

# Head of Year 11



## October Half Term Newsletter

### Miss Sadler, Head of Year Mrs Whelan, Assistant Head of Year

Year 11 have had a fantastic first half term. The year group have returned to school after the summer showing a level of maturity and commitment to their studies that they should be very proud of. Taking over as their new Head of Year from September has been a huge honour to see them working hard towards fulfilling their full potential.

### Mini Mocks

Year 11 have recently completed their mini mocks, and I want to congratulate them on their focus and dedication throughout this period. The mini mocks provided students with an opportunity to practice some exam papers and allow them to become more familiar with the format of papers and questions that they will see in the summer. Parents can discuss the results from these mini mocks at the up coming parents evening in November.

### Classcharts and Teams

I would like to take this opportunity to point you in the direction of important information for students. We are all now familiar with Classcharts, which is used primarily for students to access homework and announcements as well as being a portal for behaviour points to be viewed. Parents and carers also have access to Classcharts should they wish to view this information. Students all have a school email which also provides them with access to Teams, many teachers use Teams to share useful revision documentation and students have all had a demonstration on how to access this information.

### Parents Information Evening

Earlier this week Year 11 parents/carers were invited into our school for an evening to learn about how we can work together to support year 11 students in their final year of key stage 4. Heads of department worked together to create a single space on Teams where students can access revision materials for every subject, meaning both parents and students can have easy access to topic overviews and knowledge organisers. Going forwards, students are being provided with a revision technique of the week, which they can then apply to a subject or topic area and show parents how it has worked for them. The revision technique of the week and the full pack from the parents information evening will be available on the school website.

### Parents Information Evening

Year 11 Parent Consultation Afternoon will be held on Wednesday 16th November from 8.30pm-5.30pm.

Appointments will be made by your child's Consultation Tutor, you will also have the opportunity to speak to their subject teachers.

### Open Evening

Just a few weeks into term our Year 11 students took on the responsibility of being tour guides to show 6-year prospective students around our school. Year 11 did a fantastic job, and we were all incredibly proud of them as they spoke to parents of prospective students about their time here at Bishop Challoner. I have received countless emails from visitors on that evening expressing their gratitude to the mature and polite students who were a credit to our school on that evening.

### Personal Development Day

In the penultimate week of this half term year 11 had a personal development day. We were very proud to welcome guest speaker Rob Pedley MBE who talked about the consequences of our actions. Students focused on life skills such as budgeting and freedom of speech. The feedback from students has been overwhelmingly positive, they found the day both enjoyable and informative.



### Careers interviews

Careers interviews have begun this half term with two Careers Advisers who we have welcomed from Birmingham Careers Service; Andrea Goan and Baljit Auglia. Both Advisers have a breadth of experience delivering careers advice to young people, in schools and in the community. Feedback from students who have had careers interviews already has been really positive.

*"Very helpful and understanding"*

**TALK TO YOUR CAREERS ADVISERS**

BIRMINGHAM CAREERS SERVICE  
ADVISE GUIDANCE JOBS

*"I really liked how I found out what I could do to find a career I enjoyed working in"*

BISHOP CHALLONER SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

# OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 9th November

6pm - 8.30pm

[Click here to book your place](#)



## Year of Character

Every year we have a theme that links to the Catholic values at the heart of our school. This year is our 'Year of Character', focusing on developing our character as it becomes our destiny. This term's values are 'compassionate' and 'loving'. Our recent donation to St Chads Sanctuary has been just one demonstration of our students developing their compassion.

## Football

Year 11 boys have had a successful start to their football competitions - having played 2 and won 2 games. Games have been won against Colmers and UOB school away, with some fantastic goals scored, strong goal keeping and good leadership from their captain. Well done!



## A Message from Year 11 Council Representatives

Year 11 started with a run up to the mini mocks. Initially this seemed like it could be quite stressful as we had to get used to doing more revision than ever before. However, the amount was manageable and now we understand what's going to come in the summer - so that has helped us to be able to prepare better for this. Class teachers were also helpful in making sure we knew what we had to do.

Initially the shift to year 11 seems quite daunting, but really it isn't, as there is so much support in place with things like revision sessions, and regular testing. Overall, it's been fine as we feel very supported.

**Lina Babi and George Wormwall**

## Assemblies

Assemblies so far this term have covered a range of topics such as Black History Month, mental health, guest speakers from the Samaritans, and spiritual life. These are all serious issues that are important to discuss in school. Students are reminded that if they have any worries or concerns over these topics, they should speak to parents, carers or an adult in school. Mental health issues continue to crop up in school and this will continue, especially as we move closer to Year 11 examinations, we will continue to support all students and will continue to guide them with what to do if they are struggling.

BISHOP CHALLONER SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

# T-LEVELS



Wednesday 23rd  
November  
5.30pm-6.30pm

[Click here to book your tickets](#)

# LAUNCH LAUNCH EVENT





## 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.

## Vacancies

Please [click here](#) to visit our school website for open vacancies.

## First Aid Reminder

If your child has asthma or anaphylaxis they should always be carrying an inhaler/epi-pen with them. If a student is due to go off site for PE or a trip and they do not have an inhaler with them this may result in them being unable to participate, this is for their own safety.

## 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 and will not be widely shared.

## Parenting Groups

Please visit our website by [clicking here](#) to view upcoming webinars from the Schools and Colleges Early Support Service.

Groups include:

- Adolescent self-harm
- Managing teen behaviour
- Anxiety in adolescence
- Strong teen emotions
- Building resilience

## 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.

## 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 (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.

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.

## Reporting Student Absence

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

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

If 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. Please do not email staff to report an absence, this is not the procedure and your messages may be missed.

## KEY DATES

**School Open (Week 2)**  
Monday 31st October

**Year 11 Trip Inspector Calls**  
Wednesday 30th November

**Geography Carding Mill Valley**  
Monday 31st October -  
Wednesday 2nd November

**Christmas Presence Day**  
Tuesday 6th December

**Sixth Form Open Evening  
A Service of Remembrance**  
Wednesday 9th November

**Chirstmaths Day  
PE Reward Trip**  
Wednesday 7th December

**Remembrance Day**  
Friday 11th November

**Christmas Show**  
Thursday 8th December

**Year 11 French Speaking Mocks**  
Monday 14th November -  
Friday 18th November

**School Closed  
Year 7, 8 & 10 Parent Consultations**  
Friday 9th December

**Colm Smyth Toy Appeal Begins**  
Tuesday 15th November

**PE Aspirations**  
Monday 12th December

**School finishes at 2.30pm  
Year 11 Consultation Evening**  
Wednesday 16th November

**Christmas Lunch**  
Tuesday 13th December

**PE Aspirations**  
Wednesday 14th December

**T Level Launch Event  
Canteen - Mexican Day**  
Wednesday 23rd November

**Christmas Jumper Day £1 Donation  
Nativity of the Lord Mass**  
Thursday 15th December

**Bishop's Got Talent**  
Friday 25th November

**School Closed Staff INSET**  
Friday 16th December

**Year 11 Mock Cycle**  
Monday 28th November -  
Friday 16th December

## TWITTER

Official School  
Twitter  
@BishopChalloner

Wellbeing  
@BCCWellbeing

Sports Centre  
@BishopCentre

Careers  
@BCCareersSmart

Chess  
@bcchess

TSA  
@bctsa\_training

Chaplaincy  
@BC\_Chaplaincy

Performing Arts  
@BCPAPA4

1-1 Maths  
@BC11M1maths

Computing  
@BishopChalComp

Social Sciences  
@BCSocSciDept

Central Maths Hub  
@centralmathshub

English Dept  
@BC\_EnglishDept

Biology  
@BCCbio

Central Midlands  
SLP  
@CentralMidSLP

Green Group  
@educating\_eco

Sixth Form  
@BCCCSix

Geography  
@BCGeogDept

History  
@bchistory\_

Art Dept  
@BCChallonerArt

Maths  
@BCMthsDept

Music Department  
@BCPAmusic

BFood Department  
@BishopFood

Friends of BC  
@bc\_friends

PE Department  
@BCPEDepartment

Judo Club  
@BCJudoClub

STEM  
@STEMBC

Teaching and Learning  
@BcTeaching

MFL  
@BishopMfl

Teach Computing  
Central Midlands  
@  
BCComputingHub

Makes  
@bc\_makes

SGO  
@BCSGO

Tolkien Cluster  
Schools  
@PrimaryTolkien

## Class Charts and Teams

Class Charts and Teams are now being used fully in all lessons to set homework and provide lesson resources for students to refer back to after the lesson. We are all aware of how valuable the netbooks are for providing access to learning from home. This has of course allowed us to no longer use the planners as all of the information can be accessed electronically. The use of Class Charts by parents is also very helpful as the rewards and conduct logs can also be easily monitored at home. If, as a parent, you have not yet been able to access class charts, please get in touch with me at [c.sadler@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:c.sadler@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk) and I will be able to provide you with the parent login code.

## Fizzy Drinks and Chewing Gum

Please be reminded fizzy drinks and chewing gum are prohibited in school. Students should not be in possession of either of these in school; they will be confiscated and disposed.

## School Fund and Match Fund

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

## CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL

Please give new toys (unwrapped) for our local children in Birmingham for all age groups ranging from 0-15 years

Collection Dates:  
Monday 31st October -  
Thursday 8th December

Irish TV are are visiting  
St Anne's Parish Centre,  
B12 0PA on Thursday 13th  
December