



# BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Year 9 May Half Term Newsletter 2019



Dear Parent/Carer,

## T2 Examinations

With the summer heating up, it is a good time to reflect on the successes that Year 9 have had this last term. The focus, which Year 9 as a whole have excelled at, has been the T2 examinations and I have had the pleasure of receiving email after email about the effort students have put into their work from countless teachers. As much as I would like to list certain individuals, it would take up many, many pages as hard work and effort has been the ethos for Year 9 whilst approaching these examinations. Many students are looking forward, with vigour, to the challenges that their GCSE Pathways will afford them and they are doing their best to be successful learners. Well done Year 9.

## Extra-Curricular

Whilst praising academic success, one must mention the extra-curricular activities and events in which Year 9 have surpassed themselves. Well done to the students who have participated in the KS3 Public Speaking Competition hosted by St Paul's School: Daniel, Molly, Malachy and Isabella who clearly demonstrated what eloquent students we have at our school and they were a credit.

## Public Speaking Competition

As preparation for the Public Speaking competition, it is important that the ways to promote knowledge and verbosity are mentioned. Many Year 9 students have taken a part in Debate Mate over the Year and they have helped Bishop Challoner to be first place in the West Midlands against fierce competition. What an amazing achievement.

## Book Club

Likewise, another way to improve our speaking is through reading and at this point, it is pivotal that the students who have diligently gone to Book Club get a mention. Book Club, hosted by Mrs Fanning, has promoted the confidence in students to create successful learners whereby, with the help of many of our staff, students have read and experienced many topical novels to get them talking about literature and issues in the wider society. Having gone all year, these students have portrayed traits of commitment and a determination to succeed.

## WE day at Wembley Arena

A group of students, selected due to their commitment to school life, hard-work and extra-curricular, were also invited to go to WE day at Wembley Arena in London whereby they saw a plethora of performances including Tom Walker, inspirational speeches by those who have faced and fought adversity, and those who have used their personal fame to help others and Royalty with the presence of the Duke and Duchess of Suffolk. As this was in the same period as International Women's Week, the day was focussed on the need for equality and how WE, as a collective can make changes within our community for a more equal, fairer society. Year 9 were a credit to the school and these students had an extraordinary day.

## Choir

The choir in the Easter mass would not have been complete without Year 9's beautiful voices. Well done to all of those who sang here and those who supported the brilliant event that was the 'Battle of the Bands' this term.



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## Football

No newsletter would be complete without discussing our year group's amazing sporting prowess. Given that it happened this week, I must start with the boys' football team, who at Aston Villa Football Ground for the Trevor Gill Cup, won 2-1 against Light Hall. A special shout-out must go to Finley D, a phenomenal player who showed true leadership skills in his calmness and also to Malaki T who scored both of the goals with skill. The buzz created by this event was amazing. Indeed, they have become one of the only years in the school's history to reach the Birmingham Cup Final, the West Midlands Cup Final and the Kings Norton & South Birmingham Cup Final in the same year; a superb achievement. Let's hope that we can go on to win all 3!



## PGL Netball Tour

Year nine girls have also excelled at sports. In Netball at Liddington, Year 9 came second; a special mention must go to Maddie who was pronounced player of the tournament for Bishop Challoner. In Basketball, they scooped the league title beating St Thomas Aquinas by about ten points. The under 14 girls were in the semi-finals of the Cup for football and played a great game. Giselle was announced player of the match. With Edgbaston Cricket coaches, Year 9 girls' have been working closely to lead on cricket activities: amongst others Annabel and Hannah have shone. This will continue after half term with them demonstrating their skills in leadership at Challoner.

## McEvoy's Mega Mix

Year 9 are enthused and motivated by Mr McEvoy's Mega-mix raffle and still have plenty of time to get their names in the draw for excellent effort/behaviour/contributions to school life.

## Schoolcomms

As you are aware we operate a cashless catering system and Schoolcomms is the only system to make payments for your child's school dinners and school trips. There is one money loading machine in operation in the school so it is imperative that Schoolcomms is used. For further information please visit our website [www.bishopchalloner.org.uk](http://www.bishopchalloner.org.uk)

## Uniform and Appearance

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. 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. There are a number of styles, particularly for girls, currently in fashion with wood style soles. These are not suitable for school. School shoes should also be leather and not patent.

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. 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 gold stud earrings which may be worn by girls.

I know that you will, as always, support us in maintaining the smart appearance of your children and high standards of discipline, so that our focus in school can be on educational achievement.

### **Mobile Phones/Smart Watches**

Mobile phones and smart watches are not allowed to be used in school. Students are only permitted to use their mobile phone or smart watch from 3.10pm onwards once on the playground/exit gates. Students found with a mobile phone/smart watch 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.

### **Attendance and Punctuality**

Year 9- 95%

Whole school- 95%

The whole school attendance target is an aspirational 97% and we would hope that we can work towards achieving this as a year group by the end of the academic year.

If your child is absent from school, a notification phone call needs to be made to the school on the first day of the absence and every subsequent day they are absent too. Upon return to school, a written note needs to be handed in to their form tutor, stating the reason for absence. Please encourage your child to be at school by 8.30am to instil the important life skill of good punctuality.

Yours faithfully,

Miss Beard  
**Head of Year 9**

Mr Fell  
**Assistant Head of Year 9**

### **Key Dates**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June-**

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June-

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June-

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June-Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> June-

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June-

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July-

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July-**

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July-**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July-

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July-Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July-

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July-

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July-**

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> July-

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July-

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July-

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July-**

### **School Open**

Canteen- Allergen Awareness Day

Computing Year 8 and 9 Bletchley Park Trip

KS3/4 Ball Crew

Canteen- Teenage Cancer Trust

Sports Day

**Late start, 9.30am- Year 6 Induction Day 1**

**School Closed-Inset Day**

St Chad's Sanctuary Begins

KS3 & KS4 Character Week

Drayton Manor

**School Closed**

**Year 7, 9 and 10 Parent Consultation Day**

KS3 and KS4 Student Voice

Awards Assemblies

Year 9 and 10 Sponsored Football

Whole School End of Year Mass

**School Closed- Inset Day**



**Remember – follow our many twitter feeds for updates on what is happening at BC!**

Official School Twitter:	@BishopChalloner	Science:	@BCSciDept
Science:	@BCSciDept	Maths Hub:	@CentralMathsHub
Teaching School:	@teaching_school	Performing Arts:	@BCPAmusic/@BCPAPA4
School Games:	@BCSGO	History:	@history_GCSEBC
Computing:	@BishopChalComp	Science Learning Partnership:	@CentralMidSLP
Chaplaincy:	@BC_Chaplaincy	Social Science:	@BCSocSciDept
Biology:	@BCCbio	School Games:	@BCSGO
English:	@BC_EnglishDept	Sixth Form:	@BCCSix
PE:	@BCPEDepartment	Central Maths Hub:	@CentralMathsHub
Maths:	@BCMathsDept	FOBC:	@bc_friends
Geography:	@BCGeogDept	Design:	@BCCCDesign