

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College

Issue 251 9th February 2018



T: 0117 377 2200 E: contact@stbedesc.org W: www.stbedesc.org Tw: @STB_Bristol

FLYING START COMPETITION REGIONAL FINALS

Five teams from St. Bede's attended the Flying Start Competition Regional Finals on Tuesday 6th February. The Regional Finals took place at Aerospace Bristol, a new industrial heritage museum and learning centre at Filton. The museum tells the story of Bristol's world class aerospace industry – past, present and future and houses the famous Concorde aircraft.

Prior to the Regional Finals, the teams had to build a glider to a budget and create a poster about their design process and the physics of flight.

Each team presented their glider and poster to a judging panel of professional engineers, then the gliders took part in a 'fly-off' where teams scored more points if their glider went straight and far, finishing with a quiz about flight and engineering.

All the St. Bede's teams performed brilliantly with one team coming **2nd overall** out of **20 teams!** The team will now attend the **National Final 'Fly-off'** in March at the Fleet Air Arm Museum in Yeovilton.

A further team gained a place at the **National Finals** to participate in other engineering competitions during that day. Thank you to our Airbus mentor engineers and all the Flying Start sponsors for a great competition so far.

Well done to **Olivia, Enya, Minat, Samantha, Sophie, Flynn, Pedro and Joanna.**



REFLECTION—Ash Wednesday - 14th February

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, 40 days of fasting in the run up to Easter. Lent is a season of fasting and prayer as we prepare for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

When we attend Mass on this day, we receive ashes in the shape of a cross on our foreheads. They are a visible sign of us saying we are sorry for our sins and want to try harder to be more like Christ. The ashes we receive are made from blessed palm branches from the previous year's palm Sunday Mass.

Reflection: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Prayer: Lord, as we begin this season of reflection, we remember Jesus' time in the desert, as he resisted all temptations. As we acknowledge our sins, we ask you to guide us through times of difficulty. Amen.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

19th February
START OF TERM 4
Week A

Week of
Year 7 Exams

23rd February
Lenten Fast Day

25th February
Duke of Edinburgh
Silver training

28th February
Year 11
Exam preparation
and Meet the
Professionals
6.00pm—7.30pm

1st March
Feast of St. David
World Book Day

Year 7
Parents' Evening
4.30pm—7.30pm

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!

Our twitter account is updated regularly so that we can celebrate the skills, talents and successes of our students at St. Bede's.



Please follow us:
[@STB_Bristol](https://twitter.com/STB_Bristol)



St. Bede's Catholic College recognised as an Investor in People

St Bede's Catholic College has been awarded accreditation against the Investors in People Standard, demonstrating their commitment to high performance through good people management.

Investors in People is the international standard for people management, defining what it takes to lead, support and manage people effectively to achieve sustainable results. Underpinning the Standard is the Investors in People framework, reflecting the latest workplace trends, essential skills and effective structures required to perform well in any industry. Investors in People enables organisations to benchmark against the best in the business on an international scale.

Paul Devoy, Head of Investors in People, said: "We'd like to congratulate St Bede's Catholic College. Investors in People accreditation is the sign of a great employer, a well performing place to work and a clear commitment to success. St Bede's should be extremely proud of their achievement."

Commenting on the award, Mr Maher said: "This award is testament to the dedication and hard work of all the staff at St Bede's and our commitment to provide the best educational experience for all the students at the college."

For more information about Investors in People please visit www.investorsinpeople.com

St. Bede's pupils invited to speak at the Bristol Supporting Child Safety On-line Conference 2018

Congratulations to Year 10 pupils, **Rachel O'Hagan** and **Isabel Romero** who were invited to attend the Bristol schools on-line conference as guest speakers. The girls presented the opportunities, issues and challenges that face young people when using social media. This refreshing insight, peppered with useful tips on how to manage screen time was received with great enthusiasm by an audience of over 300 school leaders and teachers. As a result, Rachel and Isobel have been inundated with requests to appear at other events across the city, starting with a workshop at St. Bonaventure's Catholic Primary School this month.

Congratulations to these pupils who are fantastic ambassadors for our college. Thanks go to the English faculty for preparing the children so well for this public speaking event. A full transcript of the excellent presentation will be shared with schools by the event organiser, Bristol City Council – Safeguarding in Education Team.



SUCCESS AT ST. BEDE'S

The fantastic exam results from summer 2017 have now been officially rewarded by the recent publication of the school performance tables.

For last year's Year 11 students, the college was ranked third in Bristol for attainment, with students achieving an average grade of 5.5, which would be an old B grade. St Bede's was ranked fifth for progress, with a Progress 8 score of 0.22. This means on average students achieved nearly a quarter of a grade above what would be expected – a fantastic achievement!

This is all the result of the hard work of the staff, students and families – thank you all for your continued support and we look forward to even greater success this year!

VALENTINE ROSES FOR CHARITY

10DPB have been selling Valentine's roses for the college charities this week, taking orders and writing personalised messages.

Yesterday pupils busily wrapped and prepared the roses and acted as cupid ensuring each rose was delivered.

10DPB have worked extremely hard by giving up their break and lunch times to make this happen. Thank you for your efforts and to everyone that supported the charities by buying the roses.



SCRATCH ORCHESTRA AND CHORUS

On Sunday 28th January, pupils and staff took part in a Scratch Orchestra and Chorus at the Colston Hall.

Our instrumentalists and singers joined over 500 other musicians to learn new pieces of music throughout the day before taking part in a concert in the evening. The event was organised by the conductor David Pitts and raised around £4000 for Cancer Research. A very enjoyable day was had by all.



UNIFORM

In order to maintain our high standards of uniform, we have this week sent an email to all parents regarding our college uniform policy.

Full uniform checks, including footwear, haircuts/styles and piercings, will take place by your child's tutor and Head of House at the beginning of Term 4.

Our college uniform shop is open each Friday from 9.00am—1.00pm, alternatively a college uniform order form can be collected at Reception for any items to be replaced.

May we thank you for your continued support in maintaining our standards by ensuring your children attend college in the correct uniform.

SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to St. Bede's boys senior and junior Basketball teams who are through to the **Bristol finals!** Both teams played against St. Mary Redcliffe in the semi final and came away with convincing victories. Congratulations and good luck in the finals!

STEVEN CAMDEN VISIT

'Don't just wait for an amazing idea. Throw out ideas no matter how messy they seem and work through them until you find something! If you're lucky, you'll find something interesting, and that's when the real work starts. Give your characters feelings - how would they react if they walked into a lamppost? Would they apologise?'

This was the advice to students from author and storyteller Steven Camden as we welcomed him to St Bede's on Tuesday 6th February. Through his use of storytelling, Steven delivered interactive and entertaining workshops throughout the day to over 350 students. He inspired students to create interesting and real characters and develop narrative on the spot. Year 11 pupil **Athea Watson** said: *"I found the whole experience very inspiring. I enjoy writing poems, stories and songs based on my beliefs and Steven stressed how important it was to continue to write about our emotions. He told us that getting into the industry of writing is hard, as ideas can be stolen but we are not to let that hold us back because if you try hard enough, you will succeed."*

Steven, thank you for an inspirational day.



SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

Safer Internet Day 2018

This week at the college, pupils have been engaged in a number of activities to remind them of how to stay safe on-line. Here is a sample of one of the topics covered;

Managing your time online

According to Ofcom's annual Media Use and Attitudes Report, in 2017 young people between the ages of 11-15 spent on average 20 hours and 48 minutes online each week. This time could be spent doing anything from entertainment, to finding things out or communicating with others. However, we all have our own triggers to tell us when we have spent too long online. These might be physical things happening to our bodies like headaches or sore backs, changes to our moods or even noticeable changes to the device itself like reduced battery or overheating.

Top Tips

You could – set time limits, speak to someone, take regular breaks etc.

Your device could – be charged downstairs, avoid using devices at mealtimes, use night time modes and settings where available. Read more here:

<https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT207570> and www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2018