

St. Bede's Catholic College



Specialist Science and Sports College

Issue 221 9th September 2016 T: 0117 377 2200 E: contact@stbedesccl.org W: www.stbedesccl.org

GCSEs 2016

Another exceptional year for students at St Bede's Catholic College

Students at all levels secured grades matching their greatest expectations and in many cases, exceeding target. Results of the most talented students were exceptionally strong with some stunning A*A performances including 54% pupils achieving A*A in **Additional Mathematics** and 52% either A* or A grade in **Spanish**.

Headline figures include:

- ♦ **81% achieved at least 5A*-C grades**
- ♦ **80% of all grades at C+ including: Additional Mathematics 92%, Mathematics 77%, Food 93%, Music 90%, English 88%, ICT 88%, Physics 97%, Biology 92%, Chemistry 89%, Spanish 100%, Art 93%, Resistant Materials 86%, Religious Formation 83%, French 83%, PE 83%, History 81%**
- ♦ **73% achieved C+ in both English and Mathematics**

Distinctive A Star Performers – A^

Some outstanding results were achieved by the most talented with **27% of all grades at A*A**.

Three students, **Eva Clothier**, **Arnold Gomes** and **Davis John** were successful in getting the new top grade of **A^** which is **A* Distinction**, in **Additional Mathematics**.

Three students achieved at least **10A*** grades including **Davis John 11A***, **Harriet Selway 10A*** and **Isabella Redmond 10A***.

A further **16 students** between them shared **174 A*A grades** including:

Julia Dyba (12), **Eva Clothier (12)**, **Abin Varghese (12)**, **Arnold Gomes (11)**, **Marika Niekowal (11)**, **Katie Whitfield (11)**, **Harriet Ellison (11)**, **Maria Fraser (11)**, **Amy McMahon (11)**, **Meggie Burden (10)**, **Charlotte Norris (10)**, **Nelly Bilyachenko (10)**, **Niamh Davies (10)**, **Maeve Johnston (10)**, **Nikrad Nassiri (10)** and **Amber Williams (10)**.

In a climate of higher goal posts for C grades in a number of subjects, students of all abilities have achieved great grades, many having overcome significant health and emotional obstacles en route. Staff share the joy of these young people and look forward to working with significant numbers of them next year within 'Areté', our Sixth Form.

A Level Results in Arété 2016

Having established A Level provision only three years ago Arété at St Bede's has quickly positioned itself to be amongst the best in the city. Some 55 students completed their study with us and they are now celebrating the following successes.

2 A* - E	98%
3 A* - E	91%
1 A* - B	64%
2 A* - B	44%

We are pleased to report 95.2% of all grades at E or above and 72% at C+.

92% of those who studied the academically challenging EPQ achieved at least a B grade, with 62% achieving A*/A.

The overall average grade for students was C+ with some stunning individual performances.

Achieving straight A*/ A grades were:

Stephanie Bell Young, **Carys Greenaway**, **Abigail Mounter**, **Megan O'Brien** and **Alex Selway**.

Carys is our very first student to be accepted at Oxford, where she will commence her study of Law in September. "I am absolutely elated to be going to Oxford," said Carys, aged 18, from Bradley Stoke. "I've wanted to be a barrister since I started secondary school and now I can achieve my dream."

Alex will study International Relations and History at The London School of Economics. **Abigail** has been accepted at University of Bristol to study Theology and Religious Studies. **Stephanie** goes to the University of Nottingham to study Veterinary Science and **Megan O'Brien** is taking a gap year before commencing university study.

We wish all those leaving success in future study and happiness in life.

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

15th September 2016
Year 11 Post 16
Information Evening
6.30pm

22nd September 2016
OPEN EVENING
for prospective
Year 5 and Year 6
Pupils and Parents
6.30pm

EQUESTRIAN TEAM

With the success of last year's team, St Bede's Riding Team will be starting again this year. If you have your own horse with transportation and would like to represent the school in a wide variety of riding events please see Miss Bassett.

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.

We very much value and depend upon your support and look towards developing a good working relationship with you during the years ahead. As we start another year, we look forward to it with **hope, enthusiasm and confidence.**

C. Hughes

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

New staff joining us this year include:

Dr K Ford—Science (Maternity)

Mrs T Garton – LSA/Science Technician

Mr P Goodman—Assistant Principal/Mathematics

Mr J Leonard-Hammerman—Design, Technology, Art and Music Technician

Miss A Mounter—Lay Chaplain Intern

Ms S Murray—English

Miss R Povall—Science

Mr B Thompson—Music

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.

GREAT START FOR YEAR 7

Year 7 all deserve a good rest this weekend after a very busy and exciting week. 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: **Mr Hunt, Miss Povall, Mr Crockett, Ms Sanders, Mr Dunn, Mrs Liew and Mrs Cannon.***

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

Well done for a fantastic start to your time here at St Bede's and now keep up the good work.

Mrs Carmichael, Head of Year 7

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 22nd September 2016 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Parents and children from year 5 and year 6 are welcome to attend our

Open Evening on Thursday 22nd September.

Information will be provided by Ms Hughes Principal, and visitors may tour the College and collect our Prospectus. **Additional Information forms must arrive in College by 31st October 2016.**

Parents must also have submitted the Common Application Form to their

Local Authority by 31st October 2016.

MENSA

Six of our students have been invited to become members of Mensa, the well known "High IQ Society". After a recent test, the students, from Years 10 and 11 were awarded IQs of between 148 and 162, 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:

Liam Gormley, Michael Gowie, Hal Hewlett, Olivia Makulec, Joseph Sharman and Ethan Woolley.



We now have 19 pupils who have been invited to be Mensa members.

GRADUATION SUCCESS

We were delighted this week to hear of the following successes of our former pupils:

- ♦ **Adrianne Reid (1998-2003)**
PhD in Educational Psychology
- ♦ **Kathryn Hayward (2005-2010)**
Upper Second Class Honours in Law and French Law
- ♦ **Jordan Byrne-Young (2006-2011)**
Upper Second Class Honours in Sports Studies
- ♦ **Richard Sampson (2006-2011)**
Upper Second Class Honours in Law

We are now awaiting their Graduation photograph for our Alumni Wall of Fame.

We love to hear of the successes of our past pupils. Please do share with us.

PERIPATETIC MUSIC LESSONS

Peripatetic Music lessons will resume the week commencing 19th September.

Timetables will be displayed on the noticeboard in the Music Department. Pupils are asked to check them weekly.

Spaces for peripatetic music lessons are still available. Pupils should collect a letter from the Music Department and return it to the Finance Department as soon as possible.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH



Congratulations to year 11 pupils **Alex Barber, Ann Rose Biju, Vanessa Diaba, Patric Heath, Joe Holbrook, Isobel Kealey and Daniel Whiteman** who have all recently completed the **Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award**.

Our Congratulations also to Year 13 student **Tom Holbrook** who successfully completed the **Silver Award**.

TERM DATES FOR 2016-2017

Term 1

Thursday 1st September to Friday 21st October

Term 2

Monday 31st October to Friday 16th December

Term 3

Tuesday 3rd January to Friday 10th February

Term 4

Monday 20th February to Friday 7th April

Term 5

Monday 24th April to Friday 26th May

Term 6

Monday 5th June 2017 to Friday 21st July

INSET DAYS

Friday 2nd December, Friday 3rd February,
Friday 28th April, Friday 21st July

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2017 FRANCISCAN PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION—CLEVEDON

The programme for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be beginning in the autumn for those wishing to be confirmed next year.

If you have a child who is in Year 9 or above and would like to join the programme, please call the Parish Office on 01275 873205.

WISE WORDS

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

W.B.Yeats

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

Bede's Catholic College Safeguarding Policy

As we begin the new academic year it is important for all parents to be aware of the 2016 version of our college safeguarding policy. An electronic copy of the policy and other safeguarding advice and guidance can be found on our college website : <http://www.stbedesc.org/safeguarding.html>. Printed copies of documents are available upon request via the college reception.

A useful reminder about Social Media;

A recent study by the BBC revealed that more than three-quarters of children aged 10 to 12 in the UK have social media accounts, even though they are below the age limit. The research also showed that among under-13s, 78% were using at least one social media network, despite being below the age requirements below;

Age restriction : 13	Age restriction : 16	Age restriction : 17
Twitter	WhatsApp	Vine / Tinder
Facebook	"Among 16 to 18 year olds nationally two in five had used social media to spread gossip and a quarter had used it to say something "unkind" or "rude" to someone else online" A spokesperson from Instagram	
Instagram		
Tumblr		

Source : <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-35524429>

St Bede's World Challenge Expedition to Swaziland

As many of you may know, 9 students from St Bede's Sixth Form travelled to Swaziland in July. We embarked on a 2 week expedition travelling around the country. 3 days of this involved trekking the Ngwempisi Gorge which provided some stunning scenery.



During our time in Africa we stayed among locals in a neighbourhood care point (NCP). Ndinda NCP cares for 35 orphaned and vulnerable children where they are given daily meals and education. The children are between 3-7 years old but lots of older children visit the NCP in the afternoons after they have finished school or work for that day. We were lucky enough to spend lots of time with these wonderful children, we taught each other games, played sports and on one of the days we attempted some glitter body art- the children have never seen things like this so were very excited!

All the children have either lost one or both parents or are considered 'vulnerable' as their parents are unable to care for them. This is because Swaziland has the highest HIV rates in the world. This was highlighted to us when 3 children who we had previously met, didn't turn up to the NCP one afternoon. We asked Thembi, the leader of the orphanage, where the children were and she told us that their mother had passed away that night due to AIDs. This was extremely upsetting to hear and made us make the most of our time in Swaziland, providing as much help as possible.



Part of the funds of the trip included paying for building materials/equipment and hiring a builder to provide the NCP with a water source. We worked closely with the builders and the locals to install a small dam and water tank about 300m away from the centre. It was up a very steep hill

as we had to access water from a small spring on the valley side...this made it very tiring!



We were taught by locals how to use pickaxes so we could dig a large trench from the source to the centre, water pipes were then fitted. A small block filtration system was also built close to the source, this meant we had to carry over 50 concrete bricks and many buckets of sand and crush up the

hill to build the foundations. This was incredibly challenging, especially because of the hot temperatures!

We all agreed that this was some of the hardest and physically challenging labour we had ever done but the local community were so thankful so of course it was all worthwhile! In fact, the builder in charge of the project, Billibi, told us that we did much more work than expected meaning they were ahead of schedule. He said we were the most hardworking challengers they have ever had and he begged us to stay! It is safe to say that we did ourselves proud.

We budgeted well on our trip meaning and were able to buy over 200 pieces of cutlery for the NCP. We also provided over 60 t-shirts, shorts, shoes, other clothing, cooking pots and pans etc. we decided to donate all of the medical supplies we brought on the expedition which included months' worth of pain relief, bandages, plasters, antiseptics, dioralyte and much more! Thembi and the locals really appreciated our donations and said that medical supplies are extremely valuable to them, something as simple as diarrhoea relief can save the life of a small child.

Finally, we would like to say a MASSIVE thank you to everyone at St. Bede's who donated and supported us. You made this dream a reality and all of us have taken so much from the trip, it was life changing.

**Rebecca, Megan, Steph, Benson, Ben,
Ambrose, Fallon, Olivia, Mandi and
Mr Atkinson.
(AKA. The World Challenge Team!)**

