

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College



Issue 228 16th December 2016 T: 0117 377 2200 E: contact@stbedesc.org W: www.stbedesc.org



Wishing all our families and parishes a Happy, Holy and Peace filled Christmas

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Our Advent service took place on Wednesday evening. Pupils presented a wonderful evening of readings, music and prayer. The service, which was attended by hundreds of families, was both prayerful and joyous. The collection at the end raised £290.13 and will be shared between the two Kenyan boys whose education we have committed to fund over the next 4 years and the Julian House Homeless Charity.

BRISTOL SCHOLARS EVENT

Yesterday we were delighted and honoured to host the official launch of the Bristol Scholar's scheme on behalf of the University of Bristol and Bristol Learning City.

We are so pleased that five of St Bede's Areté Sixth Form Students have been accepted onto the Scheme:

Congratulations to:

Sophie Stretch (Medicine),
Laura Odemwingie (Bio Chemistry)
Eleanor Gregory (Psychology)
Marbel Chawatama (Law) and
Alex Goodwin (Law) who will hopefully begin their study in September 2017.



The launch was attended by **Rt Hon Justine Greening MP Secretary of State for Education**, **Professor Hugh Brady University of Bristol Vice Chancellor and President**, **Marvin Rees Lord Mayor of Bristol**, **Professor Arne Carlsen from UNESCO Director of LifeLong Learning Institute**, **Bishop Declan Lang**

Bishop of Clifton, **Professor Les Ebdon, Director of the Office for Fair Access**, **Rebecca Clarke Regional Schools Commissioner**, **John Redman Bristol Strategic Director** and **Professor Judith Squires, Pro Vice-Chancellor**.



The scheme is designed to encourage and assist Students living in the City to study at their local University and to aspire to be the best they possibly can be, by fulfilling their full potential with the support of the University and its wonderful resources.

It is about spotting talented students who have enormous potential which can be realised by their hard work and that of their teachers with the support of University of Bristol.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

3rd JANUARY 2017
START OF TERM 3
WEEK A

9th JANUARY 2017
Year 13
Mock Exams begin

12th JANUARY 2017
6.30pm
Year 9
Curriculum Evening

13th JANUARY 2017
European Day of
Languages

18th JANUARY 2017
Year 9
Meningitis Vaccination

20th JANUARY 2017
Year 13
Mock Exams end

Clothes for a Cause

We will once again be collecting for 'Clothes for a Cause' in the first two weeks in January. We would be grateful to receive clothes, belts, hand bags, shoes and boots. Thank you.

YEAR 8 BOYS RETAIN SPORTS HALL ATHLETICS TITLE

Congratulations to the year 8 Boys Sports Hall Athletics team of **Dylan Kadji, Jason Soodeen, Louis Francisco, Callan Smith, Lucki Berondo** and **Phillip Derewonko** who were crowned **Bristol Champions** last Tuesday evening at Redland Green School. They now head to the county finals in January and will compete against the top two schools from each unitary authority and hope to also retain the County title they won there last year.

Congratulations also to the Year 7 Boys team who qualified for the final and finished 4th.

PAYING IT FORWARD

Gerlando Parrinello in 9BES would like to share his story with you.

'I have been losing my hair for the past two months from alopecia. My Dad suggested that this need not be a negative thing, but I could turn this into a good cause. So I decided to raise money for McMillan through Brave the Shave. My target was first £500 and I smashed this within the first two hours of my page going online. On the 11th December I shaved my hair and I have raised a total of £3300.00! I am very thankful for all the support I have been given from my family, friends, football team and teachers.'

Gerlando, you are absolutely amazing, you have shown so much courage and willingness to help others. You have really done your bit for Pay It Forward!



POSITIVE ATTITUDE TO LEARNING

One of our college aims is to 'secure and celebrate achievement.' I recently asked teachers to nominate pupils who, in their opinion, deserved some formal recognition for excellent attitude towards their work this year.

Huge numbers were nominated and the top 15+ in each year were put forward. I met them this morning, told them how pleased I was with their excellent approach to their studies and gave them each a small gift as a reward. I have written to their parents today to share the great news.





CONGRATULATIONS REVEREND MALCOLM STRANGE

Congratulations to Revd Malcolm Strange on his recent appointment as Rector to The Fromside Benefice. As a consequence of this, Mr Strange has stepped down from his Strategic Leadership role and position as Director of Sixth Form at St Bede's Catholic College but will continue as a member of our teaching staff for the rest of the college year. A new Director of Sixth Form, Miss Kirkbright has been appointed and we will welcome her to our College Community in January 2017.

WILLOW WITHIES

A small group of staff met after school on Wednesday 7th December to take part in a Willow weaving workshop with Mrs McCauley. The staff took time out of their busy day to learn how to make Christmas decorations by weaving Willow withies into the shape of a Christmas tree. As you can see the results were a huge success and all involved made a fantastic piece of Art. Teachers love to learn!



YEAR 10 TEXTILES TRIP TO NEC, BIRMINGHAM Clothes Show Live

Last Monday, GCSE Textiles pupils had the opportunity to attend the Clothes Show live exhibition at the NEC in Birmingham. It was a fantastic opportunity for them to witness 'textiles in action' - where artists, designers, universities and businesses come together to showcase some of the best and most original fashion and textiles products. As well as the catwalk show, the students had the chance to walk around the exhibition and see the products first hand.



WATER POLO SUCCESS

In the last issue of our newsletter we featured year 11 pupil **Dylan Morley** who enjoys Water Polo.

Dylan competed last weekend for Gloucester in an Inter-counties competition.

We are delighted to inform you that Dylan and his team were awarded first place. Well done Dylan. Keep up the good work.

YEAR 7 BOYS BRISTOL CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to the Year 7 Football team who were crowned **Bristol Champions** in a 5 a side Regional Tournament yesterday. They will go to Torbay in January to compete in the South West Finals.

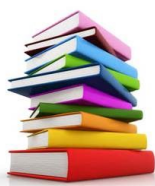
**Noah Higton, Alfie Cummings, Jack Curnock,
Nathaniel Fernandes, Pietro Di Lecce and Eugene Taderera.**



BOOK HAMPERS—Food for the Mind?

As part of our literacy strategy this year we presented our 'Book hampers.'

Twelve lucky families were selected and each received a book hamper to enjoy over the Christmas holidays— Food for the mind?



FAMILY HAMPERS



Twelve St Bede's families are enjoying the treats they have received following this year's hamper draw.

Best wishes to all recipients.

FESTIVE COOKERY CLUB



During the last few weeks 20 pupils have participated in our Festive Cookery Club.

They have made delights such as: Profiteroles (choux pastry), Reindeer muffins, sausage rolls (homemade puff pastry) and decorative chocolate slabs to rival Hotel Chocolat! This week our staff also put their culinary skills to the test, making and sampling Snow topped red nose profiteroles (White chocolate and raspberry!)

Delicious!



YEAR 7 SCIENCE CLUB

Year 7 science club provides pupils with the opportunity to complete a variety of creative challenges in science. For each challenge pupils gain stars and once they have 20 stars they are awarded a science badge. The club runs every Tuesday lunchtime in B4 with Mrs Liew. We are pleased to announce the following pupils were awarded their Home Chemistry Badge in assembly last week:



Congratulations to: **Jenson Jackson, Eden Shepherd, Charlotte Batt, Nivin John** and **Kacper Nowacki**

MATHS A LEVEL TASTER LESSON

This week pupils from year 11 were invited to take part in an A Level Maths Taster lesson in the Areté Sixth Form Centre. Pupils enjoyed exploring a new topic, Matrices. They worked hard applying their knowledge to a new concept and are looking forward to studying maths at A level.

ARETÉ TEAM BUILDING

On Monday evening, the Areté Student Council faced a challenging, team-building visit to 'Locked in a Room'. The task saw the students encounter a variety of riddles regarding the mysterious disappearance of the fictional Dr. Pottenger. To earn their freedom, each of the three teams had to work together to decipher cryptic hints to solve puzzling scenarios, with the aim of discovering the four keys required to unlock the escape door. Restricted by an hour-long time limit, they raced not only against the clock, but against each other too! It was a thoroughly enjoyable and recommendable experience, despite the frustrating dead ends and at times, seeming unsolvable situations. One of our three teams made it out (just 40 seconds to spare!) with the other two not managing to escape in the time limit (though they were close!).

Sean Moss Areté Senior Student



ST BEDE'S RUGBY



The senior rugby teams of St Bede's gave the rest of the College an early Christmas present last Friday as they secured the Bristol Schools Rugby titles at both years 10 and 11.

The weather, which had looked rather foreboding throughout the week, managed to behave for a few hours and both finals were contested in excellent conditions. Played on an artificial surface at Filton College, all four teams were able to play a decent brand of rugby and move the ball around whenever possible.

In the first final of the morning our year 10 side put on what is now becoming a customary display of commitment and physicality to nil their dangerous opponents and last season's victors; Orchard. The progression in the side in the year following last year's final has been marked and the boys all deserve credit. As with the other games this season, it was difficult to pick a standout player as they all contribute in their own ways. The only negative to come out of the game was the loss of our diminutive but talismanic flanker **Calan Fitzgerald**. Calan twisted his knee slightly and will unfortunately miss our important National Cup game this week. He has personified the progression of the rest of the team this year and will be sorely missed.

The second final saw a very different contest. Two very raw sides packed full of athletes went toe-to-toe and you got the feeling it would be the team that could come together the quickest that would win. Fortunately for St Bede's, that proved to be our year 11 cohort. After initially being posed a few problems by the talented St Bernadette's runners, the players problem solved on the field and plugged the gaps that had been appearing. After that it was largely one-way traffic. **Laurent Ngungoh** particularly impressive throughout. One big positive to come out of the final was a debut for **Igor Grekowicz**. Thrown in the deep end in his first competitive game of rugby, he acquitted himself well; completing several excellent tackles and nearly scoring with the final touch of the game. On a slightly more negative note we endured a couple of irritating injuries with **Dominic Robbins** breaking his hand and stoically playing on for a full 20 minutes and **Paul Tanner** also hurting his fingers. We wish a speedy recovery to both players.

It's been a great year for St Bede's Rugby and it may get even better with the year 10s playing their 3rd round match of the National Cup v Sir Thomas Rich's School this week. We will hopefully be able to bring you good news and details of more games in the New Year!





SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

Almost half (45%) of young people are checking their mobile phones after they have gone to bed, a Digital Awareness UK poll suggests.

A survey of 2,750 11- to 18-year-olds found one in 10 admitted checking their mobile phones for notifications at least 10 times a night.

Top Tips to try this Christmas

How to Cut down on screen-time

- **Refrain** from using screens 90 minutes before bedtime
- **Turn off notifications**, or activate "do not disturb", "aeroplane mode" or mute settings. Turn the phone off altogether if you can.
- **Reduce blue light exposure**, which can disrupt sleep. For example, many devices have the "night shift mode", which changes the colour temperature of your device to reduce exposure.
- **Try and break the habit** of constant, unprompted device checking.
- **Consider using a screen time tracker apps**, such as RealizD and Moment, that can showcase the amount of time you are spending on your device. Some of these apps allow you to set usage restrictions.
- **Digital detox** - take a break from devices altogether or set times that you will turn your phone off. Keep your phone in a location that prevents you from seeing, hearing or even reaching for it (in a draw or box)
- **Switch the habit** - in the 90 minutes running up to bedtime, get stuck into a good book, perhaps try meditation, or a relaxing bath!

Think. If we think about the reasons why we are using mobile devices at night time, we would often think twice. If you take control back by exercising any of the tips listed above, give yourself a pat on the back! You can read more about the dangers of spending too much time 'connected' here;
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-37562259>

CHAPLAINCY

Over the past few weeks, pupils have been bringing donations to fill hampers for those in need.

On Monday 12th December, a number of pupils took these hampers to the Julian Trust, where they will be used to provide food for those in need this Christmas who will appreciate all the work the pupils have put in.

On Monday evening a number of pupils took part in the St Antony's Carol service. Pupils were involved in reading, singing and playing in the band. The service was enjoyed by all and Monsignor Bernard Massey told the pupils how outstanding they were.

The Year 7 chaplaincy group have teamed up with some of the Sixth Form to help raise money for HCPT. Pupils were invited to send candy canes to their friends and teachers, which will be delivered on the last day of term. The team have raised around £40! Well done on your efforts during this season.

PAY IT FORWARD

Over the past three weeks, pupils across the whole college have been taking part in the 'Pay it Forward' campaign set up by Mr Hunt and Miss Wise. The main premise behind the campaign was to encourage pupils to carry out good deeds towards each other (and their communities) and add to the positive atmosphere around the college during the Advent period. Once a week, pupils shared the good deeds that they have been carrying out with their tutor, who then selected a range to be placed on the beautiful display board at the front of school for everyone to see. There have been some fantastic acts of kindness which have taken place, and pupils have been keen to share their good deeds with their tutors and peers throughout what has been a most enjoyable few weeks.



VACANCIES

St Bede's Catholic College has a vacancy for **Personnel Manager** to manage designated staff and provide authoritative guidance on HR matters to the College Principal.

The hours of work are 15 hours per week over 2 days, term time only plus 2 in-service days.

Remuneration for this post is St Bede's Grade 10, actual salary £9,037-£10,160 per annum.

We also have a vacancy for a **Finance Assistant** to support with administration in the Finance office.

This is a 25 hours per week over 5 days position, term time only plus 5 in-service days and 4 identified days in the holiday.

Remuneration for this post is St Bede's Grade 7, range 18 to 21 and the actual salary is £10,518-£11,722 per annum.

Closing date for receipt of application forms is noon on Friday, 6th January.

Details of these vacancies including job descriptions and application forms can be downloaded from our website www.stbedesc.org

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY



Updates to St Bede's IT Acceptable Use Policy for Pupils

Digital technologies have become integral to the lives of children and young people, both within and outside of schools. These technologies are powerful tools, which open up new opportunities for everyone. These technologies can stimulate discussion, promote creativity and stimulate awareness of context to promote effective learning. Young people should have an entitlement to safe internet access at all times.

The updated Acceptable Use Policy is intended to ensure that:

- Young people will be responsible users and stay safe while using the internet and other digital technologies for educational, personal and recreational use.
- College systems and users are protected from accidental or deliberate misuse that could put the security of the systems or pupils at risk.
- Young people have good access to digital technologies to enhance their learning.

The full policy can be found on the college website at <http://www.stbedesc.org/policies.html>