

Head of Year 7



May Half Term Newsletter

Miss Beard, Head of Year Mr Fell, Assistant Head of Year

Welcome to the end of another exciting half term for Year 7. In their penultimate half term, many students have had the delights of a trip to Porto to train as professional footballers do, many experienced a competition for Debate Mate in which our students excelled, many are eagerly awaiting the day trip to France, many have engaged in Ball Crew and will continue to represent our school on an international stage, many have taken part in myriad clubs and opportunities including a plethora of computing activities, book clubs galore, a range of artistic clubs and not to forget the music and sporting events forever taking center stage at the heart of our extra-curricular clubs. I cannot express our pride in our young pupils conscientiously and diligently fulfilling their potential in all of the exciting opportunities which we offer.

St Chad's Sanctuary

7LUK have led the way with a cake sale raising money for St Chad's Sanctuary and we look forward to future events inspired and planned by our year group. Well done. An exciting event coming up where we as a Year group will really help our community is the Year 7 disco. We wish to celebrate all of the hard work, effort, and achievements Year 7 have shown over the last academic year and as such will be hosting an end of school disco on Wednesday 19th July. Their first year deserves to be celebrated and tickets for this event will be available shortly after the half term. It would be lovely to see members of our Year group come together.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Esther and Archie who were both invited to afternoon tea with Dr Coughlan, the Principal, due to their amazing hard work and dedication all year. Congratulations to Olivia, Neo, Esther, Joseph to name but a handful of those showing amazing commitment to reading. Congratulations to Grace, Holly, Petro, Jacob, Abbey, Joseph, Cian, Torin, Caitlin, Louis and Zachary for the astounding amount of positive logs accrued since the last newsletter.

A massive congratulations to our musicians who performed for those in our community who live with Alzheimer's disease: Nigel, Zac, Lexie, Grace and Ailish. A massive congratulations also to the Year 7 girls football Team; to say their performance has been impressive is somewhat of an understatement.

P2 Assessments

Over the last two weeks Year 7 have been working hard and revising diligently for their P2 assessments in school. I have seen flashcards in the corridors over breaks and lunches, students testing each other, a great use of ICT to aid revision, not to mention the hard work students have put in at home and the unseen hours of revision which I am sure will pay dividends. Such effort is to be commended and I hope our young people get a well-deserved break over the Whitsun half term. Parents/carers and students alike will receive the outcome of these tests after half term. In the interim, I challenge every student to look at their assessments, their positives and the areas that were more challenging to seek continual improvements.

Year of Character

In our Year of Character, one trait we wish to instill in all our pupils is resilience. This is not the absence of adversity, but the strength to rise above it, the courage to endure and the determination to thrive despite it all. We are aware that assessments create some stress in our pupils but are proud of how they have persevered. All students are aware that they can talk to any member of staff at any point should they require some support, guidance or just a friendly pep talk.

Another two character traits we have been working on are our eloquence and ability to collaborate. In deepening our understanding of the Saints who underpin our Forms, every form has been tasked with the creation of an assembly, providing information using mixed media to enlighten our community about the Catholic faith. This was commenced by a brilliant assembly by 7LUK on Thursday 18th May. The artwork, presentation, and posters of information by 7LUK were impressive and their clarity of expression was skillfully delivered. It was lovely to witness all members of the form come together to enlighten and provide worship for our school. Speaking aloud to 200 members of the community is a hard task at which point we offer special congratulations to all of those who spoke so eloquently.

Summer Uniform Standards

From Monday 5th June 2023, in the event of warm weather it will not be compulsory for students to wear a blazer, they will be able to wear just a shirt and tie. If a second layer is required, it must be a blazer and not any other item such as a hoody or outdoor coat.

There is no requirement to purchase any additional uniform items.

Students will be permitted to wear skin tone or black tights.

All other uniform requirements will remain unchanged.

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.

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. Headscarves must be black. Braids are allowed. 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.

Skirts

From September 2023 only a black pleated skirt will be permitted to be worn as part of school uniform. Pleated skirts are available from Clive Mark as well as other school uniform retailers. To avoid any additional expense for families, if your child has a straight skirt (not stretchy, lycra or tight fitting) that still fits, this can be worn during the first half term, from October half term onwards, all skirts will need to be pleated of knee to mid calf worn on the waist not the hips (maximum of 5cm above the knee).

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

Timings of the school day - September 2023

[Click here](#) for more information.

Monday to Thursday: Start: 8.40am. Finish: 3.20pm

Friday: Start: 8.40am. Finish: 2.30pm

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.**

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.

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.

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.

Netbook Programme Changes

There has recently been a change to the Bishop Challoner Catholic College's netbook program, relating to the payment process. Birmingham Education Foundation for Learning (BeLF) no longer exists. We have therefore, moved to a new donation management organisation called Learning Foundation; more information can be found at learningfoundation.org.uk.

You will receive communication directly from learning foundation regarding this change, and a link to set up a new direct debit to them. You're advised to cancel all direct debit payments to Birmingham Education Foundation for Learning (BeLF) with immediate effect. Payment plans in terms of amount and duration, will remain the same as previous.

If you have any questions relating to this, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

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 their medication with them this may result in them being unable to participate, this is for their own safety.

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 www.easyfundraising.org.uk and you can collect free donations for us every time you buy something online.

KEY DATES

School Open
Monday 5th June

Cricket Trip
Wednesday 7th June

Foodbank Collection Starts
Monday 12th June

Sports Day
Friday 16th June

Ball Crew
Saturday 17th June - Sunday 25th June

KS3 DT Reward Trip
Tuesday 20th June

**Catholic Games STEM
Charity Day - Canteen**
Wednesday 21st June

Day Trip to France
Friday 23rd June

**Creativity Week
Science Week**
Monday 26th June - Friday 30th June

Careers Fair
Tuesday 27th June

Catholic Games PE
Thursday 29th June

**Cyber Reward Trip
Ball Crew Trip**
Monday 3rd July

USA Day - Canteen
Wednesday 5th July

Year 6 Induction Days
Wednesday 5th July - Thursday 7th July

Retreat Day
Wednesday 12th July

Battle of the Bands
Thursday 13th July

**School Closed for Parent Consultation Day
(7, 9, 10)**
Friday 14th July

PE Aspiration
Monday 17th July

Sponsored Football
Tuesday 18th July

**Lickey Hills TBC
Year 7 Disco 6pm-8pm**
Wednesday 19th July

PE Reward Trip
Thursday 20th July

**Last Day of Term
Warwick Castle**
Friday 21st July

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
@BCChallonerArt

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
@BCComputingHub

Tolkien Cluster Schools
@PrimaryTolkien