# BC NEWS

Autumn 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

It has been a fantastic term for all involved with Bishop Challoner Catholic College.

Our focus this year has been the "Year of Community". Our whole school has given a wonderful response to the various calls to reach out to those that often find themselves marginalized within our communities or in need of support.

In the last week, students and staff visited the local foodbank to deliver 411kg of food donations from our school. This will provide over 1,600 meals for people visiting the foodbank this Christmas and to date was the largest single donation the foodbank had received this Christmas – I humbly thank all who donated to this cause. At the end of each half term we continue to collect for St Chads Sanctuary to provide support for Asylum Seekers in Birmingham and we have also collected warm coats to give to the homeless.

We have had held a number of events to support our whole school charity focus this year which is CAFOD World Gifts. This is a great way of our school community reaching out to support other international communities. Through the brilliant work of our Sixth Form students, the Christmas Fayre raised over £700 in just one day. Alongside this, our Christmas Family Tea and the fantastic Winter Soiree (which showcased such incredible musical talent in the school) also contributed to this fund-raising.

We were delighted to have last summer's GCSE results confirmed as the best in the school's history and this is a real credit to our young people and of course our staff who work so tirelessly to support them. Our Year 11 and Year 13 students have been working exceptionally hard this term. Year 11 have just completed their mock examinations and Year 13 will commence theirs in the New Year.

It is a real joy to see so many of our pupils taking part in the incredibly rich and varied extra-curricular programme we offer. Our before, during and after school clubs are packed with students; I am sure there will be even more on offer in 2020 and perhaps a good New Year's resolution to try something different.

I hope you enjoy reading our Christmas newsletter and we look forward with great hope and joy to 2020.

Wishing you and your families a very happy and Holy Christmas.

J Coughlan
Principal

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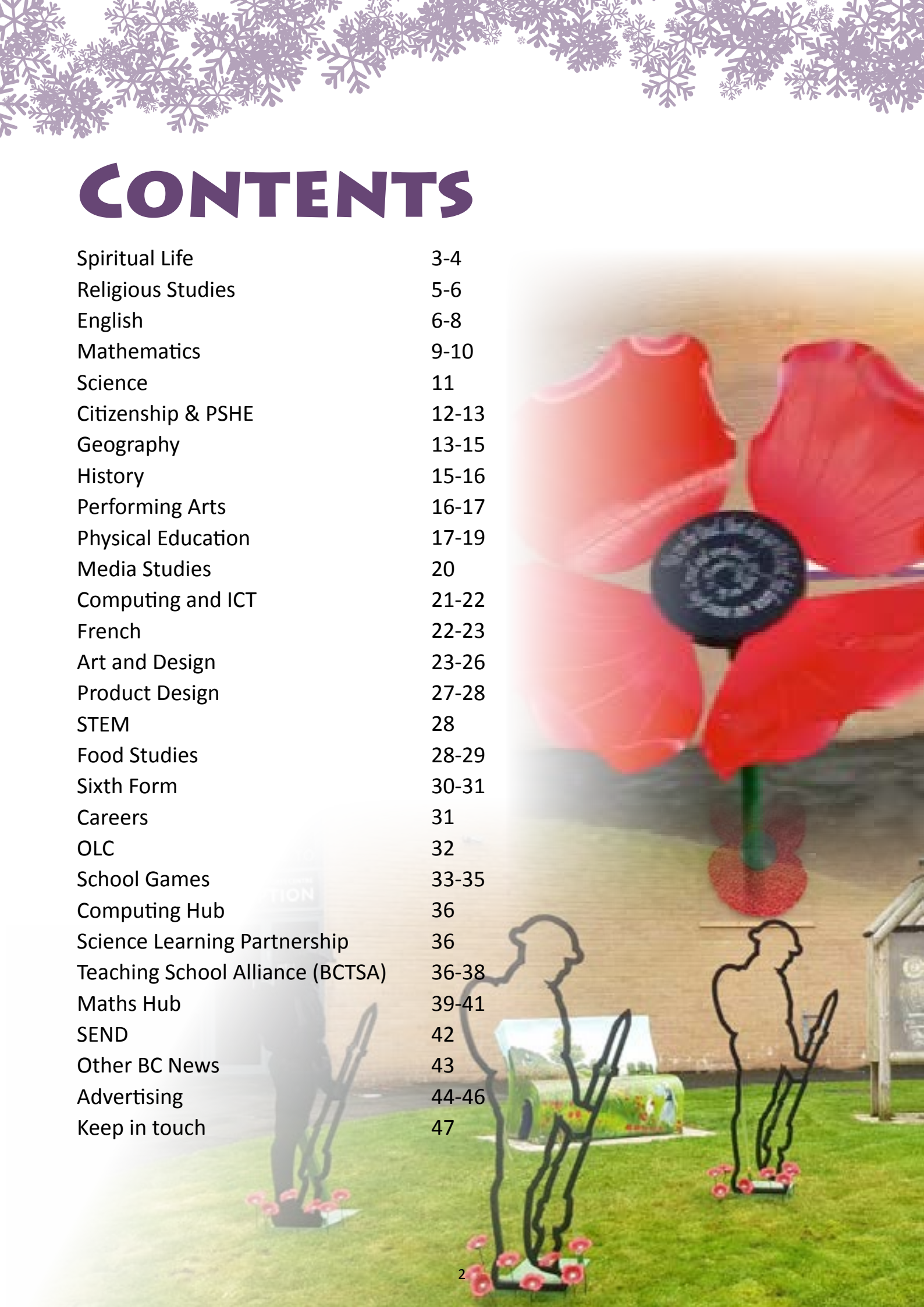


# Catholic Life

We were delighted to begin the year by welcoming two former students; Alfie McMillan and Niamh Collins as our new lay chaplains. Alfie and Niamh spent last year working at Soli House where they have developed exceptional skills as youth workers. We are fortunate that these skills can now be offered to the students in our community who will benefit greatly from their experience and witnesses of faith.

Their work commenced by bringing all classes in year 7 into the Chapel to pray and learn about how they can participate in chaplaincy events as students at Bishop Challoner.

This began the process of developing the use of the chapel to ensure that, at the heart of our school community, the chapel offers a place to deepen faith and a quiet space for contemplation and spiritual growth.

We have been delighted to see the rosary group has continued from its conception last year and we were delighted to welcome 14 students to our first session this year. Students are now confident in leading the rosary themselves and this provides a powerful witness to the power of prayer in our school community.

A new focus this academic year has seen Fr Mario dedicating time to explore the importance of Mass with our students. We are delighted that a rota system of groups is now in place that will allow students time in the chapel with Fr Mario where they can talk through and explore the significance of the structure and importance of Mass. We are now approaching all classes in the school completing this process and we look forward to the second stage of this process where Father will develop this understanding of the Mass through the celebration of Mass in the chapel with classes across each year group.

## Celebarating the Canonisation of John Henry Newman

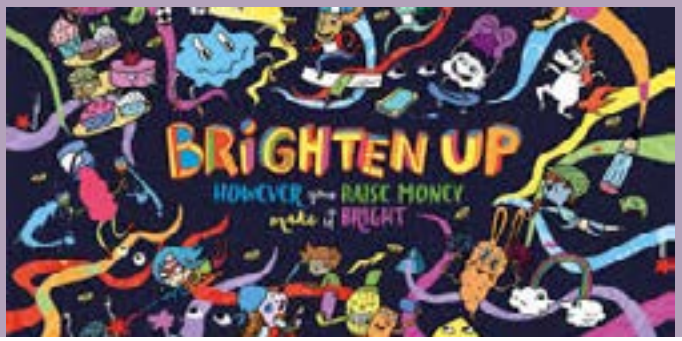
The school community was delighted to dedicate time during October to the celebration of the canonisation of John Henry Newman. Students were intrigued to learn and reflect on his life and to be part of such a significant moment. To celebrate the canonisation we joined in with praying the rosary with Archbishop Bernard Longley live from St Chads. This saw classes across the department and in the chapel be part of the live stream and offered a deep and meaningful opportunity for students to engage in a deep and powerful period of prayer.

Throughout October prayers, videos and quotes from John Henry Newman's life were shared during form time as acts of collective worship and we were delighted to dedicate the year 7 mini retreat on 24th October as a focus on his life and inspiration.

On this day year 7 students created links in chain that highlighted their gifts, talents and hopes and these links were brought together in the celebration of Mass. It was very powerful to see the year group together, celebrating the Eucharist and celebrating the life of the Church's new saint.

## Brighten Up for CAFOD

On October 4th it was great to see so many students brighten up for CAFOD, whether that be wearing a bright t-shirt and glow sticks or putting your handprint pledge to do something great in our community. The school was awash with colour and was great to see the school community, led by our chaplaincy team, coming together for such a worthy cause.




## St Chad's Sanctuary

We were delighted to deliver our first collection to St Chad's sanctuary in October as we continue to develop this act of service across the academic year. Students from a range of year groups participated in bagging up the range of donations we received and it was a powerful experience to see our students have the opportunity to deliver these donations to the sanctuary. Students were brought on a tour of the sanctuary where they got to meet people who benefit from the collections of our school community.

## Tolkien schools celebration Mass

We were delighted to bring together schools from our Tolkien cluster schools to celebrate Mass with almost 200 staff as part of our Tolkien Primary CPD Day. To begin this day of community collaboration a celebration Mass offered an opportunity for staff to reflect and give thanks for their half term work and achievements.

# Coombe Abbey

On October 25th we were delighted that 13 girls attended the radiant conference at Coombe Abbey. It was a truly awe-inspiring venue and the girls really enjoyed the guest speakers who provided a powerful witness to living a life of vocation. Students ranging from years 10-13 were part of this experience we will now look to develop their experiences and continue to nurture opportunities to develop vocations across the school community.

# Shoe Box Appeal

This year saw the school community come together in a huge effort to support the shoe box appeal as an example of lving out our schools mission statement.

We have sent off 162 shoeboxes full of toys and essentials and it really was a whole school effort with donations coming from staff and students all across the community. The sixth form chaplaincy team particularly played a significant role with their collections of boxes, wrapping and buying products to fill boxes. We collected so many boxes that we had to request two separate collections.

# Supporting the Food Bank

We are delighted with the start that the school community has made in supporting the food bank appeal.

This appeal has seen five boxes placed in the foyer with the intention of different items being donated on different days. E.G Milk Monday.

This is the first time the school has organised this appeal and it has been great to see three full boxes after the first three days. We hope that this initiative continues to grow as our community of faith continues to offer 'glory to God through our service to others.'

# Supporting the Parish

During the first term we have focused on opportunities to support our local parishes. An example of this is the exciting initiative of supporting the little lambs toddler group at St Dunstan's. Year 10 health and social care students are giving their time to help out through helping the children with crafts and reading stories. This initiative provides valuable experiences to both our students and the young children of the parish and we hope that this will continue to flourish over the academic year.

# Advent

In Preparation for the season to receive Jesus, our students have been participating in an Examination of Conscience session with our Lay Chaplains during their RE lessons.

We have been offering Confessions on each Wednesday from 27th November.

# St Dunstan's Church opening

The school are very much looking forward to the church of St Dunstan's re-opening in December after renovation work. We look forward to celebrating whole school mass to mark the end of the school term on December 19th as the school will be able to come together as a community to reflect on the birth of Christ at Christmas.

We also have plans to begin adoration sessions in the church during December and we are very much looking forward to many opportunities to provide students with the opportunity to attend the church as part of their faith formation.

# Religious Studies

## Year 7

### What sort of person do I want to become?

This has enabled students to reflect on the following:

1. What is the differences between our spiritual, social and material selves?
2. What is a soul and does it exist?
3. What are sacred places and how do they support spiritual behavior?
4. What legacy did St Peter leave?
5. What is the role of the Church for Catholics?
6. How can St Francis be an inspiration to us?
7. What sort of person do I want to become?
8. What does 'Imageo Dei' mean for me and my responsibilities?
9. How should Catholic's look after God's creation?
10. What does Pope Francis call us to be stewards of the world? (Laudato Si)

### Why does the universe exist?

1. Why is there something rather than nothing? Causation argument
2. Why is there something rather than nothing? Design argument
3. How can something be true if it didn't literally happen?
4. How do the two creation stories contradict?
5. What are scientific arguments for the existence of the universe?
6. How can one believe in science and religion?

### Christmas preparation

- What is the significance of advent?
- Why is Christmas important?
- How do Catholics celebrate Christmas?

## Year 8

### How can I find happiness and fulfillment?

This has enabled students to reflect on the following….

1. How can Catholic faith make you happy? (philosophies of life)
2. What is the Old Testament and New Testament? (Story of Jonah)
3. What does the New Testament teach about happiness? (Story of Levi)
4. What is a 'vocation and how do we live it out?
5. How do people live out their vocation?
6. What is the role of a priest and why would someone become one?
7. How is Mary a model of happiness for the Church?
8. Why do some people follow Jesus's teachings when it can lead to suffering? (Persecution of Christians in modern world)
9. How do Catholic teachings about death and afterlife bring happiness?
10. What does happiness and fulfillment mean to me?

### Why do Christians suffer?

1. What is the problem of evil?
2. How can freedom be good, dangerous and awful?
3. What is the free-will defence?
4. (Genesis)
5. What is St Augustine's theodicy?
6. Can suffering ever be good? (Irenaeus's theodicy)
7. How does God work through people to end suffering?
8. What does the Old Testament teach about suffering? (Story of Job)
9. What does the New Testament teach about suffering? (Temptation of Jesus)
10. What is conversion and how did it change the life of Nicky Cruz?
11. How should Christians respond to suffering?

## Year 9

### How do we meet the challenges to live justly?

This has enabled students to reflect on the following….

1. What is justice?
2. How can some Catholics meet the challenge to live justly?
3. What is the nature of punishment? (Different forms of punishment & laws on capital punishment)
4. What are Catholic teachings on capital punishment?
5. What are Christian views on war?
6. Is there ever such a thing as a 'just war'?
7. What are Catholic teachings on life after death and immortality of the soul?
8. What are Catholic teachings on judgment and purgatory?
9. How can I live justly?

### What are Christian beliefs on the Value of Life?

1. What is humanism and how does it differ to Catholicism?
2. Is all life valuable? (Imago Dei & Sanctity of Life)
3. What is the nature of abortion?
4. What are Catholic teachings on abortion?
5. What is the nature of euthanasia?
6. What are Catholic teachings on euthanasia?
7. What are Catholic Social Teachings?
8. What are some key principles of Catholic Social Teachings?
9. How do sanctity of life and Catholic Social Teachings link? (Parable of the Sheep and the Goats)
10. What is CAFOD and how does it protect the value of life?

**We are very grateful to John Robinson from the Legion of Mary for his continued support to our students. John attends school weekly to lead groups in lessons and break time in rosary prayer sessions.**

**John also offers his time and experiences to speak to students about his faith and life experiences.**

# Year 10

Year 10 are now significantly developing their subject knowledge for their GCSE studies in Religious Education. They began by exploring the unit Origins and Meaning. This involves students looking at contrasting views in society regarding how the universe was created and what might be the meaning and purpose of life.

Currently students have been engaged in looking at the creation stories from a Catholic perspective and exploring how Catholics are open to scientific theories on evolution to understand the creation of the universe.
Students have explored issues such as;

- The theory of evolution
- How Catholics accept science to understand more about God's nature.
- The Sanctity of human life
- Catholic views on abortion
- The work of CAFOD to highlight the dignity of human life

# Year 11

Students are now in their second year of studying their GCSE content and they are making excellent progress. Currently students are looking at issues regarding life and death, particularly focusing on The Sanctity of life and arguments concerning the Euthanasia debate.
Students have been exploring issues such as;

- Why do Catholics believe in life after death?
- What are non-religious views on life after death?
- Various views on issues regarding life and death such as euthanasia.
- The importance of The Magisterium to guide Catholics in today's world.
- The importance of artefacts in Catholicism to understand beliefs in life after death.
- The importance in prayer and worship within Catholic communities.

During December year 11 students will prepare for and complete a mock examination as part of their preparations for the summer GCSE. Class preparation time will be used to guide students towards a successful experience in this examination.

# Year 12 and 13

We are delighted to have 21 students currently studying Religious Education for their A-levels. Students are participating in a two year course that will ask them to explore issues such as; Arguments for the existence of God, Studying the person of Jesus, ethical issues such as war, euthanasia, abortion and will help to develop their skills as critical thinkers in the modern world.

# English

## Author's Visit

What connects a passport, a discarded diary and a set of keys? All three are – according to children's author Catherine Johnson – fantastic 'story motors': small objects that prompt the creation of intriguing characters and captivating narratives. Concocting the back story of a mysterious passport was just one of the creative writing activities that groups of Year 8 students completed under Catherine's guidance during her recent visit to Bishop Challoner.

The day got underway with a fascinating talk in the auditorium in which Johnson described her path to success as a writer of children's literature via careers in pop music and the film business. She shared with Challoner students her insights into the life of a writer ("professional liars" as she put it) and how her parents' heritage had influenced her novels' settings and character perspectives. She spoke about her obsession with the 18th Century and how, through depth of research and imagination, she was able to bring to life the darker, more dangerous corners of 1700s London and revolutionary France.

Throughout the rest of the morning and afternoon, students participated in a series of workshops led by Catherine. In addition to grappling with the 'story motors' discussed above, students thought of the best name for a newly discovered planet or a previously unheard of (or unseen) colour, and imagined scavenging for survival in a post-apocalyptic Kings Heath. With their creative faculties well and truly stimulated, all pupils left with a (often signed) copy of Catherine's latest novel 'Freedom' – the story of Nat and his travels from the Caribbean to London set against the backdrop of the 18th century slave trade.

# Bishop's Got Talent, Spelling Bee

The library was all abuzz this half term as ten students took part in the English Department Spelling Bee! A range of students from year 7 to year 12 participated, with words taken from a variety of sources including the Daily Telegraph's "Britain's most misspelled words" list. The audience were also given a sheet to play along to see if they could beat the contestants too. Although it was incredibly close, the trophy was eventually awarded to a Year 8 student with an incredible vocabulary knowledge! We have such a talented group of spellers here at BC and I'm already buzzing (sorry!) for the next one.

# Creative Writing

This half term the creative writing group got festive, creating a variety of literary baubles ranging from "A Christmas Carol" to "Harry Potter". There was glitter! There was fake snow! There may even have been Christmas music! The baubles are now for sale in the staff room, with all proceeds going to the school charity.

# Birmingham Air Pollution Partnership

Working in partnership with Birmingham City Council, the school is monitoring the quality of air on the school site. A small test tube has been placed on the building by the front playground and will be sent back, monthly, to the Birmingham laboratories for testing and analysis. By moving the test tube to various areas of the site, we aim to analyse the effects that plants and buildings can have on the air that we breathe.

# Irish Potato Famine Project

You may have noticed our potato plants growing at the front of the school. They were to commemorate the Irish potato famine in 1845 in which over 1 million people died. By harvesting the potatoes, we remembered the victims of the Great Famine and the people in hunger and poverty across the world. Students who were involved from the beginning of the project, learnt about the life cycle of the humble potato and the role that it had, and still has, in the lives of millions of people.

# Spring Bulb Planting

Over 200 spring bulbs have been planted across the site with the help of the Year 10 functional skills group. Students chose where to plant the bulbs and learnt about the importance of ensuring that plants are left to die back before removing them or cutting the grass. As a result, they chose to plant the bulbs in areas of the site where they would be seen but would not be disturbed and can be left to die back naturally.

On site, the bulbs were planted outside the sports centre, around the tree by the sixth form centre and in the boxes amid the wall flowers in the vegetable garden. As well as the areas on site, the students also planted these bulbs along Institute Road so that the community could enjoy them too. More bulbs are planned for the rest of the site so here's hoping for a display of colour in the spring!

# Debate Mate

Following a week of publicity assemblies, 15 Year 7 pupils headed to the University of Birmingham on 6th November for the 2019-20 Debate Mate launch event. At the event, pupils from across all the West Midlands' competing schools were introduced to the structure and style of debating. We were treated to a show debate involving a mixture of Debate Mate student mentors and pupils on the controversial motion "This house would punish parents for the crimes of their children".

Our pupils had much to say on the issue and participated in the Floor Debate section with gusto, posing pertinent questions to both teams. We have now kick-started our weekly after-school debating club on Friday afternoons, introducing our new year 7 cohort to our seasoned debaters from years 8-10. We look forward to being preparing for the various competitions ahead next term.

# BBC Young Reporter Workshop

Having signed up to participate in next year's 'Young Reporter Festival', the BBC offered to send one of their ambassadors to meet our 29 Year 9 budding journalists. On 19th November, we welcomed Laura, a technology journalist, who presented a riveting workshop on Fake News. During the workshop, Laura took us through the basics of satire, deliberate misinformation, use of 'bots', and the development of 'Deep Fake' technology.

Through the course of the workshop, pupils were invited to practise the various steps of being able to verify sources of stories and apply critical thinking skills to judge the authenticity of what we read online. This was certainly an educational experience and incredibly relevant in our current climate. We are looking forward to using these skills not only in everyday life but in our own News Day next term.

# A Streetcar Named Desire Theatre Trip, Y12 and 13

On a chilly Saturday afternoon in November, 25 Year 12 and 13 students were sheltered from the wind and rain in the warmth of the Crescent Theatre to watch a production of 'A Streetcar Named Desire' by Tennessee Williams. This is one of the texts which they have to study for the A-Level English Literature exams, and the production was a great chance to see the characters brought to life on stage.

The small, intimate surroundings of the Studio Theatre within the Crescent really allowed a sense of claustrophobia to be created within the play, and there was nowhere to hide for the actors on stage, who were almost close enough to reach out and touch. While the hard seating may not have been the most comfortable, it perhaps allowed the audience to feel the pain that Blanche DuBois experiences, both physically and mentally, at the hands of her aggressive brother-in-law Stanley and her submissive sister Stella. Everyone on the trip seemed to really enjoy the play, staff and students alike, and to quote a phrase from the play, the performance was 'Red hot!'

# The Sixth Form Score

The Year 13 sixth form newspaper team continue to impress us. This half term, the students have written on a wide range of topics including a detailed and thoughtful piece on the public's response to Greta Thunberg and the importance of diverse voices being heard on the climate crisis, insightful reviews on novels, art and film (including a passionate review on Fleetwood Mac's Rumours), and a new True Crime section on the case of the eight day bride. The team is in transition at the moment because, after Christmas, a new Year 12 team will take over to allow the legacy team to focus on their A Level exams. However, Lily Miller (Yr13) will continue to act as Editor. She is doing absolutely astounding work.

# Year 7 Trip to see A Christmas Carol

Year 7 English students were getting into the Christmas Spirit (pun intended!) this half term, with a trip to the Alexandra Theatre to see "A Christmas Carol." The play was spectacular, with a particularly impressive flying ghost and some nifty dance moves from Scrooge! Staff and students alike had so much fun and it gave students an excellent insight into the book which they are currently studying.

# MATHEMATICS

## Primary Maths Enrichment

Maths enrichment sessions, for our local primary students, have taken place in October, November and December, with 33 Year 6 pupils from Tolkien cluster schools taking part. The schools taking part this year are: St Alban's; St Dunstan's; Our Lady of Lourdes; St Martin de Porres; St Jude's; St Bernard's; St Edward's; St John & Monica; St Catherine's; St Mary's; St Anne's. These events are geared towards enrichment activities and have been well received with the pupils undertaking a variety of practical and problem solving maths activities with the support of Bishop Challoner Year 7 and Year 8 pupils. Feedback has been awesome; the students have thoroughly enjoyed their experience! Four further future events are planned on a monthly basis from January until April!

## ChristMaths

Bishop Challoner's annual Christmaths event took place on Friday 6th December. We were joined by 60 Y5 pupils from St Alban's, St Dunstan's, Our Lady of Lourdes, St Martin de Porres, St Jude's, St Bernard's, St Edward's, St John & Monica, St Mary's, St Anne's. The children took part in a day of Christmas themed maths activities all designed and delivered by our Y9 Maths Ambassadors and supported by Y7. A fantastic day was had by all which included quizzes, games, building reindeer shelters and a final relay which resulted in St Chads being crowned first place winners and St Mary's as second place runners up. Thank you to all the schools who took part!

## Catholic School Games Partnership

On Friday 22nd November this event was held at Cardinal Newman Catholic School in Coventry and it was attended by Mr Bloxidge and Miss Hebbes with two groups of our Year 10 students. Although they did not place in a podium position, the students enjoyed the day.

# Senior Maths Challenge and Senior Maths Team Challenge

Alongside what has been done in the classroom, A Level students have taken part in the Senior Maths Challenge and the Senior Maths Team Challenge as part of their maths enrichment. The SMC saw a return of twenty-three bronze awards, five silver awards and one gold award from the fifty-six students who took part. Sean has also qualified for the 'Kangaroo' challenge paper which only the best students from across the country take part in. Our team who took part in the SMTC at Camp Hill Boys School came a valiant eighth position against other local schools, which is as good as we've ever achieved.

# Year 7 and 8 'One to One' Support Sessions

Year 7 and 8 are currently in receipt of extra support through an initiative introduced four years ago. We now have a team of seven (absolutely fantastic) Year 12 and 13 Maths Tutors who support these students on a 'one on two' basis every morning, between 8am and 8.30am. We have currently offered the programme to around 80 students, and take up is increasing as word spreads that it's not frightening to come for a bit of extra maths help! We hope to offer the support to some extra students in the New Year.

**Year 13 Tutors - (Nicholas, Lily, Liam)**

**Year 12 Tutors - (Ellie, Tascha, Lily, Olivia)**

# Maths Christmas Problem
# Mince Pies

**The Christmas family are very particular about mince pies. At every meal over the holiday season all the Christmases eat some mince pies.**

**Father Christmas always eats more mince pies than Mother Christmas but never eats more than half the mince pies.**

**Mother Christmas always eats the same number of mince pies as both Christmas children together and the two Christmas children always eat the same number of mince pies as each other.**

**At their last meal they ate 23 mince pies altogether.**

# SCIENCE

## Open Evening

Open evening in September was again a great window on the department with the demonstrations by pupils and staff proving to be being very popular with all our visitors. Year 7-9 pupils showed visitors how to carry out flame and pH tests; acid and alkali reactions. Electric circuits and microscopes were also available for people to have a go at using. Year 10, 11,12 and 13 students were on hand to demonstrate some of the GCSE and A Level practicals covered in their courses.

Our sixth from Open Evening proved popular too with many visitors from other Birmingham schools keen to see the A Level experience we offer in science. The sixth form helpers spoke honestly about their happy experience studying Physics, Chemistry and Biology and were quick to say how their teachers are always available to help.

## Science Club

Key Stage 3 Science Club has had a brilliant start to the new school year, with a number of Year 7 and 8 students regularly attending. Club attendees have enjoyed a number of different practical (and often messy!) activities, from launching air rockets, to making their own playdoh The students have had fun but have also had the opportunity to develop their practical scientific skills, and team work.

We have also been lucky enough to have Eva from Year 12 helping out with the club every week as part of her weekly enrichment. Eva has been wonderful in helping the pupils out with the activities, and assisting members of staff with the clean up afterwards!

Thank you to Eva and all of the science department teachers who have been running science club sessions this year so far.

## School Science Website

If you want to know any information about the science taught in the different years, click here to visit the school website.

You will find information about:

- Key stage 3 and GCSE revision guide and workbook costs
- Year 7 summary sheets for all the topics
- Year 7 textbook information
- GCSE specifications

Click here for useful information for all Year 11 students to help them prepare for their GCSEs.

## Other

Bishop Challoner will be represented in January at the Big Physics Quiz, held in The Great Hall at the University of Birmingham. A team of Year 9 students will be taking part in four rounds, including one specialist round, the topic of which will be revealed closer to the date. The pupils will also receive a keynote lecture from a scientist from the university. In April we will also be entering a team of Year 8 students into the Salters' Chemistry Festival at Birmingham University. We have been attending this event for many years now and it involves the students carrying out experiments in the undergraduate labs and competing with other schools to solve a crime. Again, it proves a real eye-opener to the youngsters and hopefully makes them see the accessibility of University to all.

## Staffing

We will be welcoming Mr Coughlan to the department in January as a full-time teacher.

# Citizenship & PSHE

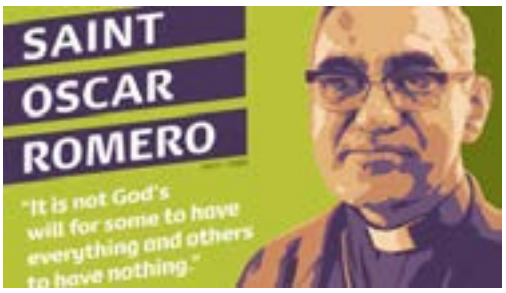
## Assemblies

In order to develop the purpose and impact of assemblies we have created and implemented a new assembly timetable which has helped us to develop a set of assemblies that are informative, inspiring and have greater impact. Some examples of assemblies delivered this term include:

- **Safety Assemblies** have warned students about the repercussions of the dangers surrounding technology and how to keep themselves safe. These assemblies have signposted student on where they can seek help or advice if needed.
- **Reward assemblies** have promoted the Commit 2 Character Cards for years 7 – 9. These are cards which teachers can sign when students demonstrate a particular character virtue that we value as part of our Catholic ethos but also that is valued across career sectors.
- **Year of Community** assemblies have prompted students to reflect on how well they engage with their community, informed them on the significance and positive impact of community cohesion and inspired them to take more opportunities to support our school, local and wider community.
- **Charity assemblies** followed from the announcement in Personal Tutor that our whole school charity for 2019-2020 will be CAFOD World Gifts. The significance and importance of this charity was shared with all students to inspire students to "dig deep" this year in order to donate their time, effort and (where possible) money to support such an incredible cause.
- **CAFOD World Gifts – Whole School Charity**

World Gifts
Gifts that make a difference

## Whole School Charity




Two month earlier than usual, Dr Coughlan announced our Whole School Charity would be this incredible cause. CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) works to promote the sanctity of human life, support those who are in need and works for the sustainability of environment. In an effort to "love thy neighbour" the charity lives Catholic Social Teachings in everything it does.

CAFOD's mission is to promote human development and social justice in witness to Christian faith and Gospel values.

Last year we raised over £7000 for British Heart Foundation and this year we hope to raise even more in to demonstrate care and compassion to our global community.

**How will events be organised?**

On top of any other events students or staff would like to organise, during our Year of Community each year group has been challenged to complete a community charity event during a particular half term. November–December Year 11, 12 & 13. January–February Half Term, Year 10. February half term to Easter , Year 9. Easter to May half term, Year 8. May half term to Summer, Year 7.

# Personal Tutor

This term the new Assistant Head of PSHE has taken over the role of leading Personal Tutor time and she is doing a fantastic job. Some of the topics students have looked at during Personal Tutor this term include:

- Global Handwashing Day: students were informed facts such as 95% of people fail to wash their hands long enough to kill harmful bacteria. Students were shown a video that demonstrated how quickly and easily germs spread and how only a very small amount of germs are washed off when hands are not cleaned properly.
- Foodbank Donations: 14 million people in the UK live below the poverty line and more people than ever are relying on food banks for survival. As part of the Year of Community, a new project set up by Ms Lynch supports a Trussell Trust local foodbank. This enlightening tutor session demonstrated the powerful impact these donations can have and even evidence how many people would not be alive today without such donations.
- Bishop Challoner Mental Health Team: this session focused on who the MHT are, what they do and where/when you can find them. Images of those in the MHT were shared to ensure students know who to look for if they want to speak to someone trained as a 'mental health first aider'.

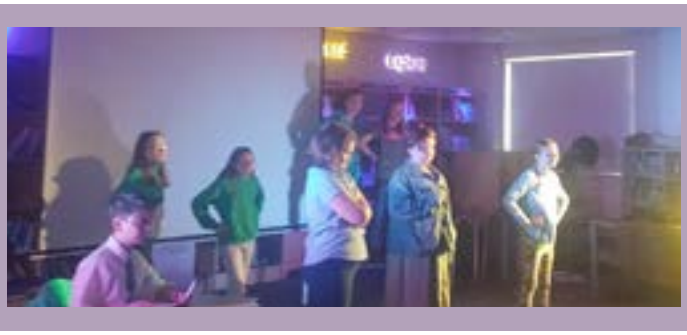
# Year 11 PSHE Day

On the 18th of October, year 11 had their final PSHE Day. Students were off timetable so they could spend some quality time in workshops that aimed to teach them about myriad topics: effective revision methods, looking after one's mental health and the dangers of drinking and using drugs. Students were signposted to various different support organisations and to support within school so they know how to seek help should they need it. Feedback from students was incredibly positive.

In the morning, the year group listened to a powerful message from an ex-offender who was involved in a series of poor decisions that lead to jail time. The speaker shared how her negative attitude towards others in her community, including the police, resulted in her making life-changing choices. She spoke of the regret she felt in engaging in a drunken fight and how the consequences of that decision impacted the rest of her life; now unable to travel or peruse her dream job, her message was an important one for students to hear.

# PSHE Bishop's Got Talent

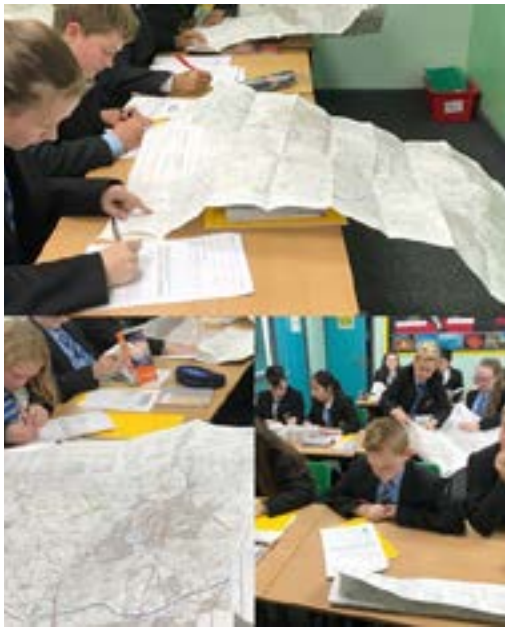
Led by Mrs Jethwa, a group of pro-active key stage three students wrote, prepared and performed a very exciting Bishop's Got Talent show this term. The performance powerfully demonstrated the global concern for preservation of our environment. The show was well researched, well-rehearsed and excellently delivered. Staff and students alike thought twice about their single-use plastic after that performance.



# Geography

## Year 7

As an introduction to Geography, Year 7 begun the term with a unit of work focusing on foundation Geographical skills that will be built upon through our Key Stage 3 curriculum. Year 7 Geographers have enjoyed using maps of the local area to grow their core knowledge of the Geography of their local area and community. They will now shortly be completing their first country study whereby they have been exploring the United Kingdom. This has allowed the students to look at geographical concepts such as river systems, coastal erosion, migration and glaciation. The unit of work enables the students to demonstrate their knowledge in a range of ways including creative writing, describing and explaining patterns and developing communication skills through group debate. After half term, Year 7 will be moving on to investigate the global superpower and the world's fastest growing country, China. Students will be exploring China's rapidly changing human environments and also learning about China's rich and diverse physical landscapes. This place of study has proven to be thoroughly engaging for the students and sparks curiosity for students to engage with contemporary issues such as rapid urbanisation, population growth and changing power structures.



# Bishops Got Talent: Year 7

This half term Year 7 Geographers demonstrated their talent in our 'Bishops Got Talent' event excellently organised by Mrs Dawson. Year 7 students were given the challenge to create a 'Landscape in a box' whereby they chose an inspiring landscape and used a range of resources to represent this place in a box. Alongside their landscape they were asked to describe their location and the geographical features that were present. The landscape in a box idea aimed to bring together students' Geographical understanding whilst also providing an opportunity for research, creativity and for independent learning.

The dedication and creativity shown by our students was astounding and their work was proudly displayed in the library for both staff and students to admire and appreciate their hard work.

# Year 8

Year 8 will shortly have completed the first country study of Russia. Throughout the term they have studied the vast diversity in the physical landscape of the country and have used this to explain patterns in population density. They have also demonstrated their ability to evaluate topical issues such as pollution through extended writing as well as participating in class debates over Russia extracting oil in the Arctic. Subsequently, Year 8 will be moving on to explore the fascinating Newly Emerging Economy, Brazil.

From learning about the Brazil's amazing physical features like the Amazon River and tropical rainforests, to analysing why people are moving from rural areas to major cities such as Rio de Janeiro, the Brazil topic of work is always a popular choice with our students. Students will also be shortly learning about the impacts of Brazil hosting the Olympic Games, and consider the many social, economic and environmental opportunities and challenges that events like these may bring to a nation.

# Year 9

Year 9 students are currently learning about the world's leading superpower the United States of America. Students have been investigating a range Geographical concepts throughout the unit of work including Physical factors such as the formation of the Rocky Mountains, the risk of volcanic activity in Yellowstone Nation Park and the formation of hurricanes. They have also investigate the USA's interesting and continually changing human environments, from mega cities like New York to urban regeneration in areas like Detroit. This unit has really helped develop students' Geographical understanding of a variety of key concepts and has enabled them to demonstrate their knowledge and understanding in a range of ways such a report style writing, letter writing and extending Point Evidence Explain Paragraphs.

# Year 10

Year 10 students have made a pleasing start to Key Stage 4. Students have just finished the first topic entitled the 'The Living World'. Students have been learning about major biomes and ecosystems in the world with a recent focus being students learning about the tropical rainforests found in Malaysia and the hot desert environments of India. The next unit of work students will be studying is called 'The Challenges and Issues of Urban Environments', with a focus on the opportunities and challenges we face in an ever urbanising world.

# Year 11

Year 11 have recently finished a topic entitled 'Physical Landscapes in the UK'. Within this topic they have been learning about river processes and landforms with a focus on the longest river in the UK; the River Severn. Students have also been learning about the Dorset coastline, studying the geology and formation of this coastline. Students have also been on a field visit this term to Longbridge in Birmingham. Students have been investigating the de-industrialisation of this area and have been evaluating the success of the recent regeneration to the area.

# Year 13

Year 13 students are working hard in preparation for their final exams and recent assessed work has generally been very pleasing. In Physical Geography students are learning about the carbon cycle and its local and global importance. In Human Geography students have been learning about the opportunities and challenges facing some of the world's megacities such a Shanghai. All Year 13 students are also in the process of completing independent geographical investigations. There are some very interesting pieces of research being carried out by our students such as the one student investigating the causes of microclimates and another student investigating the links between knife crime and social inequalities in different parts of the city.

# Lunar Society Lecture at University of Birmingham:

A number of Year 10 Geography students went to a lecture on the causes and impacts of climate change at Birmingham University. A great opportunity for our students to engage with the latest research on this hugely topical geographical issue and get an experience of what a university lecture may actually look like.

# Digital Weather Station

As we continue to develop our links with further education institutions, the University of Birmingham have agreed to donate to us a digital weather station and an IPAD. This will help the university collect primary data they are using for their own research on the urban heat island effect, but also will allow our students to engage with local meteorology and technology.

# Twitter

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

# History

## A Christmas Story from the Past...

The Tudor dynasty that reigned from 1485-1603 produced some of our most iconic and memorable monarchs. From Henry VIII with his bad habit of marrying and then beheading his wives to Elizabeth I defeating the Spanish Armada in 1588. What is less talked about is the huge religious upheaval that took place after Henry VIII converted the country to Protestantism. This change made itself felt in every aspect of life, including Christmas. Although Henry VIII orchestrated the Protestant Reformation in England he kept intact many honoured Christmas traditions. One of which was Father Christmas – or Old Man Winter as he was known – who in green clothing and wearing a grotesque mask would threaten with a giant club his audience during plays to behave. Feasting and partying was also an important feature of Christmas, with nobles opening their houses to others for 12 days of unbridled extravagance. The giving of presents too would look familiar with Henry VIII in one year, 1511, spending the equivalent of £400,000.

Henry VIIIs son Edward was a firm Protestant and during his reign Christmas became a more muted affair. Christmas cribs and nativity scenes disappeared and the bible was read in English. Parishioners were encouraged to walk to church and spend more time in reflection and prayer – less on drink, food and gifts. Yet, the popularity of Christmas traditions and celebrations was so great among the people that even monarchs could do little to quash the traditions and celebrations that it brought with it. The only 'monarch' of sorts who tried to eliminate these traditions was Cromwell. In this respect he achieved little but turning the people against him.

## Year 7

Year 7 have made a bold start in becoming expert historians at Bishop Challoner. After a short introductory set of lessons on the key skills of chronology, significance and the use of evidence, they began to explore the events of 1066 and considered the reasons why William the Conqueror won the Battle of Hastings. Having completed their first assessment, they have since moved on to examining ways in which William ruled England and the lasting effects of the Norman invasion on England. They are beginning to get an understanding of the wealth of imbalance that existed during the Medieval Ages and how William asserted control over his new land. This marks the beginning of a thematic study that will stretch and challenge students' understanding of the power of monarchs and allow them to develop the skills necessary to make them successful in KS3 history and beyond.

## Year 8

Since returning in Year 8, students have been engaging in enquiries relating to two of the most significant periods of history: Roman Britain and Industrial Britain. When studying Roman Britain, students were able to see what long-reaching consequences the Romans have had for Britain today. Many students were surprised to hear about the high standards of hygiene that the Romans enjoyed, as well as the fact that many of our roads owe their existence to them! We have since contrasted these living conditions to the conditions endured in nineteenth century Britain. Students have been grappling with why Britain became an industrial country and have been weighing up the causes. Most recently, Year 8 are learning what it was like to live in an industrial city and have been able to compare this to what they have learnt about the Romans. They have discovered that many of them would be working 12-hour days...in cotton mills or coal mines!

To assist with this learning, 90 Year 8 students visited the Black Country Living Museum where they explored life in a local, industrial city. They were able to travel down the mines to experience how dark and cramped working conditions would have been! Many also visited back-to-back houses and hardware shops, where they were able to learn about the different everyday items used during the nineteenth century. Some students even had the opportunity to play with the Victorian toys – skipping ropes, throwing beanbags into a bucket and hoop rolling! They were an absolute credit to Bishop Challoner, asking pertinent questions to the tour guides throughout the day. Following the trip, the students who went have been able to provide valuable contributions to class discussions. As we continue exploring the Industrial Revolution, students will be considering whether it was a period of progress.

## Year 9

Year 9 have kicked off the new academic year by delving into the modern era. Students grappled with the ideologies of Karl Marx and linked to their knowledge of the Industrial Revolution in order to understand why Marx developed his political beliefs. Students then studied 'communism in action', with a comparison of the Russian Revolution of 1917 to Marx's ideologies. Following on from this, students have connected their understanding of communism to roots of antisemitism. This has led on to a study of the Holocaust. Students have shown real maturity in their approach to this unit of work, discussing the morality of the events and trying to make sense of how such an event could occur, with a particular focus on 'blame'. Year 9 will have an important role in recognising Holocaust Memorial Day in January, when they will have the rare opportunity to listen to a survivor of the Holocaust talk about their experiences.

## KS4 & KS5

Year 10 have made a really positive start to their GCSE studies. The cohort have shown good understanding of complex concepts through their assessed work. Students have been learning about Hitler's rise to power and how he consolidated his power from chancellor to dictator. As part of their course they are also learning the skills necessary to analyse source evidence and historical interpretations. In the new year, students will begin an enquiry into Early Elizabethan England.

Year 11 continue to rise to the challenge of GCSE. They have been preparing for their mock examinations with the purchase of revision guides and they have really embraced the most recent topic: The Cold War. Having learnt the causes and conflicts of the Cold War they are now beginning to look at how the Cold War came to an end. The subject provides students with an understanding of how the modern world was shaped by the post-war years.

Our KS5 students are showing real promise. Year 13 have been working hard on their independent studies, with topics ranging from Witchcraft to the fall of Tsardom in Russia. We are also really pleased with our Year 12 cohort. They are so enthusiastic and determined to do well. We look forward to good things from them.

# Performing Arts

**In the true style of the Performing Arts Department, the academic year has started off with the energy and enthusiasm in which we finished with in the summer.**

## Bishop's Got Talent

Due to the success of our Bishop's Got Talent library performances over the past two years, this year they are being run a little more frequently featuring a wider range of departments. Of course, Performing Arts are still featured regularly and took to the 'stage' on 19th September with an event called New Kidz On The Block, featuring new students to the school who have musical talents. Students who performed were all from Year 7 and Ava McGrath astonished everyone with her exceptional drumming skills, performing Black Crowes' 'Too Hot To Handle'. The library was packed with students who were extremely respectful and supportive and we praise both them, and the performers, for making the event such a success.

Following on from this, Performing Arts had two more BGT events during the final weeks of term. On Monday 9th December, our Steel Pan groups treated their audience to a Tropical Festive Spectacular and on Monday 16th December, our A level Music students performed in preparation for their recital, which is 30% of their overall examination grade. These students are amazing musicians and we were really honoured that they were willing and able to share their talents with the rest of the school.

## Blood Brothers

On 3rd October, our Key Stage 4 Performing Arts students hit the bright lights of Birmingham when they went on a trip to see Blood Brothers: The Musical. For some of our students this was their first time in a theatre and it is fair to say they were extremely excited about the experience. It is in this way that we are planning to run more trips of a similar nature this year so that students can have more of these kinds of opportunities.

## Christmas Show

Our Auditorium continues to provide students with the opportunity to perform in a purpose-built theatre and it is in here in which our Christmas production – A Christmas Angel – was staged on 2nd December. Over 70 students auditioned to be in the cast, however only 55 students could take part due to the size of the stage. The show consisted of 20 musical numbers, all performed by a live band and members of the audience commented on the professional of all performers, but especially the students who played principal roles, who were absolutely amazing. Meghan Harper, who played the mother, is such a talent and would not be out of place on a West End stage!

# Extra-Curricular

As well as being 'all singing, all dancing', our department continues to run our extra-curricular clubs each week; We Sing Show Choir (led by Mrs Choudhury), Drama Club (led by Mrs Jethwa), Dance Club (led by Miss Williams), BC Band (led by Mrs Choudhury) and Rock School and Keyboard Club (both led by Miss Hughes).

Keyboard Club has been dominated by a group of enthusiastic Year 7 and 9 students who have attended regularly each Monday in PA1. They have worked on two songs this term, and have developed their ensemble skills and piano technique by playing melodies and harmonies together.

We have also been pleased to see so many Year 7 students involved in Rock School this term. We now have two new bands to add to our roster, who are currently working on covers of songs by The Clash, The Killers and Oasis. Our long-standing band Amplified have gone from strength to strength and have begun writing their own material. They have several of their own songs under their belt and are hoping to write enough for an album.

BC Band have been working on a fabulous Christmas medley in preparation for the Winter Soiree and, alongside the faithful long-standing members of the group, we have had some new students join the ensemble; Akeidad Bowen (percussion) and Aidan Winhall (violin). Rehearsing every Thursday morning before school, our band members are developing their social and musical skills by performing regularly as part of an ensemble and we look forward to seeing them continue to develop as musicians.

# Remembrance Day

On Monday 11th November, the school held two minute's silence for Remembrance Day and this, for the second year running, was led by our talented tuba player, Morgan Harte, playing the Last Post, followed by Reveille after the silence. This was amplified throughout the school and a host of staff and students gathered in the quad to watch this event take place. It was so poignant and we would like to say a huge thank you to Morgan for leading this tribute.

# Winter Soiree

Our Winter Soiree took place on Wednesday December 11th in the Sixth Form Common Room. We were so pleased to see many of our students from across the key stages performing as soloists or as part of an ensemble, and this year we welcomed performances from our Rock School bands, woodwind ensemble, keyboard ensemble, BC Band, string players and many more. As always, this evening was a tremendous festive success and we thank all students involved.

# Instumental Lessons

We currently offer instrumental lessons on 14 different instruments and, this year, have the highest number of students ever taking instrumental lessons; 96 students in total. These lessons also provide students with a range of ensemble opportunities, as well as supporting the music curriculum and enabling them to move through ABRSM grades if they so wish. This would not be possible without the support of the school in terms of subsidising lesson costs and it is in this way we would like to say a big thank you to the school on behalf of the instrumental students and music staff for allowing these life-changing opportunities to take place every day in the Music department.

# Physical Education

## Extra-Curricular

The Physical Education Department have continued to support and deliver extra-curricular activities before and after school and pupil attendance has been extremely high which has been fantastic! A few to mention are netball club which has become increasingly popular, with 40 plus students turning up weekly as well as 34 pupils attending fitness club! Alongside this, there have been 40 pupils attending volleyball and basketball club before and after school which is a fantastic turnout. At the beginning of the year, 60 pupils attended football trials so a big thank you and well done to all pupils who came along and congratulations to those who made the teams.

# Intra-School Competition

It has been an extremely busy term with fixtures, as well as Bishop Challoner holding the first of the six intra-school competitions before October half term. The first intra-school competition was volleyball and it was brilliant to see so many pupils getting involved and participating in the event, so congratulations to all of those who played in the match! The next intra-school competition of bench ball is set to take place on Thursday 12th December and we hope to see even more pupils attend and participate!

# Year 8 Football

The Year 8 boys team were unlucky in their cup game against Coleshill narrowly loosing. They have since had two friendlies against Wheelers Lane finishing with a 6-5 aggregate win in preparation for their league game in the New Year.

# Year 9 Football

The Year 9 Football team have had a mixed start to their season this year; losing to Arden Academy on penalties after a thrilling 2-2 game for the Birmingham Cup. The boys were unfortunate to lose on penalties after controlling the game throughout with exceptional performances from Adriano Robinson and Jemhari Tabone-Wallace. However, the Year 9 boys beat Walsall Academy 3-0 in the West Midlands Football Cup with an exceptional goal from Harry Bergin. They are now through to Round 3 of the West Midlands Cup so well done to all of those who competed, fantastic effort.

# Rugby

Rugby Fixtures have been going brilliantly as the Year 7, 8 and 9 boys competed in their first rugby fixture of the season, playing against Park Hall and winning 8 tries to 1. A massive well done to all who competed in this fixture. The Year 7, 8 and 9 boys also played a second rugby fixture against Yardley's School, which we unfortunately lost but the result was extremely close so well done to the team for their continued hard work.

# West Midlands Cup

After school fixtures and competitions have kicked off to a brilliant start as the Year 7 boys football team won their football match with a score of 4-3 against Grace Academy in the first round of the West Midlands Cup. This ultimately means that they progressed into Round 2 of the West Midlands Cup and then beat Walsall Academy 5-1 to progress onto round 3 which was a fantastic result! The Year 7 team have been competing in the Birmingham Cup and a win of 4-1 against Bartley Green meant that Bishop Challoner made a great start to the competition. The Year 7 team have now progressed through to round 4 of the Birmingham Cup after winning 6-1 in their latest match. A huge congratulations and good luck to the team in the future competitions, keep up the brilliant performances!

# Year 11 Football

Year 11 boys have been competing in the Birmingham Cup, but narrowly missed out on progressing through to the next round, with a score of 2-1 to Plantsbrook School. A brilliant effort by all and a congratulations is still in order to the Year 11 football team as they advanced to the third round of the West Midlands Cup after beating Grace Academy 2-0. Cameron Smith and Harley Hamilton were the two goal scorers so a huge well done to those students and the rest of the team on a brilliant performance! The under 14 girls' football team progressed through to the quarter finals of the West Midlands Cup after beating St Pauls 6-0. Goals were scored by Alexa (2), Orla (2), Freya and Amber, a huge well done.

# Netball

Year 9 girls won their match against Camp Hill and the Year 7 team had their very first match against Camp hill. Both teams performed brilliantly, and a big well done to the Year 7 team on their first match of the season against a very strong team! Year 10 girls drew 11-11 and the Year 11 team won 12-9 against Colmers School. The Year 10 girls also played and won against Selly Park Girls before half term so a huge well done to pupils on achieving those results! Additionally, Year 8 and 9 girls competed in the Secondary School Games, winning 3/4 of their matches, finishing second overall. Well done to all girls who participated, the team worked really hard and played well against tough competition.

# Year of Community

The Physical Education department have embraced the 'Year of Community' and have committed to further club links including Mosely tennis club. The Physical Education department will be planning events to further support the Year of Community, including the Year 7 group participating in a 'Race for Life' which will take part in Kings Heath Park in the summer term.

# Basketball

Moving onto Basketball, Year 8 competed in the Junior NBA League and won their first two matches! They beat Queensbridge 27-12 and Studley 16-8 with an excellent performance from Rafael and Kamil, well done! They also played against Queensbridge and won 19-7. The team is undefeated this season and looking to win the Birmingham League and progress to the knockout stages of the National NBA junior League.

Year 7 Girls kicked off their basketball season with a phenomenal game beating St George's School 14-12! All team members worked so hard and were brilliant as a team and Nila and Chloe were 2 of the 7 members of the team who produced exceptional performances.

# Workshops

Alongside many successful fixtures and competitions, Bishop Challoner have been involved in many workshops and exciting opportunities since September. Students from Year 7-10 participated in a really successful athletics workshop before October half term. Dean Miller, who works with British Athletics, came into school to deliver an athletics session and organised a range of athletic activities for the students. Students worked really hard and 15 pupils were invited to the Street 2 Stadium Birmingham athletics talent day at the University of Birmingham track. This was a brilliant opportunity for our students to get more involved in athletics and they received expert coaching for the day so well done to those who attended the workshop and the athletics talent day!

# GB Judo

A Great Britain Judo athlete came into Bishop Challoner and delivered multiple sessions to Year 7 and 8 students to work with and inspire the students. A tennis coach has also come into school and led tennis sessions to Year 7 and 8 to provide students with the opportunity to get more involved in tennis and to find out more about the sport.

# Major Upcoming Events

Next May, girls from Year 7-9 are participating in a PGL netball development weekend trip in Liddington. Pupils will compete in a netball tournament throughout the weekend, playing matches against girls of the same age group with the aim of winning their games and pushing themselves to see how high up they can finish as a team! In addition to this, the girls will get to experience and participate in an exciting range of Outdoor Adventurous Activities which may include zip wiring, the vertical challenge, climbing, archery, abseiling and the giant swing.

On Sunday 26th January 2020 - Saturday 1st February, 36 students in Year 8 and 9 are travelling to Prato Nevosa for an international skiing trip. As part of the trip, pupils will be able to take part in activities such as skiing and snow tubing and they will be able to develop their own skills and qualities for example resilience and confidence whilst on the slopes. The trip is taking a variety of student from non-skiers to advanced skiers. The trip includes: 5 day lift pass, 5 days of ski hire, 20 hours of ski tuition, skiing equipment (helmet, boots and poles) and a personalised hoodie for the trip. This is a very exciting opportunity for pupils and one we envisage to be successful. Pupils who are attending need to bring in their passport and European Health Insurance Card to Mr Moreira or Miss Hunter in the PE office as soon as possible.

# Media Studies

The Media Studies department has had a really exciting start to the academic year.

We had some amazing results in the summer with 100% A Level pass rate and 93+ 4+ at GCSE.

Open Evening and Sixth Form Open Evening were a huge success – students were enjoying playing with the Green screen, the lighting rig and imovie and Photoshop. For the Sixth Form Open Evening, students learnt about what the new syllabus would entail over the next two year A Levels.

## Year 10

Students in Year 10 have settled in really well to a very demanding new course and have just started their first exam topic in November. This is an analysis of the 'This Girl Can' campaign, compared with a 'Quality Street' advert from the 1950s. They are now moving onto Bond old and new with a comparison of The Man With The Golden Gun and Spectre.

## Year 11

Year 11 are busy completing their DVD covers and posters for teen films, Year 12 are learning all about the Indie and Mainstream film industry and How radio 4s 'Late Night Woman's Hour teaches its target audience and Year 13 are in full swing with their music videos and magazine articles.

## Into Film Festival

Our first trip trip involved some of Year 12 and 13 attending the Into Film Festival to see 'Booksmart' on the 13th November at the Birmingham MAC. The film ties in with regulatory issues from the specification and looks at forward thinking films about teenagers with positive representations. Furthermore, there was guest speaker from the BBFC discussing regulation in the film industry. The students learnt a lot about film regulation – especially about how certain words were less of an issue for certain local authorities when categorising films! Regulation is a key topic that students need to know for their exams and they found the day highly enjoyable.

## BFI

Our second trip was on the 4th December and is our annual trip to the BFI where our Year 12 and 13s have a study day on some key topics with Media theory. The day involved an interactive lecture and students learnt about some core texts for their exam as well as theorists that are on the specification.

## WJEC Moving Image Awards

Finally, some amazing news. Last year we entered 6 students into the WJEC Moving Image Awards and we finally have a shortlisted entry. Ethan Hardiman Doody has 1 in 3 chances of taking away the coveted award – watch this space as we'll know more in January!

# COMPUTING & ICT

## Key Stage 3

Students across key stage 3 have spent a term looking at some of the core topics in computer science and ICT. All year groups began the academic year looking at online safety and the multiple facets that go into this topic. Topics varied from the basics of online communication, right through to the notion of fake news and inappropriate picture messaging. Students at Bishop Challoner are made aware of the dangers that they can face living in a digital world and crucially, have been equipped with the knowledge and the tools to combat any issues they face.

In the second phase of this term, Year 7 have been looking at computer science in history, particularly the use of cryptography during the Roman Empire and World War 2, and how the process of sending secret messages is vital to the modern internet. They have been coding and decoding messages using famous ciphers and are understanding as to the reason these processes still exist today. Year 7 are now embarking on a scheme of work that teaches them how to use their netbook devices.

Year 8 students have been studying text-based programming, a new addition to the Year 8 curriculum after review. As part of this they have been working within the Python programming language and discovering how block-based techniques they are familiar with from Year 7, can be achieved using text. Year 9 have followed a similar scheme of work that has seen the use of the BBC MicroBits alongside the Python programming.

## Key Stage 4

### ICT

Year 11 have spent the school weeks since they returned in September, preparing for an external exam which takes place on January 10th in the afternoon. This exam is 50% of their course. The remaining 50% of this course is an internally assessed piece of controlled assessment, something which they worked on as part of their year 10 curriculum and will continue to work on for real from January 11th.

Year 10 ICT are following a brand-new course at Bishop Challoner, 'Creative iMedia', a course that has been selected by the new KS4 ICT co-ordinator, Mr Khitab. The course is an innovative course that has students taught practical applications of image creation and manipulation; the course is extremely hands on and perfect for our ICT students at Challoner. Students began year 10 by looking at the use of digital graphics in the world, but soon moved on to creating their own using Adobe Photoshop and Fireworks. As of November, the students have begun to work on the foundations for their first internally assessed piece of work. We look forward to seeing the outcomes of this new exciting programme of study.

### COMPUTING

The Year 11 group have spent the academic term covering various aspects of the course content in preparation for their summer examinations. They have a mock exam prior to Christmas which they are also preparing for.

The Year 10 group have begun their journey into computer science by studying the building blocks of the field; programming constructs and binary. Going further into the academic year they are going to be looking at the various aspects this course covers, as well as getting hands on with practical programming through Python.

## Key Stage 5

The Year 13 group have begun the year in earnest in both the programming project and exam preparation. In lesson time, the students are looking at content that was not covered in Year 12, as well as exam preparation and techniques to answer the larger questions on the papers. Outside of the lessons, students are working on their programming projects; 20% of the course which sees them go through the software development cycle for an in-depth program. All the students have chosen to produce a 2D video game and many are making strong progress, with some already working!

Year 12 have begun the year looking at data structures and data manipulation, topics that we have sequenced as such to ensure the foundations are laid before we move on. Between September and now they have completed multiple assessments and we are very encouraged by what we are seeing. Moving forward, they are going to continue to discover the key stage 5 computing curriculum and will soon be moving onto programming techniques and the use of the computers in school.

The Year 13 ICT group are currently in preparation for an external examination which takes place on the 20th January. For this exam, they have been using lesson time to explore the use of ICT in the world of business and leisure and are becoming confident in applying their knowledge to context. Once they have completed this exam, they will recommence work on their final unit of the BTEC course, with a view to have all students certified before the summer examination window.

The Year 12 ICT group have begun the academic year studying two units of work. Unit 2 is a programme of study that looks at the use of database software in business, and how it is used to spot trends and make decisions at both a micro and international level. Unit 3 is a programme of study that looks at the use of social media within the business work, and how organisations can use it as a tool to communicate with their customers. Year 12 this year will be assessed through an external exam (unit 2) and an internal piece of coursework (unit 3).

# Computing Club

We have launched a computer club which runs weekly every Wednesday in the C5 computer room. Here students can come along with or without a computing device and look to further enhance their learning of computers. We have ensured the club focuses on teaching learners about real life application of computing skills such as code breaking, programming, MicroBits, building websites and digital graphics.

The club most recently worked with KS3 students whom enjoyed learning HTML to build and manipulate websites to their liking. The club welcomes all abilities, year groups and encourages creativity in a fun environment hosted by Bishop Challoner's team of computing teachers.

# French

## Year 9 Penfriend Project

We have made links with the 'College Clément Marot' in Normandy, France to create a letter correspondence. We hope that Year 9 students will be able to communicate with the French students over two years. This new cooperation has been welcomed warmly both sides of the Channel. Our students have shown great dedication and interest in learning about this school and their future penfriends. We designed the letters a certain way so our students could reuse what they had learnt in lessons to emphasise the concrete and useful aspects of what they were learning in lessons. We are looking forward to receiving our French letters in the New Year.

## KS4 French

Well done to all year 11 students for sitting their French mock examinations. The summer examination are not very far now. We would like to remind all of our students that the French speaking examinations will take place a few weeks before all the other GCSE exams in May. They will highly likely take place in the first 2 weeks after Easter.

How can you be prepared?? Make sure that you are able to speak about all 12 topics using phrases and vocabulary learnt in class. AVOID making up phrases that you have never learnt with your teacher.

For more support, you can also visit our exam page on: http://frenchbc.weebly.com/year-11.html

Also we sell revision guides at discounted prices of £3 per guide. Please speak to Ms Mazabraud if you would like to purchase one.

## Noël

Every year we like to dedicate some of our French lessons to learning about how France and francophone countries celebrate Christmas. It always fascinating to learn about our similarities and differences. You will find below some links to the various songs that we like to sing at Christmas:
Vive le vent: https://youtu.be/vkkiQWBFqT0
Bons baisers du Port de France – La compagnie créole https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V60j37-8ZhY

Here are some fun facts about Christmas in France:

- In some parts of the North and Northeast of France, Christmas is celebrated on December 6th. This is the feast-day of Saint-Nicholas, and le Père Noël (Father Christmas) brings the children sweets and small presents.
- On Christmas Eve (December 24th), French children traditionally place their shoes by the fire and awoke on Christmas Day to find them stuffed with small gifts.
- In France the main Christmas meal is usually eaten on Christmas Eve. This meal is called le réveillon, and it is made up of a starter of snails, oysters, seafood or smoked salmon, a main course of roast goose or turkey, and served with lots of wine.
- Christmas crackers aren't pulled at French Christmas meals.
- A Yule log is a traditional Christmas dessert in France, usually made from chocolate sponge cake with chestnuts.
- Traditionally, on January 6th, French people celebrate the Feast of Kings, or the Feast of Epiphany, the twelfth day of Christmas. A pastry (the gallette des rois – cake of kings) is eaten on this day, with a charm hidden inside. The person who finds the charm is named King or Queen and must wear a paper crown and must provide the cake for the next party.
- Merry Christmas in French is Joyeux Noël. Father Christmas is le Père Noël and Christmas tree is le sapin de Noël.
- In Lyon a Festival of Lights takes place in early December. The buildings of the city are lit up and the streets are decorated with Christmas lights.

## Musique et culture

Do you fancy brushing up on your French during the Christmas holidays? Why not visit our 'French touch' page on: http://frenchbc.weebly.com/

You will find suggestions of films, series and a link to our Spotify page if you fancy listening to a bit of Papaoutai.

# KS5 French

Congratulations to Ellie (Y12) and Lily (Y13) for being part of the winning team at the MFL Model UN workshop held at Solihull School on Friday 8th November.

Students were put into mixed groups from different schools on arrival and worked to prepare and present a UN resolution in French. Spanish and German were also represented.

All of our students were great and performed at a level far beyond our hopes. It was impressive to see such talent on display and I think they have all achieved something they thought impossible.

Lara (Y13) got a special mention in the closing remarks for her attention to detail, dogged questioning and ability to think on her feet and respond to questions in a public forum. Our students shone in the company of students from Solihull School, Warwick School, Edgbaston school for girls, and St Pauls. Well done to them all, they made us very proud!

# Art & Design

## Remembrance Day Installation

The art department's vision for 'Remembrance Day' was to build on the last year's installation by creating large scale sculptural poppies in acrylic. The poppies, designed using 2D Design were produced on the laser cutter with the fine details, including delicate lines on each petal and a verse of John Macrae's 'In Flanders Fields' poem engraved on the surface of the acrylic. The poppies are positioned on the grass verge adjacent to the pavement encouraging the community to engage with them at all times. They are also visible from the high street which has resulted in the public wandering down to explore the pieces and discuss the installation with staff and students.

The Four life size silhouettes of a WW1 soldier were formed using the laser cutter in the Design Technology department and stood at the front of school, watching over the space. These were to symbolise the four fallen men who didn't come back from the front line to Institute Road – and through this work, we were about to bring them home. These were supported by 100 small figures formed in the same pose that were scattered across the grass embankment outside of the school entrance. The soldiers were situated around red felt poppies, handmade by KS3 Art pupils and 30 powder coated metal poppies, and each included a name of a fallen solider from the Kings Heath and Moseley area, and their date of death.

# Artist in Residence Scheme

## Commission: Bishop Challoner Christmas Card

This year Lucy Wilson is our Artist in Residence. She will be working with us on several commissions and larger community projects with support throughout the year from Lydia Parkes and Carmela Hodgson, previous BCC artists. Lucy has produced an exceptional oil painting for the Christmas card commission alongside putting the finishing touches to a large scale mural of previous BCC student, Ahlaam Moledina. Further commissions include: a large scale self-portrait in oil for the Artist in Residence gallery space, development of the reception space and school interior. Lucy will be applying her artistic creativity to the main reception space reflecting on the Catholic ethos of the school; presently she is working on an oil painting of Bishop Richard Challoner to be displayed in the main reception.

# KS5 Fine Art

Our A level students have excelled themselves this year in Fine Art, producing a series of diverse outcomes. The concepts explored get more expressive and confidently executed each year. The boundaries are continually being pushed with students working on diverse scales and utilising mixed media, material and surface. Plaster board, latex, glass and interfacing are just some of the materials being explored. Themes for concept development include: 'ambiguity', 'movement', 'masculinity', 'social housing', and 'focus'.

# Key Stage 3 Art

Since Year 7 have settled down into Challoner life and have since been working with new and exciting materials and techniques. They have been exploring the expressive mark making of Vincent Van Gogh using stick and ink, as well as being introduced to printmaking by creating some realistic yet dramatic mono-prints. Through this, students have been exploring how drawing is used within lots of different processes – and have enjoyed being a little more messy!

Some highlights of the term have been the sugar paper prints students created of Karl Blossfeldt's. Students will be moving onto photography next – creating Edward Weston inspired photographs that explore composition and exposure. All of the students' work so far has been monochromatic – focusing on building foundation learning of the formal elements – line, shape and proportion, tone and texture – and there has been great progress made since their start at secondary school.

# Year 9

Year 9 have been travelling through time through their artistic studies. They began with an in-depth study of Italian Renaissance, focusing on the importance of Leonardo Da Vinci's anatomical studies to the world of engineering and medicine. They have each created strong realistic drawings in a range of materials of said anatomy studies, embedding their understanding of how science and art harmonise. With a focus on art's place in history, students can see how art constantly comments on the wider societal issues and they are able to form sophisticated interpretations of art. Recently, the students have been introduced to Impressionism and more closely, the work of Claude Monet.

Through watercolour painting, students have built their understanding of how movement can be portrayed within painting, including the Impressionist style of brushstroke and varying vibrancies of colour to portray to weather and changing of light. They have worked from images of Venice, London and Monet's own garden with Japanese bridge, to embed their skill with working with difficult techniques. Next, we will delve into Van Gogh's world by painting with acrylic, the emotion of Expressionism using charcoal and oil paint for Kathe Kollwitz – and more as we reach current conceptual art. There is a healthy and thriving attitude to art education across Key Stage 3, and it is exciting to see that students embrace our subject with curiosity and passion to achieve.

# Year 8

Year 8 have been exploring memorial and commemorative artwork across this term. Their creative journey began by being introduced to 'The Shoes on the Danube' sculpture in Hungary, and how shoes are a symbol for Holocaust memorial. We have discussed the power of public art to tell stories and commemorate history, so that those events are not repeated. They have been incredibly mature and engaged during such an intense project, and we are so impressed with their commitment to creating high-quality work as response to these themes.

They have explored printmaking through Mark Powell's bird studies, and stylized pigeon prints to commemorate this particular bird's role in WW1 as messengers. They have been sketching spitfire planes onto map paper –we've discussed Birmingham's role in WW2, as well as the sculpture in Castle Vale that students recognised. They will continue with this project for the next few weeks – using watercolour paint in unorthodox ways in the style of Abby Diamond, oil paint rub drawings in response to Anselm Kiefer, and vibrant studies of David Kracow's 9/11 memorial. The students' will create individual artworks as part of this project that get assembled as a collaborative installation in response to the theme of 'hope'.

# Art Club

Art Club is in high attendance this year, with students across Key Stage 3 attending every week. Students are invited to bring their own pieces from home to work on, yet every week there is a new process available for them to sink their teeth into, including alphabet photography, printmaking and watercolour painting. Students really enjoy themselves – older 'veteran' members are role models and mentors to the younger members – and each week they bring enthusiasm and energy to A1. We cannot wait to watch them grow into exciting and individual artists across their Challoner education.

Members have been creating 3D sculptures out of salt dough – all inspired by Christmas! They mixed their own dough – which meant some mess was inevitable! – and then moulded the material to sculpt small scale Christmas objects and scenes. They have also painted their sculptures using acrylic paint to make them vibrant and exciting.

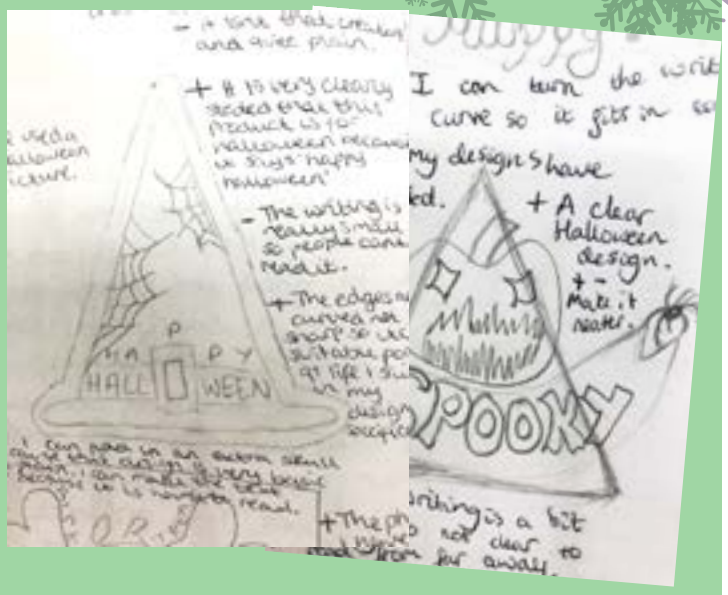
# Art BGT Event

Art's Bishop Got Talent event was an absolute hit! Students from all year groups got into the festive spirit by designing and creating their own Christmas cards using a range of materials – including laser cut motifs, paper collage and mixed media. The results were exciting and creative cards that each student (and some staff members!) could take home with them. The library was full to the brim with excited members of the Challoner community, really proving the power of Art to lift spirits and provoke expression!

# Product Design

## Year 7

Year 7 have been learning about electronic systems and how they form part of many of the products we use every day. They have explored the function of a range of components and found out about how they work when integrated into a printed circuit board. Students have hand soldered their own circuit boards adding a switch, battery holder and LED in order to produce a small light. They have researched a festival and generated a range of designs for a decorative light that celebrates their chosen event. This project offers a great introduction to the design process and allows students an early opportunity to engage with computer aided design and manufacture as the outer casing of their light will use the process of laser cut and etched acrylic.

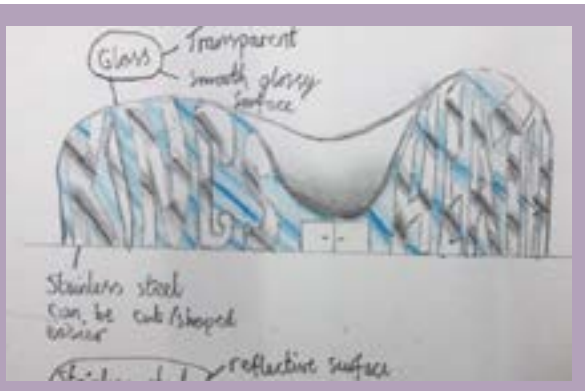



## Year 8

Year 8 have drawn inspiration from the Harry Potter books in order to design badges that could be worn by students if the school were to adopt a 'house system'. They have carried out questionnaires amongst teachers and staff to gather opinion as to what design features the badge should include and have produced a varied range of imaginative proposals informed by this primary research. Students have learned about the die casting process and the advantages it brings when manufacturing in quantity. They have built upon the CAD skills developed in year 7 to draw up 3 part mould on 2D design which will be laser cut out of MDF. The badges will be cast in pewter.

## Year 9

Year 9 have been working with engineers and architects from HS2, WRE and Network Rail in order to generate a design for the new train station in Kings Heath, work on which is due to commence in 2020 to be completed in time for the commonwealth games in 2022. Gavin Smith of The West Midlands Rail Executive who is responsible for ensuring the build is completed on time, has provided some large scale drawings of the site which help identify the space available and how the design must integrate with existing geographical features such as the Alcester road and the Homebase store. Steve Fancourt, Landscape and Urban Design manager for phase 1 of HS2 will be visiting students on Tuesday 3rd December to provide feedback on their designs and discuss the parallels between what the students have been working on in the classroom and what happens with a project such as this in industry.



We have also had visits from Chris Uren and Danny Miller from Network Rail who helped students to understand how designers and engineers make decisions regarding materials using knowledge of their working properties. The project provides a valuable opportunity for students to engage with industry representatives and find out more about the exciting career opportunities that exist with the engineering, design and architecture sectors. It comes at a crucial time in the run up to the options period when students will be making important decisions about their future.

# Year 11

Y11 are now in the design development stage of their NEA (coursework) worth 50% of their GCSE. Students have chosen two out of the three briefs provided by AQA; 'Working towards a sustainable future' and 'Designing for comfort and safety in the home'. Within these contexts, students have had to identify a problem which they can solve through the design of a new product. Some of the situations they have explored include the problem of transporting hand tools around the garden, the need for a safe way of containing a small child in a given space in a room and lighting to soothe and calm during pregnancy.

Having identified a real client who is personally affected by each situation, students have conducted a range of primary research before drawing up design criteria and then generating a range of innovative, creative solutions. The mark scheme requires students to avoid 'design fixation' so we have been using a range of starting points to inspire and encourage creativity such as natural forms, architecture and design movements of the 20th century. Students are now developing one solution through the use of 3D modelling and practical investigation. This requires the testing of materials and processes that may be used to realise the final product including CAD/CAM where appropriate.

# STEM

## STEM Club

Y8 and 9 students have demonstrated excellent leadership skills as they help to support and nurture the new Y7 STEM Club members who meet every Tuesday in T4. In their first project they have design vibrobugs- customised insects which vibrate due to a small battery powered motor which students have soldered to a PCB. This has helped them to develop their knowledge and understanding of electronics, supporting the work that they are carrying out in their Product Design lessons. Students produced a 3D model of their ideas for what they insect could look like and are now creating drawings of the individual body parts on 2D Design. These will be laser cut from acrylic and sublimation printed to create individual surface designs. Students have also had a go at creating moving images from a series of stills by making zoetropes- a type of Victorian toy.

## Year 7 STEM Fair

On 12th December we will be hosting our annual Y7 STEM Fair. Queensbridge, Wheelers Lane, Swanshurt Girls School, King Edwards Camp Hill Girls, King Edwards Handsworth Girls, Bishop Walsh and St. Pauls Girls School will be sending teams of 8 students to take part in a day of STEM challenges. Each challenge will be delivered by STEM leaders from Bishop Challoner School. We will be inviting STEM Ambassadors to deliver a twenty minute session in which they engage students in a short activity which helps to illustrate a STEM concept or the type of problem solving that they carry out every day in their job. We are delighted to be joined by DR. Nigel Watson who has a PhD in Particle Physics and works full time on the LHCb experiment at CERN but is based at Birmingham University. He will be bringing along some graduates who will lead a rocket launching activity with compressed air which is sure to be a big hit with students.

# Food Studies

## B30 Foodbank

Monday the 25th November saw the beginning of collections for the foodbank. The B30 foodbank is part of The Trussell Trust's network of 428 foodbanks, working to tackle food poverty and hunger in our local communities, as well as across the UK. Their mission is to, 'end hunger and poverty in the UK. We support a nationwide network of food banks and together we provide emergency food and support to people locked in poverty, and campaign for change to end the need for food banks in the UK'. The foodbank collections were promoted through form tutors, personal tutors, the school website and twitter. As a school community contributing to the foodbank demonstrates that we are working towards our school mission statement of 'Giving glory to God through our service to others'. Posters around the school suggested the types of products needed.

The response by staff and students has been over whelming with hundreds of food products being donated. Many thanks to all that have supported the cause.

The food was delivered to the food bank weighing in at 411KG suppling 1600 meals for the local community. A big thankyou to all that donated to the cause.

# Staff Health and Wellbeing Pledges

Following on from the success of the 'Year of Health and Wellbeing' the staff pledge continues with all those taking part entered into a staff draw. Each three weekly pledge now has a theme with September's being the first of the academic year, staff are encouraged to think about your own health and being in a busy half term and taking time out. November's pledge was about encouraging men to think about their mental health and joining in with the pledge as well as encouraging others. Leading up to Christmas staff are encouraged to support the Year of Community' by pledging to give to one of the charity events such as the food bank or the St. Chad's Sanctuary collection.

# Vegan Awareness

The Eco committee in Year 10 wanted to create awareness about veganism. They organised an event where students could sample vegan products. The committee members made vegan chocolate apples on sticks and vegan chocolate strawberries. They were sold at break. It was an astounding success as the items sold out quickly. Funds raised were donated to the school charity. Another event is planned on the 2nd December where vegan mince pies will be sold before the school Christmas show to students and their families.

# Cookery Club

Christmas Cookery Club members have been practising their baking skills in readiness for the Christmas Afternoon Tea on the 11th December where they invite their families to enjoy their products. They have made individual Christmas cakes which will be marzipaned, iced and decorated at the end of term. They have made cookies, mince pies and Christmas ginger people. Families can donate to the school charity at the event. As well as students demonstrating their creativity and flair through making food products' they have made new friends at the cookery club and it has also afforded them skills in communication, rapport building, decision making, problem solving and reliability.

# Key Stage 3

Students in key stage three have been working through the adapted scheme of work to enable them to be GCSE ready. They make predominantly savoury foods that can be easily adapted to suit a variety of nutritional and dietary needs. The aim is to help students develop their knowledge, skills and understanding of healthy lifestyles, preparing foods from around the world that reflects the diversity of the community that we live in whilst considering food provenance, food miles, seasonality, hygiene and presentation techniques.

Students in year 7 have practised their knife skills by making a fruit fusion, a wrap, pizza toast, crumble, cookies and chicken goujons. Year 8 have made Bolognese, stir-fry, fajitas, banana cake, focaccia and curry. Year 9 have made chilli con carne, calzone, toad in the hole, mac 'n' cheese and vegetarian products.

# Key Stage 4

Year 10 are preparing for their Level 1 / 2 Award in Hospitality and Catering External examination in June (Unit 1). The course is for those students who want to learn about this vocational sector and the potential it can offer them for their careers. The unit consists of four learning objectives which enable students to develop knowledge and understanding of how hospitality and catering providers operate; issues relating to food safety, the environment in which the industry operates, how they meet health and safety requirements and how food can cause ill health. They will complete unit 2 in Year 11 where the assessment is based on practical work.

Most of the students in Year 11 have passed the external examination of the hospitality and catering course and are well prepared for their controlled assessment (Unit 2) which they start after Christmas. They have investigated the importance of nutrition when planning menus, the nutritional needs of different groups and problems under nutrition, the impact on the nutritional value of food when cooking, environmental issues such as food waste, food miles and provenance as well as meeting customer needs. The unit requires them to produce a folio of work along with a practical assessment where they produce a two-course meal to meet a brief set by the examination board. It will be internally assessed and externally moderated by the examination board.

Year 11 enjoyed a workshop with 'Beatfreeks' on behalf of Birmingham City Council. The purpose of the workshop was to investigate food and eating habits. Over the course of an hour, they covered many aspects of food culture, from healthy eating and the barriers sometimes preventing it, to the people that influence what you eat; from cooking and buying food to eating out; from food waste to vegetarianism and veganism.

# Sixth Form

## Sixth Form Open

It was great to welcome so many of our Year 11 students, and those from other local schools and colleges to our Open Evening on 13th November. It was a really busy night with excellent displays and demonstrations of work in classrooms, where Year 12 were in hand to give a students' perspective of Sixth Form life. Visitors new to our Bishop Challoner were ably guided by Year 13 students. We hope that the engaging activities in department, which gave a taste of the courses we offer, and the enthusiasm with which our Sixth Form students talk about their experience here, make Bishop Challoner Sixth Form the obvious choice for most of our students and an inviting option for students currently elsewhere.

Huge thanks to our teachers, the Sixth Form team and especially our Year 12 and 13 students, who are the best possible ambassadors for the Sixth Form, for making the evening such a success.

## Applications to Sixth Form

**The application form is now live on the website. We are encouraging students to apply by 13th December, to ensure that their application is considered as a priority application.**

## Changes to Sixth Form Independent Study

This decision has been very well received. Students are really taking full advantage of the opportunity for silent, supervised study. We have taken steps to ensure that this can continue whilst the auditorium is out of use, due to examinations.

## Year 12 Health and Wellbeing Day

On Tuesday 10th December, Year 12 participated in a Health and Wellbeing Day. They started the day with an assembly outlining some useful strategies for coping with the demands of our fast-paced lives. This was followed by a presentation on driving safety. They then took part in a variety of workshops, exploring issues such as Healthy Relationships, Risk Taking, and Financial Health.

## Student Finance Information Evening

In the evening with held a Student Finance Information for parents. A colleague from Birmingham City University gave a very informative presentation and dispelled some of the myths about student "debt", which, as he explained, should be more accurately viewed as a "Graduate Contribution". The evening started with an overview of the year from a UCAS perspective and also a presentation on the support offered to students considering other post 18 pathways.

## Recruitment Outreach

This term members of the Sixth Form team have carried out visits to Wheelers Lane, Hall Green and Queensbridge.

## University Applications

Some very positive offers are starting to arrive. It is also an exciting time for our students who are being called to interview, including those who have interviews for some most the most competitive courses of all: medicine and Oxbridge courses. For any student called to interview, we have offered to provide interview practice, either with a member of staff or with a contact from elsewhere.

## Student Well-being

We are working, whole school, with Newstart, a city-wide programme to support schools in their response to Mental Health and Well-being issues. As part of this, a student wellbeing panel (yrs9-13) has been involved in several meetings with Ann Bateman from Newstart and the staff well-being team.

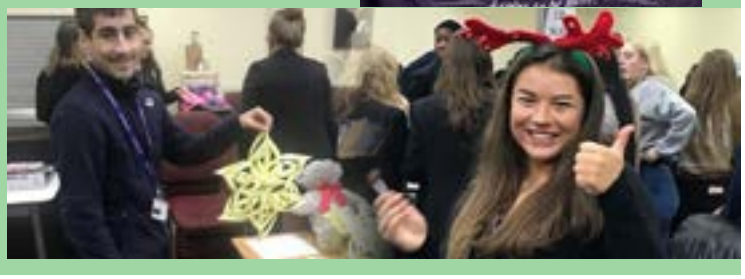
One of the student panel's suggestions was that some pupils may not realise what a wealth of support is on offer. For this reason Well-being assemblies have been delivered to all students, to ensure that they know who to turn to and what support may be offered. We soon will be recruiting well-being ambassadors, from each year group to assist with delivering further well-being assemblies, producing student friendly information and displays.

# Jericho Foundation

On Monday 7th October the Sixth Form had an assembly delivered by the Jericho Foundation. This is a local charity which works to support those marginalised in society by providing work opportunities through social enterprise. Amongst those supported are those leaving prison, at risk of homelessness and survivors of modern day slavery. It was particularly interesting, and saddening, to be reminded that slavery is by no means a thing of the past. Several students have expressed an interest in doing some fundraising and awareness raising for this very worthwhile local cause. Two of our budding journalists are hoping to carry out a fact-finding visit.

# Sixth Form Christmas Fair

The following day, Year 12 hosted a Christmas Fair in the Common Room. There were a variety of fun stalls to visit; the students had really used their imaginations in preparing the activities for all students in KS3 to enjoy. All funds raised will be going to support the school's chosen charity, which this year is Cafod World Gifts.



# CAREERS

## Year 8 visit to University of Birmingham

This year, for the first time, we took one hundred Year 8 pupils to see for themselves what a university is like. They had a tour of the campus at The University of Birmingham and enjoyed a 'higher education' themed game of The Chase. Students also had fun designing their very own university and presenting their ideas to their peers and university staff. Year 8's learned about the different subjects they could study at degree level, the benefits of doing a degree and gained an appreciation of what it might be like to be a student at university.

## Apprenticeships Fair

Another first this November was the Apprenticeships Fair we held for Year 11-13. We invited a number of employers and training providers, who recruit apprentices in a range of areas (including Quantity Surveying, Law, Engineering, Finance, Business and IT) to meet and talk with our students who are considering the apprenticeship pathway. Amongst the visitors we were delighted to welcome back two of our former students who now work for GallifordTry and Baily Garner LLP.

Other organisations in attendance were: Deloitte, Midland Heart, LMPQ and LEMA Training. Students were able to gain crucial information relating to their important next steps. As more students are considering the apprenticeship route than ever before, it is important that our students are able to explore this option and who better to discuss apprenticeships with, than the employers themselves? Student feedback suggested that this was a very valuable event for many of our KS4 and 5 students.

## Year 10 Work Skills

Year 10 Work Skills group had two inspiring practical sessions recently. Both of these sessions were delivered by specialist Tutors from South and City College Birmingham. The first workshop focused on plumbing whilst the second workshop turned the group into Formula One mechanics, testing their ability to communicate effectively and work as a team to change tyres on their group's miniature racing cars and eventually racing their cars against each other on a ready-made track.

Then they had to race against each other whilst the member of the team who was driving the car via remote control, was blindfolded and needed their team mates to guide them. Both sessions emphasised to the group the importance of the employability skills they use every day in school, such as: listening to one another, working together, being responsible and respectful etc. in the workplace. We are looking forward to more fun vocational sessions in the new year!

The spring term will also bring the Careers Fair, Speed Networking (for Year 12) and the Year 9 Pathways programme to name a few.

If you work for an organisation which is willing/able to contribute to any of our forthcoming careers events or our work experience programmes for Year 10 (29th June – 10th July) or Year 12 (6th-10th July), please contact Miss Darby (Careers Leader) on e.darby@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk.

# OLC

Christmas has come early to the Open Learning Centre (OLC) with arrival of 177 brand new non-fiction books: a lovely selection of books chosen to engage and inspire our students. These coupled with the 650 fiction books we had delivered at the beginning of the school year gives the students a wide choice of reading material.

## Welcome

We welcome Mrs Newton to the OLC as Librarian. Her extensive past experience of working in both public and school libraries is a huge asset and we look forward to bringing even more opportunities to our students.
We wish all peace and a very happy Christmas.

## Chess Club

There is currently a chess-playing craze and this mostly takes place in the library as students borrow the chess sets. A Challoner Chess Tournament is being organised for next term.

## Bishop's Got Talent

The OLC is not just a library but a space for study, reading, socialising and experiencing the talents of others from the frequent Bishop's Got Talent (BGT) events. Last week it was card making from the Art department, before that a spelling competition from the English Department, a model making completion (see below) from Geography and today it is the steel band from the music department.

## Ready, Set, Play!

Christmas is a time for spending time together, having fun.

The classic pastime of board games is enjoying something of a resurgence and there are many benefits attached to playing games, for young and old alike:

**Board games help with children's cognitive and social development.** Useful social skills can be taught through board games that can lead children to happier and less isolated lives (eg following rules, taking turns and sharing with others). Board games support cognitive skills (eg word skills, mathematical skills, problem solving skills, logic, abstract thinking) and with so many different types of board games, there are thousands of ways to give your brain a workout.

**Board games help family cohesion.** Families who spend time together on enjoyable activities have a better emotional bond and better communication between family members. A board game is an opportunity for the family to take part in something together. All too often in family situations, while everyone is physically present, the focus is either on the TV, or individual mobile phones, tablets, or laptops.

**Board games help to reduce stress and help with relaxation.** Board games offer escapism, a chance to leave your daily worries behind for a while and do something completely different. You can build civilisations, construct railways, control vast armies, hunt zombies, or even try to take over the world.

**Board games keep your brain younger for longer.** An active brain is at lower risk of cognitive decline and research shows that playing board games is associated with a reduced risk of dementia and Alzheimer's disease.
Board games are a great way to connect with others, to take you away from the normal troubles of life for a few hours and to give your brain a workout. From classics like Monopoly, Scrabble and Cluedo to modern favourites such as Settlers of Catan, Carcassone and Pandemic, there is bound to be something out there to appeal to you and your family.

# School Games and PE & Sports Premium Programmes

**Our School Games and Primary PE & Sport Premium Programmes continue to offer local schools opportunities to participate in sporting competitions and festivals, to develop leadership pathways as well as being advocates for young people to do more physical activity. We are pleased that the government and Sport England have announced an extension the funding for the School Games Organiser (SGO) post until October 2020 and we await the outcome of the General Election and Brexit to see what future funding is provided for our work.**

## School Games Mark Awards

Twenty three schools achieved 'School Games Mark' (1 x platinum, 4 x gold, 9 x silver and 9 x bronze) for 2018-19 (School Games Mark is a Government led award scheme to reward schools for their commitment to the development of PE, school sport and competition across their school and schools are able to assess themselves across bronze, silver and gold levels). Bishop Challoner achieved the silver award whilst Colmore Junior School achieved platinum, the first school in our area to do so. Well done to all schools.

## Competitive Sport

Mr McDermott continues to organise a wide range of competitive sporting opportunities for all schools. This year we have introduced a '50% playing time' rule for all competitions whereby we have requested that all schools who enter a competition allow pupils a minimum of 50% playing time to ensure they have a positive experience, are physically active and do not spend the majority of the time sitting on the bench watching their peers play.

Primary school competitions have been won by St Martin de Porres in Y5-6 hockey, and the Y5-6 basketball is awaiting a play off between Moseley C of E and Woodthorpe to determine the winner. We also organised a Y3-4 football festival for the least active girls which was a big success.

# Moseley Rugby Club

We recently teamed up with Moseley Rugby Club (MRC) to organise a Y5-6 Rugby World Cup (RWC) festival which involved 8 schools. Each school was given a flag from a country in the RWC and the event started with an opening ceremony and a lap of the astroturf pitch. This was followed by coaching and a fun festival and at the end of the day all pupils received a medal, certificate and a school games value badge of either honesty or respect. We now have a 6 nations festival planned with MRC in February and other upcoming competitions include handball, dodgeball, gymnastics and athletics.

# Competition

As part of his SGO role, Mr McDermott also took on the responsibility of organising a city wide KS2 football competition for SEND pupils at Nechells Wellbeing centre on 13th November. The competition was attended by 10 teams who played a 'seeding' competition in the morning followed by another competition in the afternoon to determine the winners. The event was supported by staff and students from BMET College who officiated all the games.

For secondary schools, competitions have been won as follows:

- Bishop Challoner in Y7 and Y8-9 girls' football.
- Swanshurst for Y10-11 girls' football.
- UoB in the Y9-10 boys' handball.
- KE Camp Hill Girls in Y9-10 handball and Y8-9 and Y10-11 netball.
- KES in the U14 and U16 boys' table tennis.
- KE Camp Hill Boys in the KS4 badminton.

We wish all schools good luck in the Birmingham School Games Finals in 2019/20.

# South and City College

We have recently formed a link with South and City College and a following a meeting with staff, the degree students at the college will be offered opportunities to volunteer at our School Games events as officials to help them develop their knowledge, understanding and confidence in a range of sports. So far we have had students volunteer in handball and basketball.

# Youth Leadership

Our Playleader programme for this year started in September and we provided training, resources and certificates to 12 Y5-6 pupils in 24 primary schools to enable them to go back to their own school and increase physical activity levels amongst young children during break and lunchtime. Playleaders develop their confidence, self-esteem and numerous other skills, such as organisation and communication, which are so important in the modern world. Mr McDermott also delivered Playleader training for 2 schools in Coventry and 1 school in Staffordshire.

# Bronze Ambassador Workshop

Mr McDermott recently held the 1st Bronze Ambassador (BA) workshop of the year for 40 Y5-6 pupils from 10 primary schools. BAs are young people who have been identified as good role models and who aim to support schools to increase the profile of PE and school sport and to encourage more young people to be physically active. The focus of the first BA training session was to teach them the leadership skills to be able to go back to school and try to get more young people physically active through taking part in 'personal best challenges' (these are simple skills/fitness challenges which pupils attempt and try to improve on). The next session is on 19th March from 4.00-5.30pm.

# School Games National Summit

Mr McDermott recently attended the Youth Sport Trust national summit for School Games Organisers at the Ricoh Arena in Coventry. The day was spent sharing ideas and discussing good practice around PE, competitive sport and physical activity. The key note speaker in the morning was Phil Neville, Manager of the England Ladies football team, who gave an insight to the structure and ethos behind developing the team and improving each player as a person and a footballer.

# Professional Development

As a partnership of secondary schools Mr McDermott continues to organise meetings to discuss new ideas, share good practice and support schools to develop PE and school sport. A meeting was organised and chaired by Mr McDermott on 23rd September at Moseley Golf Club (MGC) for Heads of PE and was attended by 24 colleagues where a number of matters such as GCSE and A Level PE, club links, sharing good practice and leadership development were discussed.

On October 14th we held our 1st meeting of the year for the primary PE Coordinators in our School Games and PE & Sport Premium Primary Programmes at MGC. Colleagues from 16 schools attended and we discussed a wide range of topics, including Ofsted/deep dives in PE, 60 active minutes, links with local sports clubs and effective use of the use of PE and Sport Premium funding. One of the visitors to the meeting was ex pupil Connor Mooney, who now works as football coach for Coerver Coaching. Connor had the opportunity to meet colleagues and share contact details to enable him to visit schools and offer free football coaching. It was great to see Connor and we wish him well.

Both meetings were held at MGC as the club is keen to develop its membership, particularly juniors and women. This resulted in a mention in a recent club newsletter by the Chairman of Greens. 'That said we have committed to work on the drainage for the Academy course as the work done with all the local schools via Len, Derek McDermott and Martin as well as Dan come to fruition, as we are now expecting to see a VERY busy academy'.

So far this year we have organised two training courses in dance and gymnastics which were led by Mrs Moon and Miss Hunter respectively. Both courses were well attended by local primary school teachers and student teachers from BCU and the feedback was excellent. Upcoming courses include NQT dance/gymnastics, games and athletics.

# Social Media

You can follow all our work on @BCSGO where we now have over 1020 followers.

# Computing Hub

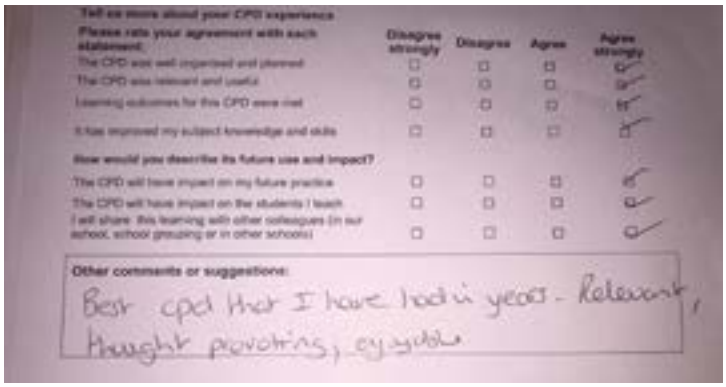
This year, Bishop Challoner was recognised as one of the National Centre of Computing Education's first forty 'Teach Computing' hubs. The aim of this designation is to improve computing education in both primary and secondary schools in our region. As well as running teacher training courses, we will also be working with local Universities and employers to strengthen pathways into the IT and computing industry for our students, and students across the Central Midlands area. One of the specific focuses of the NCCE is to address the gender balance in computing education and encourage more girls to pick computing as a GCSE option.

Teach Computing

# Science Learning Partnership

Science Learning Partnership have had a successful start to the academic year with two Heads of Science conferences taking place, one in Birmingham and the other in Warwick.

(Please find the feedback attached). SLP are continuing to engage with primary, secondary and Further Education Colleges in the hope to develop Science curriculum within schools. The plan for 2020 will involve more conferences and working with our neighbouring STEM hubs; MathsHub and Teach Computing. Our annual primary STEM conference will be taking place on the 18th June 2020 at Birmingham City University. This successful conference is renowned for its inspiring Key Note Speakers, the broad range of STEM workshops available and the fantastic opportunity to network with fellow primary teachers and market stall holders. (Flyer attached)



# BC TSA

## PGCE / School Direct Teacher Training Programme

We were delighted to find that 76% of our trainees from 2018/19 took up teaching positions within our Alliance of Schools, so it is great to know that we are 'growing our own' teachers here in Birmingham.

UCAS is now open for applications for those thinking of training to teach from September 2020. Working with the University of Warwick, Newman University and Birmingham City University, we are able to offer a wide range of subjects and specialisms in both Primary and Secondary education.

Our trainee teachers are supported at every stage of their journey, with mentors and department colleagues on hand to guide and teach them.

We continue to offer free, informal information sessions for people to find out about teaching – with Wednesday 8th January 2020 starting off the year with a morning drop in session. Why not book a place? Just email us at teachingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

# Leadership and Professional Development Programmes

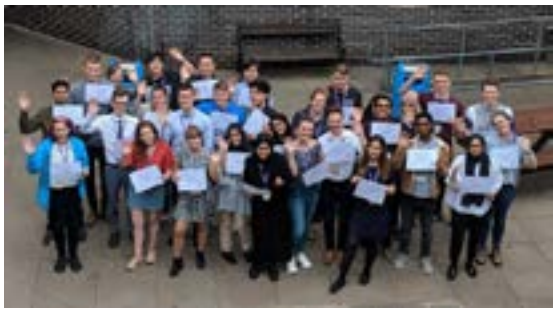
Through our Aspiring Leadership courses and our National Professional Qualifications (NPQ) programmes, we are also able to offer support and training opportunities to teachers already settled into their careers. It is really important to start developing the next generation of school leaders so that our schools continue to be led by caring, qualified and experienced professionals.

It has been a busy term also for Subject Specific Training, focussing on Maths, Physics and Modern Foreign Languages training to 'upskill' non-specialists in these fields. Our teams have been out around the wider West Midlands and beyond delivering sessions to teachers as part of a national programme funded by the Department for Education.

# Calling Current University Students of Maths, Physics or Engineering

We have just received confirmation from the DfE that we will gain funding for a further year of the STEM Teacher Internship Programme. Having successfully been a part of this initiative for the previous 3 years, we are happy to be running it again in June and July 2020.
In addition to 4 weeks of experience within the classroom, our Interns also have sessions on pedagogy, classroom management and working on their interview techniques. Interns are paid up to £1,200 for participating in the programme, and it really gives them an insight into whether teaching may be the career for them.

We actively encourage former Bishop Challoner students who fit the criteria to apply, so if you know of any second year / penultimate University students studying these subjects then do suggest they take a look! They can email us at teachingschool@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk



# Future Teaching Scholars

Having been part of this national programme since the beginning, we are proud to see some of our first co hort of young graduates now teaching in the classroom. The aim is to attract, train and develop Maths and Physics teachers in our Secondary schools, recruiting from Sixth Formers and supporting them through their Undergraduate Degree with a £15,000 bursary. These students who are passionate about their subjects AND passionate about teaching are proving to be excellent in the classroom, gaining their Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) in a similar way to our School Direct trainees.

Future Teaching SCHOLARS

BC TSA

# TEACHING INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

Earn £1,200

4 weeks @ £300 per week

15th June 2020 - 10th July 2020

Have you ever thought about a career in teaching Maths or Physics?

Are you in your penultimate year of studying for a degree in Maths or Physics, or a related subject?

If so, apply to take part in our Teaching Internship Programme. Spend 4 weeks in a Birmingham school and discover the power of teaching to improve the life chances of students.

Contact us at: internships@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

We will send you out an application form by email, or call 0121 441 6175 to find out more!

Bishop Challoner TSA, Institute Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7EG

# Maths Hub

MathsHUBS Central

National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics

BC TSA
BISHOP CHALLONER TEACHING SCHOOL ALLIANCE

## The Central Maths Hub

**Providing support and opportunities to enrich the professional development of your whole Mathematics team**

**Ways to get involved and find out more:**

- Join the Hub to receive regular information and updates of all opportunities in our area—register via our website
- Visit our website to explore our opportunities and to register for a programme or course
- Follow us on Twitter for the most up to date information

The Central Maths Hub, coordinated by The NCETM and part of the National Maths Hubs network, works in partnership with local schools, colleges Universities, CPD providers, maths experts and employers to drive improvement in Maths education.

We support and fund a wide range of professional development opportunities to enable colleagues and whole teams across the phases to develop as practitioners. The often free opportunities range from one off twilights, to more involved programmes across the year; through funded courses, Work Groups and collaborative projects.

**www.centralmathshub.com** **@centralmathshub**

FREE COURSE FREE COURSE FREE COURSE

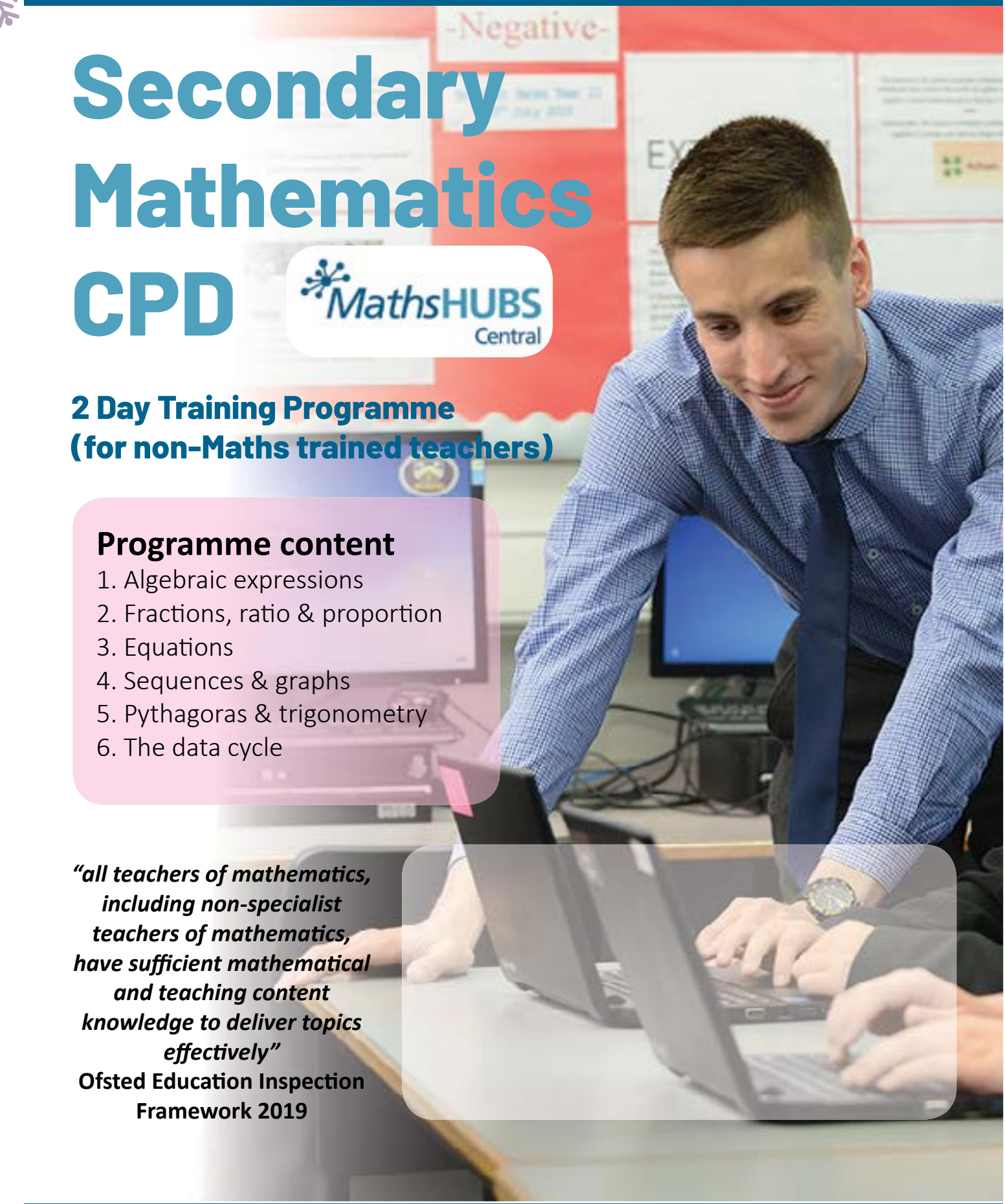
# Secondary Mathematics CPD

MathsHUBS Central

## 2 Day Training Programme (for non-Maths trained teachers)

### Programme content

1. Algebraic expressions
2. Fractions, ratio & proportion
3. Equations
4. Sequences & graphs
5. Pythagoras & trigonometry
6. The data cycle




***"all teachers of mathematics, including non-specialist teachers of mathematics, have sufficient mathematical and teaching content knowledge to deliver topics effectively"***

**Ofsted Education Inspection Framework 2019**

FREE COURSE FREE COURSE FREE COURSE

FREE COURSE FREE COURSE FREE COURSE

# Secondary Mathematics for PE Teachers

MathsHUBS Central

**Shirley Golf Club, B90 4EW, Tuesday 14th January and Wednesday 15th January**
**(lunch and refreshments provided)**

## Our programmes

Join the 1,200 colleagues in our region, who have already chosen our programmes to refresh their knowledge and up-skill, by attending our free workshops and study days.

Our Mathematics programmes aim to increase the confidence of participants by providing a mix of subject knowledge and pedagogical support, whilst also providing access to a wealth of e-learning tasks and online resources.

Participate in school immersion opportunities, build upon your network of key professionals and classroom resources during flexible face-to-face sessions and obtain credits towards Masters qualifications with our partner Universities.

## The Secondary Mathematics Programme

The programme focuses on developing mathematics subject knowledge and effective classroom practice for those new to teaching secondary mathematics.

## Audience

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

- choosing to refresh mathematical subject knowledge to teach (or learn to teach) Key Stage 3, Key Stage 4 Maths up to, and including, some higher tier GCSE content;
- returning after a career break, to refresh and update mathematics subject knowledge and pedagogical practice;
- new to teaching Mathematics, to build confidence to teach Secondary Mathematics.

## Course aims:

- To improve the subject knowledge of participants working with Maths students in Secondary Schools
- To develop better pedagogical understanding of the KS3 and KS4 Mathematics curriculum
- To be aware of appropriate resources available to use and support Mathematics teaching

## The course includes:

- 12 hours of face-to-face support
- Self-paced online learning
- Access to a collection of high quality classroom resources

**For more information please visit:**
**www.centralmathshub.com/pemaths.html**

**Train to teach Mathematics as an additional subject either now, or in the future**

# Helpful approaches for a PDA profile of autism at Christmas

Christmas can be an overwhelming time for autistic people. We've put together some general suggestions of helpful approaches for PDA families & individuals.

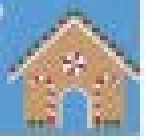
www.pdasociety.org.uk

## Perspective & Preparation

- Try not to let tradition or pressure from others determine your plans
- Redesign Christmas to work for your household
- Plan collaboratively with flexibility for plans to change as needed
- Incorporate lots of downtime and where possible continue usual routines and activities

## Events & Gatherings

- Keep small, short & spaced out
- Make safe spaces & sensory support available
- Agree exit options



## Festivities & Decorations

- Make the most of opportunities when they arise rather than at specific times and accept that some things can't be done

## Gifts

- Make & share a wish list of gift ideas & delivery preferences e.g. stocking not in bedroom* or gifts placed somewhere rather than physically handed over
- Reduce uncertainty & overload e.g. say what gifts are coming, wrap in one parcel/clear cellophane or don't wrap, open gifts at a comfortable pace
- Consider giving one or more gifts early if waiting causes anxiety
- Reduce expectations around saying thank you for gifts

*inform Santa too

## Food

- Put less focus on Christmas dinner
- Offer choice around where, when and what to eat
- Make familiar/preferred foods available

## Traditions

- Traditions can feel like demands
- Creating your own family's routines, Christmas-themed or otherwise and with room for flexibility, can be helpful

## Recognising & Reducing Anxiety

- Be aware of anxiety cues - it may not always 'look like' anxiety
- Sudden emotional changes can occur more frequently when anxiety is high
- Humour, rest & taking a break from Christmas-themed activities can be helpful
- Keep calm & try not to take anything personally
- Be aware of masking and how this affects anxiety later on
- Build in lots of recovery time and personalised regulating/calming activities

© PDA Society 2019

# Other BC News

## 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 (not lycra or stretchy). 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. 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 stud earrings which may be worn by girls.

## Attendance and Punctuality

If your child is absent from school, a notification phone call needs to be made to the school on the first day of the absence and every further day that they are absent too. Upon return to school, a written note needs to be handed in to their form tutor, stating the reason for absence.

Please encourage your child to be at school by 8.30am to instil the important life skill of good punctuality.

The school attendance target is 96%.

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

**MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE**

## Schoolcomms

As you are aware we operate a cashless catering system and Schoolcomms is 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 will only be 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

## Mobile Phones

With most students in school now owning mobile phones for use to and from school, it is important that they are also not a distraction to study. Students found with mobile phones during lessons and around the school will have them confiscated and they will be returned at the discretion of senior staff/Heads of Year. In more persistent cases, phones may only be returned to parents/carers.

## Important Dates

**Year 13 Mocks**
Monday 6th January - Friday 17th January

**Year 9 HPV Injection**
Tuesday 7th January

**UCAS Deadline**
Wednesday 15th January

**Y12 Homeless Performance**
**Y13 Psychology Birmingham Crown Court Visit**
Thursday 16th January

**Canteen Caribbean Day**
Tuesday 21st January

**Year 8 and 9 Ski Trip**
Sunday 26th January - Saturday 1st February

**St Chad's Sanctuary Collections Begin**
Monday 27th January

**Year 9 Lapworth Museum Visit**
Thursday 6th February

**Year 11 Food Practical Exams**
Thursday 6th February-Friday 14th February

**Year 7 Rewards**
Wednesday 12th February]

**Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening, 6-8pm**
**Year 8 Rewards**
Thursday 13th February

**St Chad's Sanctuary Collections End**
**Year 9 Rewards**
Friday 14th February

**Half Term**
Monday 17h February-Friday 21st February

**School Open**
Monday 24th February

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FdSc BSc Arboriculture


# Kings Heath Warriors

Kings Heath Warriors proudly announces U6s & U7s training taking place every Wednesday @ Bishop Challoner Sports Centre

**Starting: Every Wednesday**
**Venue: Bishop Challoner Sports Centre**
**Time: 5.30pm - 6.30pm**

**1st session free, After that £3**

Turn up

Join in

Have Fun

**St Dunstan's Catholic School & Nursery**

Drayton Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7LP

www.stdunstans.bham.sch.uk

*As we grow with God, we learn from each other*

Feeder School for Bishop Challoner Catholic College


## School Fund and Match Fund

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

**FOBC**

FRIENDS OF BISHOP CHALLONER

# JUDO

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

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

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

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

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

Take a pic of this poster on your phone, show it to a coach and get your first session **FREE!**

Bishop Challoner Catholic College
Institute Road, Kings Heath
Birmingham B14 7EG

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

# JU-JITSU

## Tuesdays and Thursdays

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

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

Take a pic of this poster on your phone, show it to a coach and get your first session **FREE!**

All Coaches are National governing body certified and DBS checked.

Phil Hudson - 5th Dan Ju Jitsu BJJA *** 5th Dan Judo BJA ***
Paul Bishop 4th Dan Ju Jitsu BJJA ***
Richard Doughty 3rd Dan Ju Jitsu BJJA.

Contact: Richard
07849106680

Bishop Challoner Catholic College | Institute Road | Kings Heath | Birmingham B14 7EG

# GAA #SUPER#MACS

## Sean McDermott's wants you!

Warwickshire's most successful GAA Club.
New players welcome throughout the season.
Plenty of social activities.
Help and advice with relocation, work and accommodation.
Sean McDermotts can offer you fun, craic and GAA!

**Interested?** CALL OR TEXT KEITH ON 07812 251 699

**Or Follow / Message Us:**

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Sean McDermotts GAA
@seanmcdermotts1
Seanmcdermottsgaa
seanmcdermotts.co.uk

**UNDERAGE - MENS - LADIES - FOOTBALL**

# GIRL'S FOOTBALL

To register for girls football contact:
Strike9tcic@gmail.com

## RECRUITING

Building teams for all age groups,
contact us for more information

## DEVELOPING

AGED 5 - 11

Wildcats Session Indoors every Tuesday 5 - 6pm / Saturday 12 - 1pm

inspiring girls of all ages to enjoy football. Wildcats provide girls aged
5 - 11 with regular opportunities to play football in a fun and engaging environment

## TRAINING

AGED 11 - 16

**Join us every Tuesday from 5-7pm all ages + abilities welcome**
Thursday night open age session 7 - 8pm

All Sessions held at:
Moseley School Springfield Road
B13 9NP

STRIKE 9 TRAINING

# Would you consider sponsoring our termly Newsletters?

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

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

# Moseley Rugby Club

**Rugby Camp**

February half term 2020

Ran by Moseley player and community coaches

Ages 5 — 15

Tuesday —Thursday 9:00am—3:00pm

**6 Nations themed tag rugby festival run with Bishop Challoner (year 5 & 6)**

Each school will be assigned an international team.

6 Nations quiz, coaching session and finally tag rugby festival

# Pilates and Relaxation Class

Wednesdays 9.30-10.30am

Fridays 5.30-6.30pm

at The Hub, Hazelwell, King's Heath,B14 7NH

£6 per class

Just bring a mat

Suitable for any age or ability

**For more information or to book a place contact Kate Paine**
**07975 634440**
**email: katepaine1973@gmail.com**

**Look forward to seeing you there!**

# Advertising with Bishop Challoner

No need to pay the High Street prices for billboard advertising. You could advertise to 2000 people a day through Bishop Challoner for a fraction of the price.

We are delighted to offer advertising space in our community areas, including our sports hall, function room and gym.

This opportunity is available for £30 per month. Please contact G.Noone on 0121 4444161 or email: g.noone@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk

# Facilities Hire for Parties and Events

**For more info call Laura on 0121 441 6103**

Sports Hall:

Dojo:

Meeting Room:

MathsHUBS Central

Teach Computing

# Keep in Touch

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

LAUS DEO