

# Head of Year 11

## February Half Term Newsletter

Mr Clarke, Head of Year  
Miss Williams, Assistant Head of Year



I want to begin the newsletter by thanking you for your attendance at the recent Year 11 consultation evening. The supportive conversations held are crucial in supporting students with their final preparation for the summer GCSE examinations. We were extremely proud of the way in which students conducted themselves during the mock examinations, the results were exceptional and highlight the excellent work happening in Year 11. Feedback from the mock examinations is an essential part of this in identifying any misconceptions and helping to target future revision. Study sessions continue each night and on top of this there are a number of targeted interventions happening across school. All interventions are running to support your child to achieve their potential and support in ensuring your child is attending is appreciated. If you would like to ask about any extra support/intervention, then please let me know. I will also be running two sessions on revision strategies for students on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st February if your child would like any help with how to revise.

### Revision Tips

A reminder of some key tips to support your revision!

Using all three stages of Revision to be most effective

#### How to use a learning checklist to boost your learning

Follow these steps to get the most out of a learning checklist.

**1** Get the learning checklist for your subject from your teacher.

**2** Complete the checklist for your chosen topic in the subject.

Use Red / Amber / Green or perhaps Sad / Neutral / Happy faces for each statement in the checklist, as follows:

**Red** In an test right now I would get less than a **quarter** of the marks in questions about this.

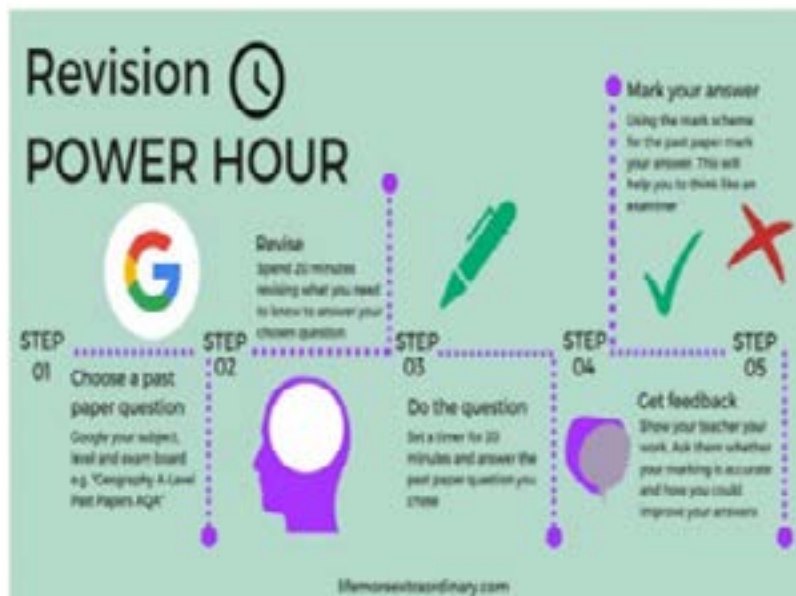
**Amber** In an test right now I would get around **half** of the marks in questions about this.

**Green** In an test right now I would get more than **two-thirds** of the marks in questions about this.

**3** Use the checklist ratings to help you choose the right study or revision activity for the topic, as suggested on the next page.

PHASE 1 CONTENT	PHASE 2 SKILLS	PHASE 3 FEEDBACK
Preparing a revision wall to display your learning	Writing exam answers under timed conditions	Comparing model answers with your own
Creating flash cards to cover content	Planning responses to past questions	Creating your own exam questions
Highlighting / colour coding notes	Reading through model answers	Handing in extra work for marking
Remaking class notes		Marking your own work to a mark scheme
Making mind maps, diagrams or graphic organisers		Studying mark schemes and examiner reports
Reading through class notes		One-to-one discussions with teacher/tutor
Reading through course text books		Working with other pupils to compare answers
Watching online videos		

Try the power hour



## Tutees of the Term

Well done to the following students who have been nominated for tutee of the term due to the fantastic work they have produced this term.

11BER-	Alexander C and Benedict M
11BOS-	Jeffrey T and Lewis M
11CEC-	Ryan M and Jack W
11LUK-	Hannah C and Zikora C
11SEB-	Siobhan C and Katie M
11TER-	Emily S and Frances A

Well done to these students for all of their outstanding work this half term!

## Charity

As a year group the students continue to contribute to charity, and this continued into the final week of term as the form group 11BOS ran a cake sale to raise money for St Chads Sanctuary. Next half term 11BER will be running a raffle for a St Patrick's Day Hamper and 11SEB organizing a football competition on Thursday 29th February. We thank all students for their continued commitment to the school Charity effort.

## Form Competitions

As one of our many form competitions running, all students were tasked with designing a form badge based on their saint. Year 11 have produced some fabulous entries, and all winners will be announced in the first week of the next half term. Shown below is one of the entries from 11TER.



## 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

## Sport

Well done to the boys' football team who made it through to the semi-finals of the West Midlands Cup, where they were one game away from a final being played at Villa Park. Unfortunately the cup run ended as they lost the semi-final 2-1 against Arthur Terry after a great game. The team are still in the semi final of the Birmingham Cup and we wish them all the success in this competition.



## Trips

We have two trips going off in the final week of this half term, with Year 11 students going to Iceland and Berlin. We wish all students going on these trips a wonderful time!

## 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.

## 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.

## 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.**

## 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.

**VACANCIES**  
[click here for details](#)

## 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.

## YEAR 11 KEY DATES

**School Open**  
Monday 19th February

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

**Y11 DT Intervention**  
Friday 23rd February

**National Careers Week**  
w/b Monday 4th March

**Careers Fair**  
**World Book Day**  
Thursday 7th March

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

Y11 Food Practical Exam  
Monday 11th March - Wednesday 13th March &  
Friday 15th March

Y11 Biology Mock  
Monday 11th March

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

**BGT**  
**Mothers Day Hamper Raffle**  
**World Sleep Day**  
Friday 15th March

Y11 Chemistry Mock  
**St Patrick's Day - Canteen**  
Monday 18th March

**School closes at 1.10pm**  
Tuesday 19th March

**Sixth Form Easter Fair**  
Wednesday 20th March

**Easter Hamper Raffle**  
**Spring Cake Sale**  
Thursday 21st March

**Easter Holiday**  
Monday 25th March - Monday 8th April

# 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**

## 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.

## 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

## School Fund and Match Fund

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

**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.