

Head of Year 8



May Half Term Newsletter

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

We are now in the final term of the academic year and feel incredibly proud of the way in which students in Year 8 continue to positively represent themselves, our school and the wider community. As we look towards the end of the academic year, we hope that all students continually strive to exemplify the Character Virtues that we expect to see.

Looking Ahead

Year 8 have an array of fantastic opportunities to look forward to over the ensuing months. Exciting rewards will be announced shortly for those students with a certain number of positive logs recorded on Class Charts. Sports Day is taking place after the half-term, presenting a chance for all students in KS3 to be actively involved. In July, some students will be heading to Disneyland Paris! .

Cyber Girls Workshop

Just before the Easter holiday, a group of Year 8 girls were invited to Aston University to take part in A Cyber Girls Workshop. The event featured a variety of engaging and interactive activities, including working with two life-sized robots and drones. Some of our own students won prizes at the event, with Annabelle M fortunate enough to win an iPad!

School Sanctions

There has been some confusion amongst students with regard to the issuing of sanctions for poor behaviour. We are aware that the vast majority of Year 8 students behave impeccably around the school site and regularly accrue positive feedback on Class Charts. The information below is in relation to Head of Year detentions, which are detentions led by myself or Miss Crutchley.

Head of Year detentions are issued for two negative logs that have not already been actioned by relevant staff. For instance, if a student had a negative log in one subject and also had a detention from that member of staff, it would not count toward the two weekly logs. Similarly, logs related to punctuality would not contribute because a sanction is automatically issued.

Occasionally, a student will receive more than one detention due to take place on the same day. In this instance, one of those detentions is likely to be moved to another day. Any further information about a positive or negative log can be ascertained from relevant staff or if necessary, from myself or Miss Crutchley. We wholly appreciate your continued support of our high standards.

Challoner Champion

During the course of this academic year, our whole-school focus is still 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.

A significant number of Year 8 students display these characteristics frequently and as such, we start assembly each week by celebrating a student in Year 8 who has made an exceptional contribution to the year group. Since returning after the Easter holiday, the following students have received the award Bella F, Maddox C, Jenson C, Sophie L, Finley H, Ryan B, Steev B, Mary N.

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

Black Country Museum

In March, the History Department offered Year 8 students an invaluable opportunity to visit the Black Country Museum in Dudley to learn about Birmingham's industrial past. The visit involved a day at the museum, supported by a tour guide who focused on the lives and experiences of people who lived during the period.

Part of the day was interactive, allowing students to participate in a 19th century school lesson and to watch a show on the dangers of coal mining. The trip was a huge success, serving to support children in their studies of the Industrial Revolution; a topic which they explored in their lessons prior to the trip and in their understanding of the region.

Sports Trips

There have been two excellent sporting trips since our last Newsletter: the Year 8 and 9 Ski Trip, and KS3 Boys Football Trip to Porto. Both of these trips were a huge success, with staff in attendance and others commenting on the way in which students of Bishop Challoner generally conducted themselves.

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.

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

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

School Fund and Match Fund

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

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.

KEY DATES

**School Open
Immunisation TBC**
Monday 5th June

Cricket Trip
Wednesday 7th June

8BER/BOS Sponsored Jog
Thursday 8th June

Foodbank Collection Starts
Monday 12th June

Paris Parent Meeting, 5pm
Thursday 15th 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

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

Careers Fair
Tuesday 27th June

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

School Closed for Year 8
Wednesday 5th July

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

Paris Trip
Monday 10th July - Thursday 13th 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

PE Reward Trip
Thursday 20th July

Last Day of Term
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

@BCCWellbeing

Chess
@bcchess

Performing Arts
@BCPAPA4

Social Sciences
@BCSocSciDept

Biology
@BCCbio

Sixth Form
@BCCSix

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