

Head of Year 9



Febraury Half Term Newsletter

Miss Shirley, Head of Year
Miss Carter, Assistant Head of Year

We are pleased to welcome Year 9 back into a new term and celebrate the success and achievements of our students so far, this academic year. I would like to take this opportunity to say well done to all Year 9 students for completing their P3 assessments in the Autumn term. I was pleased to see students thoroughly preparing, revising, and working hard prior to their assessments.

Year 9 Assessments and Parents Consultation Day

This year is particularly important for Year 9 as they begin to explore and choose their GCSE subjects in preparation for the next academic year. Following the Year 9 assessment period, we had a successful Parent's Consultation Day as parents/carers and students were able to come in for face-to-face appointments to discuss assessment results and progress, with various subject teachers. We were pleased with how encouraging assessment results were, and the progress that had been made so far by our students.

Year 9 Pathways Evening

Year 9 Pathways Evening will take place on Tuesday 14th March. Parents/carers and students will have the opportunity to come into school and speak with subject teachers and departments regarding their GCSE options. This evening aims to inform students and parents/carers about what different subjects have to offer, and to answer any questions that you might have about the process or the subject.

Assemblies/Form Time

This term assemblies have focused on; New Beginnings and Respect, Attendance, World Religions Day, Holocaust Memorial Day, Health - World Cancer Day, Safer Internet - Gaming and Gambling, and St Valentine. I would like to thank Aleena for reading out a beautiful poem in assembly, to remember those who perished during the Holocaust. I have also been impressed with the level of respect and engagement shown by Year 9 students during reflection and prayer time in assembly.

Year 9 Attendance

Year 9 students are entering a crucial time in this academic year, and it is extremely important that all students attend school every day and attend their lessons on time. This ensures that they are giving themselves the best possible chance of success, especially during the preparation of their GCSE's.

Year 9 Aspirations Day

We have our Year 9 Aspirations Day taking place on Wednesday 8th March. On this day, all Year 9 students will be off timetable and will be participating in different workshops. The focus of the day is to provide students with information to support their preferred GCSE pathway choices. Students will attend three workshops, based on their interest questionnaire, and will have the opportunity to gain an insight into potential future career choices. Workshops and talks will focus on different subjects including Business and Finance, Art and Design, IT and Digital, Health and Social Care, Law, Politics and Government, Sport and Leisure, Engineering, Science and Maths and Media and Games.

Careers Fair

Our annual careers fair will be taking place on Thursday 9th March. This day will be a fantastic opportunity for students to gain a further insight into the different career opportunities, as well as exciting students about their learning, and how it will help them in the future. Students will have the opportunity to meet with and ask questions of representatives from various organisations, learning more about the careers that different subjects can lead to.

Achievements

A huge well done to a number of Year 9 students who received a rewards afternoon for displaying last half term's virtues of 'Faith-filled' and 'Hopeful'. It was great to showcase and celebrate positive logs earned by our students. 9 students during reflection and prayer time in assembly.



Black History Month

In the yearly KS3 Black History Month competition, Year 9 had the most runners up out of all three year groups. Andrea won the competition with her fantastic poem! A huge well done for this Andrea!

Congratulations, also, to the Year 9 girls Football team who progressed into the semi-finals of the West Midlands Cup. Unfortunately, they were knocked out by Tudor Grange in a closely contested match, but we are really pleased with the dedication, commitment and motivation they have shown throughout the season. Well done!

Football

Year 9 Boys Football - The Year 9 Boys Football team are into the Semi Final of the Birmingham Cup. They beat Bishop Walsh 4-0 and will now take on Tudor Grange for a place in the Final, which is scheduled to take place at Villa Park, the home of Aston Villa FC. This was a Cup that the team lifted last year at Bodymoore Heath, so they are hopeful to retain it this time around. In addition to this, the Year 9 Boys Football team are also due to play in the Quarter Final of the West Midlands Cup; the Boys are super excited about this one, as it is a Cup that has eluded them thus far! We have been very impressed with their attitude so far, with many miles travelled in a very busy fixture schedule. Hopefully, the hard work pays off and the team are able to add to their trophy haul. Well done to all involved.

Upcoming Opportunities

We are excited to be taking 36 students in Year 8 and 9 to Bardonecchia Ski Resort in Italy, in March 2023. This exciting trip will give students the opportunity to develop and explore new skills and activities on the Ski slopes. Students will receive a 5-day lift pass with hire of skis, boots and poles and will have the opportunity to Ski for 5 full days on the Italian slopes! We are very much looking forward to giving students this opportunity, and we can't wait to see them develop their skills, and above all, have fun!



Sporting Success

In addition, two Year 9 students were successful in progressing to the English School's U15 Girls Football Trials, after representing West Midlands County throughout the season. A massive congratulations to Chanel who has been selected to represent England in the U15 School girls squad! Well done.



Ball Crew

Bishop Challoner Catholic College have once again been invited to provide the Ball Crew for the prestigious Birmingham Classic Tennis Championship which will be held from Saturday 17th June 2023 until Sunday 25th June 2023 at the Priory Tennis Club in Edgbaston. The Year 9 students who were part of the ball crew last year were superb, and I am very much hoping that a few of them will step up to become ball crew captains this year, encouraging and inspiring our younger students.



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.

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.

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.

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

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

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

KEY DATES

School Open
Monday 27th February

Year 9 & 10 DofE Training
Tuesday 28th February

Year 8 & 9 Primary Computing
Friday 3rd March

Foobank Collection begins
Monday 13th March

Year 9 & 10 DofE Training
Year 9 Immunisations
Year 9 PA Gifted & Talented Day
Tuesday 7th March

Year 9 Aspirations Day
Wednesday 8th March

Year 8-13 Careers Day
Thursday 9th March

Bishop's Got Talent
Friday 10th March

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

Year 9 Pathways Evening
Tuesday 14th March

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

Year 9 DofE Practice Walk
Sunday 19th March

Spring Soiree
Wednesday 22nd March

Quiz Night for Trips
Thursday 23rd March

PE Reward Trip
Friday 24th March

PE Aspiration
Monday 27th March

Sixth Form Easter Fair
Primary Concert
Year 9 & 10 Sponsored Football
Tuesday 28th March

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

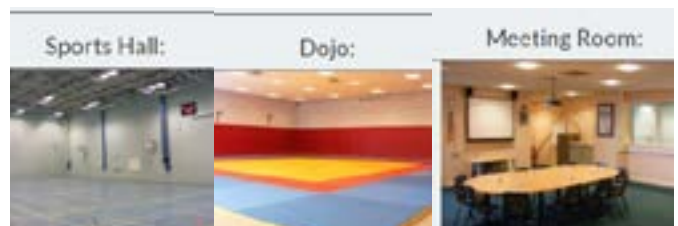
School Closed - Staff INSET
Friday 31st March

Fizzy Drinks and 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.

Venue Hire

For more information call: 0121 441 6103





Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School
 Trittiford 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.

TEACHING INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

Earn
£900

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/WxjseZt5f>

www.bctsa.org



TWITTER

Official School Twitter
@BishopChalloner

Art Dept
@BCChallonerArt

Careers
@BCCareersSmart

BFood Department
@BishopFood

Chaplaincy
@BC_Chaplaincy

Judo Club
@BCJudoClub

Computing
@BishopChalComp

MFL
@BishopMfl

English Dept
@BC_EnglishDept

OLC
@BC_OLC

Green Group
@educating_eco

SGO
@BCSGO

History
@bchistory_

Sports Centre
@BishopCentre

Music Department
@BCPAmusic

TSA
@bctsa_training

PE Department
@BCPEDepartment

1-1 Maths
@BC11M1maths

Teaching and Learning
@BcTeaching

Central Maths Hub
@centralmathshub

Makes
@bc_makes

Central Midlands SLP
@CentralMidSLP

Wellbeing
@BCCCWellbeing

Geography
@BCGeogDept

Chess
@bccchess

Maths
@BCMathsDept

Performing Arts
@BCPAPA4

Friends of BC
@bc_friends

Social Sciences
@BCSocSciDept

STEM
@STEMBC

Biology
@BCCbio

Teach Computing Central Midlands
@BCComputingHub

Sixth Form
@BCCCSix

Tolkien Cluster Schools
@PrimaryTolkien

CLICK HERE
FOR YEAR 9
PATHWAYS
BOOKLET AND
RESOURCES



TUESDAY 21ST FEBRUARY

BRING IT ON BRUM!

FAMILY FOOD FESTIVAL



**@ 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