

BC News



Summer 2019

A MESSAGE FROM MR K McEVROY, PRINCIPAL

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome to the final school newsletter of the academic year 2018/2019. As always the summer term at Bishop Challoner has been awash with energy and activities- local, national and international visits have been held; sports activities each and every day and dozens of inter-school events across primary, secondary and post-16. It is an incredible school with a wonderful student body.

You will undoubtedly be aware of the various 'designations' that we hold, these include:

- Teaching School - responsibilities include- recruitment of new teachers and Initial Teacher Training (ITT).
- Maths Hub- providing access to high quality training and development in maths teaching to over 1200 schools.
- Science Learning Partnership- Mr Catto leads what is nationally regarded as the best science teacher/technician training centre in the country.
- School Sports Partnership/TTA - Mr Moon and Mr McDermott leading in sports development in schools across the Midlands.

These specialist responsibilities generate exciting career paths at the cutting edge of education. The school is regarded as one of the most significant players on the educational landscape: always on the front foot, outward looking, forward facing - a truly dynamic learning centre for students and staff. The designations mean that we attract outstanding staff, are involved in the latest research and best practice and, ultimately, can create the best possible school for the young people and families that we serve. We are totally committed to maintaining the energy, drive and creativity that make Challoner such a brilliant school. We are, therefore, delighted to announce that we have just received a new designation 'Computing Hub', one of the very first in the country. This is a truly magnificent achievement and will place us at the heart of the country's main development priorities-to upskill future generations in computer science. Once again, for Bishop Challoner Catholic College, a mark of quality that reflects the excellence of our school.

Over the coming months and years, I have no doubt that Dr Coughlan will further build on these foundations and keep our school at the forefront of developments-he is an outstanding appointment.

In conclusion, I would wish to congratulate Miss Kelly on her retirement after an amazing 36 years of service, also Miss Hodge after 30 years at the chalk face: two great and loyal staff who have given unparalleled service to the school.

My best wishes to all the Challoner community, past and present: it has been a pleasure.

Mr K McEvoy
PRINCIPAL

MESSAGE FROM MR GREG KEEGAN, CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

As the Academic Year 2018/2019 draws to a close it is my privilege to say a few words regarding our wonderful Principal Mr Kevin McEvoy who is retiring after 28 years' service at Bishop Challoner Catholic College.

Mr McEvoy took over the Headship of Bishop Challoner Catholic College five years ago when the school was at the very top, following in the footsteps of Mrs Symons, OBE, one of the country's most skilled educationalists and leaders there has ever been; an almost impossible act to follow. However, the school under Mr McEvoy's leadership has continued to move forward and to go from strength to strength in every area, and as a consequence the school is stronger today than it has ever been.

During his five years as Principal Mr McEvoy has been faced with many challenges. Finances in education have always been a great source of pain but never as much as they are presently. The skills and entrepreneurial ventures Mr McEvoy has mastered in order to manage the budget have been nothing short of magical. During his tenure as Principal the school has suffered some of the most difficult situations that I have ever known in education but Mr McEvoy's leadership and strength brought Bishop Challoner through even stronger. I was always secure and confident with his leadership and decision making; it was extremely reassuring to know that he was in control.

Mr McEvoy has worked so hard and achieved so very much. I hope the life changing influence he has had on so many children and colleagues is a wonderful sense of success and happiness to him. There are many students, both past and present that have been given great life chances because of the passion and determination of Mr McEvoy and his drive to ensure that every student fulfils their full potential.

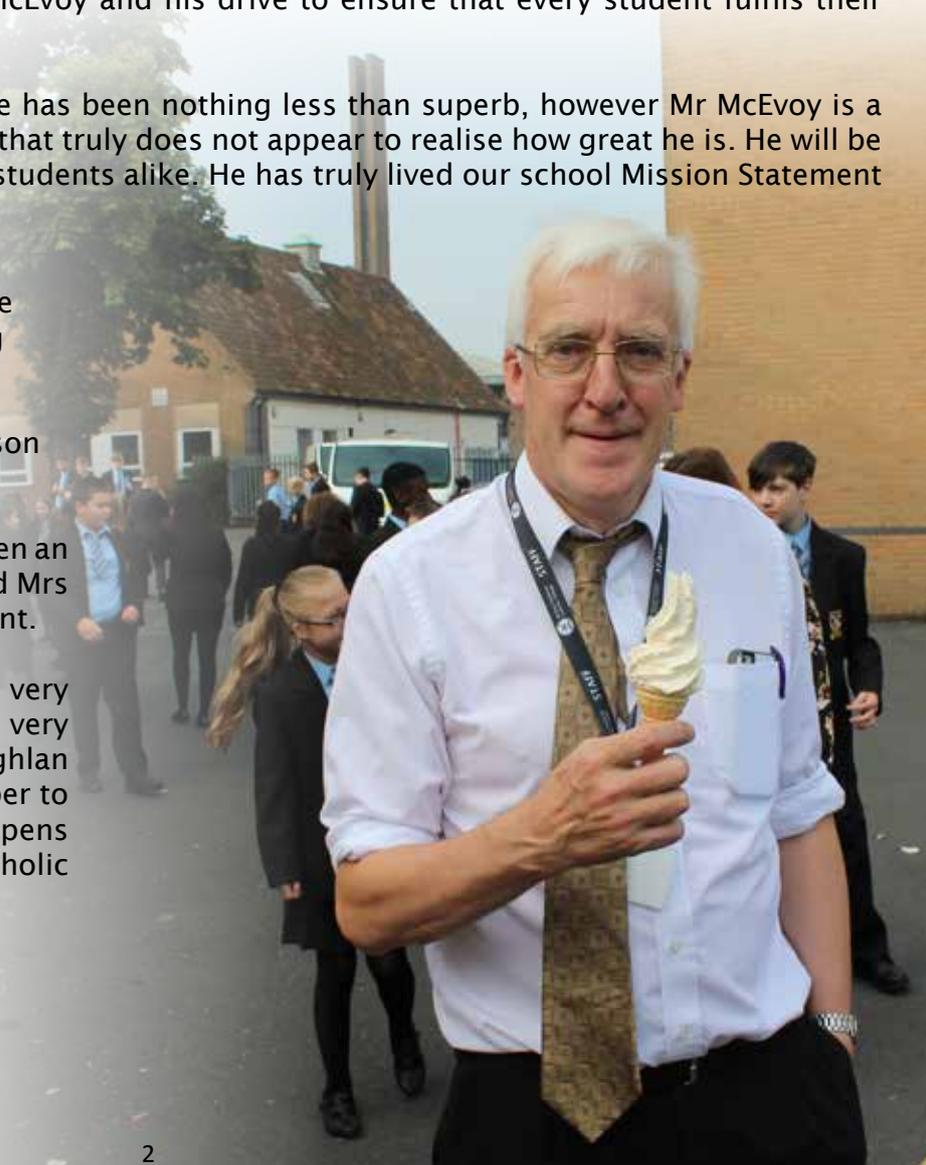
His work here over his 28 years' service has been nothing less than superb, however Mr McEvoy is a very modest and self-deprecating man that truly does not appear to realise how great he is. He will be missed greatly by governors, staff and students alike. He has truly lived our school Mission Statement every minute of his career.

In our community of faith
in 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

Thank you so much Mr McEvoy, it has been an honour to work with you. I wish you and Mrs McEvoy a very long and happy retirement.

Mr McEvoy is leaving the school in a very strong and settled position, and I am very proud and happy that Dr James Coughlan will be picking up the baton in September to lead on the marvellous work that happens every day at Bishop Challoner Catholic College.

Greg Keegan
Chair of Governors



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SPIRITUAL LIFE

Good is God Retreat

On Tuesday 18th June the school were fortunate to welcome the Good is God youth outreach group who led an inspirational day of retreat. The day enabled classes from Year 7-9 to be led in a time of music, drama, prayer and games which provided them with the opportunity to reflect on their relationship with God and how this might be developed in the future.

The feedback was incredibly positive from the pupils and this is the beginning of a link with 'Good is God' which we intend to grow further in the next academic year.

The highlight of the retreat was observing two Bishop Challoner students (Shalana and Shalet) being part of the retreat team and being able to share their faith to fellow students in such an inspirational manner.



Rosary group and community links

This term the school has been fortunate to benefit from the great work provided by members of St Dunstan's parish. Visitors Michael O'Sullivan and John Robinson have provided the school with weekly input that has significantly benefited the spiritual development of our students. This support has seen John and Michael lead a weekly rosary group in the school chapel which has enabled students from Year 7-13 to develop an understanding of the rosary and how this form of prayer can inspire a person's faith. Furthermore, John and Michael attend RE lessons on a weekly basis to lead prayer sessions and to share the gift of faith through sharing their inspirational life stories with students. The feedback from students highlights how they value these visits and how the passing of faith from one generation to another can be an inspirational part of faith formation.

Weekly confession

We have been fortunate to have the weekly contributions of Fr Mario each Wednesday who has recently given this time to provide students with the opportunity to participate in the act of confession. This has been on a voluntary basis and we have been overwhelmed with students' desire to take the opportunity to fulfil this sacrament. Fr Mario has also provided weekly prayer sessions to whole groups and has regularly participated in question and answer sessions with classes, discussing many important spiritual themes.

Charity Work

The outstanding charity work from our school community has continued this term as we have been working towards supporting the whole school charity for The British Heart Foundation.

Activities include

- Each year group running a fair with a range of exciting activities.
- The school council co-ordinating non-uniform day
- Key stage 3 readathon
- Staff health and well-being day.

All monies raised will be presented to the British Heart foundation in assembly on the final day of the academic year.

Year 11 Leavers Mass and Year 6 Induction Mass

This term we continued year group mass celebrations through our Year 11 leavers mass and Year 6 induction mass. On Tuesday 25th June Year 11 gathered in the auditorium to share a year group mass for their final occasion together. Mass was followed by assembly and buffet which provided the year group with time together to celebrate and relax after their exceptional hard work throughout their GCSE exams.

On Thursday 4th July our Year 6 students celebrated mass for the first time together at the end of their two day induction period in preparation for their September start. This celebration provided students with an opportunity to reflect on the ending of their primary school education and provided space to reflect on the next stage of their academic and spiritual growth.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Year 7

Year 7 have completed a superb start to their studies of Religious Education at Bishop Challoner.

A reflection of the year shows that students have studied a wide range of important topics that has focused on developing students critical thinking and encouraging them to reflect upon who they are and what type of person they want to become.

This academic year students have considered questions such as;

Who is God and why are people religious?

This unit of work enabled students to consider questions such as; Why are people religious? What should I know about Catholicism? Who is God? , Who is Jesus? (Incarnation) What struggles did the followers of Jesus face? and How did the Old Testament predict Jesus's coming?

Why does the universe exist?

This unit of work enabled students to ponder Why is there something rather than nothing? How can something be true if it didn't literally happen? What does 'imago dei' mean for me and my responsibilities? How can one believe in science and religion? How should Catholic's look after God's creation? What does Pope Francis call us to be stewards of the world? (Laudio Sei)

More recently year 7 students have begun a study of Judaism. This introduction is focused on developing students subject knowledge and giving them opportunities to explore some of the key concepts of Judaism. This is also centred on helping to get



students 'GCSE ready' as 25% of their year 11 examination will be centred on Judaism.

During their study of Judaism students have particularly focused on the nature of God in Judaism and Abrahamic covenants. Students have displayed real eagerness to develop their subject knowledge and their netbooks have been particularly useful in helping students to research and design presentations on this work.

The Religious Education department have worked closely with the diocese this year on producing expected levels of skills for Religious Education students at each phase group. This work has been highly beneficial in helping to deliver the transition from ks2 to ks3 and has enabled the department to plan class work and assessments that allow students progressional skills as the move into the secondary phase. This collaborative work has highlighted the development of the skills of knowledge, understanding, engagement and response and analysis and evaluation. This hierarchical skill base allows the opportunity to continue their development of these skills as they transfer from ks2 –ks3 and will continually be developed through to ks5 using the skill levels we have designed to aid students to meet age related expectations and beyond.

Year 9

Year 9 students are bringing their ks3 studies to a close by focusing on Judaism and looking deeply at key practices in living out Jewish beliefs in modern life.

Students have reflected upon the demands of eating Kosher only foods in modern society whilst also reflecting on Jewish attitudes towards marriage, divorce and family life.

During the academic year students have studied a vast range of theological issues and have been stretched by the demands of the units we have studied.

During the academic year students have studied issues such as;

What are Christian beliefs on the Value of Life? Where students were engaged in reflecting upon 'Is all life valuable? (ImagoDei) What is the sanctity of life? What is the nature of abortion? What is the nature of euthanasia? How should Catholics respond to poverty? What do Catholics belief about animal rights? What is humanism and how does it differ to Catholicism?

More recently students have received the opportunity to develop their understanding of Catholicism through the study of 'How is the Catholic Church unique? This gave students time to look at the nature of the Catholic faith through issues such as; What is the Catechism and Catholic Magisterium? How does the Church act as the 'Body of Christ'? What was the reformation? How is the Nicene creed a declaration of faith and where did it come from? How influential was St Augustine?

Year 8

Year 8 have built on their subject knowledge from year 7 and have progressed to more challenging concepts, where they have been exposed to very technical Theology and Philosophical concepts.

This academic year students have considered questions such as;

What is the problem of evil? What is the free-will defence of God? Can suffering ever be good? (Irenaeus's theodicy) and How should Christians respond to suffering?

More recently students have been exploring the big question 'How do Catholics make moral decisions?' This has asked students to consider 'What is a conscience and how does it help us make moral decisions? What is

natural law and how does it help us make moral decisions? What does living by the Greatest Commandment really look like? Are there limits to forgiveness? What does the Bible teach about reconciliation (The Prodigal Son) and How does the parable of the Sheep and the Goats inspire us to do what is right?

To complete year 8, students have been developing their knowledge of Judaism. This has involved looking at some of the implications for Judaism in today's world such as; keeping the Sabbath day holy, following the Ten Commandments in the modern world, visiting a synagogue and the differences between reform and orthodox Jewish views on Judaism.



What is the nature of the Trinity? What is the incarnation? What does stewardship mean to Catholics? (Laudio Sei)

Across key stage 3 year 9 students have been developing the skills of enquire, communicate, contextualise, apply and evaluate. These skills have progressively been developed through a mastery approach to learning in Religious Education and consequently year 9 students have been prepared for the challenges of GCSE through a curriculum that has blended high levels of knowledge with the skills of critical thinking and the ability to write extended, evaluative responses.

Year 11

Year 11 have recently completed a challenging set of examination papers in Religious Education.

We were highly impressed by the attitude of our students in their preparations for these exams and their desire to achieve their best possible grades.

During year 11 students explored issues such as;

- What are the different theories of punishment?
- Is the death penalty ever acceptable?
- Why is forgiveness important?
- What are the features of The Catholic Church?
- What is meant by the Magisterium?
- The challenges for Christianity in the modern world.

We feel confident that the topics students have studied across their five years of Religious Education at Bishop Challoner have helped them to shape their views on life in modern society and has enabled them to understand Catholic views and how these can help them find meaning and purpose in life.

We wish all students well for their future destinations and hope that their Religious Education course has provided them with a moral compass and a rounded view of the society they live in.

Year 13

This summer our Religious Education students completed their studies and we wish them all the best for their future adventures. Students have applied themselves fully to the course and have gained skills such as analysis, debating skills, reasoning and critical thinking which we will be invaluable to them in their future careers.

This cohort were the first students to complete the new course which saw students being assessed on Christianity, Philosophy and Ethics. This has been an exceptionally demanding course but we were highly impressed by the students approach to independent learning and their relentless approach to being successful in their studies.

During the year students explored topics such as;

- The Ontological argument
- Free-will and determinism
- Liberation theology
- Religious Language
- Utilitarianism
- Natural moral law
- Atheism

Year 10

Year 10 recently completed their first year of GCSE studies and we are delighted with the progress they have made. Students recently completed a mock examination which indicated the excellent start students have made in what is an extremely challenging course.

Year 10 have been extremely conscientious about their work and their mature attitude has enabled students to develop high level skills of analysis and evaluation. We look forward to continuing this progress going forth into year 11.

This year has seen year 10 reflect on issues such as;

- Catholic and scientific views regarding the origins of the universe.
- Catholic views on The Sanctity of Life.
- Religious and non - religious views concerning abortion and euthanasia.
- The importance of preserving and protecting the planet.
- Reflecting on why God may allow evil and suffering.
- Reflecting on Jesus as a source of moral authority.

Year 10 have made a smooth transition into GCSE work and are combining studying important life issues alongside developing potential for success in their GCSE examinations next year.

Year 12

We have been delighted with the progress our year 12 students have made during the year and increasingly we have witnessed their development into becoming critical thinkers who can rationalise intelligent arguments to reach balanced conclusions.

This year has seen year 12 study topics such as;

- Divine Command theory
- The Cosmological argument
- The Problem of evil and suffering
- Utilitarianism
- Situation Ethics
- The Bible as a source of moral guidance

This has enabled students to tackle questions such as; Is there evidence for God's existence in the design of the world? How can God be all-loving and allow suffering? Should we make moral decisions based upon the principle of the 'greatest good for the greatest number?' How should a Christian make moral decisions?

We hope to see many of these students return in September to continue this course into year 13.

These units allowed student to evaluate issues such as; can the definition of God serve as proof of God's existence? Why do modern philosophers doubt God's existence? Do humans have free-will? Should society base its morality on religious beliefs?

A number of year 13 students have chosen to continue their studies at university and we believe this course has enabled them to develop skills such as; independent research, critical thinking, displaying balanced views and ability to produce high quality essays that evidence their learning from their studies.

We wish all students success in their future projects and careers.

ENGLISH

Writing Club/Poetry competition

This term saw the launch of a creative writing club - "Student Writes" - providing attendees from Years 7-10 the opportunity to create poetry, write and read news articles, speeches and lots of other text types. This half term, the focus is primarily on the extended metaphor, with Jude Mann in Year 7 creating some beautiful images using the weather as a metaphor for war. Alongside this, all of Year 7 are participating in the "Bishop Challoner Poet Laureate 2019-2020" competition, where a lucky winner will be crowned our official Poet Laureate for 2019-2020. Our current Laureate, Aisling Bea, has been an incredible ambassador for the school, writing poems on a variety of school based issues: our year of health and well-being, welcoming the new Year 7's and even a teachers retirement! We wait with baited breath for the unveiling of her replacement!

Irish Famine Commemoration Project

The Irish Potato Famine (1845- 1850) resulted in the greatest loss of life in Ireland's history. Over a million people died and two million emigrated to countries including America and Australia. Ireland's population of 6.3 million today has still not recovered, 170 years later, to the 8.5 million pre-1845.



When the Irish Famine Commemoration Project contacted the school, we knew that we wanted to be involved. We only had one small problem: we weren't in Ireland! After numerous emails back and forth, it was arranged that Eddie O'Connor would pick up the potatoes in Ireland during the Easter break and bring them back to the school. Upon arrival, students from Year 8 and 9 planted the potatoes in large grow bags. The grow bags contain a flap so that students can see how they grow; we felt it was important for students to understand where their food originates from.

On planting and harvesting the Lumper potato, the potato variety upon which so many people depended, we remember the victims of the Great famine and the people in hunger and poverty during these years and countries in famine today.

Sixth form newspaper

This month, the Sixth Form Score (Sixth-Form Newspaper) team have entered the First News school newspaper competition. They are a highly independent and ambitious team who work excellently together and meet deadlines with little teacher input. We await the results eagerly! Watch this space! Recent articles have investigated Western governments' approach to climate change as well as Brexit negotiations. As ever, the last edition was filled with book and film reviews as well as sage advice about how to cope with the demands of school life and set yourself up for achievement in the future. This team go from strength to strength - we look forward to the last edition of the year.

Readathon

In order to raise money for British Heart Foundation, all of Year 7, 8 and 9 took part in the Readathon from 10th to 14th June. The aim was for students to read as much as they could in English lessons, form time and at home, raising money from friends and family in the process as they attempted to meet their reading targets which they had set for themselves. The English department has successfully organised the Readathon for the last few years and it has always gone a long way towards helping the school meets its charity target, last year raising over £600. The final total for this year has yet to be tallied, but we have already had some great contributions, including some students managing to collect £50 for their reading endeavours.



Debate Mate

The last few months brought the culmination of this year's debating and public speaking endeavours. This began with the second round of the Debate Mate Urban Debate League, held at Harborne Academy. Our two teams of debaters headed in poll position and after two rounds of tightly-fought debates, we were delighted to see the final rankings a couple of weeks later, where we topped the West Midlands league for the first time in many recent years.



The final event of the year, the Debate Mate Cup, was again held at University of Birmingham and despite some excellent winning debates, we were unfortunate to miss out on a finals place on points. This year's accomplishments have been testament to both the commitment of our Year 10 debaters, who have all participated now for four years since joining the school, and the enthusiasm of our younger debaters who will now take over the mantle of Bishop Challoner debating in the new school year.

We were also pleased to have two entrants participate in the Catholic Schools' KS3 Public Speaking competition at St Paul's Girls school, arguing for the most influential world figure. Again, the standard was incredibly high, as has been the case annually at this event, and our pupils' speeches on Kitty Marion, a

suffragette, and Alexander Fleming were inspiring, articulate and well-researched. We were pleased to get honourable mention in the judges' verdict, (especially for Daniel's inventive use of his brick prop!) but unfortunately the trophy eluded us again for this year.

At the end of June, we were also delighted to be invited by Solihull School to participate in a day of workshops and competition in a slightly different format of debating. Our Year 7 and Year 9 debating teams competed this time in pairs, learning how to debate in the British Parliamentary format. Most of the other competitors were in Year 10 and from private schools with extensive debating experience so the pupils relished the opportunity to learn from older, polished debaters. Our Year 7 team, Oscar and Mia, were by far the youngest competitors and impressed judges and opponents alike, while Daniel and Molly, in year 9, won two of their three debates, surpassing our expectations for the day.

We're excited to return to the debating circuit next year, including involvement with Debate Mate again, and see what can be achieved with our current crop and hopefully swell our numbers with a batch of enthusiastic debaters from our new Year 7.

MATHEMATICS

Primary G&T Maths Sessions

Our final two Primary G&T maths sessions for 2019 took place in March and April. Eight cluster schools have been regularly sending four Year 6 pupils for each of these monthly events. These have been supported by our Year 7 pupils helping on the day. We look forward to these continuing during the next academic year!



Maths & Beyond

On Thursday 28th March, 12 Year 10 students were accompanied by Mr Wooler to the University of Warwick for the 'Maths and Beyond' event organised by the Advanced Maths Support Programme.

Students took part in three different workshops, the first of which was learning about the maths behind solving Japanese grid puzzles, and how it links to one of the Clay Mathematics Institute \$1 million Millennium problems. Next up was 'Magical Maths' where Ben Sparks taught students some tricks involving numbers. The last workshop explored how maths we learn was used to make Google the most successful search engine in the world, along with how mathematicians are needed to make arcade games like Asteroid and Pac-Man.



'Echo' and resident expert on The Alan Titchmarsh Show. Emily inspired students with the story of how she became a science communicator, as well as sharing her three most embarrassing career moments to illustrate how statistics and scientific research can be misinterpreted or miscommunicated by the media.

The day ended with a lecture from keynote speaker Dr Emily Grossman, a panellist from TV show 'Duck Quacks Don't

It was a thoroughly enjoyable day, and the nice weather only made the surroundings at the University of Warwick look more appealing as an option for future study

West Midlands Secondary Rankings

- 1 - Bishop Challoner Catholic College
- 2 - St. Edmund's Catholic Academy
- 3 - Shireland Collegiate Academy
- 4 - Harborne Academy
- 5 - Erdington Academy

UKMT Junior Maths Team Challenge, Regional Finals

On the 29th March 2019, four of our Year 8 and 9 students travelled to the Engineering Academy at Aston University to participate in the UKMT Junior Maths Team Challenge Regional Finals. Competition was of a high standard with 28 teams competing for the top spot. Our students performed fantastically and were commended on their approach to the challenges and ability to work in a team. Despite not placing in the top three and therefore not progressing any further in the competition, students and staff who attended thought it was a fantastic event.



Malympics

Bishop Challoner hosted our annual Malympics event on March 14th. Ten of our cluster schools all sent six pupils from Years 3, 4 and 5 for the day. Activities were designed and ran by our Maths and PE leaders and the Bishop Challoner pupils showcased excellent planning and organisation skills, as well as leadership and teambuilding skills on the day. The 60 children took part in a number of competitive numeracy and PE activities in the hall, building up points for both their year group and school.

A big well done to Year 3 who won the Year Group events. Best School third place went to Our Lady of Lourdes, second place runner-ups were St Chad's and Best School winners were St Mary's! Well done to all who took part!



Bishop's Got Talent

On the 3rd May, 32 students across Years 7 and 8 took part in a 24 game tournament, as part of our fortnightly Bishop's Got Talent. The aim of the game is to make 24 using the four numbers shown, with the student getting the most answers on each table progressing towards a semi-final and then a final. Our Year 9 leaders excellently led the tournament, with one refereeing each table. The event had an excellent attendance with great support shown for all competitors. The final was two students (both from 8X2) were Liam A and Juliet O, who battled it out before Juliet took the prize as 'Bishop Challoner 24 Champion 2019'.

Well done to Juliet and to all who took part!

UKMT Challenges

The United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT) host individual and team challenges each year for our pupils to take part in. The individual challenges are designed to test the very best mathematicians, so the questions are designed to be tough and to get a certificate is an excellent achievement. At the end of April, students in 7X1 and 8X1 sat the 'Junior Maths Challenge'. The results were very good, with nine bronze certificates, and six silvers in Year 8, and four bronzes and three silvers in Year 7. Joe B from Year 7 topped them all and achieved a gold certificate and qualified for the Junior Kangaroo challenge, which took place on 11th June.



Maths Study Tour to Paris

On 2nd – 5th July 2019, the maths department once again ran a study tour to Paris for 49 Year 8 and Year 9 students. We were blessed with glorious weather throughout our stay, which made taking in the sites on the river cruise, and the views of the city skyline from the Montparnasse Tower, all the more impressive. Students were able to experience maths outside of the classroom while exploring the exhibits of the Cité des Sciences museum. It also gave them the opportunity to experience the culture of our European neighbours, using their French knowledge where they could. The tour culminated in a day trip to Disneyland Paris to take in the magic and let of steam on the rides. It was a thoroughly enjoyable trip once again. Watch this space for another maths department study tour coming in July 2020!

SCIENCE

Revision Guides

Since Easter the focus for the department has been on assessments, whether that has been school exams for Year 7, 9 and 10 or GCSE and A level exams for Year 11 and 13. With the increased demand at GCSE in terms of academic rigour, the students are being trained right from Year 7 to have the necessary skills to perform well in exams. Year 7 approached their P2 school exams in a mature way and it was very clear how well many of them had revised. Year 8 have now embarked on the second half of their key stage 3 work. This year we started to offer all Year 7 and 8 students the opportunity to buy revision guides and workbooks to encourage independent work at home. The response has been excellent.

Revision guides are sold all year round. Year 7 and 8 can buy them on schoolcomms, Year 9-11 can buy them from Mrs Shore or their science teacher. The prices are:

Years 7 and 8

Revision guide: £2.50

Workbook : £5.00

GCSE: Combined science

Revision guide: £6.00

Workbook and answers : £7.00

Total= £13

GCSE: Separate sciences

3 x revision guides: £3.00

3 x workbook and answers: £4

Total= £21

Salters' Festival of Chemistry

Four year 8 students attended the Salters' Festival of Chemistry at the University of Birmingham in April with Miss Lloyd. They enjoyed a day of using the University's new science labs completing two chemistry challenges, the Salters challenge and the University challenge. They participated excellently in both, gaining good experience of techniques they will use throughout school. The students thoroughly enjoyed the day and enjoyed using the lab at the university.



Y12 Chemistry Spectroscopy in a suitcase

On Wednesday the 5th June Miss Lloyd arranged for Dr Mark Read from the University of Birmingham to come into the school to deliver a 2 hour infra-red spectroscopy workshop to our Year 12 chemists. In those two hours they ran and analysed their own spectra, getting real life experience of the techniques they have studied so far in A Level Chemistry. They all thoroughly enjoyed the session and speaking to Dr Read and his PhD colleagues.



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Official opening at the University of Birmingham

Bishop Challoner was one of two schools invited to attend the official opening of the new collaborative teaching laboratory at the University of Birmingham on Monday 13th May. The year 12 chemists synthesised and analysed an ester, practising techniques they had learnt during the year and that they will meet again in year 13. They gained experience of working in university labs with PhD students and professors assisting them. The day ended with them meeting Sir Fraser Stoddard the Nobel Laureate in chemistry from 2016, who was a previous lecturer at the University. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



Year 12 Field Trip to the Lickey Hills

Year 12 Biologists visited the Lickey Hills to carry out fieldwork for their A level Biology practical unit during the summer term. The students used random sampling methods to determine the species diversity of a woodland and heathland. The Year 12s used keys to identify the plant species and then used quadrats to sample both areas. The students carried out fantastic fieldwork to compare these two habitats using Simpson's index of diversity.

In the afternoon, the students measured the distribution and abundance of plants in the woodland habitat using an interrupted belt transect. The students were fearless going into the woodland amongst the brambles and huge variety of plant species to sample the plants and canopy cover along the 30 metre transect. The Year 12s completed their fieldwork by producing kite diagrams for each plant species. All our students showed excellent fieldwork and investigative skills throughout the day. They were an amazing window on the commitment and diligence of our students at Bishop Challoner Catholic School.



Year 12 Biology trip - Kew Gardens Trip

Year 12 visited the Royal Botanical Kew Gardens, with Miss Mayor, to experience the conservation and preservation methods in action. The students went on a Kew Garden Trail, which included visiting the Palm House, Temperate House, and many more inspiring sites at Kew Gardens. A particular highlight was the Treetop walk, towering 18 metres above the ground allowing the students to observe the complex ecosystem of the trees' uppermost branches, including the birds, insects, lichen and fungi. The students gained practical hands on experience in the workshop. Here the students used both Mathematical and Scientific skills to model energy transfers and calculate the efficiency of energy transfers within an ecosystem.

The students carried out soil investigations in contrasting areas to allow the students to apply their practical skills to real life situations. This allowed the students to use data logging equipment to assess the soil moisture, pH, and nutrient levels. The students had a greater appreciation for the importance of micro-organisms in the nitrogen and carbon cycle. The students were an asset to the school and were true Kew Garden explorers by the end of the day!



Year 7 Science club

Throughout the summer term we have still had an enthusiastic group of year 7 students who have been regularly attending science club - easily our most committed group of year 7s yet! This term has been spent undertaking a longer project, where students have had to design a machine to solve a global problem. This has required the group to work together, design their machine, build it using recycled materials, and test, review and refine their designs. They then presented their projects to Mr McEvoy, Dr Coughlan and Mrs McGowan showcasing their presentation skills. Well done year 7 and thank you for being the most enthusiastic science club ever!



Primary science week

From 24th - 28th June Primary Science Week took place, across Bishop Challoner and 11 local primary schools, with a series of varied and exciting events taking place at different locations. The week was a huge success and involved students from all year groups, from both Bishop Challoner and the primary schools. The primary students took part in exciting workshops, handled exotic animals, and even visited an inflatable planetarium. Meanwhile, Bishop Challoner students were a credit to the school, helping with a chemistry workshop, running activities at the STEM fair, and delivering their own astronomy activities.

Bishop Challoner Science leaders from Year 9 (Ellie B, Marcus H) , Year 10 (Julia K) and Year 12 (Livia R, Isobel O'B, Niall F and Beth W) delivered four fun Science sessions as part of the Primary Science Week at St Edward's Primary School. The sessions were based on George's Marvellous Medicine and through a range of experiments, including making George's magic medicine, super shrinking slime and many more experiments, the students told the story. The Science leaders gained and enhanced many of their teaching skills when delivering the sessions. The students from the different Primary Schools that took part in the sessions were fantastic and showed exemplary behaviour. Thank you to all the students and teachers involved that allowed this to be a great experience.



FRENCH

Year 7 Day trip to Boulogne 2019

As expected, the day trip to Boulogne was once again a great success. Having not ran for over 5 years, on Friday 14th June the MFL department took 44 year 7 students to the North of France on the coach for a 24-hour trip. Despite the torrential weather we experienced on British soil all week, we were surprisingly welcomed by a clear blue sky, which followed the party all day.

We started our day in the city of Calais, where our students (and teachers) enjoyed a well-deserved French breakfast, after 7 hours on the coach. Students were shown how to dip their croissant in their hot chocolates - this is the done thing in France – they were also all encouraged to thank the owners of the café in French before leaving. The owners were very impressed.

Later on, we went to the beach in Calais, and Mr Ravenscroft organised a pétanque tournament. This was a real success for all the members of the party, who were playing bare feet on the sunny sandy beach.

After a very filling lunch and some shopping in a French hypermarket in Boulogne, we ended our trip with a visit to a local chocolate factory. Students learned about how chocolate is made (in French) and decorated their own chocolate bar to take home as a present for a loved one.

We finally returned home after a very happy (slightly tiring) trip, full of sun and great souvenirs.



Year 7 teaching

Students have completed their P2 assessments, which covered everything they had learnt in French this year. They had to refer to physical and personality descriptions, school subjects, daily routine, opinions and reasons. It was a challenging first subject specialist assessment, perfect to prepare the challenges for Year 8 next year. Students have now moved on to learn about sports and hobbies.

Year 8 teaching

Year 8 students have starting studying their last KS3 topics, which are focussed more on themselves and their environment (places in town). This will prepare them for year 9, where they will learn to communicate about advantages and disadvantages of where they live. Most of the groups are starting to manipulate paragraphs in three different time frames (past, present and future) – a key aspect to any conversation.

Year 9 teaching

T2 is now over and it gave the students a good idea of the benefits and challenges of the new French GCSE. They were asked to respond, as spontaneously as possible, to questions about the topics we had learnt since the beginning of Year 9, which, in terms of amount of content, was challenging but necessary to build up learning and revisions habits and develop organisation skills. Moreover, unexpected and spontaneous being key-words in the scheme of work of the GCSE, they had to complete a 90-word paragraph which could be on any topics learnt previously in the year

Year 10 teaching

Thanks to our 3-year GCSE course, year 10 students have now completed the Foundation course of the GCSE and we will utilise next year's time to further improve their range and accuracy. Higher tier students – the majority of our students – will move on to revisiting all 12 units of work, now focusing on higher contents and grammar structures. The results of the mock examinations were very pleasing and in line with our expectations of the year group.

Year 11 penfriends

The experience of the pen pal exchange with Switzerland seems to have motivated our students to want to communicate more in French. Realising they could reuse their GCSE work to talk to teenagers from a different country in a foreign language will hopefully leave a positive memory in their education. We are hoping to increase the number of students involved next year, as this was such a great success.



Other languages

Well done to the students who sat GCSE and A-Level examination in their own mother tongue in June this year.

If your child speaks a foreign language at home, please consider entering them for GCSE at Bishop Challoner. We would advise them to have some tuition throughout year 10 and 11 to ensure they master the writing and reading skills particularly.

If you are interested, please view what languages are on offer on with:

Edexcel <https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-gcses/modern-languages-2016.html>

And with AQA <https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/languages/gcse>

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Key Stage 3

Year 7 students are currently working towards a scheme of work which focuses on using a Turtle to teach text-based code. This process uses a turtle which draws basic shapes based upon given instructions, it is up to the students to define those instructions correctly. Python, the language within which they are completing this, is a skill that they will continue to work on throughout their computing career at Challoner.

Year 8 students are currently working on a scheme of work that introduces them to text-based code, the building blocks of every computer program ever made. In doing so the students are being exposed to Python, a high-level programming language that has been used to write some of the most prominent programs such as Spotify and Instagram. This is a skill that they will continue to work on throughout year 9 and hopefully later if they choose to continue with computer science.

Year 9 students recently completed their T2 assessment, bringing to a conclusion their content of study for key stage 3 computing. We are really pleased with the outcome for many of our students and strongly hope that some of them are considering computer science as a subject for key stage 4.

Key Stage 4

The year 10 computer science cohort recently completed their mock exam which for many, has resulted in a really good result and something that both teacher and student are proud of. The students will conclude the year recapping topics from the course and also, begin preparation for life in year 11 by looking at Python programming in anticipation of the programming project in September. Well done on a great year!

The year 10 ICT cohort also recently completed their mocks, resulting in success for many of our students. The mock exam concludes a year where they have studied project management and planning, use of organisational tools, data and how it becomes information, the use of storage devices and how to keep those devices safe. Moving into year 11, our students are going to begin the controlled assessment process that will see them look at the use of data manipulation software (Excel), to control and use data for a given scenario; producing useful information from the provided. This is an exciting process and one we look forward to starting.

Both the year 11 computer science and ICT groups concluded their programmes of study in May. We of course wish the students good luck for their results in August and look forward in hope of their success.

Key Stage 5

The year 12 students recently completed their mock exam for which both they and we were really impressed with the results. These results have come off the back of a year where the students have looked a breadth of topics and overcome some challenges presented by the curriculum. At present, the group are beginning work in preparation for the programming project, by looking at game creation in Python and the fundamentals of game physics and frame drawing. The students will be going into the summer holidays with ideas and hopefully projects, well under way.

The year 12 ICT students recently had great news in the form of an internal assessment being verified for their grades. This resulted in 4 distinctions in the group, well done to those 4 students. This brought to a close a year of study where students have looked at database manipulation and the use of social media in business, as two separate units. Between now and the summer holiday, year 12 students have already begun preparation for year 13 work, by looking at the Unit 1 exam and also, the Unit 6 internal assessment. If year 13 is as successful as year 12 has been, we have strong hopes for the future of these students.

The year 13 computer science group recently completed their programme of study which culminated in two exams at the start of June. We, of course, wish those students all the best and hope for success for them in August. They have been a pleasure to teach and will be missed in the classroom.

HISTORY

Year 8

Year 8 students have been looking at First World War, considering its causes and the reality of trench warfare. Students have explored the development of new technologies that made combat so lethal, the reality and myths of trench life and the ways in which the war has been remembered in our society. Throughout their studies, students have utilised primary source evidence to bring to life the experiences of soldiers in the trenches. By the end of the term, students will be considering the legacy of the war in order to prepare them for their studies in Year 9 in which they will be making links between the First World War and the modern world. Students next year will also have the opportunity to explore Berlin to develop their understanding of the Cold War.

Year 7

Year 7 students this term have completed their end of year assessment in which they explored the problems facing monarchs across history. This breath study has provided students with the foundations needed to achieve in Year 8, giving them an insight into the power of monarchs, the early origins of democracy and an overview of how our society has developed across its early history. Students have also developed their skills in source analysis and interpretations, both of which are crucial skills for the subject. In the final weeks of term students have been examining the causes, course and consequence of the English Civil War and consider how England changed after the execution of Charles I. When students return in September they will explore the social history of Britain, looking at how life has changed for its people between the Roman and Industrial period.

Year 10

Year 10 students are well into their second topic, which is on Queen Elizabeth I. Most recently, they have been analysing the challenges Elizabeth faced, as a female monarch in a patriarchal world and considering why war broke out with Spain in 1585. There has also been a lot of focus on how the Protestant Queen dealt with the religious divisions between Protestants and Catholics in her early reign. With their mock exams behind them now, we hope students can respond to the feedback provided as they go into Year 11.

Year 10 aspiration club continues, which students can attend for additional support in classwork or homework. Year 11 students have completed their exams and we wish them all the best with their results in the summer.

Year 12

Year 12 are enthusiastic and very keen to get started on their own independent studies. In the recent mock examinations students worked very hard to producing analytical responses that showed great potential and ability. We encourage all Year 12 students to continue their reading over the summer in order to prepare for the demands of Year 13.

Year 13

Year 13 have finished, having worked very hard towards their finals examinations. Their independent essays, on a topic of their choice, shaped up well and many were a pleasure to read. Students investigated issues such as the reigns of Peter and Catherine the Great, the collapse of Tsardom, the 17th century European Witch-craze, the end of the slave trade and the causes of Tudor rebellions. These essays are a 100 year study and they are available to read if anyone is interested. We wish our year 13s all the very best as they embark on an exciting new chapter in their lives.

Year 9

Year 9 have been working hard and have completed their end of year assessment on the causes of the Second World War. Students have shown great interest in the debate surrounding this topic and have been able to make excellent links across time when considering causation. Their skilful use of sources and interpretations will prepare them for the rigor of the new History GCSE. In the last few weeks of term students have been studying The Cold War through the eyes of those who experienced it.

The aim of this new topic will be to consider the impact of the Cold War on different people and to have an appreciation for how far-reaching the consequences were. This topic is vital in helping students understand modern world diplomacy and international politics. Students in Year 9 represented the School at the Big History Quiz event at Birmingham University. Although we did not win this year they did the school proud with their behaviour and effort.



GEOGRAPHY

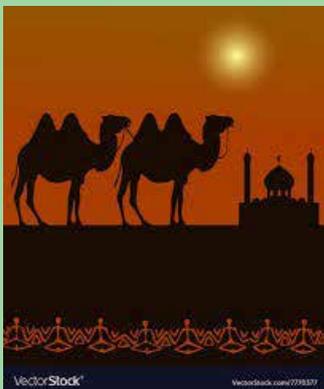
Year 7

Year 7 have recently completed a unit of work investigating one of the world's superpowers, China. The students were extremely engaged throughout the topic which enabled them to conduct group work to debate issues such as The One Child Policy and evaluate geographical issues such as development in places like Tibet. The half term was concluded by students demonstrating their geographical skills, knowledge and understanding in their P2 assessments. This was a fantastic opportunity for Year 7 to exhibit their learning so far and allowed them to explore different ways to revise. This half term Year 7 are delving into a unit of work surrounding weather and climate in the UK. The students have already been developing their understanding of what weather is and how it is measured. By the end of this topic students will be able to answer questions such as; What causes rainfall? What are the names of different types of cloud? What causes the wind? Why is the UK's weather so changeable? What is climate change and what does it mean for us in the future?



Year 8

Following the completion of the second region of study, Brazil, Year 8 Geographers started the half term with an introduction to the region of the Middle East, enabling the students to investigate some of the differences in cultures, economies and environments between the countries of this fascinating region. The unit will enable Year 8 to explore the range of climate zones within the Middle East and use this to explain features of the physical environment such as desert landforms. Students will also enquire into human aspects of the Middle East through analysing population distribution and investigating the fascinating traditions and cultural diversity within the Middle East. Students will also engage in the contemporary conflicts that are occurring in parts of the Middle East and try to make sense of the violence in locations such as Syria, Palestine and Israel.



Year 9

The start of the Summer Term brought the introduction to the topic, Natural Hazards. This is a hugely engaging study area for the students allowing them to evaluate why people continue to live in areas at risk of tectonic activity as well as compare and contrast disasters that have occurred in countries of varying levels of economic development. Students will find out what causes earthquakes and volcanoes, and analyse the many ways humans are trying to mitigate the impacts these hazards can have. In addition, the students have been demonstrating their geographical skills, knowledge and understanding within their T2 assessments. This was a fantastic opportunity for Year 9 to exhibit their learning so far and allowed them to explore different ways to revise in preparation for them beginning their GCSE subjects in September.



Eco-Bricks Project:

As part of Bishop Challoner's year of health and wellbeing, this half term Year 7 and Year 8 have begun work on an eco-brick project. An eco-brick is a building block made entirely from unrecyclable plastic. It's created by filling a plastic bottle with clean, dry plastic until it's packed tightly and can be used as a building block. Eco-bricks can be used in all sorts of sustainable building projects, which makes them a great way to dispose of plastic waste that would otherwise end up in landfill, and potentially, the ocean. Did you know that 90% of marine rubbish is plastic?

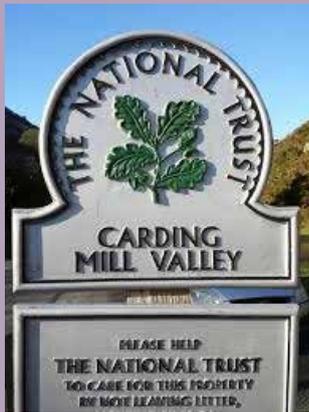
The students began by collecting single use plastic at home in the form of plastic bottles, packaging and plastic bags. In lessons we have explored the danger of non-recyclable plastics to humans and the environment and how we can help to reduce plastic waste. Our aim is to donate our bricks to local projects and to use some of the eco-bricks to create a sculpture for our school.



Year 10

Year 10 have completed the third unit of work for the year. They have recently been working on a physical geography topic entitled 'The UK's Physical Landscapes'. Within this unit of work students have learnt about the UK's river systems and engaged with the physical processes and landforms we find on our coastlines. We have been working hard with students on developing their revision techniques ahead of Year 11.

Year 10 Geography students have also been on a field visit to Carding Mill Valley in Shropshire as part of the GCSE course. Students had the opportunity to investigate how and why the River Ashbrook may change as we travel downstream along its course. Students also had the opportunity to observe in the field a number of the landforms we study in lessons such as V shaped valleys, interlocking spurs, waterfalls, meanders and slip off slopes.



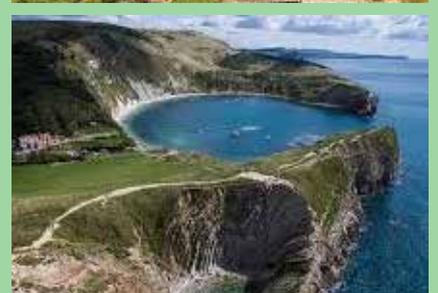
Year 11

We were very pleased with the commitment and hard work shown by a large proportion of our year 11 Geographers this year. We wish all them all the very best of luck with their next steps and look forward to seeing many of them next year in Year 12.

Year 12

We have been delighted with the engagement and dedication our current year 12's have had this year. Year 12 students have now completed the 'Contemporary Urban Environments' unit for human Geography and the 'Coastal Landscapes' unit in physical Geography.

In June our students went on a residential field trip to Dorset. Students engaged very well with a number of data collection techniques and learnt about a number of key case studies that they can use in their final exams. Highlights of the trip included visits to Lulworth Cove, Durdle Door, Chesil Beach and Lyme Regis. The students were a credit to the school with their enthusiasm and excellent behaviour.



Year 13

Year 13 concluded the year by finalising controlled assessments and by sitting their final two exams. Some of the investigations carried out by students were really interesting pieces of academic research. Some examples of the research projects included students investigating the reasons for differing crime levels in parts of the city of Birmingham, reasons for differing level of perceived and actual health and wellbeing between locations, how the heat island affect compares across the West Midlands, and the management and mitigation of air pollution in Kings Heath. We are very pleased that three of our students have decided to go on to study geography based degrees at university. We wish all of our A level students all of the very best in their next steps and look forward to hearing about their successes in the future.

Twitter

Please follow us on @BCChallonerGeogDept. Here we will be sharing updates on the department and any relevant posts that we feel will be of benefit to our students and their parents.

MEDIA STUDIES

The Media Studies department has had another eventful term. Year 11, 12 and 13 have all completed their final examinations and we await some great results in August.

Some of the A Level coursework pieces produced this year have been of excellent quality. A few A and A* entries have been uploaded to the BC Media Department Youtube account to be showcased. They have also been entered to the WJEC Moving Image Awards – we will find out the nominees in the Autumn term, so we are eagerly awaiting the news!

Find the videos here - https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6yCz8HpaUtUK1mohB4uOdg?view_as=subscriber



Year 11s have created DVDs and posters for the Spy and Romantic Comedy genre for their coursework, which has also been a huge success. These will soon be on display around the media rooms.

Year 12 students took part in a Photo shoot in June for their coursework. Those who attended were aiming to recreate music magazine style fashion shoots.

PERFORMING ARTS

BTEC

This term has been focussed on preparing our students for their public examinations and our Year 11 BTEC Performing Arts group kicked off the first of our practical examinations on Tuesday 30th April with their group performances for Component 3 of their course. They had been commissioned by a national charity that supports disadvantaged children and young people and were asked to contribute, as performers, to a new fundraising campaign. The campaign had to include performance work which explored ways to improve the lives of disadvantaged children and young people across the country. The charity set the stimulus for the performance as: 'Blank Canvas'. In response to this, students worked as part of two groups and created a workshop performance that they displayed to a selected audience of parents and staff. They also created a leaflet which communicated to the audience how they could help to improve the lives of disadvantaged children and young people in our local area.

The audience were moved to tears by the performances the students delivered and amazed by their skills in all three of the art forms of drama, dance and singing. Performing Arts teachers were so proud of their achievements in this performance and their dedication to their three controlled assessments and hope in the summer their hard work and commitment will be rewarded with a great set of results.

Les Miserables

As a department, we are committed to exposing our students to live performances outside of school. With this in mind, we took 30 lucky students on a trip to see the award-winning Les Miserables at Birmingham Hippodrome on Wednesday 1st May. Students ranging from Years 7 – 12 chose to see the production and every single one of them was stunned by the amazing vocals and incredible spectacle of the show. In the next academic year we already have tickets booked to see Blood Brothers and We Will Rock You, again at The Hippodrome in our attempt to provide students with wider experiences of the Arts.



Bishop's Got Talent

As the year 2018 – 2019 has been the official Year of Health and Well-Being, our department takes this as sharing our skills and talents and bringing joy and happiness to ourselves and others through this. Therefore our Bishop's Got Talent library performance schedule has been packed this term, with a number of different events being put on by students from a range of departments within the school. Music and Performing Arts has obviously contributed to the overall programme and, on Thursday 30th May, a range of wonderful dancers from within the school, took to the stage to showcase their dance talents. The students who performed were amazing and the audience were lucky enough to witness performances by some British Dance Champions. All dancers were a credit to their genre which included Street Dance, Contemporary Dance, Freestyle Dance and Irish Dancing. The professionalism, confidence and flexibility as well as their performance skills and knowledge of choreography should be praised across each of the year groups. Therefore, huge congratulations to Elliamae, Callender, Sklya, Aisling, Oonagh, Layla, Erin and Nathaniel.



The final BGT event of the term took place on 18th July and was an extended performance lasting 40 minutes, dedicated to our Headteacher, Mr McEvoy. For this we brought our music to the people, setting up our equipment in the quad to use as an open-air performance space. Headlining the 'gig' was BC Band, finishing off the performance in a 'Last Night of the Proms' style with Land of Hope and Glory which was amazing! There was also a number of performances from other staff and students and we were really excited to do this as a fitting tribute to Mr McEvoy, who has championed the BGT events since they began.

KS3 Drama Club

Key Stage 3 Drama Club continue to meet every Monday in PA3 to explore different play texts and drama activities. They are currently working on a performance based on the very topical theme of 'Plastic Waste'; using elements of comedy and drama, the group hope to perform this in a BGT event early on in the Autumn term.

Supernova

Members of the school band Supernova had a special treat this half term when were invited to tour the facilities of the Academy of Contemporary Music in Birmingham city centre. Emilia, David, Callender and Caitlin from Year 10 and Suraya from Year 7 spent the day touring their amazing facilities and using their recording studio.

The day began with a look around their brand new production suites and the rehearsal rooms, and our students were in awe of the amount of equipment and space the students of AMC had at their disposal! After the tour the band had a rehearsal on the sound stage with members of staff performing a sound check. After lunch, Supernova went into the professional studio where they recorded two tracks, Zombie by The Cranberries and Chasing Cars by Snow Patrol. It was more tiring than they expected and I'm not sure Suraya or David expected to be in a glass box when they were playing...in fact the band were spread across three rooms to record their songs and they soon realised how difficult it was to play a song together when they couldn't see each other very well! The day was inspiring for both students and staff and it has given our young musicians an idea of the opportunities out there for creatives and performers in our city.

The whole day was organised by Pete Byrchmore, the group's guitar teacher from Birmingham Music Service, who has sent us rough cuts of the track. We hope to get two finished, mixed songs by the end of the term and these tracks will be available to download from the school website. We will update the website and the @BPCAMusic twitter account when they are available.

Music

In addition to our varied performance work this year, music staff are keen to increase the number of students taking lessons on musical instruments within the school and letters have already been sent to parents and carers of Year 6 students who currently take instrumental lessons and who will be starting Bishop Challoner in September. Instrumental lessons and, indeed, our alliance with Birmingham Music Service bring so many wonderful opportunities to our young people and an example of this was seen on 22nd June when members of our Steel Pan groups were invited to perform at the Windrush event at Cannon Hill Park as part of the Birmingham Schools Steel Pan Band. This was a huge honour and the students were delighted to have been given this opportunity. Three days after this, the same students played for their teachers and peers in an assembly based on the effects of music on mental health. Everyone thought they were amazing and they should be highly commended on the commitment and dedication they display to their musical pursuits; congratulations to Dani, Jericho, Juliet, John, Kaliyah, Jack and Marcel.

Ensemble playing experiences are so important to our young musicians and this has been shown this year with the continuation of BC Band. This ensemble meets on a Thursday morning before school and consists of a number of brass players, clarinets, piano and percussion. Students have religiously attended rehearsals and the improvement seen by the whole group, even since April this year, has been tremendous. This term they have been working on pieces by some of the most famous composers ever and hope to perform as many of these as possible to an audience soon!



Primary School Showcase

We are extremely keen to develop links with our feeder primary schools and it is in this way we hosted our 'Primary School Showcase' again. Following the success of the event for the last two years, we worked with staff from Primary schools to plan the event which saw 6 primary schools and Bishop Challoner put on a concert for parents, carers and staff, involving a range of students from across the different schools. Students from St. Alban's, St. Anne's, St. Bernard's, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Edward's and Our Lady of Lourdes arrived at Bishop Challoner on the afternoon of 2nd July ready to perform on their various instruments, as well as a giant choir comprising students from every school singing a song which has been especially composed for the occasion by Bishop Challoner's A Level musicians. The song is entitled When You Need a Friend and the themes are loyalty, care, friendship and trust. Our talented Year 13 students (Dan Kenton and Lana Masterson) wrote and recorded the song over the course of 2 weeks then invited students from each Primary School into Bishop Challoner to teach the song to them; we then all came together on the day of the concert to sing the song as a 'Giant Choir' and to celebrate the fabulous musical talents of the young people in our school communities. The concert was a tremendous success and we would like to congratulate all students who took part.

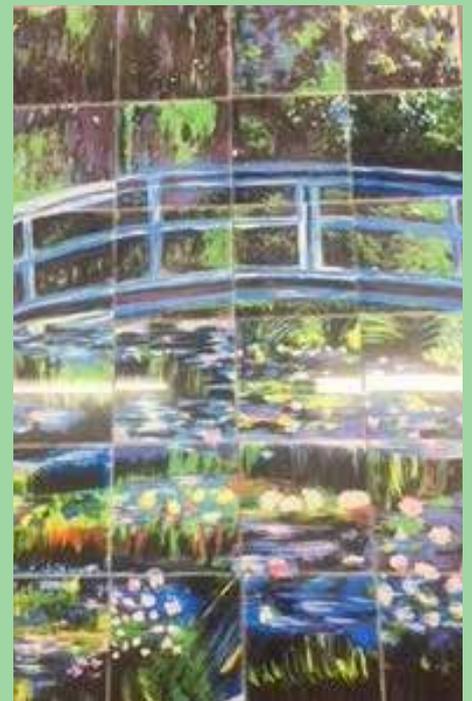


ART AND DESIGN

'Tolkien Primary Cluster – Art Movements'

Carmela Hodgson, BC Artist in Residence 2017/18 and Lydia Parkes (BC Artist in Residence 2016/17) have been dedicating their time this term to developing paintings and samples to be used in the Primary workshops. This has involved painting a series of oil, acrylic and watercolour paintings based on a selection of Art Movements in preparation for the Primary Tolkien Cluster Project. The aim of the project being to study several Art Movements throughout the Art History Timeline. There have been 5 primary schools involved in this project this term.

Art staff supported by both Carmela and Lydia have been delivering painting workshops to recreate a painting by renowned artists such as, Claude Monet, Vincent Van Gogh and Pablo Picasso. The Movements include: Impressionism, Post Impressionism and Cubism with Van Gogh's 'Starry Night', Monet's 'Water Lilies' and Pablo Picasso's 'Weeping Woman' being amongst those chosen to reproduce. The workshops were a complete success with all schools committing and rising to the challenge. The pieces are currently being scanned and sublimation printed onto ceramic tiles to create a lasting memory of the workshops.



South Network Art Exhibition 2019

Our A level Fine Art students have excelled themselves this year producing a series of diverse outcomes. The concepts explored get more expressive and confidently executed each year. The boundaries are continually being pushed with students working on diverse scales and utilising mixed media. Canvas, old windows, road signs, ceramic tiles, aluminium and plywood are just some of the materials being explored to create Art. Themes that have provided inspiration include cultural influences, faith, scale and water. A selection of year 13 work is currently being exhibited at the prestigious 'School of Art', Birmingham City University. This is a fantastic opportunity to showcase Bishop Challoner talent in a city centre space.



Photography club

Art Club has taken a different approach for the summer term by forming a photography club! The students have embraced the opportunity to create exciting work under different themes that have stemmed from GCSE and A level projects. They even went on a scavenger hunt around the school in competition to capture the most interesting image based on a list of unorthodox subjects. They have all set themselves missions for over the summer to continue experimenting with the medium – wherever they are during the holidays! We are immensely proud of the commitment and passion that the art club members have had since the first session in September and we know they will continue to grow into exciting and inspirational artists themselves!



FOOD EDUCATION

Key Stage 3

improve their health and wellbeing, for example to walk the family dog or switch off their mobile phone for a specified time each day. Their parents/carers sign the card each day to confirm the pledge is done. Form tutors check the cards weekly and raffle tickets are given for 'McEvoy's Megamix' raffle. At the end of the four weeks all completed cards are put into a raffle for a healthy living hamper for the family and a reward trip for the student.



This term students in Year 7 and 8 have taken part in a student pledge. The pledge lasted for four weeks. Each week they had to pledge to do something to help

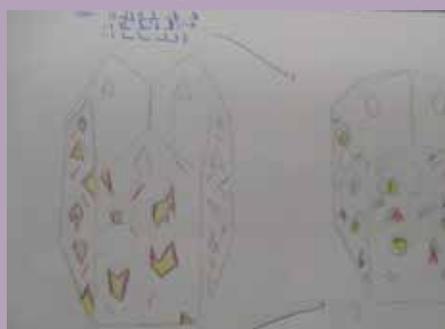
To support the students with ideas for pledges a smoothie bike was available for one week. The blender is pedal powered where the faster it is pedalled the smoother the fruit becomes. Donations were taken for the school charity.



TEXTILES

Key Stage 3

Year 7 students have been working on the pen pot holder's project using the Art Movements as inspiration for their designs. They generated shapes through paper modelling after studying art movements such as Memphis and Arts and crafts for the pen pot shape then created a repeating pattern on 'Grid Magic' software.



This was then sublimation printed onto the fabric. The pattern was then sewn using the sewing machine and hand stitching for fine details to create a 3D pen holder.

Year 8

In year 8, students have been building on these skills, experimenting with a range of felting techniques including Nuno, Resist and Wet Felting. They have all designed and made their own sports arm bands for their chosen sport. There have been some excellent designs and many students have improved their practical sewing skills on the machines.



Year 9

Year 9 students are working on a wall hanging project linked with their identity. This was inspired by the Tolkien Primary project from last summer. They have been experimenting with a variety of printing techniques including block, sublimation, transfer and screen printing before finalising their idea. They have produced a range of ideas before using 2D Design to create a stencil. This was then cut out using the laser cutter and then screen printed onto their personalized wall hanging.



Health & Wellbeing Staff Dressmaking Club

This term in 'staff textiles club', Yvonne and Jayne have been working on individual projects. Yvonne has managed to complete a fully lined Megan dress (from the Tilly and the buttons book) in a very sophisticated petrol blue cotton. This required much advanced skills than the basic skirt she made at the beginning of the year. She had to negotiate a hidden zip, gathering and darts to construct the fitted dress and has excelled herself!

Jayne is currently working on a blouse also by 'Tilly and the buttons'. This again is a much more demanding pattern to work with coupled with the fabric having a shiny surface which can be difficult to work with. Jane has risen to the challenge, building on her previous skills by adding gathering, facings and button holes to this garment. Both ladies have really developed their skills this term and their confidence has grown.



Tolkien Primary Project

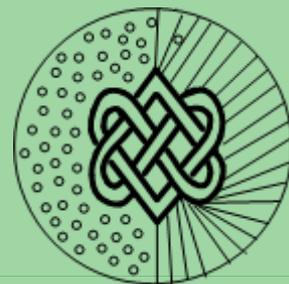
This term I have invited pupils from our feeder primary schools to participate in Textiles workshops. 15 pupils from each of the following schools; St Judes, St Mary's, St Dunstons, St Martin De Porres and St John & Monica have been working with the Design Technology department. They have created their own individual pennant banners based on the art work of Joseph Cornell and Betty Pepper. They have been using a range of fabrics, transfer printing techniques, laser cut fabric letters, buttons and other embellishments and become amazingly skilled on the sewing machines – well done!



PRODUCT DESIGN

Year 7

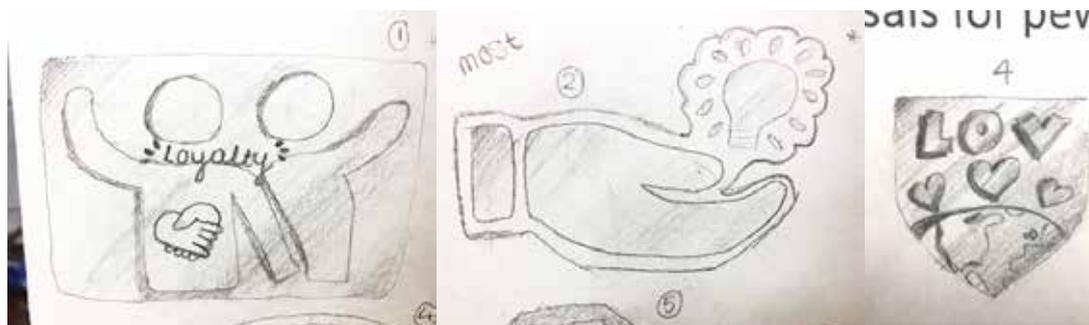
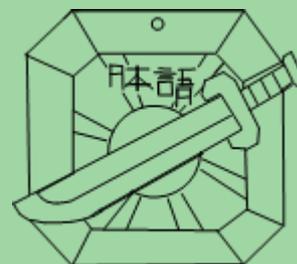
Students in year 7 have been exploring cultures from around the world in order to inspire the design of a piece of jewellery. In this project students learn the basics of computer aided design and develop their understanding of the benefits of computer aided manufacture in modern industry. They learn how to use a wide range of tools in the CAD package 2D design in order to produce a design which can be successfully cut from a sheet material such as acrylic or MDF.



Year 8

Year 8 have been developing their design skills in the Pewter Casting badge project. Students have learnt how to use a new design technique which focuses on key words as a starting point for ideas. Students often struggle to generate a range of proposals which show creativity and variety as they often become fixated on one idea which they perceive to be their best. Words such as mirror, rearrange, duplicate, maximise, combine and eliminate can encourage students to approach designing from a different perspective.

Once the strongest design is selected, it will be converted into a 2D design vector drawing allowing a three part mould to be laser cut from MDF. These are then used to create a casting in pewter allowing each student to produce a high quality, sophisticated outcome in a much shorter time than piercing a badge out of sheet metal.



STEM

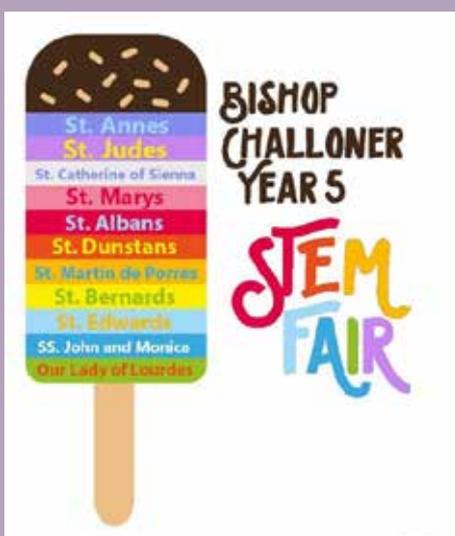
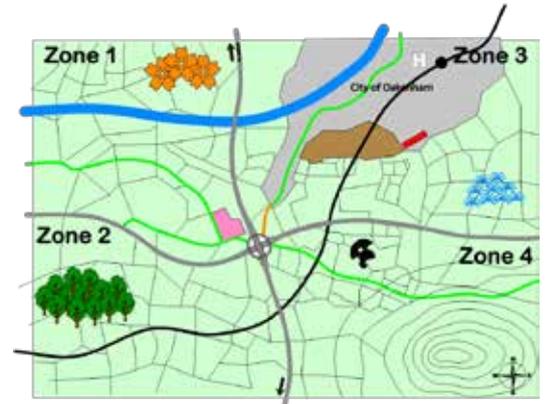
On 2nd July, students from Harborne Academy, John Henry Newman, King Edward's Camp Hill Girls, King Edwards VI Girls, Lindsworth, Wheelers lane, Queensbridge and Bishop Challoner came together in the Sports Hall to take part in the Garden Village STEM challenge.

Working in teams of 5 and with the support of a range of industry experts, students produced a proposal for a new settlement for 5,000 people which they conveyed through a 3D model. Each team member had to choose a role which they would stay in for the extent of the challenge. These were real stakeholders such as developers, archaeologists, ecologists, planners and transport consultants who collaborate on developments such as these in industry.

Each group had to solve a number of problems over the course of the day including selecting the best site for the new development, planning the infrastructure, selecting appropriate housing and amenities as well as calculating the required budget.

The event culminated in each group presenting their proposal to an industry expert from companies such as Aecom, Cundall, Arcadis, Atkins, Morgan Sindall and WSP who scored them on criteria such as sustainability, employment opportunities and land use. Congratulations to Lindsworth school who were the overall winners on the day and King Edwards VI who came a close second!

Garden Village Design Challenge



On the 26th June Bishop Challoner hosted its largest ever Year 5 STEM Fair. Integrated within Primary Science Week, the Fair saw 78 Y5's from 11 primary schools descend on the Sports Hall for a fun filled day of STEM challenges. Delivering the activities were 30 Bishop Challoner STEM leaders from Year 7, 8 and 9.

This year we split students into 16 mixed school groups, providing an opportunity for the development of communication, team work and problem solving skills as well as making some new friendships along the way.

We were supported on the day by three STEM ambassadors who were able to talk to students about the many career opportunities which await them in the STEM sector.

CPD was facilitated for the visiting teaching staff providing them with a valuable opportunity to develop subject knowledge that is specific to the KS2 curriculum. This supports the new broader curriculum initiative that OFSTED will be launching from September 2019.



PSHE

Year of Health & Wellbeing

In the final weeks of the Year of Health and Wellbeing, there were loads of events for students to participate in. Some of these events included:

Mile Run: During form time years 7 – 9 have had the opportunity to participate in an additional one mile run to help them be active and reduce stress.

Wellbeing Pledge Cards: Years 7 and 8 have made wellbeing pledges in form time, they have been given a pledge card to have signed by an adult at home every time they complete the pledge. Students that participate have had additional raffle tickets added to Mr McEvoy's Mega Mix

Sports Day: Our annual key stage 3 sports day had all students participating or supporting their form in a range of athletic challenges, from welly throwing to 100 metre sprint there was something for everyone. Preceding our formal sports day, year 9 held their very own traditional sports day with events such as sack races and an egg and spoon races.

Sponsored Football: In the past those who have volunteered for sponsored football have raised over £700. We hope to exceed this target with hundreds of students participating in these extra-curricular team games in the last week of term.

St Chads Sanctuary Collection: A huge amount of donations have been collated for the refugees and asylum seekers at St Chad's sanctuary including clothing, toiletries and shoes.

KS3 Readathon: To encourage a love of reading, improve literacy skills and fundraise for our school charity (British Heart Foundation) all our year 7 – 9 students participated in a readathon during the five hours of English lessons beginning the week of the 10th June.



McEvoy's Mega Mix: Students can sometimes feel their hard work and positive attitudes are not always rewarded in classes or extra-curricular activity. To ensure positive effort and attainment is recognised our Heads of Year are holding a raffle for some incredible prizes.

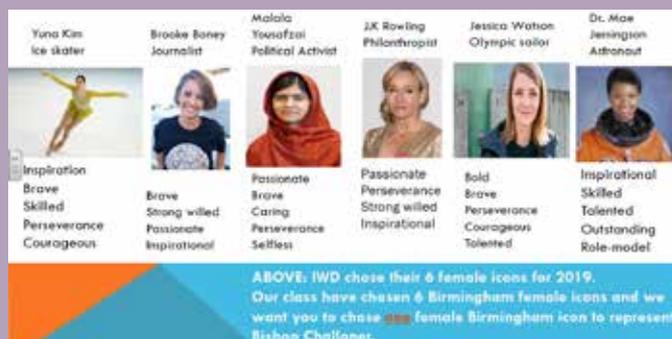
Summer Fayres: Our year 7 students held a summer fayre for the year six students and their parents that will be joining Bishop Challoner in September. The Fayre is bringing forms together as they plan activities which will raise funds for British Heart Foundation. Similarly, our year nine students will be holding a summer fete on the 27th of June for years seven and eight to enjoy during break time.



Food Bank Collection: In service to others, our year 10 forms have once again collected donations for a local food bank with a select few students sorting and dropping it off.

Dodgeball Tournaments & Non-Uniform Day: Each key stage three year group has had the opportunity to raise funds for British Heart Foundation as well as get their hearts racing with a series of dodgeball tournaments on our BHF non-uniform day.

The International Women's Day power point was created by our year 8 Cultural Literacy group, they researched a number of influential women from Birmingham and asked all tutor groups to vote on the most influential figure.



Personal Tutor

Personal Tutor time aims to ensure that students engage with Character Education, politics/current affairs and Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural education every week. Using a variety of resources including videos, quizzes, news reports etc., students have engaged with the following topics since Easter:

1. Team work and bonding games
2. How much do things really cost? Money Matters Day
3. Is social media a 'good' thing?
4. Allergy awareness
5. Hearing loss awareness week
6. International Women's Day
7. Remembering Stephen Lawrence



The resources for the Money Matters Day and the social media topic were created by our trainee teachers in their Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural education session. The resources were well received by staff and students and the experience allowed these trainees to understand the nature of developing whole-school resources.



CITIZENSHIP



Send My Friend To School

This term in Citizenship lessons, Year 7 students have been engaging with the Send My Friend to School campaign. The aim of the campaign is to engage young people in social action and develop a sense of social responsibility within them. Students begin by learning about Fundamental Human Rights and the Declaration of Human Rights held by the UN.

They research the statistics surrounding inequality of opportunity for education, many students are completely unaware of the many numerous reasons people are unable to receive an education and the global failing to meet the Global Millennium Goals. Inspired by this information, students create protest letters to inform our MP about the lack of educational inequality and why it should be made a priority. The most inspiring letters will be sent to Roger Godsiff MP.

Gatsby Benchmark



Year 8 have been using this term to meet many of the Gatsby Benchmarks and develop their knowledge and understanding of different careers, skills and how to source the information regarding careers that they will need for a prosperous life. One thing that is new to our career schemes is the lesson that informs students to be 'forward thinking', it teaches them how to find out about current and future industries so they can make effective choices about their future careers and ensure these careers will be in demand in the future.

Character Week

During the week beginning the 8th of July, all students in years 7-10 engaged in Character Week. The purpose of this week each year is to engage students in non-academic development. The week consists of a reward trip to Drayton Manor, Parent Consultation Day and three days of collapsed timetable workshops. Students heard from some incredible guest speakers who spoke about a range of things such as knife crime, mental health, healthy relationships and career opportunities. The workshops were designed for all staff to deliver in an engaging way; many are outside of the classroom in larger spaces and involve little writing so students get to explore Personal Social Health & Economic education topics in a variety of ways. Feedback from the workshops was overwhelmingly positive.

Character Week	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Monday	Character Day - Precious Lives speaker - Confidence & Courage - Gratitude & Optimism - Empathy & Compassion	PSHE Day - Precious Lives speaker - Refugee speaker - Conflict resolution - Internet safety	Character Day - Precious Lives speaker - Confidence & Courage - Gratitude & Optimism - Empathy & Compassion - Exploitation	PSHE Day - Work Experience thank you letters - Hidden Homeless - Team challenges - Interview Skills
Tuesday	PSHE Day - Healthy Me - Healthy Body - Healthy Friendship - Conflict Resolution	Character Day - Team Work & Resilience - Eloquence & Partnership - Trust & Listening - Responsibility & Assertiveness	PSHE - Safe & Sound drama performance - Gender - Sexuality - Disability Awareness	Aspirations Day - Beyond Year 11 - Making Career Decisions - Employability - Careers Exploration
Wednesday	Eco Day - Where does our rubbish go? - Birmingham Clean Air Zone - Eco Art - Safe Choices speaker & band performance	PSHE Day - Healthy Confidence - Healthy Body - Healthy Relationships - Safe Choices speaker & band performance	Aspirations Day - Apprenticeships & University speakers - Engineering careers - Marketing careers - Medical careers - Safe Choices speaker & band performance	PSHE Day - Money Matters - Conflict Resolution - Pay Day Loans - Safe Choices speaker & band performance
Thursday	Drayton Manor			
Friday	Parent Consultation Day			

Character Week activities included: team challenges workshop, Career Education Speakers from the University of Birmingham, Plastic Bottle Eco Art Flowers, Loudmouth, a local drama company, performed Safe and Sound, a performance all about safe and healthy relationships. The Verse, a local band, performed and spoke to our students about making safe choices.



SPORT

Since Easter, students have been developing their skills, knowledge and understanding in a range of sports including: Volleyball, Cricket, Athletics, Badminton and Tennis.

Students have continued to attend a wide variety of extra-curricular clubs where they have been given great opportunities to develop their life long participation within sport. Some of these opportunities include: attending Moseley tennis club to receive specialist coaching, continuing of the fitness club sessions ran by two ex-students who are now personal trainers and Year 9 girls have received leadership sessions by coaches from Edgbaston Cricket club which has meant they are able to lead after school club sessions to younger students.

This has been a fantastic opportunity for all students to build a positive rapport and develop their confidence in the delivery of cricket sessions. A huge well done to the 10 cricket activators for their commitment and success in Cricket: Maddie McK, Allyssa M, Annabel D, Nyah K, Bianca P, Ellie H, Giselle C-K, Joyce F, Hannah and Kivah L.

We have also had three trips ran by the PE department since Easter, all of which have been a huge success!

PGL Tour

A huge congratulations to the 25 girls who went to PGL over the May bank holiday weekend! The girls were absolutely fantastic and came away with 2 silvers (Year 8 and 9) and a bronze medal (Year 7)! All gave 100% effort in training and competitions. They also had time to enjoy different activities such as the giant swing, abseiling, zip wiring and aero ball. It was a fabulous, fun-filled, sporting weekend; the girls were wonderful, a credit to themselves and the school. They also had a great opportunity to speak to England Netball player "EBONY". The girls asked fantastic questions and showed a love of netball throughout the weekend!



Miss Ball, Miss Beall and Miss Hunter were all really proud of the girls over the weekend! Well done!



Milan Football Development Tour

The KS3 Football Development tour to Milan (Inter) from Saturday 11th May - Wednesday 15th May 2019 was a huge success. All 32 students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and it's clear that they learnt an awful lot about Italy/Milan and about the Football philosophy at Inter Milan FC. I'd like to commend all 32 students on their hard work and effort levels at training/within matches and their excellent behaviour throughout the tour; it was a pleasure to take them and they really did represent the school superbly well.



Most of these students had never been abroad before; and almost all of them had never been abroad without their parents before, but they were excellent from start to finish and showed a real maturity. A superb trip!

Year 9 Football

Football and Year 9 they have had a phenomenal season! On Wednesday 22nd May the boys became Birmingham Cup Champions with a 2-1 win against Light Hall at Villa Park. The boys conducted themselves excellently and really did the school proud! It was a great experience for all players and spectators!

As well as this, within the first week back after half term, the boys managed to win two more finals! On Tuesday 4th June, they become Kings Norton league and cup champions! Although weather was not on either side, the boys had a victorious 4-0 win against Kings Norton Boys! And finally, the boys won the West Midlands Cup after a clinical 4-0 win against RSA academy!

There has been a tremendous efforts from the boys over the last couple of weeks and this has paid off! A special mention to Mr Wilson for his phenomenal efforts over the past year with the boys! They have truly deserved the first treble win for the school! Well done to all those involved!



Football Development trip to Manchester City FC

28 students were taken to Manchester City FC in order to experience the Football philosophy at Manchester City FC and it did not disappoint! Students' skills were put to the test via 3x 90 minute sessions with academy staff from the club. I'm pleased to say that the students did themselves and the school proud and the staff at Manchester City FC were impressed at the skill level, application and behaviour of the students from the school.



Year 10 Football

The Year 10 boys football team have also had a huge success this year. The boys played Turves Green in the league final and won an outstanding 7 - 0. The boys conducted themselves in a fantastic manner and played some excellent football on the day. They also had the fantastic opportunity of playing at Villa Park in the final of the Birmingham Cup against St Peters. Unfortunately, the boys lost 10 -1 but the score does not reflect the hard work they have put in over the season. Mr Noone is extremely proud of you all and you should be proud of what you have achieved.



Girls' Football

As well as some great results from the boys football, the girls football team have also been part of some great results. The U14 girls reached the semi-final of the West Midlands County cup. Unfortunately, the girls lost 3-2 but their performance was fantastic. A huge well done to all the girls involved as they battled hard until the final whistle. A special mention to Gisselle who also got player of the match! Well done!

GLAMS

Well done to the girls for their continued efforts of organising their own GLAMS tournament over the past couple of weeks! They have taken into consideration pupil's views and opinions about PE and have been able to create an inspirational and motivating environment for the girls to enjoy PE after school. The girls hosted their own benchball competition on Thursday 27th June

and had a tremendous turnout. This included over 30 students turning up, with the girls inspiring younger students. Miss Hunter is extremely proud of the students for leading and motivating the younger generation. Well done to the GLAMS girls for all their hard work and the Year 7 and 8 girls who attended the tournament!



Ball Crew 2019

A huge congratulations to all those students who have made the final selection for Ball Crew. All 70 students who represented the school as Ball Boys & Girls for the 'WTA Nature Valley Classic' at the Edgbaston Priory Club from Saturday 15th June - Sunday 23rd June 2019 were a credit to the school and to themselves. Students had to Ball Crew for some of the worlds best female Tennis players; which included the likes of world number one - Ashleigh Barty, world number two - Naomi Osaka, world number three - Karolina Pliskova and Britain's Johanna Konta and Heather Watson - and it didn't phase them.

All 70 students were excellent across all 9 days and members of the public (inclusive of former Teachers/Headteachers), volunteers and tournament officials were quick to suggest that this was the best Ball Crew they had ever seen, which was testament to the students' impeccable behaviour, performance and professionalism. I would personally like to thank all students who took part; I was proud to see them perform as the Ball Crew for the tournament and was even more proud to receive such excellent feedback.

A fantastic opportunity and experience and one that the students will forget.



Tennis

Well done to the following 8 students Maddie McK, Allyssa M, Cora R, Sururya H, Josephine P, Bridget P, Erin I and Aira P who participated in a tennis fixture against King Edward Sheldon Heath. The girls played in double and single matches against some very talented individuals. Overall, the girls battled hard and fully deserved their wins! Well done girls!

Netball

Netball has continued into the spring and summer term with great dedication by the Year 7, 8 and 9 girls. The Year 9 girls entered into the Linden tournament and came 2nd overall. The girls were outstanding and showed fantastic talent, determination and resilience during the tournament.

A special mention to Joyce Fouda who won player of the tournament out of all age groups there. Coaches and umpires commented upon her skill and potential in netball which was great to hear! Well done Joyce.

South Birmingham Athletics Trials

Just before half term, we took Year 7, 8 and 9 students to the annual South Birmingham Athletic Trials in Redditch. The students competed against a range of local schools including: St Thomas Aquinas, Turves Green and Shenley Academy. There were some great performances across the evening. A special mention to the following students who qualified for the South Birmingham team: Josie W- Long jump, 100m and relay. Rosina O- 300m. Jada Leigh T- Long jump, 100m and relay. Esrom T High Jump. Djibril T- Triple jump. Jemahri T- 300m. William U- 200m and relay.



With it being the summer term, only means that we are dedicating our PE lessons to Athletics. As a department, we are fully immersing ourselves into both track and field events in the preparation for our annual sports day at Tudor Grange.



School Games

Moving on, the Year 7 and 8 girls played in the school games competition on Monday 24th June. The team of 8 girls played three games against local school King Edwards Camp Hill, Queensbridge and Moseley School. The girls played outstanding and worked well as a team which was proven when they won all three games. Well done to the girls involved they now progress onto the school games finals on Thursday 11th June! A special mention to Summer, Megan and Josie who received school game badges from the opposition teams for showing passion, team work and determination! Well done girls!

Sports Day

Bishop Challoner Year of Health and Wellbeing culminated with KS3 Sports Day held at Tudor Grange. A massive success that saw year 7, 8 and 9 students performing in front of their peers in all the track and field events. This year, we had 20 different records smashed across Year 7, 8 and 9. Stand out performers on the day were Annabel Deane who smashed three track records in the 100m, 200m and 400m races. In year 7, LIV came out over all champions with outstanding performances from Llyods in the field events. In the year 8 competition, 8 BON and MAC shared first prize and in year 9, the winners were LIV. Congratulations to all the competitors taking part. A wonderful sporting event to end the Year of Health and Wellbeing.

Results are as follows

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
1- LIV	1- BON/MAC	1- LIV
2- SHA	3- SCO	2-SCO
3-MAC	4- LIV	3-MAC
4-HIL	5- HIL	4- HIL
5-SCO	6-SHA	5-BON
6-BON		6-SHA

New track records

Year 7 discus female- Marcella P (13.4)
 Year 7 High Jump female -Cora R (1.2)
 Year 7 Javelin female - Skyla S (16.4)
 Year 7 Javelin male - Joe M (17.7)
 Year 7 Long Jump female - Jada T(5.0)
 Year 7 Triple Jump female - Cora R (7.4)
 Year 7 Wellie Wang female - Marika (15.9)
 Year 7 Shot Putt- Megan B (7.8)

Year 8 400M male - Jemahri T (1.03)
 Year 8 High Jump male - Tadhg P (1.55)
 Year 8 Long Jump male - Djbril T (4.85)
 Year 8 400M relay female - BON (58.53)
 Year 8 400M relay male - SCO (56.87)
 Year 8 Triple Jump male - Djbril T (9.6)
 Year 8 Triple Jump female - Juliet O(8.6)
 Year 8 Wellie Wang male - Tadhg P (29.4)

Year 9 400M female - Annabel D(1.10.43)
 Year 9 200M female - Annabel D(28.15)
 Year 9 100M female - Annabel D (12.84)
 Year 9 100M male - Alex L(12.05)
 Year 9 Javelin female - Meliyah B (18.64)

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

The Year 10 students are continuing with their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award and ensuring they complete all four sections. At the start of April, students completed their practice expedition where they were able to put into practice all their skills previously learnt (route plans, food diaries and first aid). The expedition itself was a success for all and allowed students to become reflective on their experiences. The students are now continuing their hard work for the real expedition just before they break up for summer to ensure this section is signed off. All students are also continuing their hard work completing their volunteering, skill and physical sections in order for the Bronze award to be fully complete. Well done for all your hard work so far this year and good luck for your expedition in July!

Birmingham Connect

Over the last few months Miss Hunter and Mr Noone have been working closely with the Youth Sport Trust on their upcoming Birmingham Connect programme. The programme uses sport as a means of social integration in the run up to the 2022 Commonwealth Games which are being hosted in Birmingham. The Youth Sport Trust came into school to deliver an assembly to all of Year 8 about sport and its ability to bring young people from different backgrounds, cultures and upbringings together. From the assembly, 5 current Year 8 students were selected to become 'connectors' and work in partnership with 19 other local Birmingham school to host sporting events and bring students together.

On Wednesday 19th July our 5 connectors Dani C, Ailis McH, Nathaniel M, Jack C and Cian S attended the NEC for the Birmingham Connect opening event. The students interacted with other schools and started to learn games and skills in preparation for their planning stage. As a department, we believe this is a great opportunity for the students to be involved with to improve social inclusion within Birmingham! Good luck to all those involved!



Speed Skating

A special mention to Grace in Year 7. Grace has had a fantastic year and success with her speed skating this year. She has just been awarded the 2nd fastest girl in the age 11 category for speed



skating in Great Britain. This is such a fantastic achievement and a huge congratulations are in order for Grace! Well done and keep up the good work.

Race For Life

Over the last two weeks, Year 7 have been raising money and completing in race for life. Within their lesson time Year 7 and a numerous amount of staff have walked to Kings Heath Park to complete their run/ walk. Mrs Moon was extremely proud of each student's efforts and they managed to raise a huge £804.06! A special mention to Sonny Butcher who raised £240 and Aoife Kelly who raised £155! Well done everyone!



PE & SPORTS PREMIUM PROGRAMMES

Competitive Sport

This has been another busy term and Mr McDermott has organised a wide range of competitive sporting opportunities for all the local schools. Well done to all schools who have entered our competitions and we wish the winners the best of luck in The Birmingham School Games Finals on July 11th and 12th. The table below lists some of the events we have organised since April and shows how busy we have been during what has been a very challenging summer term due to the poor weather. There are still Year 7-8 boys and girls athletics to be held as well as a Year 7-8 rounders competitions which have been rearranged due to the rain.

Competition/event	Number of schools or teams taking part	Number of young people taking part	External support/Sports Leaders involved	Winners
Y3-4 Athletics	6	60	NA	St Edward's St Martin de Porres Lakey Lane
Y3-4 Tennis	12	48	14 from Bishop Challoner	Wheelers Lane
Y3-4 and Y5-6 Tri Golf	5	50	15 from Bishop Challoner Moseley Golf Club Professional	Colmore Juniors and Wheelers Lane
Y5-6 Tennis	9	36	14 from Camp Hill Boys	Wheelers Lane
Y5-6 Megafest (Rugby coaching programme)	9	84	6 coaches from Wasps and The RFU	St Alban's
Y5-6 Tag Rugby	8	108	8 from Camp Hill RFC and Wasps	St Catherine of Siena
Y5-6 Netball	11	88	12 from Queensbridge	TBC
Y5-6 Rounders	9	108	6 from Swanshurst Girls	St Martin de Porres
U14 Boys Road to Wimbledon Tennis	5	20	12 from Camp Hill Boys	KE Camp Hill Boys
U14 Girls Road to Wimbledon Tennis	2	8	N/A	Swanshurst Girls
Y7-9 Girls Cricket	4	60	3 coaches and 3 umpires from Warwickshire Cricket Board	University of Birmingham School (UoB)
Y9-10 Rounders	4	60	N/A	KE Camp Hill Girls
Y7-11 Dance	4	43	Birmingham Hippodrome	Bishop Challoner and UoB
Total	88	773		

Youth Leadership

Bishop Challoner pupils have also demonstrated their tennis leadership skills when they supported the Y3-4 tennis competition at Billesley Tennis Centre as well as at the Birmingham School Games Finals at Cannon Hill Park. They showed excellent dedication, enthusiasm and commitment and, once again, they were a real credit to school.



60 Minutes Physical Activity

Mr McDermott has been in to several primary schools to speak to all staff and pupils during whole school assemblies and he has been discussing the importance of being physically active every day. It has been great to see all the pupils being active during assemblies and has shown staff how easy it is to get pupils active in a small space.



SIXTH FORM

Student Well-being and Mental Health

The Sixth Form team has 2 trained mental health champions and all students have attended assemblies, where practical advice about maintaining good mental health and minimising exam anxiety has been shared. Mrs Reynolds has started to offer Talk Tuesdays and Talk Thursdays-drop-in sessions before school and at lunch times. We have invited a representative from Forward Thinking Birmingham to give a short talk at our parents/carers' information evening in September.

Year 13 Leavers' Service

A lovely service took place in the Common Room on Friday 17th May. Students led the service with readings and prayers. Tutors had obviously built up a great relationship with their forms, and some amusing memories were shared. The canteen provided a splendid "afternoon tea", which was very much appreciated.

University of B'ham Open Day

All of Year 12, together with some members of the sixth form team attended the Open Day at Birmingham on Friday 28th June. Students had prepared for this, with the help of their tutors, to ensure that they get the most out of the day. They were most enthusiastic about the lectures and taster sessions that they attended. Many students were also very impressed with the facilities that Birmingham has to offer.

Workshop on Employability Skills

On Thursday 20th June Pathway-Careers gave a presentation and workshop to all year 12 students on employability skills. The focus was on ways of gaining and recognising transferrable skills and then being able to demonstrate them in job applications and interviews.



Year 12 Work Experience

All Year 12 spent an afternoon in June in workshops and presentations, to prepare them for their work experience, which took place over the first two weeks of July. Students carried out placements in a variety of professional settings; from hospitals, university departments and nursery schools to investment banking and the motor industry. Students have also registered on the UCAS site or the National Apprenticeship Service website. A few students, who were not able to arrange work experience in July, acted as ambassadors or helped at the various events happening in college, such as the Tasters Days, Textiles Workshops and Garden Village Project. A programme of work related learning was also been prepared for them. Any student who did not secure two weeks in July, will be completing work experience during the summer holidays.

Recruitment Taster Days

Our own Year 11 students, who have applied to the Sixth Form, together with all of the external applicants, attended an Exploration Day on Monday 1st July. Students took part in taster sessions, a presentation on the sixth form and a Q&A session with some Year 12 students.

60 Year 10 students from Kings Norton Boys Schools and Queensbridge School enjoyed a Taster Morning on 2nd July, when they were able to sample three A Level subjects that they are not likely to have encountered at GCSE level: Economics, Law and Psychology .

Year 13 Prom

This took place once again at the beautiful Highbury Hall in Moseley, and was an evening enjoyed by staff and students alike.

Year 13 Focus Day

The last college event for Year 12 this term will be their Focus Day on 15th July. Students will have an opportunity to visit an HE Fair, at which universities from around the UK will be on hand to promote their courses and facilities. Students will also start their Personal Statements, under the guidance of their Academic Tutors. The day concludes with the Celebration and Awards Service, at which students' academic and personal achievements are recognised, as well as their service to the wider community.



Summer Schools

As always, a number of students will be taking part in university Summer schools this year. These are residential visits that enable students to get a real feel for university life and also take part in seminars and taster tutorials in the subjects they are considering studying. Social events are also offered and students stay in university halls of residence. Students also have Nuffield Research placements; very competitive opportunities to carry out paid research at local universities this summer.

OPEN LEARNING CENTRE

Holiday reading

Let your book take you travelling.

The long summer holiday is a great time for students to re-establish a reading routine. No child should ever be bored when there are so many fantastic books to read. There is a book to suit every level of ability, and every interest. Books can be accessed from the school or local library for free, or bought from the local charity shop, for less than the price of a chocolate bar. Alternatively books can be bought (or borrowed from the community library) and downloaded to an electronic device as an e-book or as an e audio book. Just because your child is at secondary school, it is still vital they keep their reading stamina up.

Talking to your child about the book they are reading can be very bonding. Try reading to or with your child if they are a struggling reader. Reading a page each usually works well.

Encourage a reading routine. Reading a few pages every day for 10 minutes (or more), works better than reading a bigger chunk once a week.

Encouraging your child to read has immense benefits to their health and well-being and improves their confidence. The additional benefits reading has on their educational attainments are just a bonus. Whether your child is going away on holiday, or not, they can visit any place the book takes their imagination.

When the students return to school next term, they will be able continue that reading routine by borrowing some of the new school library stock that is due to arrive in the autumn. More news to follow next term.

Happy summer reading.

Mrs Fanning (Librarian).

BCTSA

School Direct / PGCE Teacher Training

This year's trainee teachers have now completed their training and we were fortunate to have Jo Kennett and Natalie Carry from St Edward's Catholic Primary School deliver an inspiring keynote speech at the celebration event in June. All trainees worked so hard all year, being placed in many of our partner primary and secondary schools. We like to 'grow our own' quality teachers, so it is always great when trainees manage to secure teaching jobs for their NQT year within our Alliance of schools. Thanks goes to the strong mentoring team who ensure the trainees make it through their tough, but exciting, training year.



We will be recruiting new trainees for our Primary and Secondary School Direct programme in October 2019 ready to start in September 2020. Contact us if you or someone you know would like to become a teacher on teachingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

Leadership and CPD Programmes

This year we have welcomed over 250 teachers onto our Leadership and other CPD (Continual Profession Development) training courses. Our programmes support teachers at all stages of their careers, from those starting out in their NQT year to those heading for Senior Leadership. Some of our programmes are nationally accredited and recognised across the teaching profession; other programmes are created in-house with our own Bishop Challoner experts! We also work with partners from other schools and we look forward to rolling out some brand new programmes next academic year. Retention of early career teachers is proving to be a big issue across the country, so we are trying to address this with support programmes for recently qualified teachers.



Teaching STEM Internships

Following on from the success of our STEM Internship programme over the previous 2 years, we are pleased to have over 30 Teaching Interns for a 4-week period in June/July again this year. Students from University of Birmingham, Coventry, Aston and Warwick undertake 4 training days here at Bishop Challoner and then spend 16 days in one of our partner secondary schools, supporting Maths and Physics lessons. Having these young subject experts can be a real additional help in classes, as well as the Interns being great role models for our students. This year we have several female engineers amongst the Interns, covering a range of interesting disciplines. The aim of the programme, which is funded by the Department for Education, is to ultimately attract the Interns to apply for teacher training once they have graduated from University next year, so we hope to see some familiar faces on our School Direct programme next year.

BCTSA-find us online...and on the back of a bus!

We continue to market our courses through our website, so why not take a look at all the other things we do? www.bctsa.org We also have a busy Twitter page, so you can see what we are doing on a daily basis. @teaching_school – why not tweet us? You can also find us on Facebook and LinkedIn. This year we have also started set up an Instagram page - @bishopchallonerts.

At Bishop Challoner Teaching School Alliance we are grateful for all the 'word-of-mouth' promotion that goes on, especially around our School Direct Teacher Training programme. Parents, staff, community and students are all so important for getting the word out about what we do.



CAREERS

This term has been packed full of careers related learning. Here are a few of the highlights:

Year 7

All of Year 7 have been busy doing a Careers project, which they have had to present to their form group. Throughout the course of this project Year 7 pupils have learnt about a range of careers including: Sports Nutritionist, Meteorologist, Visual Merchandiser, Occupational Therapist, Probation Officer, Energy Engineer and many more.

Year 8

Year 8 have finished the year with a flurry of careers related learning. As well as using KUDOS online to identify possible areas of interest, they have also had an "Insight into..." during form time where they have learned all about what it takes to be a Solicitor.

Year 9

During Character Week, Year 9 heard from Aston University about the benefits of going to university and from South and City/ Bournville College about why the apprenticeship route is a good post 16 option. They also heard from University of Birmingham Medical students about the range of careers in the NHS and had the opportunity to use some medical equipment such as stethoscopes, bandages and blood pressure machines. Year 9 also learnt about careers in marketing and engineering.



Year 10

It has been a particularly busy term for Year 10 who have spent two weeks on work experience at placements including: an interior design company, an Irish dancing costume design company, England Athletics, Lloyds Bank, Barber Institute of Fine Arts, Warwickshire County Cricket Ground and BBC Current affairs in London to name but a few. On their return to school Year 10 were involved in a Raising Aspirations day as part of Character Week where they had a number of employability workshops which helped them to focus on making good decisions, what their options are after Year 11 and exploring careers using the icould website. Year 10 concluded their character week activities with some money matters, which they found extremely valuable.

For the first time this year, Year 10s have visited the Higher Education (HE) Fair (attended by universities from across the country as well as the apprenticeship service) and started thinking more seriously about whether the university or apprenticeship route is the most suitable for them.

Year 12

Year 12 have also had a very successful work experience fortnight, securing placements in architecture companies, NHS, schools, physiotherapy departments, solicitors, engineers and hedge fund management amongst others. We took the whole of Year 12 to the University of Birmingham open day where they learned about the different undergraduate degree courses on offer and accommodation available. This was excellent preparation for the HE Fair and Future Focus day, which concluded their busy year and gave them the opportunity to draft their personal statement as well as talk to a wide range of university representatives and the National Apprenticeship Service.



Careers Advisor

Our Year 11 and Year 13 students have spent lots of time this year deciding on their next steps and making applications, and are now waiting until results days to find out what next year holds.

If any students are having second thought about their plans for next year, they can contact me at:

e.mcgowan@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

I will also be in school on GCSE and A-Level results days to celebrate with our students, and offer advice to those that are unsure of their next steps.

Miss McGowan

Mobile Phones

With most pupils in school now owning mobile phones for use to and from school, it is important that they are also not a distraction to study. All students should hand mobile phones into the pastoral office for safe keeping and can collect them at the end of the school day. 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.

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.

Uniform

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.

The wearing of Summer uniform will be communicated when it is permitted to wear.

Uniform sales will be held over the summer holiday.

Schoolcomms

As you are aware we operate a cashless catering system and Schoolcomms is now the preferred and recommended system to make payments for your child's school dinners and some school trips. If you haven't already done so, please sign up using the mobile number and email address that the school has on record for you. There is only 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

Attendance and Punctuality

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 further day that 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.

The school attendance target is 96%.

- Year 7- 96%
- Year 8- 96%
- Year 9- 94%
- Year 10- 95%
- Year 11- 95%

Thank you for your continued support.



Pastoral Staff Changes- September 2019

There are a number of Pastoral staff changes that you should be aware of from September 2019, we welcome and congratulate all staff joining the team.

Head of Year 7- Mrs McGowan
Assistant Head of Year 7- Mrs Higginson

Head of Year 8- Mrs Brown
Assistant Head of Year 8- Miss Hunter

Acting Head of Year 9- Mrs Dawson
Acting Assistant Head of Year 9- TBC

Head of Year 10- Miss Beard
Assistant Head of Year 10- Mr Fell

Head of Year 11- Mr Clarke
Assistant Head of Year 11- Miss Williams

Head of Year 12- Miss Bisset

Head of Year 13- Mrs Healy

We wish Miss Kelly a happy retirement.

Mrs Brown moves from Assistant Head of Year 9 to Head of Year 8 and we welcome Miss Hunter and Miss Bisset to the team

Would you consider sponsoring our termly Newsletters?

If you kindly sponsor us, we will make sure that we advertise your business in our remaining 2 termly newsletters at Easter and Summer. We only require your advert to be sent by email to us and we will do the rest.

If you would like to sponsor our newsletter and support Bishop Challoner, please email: Gerald Noone g.noone@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk or call on 0121 4444161.



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School Fund and Match Fund

Thanks to all parents/carers for their donations to school fund. If you would like to donate, you can do this via Schoolcomms. If your employer helps schools with Match Funding, we would also like to hear from you. Please contact g.noone@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

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Ambulance**



Free First Aid Skills in the Community, become a Community Advocate or a Community Champion!

St John Ambulance have secured funding to offer free first aid info sessions lasting an hour to over 50s and families in your area. You will learn the difference between a heart attack and a cardiac arrest, how to look after bleeds and burns and ultimately how to reassure someone in need.

We want you to help us share these basic life saving skills out far and wide. Whether it is by simply telling someone what you learnt as a First Aid Community Champion or by becoming a Community Advocate and doing info sessions yourselves in your local area. Offering resilience and confidence in emergencies and building this into local areas is our aim and of utmost importance to us.

Please get in touch with the Birmingham based Community Development Officer Miriam Aslam (Miriam.aslam@sja.org.uk) or the Community Administrator, Rebecca Smith (Rebecca.smith2@sja.org.uk) and let them know your interest.



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6-00pm - 7-00pm
(7yrs and above)

Thursdays

5-30pm - 6-30pm
(7yrs / 10yrs)

6-30pm - 7-30pm
(11yrs onwards)

JUDO

Judo is an Olympic combat sport with the Judo club being based at Bishop Challoner sports centre since 1994 where we've had a total of 17 players representing GBR.

All coaches are National governing body certified by the BJA and all are CRB / DBS checked.



Bishop Challoner Catholic College
Institute Road, Kings Heath
Birmingham B14 7EG
(Held in the BC Dojo)



Contact:
info@bishopchalloner.club
or tel: 07939008153
Angela Yeates 1st Dan BJA

JU-JITSU

Tuesdays and Thursdays

8-00pm - 9-30pm.
(Ages 14 to 99)

Traditional Japanese Ju-Jitsu as taught to Military and Police forces throughout the world. Bishop Challoner Ju Jitsu club is a friendly club with a very relaxed atmosphere and method of teaching with Ju Jitsu being taught as a self defence, this art is suitable for both males and females covering all types of attacks including knives and other weapons.



All Coaches are National governing body certified and DBS checked.

Phil Hudson - 5th Dan Ju Jitsu BJJ *** 5th Dan Judo BJA. ***
Paul Bishop 4th Dan Ju Jitsu BJJ. ***
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