

Head of Year 10

February Half Term Newsletter

Miss Shirley, Head of Year
Mr Khitab, Assistant Head of Year

Year 10 have made a promising start to the new year, as we embark on a new term filled with exciting academic challenges and upcoming opportunities. In addition to their curriculum subjects, students have continued to engage in assemblies, form time activities / resources, and extra-curricular activities.



Assemblies/Form Time

Assemblies this half term have focused on: Anti bullying, Remembrance Sunday, Advent, The New Year, Charity, World Religions Day, World Cancer Day, and Safer Internet Day. Alongside this, students have continued to actively engage in weekly form resources and have produced some excellent quotes / words of kindness and advice that could encourage someone to feel more optimistic and positive. This activity was ahead of Children's Mental Health Week and students' quotes were used for a whole school display. Students produced some compassionate and empathetic quotes which were a pleasure to display.

Work Experience

A big thank you to all our Year 10 students and parents/carers who have demonstrated remarkable initiative and dedication in securing work experience placements. We appreciate the collective efforts that goes into finding these placements. Engaging in practical, hands-on experiences not only provides valuable insights into different industries but also allows students to explore potential career paths, so we are really looking forward to students taking part in this. As a gentle reminder, we kindly urge those who are yet to submit their medical consent forms to please do so promptly.

Ball Crew

Bishop Challoner Catholic College have been invited to provide the Ball Crew for the ITF 50k Tennis Tournament which will be held in February 2024 at the Priory Tennis Club in Edgbaston. The Year 10 students who were part of the ball crew last year were superb, and we are privileged to have been given yet another opportunity to Ball Crew at an international event. Students demonstrated maturity, focus and motivation at training and we can't wait to see them all in action!



Tournament Champions

This term, we have introduced friendly form competitions, where students compete against each other across a range of different activities. Year 10 students were required to write an application to be considered for selection as 'Saint Captains' for each form. The enthusiasm and leadership displayed by our Year 10 students in volunteering for the role of Saint Captains is truly commendable. This applies especially to 10 Teresa and 10 Cecilia as they had the most applicants! The role of Saint Captains is pivotal, not just in coordinating events but in inspiring their peers and younger students to strive for excellence, both in sports activities and in the classroom. Well done to all Year 10 students who were selected as Saint Captains!



Charity

The commitment displayed by our Year 10 students in supporting the organisation and running of various charity events, has been brilliant. Students have been actively involved in charity events such as the Candy Cane sale and the Christmas Card Sale. In addition, our school council representatives have actively participated in meetings and have brought some brilliant charity ideas to the table. The school council 'reps' have also had some really mature discussions focusing on students' well-being in school and revision strategies in preparation for upcoming tests and assessments.

Consultation Day

Before the New Year, we had a successful parents consultation day as teachers and parents/carers had the opportunity to discuss students' academic progress across various subjects. We extend our appreciation and thanks to all who took part, emphasising the importance of the partnership between home and school in nurturing the academic growth and well-being of our students.

Leave in Term Time

Term time holidays cause significant concern. The direct correlation between attendance and attainment is undeniable. Absence from school interrupts teaching and learning and compromises progress. As per the letter regarding legal action sent at the start of the academic year, Birmingham local authority seeks to support Birmingham schools and academies in reducing the amount of education lost to student leave of absence in term time. Bishop Challoner Catholic College and Birmingham City Council strongly discourages student leave of absence during term time and parents/carers could be subject to court action and hefty fines. Recent leave in term time absences have resulted in one fine of £428 and 3 fines of 433. Please support the school and your child and ensure all leave is taken in the school holidays.

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.

Allergy Management

Bishop Challoner Catholic College aims to minimise the risk to students and staff with allergies, including those who are allergic to nuts.

It is vital that staff and parents/carers and students adhere to the Allergy Management policy, as we have both students and staff in school who suffer from allergies, including nut allergies.

Persons with allergies, including a nut allergy can suffer life-threatening consequences if they come into contact with allergens, including nuts, either through ingestion or through touch. Parents/carers, students and staff must not bring or send, any food into school either for packed lunches or for snacks/treats with nuts in (including sesame seeds). For example, the following items should not be brought into school:

- Packs of nuts
- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Chocolate bars or sweets that contain nuts
- Cakes or biscuits made with nuts
- Nutella
- Muesli bars

Care should be taken when exchanging gifts, in particular at Easter, Christmas and birthdays. We appreciate your support with this important matter.

Attendance and Punctuality

Maintaining excellent attendance and punctuality is of great importance in ensuring an effective learning environment within our school. Regular attendance is a key determinant of academic success as students have the opportunity to fully engage in classroom activities, interact with peers, and benefit from the structured learning experiences provided by teachers. Well done to the three Year 10 students; Tom, Jack and Oluwole, who won the attendance awards last term!



Term Dates

Spring Term

Half Term: Monday 12 February 2024 to Friday 16 February 2024

Term Ends: Friday 22nd March 2024

Summer Term 2024

INSET School Closed:

Monday 8th April 2024

Term Starts: Tuesday 9th April 2024

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

Term Ends: Friday 19th July 2024

INSET School Closed:

Monday 22nd July 2024

GET IN TOUCH

In order for us work together, to best support our young people, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have information to share regarding the safeguarding or wellbeing of your child.

Please contact Mrs K Peckover, Mrs M Nutt or any DSL or member of the Wellbeing Team.

Any such information will always be treated confidentially.

School Fund and Match Fund

Please visit the school website for more information on School Fund contributions and Match Fund through your employer.

5 Foundations of Effective Attendance Practice

You will be aware that we have adopted the 5 Foundations framework to manage and monitor attendance. There have been two monitoring letters now sent and you can expect further communication in early March. Please continue to ensure your child is in school every day and on time. Thank you for your ongoing support.



Foundation 1
Whole School Thinking
Culture & Climate



Foundation 2
Supportive Policies,
Systems and Processes



Foundation 3
Professional Learning
Staff Development



Foundation 4
Implement Targeted
Programmes And Intervention



Foundation 5
Connect Appropriately With
Approaches To
Behaviour Management

Reporting Student Absence

All students are required to attend school/college on time every day. If for any reason your child is unable to attend, please ensure that the school attendance policy is followed, and their absence is reported before the START of the school day (8.40am) and on each day of absence. Please provide a reason for their absence and the likely length of absence, if known.

Please call 0121 444 4161 and select OPTION 1.

If you receive a text message or phone call from school 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. **Please do not email staff to report an absence, this is not the procedure and your messages may be missed.**

Easy Fundraising

Our extra curricular and enrichment programme enriches the lives of young people in our school and gives them the opportunities to fulfil their full potential. Our programme runs 40 clubs per week ranging from book club to gymnastics.

Join easyfundraising and you can collect free donations for us every time you buy something online.

[VACANCIES - click here for details](#)

First Aid Reminders

Please inform the school of any new medical conditions or investigations. This is extremely important in helping us to correctly support your child's medical needs in school. We also need current emergency contact details; if these have changed you must contact the school with new details for our records.

Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Diabetes

Students diagnosed with Anaphylaxis must carry an Auto injector pen at all times on their person and a spare provided to first aid, this is in keeping with MHRA (Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency) Government agency recommendation that students should carry two Auto injector pens.

In order for your child to participate safely in trips and off-site activities, we will send with them the spare provided to first aid, in addition to the one they carry on them, so they have two with them following our school's policy for trips and off-site activities.

Other medications must be handed in to first aid or the trip lead on the day.

Emergency Contacts

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

Attendance Updates

Attendance Percentage	w/c 05/02/24
Year 7 - 94%	Late Marks
Year 8 - 94%	Year 7 - 19
Year 9 - 91%	Year 8 - 13
Year 10 - 89%	Year 9 - 56
Year 11 - 92%	Year 10 - 38
Whole School - 92%	Year 11 - 29

Uniform Standards

Students are required to wear the standard uniform of blazer, tie, white/blue shirt with black straight leg school trousers (not skinny or boot cut) or girls can wear a knee length black pleated school skirt. Girls are also reminded that if they choose to wear a skirt, then they should wear plain, black, opaque tights. Students are reminded that black leather school shoes should be worn and that trainers/trainer style shoes are forbidden.

Please note that school shoes must be kept completely black and boots of any kind are not allowed.

Our uniform requirements are complemented by a smart appearance and as such, hair styles that should not have a distinct contrast in length. Hair that is dyed must be of a natural hair colour and may not contain more than one colour. To avoid a health and safety risk, long hair must not impede vision or cover the face, except for a fringe which must not cover the eyes. Long hair must be tied up for practical lessons. Religious head coverings must be

black and securely tied for practical lessons. Hair bands or accessories must be for functional use to secure the hair. Where hairbands are worn they must be black. Headwear that has religious or cultural purpose should be black. The final decision as to whether a particular haircut/style is appropriate is at the discretion of senior staff.

Make up, nail varnish and jewellery are not permitted with the exception of one pair of plain stud earrings which may be worn.

Students found to be wearing an inappropriate item of uniform may be asked to change this or in some cases parents/carers will be contacted and requested to bring replacement uniform to school.

We appreciate your support in ensuring that standards of uniform and appearance are maintained.

Students are expected to be in full uniform travelling to and from school.

TWITTER

Official School Twitter
@BishopChalloner

Careers
@BCCareersSmart

Chaplaincy
@BC_Chaplaincy

Computing
@BishopChalComp

English Dept
@BC_EnglishDept

Green Group
@educating_eco

History
@bchistory_

Music Department
@BCPAmusic

PE Department
@BCPEDepartment

Teaching and Learning
@BcTeaching

Makes
@bc_makes

Wellbeing
@BCCCWellbeing

Chess
@bccchess

Performing Arts
@BCPAPA4

Social Sciences
@BCSocSciDept

Biology
@BCCbio

Sixth Form
@BCCCSix

Art Dept
@BCCChallonerArt

BFood Department
@BishopFood

Judo Club
@BCJudoClub

MFL
@BishopMfl

OLC
@BC_OLC

SGO
@BCSGO

Sports Centre
@BishopCentre

TSA
@bctsa_training

1-1 Maths
@BC11M1maths

Central Maths Hub
@centralmathshub

Central Midlands SLP
@CentralMidSLP

Geography
@BCGeogDept

Maths
@BCMathsDept

Friends of BC
@bc_friends

STEM
@STEMBC

Teach Computing Central
Midlands
@BCCComputingHub

Tolkien Cluster Schools
@PrimaryTolkien

YEAR 10 KEY DATES

School Open
Monday 19th February

**Teenage Cancer Trust -
Canteen**
Wednesday 21st February

**Y10 Geography
Longbridge Trip**
Monday 26th February,
Tuesday 27th February &
Thursday 29th February

**Y10 Health and Social
Care Controlled
Assessment**
Monday 4th March

**Y10 mid-year Maths
Mocks**
National Careers Week
w/b Monday 4th March

Careers Fair
World Book Day
Thursday 7th March

**Mothers Day Hamper
Raffle**
Friday 8th March

**Malympics
Parents' Sleep Workshop**
Wednesday 13th March

**BGT
Mothers Day Hamper
Raffle**

World Sleep Day
Friday 15th March

St Patrick's Day - Canteen
Monday 18th March

**Y10 Health and Social
Care Controlled
Assessment**
Monday 18th February -
Wednesday 20th March

**Y10 University of
Birmingham Visit**
School closes at 1.10pm
Tuesday 19th March

**Year 9/10 Sponsored
Football**
Sixth Form Easter Fair
Wednesday 20th March

Easter Hamper Raffle
Spring Cake Sale
Thursday 21st March

Easter Holiday
Monday 25th March -
Monday 8th April

BISHOP CHALLONER



CATHOLIC COLLEGE

SAVE THE DATE

MISSION STATEMENT

In our community of
Bishop Challoner Catholic College
we give glory to God by
developing our full potential
and in our service to others.
In the name of the Father
and of the Son
and the Holy Spirit.

Platinum Jubilee Remembrance Event

on

Thursday 25th April 2024

4.30pm-6.30pm

School Visit

Range of students' activities

7pm

Blessing

SCHOOL PRAYER

Who am I God?
Why am I here?
What do you want me to do?
You made me special to do something
wonderful in this life of mine.
Show me what I might be,
what I might do,
who I might help
and I'll do it for you.
Amen.