

Head of Year 8

October Half Term Newsletter

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

Firstly, I would like to welcome back all of Year 8 and congratulate them on a fantastic start to the academic year. It has been a pleasure seeing how the year group have embraced the opportunities that a new school year provides. For Mr Brade and me, it has been a privilege to get to know more of the students in this year group. I am personally proud of how they are representing themselves and the school.



Assemblies and PSHE

Across assemblies and PSHE, Year 8 students have already covered a variety of messages. Assemblies have provided pupils with messages on personal safety and mental health. As a special anniversary for the school this year, we have covered some of our history and our character values, and how they continue to be relevant today. We have also used both form and assemblies to explore topics such as Black History Month, and European Languages.

The Science Museum

On Friday 29th September 93 students from Year 8 embarked on a trip to London. It was great to hear all about the day and the opportunities to explore the world of flight exploration and technicians – as well as a trip to the IMAX Theatre.

Thank you to Mrs Mayor for organising the trip, and to the students who went for their exemplary behaviour.

Drayton Manor

On Wednesday 27th September, approximately 700 students went to Drayton Manor. The trip was a great opportunity and enjoyable for everyone involved. We were particularly impressed with the conduct of Year 8 students on the day, representing the school and themselves in the best possible way to both staff and members of the public.



Football

Year 8 boys and under 14 girls football teams are now playing regular matches and have had some success at a number of fixtures already. Well done to Year 8 – we look forward to seeing some more fantastic results from these great teams as the season continues.



European Day of Languages

For several years Bishop Challoner hosts a languages event in the Library on European Day of Languages. It is superb to see so many students in year 8 who are fluent in a range of languages taking the opportunity to share their knowledge with students across the whole school.



Charity

Congratulations to 8LUK who raised nearly £50 for St. Chads Sanctuary by taking part in a form time sponsored run. This was a great way to kick off our support for charity as a year group. Thank you to those who took part, and to those who sponsored the runners. All forms in year 8 will participate in events raising money for our school charity this year with a variety of events.

Form Competitions

Year 8 form groups have been competing against each other in a series of challenges. So far, form groups have given an identity to their form by creating a shield, which helps them to understand more about the saints which their forms have been named after, competed in a general knowledge quiz, a spelling bee and a riddles quiz. The well-designed form shield of CEC shows the recorder and music clefs for Saint Cecilia - the patron saint of music. At the end of Autumn half term 8 LUK are currently at the top of the leaderboard, but it's all still to play for throughout the rest of the year.



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.**

First Aid Reminders

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. We also need current emergency contact details; if these have changed you must contact the school with new details for our records.

Asthma, Anaphylaxis, Diabetes

Students diagnosed with Anaphylaxis must carry an Auto injector pen at all times on their person and a spare provided to first aid, this is in keeping with MHRA (Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency) Government agency recommendation that students should carry two Auto injector pens.

In order for your child to participate safely in trips and off-site activities, we will send with them the spare provided to first aid, in addition to the one they carry on them, so they have two with them following our school's policy for trips and off-site activities.

Other medications must be handed in to first aid or the trip lead on the day.

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.

School Fund and Match Fund

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

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 pleated school skirt. 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 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.

Skirts

Please be reminded that all school skirts should be pleated, as part of the phased approach. Students still wearing a straight skirt have had this half term to replace it. We expect all skirts to be pleated from Monday 6th November.

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

Teaching School

Do you have older children or relatives at University studying Maths, Computing, Physics, Chemistry or MFL related degrees?

In June/July Bishop Challoner are offering a 3 week paid (£900 total) internship based in local schools, open to students. We wanted to flag this opportunity to families in our community. Application is straightforward, and can be done on our website here:

<https://www.bctsa.org/605/teaching-internship-programme>

KEY DATES

School Open	Monday 27th November
Christmas Toy Appeal Starts	- Wednesday 29th November
Monday 6th November	
India Day - Canteen	Book Fair
Wednesday 8th November	Friday 1st December
School ends at 1.15pm	Stories of Hope and Home
Thursday 9th November	Monday 4th December
Anti-Bullying Week	Christmas Show Fundraising Events
Monday 13th November - Friday 17th November	Tuesday 5th December
World Kindness Day	Christmaths Day
Monday 13th November	Thursday 7th December
Year 8 Vocations Retreat Day	Student Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 14th November	Monday 18th December
Remembrance Events	School Closed for Year 7, 8 & 9 PCD
Thursday 16th November	Wednesday 20th December
Bishop's Got Talent	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 17th November	Thursday 21st December
Road Safety Week	School Closed - INSET Day
Monday 20th November - Friday 24th November	Friday 22nd December
Year 7 & 8 Alton Castle Residential	School Open
	Monday 8th January

Attendance Updates

Attendance Percentage	w/c 23/10/23
Year 7 - 95.3%	Late Marks
Year 8 - 93.9%	Year 7 - 21
Year 9 - 92.4%	Year 8 - 21
Year 10 - 91.1%	Year 9 - 49
Year 11 - 92.0%	Year 10 - 37
Whole School - 93.0%	Year 11 - 27

Attendance Raffle Winners

Well done to the following students that have had 100% attendance and no late marks. They each won a £10 high street voucher.

Friday 20th October

Year 7 - Lemuel D
Year 8 - Eirlys W
Year 9 - Emily P
Year 10 - Cory C
Year 11 - Ava G

Thursday 26th October

Year 7 - Ksenija N
Year 8 - Tymoteseusz K
Year 9 - Onyinye N
Year 10 - Abubakar Q
Year 11 - Nathan C

TWITTER

Official School Twitter @BishopChalloner	@BCCCWellbeing	@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 @BCCSix	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	OLC @BC_OLC	Tolkien Cluster Schools @PrimaryTolkien
Wellbeing	SGO @BCSGO	
	Sports Centre	

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Tel:- 0121 4444161.

VACANCIES - [click here for details](#)



BISHOP CHALLONER **CATHOLIC COLLEGE**

SAVE THE DATE

Platinum Jubilee Remembrance Event

on

Thursday 25th April 2024

4.30pm-6.30pm

School Visit
Range of students' activities

7pm
Blessing

MISSION STATEMENT

In our community Bishop Challoner Catholic College we give glory to God by developing our full potential and in our service to others. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

SCHOOL PRAYER

What am I God!
Who am I here!
What do you want me to do!
You made me special to do something wonderful in this life of mine.
Show me what I might be,
what I might do,
what I might be,
and I'll do it for you Amen.

Toy Appeal

Christmas 2023



Scan to donate

Please give new toys (unwrapped) for our local children in Birmingham for all age groups ranging from 1-15 years

COLLECTION DATES:

Monday 6th November - Thursday 14th December

Irish TV are visiting St Anne's Parish Centre, B12 OPA on Thursday 14th December

