



BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Year 10 October Half Term Newsletter 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

Year 10 have had an excellent start to their GCSE careers with so many positive comments from staff about their attitude to learning and their commitment. Well done. Subject choices are finalised now and students seem happy with their chosen subjects and ownership over their educational careers.

Enrichment

Already this year during assembly times, students have looked at all that Year 10 has to offer: the trip to Germany with the history department, a maths trip to Italy, the prestigious Duke of Edinburgh Award, the girl's aspirations day at Coombe Abbey, a trip to see Manchester City Vs Aston Villa in Manchester and much more. Many students have already taken the opportunity to see Blood Brothers live at the Hippodrome, which was a great success.

Asides from these phenomenal opportunities, students have looked at how people can change with an inspirational external speaker. They have looked at Growth Mind Set, the idea that their abilities are not fixed, but that with hard work and effort – a 'can do' attitude – they will succeed. They have looked at The Year of Community and all that can entail for Year 10, Work Experience, and the importance of attendance and punctuality. As a school, we are dedicated to the holistic and academic success of all of our students and we fully embrace students having all the opportunities possible.

Year of Community

Year 10 have fully embraced the Year of Community. Our self-led Eco club had a Vegan-Awareness fundraiser on Wednesday 23rd October which was an appetising, educational and an exciting event. Likewise, inter-form competitions have commenced! Well done to SCO for creating the tallest spaghetti-marshmallow tower: a feat in teamwork, engineering and innovative thinking.



A massive congratulations to Dillon P M in the Basketball shootout: out of ten shots, he scored an impressive eight! Well done 10BON. At the very beginning of next half term, students will be testing their skills in badminton against the formidable Mr Fell, their Assistant Head of Year which we all eagerly await.

In our Year of Community, we continue to look at our service to others. As such, we would like to express our gratitude for all who helped at the open evening event in school.

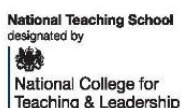


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PLATINUM SCIENCE MAKE SKILLS 2017-2019



Extra-Curricular

No newsletter would be complete without a look at our amazing sports achievements. Year 10 are encouraged to continue taking part in extra-curricular events and opportunities and there are many available for them: the boys' football team remain unbeaten in the KN league and Cup. They will play Round two of the Birmingham Cup on Wednesday 23rd and we hope they have an amazing game! Year 10 netballers have played 3 games against Selly Park Girls, King Edwards Five Ways and St Thomas Aquinas. The girls are playing phenomenally well against the teams and won all three games! Well done to all those involved!

Revision

Students' organisation of their own time is becoming increasingly important in the build up to their exam. It is important that they commence in independent revision to solidify their learning given their examinations will question the work they are currently doing at the end of Year 11. As such, I would recommend students create flashcards of the topics they study. One side could have a question, the other side potential answers. In English, one side could have a quotation and some analysis from their text, the other side a picture. These techniques really aid retention of information. Likewise, by creating excellent revision resources as they go along, students will have the best opportunities in their GCSEs.

Work Experience

Year 10 is very significant for students due to the work experience component of it. It is pivotal that you and your child are discussing ideas and trying to arrange a placement as soon as possible as the skills it teaches students are invaluable. I would highly recommend arranging placements at the earliest convenience. If students are struggling, they are very welcome to see Mrs Reynolds who coordinates work experience. Those going on the trip to Germany will still have one week to partake in a work experience placement and they must make the most of this opportunity.

Shoe Box Appeal

In the Year of Community, Year 10 have displayed excellent compassion to those less fortunate than themselves by contributing to our Shoe Box Appeal. The Shoe boxes will be sent to the charity Operation Christmas Child who send shoe boxes to children need every year. Students have donated their time, money, resources and small gifts to this worthy cause. If any students would still like to contribute, donations are being accepted until the 8th of November.

Schoolcomms

As you are aware we operate a cashless catering system and Schoolcomms is the only system to make payments for your child's school dinners and school trips. 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

Uniform and Appearance

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. 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 and boots are forbidden.

Please note that school shoes must be kept completely black. There are a number of styles, particularly for girls, currently in fashion with wood style soles. These are not suitable for school. School shoes should also be leather and not patent.

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 gold stud earrings which may be worn by girls.

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.

I know that you will, as always, support us in maintaining the smart appearance of your children and high standards of discipline, so that our focus in school can be on educational achievement.

Attendance and Punctuality

- Year 10- 96%
- Whole school- 96%

This is very pleasing and is in line with the school attendance target. We hope that this level of attendance can continue throughout the remainder of the year.

If your child is absent from school, a notification phone call needs to be made to the school on the first day of the absence and every further day that they are absent too. Upon return to school, a written note needs to be handed in to their form tutor, stating the reason for absence. Please encourage your child to be at school by 8.30am to instil the important life skill of good punctuality.

I hope that all students and their families can enjoy a relaxing half term before their return on **Monday 4th November**.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Beard
Head of Year 10

Mr Fell
Assistant Head of Year 10

Key Dates

Monday 4th November-
Thursday 7th November-
Wednesday 15th November-
Tuesday 19th November-
Wednesday 20th November-
Monday 2nd December-

Monday 2nd December-Wednesday 18th December-
Thursday 12th December-
Friday 13th December-
Monday 16th December-
Tuesday 17th December-
Thursday 29th December-

Friday 20th December-
Monday 6th January-

School Open
Early Closure, 1.10pm- Year 11 Parent Consultation Day
Sixth Form Open Evening
Canteen- Brazillian Day
Shoebboxes Collected
St Chad’s Sanctuary Collection begins
Christmas Show
Year 10 Mock Examinations
Winter Soiree
School Closed- Year 7/9/10 Parent Consultation Day
St Chad’s Sanctuary Collection Ends
Canteen- Student Christmas Lunch
Whole School Mass
Non uniform Christmas Jumper day
School Closed- Inset Day
School Open

Remember – follow our many twitter feeds for updates on what is happening at BC!



Official School Twitter:	@BishopChalloner	Science:	@BCSciDept
Science:	@BCSciDept	Maths Hub:	@CentralMathsHub
Teaching School:	@teaching_school	Performing Arts:	@BCPAmusic/@BCPAPA4
School Games:	@BCSGO	History:	@history_GCSEBC
Computing:	@BishopChalComp	Science Learning Partnership:	@CentralMidSLP
Chaplaincy:	@BC_Chaplaincy	Social Science:	@BCSocSciDept
Biology:	@BCCbio	School Games:	@BCSGO
English:	@BC_EnglishDept	Sixth Form:	@BCCSix
PE:	@BCPEDepartment	Central Maths Hub:	@CentralMathsHub
Maths:	@BCMathsDept	FOBC:	@bc_friends
Geography:	@BCGeogDept	Design:	@BCCDesign