), with elastic bands as her bungee rope, and try not to let her hit her head! Students also got involved in a town planning activity which uses a co-ordinate grid as a backdrop. Our Year 7s worked for all 11 rotations of the activities and were brilliantly enthusiastic. It was lovely to have a buzz back with feeder primaries coming together, and for the maths department to support the STEM initiatives during science week.



## Interns

From 13th June to 1st July, we hosted 10 interns in the department, all of whom are currently studying Mathematics at University of Birmingham. In their first week with us, the interns observed lessons across all 3 key stages, including a day in other subjects, and had training on creating retrieval quizzes and modelling. They also met with a Head of Year to discuss pastoral responsibilities. In their second week, the interns started co-teaching starters and built up to a full lesson by the end of the week. They also received training on AfL and Diagnostic Questions, met with a current ECT to talk about her experience and the different routes into teaching, and met with HoD maths.

On Wednesday 21st June, three maths interns accompanied the computing department to the Big Bang STEM fair at the NEC, while the other seven stayed on site to support our own Tolkein Cluster STEM Fair. In their final week, the interns were planning and co-teaching 2 lessons a day, giving them an invaluable insight into what it is like to be a trainee teacher. During their final week, the interns received training from a lead teacher on Metacognition and concluded their internship with a meeting with Dr Coughlan. Alongside the teaching observations and experiences, the interns completed weekly projects; creating retrieval quizzes, planning and delivering a university taster session for Y12 students, and researching interesting careers that link to maths topics across KS3 and KS4. The feedback from the internship was overwhelmingly positive, with several interns stating their only criticism as "it was not long enough".



## Paris Trip

In June we took 64 Y8 and Y9 students accompanied by 8 members of staff to Paris for our annual Maths Study Tour. The last two years have seen this trip cancelled due to COVID-19 and as a result there was unprecedented demand for this hugely popular trip. Plans to take 40 students were hastily rearranged to take nearly twice the initial number!

The trip took in a visit to the largest science museum in Europe – Cite des Sciences - with a dedicated mathematics section as well as a boat tour on the River Seine, a visit to the Montparnasse Tower, dinner at the Hard Rock Café and a day at Disneyland, Paris. The students had a fantastic time, building relationships across year groups, forging new friendships and experiencing a different culture. For many it was their first residential trip having had so many cancellations and lost opportunities over the last couple of years and hopefully the first of many outstanding Challoner enrichment opportunities.





# Science

It has been a busy term with our GCSE and A level pupils sitting their exams. A big good luck to them all for their summer results. We have also been able to get back to running trips and events which we missed during the pandemic. Miss Mayor is already busy planning the Y13 trip to Slapton Sands for September. Staffing-wise, we say good bye to Mr Sutton and thank him for the work he has done within the Science Department.

## Year 7 Science Club

We have been lucky to have had an enthusiastic, curious and dedicated group of Year 7 students who have been attending science club since September, and continued to come every week. Our science club members have participated in a range of science activities with an inquisitive nature, and in recent weeks they have demonstrated their creative skills too, by attempting to make a paper mache solar system. A particular favourite amongst the group was making and launching air rockets on the front playground, with some interesting rocket names.



## Big Bang STEM Fair Trip

This year, 59 Year 7-9 students from Bishop Challoner attended the Big Bang Fair at the NEC on Wednesday 22nd June. The Big Bang Fair was packed full of exciting, interactive activities that have been designed specifically for 11 to 14 year olds in mind, to provide the best careers inspiration, advice and opportunities to meet with real scientists and engineers.

Students got to take part in a number of fun activities, such as making slime and using an ultrasound machine!





# Tolkien Primary Science Week: 20th – 24th June

This year sees the second year of our new approach to primary science week, where we have taken a 'hybrid' approach; providing pupils with the opportunity to take part in practical activities and remote sessions delivered by external providers too.

Bishop Challoner provided practical science resource boxes for each of the Tolkien primary schools, containing all of the materials needed for each year group to participate in a science practical activity, alongside guided instructions and Power Points to be used in the classroom. Pupils across the cluster made bath bombs, play dough, egg parachutes and chromatography butterflies! They learnt a lot of science, as well as developing their team work and practical skills, along the way.

As part of the week, we also hosted online sessions that all classes from all Tolkien schools were invited to. On Monday we had a 'Mission: Space' session live from the education team at Thinktank, and on Friday we were lucky to be joined by two STEM Ambassadors to tell us about their STEM-related jobs and their interesting career paths.



Arguably the highlight of the week was the return of the Year 5 STEM fair, which saw a collaboration between the science, D&T, maths and computing departments and young leadership from our fantastic Year 7 and 8 helpers. Visiting Year 5 pupils took part in a range of exciting activities, all competing to win a prize for their school at the end.

We're thrilled that participation in science week has been so fantastic – you only need to check the hashtag #TOLKSCI22 on Twitter to see what all of the pupils have been up to – and that through our new approach, every child across the Tolkien cluster has access to exciting science week events and activities. A massive thank you goes to the science technicians and the department for supporting with this event, and for helping to make it another resounding success!

## Year 10 Trip to London: 27th June 2022

We were incredibly lucky this year to have the privilege of visiting the Royal Institution in London, otherwise known as the place 'where science lives'. The Royal Institution is an infamous venue where well known and respected scientists have come to present their work and communicate with the scientific community for many years.

A number of students in Year 10 entered the Young Science Writer of the Year Award this spring, showing outstanding commitment to their studies and a real interest in science. Applicants wrote 800 word essays on a science topic of their choice, and subjects ranged from the science of sleep to the anti-vax movement. We were thrilled to learn that Oisín from 10x1 came runner up in this competition, amongst over 150 entries across the country. And we were very lucky to be invited to the awards ceremony!

On 27th June, we visited London (after a walk from Buckingham Palace and through St James' park) to attend the awards ceremony at the Royal Institution. We had the privilege of watching a panel of science journalists discuss their career paths and why they enjoy their jobs, inspiring the next generation of science communicators. Then we were able to watch Oisín collect his award, and cheer him on!

Thank you to the Royal Institution and Association of British Science Writers for inviting us and funding our trip, and to Year 10 for being so fantastic.



# Periodic Table Bingo

During the year 6 induction days, Miss Ghoris organised a special Periodic Table Bingo event for pupils during breaktime. It was great fun for all, with sweets to be won by the lucky winners. Miss Ghoris is already planning her next game show for 2023!



# Year 11 mini mocks September

All year 11 will be sitting exams in Biology, Chemistry and Physics between Monday 26th September and Friday 7th October. The papers will last 45 minutes and will be based on paper 1 content taught from January of year 9 and throughout year 10. Specific revision lists for each paper were uploaded onto Classcharts and/or Teams in July so all pupils should have this information.

## Revision Guides

In September CGP revision guides and workbook bundles will be on sale through Schoolcomms. There is one set of books for each Key Stage so, for example, if you buy books in year 7 you do not need to buy any more books until year 10. The different books available will be :

Key Stage 3 (years 7-9) : £8.50

Key Stage 4 (years 10 and 11)

Combined Science : £13

Separate Sciences : £21

# French

## Teaching and Creativity Week

### Year 7

Before they sat their very first end of year assessment, year 7 students were learning about school. They learnt to talk about their own school and timetables, telling the time in French; they also learnt about the differences between the French and British educational systems.

During creativity week, some classes designed French board games with Mrs McGowan, and others designed their own French town with Mr Keeley, labelling the places in town in French.



### Year 8

The last module Year 8 were studying this year was about personality, music, clothes, and what they talk about with their friends. We are touching on very important topics on which teenagers rely on to build their own personality. During 'creativity week', year 8 classes have been upgrading their ICT skills. They have been creating digital posters mixing IT skills and French. The outcome is to create a paragraph about what their personal ideal uniform should be and then, design it using Google image and PowerPoint photo editing tools. With this activity, students are able to express their individuality and relate to the task while using their creativity and original thinking and developing their IT skills.

**MON UNIFORME IDÉAL**

pour mon uniforme idéal, j'aimerais porter un pantalon noir car c'est branche et chic. Aussi, je vais porter une chemise blanche parce que je pense que c'est style.

Je ne vais pas porte une chemise jaune parce que c'est demode. Je ne porter j'aimerais un pull violet parce que je crois que c'est trop traditionnel.

Ce weekend j'aimerais porter un pantalon noir et une veste noir parce que c'est chic aussi c'est style et je vais manger au restaurant

**Projet Creatif**

*Pour mon uniforme ideal, j'aimerais porter une chemise blanche et un pantalon noir aussi car je aime assez et je pense que tres confortable cependant je n'aime vraiment pas*

Pour mon uniforme ideal, j'aimerais porter une chemise blanc et un pantalon marron car des est branche. Aussi, j'aimerais porter des bottes et une veste marron.



Cependant, je n'aimerais pas porter une veste jaune et des bottes verte car ca va etre ridicule et demode. Aussi, je n'aimerais pas porter une chemise marron et un pantalon orange.

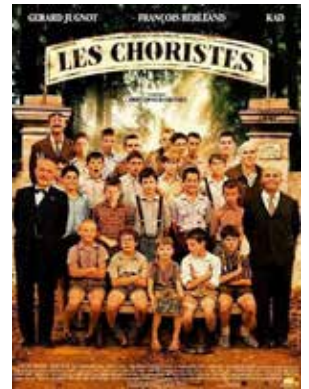


# Year 9

imilarly to year 7, year 9 students were learning about free time and food before they sat their T2 end of year assessments. The assessments contained some activities with a very similar layout to the French GCSE examinations. For some of our students, the results of these assessments will help them decide whether to continue with French GCSE in year 10. Now French is becoming a compulsory subject for many of our students, we are hoping to keep similar numbers to last year, with just over 50% of students studying the Ebacc.

In the last weeks of term, and as part of creativity week, year 9 students will be learning French a different way: by studying a film "les Choristes" by Christophe Barratier. They will be learning about France in the aftermaths of WW2 and how school boys of their age used to live.

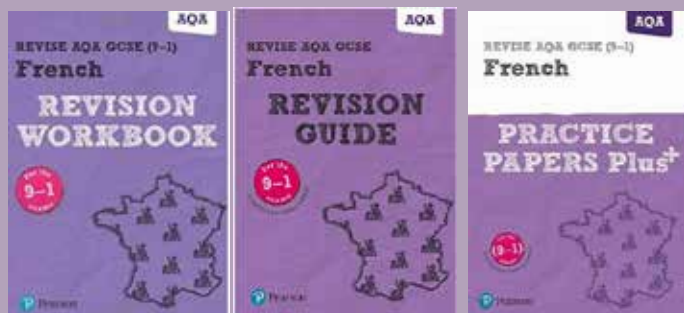
Some classes have created a film review with Ms Mazabraud, see pictures below.



# Year 10

At the end of this year, year 10 have sat their first full GCSE mock examination. They had the opportunity to sit 4 papers (listening, reading, speaking, writing). These will be graded to give them an idea of their grade half way through the GCSE course. Next year, students will be awarded Tiers, and some will start exploring the higher content of the GCSE course.

GCSE French revision guides will be available for sale from September, please speak to Ms Mazabraud for more information.



# Trips

For the first time since 2019, we were able to take a small group of KS3 students to the north of France on a day trip. The trip was well worth the lack of sleep for 24 hours. The students who took part started the day in a French café, where they enjoyed a traditional French breakfast.



We also visited a snail farm: we saw how farmed snails are kept, and some of us got to try to eat some of this French delicacy. Mmm !



After lunch, we all enjoyed some time on the beach, we played boules, played in the sand, built some castles. The weather was absolutely glorious!

# Staff News

In May, we said our farewell to Eric Sou who worked with us from February 2022. Thanks to the government Covid funding, we were able to hire Eric as a language assistant for a short amount of time. Eric's work has made a huge difference in helping students to prepare for their speaking examinations and assessment. We are very hopeful that working at Bishop Challoner inspired Eric to become a French teacher in the future.

We are delighted that Miss Crutchley and Mr Keeley will both be staying with us next year. Ms Crutchley will also be taking the role of assistant Head of Year 8.

Finally, Mrs McGowan will also be moving on from being current Head of Year 8 to Head of Year 12.

# Computer Science & ICT

## Key Stage 3

Both our Year 7 and Year 9 cohorts recently sat their P2 and T2 assessments respectively. The results of these assessments were highly impressive for the cohorts and it is clear that a love of computing is developing early on through our key stage 3 teaching. Both assessments were completed digitally for the first time at Bishop Challoner, with the department making use of expertise and experience from Covid, to successfully utilise Microsoft Forms as the platform for delivery. This allowed the teachers to focus on results analysis and future planning as the marking of these assessments was automated.

During this time of assessment our Year 8 cohort were engaging with computer networks and studying foundational principles that allow our devices to communicate.

Going into the summer months we engage our key stage 3 computing students with the more nuanced aspects of computing. For example, Year 9 are exploring computational thinking, and key terms and skills such as abstraction and decomposition; skills applicable to all manner of subject and aspects of life.

## Key Stage 4

Our Year 10 computing cohort recently completed a mini-mock to assess the topics taught since September. The results of these mini-mocks were highly pleasing, and it is great to see the progress that our students are making. Going into the summer months they are continuing to engage with core aspects of computer science, and we look forward to seeing them progress into Year 11.

Our Year 11 computing cohort has sadly come to the end of their time with us at GCSE. We of course wish them the best of luck for the papers that they have sat and look forward to celebrating success with them come August. We also hope to see many of them choosing computer science as an A level for September 2022 at Bishop Challoner.

Our Year 10 iMedia cohort are putting the finishing touches to their R082 piece of work; a piece of work that requires them to produce a digital vinyl cover for a band releasing an album. They sat their R081 exam on Monday 13th of June which assesses their core understanding of pre-production materials.

Our Year 11 iMedia cohort has also sadly come to an end regarding their time with us at key stage 4, we once again wish our students the best of luck for results in August.

## Key Stage 5

Our Year 12 computer science cohort are continuing to engage with core aspects of the curriculum. Recently they sat two mini-mock papers and the results of which are highly pleasing. Working towards the end of the summer, they are engaging with the programming project aspect of the course; a project that requires them to produce a program and document the software development cycle that they have undertaken.

Our Year 13 cohort has sadly finished their A Level studies now, and we of course wish them all the best and hope to celebrate success in the summer.

## Extra-Curricular Activities

We continue to offer a wide variety of extra-curricular opportunities for our students:  
Monday before school – Girl's & Boy's Coding Club/After school - Drones Club  
Tuesday before school – Boy's Coding Club/– Robotics Club  
Wednesday – Girls Cyber Security Club  
Thursday before school – Girl's Coding Club/After school Digital Art Club





# BBC STEM, Women in ICT

On April 28th girls from Year 8 and 9 took part in the BBC STEM girls in ICT day. This was a great day that saw our students engage with women from the industry and complete various activities on the day.



## Girls Cybersecurity Escape Room!

On Friday 10th June our Year 8 Cyber First competition winners were rewarded for their efforts by attending an escape room at Courtyard Escape in Stourbridge. This saw them putting to action all the decryption techniques and skills that they have learnt throughout this year. We are pleased to report that all our students escaped and had a wonderful time.



## Robotic Challenge at the Royal Air Force Museum

On 3rd May we took a group of Key Stage 3 students to the Royal Air Force Museum to compete in a series of robotics challenges using the Lego Mindstorm kits. A great day was had by all in attendance!



## San Francisco

At the time of writing, over 50 students are currently experiencing an amazing trip opportunity in San Francisco. Whilst there the students are visiting significant computing and IT locations such as Google's Googleplex Campus, Apple's visitor centre, HP Garage and the Intel Museum. Alongside this the students will watch a baseball game, visit the nearby Six Flags theme park and have a guided tour around Alcatraz. An amazing opportunity and we cannot wait to see the pictures!



# VR/AR – HADO Competition

On Monday 13th June Challoner students took part in a pilot competition hosted by HADO UK. HADO is a blend of E-Sports mixed with Physical Sport using AR (Augmented reality) Headsets. A perfect example of computer science crossing the curriculum to PE as a brilliant opportunity for our students to engage with cutting edge technology. Following on from this Bishop Challoner students took part in a school competition at BCU on the 23rd June. We won!



# Primary Celebration Day

On the June 27th primary schools from across the local area descended upon Bishop Challoner to take part in a primary computing celebration day. On this day they engaged with 11 activities including drone skills; Lego robotics; Codebreaking; and website design skills. All these activities were led by students of Bishop Challoner, and we hope all in attendance had a great time!



# History

## A Summer Story from the Past...

On 22nd August 1485, in rural Leicestershire near Market Bosworth, the armies of King Richard III and Henry Tudor faced each other in a battle that would see the death of the King and the beginning of a new dynasty: the Tudor dynasty.

Earlier that month, Henry Tudor had sailed across the English Channel from France to South Wales with a force of around 2,000 men. Richard III had been King of England for just over two years. But, this next battle would be the culmination of the War of the Roses which had been fought between the House of Lancaster and the House of York. Both families claimed the right to the throne.



As Henry Tudor marched through the Welsh countryside, his army swelled to double the size. Upon hearing the news, King Richard III began to summon his Yorkist army in Leicester. He had about 10,000 men. Richard must have felt confident that he could squash Henry. This seemed to be confirmed when they finally met and Henry's men were struggling to negotiate marshland while Richard's men were on higher ground. Richard and his army certainly had the advantage, particularly as Henry had no battle experience whatsoever.

The unusual protagonists of this story, however, were The Stanley brothers. Thomas and William were part of the most powerful family in northern England. Both men were supporters of King



Richard III. However, Henry Tudor was actually Thomas' step-son, and, fearing that his loyalties might change with Henry in the country, Richard was holding his son hostage. Meanwhile, Henry Tudor was hoping to make his way to London. Richard was in Nottingham and began advancing towards Henry's army. On 20th August, Henry and his army reach Tamworth, where he met his step-dad, Thomas Stanley and apparently shared 'friendly embraces'.



Two days later, Henry and Richard's army met at Bosworth Field. Pre-arranged, or 'pitched' battles were the norm then, so both sides had already agreed to meet there and battle. Initially, neither Richard nor Henry were in the main battle

Henry VII, beginning a Tudor dynasty which lasted 118 years and brought in some of the most famous Kings and Queens in British history.

area. The Stanleys were also there with their own soldiers, but had not made any moves. Then, they noticed King Richard III on his horse heading towards Henry with his soldiers. Henry didn't have many men around him. At this point, William Stanley ordered his soldiers to join Henry's men. Richard was killed in the thick of the fighting. According to the chronicler, John Rous, Richard's last words were: treason, treason, treason. His crown was found in a thorn bush and placed on Henry's head by one of the Stanleys. Henry Tudor became King

## Year 7

Our Year 7 history students have been studying issues relating to monarchical power since medieval times and have recently embarked on an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the English Civil War of 1642-1649, including the events that led up to it and its aftermath. During Creativity Week, students re-enacted the trial of King Charles I, as they decided whether they would have sentenced him to death!

80 Year 7 students recently visited Warwick Castle for the day; they had a great time exploring the castle and the grounds.



## Year 8

This term Year 8 have been examining the topic of World War One. They have examined the causes of the war and looked at the nature of trench warfare. In addition, their lessons examine diverse topics such as the recruitment and experience of soldiers from across the world as well as the impact on life in Britain and the various ways in which the war is remembered in contemporary society. During Creativity Week, Year 8 watched extracts from War Horse and considered the roles of animals in WW1.



## Year 9

Students have been exploring the Cold War with a particular focus on the conflict in Vietnam. This proved to be very popular with students as the war in Vietnam explores a diverse range of concepts from examining military tactics to looking at the way in which the media shaped attitudes towards the war. They completed the topic by considering the 'legacy' of the Vietnam War and how it still affects lives today.

## Year 10

Year 10 have made excellent progress this year. They have studied their second topic in GCSE history Superpower Relations and the Cold War: 1941-1991. As well as studying the content of this topic, students developed their exam skills as they prepared for their mini mock examination. Year 10's perseverance this year has been admirable. They have remained committed to their studies despite dealing with complex concepts within this new topic and we are confident they will transition positively into Year 11 history.

## Year 12

Year 12 finished the year looking into history content in both the Britain and America sides of the course. Students started to receive an insight into their Non-Examined Component, with teachers leading taster sessions for the three topics from which they can choose: The Crusades 1071-1204, the European Witch-craze 1560-1660 and the fall of Tsardom. On Friday 10th June, the cohort attended Newman University for a History Taster Day. They were a magnificent representation of the school and experienced a degree-level seminar on the trial and death of King Charles I.

# Geography

## Year 7

Year 7 have continued to develop their knowledge and understanding of one of the world's superpowers, China. The students learning from home has enabled them to explore concepts such as rapid urban growth as well as development within the remote region of Tibet. Year 7 have also investigated issues within physical geography such as the challenges to Southwest China's biodiversity. Subsequently, Year 7 have explored revision techniques in preparation for an assessment on the China unit.

This half term Year 7 will be introduced to the region of the Middle East, enabling the students to investigate some of the differences in cultures, economies and environments between the countries. The unit will enable Year 7 to explore the range of climate zones within the Middle East and use this to explain features of the physical environment such as desert landforms. Students will also enquire into human aspects of the Middle East through looking at population distribution and investigating the fascinating traditions and diversity within the Middle East.



## Year 8

Year 8 have continued to focus on the country of Brazil. The lessons have enabled the students to enquire into a wide range of geographical concepts. On the one hand, students have investigated the human geography within Brazil such as their culture and the wide disparity between living conditions and opportunities and on the other, students will have learnt about the physical environment such as the Amazon Rainforest including deforestation within the rainforest, the damage it is causing, who it is impacting and why different stakeholders have varying opinions.

This half term students have moved on to look at the topic Weather and Climate, including how it is measured and with specific links to the UK. Students will be given the opportunity to take on the role of a meteorologist through creating a presenting their own weather forecast using accurate terminology and symbols. Throughout this unit students will also explore the imperative topic of climate change, its causes, effects and mitigation strategies on both a local and global scale.



## Lapworth Museum Trip

Year 8 students were delighted to have the opportunity to visit the Lapworth Museum of Geology at the University of Birmingham. It was great to see students able to enjoy the opportunities presented by external visits and to engage their fascination with the natural world and the resources available. Students were able to see the casts of skeletons of dinosaurs and to understand how fossils have been preserved over millions of years, as well as understanding the evolution of life over billions of years. Students were particularly enthralled by the gemstones and minerals formed by volcanic processes on display, before having the opportunity to walk around the campus and see the facilities available to the students. Then, students engaged in workshops to understand the layers of the earth, the ways in which volcanoes and earthquakes occur and how humans utilise the natural world for our benefit, such as construction and natural resources.

Finally, students were able to hear directly from a University lecturer and researcher about the role of academic research in understanding climate change, and the many employment opportunities available in STEM subjects such as Geography. Overall, students had a fantastic day exploring concepts they have been learning about in lessons in a university context, bringing the topics to life and showcasing the opportunities available to them as they start to think about future careers.

## Year 9

Year 9 have recently completed a new unit of work that focused on the country of Iceland. This unit has been newly designed to help students develop the skills necessary for GCSE whilst still sparking students' curiosity and engagement. Throughout the unit, students have learnt about the hazards associated with plate boundaries, using Eyjafjallajokull as an example. Year 9 have also had the opportunity to investigate why the country has been so successful with using energy sources such as geo-thermal energy. Similarly to Year 7, the Iceland unit concluded with students trialling a range of revision strategies such as 'blurting' and practising their PEEL structure in preparation for an online assessment. This half term, year 9 have begun the unit 'Into Africa'. Their learning will help solidify their place knowledge through looking at the locations of different countries and comparing their population densities. Students will also be given the opportunity to explore and understand the characteristics of Africa's biomes as well as some of the physical features that can be found within the continent. Students' knowledge of Africa will be developed further through investigating issues such as the impact of coffee farming, fair trade as well as salt mining.





# KS4

Half Term	1	2	3	4	5
Year 10	The Living World (Tropical Rainforests and Hot Deserts)	Urban Issues and Challenges	Urban Issues and Challenges	Physical Landscapes in the UK (Rivers and Coasts)	Physical Landscapes in the UK (Rivers and Coasts)
Year 11	The changing economic world	The challenge of natural hazards	The challenge of resource management	Issue Evaluation / Revision	Revision

Year 10 Geographers are currently learning about coastal landscapes. Students have been learning about how coastal landforms such as Durdle Door in Dorset has formed and how stakeholders such as town councils play important roles in the management of coastal areas such as Lyme Regis.



Year 11 have now completed the course and we wish them all the very best in their next steps and look forward to seeing many of them next year.

# KS5, Year 12

Year 12 have recently completed their mock exams on the topics of Hazards in Physical Geography, and Changing Places in Human Geography. These mock exams will provide an excellent indication of the progress they have made throughout Year 12, which will also reflect the dedication and positive work ethic they displayed during the periods of home learning.

Year 12 will then be continuing their studies of Global Systems and Global Governance in Human Geography, whilst completing their second topic of Coastal Systems in Physical Geography. This will then enable students to begin the planning and preparation for their NEA (Non-Examined Assessment), which forms 20% of their final mark and requires them to complete an independent piece of coursework on a research topic of their choice. The NEA process will continue throughout Year 13, utilising lesson time to guide students in completing the process, as well as opportunities for students to complete fieldwork in their own time using the guidance given.

Additionally, students will also be developing their geographical skills, with dedicated sessions on statistical methods such as Spearman's Rank and Chi-Squared, skills which are tested in their examination papers and which can also be utilised in their NEA submissions.

## Twitter:

Please follow us on [@BCChallonerGeogDept](#). Here we will be sharing updates on the department and any relevant posts that we feel will be of benefit to our students and followers.

## Dorset Trip

Year 12 students recently went on a residential trip to the Dorset coast. Students engaged with this fantastic coastal landscape and enjoyed learning skills required to carry out the coursework element of the A level course.



# Music & Performing Arts

As we move towards the end of our academic year, the Music and Performing Arts departments are busier than ever with a range of exciting projects involving our talented students.

## Music

### Year 7

Year 7 Music lessons have continued with the theme of World Music, and all classes have been exploring Indian music. Not only have they learned about the instruments and sounds associated with Indian music, they have developed their performance skills by learning how to improvise – a challenging skill – on the keyboard. The topic culminated in a keyboard performance of a piece of music played in an authentic Indian style.

### Year 9

Year 9 students have been developing their skills in performance by looking at notation, rhythm, piano technique, and various aspects of music theory. With a range of performance and theory tasks, students are preparing to perform a piece of music accurately from a score, and we are delighted to see some students selecting the more demanding pieces and discovering the challenges of playing two hands together!

### Year 11 PA

This term has been focussed on preparing our students for their public examinations and our Year 11 BTEC Performing Arts group kicked off the first of our practical examinations with their individual performances for Unit 1 of their course. This unit is entitled Showcase and students have to prepare individual performances which specialise in singing, dancing or comedic acting. For students only in Year 11, this is quite an undertaking and our students prepared their individual showcases for weeks before they were finally performed on 5th May. Miss Williams and Mrs Choudhury were extremely impressed with the students' dedication and commitment during rehearsals, as well as the professionalism they displayed on the day of the performances. Particularly noticeable was the development shown by all students from the start of the course in September 2020. We hope the examiners at Pearson award the marks we think they deserve!

## Bishop's Got Talent

An extremely enthusiastic group of students from Year 7 and 8 organised and performed in one of our musical Bishop's Got Talent events in the library. This Live Lounge event involved the students planning and rehearsing in preparation, and the result was a showcase of vocal showstoppers, including Erin and Jessy singing a wonderful duet, Robyn from Year 7 performing a number from the hit musical Six, with Ilana from Year 8 closing the event with 'Don't Rain On My Parade' from Funny Girl.

### Year 8

The Year 8 groups successfully composed and performed music for a royal occasion, timed perfectly for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Following this composition and performance task, in which they developed their knowledge of musical theory and writing notes correctly on the staff, they have explored songs and song writing. This topic allows students to analyse songs from different genres of music, what makes lyrics and songs successful, and how songs are structured.

### Year 10

Our Year 10 cohort are finishing off their deep dive into two more of the set works from the syllabus. In the Fusion topic, students have been analysing Release by Afro Celt Sound System, a 1999 track featuring Celtic, West African and Western Pop; to conclude their study of Vocal Music they have studied a song from the Baroque period, 'Music for a While' by Purcell. These pieces offer instruments, terminology and/or musical techniques which are usually new to students in Year 10, and we are pleased with how well the group are beginning to understand unfamiliar music: a core skill at GCSE.

## Instrumental Lessons

It has been encouraging to see many of our students making progress in their instrumental tuition. Our instrumental teachers, many of whom work for Birmingham Music Service, have been so impressed with some of our students' improvement that they have entered them for medals and exams through music exam boards. A group of our students who receive tuition in strings, woodwind and brass have all successfully been awarded certificates and/or medals from the Associated Board of Music and Trinity College of Music.

We look forward to seeing many other students working towards their musical grades in the next academic year, and for many of the new Year 7 students to begin their musical journey at Challoner by signing up for instrumental lessons. Some of our instrumental students are so dedicated that they continued with their instrumental tuition during (and after) their GCSE and A Level exams – and still made time to practice! David, Anais, Bethan, Emily and Carolina (Y13) have been especially committed to their musical studies throughout the difficult exam period and we wish them well as they leave Challoner this summer.





# Cluedo Performance

One of the crowning achievements in the year in terms of the Performing Arts had to be the first full-scale play the school has hosted in many years: Cluedo. This Bishop Challoner production, inspired by the world-renowned board game, was staged at Highbury Hall – the original inspiration for Anthony Pratt’s murder mystery house. Auditions for the play took place in the Spring Term, and the cast featured some loyal members of Drama Club as well as many new recruits, all of whom attended many regular rehearsals to prepare for opening night, even giving up weekends and several evenings. Props were gathered, costumes ordered, tickets sold...and the show was a resounding success! The play was performed over three nights (and the cast and audience were sworn to secrecy regarding ‘whodunnit’) and a fantastic team of students and staff came together behind the scenes to make Cluedo such a great event.

We are very proud of our cast and crew of young people who worked incredibly hard learning lines, supporting each other, beating pre-show nerves and bravely performing to sell-out audiences every night. It was inspiring to see them grow in confidence over the preceding months – and grow into their roles – and to watch them perform with such professionalism in every performance.



## New Build

A very important date in the school diary this year was July 7th. This marked the official opening of our new school building, the construction of which began over two years ago. The event involved a collaboration of staff and students, past and present, and the day itself brought activities and events which our students could participate in and enjoy. Year 6 students were visiting that day as part of their transition process and parents and new students were able to see Challoner at its most collaborative and creative.

There were several sports events and games for students to take part in, craft and refreshments stalls to support school fundraising, and Music and Performing Arts provided the entertainment! Dance Club had worked on a piece specifically for the event, and we were delighted to welcome back some of our ex-students who excel in the performing arts who sang beautifully for us to the crowd outside on our stage. Oscar and Molly in Year 9 provided a lovely chilled out set (literally, thanks to the air conditioning in the new build) as the sun was blaring down outside. The Cluedo cast also donned their costumes one last time to perform scenes from the play as well as staging a drama workshop before finally retiring their characters. Inside, as guests arrived, the steel pan group led by Mr Philips provided a festive and tropical welcome as they ran through their repertoire of summer songs. As always, we were proud of our musicians, dancers, actors and performing artists for their hard work in preparing this event and for performing so well on the a truly memorable day.





# We Will Rock You

On 13th July, 30 students from across the school and staff visited the Birmingham Hippodrome to see the professional touring production of the smash hit musical We Will Rock You. We had waited 2 years and 3 months to see this production, which was originally due to be staged in April 2020 but was postponed due to Covid. All staff and students were extremely excited to witness this amazing spectacle of a musical and it was fantastic to be part of a live audience again with our students, and enjoy the songs of Queen performed with such energy!

## Art and Design

### KS3

Students across Year 7, 8 and 9 have been working hard across their Spring and Summer schemes of work to create exciting small scale studies that enhance their fundamental artistic skills.

Year 7 have been devouring their Sweets & Treats project, exploring colour theory using watercolour painting, oil pastel printmaking and pen studies. Year 8 have been reaching new heights with their drawing and painting skills during their architecture project, inquiring into how styles, functions and aesthetics have changed over time. Year 9 have made explosive progress during the loud and proud Pop Art project, exploring the work of Lichtenstein, Warhol and Shepard Fairey. All of their work speaks for itself, and we're proud of their excitement that appears every lesson. It's obvious there are some future artists in our midst!



### GCSE

Year 10 students have recently completed their Fine Art 5 hour mock exam. Students could work in a variety of drawing based materials to create observational drawings from secondary sources, including anatomy, figure and features. Their outcomes were exciting and of strong quality, proving their commitment to GCSE study.

### Year 11

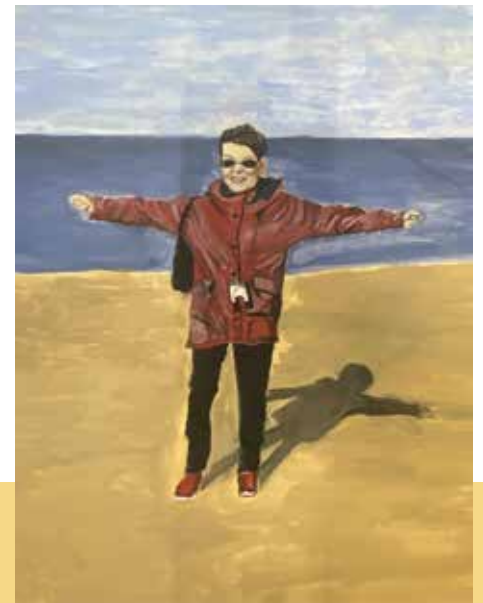
Year 11 students have created some really high quality and brave pieces of work during their final few months of GCSE study. Exploring large scale oil painting is a mean feat, and one that has been embraced by many of the young artists in this cohort. This has led to some mature and sophisticated pieces of work from a year group that was hit greatly by the pandemic, proving their drive and ambition to push themselves in their artistic endeavours. Many of the two classes are continuing onto A-level Art study, something we are very excited about.





# Year 12

Year 12 Fine Art students have been working on developing their own artistic practices through a variety of materials, processes and techniques. With a range of concepts, interests and styles in the large class of 22, each piece sings and celebrates their differences and proves their obvious skill level. We can't wait to see what they do next year in their final year!



# Year 13

The Year 13 Fine Artists' studies have drawn to a close in a large finale of stunning work. The class of 25 students have surpassed our expectations during such turbulent times over the past years, and their commitment to their artistic practices is clear. Each student has developed a large portfolio of dynamic and self-directed work, resulting in exciting, mature and resolved projects that celebrate each individual artists' style and taste. Even at first glance during moderation preparation, Challoner students and staff have commented openly on how impressed they are of these 25 students' work, and we know that we have been fortunate to teach such a strong class. We wish them all the success in their future studies – with 11 going on to Art-based degrees!





# BC Arts Hub - Art Support

The Arts Hub team have been supporting primary schools with the planning and delivery of arts across the curriculum. This has involved co-planning practical CPD sessions for Art leads and delivery of workshops to Year 5 exploring colour and brushstrokes through the work of Claude Monet and Georges Seurat.



## Artist in Residence

Artist in residence, Nancy Houston has been involved with a series of projects and commissions during her time with us at Bishop Challoner. Alongside art commissions, Nancy has helped to support with transition and the primary arts curriculum. She has been planning and delivering practical sessions to our Tolkien schools focusing on year 5. The aim is to develop the existing art curriculum with a series of practical arts workshops designed for key stage 2. Alongside developing pupils' practical skills and staff skillset, the workshops are designed to support recovery and wellbeing through an arts developmental journey. Nancy has also been actively involved in our Grand Opening event in July.



## Grand Opening

Our Grand Opening of the Bishop Challoner New Build on Thursday 7th July was an absolute success. The build is an impressive structure with a contemporary form which complements the 1950s build of the original school. The English Department are enjoying their new block and the students are equally as impressed. To celebrate, the opening event showcased the talent of Bishop Challoner students of past and present. Building on the success of the art trail Remembrance event in November, we compiled a programme of activities, exhibitions and performances in the form of an arts and sports trail. Visitors were encouraged to tour the new build and new facilities including the link bridge, canteen and the re-designed toilets. The event was planned to coincide with Year 6 transition day and parents evening talks. This provided a perfect window to highlight Bishop Challoner Catholic College and highlight the skills and talents of our students.

The evening was extremely well received by parents, previous members of staff and the local community. It provided an opportunity for students to participate in a range of indoor and outdoor sporting activities including a climbing wall, archery, mini golf, cricket and boxing. Alongside sporting activities, there was an array of musical and dance performances by a selection of students in KS3, KS4 and KS5, followed by spoken word performances from our creative writing students and scenes from the latest BC Cluedo production by the Cluedo cast. BC Alumni are continuing to offer their support with several musicians performing at the event. Daniel Kenton, Olivia Moore, Meghan Harper and Morgan Hart all made appearances throughout the evening. Art and photography exhibitions supported the evening with current A level work being exhibited in key areas including sublimation printed imagery on metal of BC's past in a timeline as part of an installation on the link bridge.

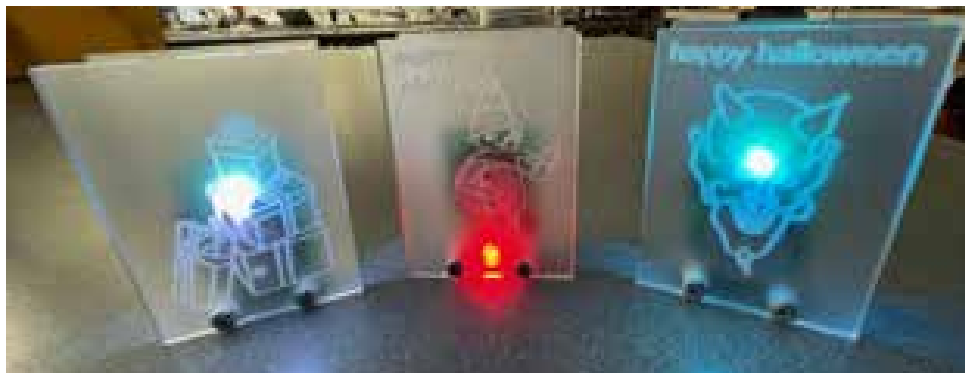
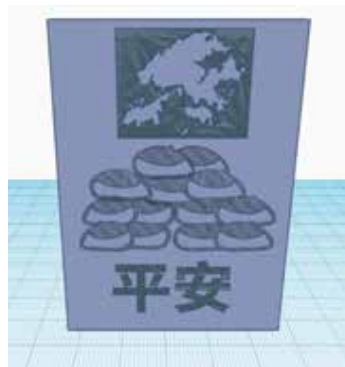
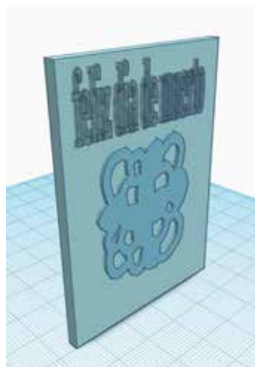


# Product Design

## Year 7 Festival Light Project

It has been with great satisfaction that we have watched our Year 7 students take home their completed festival lights to share with their families and friends. Producing a completed functioning product is an important aspect of students experience of Design and Technology at Bishop Challoner. Producing something that they are proud of and in many cases exceeds what they thought possible, is exceptionally rewarding for both teachers and pupils alike. This project incorporates a wide range of skills and for the majority is the first experience students have of electronics and CAD CAM. We have also started to introduce some virtual 3D modelling using the online software TINKERCAD as an additional avenue through which students can communicate their design for the screen of the light. As models developed in this software can be outputted to a 3D printer, we hope to make more use of this method of manufacture with students in the next academic year.





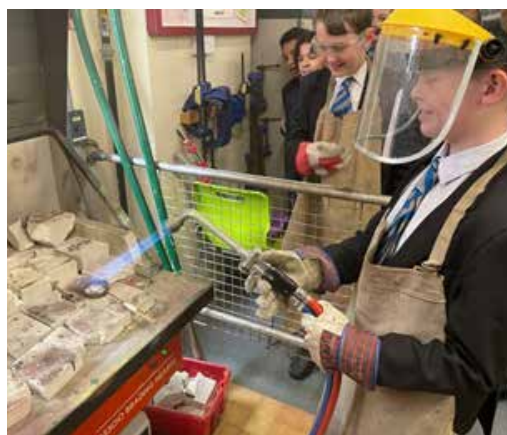
## Y7 Metalwork Project

In this final term other Y7 classes have been exploring metal work. The focus has been on Birmingham's metal works history and the importance of this vast industry within the West Midlands. The pupils have researched important and key designs originating from Birmingham and using these as inspiration to develop their own final piece. They have developed their research skills by looking at 19th century designers and also created a range of samples using different metal work techniques. The pupils have focused on using hand skills and sampled techniques such as piercing metal, engraving metal using the rolling mill and texturing metal using a variety of hammers. They are currently working on their own individual piece and are using 2D design to create their own design.



## Y8 Pewter Casting Project

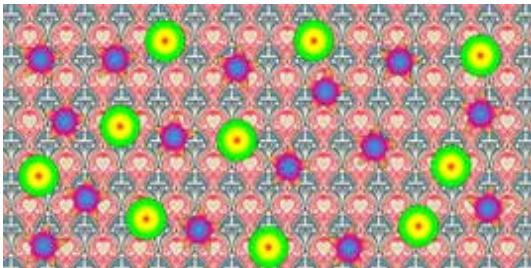
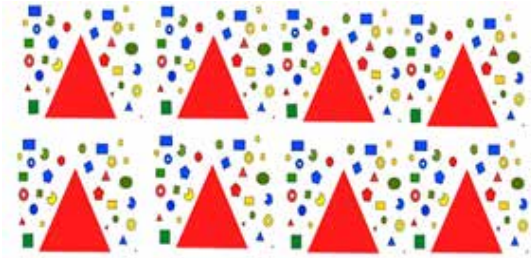
The casting process is one which really grabs the attention of our Year 8 students and they have relished the opportunity to work with specialist equipment such as the gas torch and brazing hearth in the pewter casting project this year. The brief required students to represent one form name in a cast lapel badge, incorporating imagery linked to the Saint that their chosen form is named after. It has been interesting to see how students have illustrated different qualities of the Saints visually, having researched their life journey. It was fantastic to see so many students proudly wearing their badges on completion of the project- a demonstration of the level of quality and sophistication seen in the final pieces.





## Y7 Textile Pen Pots

In textiles, the 7 pupils have been working on the pen pot holder project, using the Art Movements as inspiration for their designs. They generated shapes through paper modelling after studying art movements such as Memphis and Arts and crafts for the pen pot shape then created a repeating pattern on 'Grid Magic' software which was sublimation printed onto the fabric.



## Y9 Kings Heath Station Project

Work on the new station at Kings Heath is due to start imminently with site clearance work having already commenced at Moseley. This has brought a sense of relevance to the station design project that Y9 have worked on this year as they can view it as a live project which is being mirrored in the real world. This scheme of work has allowed us to introduce students to some of the content of the GCSE specification, giving them a taster of some of what they will study should they enrol on the course.

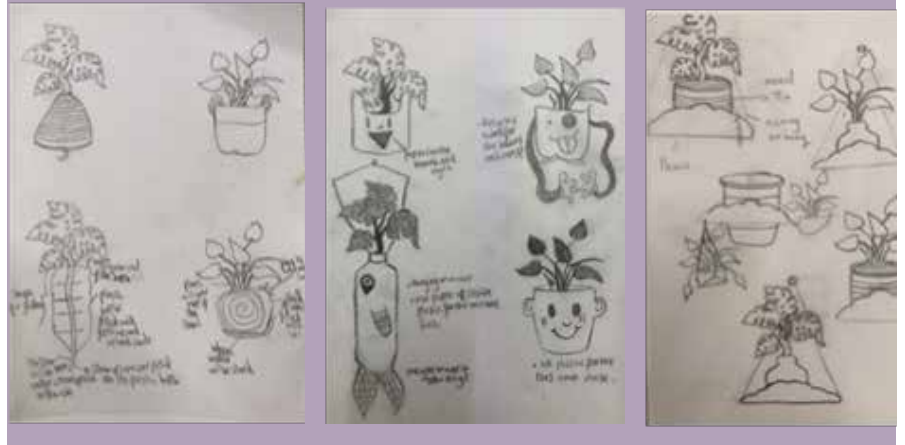
They have enjoyed learning about the work of others, in particular architects such as Hadid, Adjaye and Calatrava. We have put a strong focus on the needs of the users of the station with students exploring the specific challenges faced by certain groups such as the elderly, wheelchair users and the partially sighted. They have experimented with different methods of sketching as a communication method such as isometric and freehand continuous line as well as learning how to use card as a modelling material to realise their designs in 3 dimensions. It has been wonderful to see how students have embraced the project and taken ownership over their own designs.



## Y9 Eco project

In this final term year 9 are continuing to explore an eco theme. Throughout the project the students have been learning about the changes happening in our environment and how we can and should live more sustainably. We have looked at the lifecycle of a product and how the affect on our environment could be minimised at each stage of production including extraction, manufacture, distribution and disposal. We have explored the 6 Rs, which include recycle, reuse and refuse and ways in which we can use these methods to live more sustainably.

Currently the students are exploring their own design ideas for a planter made from recycled materials, using a variety of techniques. They have used a random starting point to build their own theme and developed this further based on client feedback. The next stage, over the next few weeks will be to explore ways in which they can manipulate recycled objects from piercing cans to melting and forming plastic.





# Textiles Club

Textiles club are currently making Teddy bears! The idea is to use recycled materials to design and make a 3D bear. This is quite a skilled project with many parts and some tricky sewing involved both on the machine and by hand.



## Ribbons for Ukraine

Final update on the ribbons sold to raise money for Ukraine was £478



## STEM Club

STEM Club have worked incredibly hard on the production of their 'alumals'; aluminium lights in the shape of animals pierced out of metal sheet and bent into a 3D shape. Students began with a profile image of an animal of their choice found on the internet. This was mirrored and a bridge section added between the two. They then made a model in card before developing a paper template to aid with piercing out the final design. Once pierced they used wooden blocks and a mallet to form the light into its 3D shape. A colour changing LED held in a connector block was added and a USB cable to connect the light to a power source. The final products are very impressive and are evidence of how well STEM club have developed their practical skills over the course of this year. Well done to Aidan, Cormac, Able, Dario, Antoni and Michael.



## Health and Well Being Afternoon

Staff came together on 25th March to relax and unwind whilst channeling their creativity and floristry skills in a wreath making workshop in the D&T department. It was great to have a mixture of staff from across the school meet for an hour away from the demands of everyday life as a teacher. Using grapevine wreaths and a range of dried flowers they produced a stunning display of designs, all unique to the individual. A request has been made for a Christmas Wreath making workshop in the Autumn term so this is set to become a staple on the Health and Wellbeing calendar.





# Be Bold Badge Competition

In April, we were provided with a wonderful opportunity to submit designs generated by students for a metal pin badge which is to be manufactured as part of the promotional material for the Commonwealth Games being held in Birmingham this Summer. There were some very impressive entries and the final design was chosen by Councillor Ian Ward, Lead of the Birmingham City Council. Congratulations to Beatrice in Year 8 who developed the winning design, using the iconic Selfridges building to display, within its aluminum discs, the things Brummies are most proud of. Beatrice's badge has been manufactured in metal and is being presented to delegates from across the Commonwealth as part of a collection of gifts from our beloved city. We congratulate Beatrice on this amazing achievement



## Creativity Week

In Product Design during creativity week students were encouraged to think about the plight of Refugees and the needs of people who find themselves homeless in parts of the world where the weather provides as much of a threat to their life as the conflict and persecution they may have fled from. We highlighted the need for cheap, easily deployable shelters to provide protection from extreme temperatures and storms and watched a video showing how snowstorms in Northern Syria in 2019 destroyed the shelters of thousands of internally displaced people. Following this, students were presented with a 10 minute design challenge in which they had to construct a shelter capable of providing protection for a family of 10 using a single sheet of material. It was fascinating to see the array of alternative approaches taken by the students and they made use of every second of the limited time available to test and reinforce their proposals.



## Y5 STEM Fair

On 22nd June, 10 of our feeder primary schools converged on Bishop Challoner for the annual Y5 STEM Fair. Held on the Wednesday of Science week, the Fair provided students with an opportunity to work together on a wide variety of maths, science D&T and computing challenges. The Sports hall was a hive of excitement, thrill and boundless energy as teams moved around a carousel of stations in twenty minute rotations. There were tokens to collect at each activity which injected an element of healthy competition as teams battled it out to try to ensure their school made it into the top three positions. Congratulations to St. Martin de Porres Catholic Primary school who were crowned the overall winners on the day with Our Lady of Lourdes coming a close second and St. Dunstan's third. Our own Year 7 and 8 students helped to plan and deliver each activity, exercising their roles as STEM Leaders with commendable professionalism. A visiting staff member from one of the Primary schools involved commented on how incredible our students were, a massive thank you and well done to all involved!

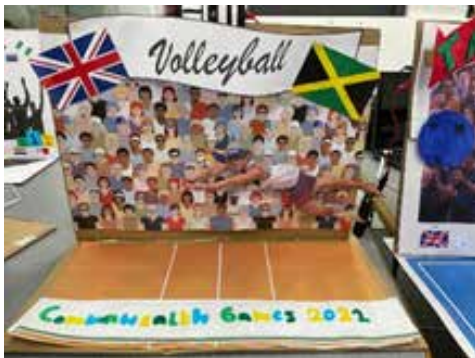
The feedback from the children involved on the day was extremely positive, including these quotes from participants from St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Primary School: ***"It was an exceedingly amazing day. It was full of fun, weird and wonderful experiments but beware of the Barbie Bungee. It was hard not to land the head on the ground!"*** : ***"I had a great day. I loved doing all of the activities and I loved collecting lots of tokens."***





# RAENG CRUMBLE Workshop

On 4th and 13th July Y5 students from our feeder primary schools took part in a crumble workshop along the theme of the Commonwealth Games. Teams of four students from St. Jude's, St. Edward's, St. Mary's, St. Anne's, St. Martin De Porres, St. Alban's, St. Dunstan's, Our Lady of Lourdes, St. Catherine of Siena and St. Bernard's learnt how to use software to program the crumble and outputs such as Sparkles (LED lights) and a Servo Motor. They then spent some time researching a Commonwealth Sport that uses rotary or Oscillating motion and designed a window display for a Birmingham shop that brought their chosen sport to life through movement and light. The creativity and imagination demonstrated in the final outcomes was fantastic and there were some fabulous examples of problem solving, endeavour and team work on display. Each school was gifted with over £100 of crumble kit, donated by the Royal Academy of Engineering, so that the learning can be continued back on home turf with a whole class/year group in the Autumn term.



# Food Education

## Year 7

Students in year 7 have learnt about the importance of personal hygiene for the food handler and how to prevent the spread of bacteria. They continue to improve their practical skills through many focused practical tasks. They have investigated the Eatwell Guide and then made products following its recommendations for a healthier diet and lifestyle. They have made an Eatwell Pizza and healthier muffins using fresh fruit instead of sweet alternatives.



## Year 8

Year 8 have studied the importance of food hygiene and safety particularly focussing on temperature control and why it is important from buying to eating a food product. They have worked with high risk foods such as minced steak to make a Bolognese sauce. They have now mastered professional knife skills and are able to use many specific cutting techniques. Many lessons now have a practical element to them where some dishes are made over two lessons. This has allowed for an improved precision with many skills as it allows more time to be spent on them.

They have learnt about different flours and why some are best suited to different products. They then made a focaccia using a strong bread flour where they learnt about the function of bread ingredients including yeast.

# Year 9

Year 9 students have built on skills and knowledge already learnt in previous years. Many are becoming skilled practitioners where they make quality products with precision while using equipment safely and confidently. They have made chilli- con – carne, calzone, and a marble cake.



Year 9 students enjoyed a visit from Animal Aid. The talks focussed on a plant-based diet and environmental issues surrounding food consumption and waste. Issues were dealt with in a sensitive manner to allow the students to express their own opinions. The visit involved a talk, discussion, a video and tasting of plant-based foods. Some students were surprised how much they enjoyed the products. Students were given the opportunity to question the speaker about animal rights.



# Year 10

Students in year 10 are studying a vocational course; WJEC Level 1 /2 Hospitality and Catering. They have been working on unit 1 which prepares them for the external examination. They have investigated the hospitality and catering industry in a variety of contexts. They have learnt about accommodation, types of products and services provided, a range of customer groups, job roles, career opportunities, the importance of record keeping and the range of equipment used in the hospitality and catering industry. To put some of the theory into practice they paid a visit to the school canteen to see the industrial equipment, to learn about temperature and control, record keeping and their hazard analysis process.

Congratulations to Year 11 who have now completed their coursework which was internally marked and externally moderated. The coursework involved working to a set brief to make a two-course meal for a particular group of people. This afforded them the opportunity to showcase the skills that they have gained over the last two years and to apply their knowledge of nutrition.





# Physical Education

## PE Curriculum

During the Summer Term, a wide range of sports have been taught in PE lessons. Students have completed units of work in cricket, tennis, rounders, and athletics. Some students have also received rugby sessions from coaches from Worcester Warriors and Birmingham Moseley Rugby Club.

## Sports Day

Over 350 students from Years 7, 8 and 9 went to Tudor Grange to compete at Bishop Challoner Sports Day 2022. There were school records broken in both track and field events. Jacob B beat a longstanding year 9 javelin record while Brandon W beat the year 7 shot putt record, there were also 4x100m relay records beaten on the track.

7SEB, 8BER and 9SEB were the victorious form groups, with SEB winning the combined competition. A fantastic day with huge amounts of determination, effort and resilience. Congratulations to all winners and participants.



## Creativity Week

Students got to experience new and exciting sports during creativity week. PE lessons included activities such as goalball, Indian pop dancing, boccia, American football and Danish longball.



## Summer Fate

Present, past and future students were all in attendance at the Summer Fate which ran alongside the Bishop Challoner new build grand opening. There was plenty of sporting activities to have a go at which included a 30ft climbing wall, archery, golf, cricket, hockey, boxing, rugby and penalty shootout organized by 7CEC. It was great to meet so many members of our future 2022 year 7 cohort of students.



# Ball Crew

Between 11th June 2022 and Sunday 19th June 2022, 38 Bishop Challoner students represented the schools' Ball Crew at the Rothesay Classic which took place at the Priory Tennis Club in Edgbaston. The students were on court with some of the best tennis players in the world and performed impeccably from the first round all the way to the final.



# PSHE

## PSHE Creativity Week

As part of our school-wide creativity week, our key stage 3 students explored important topics relating to refugees, fair trade and happiness in creative and engaging ways. Students wrote post-cards of hope, creative quiz dice and designed Google Doodles all in aid of exploring important issues in more interactive ways.



## Y7 Money Sense Workshops

What an amazing day our Year 7s had before May half term with our financial expert visitor, Rob Hibberd from Lloyds Bank. Year 7 classes put their books away for an hour each and engaged in some exciting and interactive 'Money Sense' workshops that empowered them with essential financial terms and savvy money saving tips. There were bingo games and challenges, putting Year 7s a step ahead of the game for 'My Money' week in mid June. A huge thank you to Rob Hibberd and his team at Lloyds. He was so impressed with our students that he has requested to come back, annually!

## Y7 Parliament Assembly

June 8th welcomed a volunteer from the Education Outreach department of Parliament to deliver an assembly to our year 7 students. The assembly covered a breadth of information in an engaging and interactive way. The aim was to equip students with a broad understanding of how UK Parliament works, the roles and responsibilities of MPs and members of the House of Lords as well as how you can get your voice heard. Feedback from the students was very positive; they enjoyed the session and learnt a lot. This assembly was the start of a Parliament topic that students will complete in their PSHE lessons and both students and staff were extremely impressed with Miss Mullen and the information she shared about Parliament.

## Form Time Sessions & Assemblies

All our year groups have covered some very important topics in form time and assemblies over the last term. The aims of these sessions are to be informative and inspiring. Students are given relevant and important information and asked to reflect upon it in their own lives. Below are some examples of the topics discussed...

- Healthy Eating
- Organ and Blood Donation
- Money Matters
- Mental Health and Loneliness
- Vaccinations
- Stephen Lawrence Day
- British Values



## Moseley 4 Ukraine Donations

As part of our Year of Giving, staff organised a food collection for the Ukraine Appeal. Inspired by the motivation of Pope Francis who has encouraged all who can to support those impacted by the humanitarian crisis, our donations were given to Moseley 4 Ukraine. This charity work tirelessly to support refugees from Ukraine in the Birmingham area and also send a weekly van to the war zone with essential resources.





# Year 7 Money Matters

This term, our year 7 students have completed a Money Matters scheme of work. The purpose of this topic is to equip students with the financial knowledge and understanding to make informed decisions now and in the future. The classes covered many issues such as; the difference between wants and needs, different banking options including credit cards and loans, how taxes impact income and how they can be a clever consumer. The highlight of this topic for many students was the online budgeting activity. The students were set a certain budget depending on the number of people that live in their household, they then had to select an online supermarket and create a weekly shopping list. Many students feedback that they didn't realise how expensive certain things cost and how the average weekly food spend for their household size can actually be a difficult budget to stick to.

**Title: What is the best way to pay for things?**

**Starter task:** In pairs, using what you learnt from last lesson, answer these questions.

1. What is a credit card?
2. What is the difference between wants and needs?
3. What is the one piece of advice you would give someone about how they look after/spend their money?

**I WANT YOU**  
  
**FOR FEEDBACK!**

# Year 8 Careers

In this topic, our year 8 students have developed their understanding of the breadth of careers available to them, how they can be successful in preparing for their future and what resources are available to support them. Using the Unifrog website, subscribed to by the school, our students completed a series of tests and reflective activities to become better aware of their strengths and what they enjoy. Many students reported enjoying this topic because it helped them to understand the purpose in school and how it can better support them in the future.



# Year 9 – Health and Wellbeing

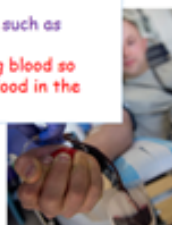
In their fortnightly sessions, our Year 9 students have focused on wellbeing. The aim of these lessons is to inform them on important topics in order that they may make wise and healthy decisions and informed choices now and in the future.

- The dangers of misuse of legal drugs and issues surrounding illegal drugs
- The dangers of alcohol, smoking and vaping
- The nature of eating disorders, how to avoid/spot them and where to seek help
- Blood and organ donation
- Vaccinations and their significance in society
- Online safety and digital footprints
- Gang culture and dangers

**Giving Blood**

The NHS states on their website that they need:

- Almost 400 new donors a day are needed to meet demand
- Around 135,000 new donors a year are needed to replace those who can no longer donate
- 40,000 more black donors are needed to meet growing demand for better-matched blood
- 30,000 new donors with priority blood types such as O negative every year are needed
- More young people are needed to start giving blood so they can make sure that they have enough blood in the future



# Year 8 Personal Development Day

On May 5th we welcomed back Ray Douglas with his 'Minus Violence' interactive session for our Year 8 cohort. Ray has presented to each Year group and never fails to disappoint with his serious, yet entertaining talk about the concerns for our young people in today's society. Covering topics such as Prevent, County Lines and Knife Crime. The feedback, was as usual, amazing. The rest of the day explored wellbeing, careers, joint enterprise and the law with an interactive video session on knife crime. Year 8 students were exemplary throughout the day and had the opportunity to discover so much in this important drop down day.



# School Games and PE & Sports Premium Programmes

Mr McDermott, School Games Organiser (SGO), continues to work alongside the PE department to support schools and young people to be physically active and maintain a healthy, active lifestyle.

## School Games

The table below lists the School Games events we have organised since April. There are a few more events planned for 2022, including athletics, rounders, tag rugby and netball.

Year group/Sport	#teams	#boys	#girls	Intent
KS3 boys dodgeball	5	50	0	To foster social connections
Y9-10 girls handball	2	0	20	To develop character and life skills
Y1 multi skills event	20	700	500	To engage new audiences
Y2 multi skills event	20	650	550	To engage new audiences
Y9-10 boys handball	3	36	0	To develop different sport specific skills
Y3-4 athletics	10	50	50	To engage new audiences
Y6 cricket	10	75	25	To engage new audiences
Y5-6 swim gala	4	16	16	To support individual development in sport
KS2 Sensory Festival	2	12	4	To engage new audiences
Y4-5 cricket	7	50	20	To support individual development in sport
Y3-4 Tag rugby	13	110	46	To foster social connections
Commonwealth Games Netball Festival	2	5	15	To develop physical skills
Y7-8 netball	3	0	30	To support individual development in sport
Y5-6 swim gala	5	20	20	To support individual development in sport
KS2 CWG 2022 Roadshow	5	55	35	To engage new audiences
Y5-6 netball	6	0	60	To support individual development in sport



St Martin de Porres School, Birmingham, UK  
@St\_Martin\_Sch

After 2 years away, Year 1 had "the best day ever" at their Multiskills festival. They did a lot of running, throwing, catching & even had a snow fight!!! Thanks to @BCSGO for organising such an enjoyable active event.



Billesley Primary  
@BPrimary

Thanks to Mr McDermott @BCSGO for organising, @BillesleyTennis for hosting & @MoseleySchool leaders for supervising such an amazing Multi-Skills event. To have so many children active, smiling and developing under one roof was fantastic. Our 90 children loved it. @ElliotFndtn



St Jude's Catholic Primary School  
@jude\_primary

Thanks @BCSGO for a wonderful multi-skills sports afternoon yesterday for our Y1 pupils! @PrimaryTolkien @BCPP\_



ourladyoflourdes  
@ourladyoflourd1

Fantastic performances from Year 4 at the Primary Athletics Festival 2022. They completed the bullnose javelin, 50m sprint, standing long jump and a 400m run! Well done to them all #OLOLPE @BCSGO



St.Alban's Primary  
@StAlbans\_Sch

The children in Year One had a fantastic afternoon at the Multi-skills Festival. #havingfun



Woodthorpe J&I  
@woodthorpeji

A lovely afternoon spent @CCSecondary whilst taking part in the Y3/4 @YourSchoolGames athletics festival. Many thanks to Mr McDermott @BCSGO for organising, as well as the superb Year 7 @CCSecondary leaders. Great to see so many children being active. #WJISPESSPA





# Commonwealth Games 2022

Recently we held two Birmingham CWG 2022 roadshows at the Irish Centre, Wheelers Lane on 15th and 22nd June, for 180 pupils from 12 local primary schools. The pupils, from KS2, were selected because they do not normally represent the school and were amongst the least active. The roadshows featured African drumming, a climbing wall, archery, cricket, tag rugby, hockey and boxing.

Quotes:

Thank you Derek for organising this great event. By the look of the photographs our children had a wonderful time. Kind regards, Siobhan Braithwaite, St Martin de Porres.

Thank you for facilitating this, Derek, a fantastic event. Huge thanks from all of us at Park Hill to the coaches too - the staff and children had a wonderful experience! Warmest regards, Kalsom Khan, Head teacher. Park Hill.

Thank you for all your hard work, our children and staff all had a fantastic time and came back buzzing! Emma Marshall, Colmore Junior School.

Children thoroughly enjoyed it - many thanks again. Regards, Mike Stephenson, St Bernard's.

ColmorePE  
@ColmorePe

Y6 are having a brilliant day. Massive thanks to @BCSGO @hopwood\_mrs



St Martin de Porres School, Birmingham, UK  
@St\_Martin\_Sch

Children had an archery lesson from a Paralympic champion @ArcheryMei @BCSGO



You Retweeted

Park Hill Primary  
@parkhillmoseley

This week, some lucky year 5 children took part in a Commonwealth Games roadshow where they participated in sports such as archery, boxing and climbing. What fun!



You Retweeted

Moseley Rugby Community  
@MoseleyRugbyCD

Akron and Ollie ready for today's primary school Commonwealth Games Roadshow! Rugby, Archery, Rock Climbing, African Drumming, Cricket, Boxing & Hockey! Thanks to @CPSGO & @BCSGO for organising a great event.



# School Games Mark

School Games Mark is an award that schools can apply for, and dependent upon responses can achieve bronze, silver, gold or platinum. Of the 37 schools in our network, so far 7 schools have completed applications. Bishop Challoner, KES. Our Lady of Lourdes and Uffculme Special School have been awarded Gold and our congratulations go to their staff and pupils and Queensbridge and St Catherine of Siena have been awarded bronze. 6 schools (St Dunstan's, St Jude's, Christ Church, Ss John and Monica, King David and St Martin de Porres) have started their applications and have until July 27th to complete them.



You Retweeted

BC PE Department  
@BCPEDepartment

15 of our leaders working hard and representing @BishopChalloner at today's @Birmingham\_SGO Primary & Secondary @YourSchoolGames Athletics Finals at @UBSport Sport & Fitness Centre. Excellent to see @BCSGO





# Business

## Year 11 & 13

We have been very impressed with how our students have performed in the final term this academic year. We have said Goodbye to our year 11 and 13 classes, wishing them the best for their results in the summer. Both our GCSE and our A Level groups seemed to be pleased with the content of their exams, so we are hopeful that they all had a chance to shine and show off their expertise of the day. Of course our year 11 and 13 Vocational pupils did not sit exams, but had coursework deadlines to meet. They all submitted work of an excellent quality, and these grades have already been agreed by the exam boards following their external quality assurance visits.

## Year 12

Year 12 have also been progressing well, and we were able to arrange a trip to the Belfry Hotel and Golf Club for our vocational class to support their coursework. Pupils have been completing a review of how the club meets the needs of their customers, and what they can do to improve their customer communication. The Belfry were very supportive, giving the pupils a lot of information they can use – and a chance to swing a club on the driving range. In exchange they would just like to hear our year 12 pupils recommendations!

## Year 10

Year 10 pupils have had an excellent first year of business. As a department we have been very impressed with how quickly pupils have grappled with this new subject. To revise their marketing mix, and as part of creativity week, pupils have been completing an apprentice challenge to brand their own cereal – ‘Good Morning Grains’ anybody?



# Media Studies

## Year 10

Year 10 have been working hard on the new NEA brief whereby they will be creating a marketing campaign (DVD and banner poster) for a brand new Science Fiction or Romantic Comedy film. They are currently working on the pre-production elements of writing their Statement of Aims, creating their DVD blurb and mock ups for both creative pieces.

## Year 11

Our Year 11 cohort have now completed the Media Studies GCSE course. After submitting final versions of their NEA products in early May, students focused on the written papers. The department devised and created bespoke revision lessons and pre-exam intervention sessions informed by the Advanced Information released by the exam board. Students went into the final exams well-prepared and left happy with the content of both the Component One and Two papers.

## Year 12

The Year 12 group have also been working steadily on their NEA. As always, they are creating a brand new music artist, filming and editing the video and creating a magazine front cover and double page spread to promote them. The group also participated in a big photoshoot in order to take their pictures for their magazine.

## Year 13

Year 13 deserve congratulation's for their dedication and intellectual energy in preparing for the Media Studies A-level. Even taking into consideration the Advanced Information supplied by the exam board, students had a huge amount of content and theory to master ahead of the exams. Staff and students worked hard in exam preparation sessions, solidifying knowledge of examples from the set texts, rehearsing exam technique, and producing practice answers. It was heartening that many of the topics covered in detail in these sessions appeared on the exams themselves. We wish this creative, friendly and engaging group all the best as they move on from Bishop Challoner.

## Staff

We also bid farewell to Mrs Klerides and Mr Bell who will be leaving us at the end of the summer term. We wish them all the best in their future endeavors!

# Sixth Form

## Year 13 Leavers' service

Year 10 have been working hard on the new NEA brief whereby they will be creating a marketing campaign (DVD and banner poster) for a brand new Science Fiction or Romantic Comedy film. They are currently working on the pre-production elements of writing their Statement of Aims, creating their DVD blurb and mock ups for both creative pieces.

## Public Examinations

A Level and vocational qualification exams went very smoothly and we were so impressed with the way in which our students prepared and then conducted themselves in the exams.. We wish our students well and are sure their hard work and resilience, and that of their teachers, will be rewarded in the summer.

## Results' Day

Students will receive an appointment time to collect their results from school. Members of the sixth form team will be on hand to support with any UCAS enquiries.

## Academic Coaches

Year 12 students have been taking advantage of a new initiative developed by Dr Osborne: academic coaches. These subject specialists are available to any student who is seeking advice or a sounding board, to discuss potential university courses and/or future career aspirations, in addition to the support already provided by their subject teachers and the wider Sixth Form team.

## Year 12 Mentors

Year 12 students have been going into some KS3 lessons to act as subject mentors. This is proving to be a successful programme, not only with KS3 students and their teachers, but also with the Year 12 students who are gaining a variety of valuable, transferrable skills.

## 13 Year Prom

Our first Prom for 2 years took place on Thursday 30th June at the spectacular Highbury Hall in Moseley. The rainy weather might have prevented us from enjoying the beautiful grounds, but it certainly did not dampen the party atmosphere. It was a really joyous occasion and a fitting end to a challenging two years

## Sixth Form Taster Day

Most of our Year 11 students returned to college on 28th June to take part in their Sixth Form Taster Day. They were joined by applicants from other schools and colleges who have been offered conditional places. After an introduction to the Sixth Form, they experienced 3 A Level/Vocational taster lessons, as well as experiencing break in the Sixth Form Common Room. Teachers were impressed with their interest and readiness for the next exciting steps.

## University of Birmingham Open Day

The entire Year 12 student attended the University of Birmingham Open Day on Friday 24th June. This was a great opportunity for students to explore the campus, find out more about the courses, see accommodation and generally get an insight into student life. We know a lot of students have been really inspired by this visit.

## Work Experience 11th -15th July

The majority of year 12 students were successful in securing work experience placements and we have been receiving some really positive feedback from employers and companies. It is so important that young people have had the opportunity to experience the world of work and develop important professional skills; indeed for certain university courses such as nursing, medicine and teaching, it is absolutely essential. We know that some students also have exciting plans for further work experience over the summer and we very much encourage this.

## Year 12 Potential Oxbridge candidates

Throughout this summer term, focused sessions have been delivered to students who are considering Oxbridge applications or applying for other highly competitive courses. Dr Osborne has organised for workshops to be delivered by staff from Keble College Oxford, and by school staff who have attended or have connections with Oxbridge colleges.

## Changes of Personnel

Mrs Nutt moves on to a different role in the school, taking on more whole-school responsibility for safeguarding and wellbeing, with both sadness, having led the sixth form for many years, and excitement at the new challenge. Mr Mullins will be the new Head of Sixth Form from September.

We welcome Mrs McGowan, who will be Head of Year 12 (Dr Osborne moving to Year 13 with her year group) and thank Mrs Healy for her many years as head of year in the sixth form.



# Careers

This term has been brimming with trips and careers activities. A group of Year 8 students attended an "Explore your Futures" event which involved visiting The University of Birmingham and University College Birmingham to explore the differences between city based

and campus based universities. During their time at the universities they completed STEM activities such as, building a tower out of spaghetti and marshmallows and separating oxygen from water using a battery. A group of Year 10 students went to Halesowen College to explore the facilities, vocational subject opportunities and support available to them, post 16. A further nineteen Year 10 students took part in the Aimhigher mentoring programme again this year. These students have conducted themselves superbly over the course of the programme, which began in March. They focussed on areas such as study skills, post 16 pathways and suitable work experience placements during their weekly, 25 minute sessions. These students concluded their programme with a celebration event on 29th June at University College Birmingham.

## Year 10 & 12

Year 10 have recently completed the first work experience programme since the pandemic. Students did brilliantly to find placements and to adapt to being in the work place for a week. The feedback from placements has been wonderful! Similarly, our Year 12s are back in school on Monday 18th after their first ever work experience programme which will hopefully help to shape their career ideas and Post 18 plans. Year 12 have also benefitted from a careers focussed summer term with lots of sessions about the different pathways they can take and how to make effective applications. As part of this, Year 12 attended the University of Birmingham open day and have had a number of "pop up" careers events, where employers have come in at lunchtime to talk to students about what they do. It was fantastic to welcome Virgin Media and representatives from the BBC in to discuss opportunities and pathways into the profession. We will be bringing Year 12's careers programme to an end on Tuesday with a HE Fair where all Year 10 and 12 students will have access to a range of university representatives to discuss whether HE is of interest to them.



## Lessons and Assemblies

Careers has very much been the focus of Year 7 PSHE lessons this term too as they have started using the Unifrog platform to begin their careers exploration. Year 7 have also had careers assemblies and an opportunity to apply for the role of Prime Minister in their English lessons. Year 11 had a virtual assembly before their exams started which gave them an opportunity to hear from two female engineers from Curtins, an organisation who we continue to work closely with on careers related activities. Year 8 had two careers related sessions within their Personal development day. During these sessions they took a closer look into what is meant by the labour market and they also began to consider their GCSE choices and the importance of these for future career decisions.

To help your child with their careers research, please feel free to log on to Unifrog yourself and have a look at the tools available to your child. You can access Unifrog on [unifrog.org.uk](http://unifrog.org.uk). The parent code is: **BSCCparent**

**If you would like to be involved in the careers programme in some way, please e-mail Miss Darby (Careers Leader) on [e.darby@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:e.darby@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk) to find out more.**

## Year 10

On their return from work experience, Year 10 had a full de-brief, followed by an Employability day which involved sessions on: Beyond Year 11 options, recruitment processes, the future of work and money matters. We would encourage Year 10 to continue to do their individual careers research on Unifrog over the summer to help with their decision making in Year 11. Support will be available for them to make these decisions, but the more they understand the pathways and opportunities available to them, the better informed they will be and more confident in making decisions which are right for them.

## 'Bring the Power' Commonwealth Games Workshops

On 12th July we were lucky enough to have some representatives from the Commonwealth Games Youth Engagement Programme come into school and deliver some workshops to students in KS3. As well as talking about the Commonwealth Games themselves, and the events that will be taking place in Birmingham this summer, students also got to think about the role they play in their community, and the skills they have that can bring about social change.

Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 worked on their teamwork skills through some fun and challenging games of 'Crackers Cricket'.

They also got to research some Birmingham 'Hometown Heroes'; inspirational people who are supporting other members of their community, such as Kevin Redmond and Joan Hunter. You can read more about the Commonwealth Games 'Hometown Heroes' here: <https://www.birmingham2022.com/hometownheroes>.

The workshops finished off with students thinking about how they felt about their community and local area, and what they could do to make a positive impact on the people they know and the places they live.

# Open Learning Centre

## What's been happening this term?

**NEW BOOKS** – We've been very busy over the past few weeks choosing some new books for the library. We've listened to our students requests and have added a wide range of both fiction and non-fiction titles to our shelves. Hopefully, there's something to keep everyone happy and more importantly, reading!

**REMEMBER** - If you have any suggestions for books for the school library please do let us know...



## Accessit

We are now using a new library software package called Accessit. It is a wonderful new system that will allow us to create a central hub for a wide range of resources we want our students to access here at Bishop Challoner. These will include eBooks, PDF's, podcasts, websites, online digital content, video, audio, archives and much more.

The link to our dashboard can be found here:  
<https://uk.accessit.online/bsh09/#!dashboard>

Please note it is currently under construction and will be launched to students, staff and parents in September but you can get an idea of the content already from our temporary dashboard.



## Aim Higher Mentor

As part of the Aim Higher programme our Aim Higher mentees recently visited UCB to take part in an end of year Celebration and Campus Experience Day. As well as meeting up with students from other schools they also had the opportunity to take a tour of the campus and see what kinds of courses are on offer there. Following a lovely lunch we then had a great talk from a motivational speaker focusing on ambition and entrepreneurship. It was an amazing event and a fantastic way to end their involvement in the Aim Higher Programme.

If you'd like to find out more about Aim Higher West Midlands visit - <https://aimhigherwm.ac.uk/parents-carers/>



## Summer Reading Challenge

With the summer holidays fast approaching we'd love our students to get involved in our Summer Reading Challenge.

All you have to do is pick up a bookmark from the school library and record every book you read over the summer holidays.



Bring your bookmark back in September and you'll be entered into a prize draw!!

If you need some inspiration just check out our display in the library foyer ... and remember you can borrow 3 books as part of your school library membership.

## New Collections

We have recently created 2 new collections within our main library to cater for the varied interests and needs of our students.

**GRAPHIC NOVELS** – One of our most popular genres are Graphic Novels. We love that our students like to read a variety of texts and this collection is great for encouraging those students who prefer a mix of images and word. We've added some up to date titles this term to cater for all interests.

**SHELF HELP** – Our new self help section includes a collection of books designed to answer questions our young people may have. Subjects covered include friendships, families, money advice and mental health and wellbeing.

## Opening Times

Mon - Thurs - 8.00am - 4.00. Friday - 8.00am – 2.30pm

Have a question? Get in touch with us: [library@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:library@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk)

Keep up to date with the latest library news and events:

bishopchallonerolc  
@BC\_OLC



Over 30 Work Groups, projects and programmes available in 2022-23.  
All opportunities are FREE - sign up today to secure your place.

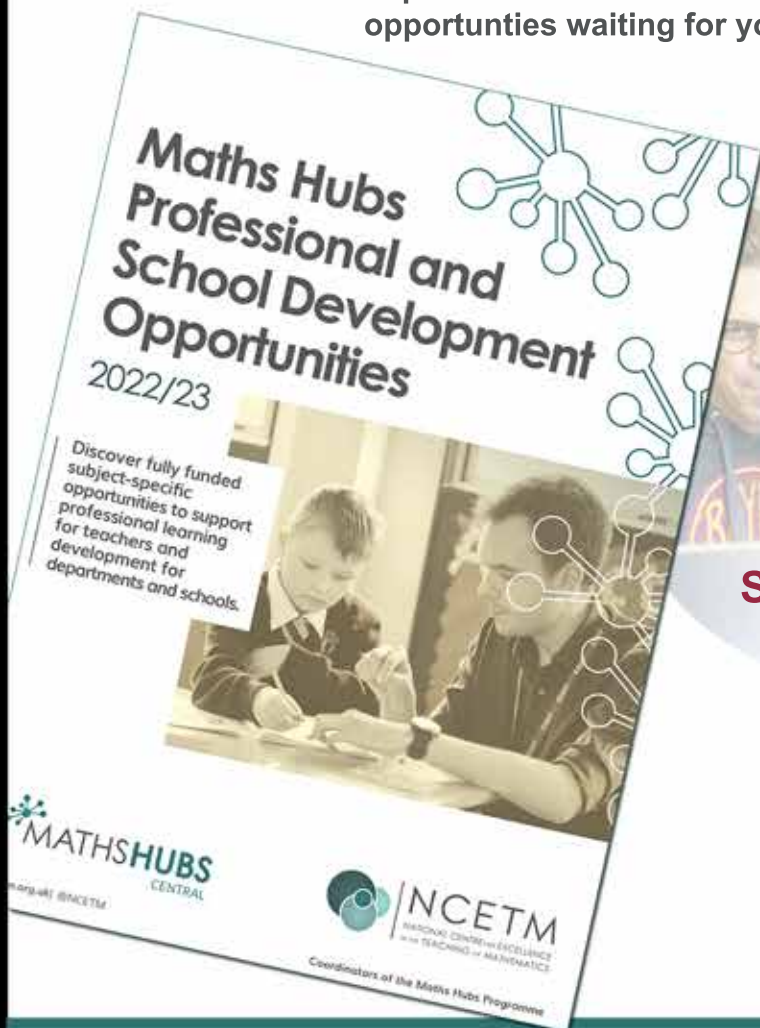


# MATHSHUBS

## CENTRAL

The Central Maths Hub, coordinated by the NCETM, brings together mathematics education professionals in a collaborative national network, to develop and spread excellent practice, for the benefit of all pupils and students.

If you are from Birmingham, Sandwell or Dudley, then we have professional and school development opportunities waiting for you.



**Early Years / Primary**



**Secondary / Post-16**



**Leadership**



Central Maths Hub  
Challoner House  
21 Institute Road  
Birmingham B14 7EG  
[www.centralmathshub.com](http://www.centralmathshub.com)



@centralmathshub

# Science Learning Partnership

We have enjoyed going back to face to face events this summer term. One of our highlights was our primary STEM conference which took place at President Kennedy School in Coventry. Our keynote by Amanda Poole on the ten key issues facing primary science was very thought provoking and we then enjoyed workshops which included the Primary Science Teaching Trust, Explorify, Tech She Can, and many more. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all the primary teachers attending and they are armed with actions to implement back at their schools.



We have been training up new facilitators this year as well, and we had a great day in July training up primary and secondary science and computing teachers to deliver our CPD. Teachers came from a wide area to attend our course – from Sheffield down to Southampton!

We've also had some of our science teachers delivering practical science training for early career teachers and non specialists at Birmingham City University. These have gone down really well as well!

## Computing Hub

We've been thrilled to welcome teachers, supporters and guest speakers to our CSA graduation event at Millennium Point in Birmingham on 4th July.

At Birmingham's Millennium Point on Monday 4th July over 40 teachers attended the event to celebrate their graduation after completing the CSA where they heard from an inspiring range of keynote speakers.

Teacher Chris Taylor, of the Bishop Challoner Computing Hub, was among them.

*"It has been a wonderful occasion for West Midlands CSA Graduates to attend this celebration and for their achievement and commitment to enhance the learning opportunities of their students to be recognised,"* she said.

Teachers at the event heard from Nicola Swaney, Education Outreach Manager for Rolls-Royce, one of the NCCE's supporters

who spoke about the link between computing education and Rolls-Royce's digital strategy and workforce.

Fellow keynote speaker Dan Hoff-Rodrigues, Director of {CX}<sup>2</sup> Talent Solutions, shared his insights about the future of the tech workforce at the event.

Dan said:

*"The importance of influencing our young people of tomorrow NOW, has never been so vital when it comes to seeking and having an interest in tech and digital. The digital skills gap and lack of the relevant technical abilities being taught at schools and taken seriously has never more been needed.*

*"This is why these initiatives and training is so critical to future talent pipelines and I'm so behind you all and you have my full support!"*





With Challoner House now becoming a great venue for a range of teacher training and Continuous Professional Development (CPD), the team have been welcomed in hundreds of delegates in these post-pandemic times. From interns to trainees, to Early Career Teachers and Senior Leaders, we have supported many teachers onto the next level of their teaching careers.

## Teacher Training – School Direct / PGCE

Our cohort of Primary and Secondary trainee teachers have now completed their year of training and are securing jobs ready to start their careers. With Covid still around in most schools, the year has been a bit of a bumpy journey, but one that our trainees and mentors have come through exceedingly well. Our trainees have worked hard again this year, with most of their year being spent in the classroom, and some days at University gaining their Masters' credits with the PGCE side of their programme. We know that the trainees particularly enjoy their 'Challoner' days, where our expert delivery team really help them to become reflective practitioners, and where they can spend time sharing their own best practice and experiences with each other.

Applications for School Direct for September 2022 are still coming in – although nationally there have been fewer people applying to become teachers, we believe we have a strong cohort ready to start in the new academic year. We are still recruiting and are looking forward to continuing to work with our 3 University providers and to see what the next academic year brings.

We are very pleased to announce that we were successful in our bid for accreditation for the delivery of Initial Teacher Education (ITT) from 2024 onwards. We were one of only 80 providers nationally to have gained this status during the first round of applications through the DfE. This is a fantastic achievement and we will be working hard over the coming months to create a strong teacher training programme and we look forward to working with a range of strategic partners.



## Teaching Internships

Our Teaching Internship Programme grew this year, with the DfE deciding to add Computing to the original subjects of Maths and Physics. We had 40 undergraduate University students join us for 3 weeks, on a packed programme of learning about teaching, as well as experiencing life in the classroom for themselves. Working with some of our partner schools, our students will have benefitted from having these enthusiastic subject experts in the classroom and the Interns may have discovered that teaching is the future career for them. We are inviting the Interns back to Bishop Challoner in the Autumn for a reunion event, where our Training School Team will be on hand to help them with their applications for becoming trainee teachers.



## Professional Development Programmes

As well as supporting those at the beginning of their teaching careers, a lot of our work also focuses on developing middle and senior leaders of the future, within both our Primary and Secondary partners schools and beyond. We have been working successfully with Best Practice Network to bring National Professional Qualifications (NPQs) in a range of specialisms, including in Senior Leadership, Behaviour and Culture and Leading Teacher Development, to name but a few! We have found delegates appreciate the chance to come together face to face for full day sessions, and we find our Facilitators and delegates alike really enjoy these sessions. With funding still available for these programmes in the next academic year, we look forward to delivering more programmes to more teachers!

We have also successfully run our first NaSENCo programme with Best Practice. We aim to offer this programme again, in addition to a programme to develop Higher Level Teaching Assistants – HLTAs.

## ECF - Early Career Framework

We are now just completing year 1 as a delivery partner for Best Practice Network on this 2 year programme for Early Career Teachers. This has required a lot of extra, structured support and expertise from both school-based mentors and also from our expert facilitator team, who have been delivering all year round on a range of subjects. This 2-year long programme is aimed at supporting teachers as they start their careers, helping to keep them in the teaching profession.



# BC Wellbeing News

#7 @BCCGWellbeing

Summer 2022

## Welcome to our summer newsletter!

We've made it to the end of another challenging, but immensely rewarding year and we are sure you are all ready to recharge the batteries and, with a little help from some summer weather, we have put together a variety of advice and suggestions for a fun-filled six-week break that won't break the bank.

## Looking for some free, outdoor, well-being activities for all the family this summer?



Find out The Active Wellbeing Society's top tips on how to make the most of your summer and keep the fun going to all the family. Happy days and this is for you. <https://www.activewellbeing.ca>

## Other ways to relax outdoors: it's as easy as A.B.C

### BE AWARE

Search for a place where you can enjoy the great outdoors. It could be a park, a beach, a trail, or a quiet spot in your own back yard. Take a walk and enjoy the view. Take a break from your daily routine and enjoy the outdoors. Take a walk and enjoy the view. Take a break from your daily routine and enjoy the outdoors.

### Breathe

Get yourself sitting down for a few minutes and just breathe. A calm, steady breath can help you feel more relaxed and focused. Take a deep breath in through your nose and out through your mouth. Repeat this several times. It's a simple way to relax and enjoy the outdoors.

### Collect

Get the kids started on collecting a few of the water bugs that you can find in your back yard. You can collect them in a jar and keep them in a cool, dark place. You can also collect them in a jar and keep them in a cool, dark place. You can also collect them in a jar and keep them in a cool, dark place.



## Rainy Day?

We all know what to expect from the British summer - but perhaps you're not sure if you have any suggestions too?

How about some mindfulness colouring to keep the weeks fairly unseasoned?

Lots of printable pages like this one are available from this site: <http://www.puppyspinner.com/mindfulness-colouring-pages/>



## Don't forget in Birmingham we have lots of FREE museums and galleries too.

The **TKO Gallery** in **St Andrew's Hall** has special family days every Saturday and a free Art Explorer Guide made for kids with other content about creative activities for families.

The **Shirley Museum and Art Gallery** in **Edgbaston Square** has something for everyone. Making it a special place for children called 'The Art of Birmingham' reflecting the people of 19th Century Birmingham. A mix of a celebration of the city from Birmingham's roots as well as depictions of what the city looks like now.

## Water Safety

On average, over 100 people drown each year in the UK and Thailand is not an exception. Fact for us, around 60% of Birmingham's beach area drowns take place on the coast. This is either due to people taking the plunge in hot weather, or due to sea and choppy sea patches with no lifelines and lifelines too. Reason for some ways from the Royal Life Saving Society.

We want people to enjoy the water safely. These simple precautions can help to make the time with all yours and/or yours.

**Summer WATER SAFETY**

When Summer hits it can be tempting to look for the nearest place to cool off. Here are our top tips if you plan on going for a paddle:

- LOOK OUT FOR LIFEGUARDS
- IT'S COLDER THAN IT LOOKS
- DON'T GO TOO FAR
- IT'S STRONGER THAN IT LOOKS
- BRING A FRIEND

[www.rls.org.uk](http://www.rls.org.uk)



If you're looking for a place to cool off always look for lifeguards as a sign of safety.



Water at open water area looks safe so often it's colder than it looks. Cold water can affect your ability to swim and self-rescue.



Always swim parallel to the shore. That way you're never too far away.

Currents in the water can be very strong. If you're yourself caught in a rip current try a egg roll. You'll be yourself out. Swam with the current and call for help.



Never go swimming alone. That way, anything goes wrong you've got someone there to help.





# Hot weather: How to sleep in the heat

## Some advice from the BBC

With much of the UK experiencing high temperatures, it's not unusual many people are struggling with the challenge of getting a good night's sleep. But there are things you can do to ease the heat.

These tips were based on suggestions by Prof Kaye Morgan, former director of the British Sleep Research Society and at Large Science Advisor, and Dr Andrew Miller of the Sleep Board.

### 1. No napping

Hot weather can make us feel a bit lethargic during the day. That's because we're using more energy to regulate our internal temperature.

If you feel tired or dozed off at night, try to avoid napping during the day. When you do, sleepiness can be prolonged - save it for bedtime.

### 2. Keep to routines

Hot weather can get you down, but you should keep your usual bedtime. That way, you'll sleep.

Try to keep your usual bedtime and routine. Don't change your bedtime before bed.

### 3. Remember the basics

Take steps to make sure your bedroom is as cool as it can be at night.

During the day, draw the curtains or blinds to keep the sun out. Make sure you close the windows on the sunny side of your house. To keep you cool:

Open all the windows before you go to bed. To get a through breeze.

### 6. Stay hydrated

Drink plenty of water throughout the day. Don't avoid drinking your usual amount before bed. You probably don't realise you're up at night because you don't realise you're dehydrated. Try to get a glass of water in your bedroom to help you get up.

### 8. Stay calm

If you're struggling to sleep, get up and do something calming. This could be anything, or even taking your walk.

Don't make sure you don't play on your phone or a video game. The blue light makes us feel less sleepy and the activity is stimulating. Return to bed when you feel sleepy.

### 5. Chill your socks

Wring over a small fan set to be switched on and wear it, especially for an hour. It's especially good for people who are experiencing hot flashes and night sweats. For your body to regulate your internal temperature, it's important to have a fan blowing over your face and neck. If you don't have a fan, try filling your hot water bottle with ice and liquid instead. Alternatively, and usually by the fridge, and put some wet flannel over your face. This will help you feel cooler and regulate your internal temperature of your skin and body.

### 9. Think of the children

Make sure your bedtimes and bedtime routine are the same. Don't go out of the window just because it's warm.

As part of the bedtime routine, kids and babies are recommended by the NHS UK website, make sure they aren't too cold. As that will lower circulation (Your body's way of keeping warm).

### 4. Use thin sheets

Reduce your bedding. Your top covers should be thin. Your bottom sheets will absorb sweat.

However, even if you have thin bedding, your body temperature will fall during the night. This is why we sometimes wake up feeling cold.

### 7. But think about what you drink

Be careful about what you drink. Many people like a cup of coffee, tea or alcohol in the evening. However, caffeine and alcohol can affect your sleep. They can make it harder to fall asleep and wake you up in the middle of the night. If you're having a drink, try to have it earlier in the evening. This will help you fall asleep and have a better night's sleep overall.

### 10. Get over it

Most of us have a few sleepless nights. This is normal. It's not a sign of a sleep problem. It's just a sign that your body is trying to adjust to a new situation. Most people can function well after a night or two of disturbed sleep.

Although you might feel a bit worse, it's usually not a sign of a sleep problem. It's just a sign that your body is trying to adjust to a new situation.



# Self-care summer

for  
secondary students

#SelfCareSummer

## Relationships and connection

Spending time with trusted people, like friends and family, is important for your wellbeing. Whether it's a listening ear, shoulder to cry on or advice, we all need someone we can turn to.

Week  
1

Resource

## Play and entertainment

Playing might not seem important for your wellbeing but it can help you explore your thoughts and emotions, escape from reality or simply to relax and have fun.

Week  
2

Resource

## Relaxation

We can often find ourselves being busy with plans but remember it's okay to pause, take time for yourself, relax and recharge.

Week  
3

Resource

## Physical activity

Keeping active can positively impact your mood and wellbeing, and you can do it your way, whether it's dancing, sports, going to the gym or simply going for a walk.

Week  
4

Resource

## Creativity

Finding ways to be creative can be an opportunity to express yourself and focus on the present moment. This could be through acting, cooking, drawing, writing or making music.

Week  
5

Resource

## Emotional health

Practicing self-kindness is not always easy but being your own best-friend, however this might look, is important when looking after your mental health and wellbeing.

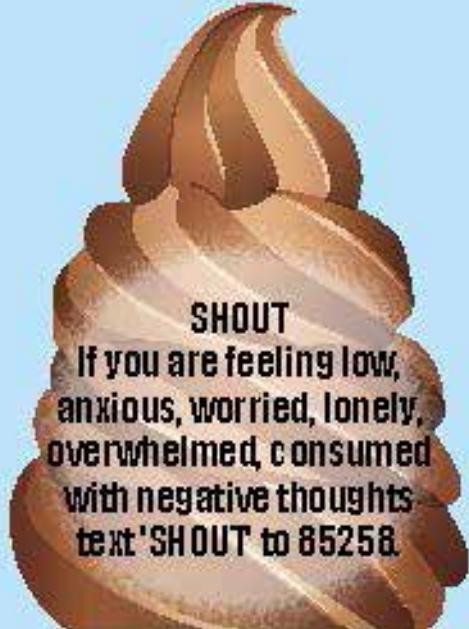
Week  
6

Resource





**The Samaritans**  
[www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org)  
24/7 365 days of the  
year. Call for free: 116  
123



**SHOUT**  
If you are feeling low,  
anxious, worried, lonely,  
overwhelmed, consumed  
with negative thoughts  
text 'SHOUT' to 85258.



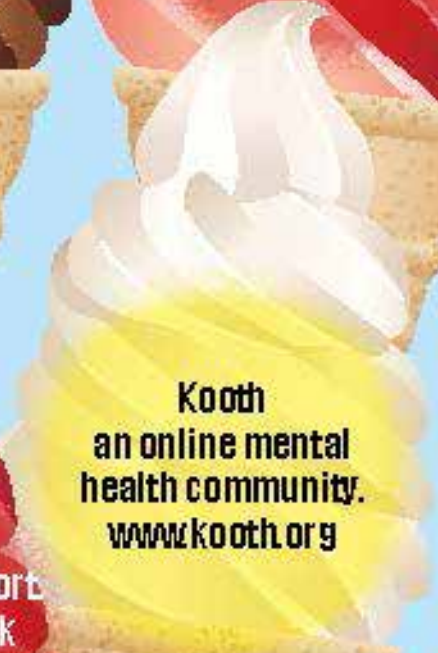
**Childline:**  
[www.childline.org.uk](http://www.childline.org.uk)  
  
Call for free  
0800 1111



**The Trussell Trust**  
Stop UK Hunger.  
Find a foodbank near you  
[www.trusselltrust.org](http://www.trusselltrust.org)



**Women's aid**  
Domestic violence support  
[www.womensaid.org.uk](http://www.womensaid.org.uk)  
<https://chat.womensaid.org.uk/> For advice and support,  
not for emergencies.



**Kooth**  
an online mental  
health community.  
[www.kooth.org](http://www.kooth.org)

**Remember: If you are worried about the safety of yourself or another person at any time call 999**



TL



# T-LEVELS

**THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION**

The new T Levels qualification takes you to the next level

In September 2023, Bishop Challoner Catholic College will be delivering the T Level Digital Business Services.

80/20 (Classroom/Workplace)

A PLAN, A PATH, A FUTURE CAREER

The new qualification bringing classroom and work placement together. Giving you the knowledge and skills employers need.

The T Levels qualification is designed to give students a faster route into a wide range of industries fit for them:

IT Solutions Technician  
Digital Marketer  
Digital Analyst Statistician  
Market Research Data Analyst

Want to know more? Scan here:



# Uniform

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.

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.

## Skirts

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.

# Mobile Phones

With most students in school now owning mobile phones for use to and from school, it is important that they are also not a distraction to study. Students found with mobile phones during lessons and around the school will have them confiscated and they will be returned at the discretion of senior staff/Heads of Year. In more persistent cases, phones may only be returned to parents/carers.

# Schoolcomms

As you are aware we operate a cashless catering system and Schoolcomms is the preferred and recommended system to make payments for your child's school dinners and some school trips. If you haven't already done so, please sign up using the mobile number and email address that the school has on record for you. There is only one money loading machine in operation in the school, so it is imperative that Schoolcomms is used.

For further information please visit our website [www.bishopchalloner.org.uk](http://www.bishopchalloner.org.uk)

# Attendance and Punctuality

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.

# Pastoral Staff- September 2022

There are a number of Pastoral staff changes that you should be aware of from September 2022, we welcome and congratulate all staff joining the team.

Students will have been informed of changes to Pastoral staffing for the new academic year over the last couple of weeks. We say thank you to Mrs Dawson, Head of Year 11 and Mrs Healy, Head of Year 13 who take on new responsibilities within school. We wish Miss Hunter, Head of Year 10 and Mrs Higginson, Assistant Head of Year 10 the best of luck as they go on maternity leave and we congratulate Miss Barron-Richardson, Assistant Head of Year 11 on the safe arrival of her baby recently.

Mr Mullins takes on the role of Head of Sixth Form with Mrs McGowan also moving to be Head of Year 12.

Staffing for 2022/2023 is detailed below-

Standards for Learning Intervention Lead- Mrs Jethwa

Head of Year 7- Miss Beard  
Assistant Head of Year 7- Mr Fell

Head of Year 8- Mr Brown  
Assistant Head of Year 8- Miss Crutchley

Head of Year 9- Miss Shirley  
Assistant Head of Year 9- Miss Carter

Standards for Learning Intervention Lead- Mr Clarke

Head of Year 10- Mr Clarke  
Assistant Head of Year 10- Miss Williams

Head of Year 11- Miss Sadler  
Assistant Head of Year 11- Mrs Whelan

Head of Sixth Form- Mr Mullins

Head of Year 12- Mrs McGowan

Head of Year 13- Dr Osborne