

BC News



Summer 2017

YEAR OF CELEBRATION 2016/2017



A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER, MR K McEVoy

Dear Parent/Carer

The summer term, in addition to its demanding examination schedule, has been extremely busy. Students and staff are being creative and hard-working, ensuring that Bishop Challoner continues to be a dynamic learning environment. Over the half-term a group of sixteen students and four staff travelled on the Lourdes Pilgrimage. The regular daily photographs on Twitter showed the fantastic work undertaken by this group. We thank Tommy, Mrs Nutt, Mrs Atkins and Miss Beard for leading the group and all the students for their dedication and commitment.

Miss Caherty and Miss Bisset have prepared our whole school 'Character Week' 10/07-14/07 as part of our Year of Celebration. This has been a huge undertaking and a fantastic conclusion to a year designated to reflect on the importance of the work of the school and its potential to change life chances.

The Character Week programme complemented the fortnightly Bishops Got Talent events, co-ordinated by Mrs Choudhury. These activities have run throughout the year and have reinforced the message regarding the importance of appreciating the gifts of our young people (as well as being great fun!).

One of the highlights of our sporting year was the AEGON Classic. Mr Moon, Miss Hampson and Mr Marsh supported our outstanding ball crew in this prestigious event.

The summer term also saw the school giving its all to support the chosen Charity-this year it is the Alzheimer's Society. It is a credit to the students and staff that they have reached the £5000 target each year and are on track to exceed £6000 in 2017.

The ongoing fight to overcome the challenge of financial cutbacks begins the moment that the new budget is set in April. We were delighted by the performance of the school last year but the threat has not gone away. We are indebted to the staff for their positivity and willingness to weather the storm. Class sizes are larger, timetables are heavier and, in addition, we are continually looking for alternative funding streams-each of these that we find inevitably brings an associated workload. Teams across Teaching School, Maths Hub and Science Learning Partnership are heavily engaged in national programmes that carry great

responsibility and demands. Again, the school appreciates the enormous efforts of staff who work so hard to ensure we deliver successful programmes.

Examples of the extent to which our teachers are responding to the pressures we face include our offer of Teacher Training programmes in Derby and, Stoke. In addition we are looking to expand our School Sports Partnership further across Birmingham and into Coventry.

We continue to meet our Primary Headteacher colleagues to discuss issues around improved collaboration. Mr O'Connor has co-ordinated a review of opportunities that exist to maximise outcomes and efficiencies from closer partnership work across the Tolkien Cluster. This is in response to the work done by Mr Hetherington on academisation, and as a consequence of meetings with the Diocese.

An analysis of the audit took place in late June with recommendations to the Primary Headteachers at the start of July. It is expected that a further meeting with them and with the Diocese is to be held to review progress. In the meantime, we continue to offer St Albans regular support and to discuss closer links. This is of mutual benefit, with Challoner learning more about the requirements within the Primary Sector. Our move towards academisation is measured as our designations are complex and, in these austere times, delicately balanced.

The closure of Baverstock has brought demands on all local schools to offer support. Possible because we have been in Special Measures (joke), we have proven to be the most popular option for parents seeking a local school! We expect 12-15 students to join, across Years 7-10 from September.

In light of recent national events the school has been reviewing all aspects of its Lockdown Policy for day, residential and overseas visits, also for the site itself.

Students and staff have been briefed on procedures.

Within our student body and our staff families there have been a number of bereavements this term. It has been a most sad time and we remember them in our prayers.

It is some time since the school had such a large change in staffing:

Resignations

Mrs Partridge (24 years)
Mr Hudson (23 years)
Miss Caherty (11 years)
Mr May (7 years)
Miss Viridi (5 years)
Mr Hayden (6 years)
Mr Dunne (4 years)
Mr Marsh (4 years)
Mr S Ram (3 years)
Mrs Reade (3 years)
Miss Stannard (3 years)
Miss Wood (2 years)
Mr B Humagain (2 year)
Miss L Clark (1 year)
Miss B Tombs (1 year)

Appointments:

Mr Griffiths, IT Technician- start date April 2017
Miss Reeves, Finance Administrator- start date 05/06/2017

September 2017 appointments:

Mr Bennett, Assistant Head of History
Mr Benyon, Teacher of Psychology- temporary for one term
Miss Conroy, Teacher of Design and Technology (NQT)
Mr Deeley, Teacher of Science
Miss Grattidge, Teacher of RE
Mr Hester, Teacher of Science (NQT)
Mr Khatib, Teacher of Computing/Business Studies (NQT)
Miss Middup, Teacher of Mathematics
Mr Moreira, Teacher of PE (NQT)
Miss Phillips, Teacher of Science
Mr Reed, Teacher of Geography
Miss Watson, Teacher of History
Mrs Peckover, Student Services
Mr Porter- Events Manager

We wish those leaving 'good luck' in their chosen path and look forward to the energy and drive of our new staff. The school also sees the retirement of Mr Alan Johnson, after over 20 years as a Governor. Having given great service to the school, he will be sadly missed.

The summer holidays beckon as our 'Year of Celebration' closes and all students and staff are, I'm sure, looking forward to a well-earned break. The newsletters and BC14 bulletins recount the many highlights of a great year of success for the school. We have, on a daily basis, tried to recognise and openly appreciate all the good work done in and by the school. And there has been no shortage of opportunities to highlight the efforts of our young people-well done to all our community on a tremendous 2016-2017 school year.

Best wishes for the summer,
Mr K McEvoy

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SPIRITUAL LIFE

There has been a real sense of spiritual growth this term. Prayer and worship has continued to be an integral part of the life of students and staff with teaching group masses and devotional prayers led by Fr. Simon Baker from St. Dunstan's Parish.

I personally would like to thank all students, parents, teachers and all support staff for their continued support, generosity and contribution towards our School charity "The Alzheimer's Society" this term. The atmosphere around school has been electric; our whole school community working together towards the common goal of trying to serve others. We are very blessed to have such wonderful Christian community. Thank you all very much.

I wish you all a blessed and happy Summer Holidays.

Mr Tommy Rowan
Lay Chaplain

Year 11 Mass and Leaving Service

On Tuesday 27th June Year 11 celebrated a beautiful leaving mass followed by a thanksgiving service led by the Year 11 team. Students were given an opportunity to reflect on their time at Bishop Challoner. Form tutors will deliver presentations which allowed their forms to reflect on their growth both academically and spiritually. Each year 11 student was presented with a rose, a Bishop Challoner bookmark and their "Leavers hoodies" as a keepsake of their educational journey at the school.

St. Chad's Sanctuary

As a school we have continued to support St. Chad's Sanctuary in the last week of each term. St. Chad's Sanctuary is a voluntary project supported by St Chad's Cathedral. It's a place of welcome and hospitality for asylum seekers, refugees and immigrants. On Thursday 20th July students brought all your generous donations to St. Chad's Sanctuary. The students also had an opportunity to have a tour of the Sanctuary and hear about the work they are carrying out. The support we have provided has made a difference to people's lives. The students who visited the sanctuary were touched by the experience.



Whole School Charity

The "Alzheimers Society" Charity Fundraising has been absolutely fantastic this term. There have been events happening all over the school and regularly throughout this term. To date we have raised approximately £5600. Fundraising has been a huge team effort with Heads of Year, subject teachers, Heads of Department, students support staff, the chaplaincy team and many others working collaboratively. The Alzheimers Society will clearly gain from the great efforts of Bishop Challoner Catholic College.

The total amount raised will be presented to the Charity at the final whole school Mass on Friday 21st July.

Members of the school council also visited a dementia café to see the work they undertake. This was a very emotional but rewarding experience to see the work that a charity like the "Alzheimers Society" carries out.



Brightlights Weekend

On Friday 17th-Sunday 19th June five Year 12s and one Year 11 attended Brightlights at Alton Castle for the weekend. Brightlights is a national Catholic festival celebrated by many young people around the country. The weekend we were joined by Rise Theatre, Archbishop of Birmingham Bernard Longley, OneHopeProject and many more inspiring people. It was a great weekend for our students to be apart of and to continue their Lourdes legacy.

Soli House

In September Hannah Fair who has just finished Year 13 will be starting a gap year placement volunteering a year of her life to serve the young people of the Archdiocese of Birmingham at Soli House. We would like to wish Hannah all the best with her year at Soli. We pray that she may inspire and help young people to grow in their faith.

Year 12 Work Experience:

During the summer term we had two students from Year 12; Niamh Collins and Katie McGowan complete their work experience at Soli House and Alton Castle retreat centres. During their week they assisted the young team in delivering a retreat experience for a range of schools. They led prayers, small group discussion, and helped in the daily routines of the Catholic community.

Year 7 Retreat Day

On Wednesday 12th July as part of Character week Year 7 celebrated a retreat day. The theme of the retreat day was "One Body in Christ". The students were asked to think and reflect about how each student of the Year 7 community is a valued and special part of the year group and school community. The day started with celebrating a beautiful Mass at St. Dunstan's church with parishioners who attended the morning Mass. After Mass the students focused on a video by Nick Vujic who was born with no limbs, he gave 10 encouraging statements to be a success.

The 10 statements linked to the workshops the students would be involved in. Workshop A focused on each student being given the opportunity to affirm another student in their class so that everyone would feel valued. Workshop B focused on scripture that shows us how God wants us to live and to reflect on how living this way would lead to a united world. Once the students had focused on the scripture they put together Bloom balls which represented the scripture. Workshop C was in two halves. James Trewby from the Columban Missions session expanded on the concept of 'We are one body' to explore solidarity and the common good. The second half of the workshop focused on a Guided Meditation on the Good Samaritan led by Mrs Atkins.

The retreat day was a great success in helping the Year 7 students to think about how they all have a unique part to play in "One Body in Christ".

Year 10 Brightlights day trip:

On Friday 23rd June a number of Year 10 students visited Alton Castle for the Brightlights day festival. The day consisted of speakers including Fr. Frankie and Guvna B. There was creative liturgies, Christian Theatre Rise and other engaging activities. The day enabled young people to see mercy at work in our world and to give them the space and opportunity to recognise it in their own personal experiences.



Year 8 Retreat Day

On Monday 10th July as part of Character week Year 8 celebrated a retreat day. The theme of the retreat day was "Vocations". The students were asked to think and reflect about what vocation they are being called to such as the priesthood, religious life, married life or the single life. During the retreat day three different workshops ran on a carousel for the students. Workshop A was led by Deacon Rob and Seminarian Thomas who introduced to the students their calling to the priesthood.

Workshop B was led by Nikki Stewart who as a profession is a Nurse. She shared with the Year 8 students her calling to be a Nurse and how her faith has helped her. And Workshop C was led by an ex-student of Bishop Challoner Vicki Chatten who has gone on to do missionary work and now works for the Birmingham Catholic Youth Service helping to evangelise young people in their faith. She shared her experience of her calling to be a missionary. The day was a great opportunity for the Year 8 students to reflect on their calling. The retreat day finished with the year group celebrating Mass at St. Dunstan's Church. Thank you to all those who were involved in the day.



Lourdes Pilgrimage

Over the May half term 16 students and 4 staff from Bishop Challoner Catholic College joined the Birmingham Archdiocese on Pilgrimage to Lourdes. We were very proud to join over 750 other pilgrims from the diocese. The Liturgies and music were exceptional and it was a great joy for us to be led by Archbishop Bernard and Bishop David along with 25+ clergy who all took an active part in the youth Masses. Our students expressed their love for Mass, sharing scripture and the Eucharist as a family of faith. A unique aspect of the trip was witnessing our young people working with the sick, elderly and disabled. This trip provided our students with an opportunity to grow as young, active Christians; young people going out into society to act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with their God. We are incredibly proud of them and we are looking forward to being part of the Birmingham Pilgrimage next May half term.

Please find below reports from the 6th formers who worked in the Accueil.

Firstly, being at Lourdes has not only strengthened my faith but strengthened my friendships with those also exploring the depths of their religion. As a Sixth Form Team living and working together we began to build closer relationships than a timetable of school allows.

Each day involved a different shift in the Accueil, whether it be the Morning Duty 9am-1pm, stripping and making the beds, cleaning, assisting the pilgrims at breakfast and taking them to morning mass (which we completed on the first day) to the Afternoon Duty which involved us taking Pilgrims to either masses or stations of the cross, shopping around Lourdes or just holding conversations.

The most rewarding moment of Lourdes however, is being able to take a minute or so to sit in quiet reflection and be thankful for the life we have and those around us. It's amazing how many people come together to share in the same belief, and there is no stronger place to congregate than in the beauty of Lourdes. It's hard to define my experience, as each person's is subjective, and whether it may be someones 1st, 5th or 50th time each visit holds a different meaning. The experience has been eye-opening, and confirmed my desire to work and help others in need in the future. Each pilgrim has a different story, and working in the Accueil gives you the opportunity to converse with someone you may not normally have thought to and learn about them.

Unfortunately, the people we have met in the Accueil we will probably not see again, unless of course we return to volunteer in Lourdes again which is what I hope to do. Although, the experience of Lourdes will always remain dear to my heart, and even though I may not be lucky enough to be around such beautiful personalities again, I will never forget how each and every single person has influenced me to become a better person and remind us all to do what we love and love what we do. I would encourage anyone who has the opportunity to go to Lourdes to grab it with both hands.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be able to fulfil my vocation.
Maddie C

I had such an amazing time in Lourdes and the donation of the catenians was beneficial to this experience of helping others and exploring my faith so for that I would like to say thank you. We did so much on the pilgrimage such as going to masses including the beautiful grotto mass. Night prayers, helped in the accueil and had the opportunity to go on an excursion in Gavarnie. The grotto mass was a personal mass as it involved only 2 of the archdiocese which was Birmingham and Middlesbrough.

We also received reconciliation whilst in Lourdes in the rosary basilica. Even just being in the rosary basilica was overwhelming, so being able to receive this sacrament in such a beautiful place was such an experience I will never forget. Before Lourdes, all the team were involved in fundraising events and this allowed the Lourdes team to connect and become closer and we all had a good time fundraising at the same time. My best experience had to be working in the Accueil. This had to be the best part as previously I have had the opportunity to go to Lourdes but never as part of hospitality so this was an amazing opportunity to receive and I hope to be able to do it in years to come.

This was especially enriching because we could help pilgrims by taking them to mass and Stations of the Cross which enabled us all to form a relationship with the pilgrims. Out of the whole experience, I didn't expect to form as good a relationship with pilgrims as I did. One pilgrim I really connected with was John. It was so nice to be able to form a close bond with him and we were talking about his previous pilgrimages and this was powerful to see the Lourdes experience from someone else's point of view. When we went to the Marian procession, you really got the sense of community of faith because everyone there holding a candle were showing their faith and the vast amount of candles their showed the sense of community and this had to be one of the most powerful parts of the pilgrimage that I will be taking with me.

Before I went to Lourdes this year, I was contemplating a gap year at Alton Castle or Soli House but when I saw the Alton and soli team then leading the night prayers and helping in the accueil it made me want to do the gap year even more because you get to see the work they do and how giving they are to give up their time to others and that's what I aspire to. Personally, if someone said they had an opportunity to go to Lourdes in the future, I'd definitely tell them to take it so they can have the same experience as I did. It was amazing and coming back I feel like I have more of an understanding of my faith and got to help others and have a great time with friends in the process, so I would definitely recommend this to everyone. These experiences will stay with me as they've been so moving. I have learnt that even the smallest things can make a big impact on someone else's life.

Niamh C



The annual Lourdes trip that took place this year was my first experience of going on a Pilgrimage. I admit to being very nervous and waited with a lot of anticipation as we set off on our coach journey purely because I did not know what type of people I would meet and whether I would cope for a week without my family. We spent a total of 27 hours travelling to Lourdes and passed the time with games, films and chatting – sleep was entirely off the agenda for me as I was too buzzed with excitement and nerves to let my brain shut off.

Our first day finally came and I was starting to settle down from the nerves and mystery. We woke up rather early and had to set off to the Acceuil for 8am where we were scheduled to clean the pilgrim's rooms – to everybody's surprise, I rather enjoyed cleaning, it's highly therapeutic. We managed to finish up just in time to make it to our second mass of the week which was so captivating and beautiful like all the others and really touched my heart.

The week went by so fast as we were constantly kept busy. It was such a shame to have to head home, I had grown used to the Domain and treated it just like home – and it indeed felt like I was welcome there. It showed that I did not need my family around to hide behind or rely on because as the hours passed by each day, I grew to learn more about the fellow Lourdes team members and formed a special bond with them – we were all one, big, Lourdes family.

It would take more paper to explain about all the things that I had done, so I have broken it down into the main highlights. Firstly, my most favourite experience of the Pilgrimage was attending the service of Reconciliation

within the Rosary Basilica. Secondly, on the Monday evening the whole Birmingham Diocese had the responsibility of leading the Marian Procession which meant we would process around the Domain with torchlight candles and two members of our Lourdes team were selected to carry the statue of Our Lady. As we stood and recited prayers before the Basilica, I was given the opportunity to look around and appreciate the beautiful lights around me. It was overwhelming and heart-warming to see so many people coming together to celebrate their faith – it goes to show that we may have different sexes, races, languages etc but we all have one thing in common, our faith.

Lastly, on Wednesday we were set to work the evening shift as all the sixth formers and leaders were in the Domain at 11pm meaning that we got to witness what it was like at night time. Myself and two others decided to buy a candle and we lit them within Torchlight Alley, they burnt proudly upon stands next to so many others candles that were placed there by others. Personally, my candle represented my own goals that I had set myself and stood in appreciation of my family – admittedly, this brought a little tear to my eyes. I was so in awe by everything and I had never experienced such an amazing feeling in all my life.

If I had the chance to relive this experience, I would do it without a second thought.

Amy D

I would start off by saying how much I appreciated your donation of £50 to our Lourdes trip. Your donation helped the sixth form college experience something so amazing and unique to each individual person. We were all able to help and aid people in our community and even those who may not necessary have the opportunity to talk to and help. We were all able to discover new friendships with other schools and even with the pilgrims.

On the trip the sixth form team had to help out at the Accueil which was a home where all the pilgrims stayed at and we had to take the pilgrims to mass and clean the rooms. Some of the sixth formers, like myself, participated in the masses for example during the opening mass I went up to do the offertory and also bishop challoner held a mass on the last day. The sixth form team also did extra activities like help pilgrims from the hotel next door by assisting them to mass and night prayer. The sixth form team participated in prayers everyday on the trip which enhanced our spiritual belief in God. At the end of it all we all had a deeper understanding in God.

My best experience on the trip was when I met Mary, a pilgrim who I assisted to the night procession. We both found out we went to the same church in west heath and she told me stories about when she was younger and I took her to light up her candles by the grotto and we both prayed for her late husband together. It was overwhelming, and seeing the smile on her face when it was complete was amazing.

The most fun part of the trip was when we bonded with the other sixth formers on the trip from a different school. We all still keep in touch. We also got to go off as a sixth form during free time and explore the beautiful city of Lourdes. I managed to visit St Bernadette's house and view all the items in her house. It was very interesting and it helped build a stronger understanding of why Lourdes is such an important place.

From the Lourdes trip I'm going to bring what I have experienced into my daily life by constantly praying and looking out for others and also I will see Mary at church every Sunday so we could always have a good catch-up. Lourdes is a beautiful place to experience and I think every sixth former should have the opportunity to experience something so unique, spiritual and sacred to each individual. Before I went to Lourdes I was excited but I was unsure because although I was catholic I didn't think I'd enjoy every mass everyday however after I went I felt spiritually moved and each mass was different and so unique and you felt something different and the bonds you make, not just with other sixth formers, but with the pilgrims themselves is so special.

Dariot N

During my trip to Lourdes I had the pleasure of working in the Acceuil. It is a pleasure to work with the pilgrims and I hope to someday go back and work with them more. Whilst working in the Acceuil I met a pilgrim called Sam, I bonded with him and whilst talking to him I found out that he goes to my parish. Since returning from Lourdes I have seen Sam at church and have spoken to him about our experiences.

Another thing Sam talked about was possibly starting up a group that would go from our parish. We would go as helpers in the Acceuil and would take part in the pilgrimage because we believe that the experience of Lourdes is about community and so is about sharing with people you love and this is the best way I could think of continuing my journey.

During Lourdes, I had lots of different experiences. My favourite of this was carrying the Madonna during the torchlight possession. It was such an honour that I was chosen to carry the statue and it was very humbling too. I was able to witness first-hand the reverence and the universal love for our lady. Every person I walked passed no matter their ethnicity looked at the Madonna in awe and reverence. People dropped to their knees or touched the statue and that was a beautiful image of how some people love the lord so much that they would fall to their knees and pray for him. Another beautiful experience I had was during the mass of reconciliation. I was asked to take one of the pilgrims back to the Acceuil. However, this pilgrim wanted to go for a walk and go onto the roof first so a quick trip while off shift allowed me to have some beautiful bonding time with a pilgrim.

Lourdes has inspired me to give back in the way of helping young people be more confident in their religion. It has given me a vocation to work at Alton castle or soli house which are religious retreat centres.

Alfie McM

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Year 7

Congratulations to year 7 for the superb progress they have made this year in Religious Education. They have approached the subject with vigour and imagination and have displayed a deep level of interest in a range of interesting topics.

In year seven Religious Education lessons this term students have been tasked with completing their P2 assessments. The assessments test their knowledge and understanding as well as their ability to apply and evaluate core subject content. The topic of this assessment was Holy Catholic Sacraments, students explored the purpose of these sacraments and how they can help Catholics in their lives today. Many students drew on personal experience in their lessons and shared what the sacraments meant to them. They have now moved on to our final topic of the year which is an introduction to Judaism. This topic is particularly interesting as few students have any prior knowledge of Judaism. Classes have begun by studying the origins of Judaism ready to create speeches and presentation work to present to their classes.

Year 8

Well done to year 8 for their excellent progression from year 7 to year 8, they have shown real maturity this year and have made excellent progress in a range of interesting areas of study.

This year has seen year 8 study topics such as;

- How do I find happiness and fulfilment?
- Why do Christians suffer?
- Should I be free to do what I want?
- Why are relationships important?

Currently year 8 are studying Judaism. This term will be used to develop students subject knowledge and develop their understanding of significant features of the Jewish faith. Students are particularly focusing on Judaism in order to develop subject knowledge over key stage 3 in order to

ease their progression to GCSE in year 10, where they will study Judaism as a second religion, where this will be worth 25% of their final GCSE grade.

Year 8 have explored these issues through discussion, presentations, VLE research and group work to develop the skills of research, debate, discussion and communication. Year 8 have explored these issues maturely and with great enthusiasm and have enjoyed learning about how people across the world find and develop their spirituality.

This course has enabled year 8 to spend time reflecting on the differences and similarities between different cultures and is leading students towards understanding the importance of appreciating diversity in the world and embracing how this can enhance our world.

Year 9

Year 9 are making excellent progress towards the commencement of their GCSE course in year 10 as they focus on developing the necessary skills for success next year.

This year has seen year 9 study topics such as;

- Does God exist?
- What happens when you die?
- Am I responsible for others?
- Love, sex and relationships

The recent T2 assessments highlighted the outstanding quality of skills that year 9 students have developed across key stage 3. Students have been focusing on five key skills that we believe will be essential for success at GCSE. These skills are Enquire, context, communicate, application and evaluation and the T2 assessment allowed students to display their skills in each of these areas. Students should be very proud of their outcomes and feel empowered to take these skills forward as a firm foundation for success at key stage 4.

Year 9 students are currently commencing an early introduction to their GCSE course for next year. This entails focusing on the teachings of Judaism. This topic is providing students with an opportunity to develop an understanding of the key concepts within the religion that will help them develop their subject in light of the new GCSE specification they will be following in September 2017. Students are engaging in key features of the Jewish faith through a variety of tasks, focusing on developing students confidence, skills as independent learners and ability to explore and appreciate the views of different religious believers.

Photos show year 9 students developing their presentation skills through research, discussing and displaying their work to their peers.



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 will indicate the progress made this year. We look forward to analysing these results and setting targets for next year in preparation for 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

This year saw a large of students choose Philosophy and Ethics in year 12 with twenty students recently completing their AS examination. We have been delighted with the progress they 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.

Year 11

Congratulations to year 11 for their fantastic approach to their GCSE studies in Religious Education this year. The approach to the subject was exemplary and we are hoping for excellent results from this cohort.

This year has seen year 11 study topics such as;

1. Rights and responsibilities
2. Environment and medical ethics
3. Peace and conflict

These topics enabled students to explore questions such as; why are human rights important? The benefits of genetic engineering, The nature of infertility treatment, should people be organ donors? The importance of caring for the environment, Is there such a thing as a just war? The Islamic teaching on

Jihad, The work of Islam to promote peace, The work of Christianity to promote peace.

Students completed their course with the unit Crime and Punishment. This involved looking at the various reasons and theories for why and how to punish criminals and the roles of justice and forgiveness in punishment. Students also explored the capital punishment debate and the law and social problems caused by alcohol, drugs and tobacco.

These issues will help inform students of important issues within society today and help develop them into mature and conscientious young citizens. We wish them all the luck for next year and we will be seeing a large number of them returning to study Philosophy and Ethics with us next year in year 12.

Year 13

This summer a large number of students will complete their A-level studies in Philosophy and Ethics, with 23 students sitting the examination. Year 13 recently finished 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.

During the year students explored topics such as;

- The Ontological argument
- Life after death
- Deontology
- Natural moral law
- Justice law and punishment

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? Should criminals be reformed, the morality of the death penalty, is there a life after death? The importance of justice in society.

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

Readathon

Thank you to students, parents and families in the school community who raised a very impressive £2,166.31 through the Readathon. This will go directly to the school charity, which is the Alzheimer's Society. Thank you to Miss Harris for organising.



Well Done Year 13

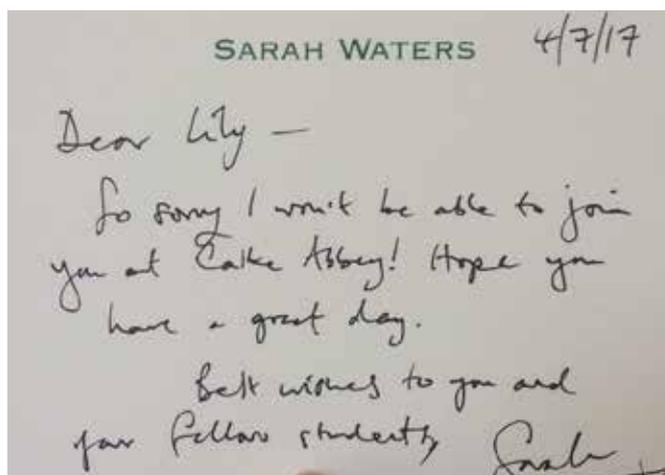


Year 13 students were the first cohort to sit the newly reformed A Level qualifications. The English Literature A Level has been made much more challenging by the government. Whereas previous year groups have sat just one exam, the current Year 13s had to sit three gruelling examinations - the last one was less than a month ago!

They had to analyse Othello by William Shakespeare and Tennessee Williams' A Streetcar Named Desire, then compare two weighty novels in Dracula by Bram Stoker and The Little Stranger by Sarah Waters and then finish off by studying range of modern poetry and over twenty poems by Christina Rossetti. All the A Level teachers were so impressed with the students' determination and resilience. The photo was taken at the end of the gruelling exam season. Well done Year 13 and please keep in touch via twitter!

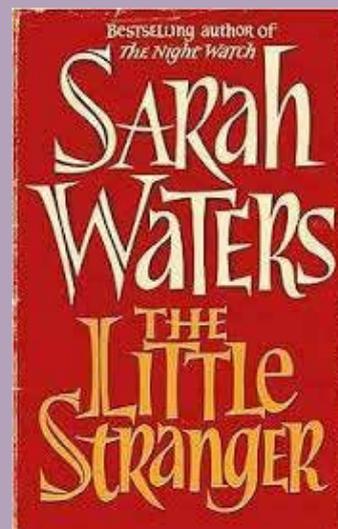
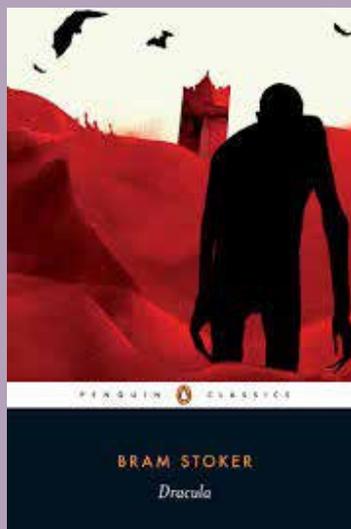
Calke Abbey Trip

This week, Mr Robinson and Mrs Giubertoni took a group of keen Year 12s to the Calke Abbey in Derbyshire, the National Trust property. As you will have read, as part of their English Literature A Level, students have to read The Little Stranger by Sarah Waters, a supernatural story set in a decaying stately home. Calke Abbey is most likely where Waters gained her inspiration for her setting; so what better way for students to immerse themselves in the spooky setting than visiting the property. A certain prize winning Year 12 student even took the initiative to contact the great lady herself and invite her along for a picnic, which unfortunately she had to decline as you can see from her beautifully handwritten note. A great day out was had by all. Please see @BC_EnglishDept for some of the pictures from the day.



Calling all prospective A Level English Literature students!

We hope all Year 11s are enjoying their extended summer holiday. However, why not spend some time preparing for September so you can hit the ground running when you walk through the hallowed Sports Centre on your first day? The Department recommends that every new English Literature student who is about to start Year 12 reads either The Little Stranger by Sarah Waters or Bram Stoker's classic Dracula. You can buy both for less than £10 and probably a lot cheaper if you know any Year 13s who have just left. Get reading!!



Good luck Year 11

Like Year 13, Year 11 were the first cohort to sit the new style, more rigorous English Language and English Literature GCSE. Whereas last year, Year 11 sat the solitary IGCSE exam very early in May, and then English Literature three weeks later, this year, Year 11 have had to sit four taxing exams in quick succession. All were closed block and untiered. However, the Department were very impressed with their resilience as they rose to the challenge.

The first Literature exam tested their knowledge of Romeo and Juliet and Frankenstein, whereas the second was on An Inspector Calls and a mixture of poetry. In the first Language exam, they had to analyse a literary 20th century text and in the second they had to compare two non-fiction newspaper articles (one from the 19th and one from the 21st century) about parenting. As you can see from the photo below, the students were grateful for all the support and resources their teachers offered them.



Takeover Birmingham

Ms Fenlon arranged for ten lucky students from across years 7, 8 and 9 to take part in the 'Takeover Birmingham' project, allowing them to sample all that Birmingham has to offer. Since January, pupils have been on the following trips:

- To the Birmingham Hippodrome to see the Royal Ballet's performance of Cinderella
- To have a guided tour of the Sea Life Centre
- To have a guided tour of the BBC Studios at the Mailbox
- To have a guided tour of the IKON Gallery
- To have a guided tour of the REP Theatre
- To see a performance of To Sir, With Love at the REP Theatre
- To meet with the Director of the REP Theatre to feedback ideas on how it could improve and engage children more effectively

The students found it an interesting and enriching experience. Thank you Ms Fenlon!



The Royal Shakespeare Company's Screening of The Tempest

Year 8 pupils took part in a competition to be able to watch a live screening of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* live from the RSC; many relished this opportunity and tested their letter writing skills in order to be allowed to see this show. This was a phenomenal opportunity for pupils to engage in an enigmatic, visual spectacular. 64 pupils were given the chance to watch it and they fully embraced this opportunity.

All year 8s study *The Tempest* over the course of the year and the opportunity to see it performed live really brought it to life for them. Our pupils were so spectacular on the day, the RSC education department published a picture (below) on their educational newsletter. Many students commented on the 'amazing visual effects' and how they thought the character of Ariel was their personal favourite. It enabled a deeper understanding of the entire play. Well done Year 8 and thank you to Miss Beard for organising.



Debate Mate

Since Ms Fenlon introduced Debate Mate to the school three years ago, debating at Bishop Challoner has gone from strength to strength. Now hosted by Miss Lloyd, our passionate debaters have enjoyed great success this year. They were delighted to be crowned winners for the 2017 West Midlands Cup, taking home medals and a piece of silverware – longed-for by both pupils and Mr McEvoy! As a result, the team travelled to Westminster on 5th June to take part in the National Finals.

After the excitement of catching the train and underground to the impressive university buildings – a first ever visit to London for some of the team – it quickly became apparent that the standard was going to be high. Over the course of three rounds of debates, the team rose to the occasion repeatedly and although not progressing to the Grand Final, put in some of their best performances against a host of experienced and polished London teams.



Bishop's Got Talent

In the same week, we were excited to put on a 'show debate' at break time, as part of the Bishop's Got Talent programme and showcase the skills, style and format to a new audience. Although it had to be a much more condensed version of a normal debate to fit in with break timings, the mix of pupils enthusiastically argued the benefits and harms of social media to a rapt crowd, hopefully inspiring some new debaters to join us next year.

While the end has now come for our Year 10 Debate Maters, it's clear that the bug for debating has well and truly taken hold; we look forward to continuing our participation with Debate Mate next year and venturing into British Parliamentary-style debating too, to enable older debaters to continue competing and satisfy the hunger of our many competitive younger students in the new school year!



15 to 1 fame for Mr Robinson

This year in GCSE Media, Year 11 students' examination focus has been on game shows. Little did Year 11 know, we have our very own game show aficionado in school – Mr Robinson. The brain box's mastery at quizzes is no secret in the English Department but when he announced he had appeared on Channel 4's 15 to 1, hosted by the esteemed Sandy Toksvig, we were all eager to see how he fared.

On the Wednesday of half term, staff and students alike watched his performance in their respective homes and were in awe at his general knowledge, particularly answering a tricky Maths question accurately. Unfortunately, the literature question did not go as well – the novel *Little Men* will be remembered by all. However, this minor slip up did not detract from a winning performance: Mr Robinson stormed to a place in the final, where only cruel tactics from his rivals prevented him from strolling off with the £40,000 prize money. Back to the day job Mr Robinson!



Thank you to the Tehan family

The Department would like to thank the Tehan family for their generosity, which allowed two lucky Year 12 students to travel down to London for the Globe's performance of *Othello*.

Graphite Writing Club

This term, Graphite Creative Writing Club have been working towards entering a number of their poems into the Foyle's Young Poet of the Year Award. As inspiration, they have read and analysed the judges' work, written poems based on artwork and examined how their life experiences might translate into poetry. The work they produced was mature, experimental and thought provoking.



BC Bulletin

The second edition of the BC Bulletin was distributed over the last two weeks. A small group of students from year 7 to year 10 have worked extremely hard on articles, poems, sports news and film reviews to bring what is, again, a very impressive, relevant and beautifully well-presented school newspaper. Not only is the standard of writing and presentation impressive, but the

dedication and organisation is also astounding. It is entirely independent work, written for the students by the students. The editor is Arwena (Year 9) and our main journalist is Lily (Year 10). We are very much looking forward to seeing how their paper develops. The department would also like to thank our patron, Alan Johnson, as well as Miss Laszlo for her tireless dedication.

Tower Poetry Competition

Tower Poetry is a competition organised by Oxford University. Students were asked to submit poems on the theme of 'stone'. This was an excellent opportunity for students, rather than analysing famous poets' work, to be creative and write their own. Every year, a Bishop Challoner student has been selected for the 'long list', where they have a chance to win £3,000 cash! Unfortunately, no one was lucky enough to scoop that particular prize, but Georgina D's poem stood out to the judges amongst the hundreds of entries. As Bishop Challoner has been significant in raising the profile of the competition, our very own Head of Department was invited down to the awards ceremony in Oxford.

Hello Year 6! Want to go on a festive trip!?

Are you a Year 6 reading this? Are you exciting about coming to Bishop Challoner in just six and a half weeks? Are you looking forward to getting involved in lots of extra curricular trips? Do you know that there are only 158 days until Christmas!?! Can I ask you any more rhetorical questions? Well, the English Department has 100 tickets to watch 'A Christmas Carol' at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford on 25th January. Please sign up for SchoolComms in September and look out for more information in your assemblies.

Piece of Cake

Not content with wowing her students with compelling lessons, having links with a variety of primary schools, marking the SATS and running Debate Mate, Miss Lloyd thought she would try her hand at a spot of baking as part of the annual 'Bake Off' organised by Tommy and the Chaplaincy team. Miss Lloyd had big shoes to fill as Challoner alumni Kate Clarke had scooped the big prize a mere two years ago. Could the pint size chatter box continue the department's success? I think the smile on Miss Lloyd's face and the silverware answers any doubters. Well done Miss Lloyd on a brilliant first year at Challoner!



Summer Reading

Although we are all looking forward to our well-earned summer holidays, who is dreading the long boring journey? Well, what better way to while away the hours, than having a read of one of these compelling reads listed below? They have been selected by your English teachers and are all brilliant reads. Give one a go; you will not be disappointed.

Year 7 – Millions by Frank Cottrell Boyce or Double Act by Jacqueline Wilson

Year 8 – The Fault in Our Stars by John Green or The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaiman

Year 9 – The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien or Animal Farm by George Orwell

Year 10 – I am Legend by Richard Matheson or Rebecca by Daphne du Maurier

Year 11 – Dracula by Bram Stoker or The Little Stranger by Sarah Waters

Year 12 – The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood or The Rotters' Club by Jonathan Coe

Happy reading!!

MATHEMATICS

Since March, there has still been a number of extra-curricular opportunities available for students, despite it coinciding with examination season.

Clubs

The gifted and talented club, aimed at students from Year 7 and 8, continues to run, and the sessions recently have been geared at preparation for the UKMT's Junior Mathematics Challenge. Primary schools joined the club once again in early May (ahead of SATs) for some fun problem-solving exercises.

Again, Bishop Challoner's youngest students behaved exemplarily and showed great leadership as team leaders for their group of primary participants. The last joint session was held on Wednesday 5th July as a celebration of the year!

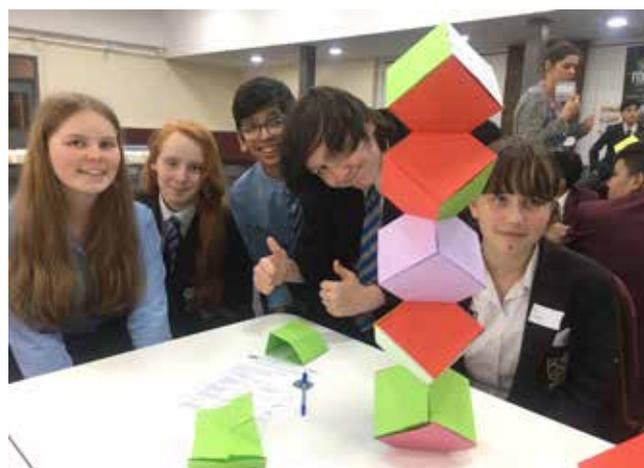
The maths drop-in session has continued to run every Monday after school, with different maths teachers leading on the evening. It has provided invaluable support to many students from Year 7 through to Year 10, and some use the support regularly. It has been particularly effective for those preparing for their end of year examinations.



Competitions

The last major competition of the year, the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge, was sat by students in Year 7 and 8 on Thursday 27th April. Overall the school achieved 3 golds, 17 silvers and 13 bronzes, with one student being invited to take part in the Junior Kangaroo in June. Well done Oliver for that fantastic achievement! The top 40% of students nationally receive a gold, bronze or silver certificate in the ratio 1:2:3; so such a large number of certificates from our students is impressive.

The Year 9 South Area Network Challenge was held at Bishop Challoner on Tuesday 4th July. This event saw some of our enthusiastic Year 9 mathematicians compete against schools from across the south network in a series of challenges akin to the UKMT Maths Challenges. Although we did not win a medal position, it was a lot of fun. Well done to Katarina, Anna (who won the team player award for Bishop Challoner), Sam, Abdullah and Lydia.



University Outreach

Dr Hoffman, from the University of Birmingham, has continued to host 'maths circles'; designed at encouraging Year 9 and 10 students to 'think like a mathematician.' He has visited the school once a month to host the events, and has stretched our most able students. He hopes to expand this to become a 'Kings Heath' maths circle. This could be an excellent way of nurturing some of Kings Heath's best young minds and Miss Stone shall be looking into the feasibility of this next term.

Year 9 Maths Leaders

Just before the Easter break, the Year 9 Maths Leaders teamed up with the Year 9 PE Leaders to run the 'Malympics', which was held on Tuesday 21st March. Primary schools brought students from years 1-5, to partake in a variety of different maths and PE activities, all designed and led by our Year 9s. Our Twitter account (@BCMthsDept) was taken over by Adawa Awanayah for the duration of the day, where she provided some super updates of how the event was progressing.

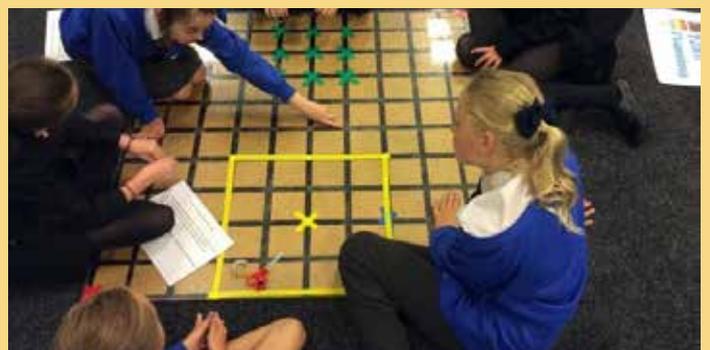


STEM

In partnership with the technology and science departments, all of Year 7 will be visiting the Lickey Hills on one of two dates in July (7th and 17th) to engage in three different STEM activities across the day. The maths department will host several activities, including a bearings trail, orienteering and 'people maths'; solving problems with people. The first day went successfully, and many different maths teachers will be involved on the days running activities.



The final STEM Fair of the year was hosted on the 29th June, with Year 5 students from feeder primary schools invited along for the day. Year 7s were asked to help run the maths activities on the day, and increase their leadership and speaking skills. They were absolutely fantastic!



SCIENCE

It has been a busy term for all students sitting exams, whether they be school exams, GCSEs, AS or A levels. Straight after the May bank holiday all year 10 pupils sat trial exams in biology, chemistry and physics. These papers are being externally marked by the exam board and pupils will receive their results in September. As this is a new exam, having a practise run of the GCSE can only be of benefit to the students. In a year's time when they sit their actual exams they will be more at ease with the format of the papers and the whole exam procedure.

Revision Books

A reminder that year 9 and 10 students can buy revision guides and workbooks from the science department.

Year 7 Leaders

On Thursday 29th June, a number of year 7s showed a huge amount of dedication and responsibility, by volunteering to help out as Year 7 leaders for STEM day. Of these students, 7 also volunteered to help with Year 6 transition evening, to help new students coming to the school settle in and get to know the school, its buildings, and their peers.

The following students have been commended for their commitment, enthusiasm, and wonderful work with the primary and year 6 students throughout the whole day: Molly Jones, Maja Madejska, Isabella Bragg, Carys Robinson, Harlie Hamilton, Ethan Beasley, and Thomas McKeon.

Salters' Festival of Chemistry

At the beginning of the summer term Miss Lloyd took three year 8 pupils to the Salters' Festival of Chemistry at the University of Birmingham. The day consisted of an experimental chemistry competition and a university challenge competition. Our team of year 8s were the winners of the University Challenge competition- well done! The three pupils taking part enjoyed a day of using university level chemistry laboratories and talking to current university students, the added bonus of winning means they are even more enthused than before about science.

The image here shows the three pupils completing the experimental competition.

Year 7 STEM club

This term our "Superstar scientists" awards have been given to students based on the highest performers in the most recent exams. Here are the winners:

Year 7: Malachy Tun, Oliver Coyne , Meg Mitchell

Year 8: Nathan Bracken, Ben Colleran, Carolina Hernandez-Velasco

Year 9: Katarine Bragg, Lewis Solarin, Ciara Maxwell

Year 10 separate science:

Biology - Ali Jaffery and Lily Miller

Chemistry - Akeidad Bowen, Samuel Gobina, Mateusz Guz and Lily Miller

Physics - Mateusz Guz

Year 10 combined science:

Higher - Adawa Awanayah, Emma Faccio and Thomas McDonnell

Foundation - Thomas Pollock, Shoab Moughal and Sharnay Devine



Google Expeditions Event

In April, all pupils in years 7 -10 participated in a Google Expeditions Event. Throughout the day, 30 minute workshops were delivered to each student, during which they had a virtual reality headset to use. Students explored a number of different expeditions – from journeys through the skeletal and digestive systems, to exploring the Himalayas and viewing the Northern Lights.



Year 9 Astronomy club

On Wednesday 24th May, Mrs Reade arranged for the Year 9 Astronomy club to spend the afternoon in the University of Birmingham Computing Labs. They got the opportunity to use the same software as professional researchers to discover information about stars and planets outside of our Solar System. The event was facilitated by Oliver Hall, who is currently doing his PhD in Asteroseismology at the University. Oliver has been supporting our Astronomy club throughout the year.

The afternoon started with a brief recap about Asteroseismology and an introduction to data analysis, before the students started on the computers. There was some serious maths involved, as students had to find the length of a planet's transit across a star and the percentage light decrease from the light curve graph. They also had to research the mass and radius of our own Sun to calculate the mass and radius of a distant star. The students took on the challenge with enthusiasm, and were exceptionally pleased to be calculating values that were comparable with real values.



On Tuesday 20th June, our intrepid Astronomy club set out for the National Space Centre in Leicester. On arriving, our first sight was the immense rocket tower, housing the Streak and Thor Rockets. At the entrance, we walked under the Soyuz capsule to start exploring the permanent exhibits, including the Planet Walk and Searching for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence, as well as matters closer to home, such as how Satellite Navigation works.

There was a chance to forecast and present the weather using green-screen technology and to become a trainee Astronaut at Tranquility Lunar Base. After the exhibits, we went to the Sir Patrick Moore Planetarium to watch NASA's "Training to be an Astronaut" feature - showing the varied and demanding schedule followed during Astronaut training. After lunch, we had a "Programming a Martian Rover" workshop, which used Lego rovers and programming software to maneuver around obstacles on the Martian surface. This was both challenging and fun, with the facilitator commenting at how well our students worked together to solve the problem. Our final stop was at the top of the rocket tower; we couldn't come all the way to the Space Centre without looking at the Moon rock! Overall, it was a great day filled with loads of Space and Science activities!



Year 7 Science Club

Every Monday, a group of enthusiastic Year 7 students attend science club after school with Miss Start. Students involved have taken part in a wide range of activities and projects, and in March, some students joined with STEM club to attend the Big Bang Fair at the NEC.

Science club have been working on a number of projects since January. For example, in conjunction with National Science Week, we did a number of practicals investigating different aspects of scientific change, and four groups also entered the national poster competition.

Since Easter, students have also designed, built and decorated their own volcanoes. They are particularly looking forward to making them erupt in the next few weeks!

Year 7 science club has been a great success this year, which is demonstrated by the fact that all current regular attendees have enthusiastically volunteered to help out with next year's Year 7 club as group leaders.



Primary Science Week in St Alban's 28th and 29th June

During Primary Science Week at St Alban's, all the years from Reception to Year 6 were in full flow, engaged in a range of Science investigations and activities lead by Miss Mayor. Reception and Year 6 were involved in Ecology activities including designing and making their own insects and mini beast hunts. The students also had the opportunity to use Bio viewers to see a range of insects and Year 5 were involved in fingerprinting, as well as trying to solve a crime!

Through a DNA workshop, the Year 6 obtained DNA from a strawberry and managed to capture their own DNA as well! All the students worked very hard as Science Investigators across the school and all the students and teachers involved made this a fantastic experience!



Primary Science Week- Science Leadership in Our Lady of Lourdes, Tuesday 4th July

Bishop Challoner Science leaders from Year 10 (Livia Rytlewski and Nancy McAndrew) and Year 12 (Hannah Shellis, Julia Bykowska and Joseph Manning) delivered two fun Science sessions as part of the Primary Science Week. 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.



Year 12 Conservation Trip to Twycross Zoo 21st June 2017

Year 12 Biologists visited Twycross Zoo to study how ecosystems are becoming sensitive through loss of habitat and to explore the factors that are contributing to animals becoming critically endangered or extinct. Through listening to a range of conservation talks and observing the animals, the Year 12's became more aware of the different conservation methods and approaches to conserve populations of organisms. We also had the pleasure of meeting the ITV weather man, Des Coleman! The students thoroughly enjoyed the trip and were a great asset to the school! Thank you Miss Mayor for organising the trip.



Cern 2017

Between the 5th July and 7th July 2017 Miss Lloyd organised a trip to Geneva, Switzerland, for 21 year ten and eleven pupils, to visit CERN, the particle physics laboratory. Although the aim of the trip was to see CERN, find out more about particle physics and matter and to show pupils cutting edge scientific research the pupils also enjoyed many other cultural visits. They enjoyed visiting the Natural History museum, St Peter's cathedral, where they saw spectacular views of Geneva and Mont Blanc, and cruising Lake Geneva on the first day.

The Thursday was our tour of CERN, which was led by Dr Mario Campanelli, a lecturer at University College London and a researcher on the ATLAS experiment at CERN. Following CERN the pupils also visited the Museum of Art and History in Geneva, where they thoroughly enjoyed looking at historical weaponry and then they had a traditional Swiss meal of fondue while listening to Oom-paa music. On the final day we visited the Botanical Gardens in Geneva, the History of Science museum and we all walked under Geneva's famous jet d'Eau, where some got very wet. The trip was enjoyed by all and the pupils were responsible and enthusiastic throughout.



FRENCH

Normandy Trip

An amazing trip to France was enjoyed by 30 pupils from years 8, 9 and 10 at the end of June. We basked in the sun on some of the nicest days of the year so far. Pupils spoke French at meal times and at the local market. For those interested in history, we visited the Bayeux Tapestry and the WWII landing beaches at Arromanches as well as the Normandy American cemetery at Colleville. We ate a delicious regional chicken dish on the first night. Other gastronomic highlights included make your own pizza and BBQ food!



2018 Trip For Year 8 Current Year 7 pupils received letters this week about the 2018 trip (June 25th to 29th). If you would like information about the trip, please ask your child to collect a letter from Mr Davison in L3 before the end of term. Places are limited and the trip opens on School Comms on Friday 8th September.

Teacher Subject Specialism Training (TSST) in MFL

- A free, blended and customisable professional development package to increase teaching capacity of MFL across the country.
- FREE access to Rosetta Stone online resources
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Who is eligible?

Any teacher who holds a UK Teacher Reference Number (TRN), QTS and is either:

- a teacher of MFL needing to refresh a second or third language, or learn an additional one
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- a teacher of any other subject who is a native speaker of French, Spanish or German and wishes to move into language teaching
- For more information and to register browse to www.bctsa.org/TSST-MFL

COMPUTER SCIENCE

KS3

Year 7 and 8 kick-started the new term by revisiting elements of netbook proficiency. The key focus of this was email, with both sets of students being reacquainted with their school email accounts and proceeding to use them. The students then worked through a variety of tasks to ensure that they knew the correct etiquette for email and what the school email accounts could be used for.

Year 7 groups then moved onto the more explorative field of HCI (Human Computer Interaction) where they saw that the best computing devices often have the best designs to accompany them. The scheme of work has seen students look at the importance of colour and style as well as shapes and ergonomics. The pupils themselves have designed their own concept ideas for smart phones, pointing to

aspects of their work that they believe demonstrate effective design.

The start of Year 9's summer term was defined by their T2 assessment. During the week beginning the 15th of May, all year 9 groups used their lesson time to complete the assessment for computing. The grades that students have achieved are promising and indicate that those who have opted to do computer science in year 10, have a strong foundation of knowledge from on to build.

For those year 9 pupils that have not chosen to take computer science or ICT in year 10, we wish them the best of luck with their future studies and encourage them to stay connected in some manner to a subject that is going to shape the world around them.

KS4

Both the year 10 computer Science and ICT groups completed their mock exams prior to and just after the half term. The results from these mock examinations look promising and speak to a good year 11 ahead for them. Since then they have been on work experience so contact time has been limited but we very much look forward to getting back in the classroom with these groups to ensure the potential demonstrated throughout year 10 is realised in the coming year.

The year 11 computer science and ICT groups have now completed their exams and their course. We wish them all the best with their results and in regards to computer science, we very much look forward to welcoming some of the group back in September where they embark on key stage 5 computer science.

HISTORY

Year 7

Year 7 have just completed the P2 assessment. This was a very challenging assessment as the topic is vast but the pupils were expected to complete the test without any notes provided. The motive behind this was that the new GCSE is content heavy and the sooner we prepare and teach pupils to revise the easier this will be when they start studying GCSE. Initially the results are looking very positive and the revision PowerPoints seem to have helped the pupils learn the detail needed to answer the question. The trip for Black Country Museum is currently being organised for the autumn term.

Year 8

Year 8 have been studying the transatlantic slave trade and its lasting legacy and have just begun to look at the causes of World War One. This term students will be looking at recruitment, conditions, and some of the key battles of the First World War. This will end with a lesson marking the anniversary of Passchendaele.

Year 9

Year 9 have just completed the T2 exam, which was on the causes of World War Two. This assessment has been designed to test all mastery skills in History and embed key secondary concepts about change, continuity, significance essential for the new GCSE. Initially pupils seem to have completed the assessment well.

GR has begun a CPD project 'Lessons from Auschwitz project' through the Holocaust Educational Trust. The project involves four sessions. The first session involves discussions about the definitions of the Holocaust and pre-Holocaust life for Jewish

people in Europe, as well as a listening to a talk from a survivor; the second session is a one-day trip to Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp; the third is a session on the relevance of the Holocaust in the modern day; and the fourth is an optional CPD session conducted in-school by a member of the Holocaust Educational Trust. From this project, GR have already acquired teaching resources to share with the department, and will be looking at using these resources to rejuvenate the Year 9 Scheme of Work for the Holocaust unit.

Year 10

A number of Year 10 students have just returned from a fantastic trip to Berlin. It was a highly enriching experience and the students truly were a credit to the school and their parents.



History Club

History Club has attracted a broad range of students from different year groups. They have been organising their own historical film nights which have proved popular with the club.

GEOGRAPHY

KS3

Year 7 Geographers are currently learning all about 'weather and climate'. The British are obsessed by the weather but why? Year 7's are currently learning about how we measure weather, the causes of our changeable weather in the United Kingdom and the reasons behind storm events such as Storm Abigail or Storm Imogen. Students will also be using leading Geographical Information Systems to monitor, record and analyse current weather conditions at nearby Met Office locations. Many people talk about the weather but do not really understand it. Hopefully our year 7 students will this term gain the knowledge and understanding to really explain with strong accuracy this very 'British' topic.

Year 8 this term have been learning about the geography of the Middle East. They have began by investigating and appreciating the diverse physical landscapes of the Middle East, with a particular focus of the biomes and climate zones that make up this region. Desert landscapes that make up large parts of the region

have been a particular focus and students have engaged well with geographical issues significant to the area such as desertification in the Arabian Desert. Students have also recently discussed and explored the cultural diversity in this area and have learnt about the way of life for people in the many different locations that make up the Middle East.

Year 9 this term have been learning about Himalayas. The Himalayas, form a mountain range in Asia separating the plains of the Indian subcontinent from the Tibetan Plateau. In this mostly physical geography topic students have learnt about the complexity of the formation of the Himalayas and the processes in which contribute to the formation of fold mountain ranges. They have explored the Geography of the areas in which the Himalayas lie and also have investigated the challenges and opportunities faced by people living around this amazing part of the world.

GCSE

Year 10 students are currently studying the physical landscapes of the UK following their unit on urban issues and challenges in Birmingham and Rio de Janeiro. The students will pay particular focus to the coastal and fluvial landscapes of the country as well as the geological makeup of the UK. At the end of this term and beginning of next term students will be conducting two fieldwork visits to apply the theory they have learnt in the classroom to real localities.

KS5

Year 12 A Level students are currently consolidating their knowledge and extending their understanding of the topics they have covered this year to ensure they are prepare for the terminal assessment style of the new A Level. This year A Level students have studied coastal systems, hazards and changing places as well as completing fieldwork visits to Birmingham CBD and Bewdley.

BUSINESS STUDIES

It has been a busy year in the Business department with lots of change taking place for the next academic year. We have said goodbye to our Year 11 students, started the Controlled Assessment with our current Year 10 and started planning for the new GCSE starting in September. We would like to thank our students for their efforts this year and wish them a restful summer break.

Jaguar Landrover Trip

Back in February we took students from Year 11 to the Jaguar Landrover site in Solihull. Whilst there, students took part in some hands on tasks involving manufacturing and stock, showing some real life applications of the topics covered in Unit Three. They also went on a tour of the site, initially looking at the use of robots in the manufacturing of the cars and finally seeing the last safety and quality checks made by members of the engineering team. Due to the success of the trip, we are looking to take a group of our current year 10's to the site in early 2018. If you are interested in your son/daughter attending this trip, then please sign up through schoolcomms.

New GCSE

From September 2017, students starting the Business course will now follow the Edexcel course for the new 1 – 9 GCSE. This will mean that they won't produce a Controlled Assessment and final grade will come from two papers at the end of Year 11. These papers will also differ to the current style. There will no longer be a multiple choice paper and both papers will follow a similar structure to the current Unit Three paper. To support students with these changes, we have produced a variety of resources ready to give to students in the new academic year.

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 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. You can find the videos here at:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P9WJIWF-1E8&list=PLvkgJYGqyGdVZlJlef3Lbk_ZDzj0610k

London Trip

In June, Year 12 had a fantastic cultural trip to London, whereby we visited a British Museum exhibit entitled 'The American Dream'. This was a joint trip with Art students to further their knowledge of American advertising, as Advertising is a core module in Year 13 Media.



Character Week

During character week, we had the pleasure of inspiring some Year 9 boys with media. Our guest speaker, freelance videographer and documentary film maker, Paul Stringer showed them ways to ensure they improved their photography and interview skills.



Finally, we would like to say a huge thank you to Sarah Smith who will be leaving the Media department at the end of the month. Her enthusiasm and efforts will be sorely missed by the Media department. Good luck in Leicester net year, Sarah!

PERFORMING ARTS

Year 10

This term has been focused on preparing our students for their public examinations and our Year 10 BTEC Performing Arts group kicked off the first of our practical examinations with their performance of an abridged version of Annie for their Unit 5: Musical Theatre unit.

This took place on Thursday 28th April in the dance studio where our cast of 8 females performed the opening scene from the musical; with Georgie playing Annie, Keelin playing Miss Hannigan and the others taking on roles of the various orphans in the musical. Miss Williams and Mrs Choudhury were extremely impressed with the students' dedication and commitment during rehearsals, as well as the professionalism they displayed on the day of the performance. Particularly noticeable was the development shown by all students from the start of the course in September so a huge well done to the Year 10 BTEC Performing Arts group!



Year 11

Moving on with this theme, our Year 11 Performing Arts group undertook their final Showcase performance on 10th May. This was a piece of devised theatre based on the title 'The Imaginative World of Fiction' and the group prepared this for months in advance of the performance date; researching and selecting material, scripts and songs to be used, as well as choreographing contemporary dance and musical theatre style dance.

We were extremely proud of their work and the visiting examiner from AQA even asked if she could have a copy of the DVD of the performance to show students at her own school as an example of excellent practice. It is in this way we would like to congratulate them on their work throughout their GCSE Performing Arts and say goodbye to a number of these students as they move onto their studies elsewhere; Olivia and Cheriah, you will be sadly missed within the department and we would like to thank you for all the time and dedication you have shown in Performing Arts throughout your time at Bishop Challoner.



Bishop's Got Talent

As the year 2016 – 2017 has been the official Year of Celebration, 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 with three performances planned for this half term. On 16th June, the dynamic musical duo Daniel and Liam wowed crowds with their piano, guitar playing and singing skills. They performed a programme which includes songs by Ed Sheeran, James Bay and James TW and had the audience so spellbound by their musical prowess, they had to do an encore!

The final BGT performance of the year was courtesy of the Year 7 Drama Club, which has been running on a Monday after school all year, led by Mrs Jethwa. This half term has seen them preparing for their BGT performance by working on an abridged version of Shakespeare's most famous play; 'Romeo and Juliet'. The team of eight performed their version of the tale using modern music; rap and movement. Using the prologue as their stimulus, the ensemble focussed on the key moments of the tragedy and representing the themes of family feud; love; regret and remorse using physical theatre as a vehicle to show this to the audience. Changing the prologue's key words of 'now the two hours' traffic of our stage' to 'two minutes' – the Year 7 Drama Club prepared a modern twist on a classic tale which was wonderful to witness.



Music

This year, the music department have been overwhelmed by the number of students asking for piano and keyboard tuition so Miss Hughes and Miss Coleman set up a Keyboard Club, meeting on Tuesdays after school. It has been open to all students who wish to improve their piano and keyboard technique, as well as their musical ensemble skills. The club has seen a mix of advanced players and beginners and there are opportunities for the more experienced players to act as musical mentors to the beginners; the club will continue in the autumn term and everyone is welcome.



Another new venture this term is to start a new school band. We began working with a group of keen musicians from Years 8 and 9 who are already building up a repertoire for a future performance. In September we hope to establish another band as this opportunity is open to students from all years who have an interest in working in an ensemble and wish to develop their instrumental or vocal skills.

It is already proving hugely beneficial to those students undertaking GCSE Music as performance is an important part of their course. We have had many musical ensembles in the past including rock bands and folk ensembles, and this is a Challoner tradition we would love to nurture in the new school year.



We are extremely keen to develop links with our feeder primary schools and it is in this way we hosted our very own 'Musical Celebration' on Tuesday 18th July. Mrs Choudhury has been meeting with music co-ordinators from Primary schools this year and they all planned an event which saw 4 primary schools and Bishop Challoner put on a concert for parents, carers and staff, involving a range of students from across the different schools.

Children from St. Martin de Porres, St. Edward's, St. Bernard's and St. Dunstan's arrived at Bishop Challoner ready to perform on their various instruments, as well as take part in a giant choir comprising of students from every school who sang a song which had been especially composed for the occasion by Bishop Challoner's A level musicians. The song was entitled 'Smile For Me' and the key themes were friendship, community and helping each other. Mrs Choudhury visited the Primary Schools to teach the song to the children in the various choirs prior to the concert and we all came together on the 18th July to celebrate the fabulous musical talents of the young people in our school communities. All of the children involved were very excited to be involved in the concert and it provided a fitting end to our Year of Celebration.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate any pupil who has made a contribution to the Performing Arts department's success this term. We hope Bishop Challoner students will continue to take part in, enjoy and celebrate Music, Drama and Dance in the summer term and beyond.

ART AND DESIGN

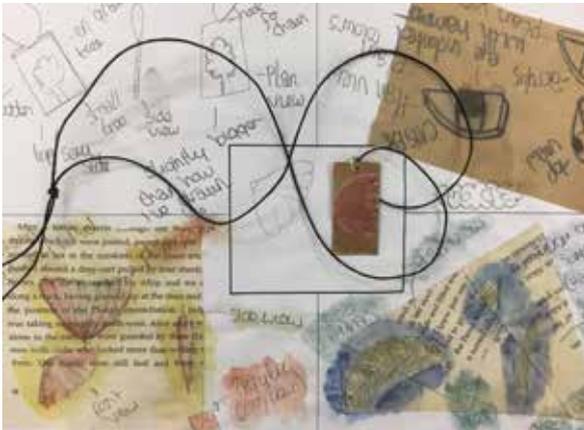
Year 7 Bag Charms inspired by Art Deco, Art Nouveau and Memphis designers

Having researched either Art Deco, Art Nouveau or Memphis to understand the design principles, students were tasked with producing their own design inspired by their preferred designer. Students worked with a range of tools, applying different techniques including press forming. The final designs were then cut out of acrylic and aluminium, to resemble their chosen art and craft movement.

Students learnt how to produce a sublimation print onto acrylic before attaching all their cut-out parts together to form their bag charm. Look out for some of the final products hanging from Year 8 bags in September.



Year 8 Natural Form



Year 8 have been focusing on designing a pendant inspired by natural forms. Students have learnt how to create a personal design appropriate to their intentions. Students were introduced to Chris Hawkins, a Brighton-based silversmith who specialises in men's jewellery. Chris demonstrated how to make a simple silver ring and explains how the tools and techniques of his trade haven't changed for centuries.

Having learnt online about the techniques students were able to test their own skills by producing a variety of aluminium samples. Once the test pieces were created students produced a visual plan with annotations to explain their design before transferring their design into brass or copper. The designs were cut out carefully and textured before they were soldered to create the final pendant.

PRODUCT DESIGN

There were some outstanding manufactured products crafted by the Y11 Product Design group this year, submitted as part of unit 2 for their GCSE Product Design Course. Along with the supporting folder, their products contribute towards 60% of the qualification. We have been particularly impressed by the level of creativity in their ideas and also the skill with which they have manipulated, assembled and finished materials.

The products are near to commercial quality and are evidence of many hours of hard work. We congratulate them on their efforts and wish them well in their future journeys. Check out these fantastic examples made by Caitlin, Aliyah, Laura, John, Myah, Shalana and Jodie.



Year 13

The Y13 Product Design group were encouraged to find a design problem which is directly relevant to their own everyday life to solve for the coursework unit of the A2 course. Sam was struck by the difficulty most people have when accessing the ports on the back of a TV and also the tendency for cables to get tangled when multiple appliances are connected. His solution is a TV stand with a revolving top plate and separate openings for each appliance cable to be threaded through.



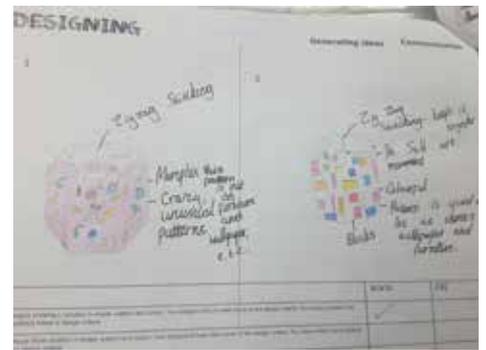
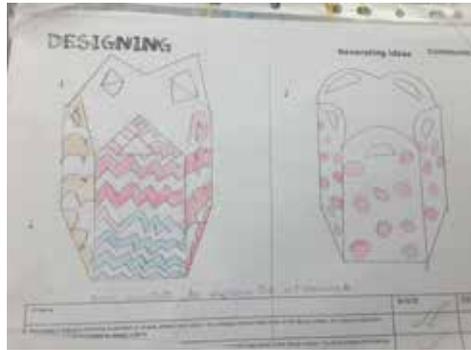
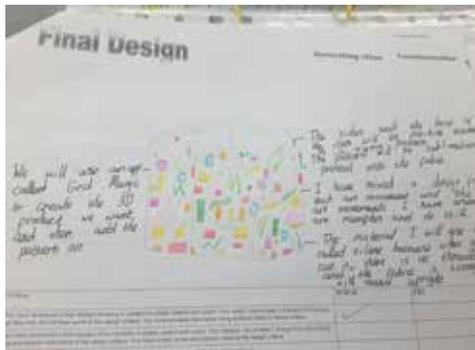
Phillip identified that there is an ongoing challenge to store sports equipment quickly and effectively after PE lessons. His portable storage trolley has separate compartments for a wide range of items including basket balls, rounders bats, cones, tennis rackets and bibs. Jayden's miscellaneous storage/light box would be a stylish as well as functional addition to every disorganised teenager's chaotic desk and thanks to Nicklas' innovative log holder, outdated wicker baskets can be assigned to history. It has been inspiring to see how each student has approached their problem with creativity and originality and we wish them well as they move on to undertake the next step in their education.



TEXTILES

Year 7 Pen Pot

This term year 7 pupils have been designing and making Design Movement inspired pen pots. They have studied the last 120 years of design including arts and crafts, Bauhaus and Memphis. These have been produced using Grid Magic soft wear and sublimation printed onto to fabric. Pupils have also learnt to use the sewing machines.



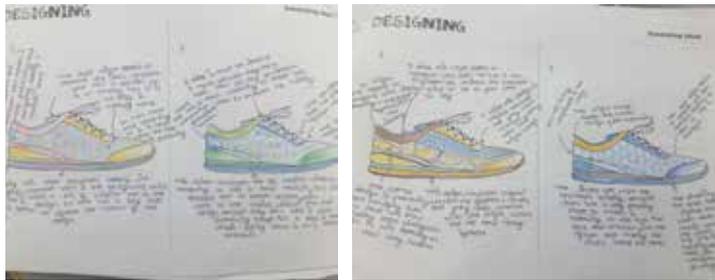
Year 8 Sports Arm Band

Pupils in year 8 have been inspired by their favourite sports to produce logos to decorate a felt sports arm band. A wide range of sports were chosen including boxing, gymnastics and ice skating to name but a few and they have produced a fantastic range of intricate designs.



Year 9 Trainers

Birmingham inspired trainers were the theme of year 9 pupils project this term. Designs have been developed from iconic buildings and areas of Birmingham to produce some original and creative trainer designs.



Year 7/8 Gardeners World Project

This term, two classes in years 7 and 8 have been working on the 50th anniversary of Gardeners World project, designing a wheelbarrow for a competition. This has include researching both the school kitchen and peace garden. They have developed a range of designs to enhance the wheelbarrow we entered into the competition and have produced both 3D and 2D textiles products. Everything from 3D vegetables and insects to bunting.

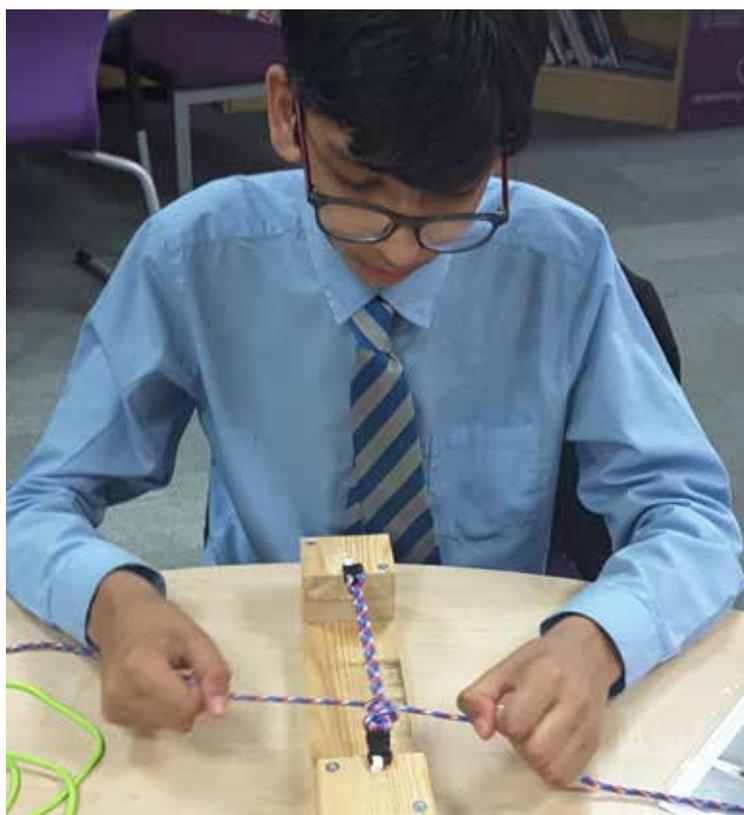
Textiles Club

This term pupils have been working on large A1 fashion illustrations for display in the Textiles room. Both year 7 and 8 pupils have worked to create a range of mixed media illustrations which include different materials such as net, wool and feathers. These are now all on display in the Textiles room and are inspiring a new generation of Fashionistas!



BGT- Survival Bracelets

The final design and technology BGT this term featured students being given the opportunity to create their own survival bracelet. These were made using Para cord and Cobra weave at both break and lunch time as they proved to be so popular. These bracelets can be used in an emergency whilst in the wilderness of Kings Heath, when you need a piece of strong rope, very Bear Grylls! This technique Mrs Dane has picked up from her husband who is atcub leader for 6th Bromsgrove cub group.



FOOD TECHNOLOGY

Primary Liaison

Two more of our feeder school have attended practical cookery sessions this year. The children have enjoyed learning about healthier food options and trying unfamiliar foods. Through a variety of creative and practical tasks the children have learnt how to apply the principles of healthy eating and nutrition.



They have used the new UK Eatwell Guide as a reference point to help them understand that they need to have a variety of foods and drinks to stay healthy. To help fulfil the National Curriculum for key stage two, the children used techniques such as peeling, chopping, slicing, grating, mixing, spreading and baking. Each school were given a resource book to help them carry on the healthy eating project at their own school.

Healthy Living Cookery Club



This term saw the continuation of the weekly Healthy Living Cookery club. The idea is to make healthier alternative products that the students enjoy to encourage healthier choices. They have made dips and dippers such as hummus, guacamole and vegetable sticks; fruit bread, soda bread, banana loaf, salad nicoise, cheese and onion muffins, vegetable cous cous and Greek salad.

Parents and carers were invited into school for a sampling buffet to try out the food products (See picture 8). As a treat the students in the club were invited to a sugarcraft session where they made sugar bears. A big thank you to Julie Jones who delivered the workshop.



Key Stage 3 Cooking and Nutrition

As well as making products pupils in key stage 3 have been investigating why ingredients change in appearance, colour, texture and flavour when cooked. This has helped the pupils to develop subject specific technical terminology. In year 7 they have made fruit fusion to practise their knife skills, cous-cous salad based on the Eatwell guide; the new UK model for healthier eating, chicken goujons and spicy wedges; a healthier alternative to high street options and soda bread. As part of food science experiments they have investigated enzymic browning, dextrinisation, Maillard reaction, caramelisation and raising agents.

Pupils in year 8 have made banana cake; a useful way to use up over ripe bananas, Bolognese and beefburgers linking them to high risk foods, sustainability and food provenance, pancakes linking to aeration and of course Pancake Day and cheese and onion muffins. The pupils also considered how protein denatures when cooked, why pancakes don't rise during cooking and muffins do.

Year 9 pupils have made chilli considering the effects of heat on protein and sustainable sources of protein as recommended by the new Eatwell Guide, nice 'n' spicy rice; a vegetarian alternative, following starch experiments where pupils investigated how sauces thicken. They made mac 'n' cheese and they cooked batter in two ways; pancakes and toad-in-the-hole considering raising agents and how they affect the batter.



Key Stage 4- Year 10 GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition

Year 10 students are now getting to grips with the new specification for their food GCSE. They have been studying the core knowledge (the nuts and bolts of food preparation and nutrition) and linking it with others topics within the specification to help develop holistic learning. This has involved practising their practical skills when making products and investigating the scientific principles behind the cooking such as denaturing of protein, dextrinization, gelatinisation, coagulation and transfer of heat when cooking food. This will prepare them for their first non-examination assessment where they will carry out a scientific food investigation which will assess their knowledge, skills and understanding in relation to scientific principles underlying the preparation and cooking of food.



Year 11 GCSE Hospitality and Catering

Year 11 students have now completed coursework and the final examination for their GCSE Hospitality and Catering. After much research and analysis they had to prepare, cook and serve a two-course meal. This truly tested their culinary skills, temperature control and time management. Many of them found it quite a challenge however, they must be congratulated for their professionalism and commitment throughout the practical assessment. I wish them all the very best for the future and with their career choices.



Healthy Eating Week 12th – 16th June 2017

The purpose of the week is to provide a dedicated week in the year where the school can focus on healthy eating and drinking, cooking, food provenance and physical activity to promote key health messages and habits. We know that the health of many young people need to improve and this is a way for the school to demonstrate its commitment to promoting healthy lifestyles. The week promotes healthy behaviours, encourages a whole school approach to health and provides evidence of commitment to student health and wellbeing.

As part of the week students in year 7 and 8 are participating in a daily challenge. We are challenging them to take up our five health challenges. To help maximise participation and to raise awareness of the challenges, a powerpoint was shown in form time by tutors with posters to explain each one for display in their form room. The posters were also displayed in the school canteen. The five challenges are 'have breakfast', 'have 5-a-day', 'drink plenty', 'get active', 'try something new'. The students were given a tracker card to get signed as evidence of their achievements.



To help achieve some of the challenges a smoothie bike was available each lunch time where the students pedal the bike which powers the blender which makes a smoothie. The students paid for the smoothie and all proceeds went to the school charity. There were also 'fake ice-creams' for sale which generated considerable interest and again all proceeds go to the school charity.

Gardeners World, NEC



As part of BBC Gardeners' World Live 50th Anniversary we have taken part in a competition at the NEC. The idea is to encourage growing in schools, the competition demands creative thinking, inspiration and what's more - getting out into the garden! The students were tasked to plant up a wheelbarrow with all the home-grown ingredients required to rustle up a fresh and tasty summer recipe. The students chose 'Afternoon tea' and have sown plants which constitute or represent the ingredients. The barrow was collected and taken to the NEC for display where the general public will vote according to a set criteria. The students will visit the show to see their creation in place. We won the judges vote for best secondary school.

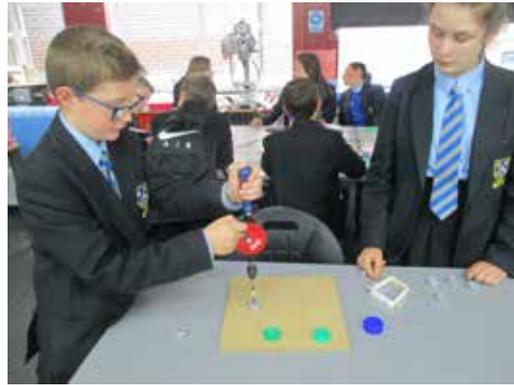
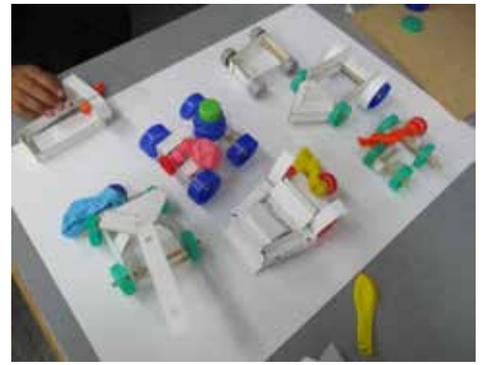


STEM

STEM Club

STEM club has continued to be met with great enthusiasm by our Year 7 students who have been working on a range of hands on projects over the last term. Wind Turbines, balloon cars, kites and nightlights are amongst some of the themes we have explored with an emphasis on exploration through practical investigation. It has been encouraging to see the group has grown in size week on week and numbers of girls has also increased.

Students have enjoyed getting stuck into some of the challenges generated by the Royal Academy of Engineering included in their activity boxes which we have been using in some of our sessions. The latest box, entitled 'winning medals', looks at the impact of science, technology, engineering and maths on wheelchair sports.



Y5 Primary STEM Fair- 29th June



Our STEM club showed excellent leadership skills when they helped deliver 14 different exciting STEM challenges at the Y5 STEM Fair on 29th June. This is a permanent fixture on the school calendar and is embedded into Primary Science Week. Up to fifty primary students from St. Edward's, St. Chad's, St. Alban's, St. Jude's, St. Bernard's and Our Lady of Lourdes schools competed in teams of six with each team engaging in eight twenty minute challenges.

The STEM challenges ranged from designing and making a tower capable of holding at least 150g in weight using nothing more than cocktail sticks and jelly babies to making and operating a hovercraft from balloons and old CD's. Teams were awarded up to three tokens for their performance in each challenge and these were collected in a custom made score board. Our congratulations go to St. Edward's and St. Chad's who were joint winner on the day.



Y7 STEM @ Lickey Hills- 30th June and 17th July

On 30th June and 17th July, the timetable for our whole Y7 cohort was collapsed to deliver two full days of outdoor STEM activities at the Lickey Hills Country Park. Delivering these activities off site and outside of the constraints of the classroom enabled students to learn through practical investigation in new and exciting ways.

Activities range from the science based 'CSI', where students employed basic investigative techniques used in crime scenes to solve a 'case' to 'Den Building' in which students work in a team of five to make a shelter using fallen tree debris, tarpaulin and

rope. The shelter must be able to house all of the group members and must be watertight. Students are split into groups of ten from a mix of teaching bands so there is a chance to develop team working and communication skills with new and unfamiliar faces.

This event is a memorable one for the youngest members of our school community who often find out a lot about their own skills and character when faced with obstacles that must be overcome through working together.



PSHE/CITIZENSHIP

Character & Celebration Week

Character and Celebration Week was first discussed in the summer of 2016 when students and teachers came together to think of how we could better prepare our students for life outside of Challoner. The aim was to spend more time looking at the development of character virtues in a positive setting. With these discussions came the idea of Character and Celebration Week.

For one week students were off timetable developing character skills, learning about Personal, Social, Health and Economic education, and celebrating their year at Challoner. During the first three days of collapsed timetable students were engaged in a range of activities. For example Lexie, a support act to Little Mix came in to deliver a concert style assembly to all year groups about the importance of e-safety and wowed us with her singing ability. The week ended with a celebration of the year at Drayton Manor and a reflection of the year during Parent Consultation Day. The feedback from the week has been incredible. Students have loved the opportunity to do something different and take time to focus on developing themselves outside of the usual academic rigour setting.



In year 10 we were lucky enough to have a drama company deliver sexual health education, we also had the police speak about knife crime and the legal issue of Joint Enterprise. Students were able to consider their career development during an aspirations day and learnt about finance and budgeting in a series of Money Matters workshops. In year 9 Friends of the Earth were encouraging students to take responsibility for their planet and Fox Hollies special school delivered workshops on disability awareness. On their PSHE day students completed various workshops on gender, sexuality and exploitation. During their aspirations day students considered their career development with a series of inspirational workshops using speaking from a variety of industries.

In year 8 students had the opportunity to hear from outside speakers and reflected on their life during our retreat day, they discussed issues concerning relationships and e-safety during their PSHE day, and they developed their character traits in various activities involving team work in their character day. In year 7 students were able to reflect on their faith with a retreat day, they looked at friendship issues and bullying during a PSHE day and developed their character traits with a series of active workshops during their character day.



Year 9 Charity Work

Year 9 School Council members, and their friends, seized the opportunity to make some money for our school charity (The Alzheimer's Society) whilst it was hot. They organised an impromptu ice-lolly sale raising £210. Year 11 and sixth form students, who had completed exams that day, were especially pleased as they were kindly given a free ice cream as a reward for their hard work, boosting morale after a long morning of exams.



Year 8 Citizenship

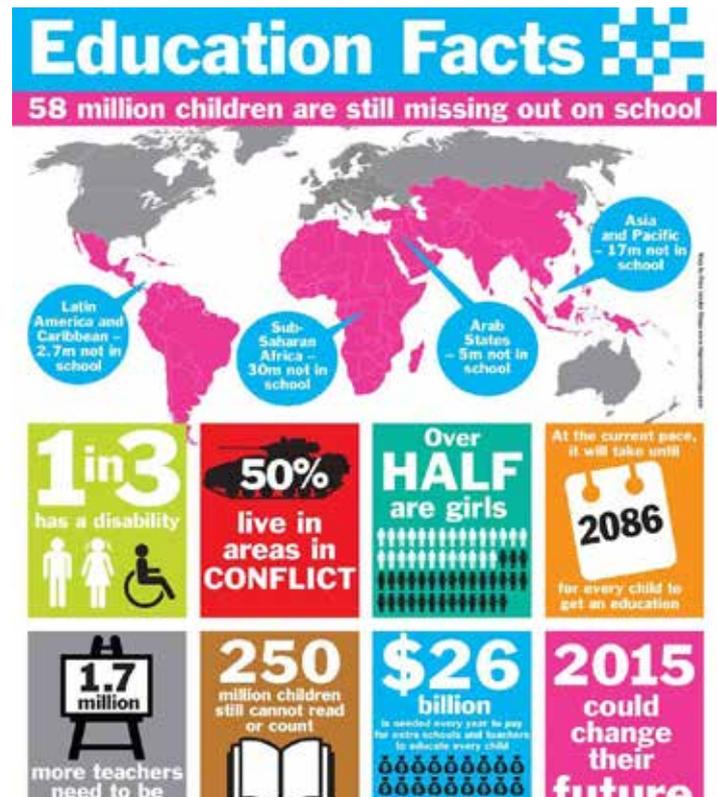
This term in Citizenship lessons year 8 have been demonstrating their talents as active citizens by creating campaigns to improve their local community. In groups students are focusing on issues such as knife crime, mental health, the environment etc., to develop a campaign. Campaigns range from informative, raising political or public awareness of an issue or fundraising for a solution to an issue.

One group of students from each class, elected by their peers competed for their chance to win £1500. Three volunteers from Birmingham Civic Society visited Challoner in our semi-finals to judge who was deserving of going through to the finals of the Next Generation Awards.

Year 7 Citizenship

In year 7 Citizenship this term students have been finding out about educational inequality and the impact it has on the lives of young people across the world. Students have discussed what they can do to help reduce this global inequality and have begun creating campaigns inline with a national project entitled Send My Friend to School. This project challenges students to be active citizens and make contact with their local MP.

The recent elections have delayed planning for this however we hope to have our local MP in for the second year running in order that students can share their work with him (Roger Godsiff, Labour MP for the constituency of Hall Green) and can challenge him to take the issue of global educational inequality to parliament.



Fox Hollies Collaboration

Since the last newsletter a group of year 9 students have attended a residential trip with a group of students from Fox Hollies School for students with special needs. To participate in this trip all students needed to attend training and four or more afternoon sessions working with their peer's at Fox Hollies. The trip involved supporting Fox Hollies's students with activities that, in some cases, were difficult for students with disabilities.



The trip was an incredible opportunity for our students to engage with people their own age that which at first may seem daunting due to the differences between them. I was incredibly proud of our students as they befriended and supported every single student they worked with that week, encouraging them in their activities and supporting them in their challenges. The students reported that they felt more confident and comfortable working with people who are disabled and said they will miss their friends from Fox Hollies but hope to invite them to Challoner soon.

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Personal Tutor Time

The last few weeks in Personal Tutor were incredibly important in helping ensure our students were politically aware of what was going on in the country. Students learnt about the different major political parties and debated who they would vote for if they were 18 (majority voted labour). Students also looked at case studies of young people, only 18 years old, who are campaigning to be elected as MPs – they discussed their duty as citizens and how they can make an impact in society. This links to a celebration in our last week of term when year 7 students will have the opportunity to quiz our local MP, Mr Roger Godsiff.

Each area votes for their own MP. Which ever candidate gets the most votes in their area becomes that area's MP. Our school falls under the Hall Green constituency.



SPORT

Sports Day

This years sports day showcased another fantastic day out for our year 7, 8 and 9 students who took part in the Bishop Challoner Sports Day at Tudor Grange Athletics Track on Tuesday 4th July. All the pupils demonstrated fantastic enthusiasm and resilience on a very warm day in Solihull. Some outstanding performances from Collette Bing, Grace Chatterly, Tom Monteith and Gisell Calame-Kuita who broke the girls 100m for year 7, an absolutely amazing achievement!

Rosina Orton in Year 8 also broke the 100m and 200m records, an incredible

athlete! More records were broken from Lily Goodwin in the year 7 long jump and Daniel Johns Kennedy in the year 9 shot putt – excellent efforts! The day included 100m, 200m, 400m, relay, triple jump, long jump, high jump, shot putt, discus, javelin, tug-of-war and welly wanging! Well done to all the students who took part to make this day so fantastic!

Also a big well done to the winners of the day:

- Year 7 – SCO
- Year 8 – SCO
- Year 9 – BON



Bishops Got Talent

The Bishops Got Talent Gymnastic Show recently took place with Year 7 & 8s who currently attend gymnastics club showing off what they had learnt in a performance at break, including some incredible somersaults and vaults. If you were inspired by our gymnastics and fancy getting involved, Gymnastics club runs on Tuesdays before school (7.45-8.30am). Everyone is welcome! Well done to Ellie, Erin, Kiara, Renee, Hannah, Love, Millie, Mikey, Shannon & Faith.



Year 8 Boys Football

Well done to the Year 8 boys football team who have had another successful year led by Mr Noone. The boys have won the district league, the Kings Norton Cup and also reached the semi-final of the ESFA individual cup. Well done boys, you have represented the school brilliantly again this year.

Ball Crew

In more tennis news, this year's Aegon Classic tournament featured eight of the world's top ten players in the WTA rankings, including British No 1 Johanna Konta – the strongest line up of talent ever seen on the grass courts of the Edgbaston Priory Club. Ball Crew training starts in February every year and is a massive commitment. All pupils involved have demonstrated fantastic organisation, dedication and effort and yet again proved themselves to be a world class ball crew. A special mention must go to John Paul Hayes for winning Ball Crew of the year, well done!



Following the success of the AEGON classic we were delighted to get tickets for the opening day of Wimbledon. The day started with a centre court tour followed by watching matches on court 1. We were lucky enough to see Nadal and Venus Williams both in action, although we enjoyed watching Murray on Murray's Mount the most!

Rounders The Year 7/8 and Year 9 Rounders team participated in a tournament with the winning team progressing to represent Birmingham in the School Games. The girls showed excellent sportsmanship and tactical awareness to beat other schools, however by losing some games the girls unfortunately didn't make it through. Well done to all who participated, showcasing some excellent Rounders skills.

OPEN LEARNING CENTRE

This year, the OLC has seen many exciting Bishop's Got Talent events, organised by different departments, which showcase the incredible skills of our students. Extracurricular events boost student confidence, and these events may inspire other students to take up a new hobby.

This year we organised a fund raising event for the school charity, which gave the Library Monitors experience in organising an event, and taking individual responsibility. It was a lot of fun! We plan to do it again next year so please save any unwanted gifts and books that are in good condition.

Our regular book clubs were designed to encourage reading for pleasure. We hope that students will continue to read as much as they can over the school holidays. When parents and carers read with their children it's enormously beneficial. If your children are already fluent readers, ask them about the book they are reading. Reading for pleasure really does have an impact on your child's life outcome and wellbeing. It can be bonding to share that experience with them.

We are looking forward to a new and exciting term in September. You can follow us on twitter. Have a safe and happy summer. Mrs Fanning and Mrs Jones.

Tennis

In tennis the boys Year 7 and 8 A and B team beat Archbishop Ilsley and Sheldon Health last week which leaves them undefeated and winners of the league! Well done boys, keep up the good work! Further up the school, the Year 10A tennis team have had a mixed bag of results losing 2 matches and winning 1. Well done to Zak and Niall Wilmin, Aeden Tehan and Oisin Reel for their efforts.

The Year 7-10 girls' tennis team have also been participating against KESH and Camp Hill in the School Tennis Competition. Pupils played well with the outcomes varying against two very strong opposing teams. Matches against KESH ended as a draw, with a particularly notable performance from Lily Goodwin. However, Camp Hill were tough competitors and Leane Coelho was the only successful performer with the singles match in which she played against a year 10 pupil! She went on to compete with Sianne Simmonds in their double match and to Sianne's surprise they won! A huge well done to all!

Key skills to develop over the summer holidays

Many students are slow at reading and have difficulty understanding text because they have not become fluent readers through regular practice. Reading for pleasure develops reading fluency and comprehension, improves vocabulary and increases general knowledge. It also develops the skills needed for writing and problem solving skills. Just 20 minutes reading a day could have a significant impact on your child's achievement.

Many students are slow at writing because they print, others have very untidy handwriting. Touch-typing is one of the most valuable skills you can learn. The benefits include speed and accuracy as well as time saved when writing and reduces tiredness. It helps you

to focus on the content of what you are writing. It also gives you the option of correcting errors as they appear. Cutting and pasting allows you to organise the text better. Google 'touch typing for kids' to find free online courses. The skill can be mastered quite quickly and once learned, is never forgotten.

Students encounter large quantities of new vocabulary in their courses, particularly when listening to teachers. The ability to spell the words correctly in note-taking, for looking up in dictionaries and books and for searching on the internet, will significantly affect their academic achievement. Encourage your child to practice spelling common words and key subject words correctly.

PE & SPORTS PREMIUM PROGRAMMES

Bishop Challoner Catholic College continue their work with 38 local primary, secondary and special schools through the School Games (SG) and PE and Sport Premium programmes to develop competitive sporting opportunities, leadership pathways and provide opportunities for the least active young people to participate in Change for Life sports clubs.

Sit Less-Move More

Mr McDermott recently won an award from the Youth Sport Trust and the School Games Team for the work he has done to encourage schools to get young people to be more physically active. To support the 60 minute physical activity target set out in the Obesity Strategy and by the Chief Medical Officer, Mr McDermott has started to challenge schools more on their physical activity provision and the opportunities provided for young people. He has so far delivered 10 whole school assemblies to primary schools under the banner of 'sit less - move more'. These 15-20 minute assemblies discuss the importance of physical activity, how much physical activity young people should do, what types of activity are good and who can help etc.

He also challenged all schools to organise a 'sit less - move more' day in June and challenged schools to make 50% of all lessons on 1 day 'active'. This includes active learning within the classroom, active travel, active meetings (e.g. staff meetings being held

standing up rather than sitting down) as well as activities during break and lunch time etc.

Quotes from a teacher who attended the planning meeting - "Attended the first 'sit less - move more' day organised by @BCSGO, fantastic insight in to how we can make our school more active.

Quotes from a County SGO who attended the planning meeting - "Many thanks to @BCSGO for hosting the first 'sit less - move more' workshop. Some great ideas and lots to take away".



WINNER

Youth Leadership

Congratulations to the 45 pupils from Years 7-8 who supported our Y1 multi skills festival at Billesley Tennis Centre on 25th April when they demonstrated their leadership skills with over 1200 pupils from 21 primary schools. The feedback from the primary school teaching staff was excellent.

Pupils have also demonstrated their tennis leadership skills when they supported a Y5-6 tennis competition at Billesley Tennis Centre on 24th May for 11 schools. They showed excellent dedication and enthusiasm as the event did not finish till 6.30pm and, once again, they were a real credit to school.

Professional Development

On 18th May we held our final Primary PE Coordinator meeting of the year to discuss a wide range of topics. Guest speakers from The National Trust, Big Birmingham Bikes and Birmingham Health and Well-Being service presented ideas and opportunities for schools to help pupils be more physically active, such as The National Trust's '50 things to do before you are 11 3/4' and Bikeability. Schools were also briefed on the latest School Games updates, such as changes that will happen to the current competition structure from September

You can follow all our work on @BCSGO where we now have nearly 770 followers.

Competitive Sport

This has been a very busy period with a wide range of competitive sporting opportunities for all the local schools. Well done to all schools and we look forward to seeing them all in our summer competitions. The table below shows how busy we have been since the end of April.



| Competition/event | Number of schools or teams taking part | Number of young people taking part | External support/Sports Leaders involved | Winners |
|--|--|------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Y1 multi skills festival | 21 | 1200 | 45 from Bishop Challoner | St Catherine of Siena |
| Y2 multi skills festival | 21 | 1200 | 45 from Swanshurst Girls | St Catherine of Siena |
| Y3-4 Athletics | 11 | 110 | 10 from Queensbridge | TBC |
| Y3-4 Tennis | 7 | 28 | 12 from KE Camp Hill Boys | Moseley C of E |
| Y5-6 Tennis | 11 | 44 | 10 from Bishop Challoner | Moseley C of E |
| Y5-6 Boys Football | 11 | 110 | 7 from Bishop Challoner | Billesley and St Bernard's |
| Y5-6 Megafest (Rugby coaching programme) | 8 | 96 | 6 coaches from Wasps and The RFU | St Alban's |
| Y5-6 Tag Rugby | 8 | 96 | 30 from Solihull College | St Catherine of Siena |
| Y5-6 Netball | 8 | 74 | 10 from Queensbridge | St Bernard's |
| Y5-6 Rounders | 11 | 132 | 3 from Swanshurst Girls | St Bernard's |
| Y7 Boys Athletics | 5 | 30 | Moseley Secondary School PE Staff | University of Birmingham |
| Y8 Boys Athletics | 5 | 30 | Moseley Secondary School PE Staff | University of Birmingham |
| Y7 Girls Athletics | | | | |
| | 5 | 30 | Moseley Secondary School PE Staff | Bishop Challoner |
| Y8 Girls Athletics | 5 | 30 | Moseley Secondary School PE Staff | University of Birmingham |
| Y7-8 Boys Tennis | 6 | 24 | N/A | KES |
| Y7-8 Girls Tennis | 4 | 16 | N/A | Bishop Challoner |
| Y7-8 Girls Rounders | 8 | 110 | N/A | KE Camp Hill Girls |
| Y8-9 Boys Hockey | 3 | 30 | 2 from Queensbridge and 1 from Bishop Challoner | Queensbridge |
| Y7-9 Girls Cricket | 4 | 60 | 3 coaches and 3 umpires from Warwickshire Cricket Board | University of Birmingham |
| Y9-10 Girls Rounders | 5 | 60 | N/A | KE VI High School |
| Total | 163 | 3429 | | |

Good luck to the following schools in the Birmingham School Games Finals as they compete in a variety of sports against schools from across the city: Billesley, Park Hill, St Alban's, St Catherine of Siena, Heath Mount, Moseley C of E, Oasis Woodview, St Edward's, Bishop Challoner, Queensbridge, KE Camp Hill and KE VI High School.

SIXTH FORM

Year 13 Leavers' Service

A lovely service took place in the Common Room on Friday 26th May. Students led the service with readings and prayers. Tutors spoke warmly of their forms, and some amusing anecdotes were told. The canteen provided a splendid "afternoon tea", which was very well received.



Lourdes

A team of 8 Sixth formers, together with 8 lower school students took part in the pilgrimage to Lourdes, organised by Tommy Rowan. Each day they worked in the Accueil, where pilgrims, requiring additional medical or physical assistance, are accommodated. They tirelessly worked long hours with the greatest of willingness and good humour and really were a credit to our Sixth Form, as they lived out the school Mission statement.



Public Examinations

Once again, our students impressed us with the dedication and application that they demonstrated in the run up to and during their public examinations. We hope they will be duly rewarded in the summer. Year 13 results will be available on Thursday 17th August from 9 am. Year 12 students, please arrive after 10 to collect your results.

Year 12 Return

All year 12 students returned for lessons on Monday June 5th, in preparation for year 13. These lessons ran for 4 weeks in total, interspersed with Progression Week and Work Experience Fortnight.

Progression Week

This was again a huge success. Our students showed excellent commitment and enhanced their skills greatly. The "Talents Day" was a particular triumph with over £700 raised by the year 12 forms in just two days.

Monday 26th - Careers Day: Students had talks in the morning and then completed a Careers Exploration lesson before attending a 'Careers Speed Dating' event in the afternoon.

Tuesday 27th - PSHE Day/Parable of the Talents: Students completed a series of PSHE workshops or created a fundraising activity in form groups. (Mirror of Thursday)

Wednesday 28th - HE Day: Students took part in a series of workshops, run by university colleagues, looking at different aspects of Higher Education.

Thursday 29th - PSHE Day/Parable of the Talents: (Mirror of Tuesday)

Friday 30th - UCAS and Employability and Awards Celebration: In the morning, students began registering on the UCAS site or the National Apprenticeship Service website. They also took part in an Employability Skills workshop run by the RAF. In the afternoon we had our first ever Sixth Form Awards Celebration.



Year 12 Celebration and Awards Ceremony

On Friday 30th June we held our very first celebration and awards ceremony for year 12. This is a legacy project, stemming from suggestions from the outgoing head boy and head girl, Michael and Eve. It was a great occasion to acknowledge the many successes and contributions of all of our students, as well as recognising particular achievements through the subject awards.

“Spirit of the Sixth Form” awards were also given to students who had, throughout the year, really lived out our mission statement of “giving glory to God, through service to others”.



New Head Boy and Head Girl

With such a motivated and community spirited Year 12, it was a difficult job choosing a new Head Boy and Head Girl, from a group of excellent applicants. Our final choice, which was very well received by all staff and students, was to Alfie McMillan and Mary Gurdin. These two students have been exemplary role models throughout the year, giving generously of their time in service to others and we look forward to working with them next year.



Exploration Days

As an extension to our usual Year 11 Exploration Day, we invited Year 10 students from our local 11-16 schools to participate too. On Exploration Day we invite applicants from other schools, who have been offered a conditional place at our Sixth Form to visit and take part in Taster lessons and other activities.

Year 13 Prom

This year's Prom at Highbury Hall on Friday 7th July was a huge success. It was a lovely sunny evening and students were able to take advantage of the stunning grounds, as well as enjoying an evening of good food, good company, music and dancing!



Summer Schools

We have more students than ever who have successfully gained places on 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. Destinations include prestigious universities such as University College London, Oxford, Cambridge and Newcastle University.

Cycling the Alaska

Will Parkes in Year 12, together with his dad, has cycled the Alaska Highway, a distance of some 1,483 miles to raise money for the Multiple Sclerosis Trust.

This epic journey took over 3 weeks and involved some extremely long and challenging stretches- covering the distance from Birmingham to London on some days. Will had to fit in practice rides at weekends whilst still putting full effort into his school work and exam preparation.

Building Schools in India

Year 12 student, Ibtisam Jeraj, is one of thirty young people who have been selected from the UK to participate in a scholarship trip to India to experience the Indian culture, history and way of life. She will be in a rural community helping to build a school. The trip is organised by the WE movement; empowering young people to change the world.

TEACHING SCHOOL

Celebration! Trainee Teacher successes

Over 50 of our School Direct Trainees have now completed their training year with huge success. Based within a number of our partner schools, with study days at University, it was great for all the trainee teachers to come together for a celebration event at the end of June. Trainees, mentors, teachers and lecturers have all worked really hard to ensure all of them pass their training year and go on to secure their first jobs in their new careers.

We will be recruiting new trainees for our Primary and Secondary School Direct programme in October 2017 ready to start in September 2018. Contact us if you or someone you know would like to become a teacher on teachingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk



Leadership Development and Teacher CPD

During this academic year, Teaching School has helped to train, develop and support over 600 teachers and technicians from schools across the Midlands on a diverse range of subjects. Some are one day courses concentrating on a specific topic, whereas others may be over several weeks, months or the whole year. We have run nationally accredited courses including qualifications in Middle and Senior Leadership and are pleased to have been successful to receive funding to deliver Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) Teacher Subject Specialism Training across Birmingham and the West Midlands.



We have been working closely with partner schools in our Alliance and beyond to create new courses ready to run next term, including looking at more Primary school focussed programmes. Supporting newly and recently qualified teachers is more important than ever – developing and nurturing them during the early part of their journey will help to grow and retain teaching staff. We held a great event in early July at Joseph Chamberlain Sixth Form College to celebrate the end of our NQT Development Programme, which also gave the opportunity for new NQTs to come together in order to learn from the inspiring Sue Cowley, an expert in Behaviour Management.



Science Learning Partnership

BCTSA continues to be the hub school for the Central Midlands Science Learning Partnership – part of the wider STEM Learning programme nationally. Popular courses this year have included those looking at specification changes in GCSE Chemistry, Physics and Biology, as well as how to strengthen the impact of practical sessions in Labs and science ideas for Primary teachers.

A real highlight was our Primary Maths and Science Conference held at Birmingham City University's new Curzon Building near Millennium Point in June, where over 100 Primary School teachers came along to listen to engaging keynote speakers and take part in various workshop sessions. A Science TeachMeet earlier in the spring also brought various local science contacts together for a stimulating evening of sharing science activities, ideas and materials.



Future Teaching Scholars



We have had the pleasure of being part of this national programme to attract Physics and Mathematics specialists into the teaching profession right from the outset. The first cohort are not only just completing their first year of a University degree in their chosen subject, but are also completing their first year as Future Teaching Scholars! Spending time in the classrooms of Bishop Challoner and other schools in our Alliance, the young people also came together throughout the year for specific training days.



Once they have graduated from University, these Scholars will then follow the School Direct route into teaching. We have also supported the promotion and recruitment of Scholars who will start the programme next academic year.



BCTSA online!

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?!

As 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. Our film shows just how our trainee teachers value what we do – take a look on You Tube to find out more:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UpjHN1QoWck>

SAINSBURY'S ACTIVE KIDS

A huge thank you to everyone who has been collecting the Sainsbury's 'Active Kids' vouchers for the school. Our final total is a tremendous 9,995 vouchers and the PE staff and Mrs Patterson are busy looking through the catalogue choosing how best to use them. The order will be sent off before we break up for the summer, with all the new equipment arriving ready for the new term.

OTHER BC NEWS

Warwickshire U14's

write to inform you of the success of Warwickshire u14s squad. They competed in the Feile Peil na nOg and won their division. This is a tremendous achievement for Warwickshire GAA and squad members. Kieran did a superb job as Captain.

The following represented their clubs, schools and parents in an outstanding manner.

Niall, Sean, Dylan, Finbarr, Finn, Thomas, Joseph and Joe.



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.

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| Year 7- | 96% |
| Year 8- | 95% |
| Year 9- | 93% |
| Year 10- | 94% |
| Year 11- | 94% |
| Whole School- | 95% |

Thank you for your continued support.



Pastoral Staff Changes- September 2017

There are a number of Pastoral staff changes that you should be aware of from September 2017, we welcome and congratulate all staff joining the team.

Head of Year 7- Miss Hamson
Assistant Head of Year 7- Miss Mazabraud

Head of Year 8- Miss Beard
Assistant Head of Year 8- Miss Hughes

Head of Year 9- Mr Clarke
Assistant Head of Year 9- Miss Williams

Head of Year 10- Mr Wooler
Assistant Head of Year 10- Miss Swingler

Head of Year 11- Mrs McGowan
Assistant Head of Year 11- Miss Laszlo
Year 12 Post 16 Senior Tutor- Miss Kelly

Year 13 Post 16 Senior Tutors- Mrs Healy/Miss McGowan

We would like to thank Miss Caherty and Mr May who are leaving to take up new positions in other schools and to Mr Mullins who will be Head of Geography from September. They have all made a significant contribution in their role as Head's of Year and we wish them the best of luck in their new positions.

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

Official School Twitter: @BishopChalloner

Science: @BCSciDept

Teaching School: @teaching_school

School Games: @BCSGO

Computing: @BishopChalComp

Chaplaincy: @BC_Chaplaincy

Biology: @BCCbio

English: @BC_EnglishDept

PE: @BCPEDepartment

Maths: @BCMathsDept

Geography: @BCGeogDept

Science: @BCSciDept

Maths Hub: @CentralMathsHub



www.bishopchalloner.org.uk

RETURN DATES

Year 7, 11, 13 - Wednesday 6th September

Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 - Thursday 7th September