

Head of Year 9



May Half Term Newsletter

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

This academic year is in the final stage, and we are pleased to be celebrating the successes and achievements of our students. I would like to take this opportunity to say well done to all Year 9 students for completing their T2 assessments this term. Students have demonstrated remarkable effort and determination throughout the assessment period, showcasing their knowledge and skills across various subjects. Students have shown unwavering commitment to their education, and we thank parents/carers and our dedicated teaching staff for supporting them during this assessment period.

Ski Trip

We gave our Year 9 students a fantastic opportunity by taking them to Bardonecchia Ski Resort in Italy, in March 2023. This exciting trip gave students the opportunity to develop and explore new skills and activities on the Italian ski slopes for five full days! Their ability to work together, support one another, and demonstrate good sportsmanship was truly inspiring.

Their enthusiasm for learning and willingness to embrace new challenges was evident on the slopes and their respectful and responsible conduct not only reflected well upon themselves, but also showcased the values we strive to instil in our students. It was so nice to see students encouraging and praising one another, as well as enjoying participating in ski activities with their friends.



Charity Events

I would like to commend the students of Year 9 for their exceptional charitable work and contributions to our school charity, St. Chad's Sanctuary. Just before Easter, 9 Sebastian raffled an Easter hamper and showed great organisational skills. Every student contributed to buying the hamper and were committed to selling tickets in order to raise funds. The hamper raised an incredible £92.50!

This charity event, combined with a bake sale by 9CEC, a Christmas card sale by 9BOS and a Christmas Jumper day organised by 9BER brings their current total to £272.50. This is an outstanding amount of money raised by Year 9 and is set to rise when 9TER and 9LUK complete their charity events in the second part of the summer; well done Year 9. This money will improve the lives of many in our local community who are in need of extra support. Keep up the brilliant work!



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. This is such an exciting opportunity for our students to experience a top-class sporting event and we are delighted with the dedication, commitment and hard work that has been shown by our Year 9 students involved. The final Ball Crew squad will be selected soon for the 'Rothesay Classic Birmingham'. We are looking forward to selecting several Year 9 students to captain the Ball Crew teams at the upcoming tournament. At this point, we would like to say a huge well done to all of the Year 9 students who have trialled and trained for the Ball Crew; you have been outstanding. We are very much looking forward to watching a lot of you in action very soon!

Year 9 Leadership

I would like to thank our Year 9 students for their exceptional behaviour, positivity, and empathy during their Physical Education leadership block, especially when working with primary school students from St Dunstan's School. Their commitment to being positive role models and their willingness to go above and beyond in supporting and guiding their younger peers has been truly commendable. The Year 9 students exhibited outstanding organisational skills as they diligently set up and delivered a wide range of fun and engaging activities for primary school students. Their ability to create a nurturing and inclusive environment for the younger students has been a testament to their empathy and understanding.

Their dedication and hard work has not only enhanced the experience of the younger students but has also showcased the leadership potential within our Year 9 cohort. In addition to this, a handful of our Year 9 students showcased exceptional leadership skills as they guided and inspired primary and secondary school students during an athletics competition earlier this term. We are immensely proud of their efforts and the positive impact they have had on their peers and younger students. Well done to all Year 9 students.



Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh

Congratulations to all the Year 9 students who successfully completed the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition! You all showed incredible determination, resilience, and teamwork throughout the two days of walking, where you navigated your planned route using map reading skills. Spending the night camping and being self-sufficient demonstrated your ability to adapt and thrive in challenging conditions. Your commitment and dedication to succeed in this endeavor was lovely to see, and you should all be proud of your achievements. Well done on a fantastic accomplishment! Please remember to continue to work on the other sections of the award; volunteering, skills and physical, in order to complete the whole Bronze award and receive your certificate and badge.



Sports Personality

Congratulations to Koji G and Bethany W who won the Year 9 Sports Personality of the Term awards! Koji has been able to pick up new skills and concepts quickly, which has been evidenced recently within PE lessons, where he has shown a real knack for Gymnastics. He has been able to practice and perfect handsprings, front flips to feet and use specialised equipment such as vaults and trampettes.

This has contributed to an excellent assessment score in PE, which placed him at the top of his class! Bethany embodies PE at Bishop Challoner. She regularly attends

after-school clubs as well as being part of many of the girls teams. She is also part of the DofE programme. In lessons she always gives 100% and thoroughly enjoys PE and trying new sports. Bethany plays for the girls football team and attends a vast array of extracurricular sports clubs. Well done!

Boys Football

This year has been another successful year for the Year 9 Boys Football team. Across the season, all students have shown tremendous amounts of character and continued development, which has resulted in some fantastic results.

In the West Midlands Cup, they managed to reach the Semi Final stage and were 3-1 up at half time. The opposition on this occasion (Summerhill) were able to claw it back to 3-3 early on in the second half and scored a late winner, much to the disappointment of Bishop Challoner. However, we see this as progress, as last year, the team only managed to reach the Quarter Final stage.

We hope that next year, we will be able to not only reach the final, but hopefully lift the trophy at the end! In the

'All Birmingham Cup', the team has managed to reach the final, which is due to take place on Wednesday 31st May at Villa Park; a once in a lifetime opportunity! This is set to be a brilliant occasion and one that all of the students are relishing. The team managed to win this competition last year, so are hopeful that they can retain it. As for the Kings Norton & South Birmingham League/Cup, the team managed to finish 2nd out of 8 teams and will play 1st place (Lordswood Boys) in a Final during the final school term.

Overall, a fantastic year. The students have shown real development in their skills, but also their understanding of the game, which has resulted in some excellent performances. A win at Villa Park would no doubt be a superb achievement and certainly, the icing on the cake!

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.

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.

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

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.

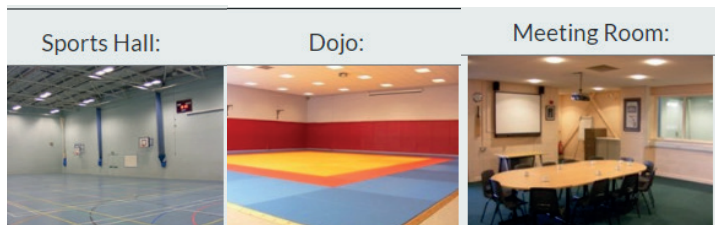
Join easyfundraising and you can collect free donations for us every time you buy something online.

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



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.

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

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

KEY DATES

School Open
Monday 5th June

Cricket Trip
Wednesday 7th June

Foodbank Collection Starts
Monday 12th 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
Berlin Parents' Meeting**
Tuesday 27th June

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

Year 6 Induction Days
Wednesday 5th July - Thursday 7th July
Sunday 19th March

9TER Sponsored Bike Ride
Friday 7th 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
Wednesday 19th 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
@BCCCWellbeing

Chess
@bcchess

Performing Arts
@BCPAPA4

Social Sciences
@BCSocSciDept

Biology
@BCCbio

Sixth Form
@BCCCSix

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
@BCMathsDept

Friends of BC
@bc_friends

STEM
@STEMBC

Teach Computing
Central Midlands
@BCComputingHub

Tolkien Cluster Schools
@PrimaryTolkien