

# St. Bede's Catholic College



*Specialist Science and Sports College*

Issue 233 24th March 2017 T: 0117 377 2200 E: [contact@stbedesc.org](mailto:contact@stbedesc.org) W: [www.stbedesc.org](http://www.stbedesc.org)

## REFLECTION— St Patrick's Day - 17th March

We celebrated St Patrick the patron Saint of Ireland on the 17th March. Patrick was kidnapped from his home when he was 16 and taken to Ireland, where he lived as a slave for six years. After he returned to Britain, he believed that he had been given a mission from God; teaching Christianity to the Irish. He travelled throughout Ireland, preaching the Gospel and converting many, building churches all over the country.

### St Patrick's prayer: May the Strength of God pilot us.

May the Power of God preserve us.  
May the Wisdom of God instruct us.  
May the Hand of God protect us.  
May the Way of God direct us.  
May the Shield of God defend us.  
May the Host of God guard us  
Against the snares of the evil ones,  
Against temptations of the world.  
Amen.



## BRISTOL CITY SHIRT PRESENTATION TO GERLANDO PARRINELLO

Last Wednesday, Bell Burnell House celebrated the tremendous fund raising effort of **Gerlando Parrinello**. Just before Christmas, Gerlando started losing his hair as a result of alopecia. He decided to completely shave his head for Macmillan Cancer, through the Brave the Shave appeal. He has managed to raise an incredible **£3694.80!** His tutor Miss Smith and his Head of House Mr Johnson were so proud of his achievements that they organised for him to receive a signed Bristol City shirt.



First team player, **Bobby Reid** kindly came into assembly to present him with two shirts; one to wear and one to go onto his bedroom wall. Gerlando, you are an inspiration to us all.

## PRINCIPAL—SEPTEMBER 2017

Father McAndrew, Chair of Governors is pleased to announce the appointment of the new Principal for St Bede's Catholic College. Following interviews this week, Mr Garry Maher will take up the position of Principal in September. A number of pupils were involved in the interview and Mr Maher was also their choice. This is a good appointment for the college and we look forward to him joining us in September.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

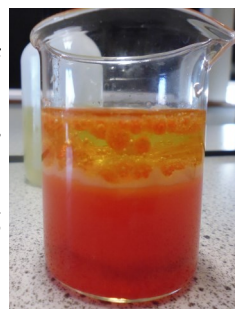
**27th March 2017**  
**Week of Year 8 Exams**

**29th March 2017**  
**Year 11 and 13**  
**Photographs**

**7th April 2017**  
**END OF TERM 4**

## SCIENCE WEEK

British Science Week is a 10-day programme of thousands of events running throughout the UK with the aim of celebrating science, engineering, technology and maths. Last week we ran an array of activities at lunchtimes for pupils to come and celebrate science alongside stand alone lessons for year 7, 8 and 9. The activities include; Erupting Fizz lava lamps, Bromothymol Blue colour changes, glowing Aluminium, flaming bridge of death, best in flight and explosion demonstrations!



Years 10 and 11 pupils have also been testing their general knowledge through home learning tasks. Well done to everyone who has celebrated science!



## SIXTH FORM VISIT TO LONDON

Thirty Sixth Form students recently visited the Houses of Parliament. When we arrived students saw Big Ben and then the Supreme Court of Justice. We were taken on a guided tour around the Palace of Westminster and Westminster Hall (which is over 1000 years old!) and watched a live debate in the House of Commons. A workshop on how laws are made followed, and students had to follow the protocols that MPs use when in debates in either house.



In the afternoon we explored the London Science Museum including exhibitions on engineering, space and the making of the modern world. Students commented that the trip helped them to consider careers in politics, the civil service and law as well as perhaps studying at university in London. If you want to find out more about how laws are made, voting or careers in Parliament, visit <http://www.parliament.uk/education/>

## FLAME 2017

On Saturday 11th March, we left St Bede's at 6am to travel to Wembley arena for the largest National Catholic youth event of the year, Flame 2017. The day was filled with inspirational speakers, drama from RISE theatre, music from double Grammy award-winning Matt Redman and ended with adoration led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

As the year 10s have been working with CAFOD throughout the year, **Gabrielle Forster** was invited on stage with other pupils from Clifton Diocese to read some messages of Hope that had been written to refugees, one of the key themes of the day.

After the event had finished, everyone gathered outside for pictures and we were fortunate enough to meet Cardinal Vincent Nichols.



## New GCSE grades and the grading system at St Bede's

As you may know, the GCSEs are changing from A\*-G grades to 9-1 grades. A short video to explain further can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-gcse-9-to-1-grades-coming-soon>

English Language, English Literature and Maths will change this summer with other subjects changing in 2018 and 2019.

The old National Curriculum levels have also been withdrawn by the government. Schools have been asked to devise their own methods for tracking student progress from Year 7 to Year 11.

At St Bede's we have decided to assess students in all years based on their progress towards their GCSE grades. If a student is graded "working towards a 6", it means that their current work indicates that, should they continue to progress at the expected pace, they will achieve a grade 6 in Year 11. These are of course not guarantees of future grades, but guidance as to the current progress of each student in each subject.

I include below a reminder of the equivalence between the old and new grades. Please feel free to contact me at [contact@stbedescc.org](mailto:contact@stbedescc.org) if you have any further queries. Mr R King, Vice Principal

NEW GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE									
9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	U
<div><div><div>4 = C</div><div>and above</div><div>and above</div></div><div><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>■ Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 4 and above as currently achieve a grade C and above.</li><li>■ Broadly the same proportion of students will achieve a grade 7 and above as achieve an A and above.</li><li>■ The bottom of grade 1 will be aligned with the bottom of grade G.</li></ul></div></div>									
CURRENT GCSE GRADING STRUCTURE									
A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	

### ELEVATE SEMINAR MEMORY & MNEMONICS

All of our Year 11 pupils attended a seminar on Monday of this week to help them prepare better for their revision leading up to the summer exams. The pupils were informed of numerous ways to improve revision skills and in particular how to improve the use of memory. They were shown practical ways and some really useful apps which can help them at home.

### St. Bede's Newspaper—We need you!

Our sixth form editing team are currently putting together the first edition of the St Bede's Newspaper - run by students for students! We are hoping to go to print at the end of this term. If any students would like to submit an article, please send it to [newspaper@stbcc.org](mailto:newspaper@stbcc.org).

There are many different roles - journalists, editors, photographers, columnists and it would be great to have as many as possible involved.

## WORLD BOOK DAY

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, tutor groups were asked to decorate their doors with their favourite book. Chelsey Flood, our Patron of Reading judged what was an extremely difficult task, as we had so many wonderfully decorated doors!

Congratulations to **Mrs Cannon's Tutor Group 7BJC** who was awarded the prize for 'the most visually stimulating door,' **Mr Dunn's Tutor Group 7PLD** who was awarded the 'Makes me want to read the book' prize and **Miss Rafee's Tutor Group 10DMR** who won the 'Most Creative' door design.



## MASTERCLASS AT CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY

We were delighted this week to hear that Year 12 students **Vanessa Kadji** and **Noel George** were successful in securing places on the prestigious Cambridge Masterclass days later this month at Cambridge University. With thousands of applicants up and down the country, to be amongst the few selected is a wonderful achievement. Noel will be attending an Economics Masterclass, Vanessa will be studying Law for the day. Enjoy your day!

## EASTER HOLIDAY SPORTS CAMPS

The St Bede's Community Sports team will be running sports camps during the Easter holidays for 7-14 year olds. The camps will be two 4-day weeks from Monday 10th April to Thursday 13th April and Tuesday 18th April to Friday 21st April from 9.00am-3.00pm. The cost will be £12 per day or £40 for a 4-day week. The camp will include lots of different sports such as dodge ball, basketball, football, cricket and rounders. Young Bristol will also be visiting on the afternoon of Wednesday 19th April to deliver an Archery session to the group. To book a place or to find out more information please contact Rob Allan, Sports Development Officer, on [r.allan@stbcc.org](mailto:r.allan@stbcc.org) or 07825 767582. Alternatively you can download a booking form by visiting [www.stbedescatholiccollegecommunitysport.org/registration-and-booking-form/](http://www.stbedescatholiccollegecommunitysport.org/registration-and-booking-form/)

For up to date information on our community sports team, please follow us on Facebook @St Bede's Catholic College Community Sport or Twitter @StBedesSport.

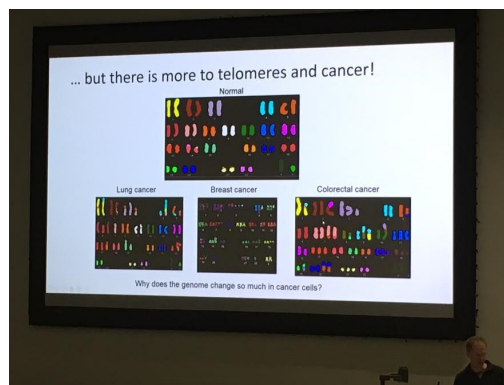
## COLSTON HALL PERFORMANCE

On Tuesday 14th March, 15 pupils from years 7-10 performed vocal solos in the foyer of the Colston Hall. The concert was organised by Mr Le Poidevin, one of the College's singing teachers within the Music department. It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening and the singers performed to an incredibly high standard. Congratulations to all involved.



## A LEVEL BIOLOGY VISIT TO THE Science in HEALTH-LIVE! EVENT AT CARDIFF UNIVERSITY

On Wednesday 15th March an enthusiastic group of Year 12 students travelled across the Severn Bridge to Cardiff University to join over 800 students from 50 schools and colleges to attend the Science in Health – Live! Event. The aim of the day was to find out more about clinical research as well as career opportunities in medicine from postgraduate students, university professors and practicing doctors. They found out about a diverse range of topics including the impact of music on the brain, aging and the role of Telomeres. How medications travel through the body as well as use and care of animals for medical research. The students had many opportunities to ask questions about post-16 study at Cardiff University and even tried giving injections into dummy patients. Our Year 12 students were very positive about the experience. **Ben Christie** told us: "It made the process of applying to medicine much clearer and showed us other careers in the medical field which I hadn't considered." and **Ashwin Tomy** said "it was a great experience, I learnt a lot about different careers within health. The day really opened my eyes to ways into healthcare and all the different fields in which you can part."



## COMMUNITY SPORTS—YEAR 5 AND 6 HIGH 5 NETBALL

Wednesday 15th March saw 15 primary schools attend the **North Bristol High 5 Netball festival** here at St Bede's as part of the **National School Games** competition. Over 100 year 5 and 6 girls took part in two competitions, one a fun competition for schools just wanting to get experience of playing netball and the other a qualifying event for the county final.

In excellent weather all the girls showed great determination and spirit. Congratulations to **Westbury-on-Trym primary academy** who defeated to **St Johns C of E primary** in the participation event final.

In the qualifying final **Elmlea Juniors** defeated **St Bonaventures** with both schools now going forward to represent North Bristol in the county final on 27th April at BGS.

## AVON RIDING CENTRE

For the past 4 weeks six students in years 7-10 have been learning to ride at the Avon Riding Centre. The pupils have been split into groups of similar ability and have been making excellent progress. Our new riders are now riding without a leader and are starting to perfect their rising trot. The more experienced group are trotting circles and practising their cantering. The riders also have had the opportunity to learn about the parts of the horse, grooming and untacking them after their lessons. We are looking forward to seeing them progress even further in the coming weeks.



## ROUTES INTO LANGUAGES SOUTH WEST COMPETITION

On Tuesday, 21st March 6 pupils went to the Royal High School in Bath to participate in the annual 'Routes into Languages South West' speaking competition Sub Regional Final. The competition is always extremely well attended and many schools from the South West were represented.

**Gabrielle Forster** and **Hugo Brind-Schoch** gave speeches in French and **Bella Forster** and **Emily Lunson** gave speeches in Spanish. They did extremely well and gave a confident account of themselves.

Year 8 pupil **Alice Flageul** won the Near-Native category with a sparkling performance about fitness in French and **Sam Brady** came runner up in the Non-Native category with an engaging Spanish talk on his holiday in Vietnam and the trials and tribulations of eating dog.

We were extremely pleased with all six pupils who display great motivation and commitment to languages!



## CATENIAN SPEAKING COMPETITION



It is with great delight that we can announce that the Catenian (Schools Public Speaking Contest) has **been won for the fifth year in a row by St Bede's**. **Peter Savery** delighted both the audience and judges with his thought provoking talk about "Money spent on space exploration should instead be used to alleviate poverty". **Jansen Roy** finished in a commendable **second place** with his humorous talk "If money is the root of evil, why do people yearn for it?". The competition was intense this year with schools from Cardiff, Bristol and Bath taking place. **We wish Peter good luck in the National final in Manchester - September 2017.**

## YOUNG ENTERPRISE AREA HEATS

We are delighted that our Young Enterprise team '**Ignite**' performed so well yesterday evening at the Cathedral Area Heats and have secured **a place in the Area Final!**

Their stand was very professional, and the team was again praised for excellent customer service. **Shanaz Sharonsenthil** with **Kirk Mobsby**, who stepped into the role at the last minute, made a very convincing and eloquent pitch to the dragons, staying calm under intense pressure.



## CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Nearly 300 primary children and their families gathered at the college yesterday evening for the annual Catholic Schools Primary Music Festival.

Pupils from Corpus Christi, Our Lady of the Rosary, St Bernard's, St Bonaventure's, St Francis, St Mary's, St Nicholas of Tolentine, SS Peter and Paul, St Joseph's and St Teresa's Catholic primary schools participated.

Once again, David Ogden put together a great programme and the children performed a wonderful selection of traditional and contemporary songs in unison.

The theme of the evening was "Inspiring People, Inspiring Us." What a truly uplifting celebration during this time of Lent. The Hall was packed with adoring and proud parents.

## SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

### Update to the College'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>

## WATER POLO SUCCESS

Congratulations to year 11 pupil **Dylan Morley** who participated last weekend in the quarter finals of the **Water Polo National Age Groups** competition in Blackpool. Dylan, along with his teammates, won the heat and now head to the semi finals in Birmingham at the beginning of April. Good luck Dylan.

## EASTER REVISION

We are offering numerous revision sessions for Year 11 and Sixth Form pupils over the Easter Holidays. These will be updated in the next week and all sessions will be included in the next newsletter.

Date	Year Group	Subject	Time
Monday 10th April	11	Music Composition	10.00am—2.00pm
	Post 16	Music - Composition	10.00am—2.00pm
Tuesday 11th April	11	Art	10.00am—2.00pm
	Post 16	Music - Revision	10.00am—2.00pm
Wednesday 12th April	11	Drama	10.00am—2.00pm
Thursday 13th April	11	English Literature	10.00am—2.00pm
	Post 16	Physics	10.00am—2.00pm
Tuesday 18th April	11	Biology - 1, 2, 3	10.00am—2.00pm
	11	RF - Unit 3	10.00am—2.00pm
Wed 19th April	11	Biology - 4, 5, 6	10.00am—2.00pm
	11	RF - Unit 10	10.00am—2.00pm
Thursday 20th April	11	PE	10.00am—2.00pm
	11	Food	10.00am—2.00pm
	11	Maths—Foundation	10.00am—12.00pm
	Post 16	Economics	12.00am—2.00pm