



BISHOP CHALLONER CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Year 8 May Half Term Newsletter 2019



Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to take this opportunity to say what a pleasure it has been to take on the role of Head of Year 8 and would like to officially introduce Mrs Brown as Assistant Head of Year. Year 8 showed great dedication to their T1 assessments and this was reflected in their results. This half term has seen the introduction of Mr McEvoy's Mega Mix whereby students can earn raffle tickets for some amazing prizes. Year 8 have shown their competitive spirit and have embraced the challenge using their hard work, helpfulness and extra-curricular activities to be entered into the raffle.

Internet Safety

Year 8 have recently had an assembly on the importance of Internet Safety as it is an issue that many of them face on a daily basis. The internet is essential in 21st century life for education, business and social interaction. As children move up through the school their access to various types of technology increases and it stands to reason that their exploration and curiosity increases too. Smart Phones and Tablets are a great way for our students to engage with the curriculum and learning outside of the classroom and also provides them with the opportunity to experience modern technology used throughout the world. The positives of the digital world overwhelmingly outweigh the negatives but children, schools and parents all need to be aware of various risks online. Together we will help our students to make positive choices online. For more information and advice regarding Internet Safety, please visit:

<https://www.bishopchalloner.org.uk/catholic-college/about/internet-safety>.

Extra-curricular

Year 8 have continued to demonstrate their amazing commitment to sport and extracurricular activities and I would like to use this opportunity to highlight a few successes this term.

Football

The Year 8 Football team have done themselves and the school extremely proud this year. They have managed to reach two out of two finals the Birmingham Cup and Birmingham League. They have represented the school brilliantly from the start to the end of the academic year.

Football Development Tour, Milan

Additional football success for Year 8 has come from the trip to Milan (Inter) from Saturday 11th May to Wednesday 15th May. All 32 students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and it's clear that they learnt an awful lot about Italy/Milan and about the Football philosophy at Inter Milan FC. I'd like to commend all 32 students on their hard work and effort levels at training and within matches and their excellent behaviour throughout the tour.



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Girls' Football

Year 8 girls have also demonstrated their incredible football skill, playing two fixtures against Archbishop Illsely and Bartley Green School. The team won both games and as it stands they are top of the league. Well done to all involved!

PGL Netball Tour

A huge congratulations to our Year 8 girls who joined Year 7 and Year 9 on the netball PGL trip over the bank holiday weekend. The girls were fantastic and came away with two silver medals from the weekend.



Squash

I would also like to commend Tyler H who continues to train and play at a high level at squash, representing Warwickshire. This is a fantastic achievement.

Battle of the Bands

This term Mr Tsintas organised a Battle of the Bands concert in support of our whole school charity, the event was a huge success and our talented Year 8 musicians put on a fantastic performance. A big congratulations to: Tom Colleran, Gabriel Hickey, Aiden Irving, Victor Zeledon and Finnian Thompson.

Salters Festival of Chemistry

Four year 8 students attended the Salters Festival of Chemistry at the University of Birmingham in April. They enjoyed a day of using their new science labs completing two chemistry challenges, the Salters challenge and the University challenge. They participated excellently in both, gaining good experience of techniques they use throughout KS3 and KS4. The students thoroughly enjoyed the day and enjoyed using the lab as the university.



Junior Maths Challenge

At the end of April, students in 8X1 maths sat the "Junior Maths Challenge". This is run by the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT) and is designed to test students with challenging mathematical problems. Our students did really well, and we are delighted to congratulate the following students on their achievements: Joshua H, Roman W, Jericho S, Ruby R, William O'S and Cormac O'B on their silver certificates; a very excellent achievement. Congratulations also to Kaliyah B S, Jake P, Gabriel H, Henry F, Shayne D, Josephine P, Lucy B, Jack B and Isobel M on their bronze certificates.

Whole School Charity: The British Heart Foundation

Throughout the first half of the term Year 8 have been coming up with ideas for how their form is going to support our whole school charity, The British Heart Foundation. Some of the activities suggested so far include: a "who can run the fastest mile", basketball shootout and a dance off competition. Year 8 have shown great enthusiasm for organising these events and it will be a great way to end the Summer Term.

Schoolcomms

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

Uniform and Appearance

Students are required to wear the standard uniform of blazer, tie, white/blue shirt with black straight leg school trousers (not skinny or boot cut) or girls can wear a knee length black school skirt. Girls are also reminded that if they choose to wear a skirt, then they should wear plain, black, opaque tights. Students are reminded that black leather school shoes should be worn and that trainers/trainer style shoes are forbidden.

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

In order to complement the smart school uniform we insist that students' hair is smart in appearance and that students do not have shaved/razored hair styles or lines/patterns shaved into the hair. Extreme changes of hair colour are also not permitted. The final decision as to whether a particular haircut/style is appropriate is at the discretion of senior staff.

Make up, nail varnish and jewellery are not permitted with the exception of one pair of plain gold stud earrings which may be worn by girls.

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

Mobile Phones/Smart Watches

Mobile phones and smart watches are not allowed to be used in school. Students are only permitted to use their mobile phone or smart watch from 3.10pm onwards once on the playground/exit gates. Students found with a mobile phone/smart watch during lessons and around the school will have them confiscated and they will be returned at the discretion of senior staff/Heads of Year. In more persistent cases, phones may only be returned to parents/carers.

Attendance and Punctuality

Year 8- 96%

Whole school- 95%

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

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

Yours faithfully,

Miss Dawson
Head of Year 8

Mrs Brown
Assistant Head of Year 8

Key Dates

Monday 3rd June-

Tuesday 4th June-

Friday 7th June-

Saturday 15th June-Sunday 23rd June-

Tuesday 18th June-

Monday 24th June-Friday 28th June-

Monday 1st July-

Wednesday 3rd July-

Friday 5th July-

Monday 8th July-

Monday 8th July-Friday 12th July-

Thursday 11th July-

Friday 12th July-

Monday 15th July-

Tuesday 16th July-

Wednesday 17th July-

Friday 19th July-

Monday 22nd July-

School Open

Canteen- Allergen Awareness Day

Computing Year 8 and 9 Bletchley Park Trip

KS3/4 Ball Crew

Canteen- Teenage Cancer Trust

Year 8 French Trip

Sports Day

School Closed for Year 8 Only

Year 6 Induction Day 1

School Closed-Inset Day

St Chad's Sanctuary Begins

KS3 & KS4 Character Week

Drayton Manor

School Closed

Year 7, 9 and 10 Parent Consultation Day

Year 8 Retreat Day and Mass

KS3 and KS4 Student Voice

Year 7 and 8 Sponsored Football

Awards Assemblies

Whole School End of Year Mass

School Closed- Inset Day



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

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