

Head of Year 8



February Half Term Newsletter

Mr Brown, Head of Year
Miss Crutchley, Assistant Head of Year

We have been incredibly pleased to welcome back our students in the New Year. Our students continue to positively represent themselves, our school and the wider community, regularly demonstrating the Character Virtues we promote.

Christmas Toy Appeal

For years at Bishop Challoner, we have supported the Christmas Shoe Box appeal to ensure that children from across the world receive a gift on Christmas morning. For the second year running, we teamed up with the Birmingham Irish Association to support families in Birmingham facing the struggle of buying gifts for their children at Christmas.

As part of this appeal, we asked staff and students across the school to donate new toys for various age groups. Bishop Challoner managed to raise enough to fund a voucher at a local toy store in Solihull, at which several students volunteered to choose toys that were added to the whole-school collection.

Amongst others, some Year 8 students were directly involved in visiting St Anne's Community Centre in Birmingham to perform to approximately 80 elderly members of the community as part of the Christmas Toy appeal handover on Tuesday 13 December. Well done to all those who took part in such a significant event.

T1 Assessments

The Spring Term has been an incredibly important time for Year 8 students at Bishop Challoner. Our students have undertaken their Transition 1 or T1 assessments in a number of subjects. These assessments are the mid-point of our students' learning in Key Stage 3 and will subsequently be influential in determining group changes before the next academic year.

We have been pleased to see that the vast majority of our students enacted thorough preparation and organisation in order to successfully complete these assessments. In the weeks following the half-term break, students can expect to receive feedback from their class teachers in response to these assessments.

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.

Challoner Champion

During the course of this academic year, our whole-school focus is on the Year of Character. This focus is based on the recognition that the opportunities we provide for students to display virtue will inevitably lead to the greater development of their character.

Each week, we celebrate a student in Year 8 who has made an exceptional contribution to the year group by exhibiting our Character Virtues. Since Christmas, the following students have received the award in assembly: Matteo A, Isabelle O'K, Nathaniel O, Ola B.

Congratulations to all those who have received this award on behalf of the school.

Bishop's Got Talent

Across the academic year, we host Bishop's Got Talent events that are facilitated by each respective subject area. In December, Terrance B, Tristan B and Ellis C showcased their footballing skills at the PE edition of Bishop's Got Talent. More recently, Ethan E, Albright M and Brandon M showed off their basketball expertise in the same subject.

Our Annual Spelling Bee was facilitated by the English Department toward the end of January, during which our Year 8 students supported the Year 7 students taking part. Several students attempted the Geography 'build a favela' challenge, before which Mrs Newton organised a bookmark making workshop on behalf of the library.

Bishop's Got Talent events will continue on a regular basis and present an invaluable chance for our students to become further integrated in the school community.

Looking Ahead

Year 8 have an array of fantastic opportunities to look forward to over the ensuing months. Trips include a visit to the Black Country Museum; an excursion to London to watch The Tempest; an upcoming Italian skiing trip; a Portuguese football development experience; and our annual outing to Drayton Manor! As we continue the academic year, we hope that our students continually strive to exemplify the Character Virtues that we expect to see.

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

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 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 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.

Scarves

A recent trend appears to be the wearing of scarves. Scarves should only be worn with a coat and should not be worn inside, the same as coats.

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.

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.

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.

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
@BCCSix

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
@BCMthsDept

Friends of BC
@bc_friends

STEM
@STEMBC

Teach Computing Central
Midlands
@BCComputingHub

Tolkien Cluster Schools
@PrimaryTolkien

KEY DATES

School Open
Monday 27th February

**Year 8 Black Country
Museum**
Thursday 2nd March

**Girls Active Event
Primary Computing Year
8 & 9**
Friday 3rd March

Yeare 8-13 Careers Fair
Thursday 9th March

The Tempest Year 8 Trip
Friday 10th March

Ski Trip - Italy
Sunday 12th March -
Saturday 18th March

**Foobank Collection
begins**
Monday 13th March

Year 8 STEM Event
Thursday 16th March

**St Patrick's Day - Canteen
Wear Green Day £1**
Friday 17th March

Spring Soiree
Wednesday 22nd March

Quiz Night for Trips
Thursday 23rd March

PE Reward Trip
Friday 24th March

**Fox Hollie's Training
PE Aspiration**
Monday 27th March

Primary Concert
Tuesday 28th March

**Year 7 & 8 Sponsored
Football**
**Year 8 Parent
Consultation Afternoon
Early Closure - TBC**
Wednesday 29th March

**Last day of Term
Easter Mass
Foodbank ends
Quiz Night for Trips TBC**
Thursday 30th March

**School Closed -
Staff INSET**
Friday 31st March



Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School
Tritford Road, Yardley Wood, Birmingham, B13 0EU
Tel: 0121 444 2684
Website: www.ourladyoflourdesprimary.com

Teacher

The Governors of this successful and very popular Catholic school wish to appoint an enthusiastic, well-motivated teacher who is passionate about teaching & learning and who has high expectations of pupil achievement and behaviour. **The vacancy is for part time class teaching (2 days) and part time tutoring (3 days)**

This is a fixed term contract in the first instance (4/5 days per wk) starting **April 2022** (or sooner if available before Easter)
This job is suitable for ECT's and those who are suitably qualified are encouraged to apply
Candidates on all pay scales will be considered

We can offer you:

- A happy and caring school with a very strong Catholic ethos where we live our faith with Christ at the centre as we live, love and learn together
- Children who love to come to school, who are engaged in their learning and have excellent behaviour, together with parents who are exceptionally supportive of the school
- An innovative and exciting curriculum that continues to evolve
- An opportunity to join a highly effective team of teachers and support staff who are committed to the school and the children
- A very supportive & knowledgeable Governing Body and Senior Leadership Team who are committed to maintaining high standards
- Excellent opportunities for professional development
- Excellent Parish Links with Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church and opportunities to participate in Staff Pilgrimage, retreats and ongoing personal spiritual development
- A laptop and iPad to support you in fulfilling your role

We are looking for:

- A practising Catholic with a firm commitment to their parish/the Catholic ethos of our school
- An excellent teacher with an ability to raise the attainment and progress of all children (including SEND, Pupil Premium and those who are more able)
- Someone with a good knowledge of the curriculum and interesting teaching ideas
- Someone with the necessary experience in all key stages or a willingness to develop those skills
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, confidence and can demonstrate effective teamwork/collaboration in our very strong team
- Someone willing to build strong and supportive relationships with pupils, parents, support agencies, governors and staff
- A teacher who will become fully involved in the wider life of the school and parish

Visits to the school are strongly recommended before application. To make an appointment please contact Susan McGrath, School Business Manager on 0121 444 2684. CES Application Packs are available on the school website for interested candidates at the following link - <https://www.ourladyoflourdesprimary.com/vacancies-at-olol/>

Dates for school visits: To be arranged with office direct on above telephone number
Closing Date for Applications: Friday 17th March 2023
Interviews: Thursday 23rd March 2023 TBC

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. All staff are expected to share this commitment. All appointments made will be subject to receipt of satisfactory references, receipt of an enhanced DBS Check and the necessary identity and right to work checks being made. The successful candidate will be required to sign a Catholic Education Service contract of Employment. Please note we do not accept CVs as part of our application process and only the documents on the school website should be completed.

Staff considering applying to Our Lady of Lourdes should read our Safeguarding pages and the Pay Policy on the school website.

Fizzy Drinks & 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 of.

Advertise with us...

Newsletter sponsorship

BC14 and newsletter space available.

Contact g.noone@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk
Tel:- 0121 4444161.

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.

School Fund and Match Fund

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

TUESDAY 21ST FEBRUARY
BRING IT ON BRUM!
FAMILY FOOD FESTIVAL

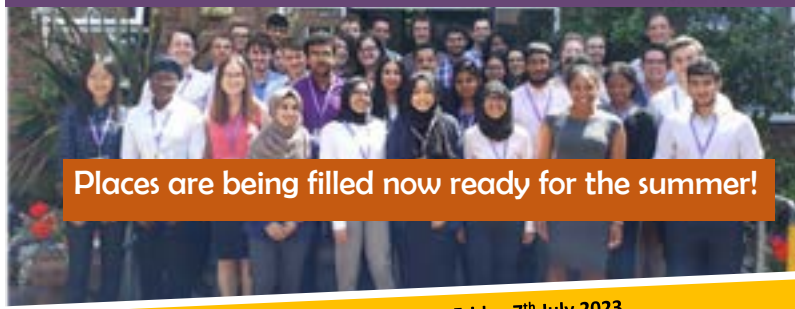
Bring it on Brum @ **BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE**

50 FREE PLACES AVAILABLE
OPEN TO ALL
FREE LUNCH INCLUDED
AGES 9 TO 16 must be accompanied by an adult
10AM TO 2PM
FREE FOOD HAMPER

REGISTER NOW
<https://forms.office.com/e/XdQLjITBRY>
Once you have registered, you will be allocated a 1 hour time slot for your workshop.
Children must be accompanied by an adult

10-12 TIME SLOT AVAILABLE

TEACHING INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME



Places are being filled now ready for the summer!

3 weeks @
£300 per week

Monday 19th June to Friday 7th July 2023
Apply **now** for a place on this popular programme!



Have you ever thought about a career in teaching Physics, Computing, Maths, Chemistry, or Languages?



Are you currently studying for an under-grad degree in these or a related subject (in any year)?

If so, apply to take part in our Teaching Internship Programme. Spend 3 weeks on our programme and discover the power of teaching to improve the life chances of students. Previous interns unfortunately cannot apply. Interviews taking place now!

Apply now: <https://forms.office.com/e/Wxjse7Zt5r>

www.bctsa.org

