

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College

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Phenomenal success for the sublime and exceptionally fine GCSE students at St Bede's

Students at all levels secured grades matching their greatest expectations and in many cases, exceeding target in the GCSE examinations this summer. Results of the most talented students were exceptionally strong with some stunning A*A performances including 80% pupils achieving A*A in Additional Mathematics and 61% either A* or A grade in Music.

Headline figures include:

- 90% achieved at least 5A*-C (Level 4) grades
- 80% achieved Level 4+ in both English and Mathematics
- 31% of all grades at A*/A (9, 8, 7)
- 82% of all grades at C+
- 54% grades at B+

Distinctive A Star Performers – A^

Three students, **Matthew Ball**, **Peter Savery** and **Joseph Alexander** were successful in getting the top grade of A^ which is A* Distinction, in Additional Mathematics.

Best boy in college award this year goes to **Peter Savery** who achieved **1A^, 8A* and three 9 grades** (696 points) and best girl to **Kundai Vurayayi** who achieved one grade **9, 9A*, one 8 grade, one grade 6 and a Merit** (672 points)!

Twenty-one students achieved at least 10A*/A or equivalent grades including **Peter Savery (12), Joe Holbrook (12), Ruggerio Di Lecce (12), Matthew Ball (11), Ann Rose Biju (11), Samuel Brady (11), Daniel Long (11), Vanessa Diaba (11), Stephanie Palmer (11), Benjamin Stevens (11), Florence Brown (10), Jack Burns (10), Katherine Cleary (10), Elizabeth Goodwin (10), Kiara Long (10), Dominic Robbins (10), Wiktorija Szymanska (10), Lander Taturan (10), Jansen Roy (10), Kundai Vurayayi (10) and Katie Dunne (10).**

In this climate of change and challenge, students of all abilities have achieved great grades. Staff share the joy of these young people and look forward to working with significant numbers of them this year within Areté, our Sixth Form.

A Level Results in Areté 2017

Having recently established A Level provision in Areté, St Bede's has quickly positioned itself to be amongst the best in the city. Some 54 students completed their study with us and they are now celebrating the following successes.

| | | | |
|----------|------|---------------|-----|
| A*, A, B | 58% | A* /A | 25% |
| A* - E | 100% | C+ | 82% |
| 2 A* - E | 98% | 2 A* - B | 59% |
| 1 A* - B | 70% | Average Grade | B- |

91% of the students are planning to go on to higher education and of these 93% have today secured places and 51% have confirmed places at prestigious Russell Group institutions.

84% of those who studied the academically challenging EPQ achieved at least a B grade, with **56% achieving A*/A.**

Achieving straight A*/ A grades were:

Sophie Stretch, A* A* A, one of our **Bristol Scholars**, goes to the **University of Bristol** to study **Medicine**.

Abigail Gordon with A* A A as well as **A** in the **EPQ** will study **Biochemistry** at the **University of Exeter**.

Andrew Nelson with A* A A has been accepted at the **University of Birmingham** to study **Economics**.

Sean Moss has been accepted at the **University of Birmingham** to study **Law** with his **A A A** and **A*** in **EPQ**.

Another **Bristol scholar, Laura Odemwingie**, with **A A B** has also secured her place at **University of Bristol** to study **Biochemistry**.

As we start our new year we are pleased to see Areté almost full to capacity.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

18th September

Year 7 Retreat Day

28th September

OPEN EVENING

6.30PM

FIRST AID NOTICE

Many of our new pupils have inhalers and/or Epipens. It is advisable that parents provide the college with a spare. Inhalers will be kept in Reception for pupil use and Epipens are kept in the medical room.

SPORTS FIXTURES

All sports fixtures will be in place, once confirmed, on the fixture calendar which can be accessed on our website

www.stbedesc.org

These will be updated regularly, so please do check.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is my pleasure to welcome to our community all families who are new to the college. As the newly appointed Principal, it is my privilege to serve the families of Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire. We very much believe in the partnership between home, college and parish and look forward to developing a good working relationship with you during the years ahead to ensure that your child is successful in all that they do here at college. It promises to be a very exciting year with many new developments and we look forward to it with enthusiasm and confidence. I hope to meet with many of you over the next few months and to sharing the continued success of the students at the college.



Mr J. G Maher

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

New staff joining us this year include:

Miss H Adams — English and Drama

Dr R Beattie—Head of Chemistry

Miss I Chinn—Music

Mr L Coulson—Geography

Mr S Gibbs —History

Miss A Gordon—Science Technician

Father K Hennessey—College Chaplain

Mrs E Holister—Art and Design

Mr W Kane—Science Technician

Mr J Maszuchin—Mathematics

Mr O Poole—Music

Miss L Simpson—English and Drama

Mr M Van de Poll—Religious Formation

Miss L Wade—Sports Development Officer

We hope that each new member of staff will be happy at St Bede's and will play their part in helping the College develop the very best of our practice so that St Bede's remains a great place of learning, one that is built to last.

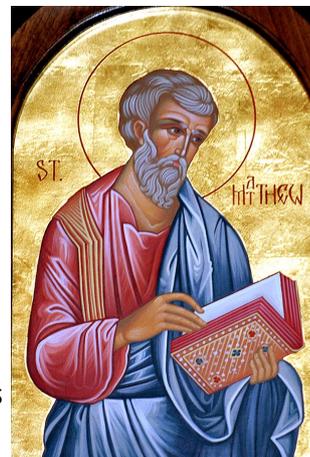
REFLECTION— Feast of Saint Matthew - 21st September

There is little known to us about Saint Matthew, other than the fact that he was a tax collector until he was called by Jesus. People were surprised to see Jesus with Matthew, but Jesus explained that he had come "not to call the just, but sinners."

Matthew is thought to be the first to write down the Lord's teachings and accounts of his life, which is why he is the first Gospel in the New Testament.

Reflection: "The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

Prayer: God of mercy, you chose a tax collector, Saint Matthew, as one of your disciples. By his example and prayers help us to follow Christ and remain faithful in your service. Amen.



GREAT START FOR YEAR 7

Year 7 all deserve a good rest this weekend after a very busy and exciting two weeks. I am extremely proud of how quickly they have settled into St Bede's and of the glowing reports I have had about each class, from their new tutors and teachers.

I would like to introduce the new tutors: **Miss Murray, Mr Coulson, Mr Poole, Mrs Holister, Miss Chinn, Mr Maszuchin** and **Mrs McCauley**.

I am looking forward to getting the year group better acquainted with their Year 10 mentors over the next few weeks. The mentors will be working closely with their groups supporting our new pupils.

Well done for a fantastic start and keep up the good work!

Mrs R. Carmichael, Head of Year 7

SENIOR PREFECT TEAM 2017-2018

Congratulations to the following Year 11 pupils who following interview, were selected as Senior Prefects within the college.

Head Boy—**Finley Norton**
Head Girl—**Molly Cummings**
Deputy Head Boy—**Cody O'Callaghan**
Deputy Head Girl—**Shanz Sharonthensil**
Assistant Head Boy—**Eniola Olorode-Owoeye**
Assistant Head Girl—**Gabrielle Forster**

Senior Prefects:

Louis Riggs, Stamatis Lomvardos, Shems Preisner
Robyn Obee, Oliwia Kowalska and **Bethany Herniman**



MENSA

Ten of our students have been invited to become members of Mensa, the well known "High IQ Society". After a recent test, the students, from Year 10 were awarded IQs of between 148 and 161, putting them in the top 2% of the population. The average IQ score is 100. This is obviously a phenomenal accomplishment and we are very proud of their achievements.

Our Congratulations to:

John Gompels, Connal Heath, Isabel Romero, Joss Carr, Rachel O'Hagan, Molly Dolan, Jeffymol Joseph, Annie Rogers, Anna-Claire Lux and **Ana Parish**.

We now have 29 pupils who have been invited to be Mensa members.



CITY LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

Jessica Crabtree, Year 13 student within Areté, recently gained a coveted place on the **City Leadership Programme** run by **Mayor Rees**. Jessica shares her experience:

"During the City Leadership Programme, the other candidates and I were introduced to many esteemed leaders, in various industries, all of whom had thrived and succeeded in the face of adversity. Throughout the two-week programme, these leaders gave seminars on how they had overcome the aforementioned adversity, each touching upon different aspects of what it means to be a good leader. For example: these included diversity, aspirations and authenticity. In addition to these lectures, there were opportunities - at the beginning of every session - for group coaching and skill building activities, all of which were tailored towards the specific topic of the particular day, whilst allowing us the experience of moulding ourselves into our own individual leaders. Towards the end of each day, a distinguished speaker, from differing professions, would join us for dinner and then deliver a speech about how they had achieved their success, what they had to overcome, and how they are constantly trying to better themselves with the skills they had acquired. This gave us the chance to ask questions that would have otherwise been impossible, given the professionalism of the guests. These people included **Norman Pascal**, former Chief Inspector at Avon and Somerset Police and **Kerry McCarthy**, MP for Bristol East. Each speaker had their own individual story, and this cemented the concept that leadership can originate from anywhere, or any background. On the last day of the two weeks, we all had to write and perform a speech, at a completion dinner, in front of many of the previous distinguished speakers and the **Mayor of Bristol, Marvin Rees**. This speech signified what we had learned throughout the programme, and what parts particularly resonated with us on a personal level. It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience."



MUSIC LESSONS

Peripatetic music lessons start next week. The timetables are displayed on the noticeboard outside C29. If any pupils wish to have instrumental or voice lessons, please collect a letter from the Music Department.



OLD COINS

Please note: as of 29th September 2017, we are unable to accept any of the old round pound coins.



GRADUATION SUCCESS

We were delighted last week to hear of the following success of our former pupils. Congratulations to:



Rebecca Pring (2006-2011)
Upper Second Class Honours in Fine Art
University of West of England



Marcus White (2006-2011)
Masters in Physics
University College London

We love to hear of the successes of our past pupils and would be pleased to receive Graduation photographs for our Alumni Wall of Fame.

READING CHALLENGE

Well done to all our pupils who took part in the library reading challenge over the summer holiday - we have enjoyed hearing about your favourite reads!

Please return any overdue library books as soon as possible.

During term time the library is open **after school Mondays to Thursdays until 4.30pm** and pupils are most welcome to study and choose books.



ADMISSIONS 2017

If you wish to apply for a Year 7 place for September 2018 Supplementary Information Forms should arrive in College by **31st October 2017**.

Parents must also have submitted the Common Application Form to their Local Authority by 31st October 2017.

OPEN EVENING SEPTEMBER 2017

We welcome all Year 5 and 6 pupils and their parents to St Bede's Catholic College

Open Evening
on
Thursday, 28th September
at **6.30pm**

SCIENCE CLUB

At St. Bede's this year we have three Science clubs that students can join:

Year 7 pupils can join the **Science Badge Club** on Tuesday lunchtimes in B4 with Mrs Liew. Every term they will complete a range of activities and practicals that will earn them a different badge. Will anyone gain all six this year?

Year 8 and 9 pupils can work towards their **Bronze CREST award** on Wednesday lunchtimes in B3 with Miss Bassett. CREST Bronze Awards are well regarded, high quality and a tangible recognition of success. Pupils can work individually or in pairs and they can come up with their own ideas for a project to investigate. The award will take around 10 hours to complete.

Year 12 students can work towards their **Gold CREST award** on Wednesdays during period 5 & 6 in B2 with Mrs Powers. This is an opportunity for students to conduct real research. Gold CREST is a longer-term project that will require around 70 hours' work. At Gold level, students choose an area of study and work with a mentor to complete their research. Students can use CREST to enhance their UCAS personal statement - they are well regarded, high quality and a tangible recognition of success. Students can also mention their Award in their personal statement on job applications and in interviews. There will be an introduction session on Wednesday 20th September in B2 during period 5. Any pupil can turn up to any of these sessions to join in. If any **Year 10 and 11** pupils are interested in completing a CREST project; please encourage them to see Mrs Powers.

For more information about CREST projects go to: <http://www.crestawards.org/>

We have a wide range of extra curricular activities taking place during lunchtime and after school. A timetable will be issued to pupils soon and a copy will also be available on our college website: www.stbedesc.org.



A British Science Association programme

TERM DATES FOR 2017-2018

Term 1:

Monday 4th September 2017 to Friday 20th October 2017

Term 2:

Monday 30th October 2017 to Wednesday 20th December 2017

Term 3:

Wednesday 3rd January 2018 to Friday 9th February 2018

Term 4:

Monday 19th February 2018 to Friday 23rd March 2018

Term 5:

Monday 9th April 2018 to Friday 25th May 2018

Term 6:

Monday 4th June 2018 to Friday 20th July 2018

In service Days

**Monday 4th September 2017, Friday 8th December 2017, Friday 9th February 2018,
Friday 27th April 2018 and Friday 20th July 2018**

GIRLGUIDING TRIP TO SWITZERLAND

During the summer holidays, pupils and members of staff from St. Bede's were lucky enough to visit Switzerland as part of a Bristol West Girlguiding trip. During the week we visited the Girlguiding World Centre and went to the top of Jungfrau (around 13,000ft!) where **Mrs Mounter** gained her leadership qualification and made her promise during a snowstorm! The week was packed full of fun activities, so everyone was glad to experience the 24 hour return journey to catch up on some sleep before arriving back in Bristol!



SPORTS NEWS—FOOTBALL

Year 7 Boys Football Trials will take place at lunchtime on **Tuesday, 19th September**.



Next **Thursday, 21st September**, **Year 10** are playing in the **National Cup** against **Priory School in Weston**. We look forward to sharing the result in our next newsletter.

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT POLITE REMINDER TO ALL PARENTS

As we start the academic year we would like to remind all parents to park with due care and consideration for the local community, particularly on Lawrence Weston Road. Parents are requested to avoid parking in the bus bays and at adjoining junctions or in front of driveways at the beginning and end of the day. The children have been reminded this week about the importance of using the designated crossing points on the Long Cross and Lawrence Weston Road.

MUSIC NEWS

We have had a great start to the term in the Music department. Our extra curricular programme started this week and it was wonderful to see lots of new faces at our Junior choir rehearsal. If you are a year 7, 8 or 9 pupil please do come along every Monday at 1.30pm.

Senior choir will start again next Wednesday and on Thursday, Band rehearsals will commence. Please remember to bring in your instruments.

Our Music noticeboard is updated frequently and we ask that all pupils check regularly for further activities.

ADVANCE NOTICE The Great St Bede's Bake Off

We are pleased to announce that The Great St Bede's Bake off will be back again this year.

The staff will show off their baking skills on 16th October and pupils are welcome to bring in their creative masterpieces on 20th October. Who will be crowned this years Great St Bede's Bake Off winner? We can't wait to find out!

WISE WORDS

*Education is not the filling
of a pail,
but the lighting of a fire.*

W.B.Yeats