



Lord our God, may we grow as people who think of others and see their needs never “passing by on the other side” but being willing to make sacrifices and be generous for the good of others. Amen

Message from Mr McEvoy, Principal

Friday 23rd September 2016

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back to a new school year.

The summer saw record breaking results for the school at both GCSE and Post 16 level. All the hard work and commitment paid dividends, bringing success to our students and their families. Many will now be starting their University degrees this week, including at Oxford, with over forty students at Russell Group Universities. Our growing Sixth Form continues to offer excellent and personalised provision under the stewardship of Mrs Nutt and her team.

For current Y11 and Y13 next summer will see grades awarded for the first time for new GCSEs and ‘A’ levels. These are challenging times as schools come to terms with the implications of major curriculum change. Be assured that Challoner will continue to offer exceptional support.

Last May saw the school fall into Special Measures in relation to the issue regarding registration on/off site between lessons of Sixth Form students. As stated at the time, the school would work tirelessly to address this issue and to have Special Measures lifted. We have worked intensely for four months, Ofsted have re-visited...but I am not at liberty to comment until the report is published. I can say, however, that the work done to the new Reception looks fantastic and we are delighted that all scheduled tasks were completed before the most recent Inspection.

2016/2017 has been designated a ‘Year of Celebration’ at Challoner. The experience of last summer only served to highlight how fantastic a school we have and made us realise how precious it is to have such a special place for our young people to learn and develop. We therefore decided, regardless of any inspection outcomes, that we would reinforce to our students the message that what they do matters, what they do is noticed and appreciated and that what they do would be celebrated across the year. And it will be!

Problem of the week

In the multiplication table below, the input factors (in the first row and first column) are all missing, and only some of the products in the table are given. All the numbers in the table (including those not shown) are positive integers. What is the value of $A + B + C + D + E$?

x					
	A	10		20	
	15	B	40		
	18		C	60	
		20		D	24
			56		E

OLC/Library News

It has been lovely to welcome the students back after their summer break into the Open Learning Centre (OLC). Many are already showing a commitment to their studies and are very keen to enjoy the facilities the OLC offers.

Year 7 and 12 students have already had a Library Induction Session and the Year 7 students will be seen individually or in small groups to ensure they are able to select a book they will enjoy. Parents and Carers please encourage your children to read for pleasure throughout their school life, as we know this helps their academic studies.

Fifteen Year 7 students have come forward to join the existing Library Monitor Team and these students will learn about teamwork and responsibility and hopefully have fun at the same time.

Our reading clubs are re commencing shortly and later on this year there will be some ‘one off’ events for the students to enjoy.

Trip to CERN in Geneva, July 2017

The science department trip to CERN in Geneva is taking place again from 5th-7th July 2017 for Year 10 and 11. More information including payment details will be coming soon, but in the meantime can any interested students please let Mr Catto know.

ACTA Open Meeting

Sunday, September 25th Archbishop Kevin McDonald speaks on ‘Spirituality, Migrants and other Religions’. Q&A, discussion, 1.30 for 2 till 4.30pm. Newman House, Harrison’s Rd, Edgbaston B15 3QS. Everyone most welcome – laity, religious and clergy, for both members and visitors. No charge. Enquiries – Jean at mjriordan@hotmail.co.uk

Careers Guidance for Year 11

From September, Fiona Wright, independent Careers Adviser, is in school on Mondays and Tuesdays to offer one-to-one careers guidance to your son/daughter. Each careers interview lasts about 30 minutes and will end with a Careers Action Plan, this is a summary of what was discussed and action points for your son/daughter to complete in order to help them with further career planning. With the consent of your son/daughter, parents/carers are welcome to attend this careers interview. Please email Fiona Wright to arrange a convenient date/time: fionawright@wrightcareers.com.

Sixth Form

The new academic year has got off to a great start for both Years 12 and 13. Students have adapted very well to the new, electronic signing in and out procedures and have responded with great maturity to any technical issues we have had. Please continue to wear your lanyards visible at all times and remember we will have to charge £5 for a replacement ID pass.

Year 12 Bonding Day

Year 12 Bonding Day and the visit to Aston University were great successes. We were impressed with the enthusiastic way that our students participated in both events.

Year 13 Information Evening and Drop in Session

We have held a Sixth Form Information Evening and a drop in session for Year 13 parents/carers. A representative from Newman University was also in attendance to clarify some questions about student finance and university in general. Please do not hesitate to get in touch, if you have further questions.

Year 13 students have also had an assembly with a presentation from a representative from Student Finance England.

UCAS Applications

Students wishing to make an early UCAS application (to Oxbridge or Medicine/Veterinary and Dentistry) are well underway with the process. Remember to get your personal statement checked by a member of the Sixth Form team by Monday 26th September.

Sports Updates

There are plenty of sporting opportunities available to students from Bishop Challoner each week. With over 20 before and after school clubs taking place you would be mad to miss out. Each day there are clubs starting at 7:45 and running until 8:30am and in the afternoon clubs start at 3:10 and end at 4:30. We are a very successful school when it comes to sport and sporting competitions and this is largely due to the amount of students that we have attend our Extra-Curricular clubs. For the first time this year, students will be able to earn rewards for regular attendance. All of this, just for turning up! Get involved! Please see extra-curricular timetable below

There has been a brilliant start to PE at Bishop Challoner, with the majority of pupils arriving to lessons on time, prepared and trying their best. Furthermore, the extra-curricular timetable has begun and after a great summer of sport, having seen the brilliant achievements of Great Britain at both the Olympics and Paralympics, we are hopeful to see as many students, if not all, involved in clubs as we can.

We are looking forward to welcoming new faces, as well as old, in order to help develop your skills and abilities and to have lots of fun! Many students have already started to take advantage of this; attending the clubs and trying out new activities, find a copy of the extra-curricular timetable in this newsletter and see which clubs you'd like to try!

After an excellent year of sporting success last year at Bishop Challoner, we are all hopeful and in belief that this year will be just as fantastic for PE and sport- if not better! We have already seen this shine true, as the year 7A football team had their debut performance against Great Barr, where they made a great start, winning 8-2. Year 9 have also shared this victory beating Oldbury Academy, 8-1, in football too.

There are many more football fixtures just around the corner, for both boys and girls, as well as all year's netball games starting to be played next week, inter-form and school games competitions beginning- an exciting year of sport has already begun; get yourself involved!

British Food Fortnight September 17th-30th



We have been celebrating British Food Fortnight with a special two week menu. Try some traditional British Foods, roast dinner, bangers or haggis and mash, toad in the hole, turkey and stuffing baps, a selection of British cheese baguettes, plough mans lunch. Blackberry crumble, high tea, scones with jam and cream plus many more, using British sourced foods where possible.

Upcoming Events...

KS3 Ogwen Cottage
Monday 26th September-Friday 30th September

Christsmas Show Auditions
Thursday 29th September

Year 10 Health and Well Being Day
Friday 30th September

Year 7 Mass
Wednesday 5th October

CAFOD Fast Day
Friday 7th October