Head of Year 8

May Half Term Newsletter

Miss Sadler, Head of Year
Mr Brade, Assistant Head of Year

We are already halfway through the final term in year 8 – and it has been a full and eventful year so far. Pupils have participated in a huge range of extracurricular activities on a regular basis, as well as attending one off events and trips. During lessons, pupils have covered a huge amount of content across all of their subjects and completed their Key Assessment Point 3 examinations. We know it has been a busy year, going forwards I hope that year 8 maintain the same level of energy, enthusiasm for learning and focus for the final half term.

Looking Ahead

We celebrated our schools platinum jubilee this year with our 70th year. Standards across Year 8 took part in a variety of special celebration activities including a bake-off challenge and creating a video of our school prayer in every language spoken by pupils in our school! If you attended the Spring Fayer on the 25th April we hope you enjoyed the celebrations, and got an opportunity to see the work which Year 8 had put into the event.





Boreatton Park PGL Netball Tour

Students from Year 7 – 10 travelled to Boreatton Park PGL for a weekend of netball and outdoor activities. The students enjoyed taking part in the netball tournament and played very well against some tough teams. They remained positive and ensured good teamwork in their hardest matches. The combined Year 9/10 did extremely well, making it to the semifinals, but lost out on a place in the finals to a strong side. They came 3rd overall.

When students weren't on the netball courts, they enjoyed the activities put on by PGL staff, including climbing, abseiling, zip line and giant swing. It was a lovely weekend and enjoyed by all.





Assemblies and Form Time

This half term pupils have learnt about a range of topics during assemblies and form time. During assemblies we have covered topics focused on our Catholic life; such as The Ascension and Bishop Richard Challoner. Assemblies have also covered some important messages such as our standards for learning and personal responsibility. Form time resources have recently covered allergy awareness, revision techniques and hygiene. Additionally students have been spending our third afternoon form of each week with a focus on prayer and worship, providing them with time and opportunity to reflect on different messages each week.

Maths Challenge

Last month thirty-five pupils in year 8 were selected to participate in a math challenge. Two students, Nigel Tong and Petro Yermak, received gold certificates, and are going to complete the next level of the challenge (the Kangaroo). A huge congratulations to them. A further six students achieved silver certificates: Joseph Waide, Jacob Bailey, Ailish Cleary, Samuel Morris, Antoni Malinowski and Florence Bailey – well done. Eleven more students achieved bronze certificates.





Year 8 Personal Development Day

On the 18th April year 8 had a personal development day. Throughout the day pupils participated in lessons on a range of important topics to support their wider personal development. During period one all pupils went to the auditorium for an engaging guest speaker from a charity which supports victims of hate crime. Later sessions covered vitally important topics such as knife crime, group messaging and the law, gratitude and wellbeing. Feedback from the day was very positive. Thank you to all of the pupils in year 8 who engaged with these challenging topics in a mature and thoughtful manner.

An 800m Champion

A massive congratulations to Trinity C in year 8, who is now the Under-15 Warwickshire County 800m Champion. A brilliant achievement!







Year 8 Readathon

For world book day this year, year 8 pupils took part in a Readathon. They read throughout the day, and collected sponsorship to raise money for Chairty. The readathon raised an incredible £2602 for St Chads sanctuary. Reports of the day were fantastic – with pupils focused and engrossed in their books! Thank you to all pupils for their participation in raising money for our school charity.

Villarreal Football Trip

40 Year 7 and 8 students have recently been on tour to Spain and had the most amazing time in the glorious sunshine! Whilst overseas, they attended four training sessions at the prestigious Villarreal training ground and they were an absolute credit to our school. They enjoyed a stadium tour of Estadio de la Cerámica (which is Villareal's football ground) and also got to be spectators at the football match between Villareal and Real Madrid. The score was 4-1 to Real Madrid in the first half, and then Villareal scored 3 in the second half to make it 4-4. The students soaked up the atmosphere and had a wonderful evening. Whilst in Spain they enjoyed a tour of Valencia town centre and also had great fun in the hotel pool and playing football on the beach during downtime.





Summer Uniform Standards

From Monday 3rd June 2024, 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 and only in the event of extreme weather conditions will there be any further adjustments, these will be clearly communicated if required.

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.

Drinks

Fizzy drinks and energy drinks are not allowed in school, if they are seen they will be taken and disposed of. Please encourage your child to bring in a clear bottle of water, there are 2 water stations in school where they can re-fill alternatively they can purchase a drink from the canteen.

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.

This is particularly important if there has been a change in circumstances for the young person.

Please contact Mrs K Peckover, Mrs M Nutt or any DSL or member of the Wellbeing Team.

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.

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. Thank you for your co-operation.

First Aid Reminders

In the case of an Emergency it is imperative we can contact parents or carers, please make sure you provide your current contact numbers to the school and inform of any changes.

It is important to stay hydrated all year round please provide your child with a water bottle so they can refill at our water stations around school.

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.

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.

Asthma

Asthma is a chronic long term condition, it can be well managed and in many cases some don't suffer severely, however if you have been diagnosed with Asthma even if you have it well managed you must carry an inhaler on you.

Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Diabetes

In order for your children to participate safely with Trips and offsite events including offsite PE, they must carry their medication with them. This is imperative for their safety and to avoid disappointment if unable to participate. Other medications must be handed in to first aid or the trip lead on the day.

First Aid Emails

Please be advised First Aid may contact you regarding your child visiting during the school day or informing you of an expiry date on your child's medication. **The email address of such communication will be from donotreply@medicaltracker.co.uk, please read these emails.**

X Accounts

Sixth Form @ BCCCSix	Careers @ BCCareersSmart	English dept @ BC_EnglishDept	DT dept @ bc_makes	History dept @ bchistory_
Wellbeing @ BcccWellbeing	Library @ BC_OLC	Maths dept @ BCMathsDept	PE dept @ BCPEDepartment	PA dept @ BCPAPA4
Chaplaincy @ BC_Chaplaincy	Sports Centre @ BishopCentre	Science dept @ BCSciDept	Computing dept @ BishopChalComp	Music dept @ BCPAmusic
SEND @ BishopSend	BCCatering @ BCCatering2	Biology @ BCCbio	MFL dept @ BishopMfl	Sociology dept @ BCSocSciDept
T&L @ BcTeaching	ECO @ education_eco	Art dept @ BChallonerArt	Food dept @ BishopFood	

KEY DATES

Summer Term 2	
Every Wednesday	BC Tea Party
Wednesday 12th June	Canteen - Italy Day
Saturday 15th June - Sunday 23rd June	KS3 Ball Crew
Wednesday 19th June	Thank a Teacher Day
Monday 24th June	Year 8 Aston Cyber Day
Thursday 27th June	Battle of the Bands Computing Reward Trip
Tuesday 2nd July	Culture Day KS3 Mass
Wednesday 3rd July	School Closed for Year 8 Students Year 6 Transition
Thursday 4th July	Year 6 Transition Canteen - USA Day
Friday 5th July	Sports Day Tuck Shop
Tuesday 9th July	Sports Day - Tudor Grange Leisure Centre Primary Concert Tuck Shop Primary Concert/Soiree
Friday 12th July	School closed for Year 7 & 10 Parent Consultation
Wednesday 17th July	Year 7 & 8 Sponsored Football
Thursday 18th July	Summer Cake Sale
Friday 19th July	Last day of term school finishes at 2.30pm
Monday 22nd July	School Closed - Staff INSET

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.

A recent leave in term time absence has resulted in a fine of £433. Please support the school and your child and ensure all leave is taken in the school holidays.

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.



Parent / Carer

Behaviour Workshop followed by Cuppa & Chat

Tuesday 4th June

-10:00am - 11:30am - Behaviour Workshop

-11:30am - 1:00pm - Cuppa & Chat (drop in)

@ BAYC, 581 Pershore Road, Birmingham, B29 7EL

To book onto the workshop please CLICK HERE or scan the QR Code above otherwise please do drop in for a Cuppa!

Behaviour Workshop
Run by Kelly Reed
Resources for Autism
Behaviour Manager West Midlands

Cuppa & Chat is a relaxed meet to share experiences, let of steam, offer support and advice to each other

Your welcome to come to one session or both !!

Limited onsite parking, but free road parking and 45 & 47 Bus stops nearby

for further information please email
kelly@resourcesforautism.org.uk

