

## Newsletter

Issue 395 10th October 2025

### MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL

It was fantastic to open the college to families considering St Bede's for their child's secondary education last Thursday evening. The Open Evening was very well attended, so thank you to any of you that suggested us or recommended us to your friends and families. The students and staff represented the college so well - I was a very proud Principal.



One family said to me: "I have never been to a school like it, with students like that. They are incredible. The evening wasn't as "put on" as other schools and it didn't need to be because the quality of the school is so obvious."

In college, we continue to build on the successful start to term. Last week saw 32 Year 9 and 10 students take part in the Battlefields trip, which is an excellent opportunity for students to see important sites from World War I. Sporting fixtures and musical groups are up and running, show rehearsals have begun, inter-house cross-county was on Tuesday, and the KS5 Maths challenge was yesterday. I am delighted how many of your young people work hard in their curriculum lessons and then go on to commit themselves to the wide range of co-curricular activities the college has on offer. We are lucky to have fantastic staff that arrange such events.



Heavenly Father,

*We thank you for the opportunity to engage in the joy and challenge of co-curricular activities.*

*Thank you for the physical and mental skills we develop through these passions, for the lessons of hard work and perseverance they teach us, and for the chances to grow and improve.*

*We are grateful for the gift of teammates and friends who support us, staff who guide us, and for the broader community that cheers us on. Thank you for the laughter, the friendships, and the shared experiences that these activities provide.*

*Help us to never take these opportunities for granted. May we use the gifts and blessings you have provided to their fullest potential, and always remember to show our gratitude in our actions and in our hearts.*

*In your name we pray. Amen*

## REFLECTION – 9 October Feast day of St John Henry Newman

The 9 October is the feast day of St John Henry Newman.

Cardinal Newman was born in 1801 and died in 1890. He was an Anglican priest who converted to Catholicism at the age of 44 and became a Cardinal at 46. He spent a great deal of his life living and working with the poor in Birmingham.



He was canonised by Pope Francis, and declared a saint in 2019, the last English saint to be declared.

**Reflection:** "The Christian has a deep, silent, hidden peace, which the world sees not... The Christian is cheerful, easy, kind, gentle, courteous, candid, unassuming; has no pretence..."  
**St John Henry Newman**

**Prayer:** God has created me to do Him  
some definite service; He has committed some work to me which He has  
not committed to another. I have my mission—I never may know it in this life, but I shall be  
told it in the next.  
Somehow I am necessary for His purposes.  
I have a part in this great work;  
I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons.

## BELL BURNELL CHARITY NEWS

Following their amazing charity work last year, Bell Burnell House invited two colleagues from St. Peter's Hospice to join them in a celebration assembly.

Throughout last year, termly challenges and their massive summer event; the 12 in 12, raised an incredible **£7474.37!**

The House Captains presented a cheque and all the students listened to how the money could be spent. The colleagues from St Peter's Hospice were so appreciative of all of the student's, teacher's and families efforts.

It is so amazing that in the last two years just short of **£15,000** has been donated to the charity. Mr. Johnson also shared that following a vote by Bell Burnell students, that they will continue to support the hospice this college year.



# Faith in Action

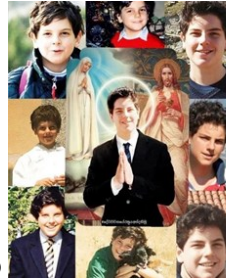
St. Bede's spent last week celebrating the canonisation of St Carlo Acutis, which took place on 7 September.

Carlo was a young boy from Italy who loved computers and was devoted to his faith. Even though he passed away when he was just 15, he showed us how technology and faith can go hand in hand.



Assemblies were held with each house where we learnt about the impact St Carlo had in his short life.

Our Wednesday morning Mass was a special celebration, lead by Mgr. Bernard Massey, where we re-dedicated our College Chapel as the St Carlo Acutis Chapel.



The first millennial saint



His canonisation is a big deal for us because it shows us how we can live our faith in today's world, using what we love and are good at, by re-naming our chapel we can be reminded each day, to try to follow his example of kindness, faith, and using our talents for good!

## Monica and Mariam – Year 11

### Faith Ambassadors

As part of our St Carlo Acutis celebrations, we named 14 new Faith Ambassadors from across all 4 houses, pupils who have promoted the Catholic life of the College over a number of years.

Congratulations to: **Amalie, Bella, Chloe, Izzy, Livia, Majka, Maria, Mariam, Marnie, Matylda, Monica, Olly, Pola,** and **Winona,**

# Congratulations!



**DATES FOR  
YOUR DIARY  
2025**

**17th October**  
Year 11  
Careers Fair

**22nd—26th  
October**  
MFL - French  
Trip

**24th October**  
**INSET DAY**  
**END OF TERM 1**

**3rd November**  
**START OF**  
**TERM 2**

**6th November**  
SIXTH FORM  
ARETÉ OPEN  
EVENING  
6.00pm—  
8.00pm

**17th November**  
The Great St.  
Bede's Bake  
Off



**RUNNING FOR BRISTOL'S  
HEALTHY MINDS:  
MY LONDON  
MARATHON CAMPAIGN**



I'm incredibly excited to announce that I've secured a charity place to run the 2026 London Marathon! I'll be running to raise money for the Healthy Minds project at the University of Bristol.

This cause is personal to me. When I was a student at Bristol, I struggled with my mental health and eventually had to suspend my studies. It was through finding exercise, especially running and swimming, that I was able to recover and finish my degree.

The Healthy Minds project provides structured support to current students, using a 12-week physical activity programme and 1:1 mentorship to help them manage their wellbeing. It offers the kind of structured, preventative help I wish I'd had.

Next Stop: Weston Half Marathon!

The full marathon is 6 months away, but my training is in full swing! I've already smashed my initial targets, raising an amazing £500 to fund two student mentorships.

My next big run is the Weston-super-Mare Half Marathon on Sunday, October 19th. To mark the event, I'm aiming to hit £750 before I cross the finish line—enough to fund a third mentorship!

If you'd like to support my campaign and help students get the support they need, please visit my JustGiving page. Every pound helps me turn my miles into meaningful support.

Please Donate Here: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/steve-colebourne>  
Additionally, we will be organising a family Christmas quiz at the college, with funds raised also going towards the Health Minds project. See the save the date below!

Thank you so much for your support!  
Mr Colebourne  
Head of Maths



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**St Bede's Christmas Family Quiz**

**Friday 5 December**

**Booking Information Coming  
Soon**



# Introducing Team Pilgrim

## The Pilgrims Go Marching On in the National Cup

It's been a flying start to the National Cup campaign, with both our Year 8 and Year 11 boys advancing to the next round in style.



Year 8 kicked things off with a dominant performance against Worle School, taking the lead after just 90 seconds. From there, the Pilgrims put on a finishing masterclass — with seven different scorers finding the net!

Scorers: **Za'kai, Wirgiliusz, Shay, Zion, Nelson, Phoenix** and **Tapuwanashe**.



### Pilgrim of the Match: **Zion**



Not to be outdone, the Year 11 boys also delivered a ruthless display in front of goal. Having faced Hans Price in each of the last three seasons, the Pilgrims once again proved too strong, producing another goal-filled performance.

Scorers: **Jahdanti, Alex, Alfie, Patryk, Thiago** and **Lukas**



### Pilgrim of the Match: **Igor**

The Pilgrims march on — next round, here we come!

## Year 11 Rugby

The year 11 boys were crowned U16 Bristol and Area Schools Champions this week. St Bernadette's put them under real pressure in the first 15 minutes but they kept their cool and didn't panic. As the game progressed they managed to find gaps in their opponents defence. They continued to apply pressure throughout the second half and won the game 37 - 10. The team have had amazing success in this competition, winning in year 9 and finishing runners up in year 10. So it was a great way to finish their College playing careers! **Aleksy was voted man of the match** but many of the players had an excellent game.

Congratulations to you all, we are very proud of you.



## EXAM TIMETABLES

Students are advised that both the Mock Exam Timetables and the Provisional Summer Exam Timetable are now available for viewing. These schedules are essential for planning study time, managing workloads, and preparing effectively for upcoming assessments.

To access the timetables and for further information, please visit the following link: <https://bit.ly/3J5BggJ>




### NOVEMBER 17TH

Category 1 - Six decorated fairy/cup cakes  
Category 2 - Six decorated biscuits or pastries  
Category 3 - Brownies or traybakes  
Category 4 - Large cake/Showstopper cake  
Category 5 - Bread  
Category 6 - Savoury items

**COLLECT AN APPLICATION FORM  
FROM THE FOOD AND DT DEPT.  
DELIVER YOUR BAKED ITEMS TO  
THE DANCE STUDIO FROM 8.30 ON  
NOV 17TH.  
Prizes and House points to be won!**

## ADMISSIONS FOR YEAR 7 SEPTEMBER 2026

To apply for a place for a child currently in Year 6 please complete the common application form for the local authority in which you live before 31st October. You should also complete the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) online at <https://stbcc.applicaa.com/year7>

If you do not provide the information required in the SIF and submit it by 31st October together with any supporting documentation, providing evidence of your child's religious faith for example, it is likely to affect your child's chance of being offered a place.

To see how places at St. Bede's Catholic College were allocated in September 2025 according to the Admissions Policy, please click here: [Allocation of places September 2025.](#)

A polite reminder that parents still need to fill in the supplementary information form even if they have a child already at St Bede's.

## PINK DAY

On Thursday 23rd October, we're encouraging all students and staff to accessorise with pink in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Pink Day is a chance to show our solidarity with those affected by breast cancer and to raise awareness about early detection and support services.

Examples of accessories include:

- hats/baseball caps (these will have to be removed during lessons)
  - wigs
  - head boppers
  - jewellery (eg. necklaces)
  - badges
  - socks/tights/leg warmers
  - belts
  - ties
  - jumpers/t-shirt (must be over school uniform, not instead of)
- Dyed hair and colourful makeup is not allowed.



## LIBRARY NEWS

We've had a busy beginning of term in the Library - we are very pleased to announce that our new Year 7s have already borrowed a whopping 739 books from us and that the entire College has borrowed 1347.

We have been delighted to see all the Year 7s back in the Library over the last fortnight to choose their Bookbuzz books as a gift from the English Department. While we are waiting for them to arrive we are showcasing the excellent titles from previous years which are available to borrow right now. All 15 books are now available to borrow from the Library - although Year 7s need to remember not to borrow the book they've chosen to receive as their gift!

So far this month we have marked Black History Month, Dyslexia Awareness Week & Down Syndrome Awareness month. We hope everyone has enjoyed browsing our displays.

### Book reviews


You can click on the reviews to follow a link to preview the first few pages of the book. All books are available to borrow from the Library.

Please note the link to a preview for Heart of Midnight is to Amazon.



This is a reimagining of the real life of Grace Darling, Victorian heroine of a shipwreck written by one of my favourite authors. Obviously this is a fictionalised version of her story, but Hilary McKay has created a character that I think we could all relate to out of one of history's great tales of bravery. I enjoyed researching her true story afterwards as well

Mrs Hayman enjoyed this book



This is a fantastic book that will have you on edge and absolutely gripped. Joseph is an angry boy separated from his dad who's away fighting in World War 2. Mrs F lives in a run down, bombed out zoo. This book has got the lot: bombs, guns, friendship, love, tragedy AND an 8 ft gorilla who's mad at everyone I read it in 2 days and didn't want it to end.

Mr Davies recommends this book



I chose this book from our Fantastic Summer Reads display, I was looking for an adventure of epic proportions and I found it! Kòkù small for his age living with sickle cell is called to traverse the Jujuland jungle to save the night stone and return darkness to the land of Olori. This is the first in the Jujuland series set in England and Nigeria absolutely brim full of myth and legend with relatable characters at the heart of the story. Fans of Percy Jackson are sure to enjoy it.

Mrs Nicks recommends this book

A reminder of the Library opening hours

Monday -Thursday  
8.30-4.15

Friday  
8.30-3.15

# SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

## WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY – 10TH OCTOBER



This year's theme is about awareness, care, and connection. Mental health matters just as much as physical health – and talking about it can make all the difference.

Catholic Social Teaching reminds us of the dignity of the human person. Every single person is created in God's image and deserves compassion, respect, and care. Supporting mental health is one way we live out this teaching in our school community.

"Love one another as I have loved you." (John 13:34)

### How You Can Help

- Check in with friends – a simple "How are you really?" goes a long way.
- Take a break from screens and go outdoors.
- Speak up if you're struggling – your voice matters.
- Pray for those facing silent battles

### Where to Go for Help

- In school: Speak to your Tutor, Head of House or the 121 Team
- At home: Talk to a parent, carer, or trusted adult.
- Childline: 0800 1111 (free, anytime).
- YoungMinds Textline: Text YM to 85258.
- NHS 111 if you need urgent help.

On Optimistic October's calendar, the focus for 10th October is simple but powerful: take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently.

All too often we rush on to the next task without pausing to notice the progress we've already made. Mental Health Day is the perfect reminder to stop, take a breath, and acknowledge the steps you've taken, whether large or small. Recognising your achievements can boost confidence, ease stress, and help you appreciate just how far you've come.

Today, celebrate your efforts and give yourself credit. It's a small act that can make a big difference to your wellbeing.

Optimistic October 2025

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
 1 Write down three things you can look forward to this month	 2 Find something to be optimistic about (even if it's a difficult time)	 3 Take a small step towards a goal that really matters to you	 4 Start your day with the most important thing on your to-do list	 5 Be a realistic optimist. See life as it is, but focus on what's good	 6 Remind yourself that things can change for the better	 7 Look for the good in people around you today
 8 Make some progress on a project or task you have been avoiding	 9 Share an important goal with someone you trust	 10 Take time to reflect on what you have accomplished recently	 11 Avoid blaming yourself or others. Find a helpful way forward	 12 Look out for positive news and reasons to be cheerful today	 13 Ask for help to overcome an obstacle you are facing	 14 Do something constructive to improve a difficult situation
 15 Thank yourself for achieving the things you often take for granted	 16 Put down your to-do list and do something fun or uplifting	 17 Take a small step towards a positive change you want to see in society	 18 Set hopeful but realistic goals for the days ahead	 19 Identify one of your positive qualities that will be helpful in the future	 20 Find joy in tackling a task you've put off for some time	 21 Let go of the expectations of others and focus on what matters to you
 22 Share a hopeful quote, picture or video with a friend or colleague	 23 Recognise that you have a choice about what to prioritise	 24 Write down three specific things that have gone well recently	 25 You can't do everything! What are your three priorities right now?	 26 Find a new perspective on a problem you face	 27 Be kind to yourself today. Remember, progress takes time	 28 Ask yourself, will this still matter a year from now?
 29 Plan a fun or exciting activity to look forward to	 30 Identify three things that give you hope for the future	 31 Set a goal that brings a sense of purpose for the coming month				

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together




## CROSS COUNTRY

Tuesday saw the first of our Inter House events. First up was Cross Country. 392 students finished the course across all age groups and houses.

Results are as follows;

Year 7 Winners - Girls = **Pasteur**, Boys = **Seacole**

Year 8 Winners - Girls = **Pasteur**, Boys = **Seacole**

Year 9 Winners - Girls = **Seacole** Boys = **Bell Burnell**

Year 10 Winners - Girls = **Bell Burnell**, Boys = **Bell Burnell**

Year 11 Winners - Girls = **Bell Burnell**, Boys = **Bell Burnell**

		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Girls	1st	PAS	PAS	SEA	BB	BB
	2nd	DES	SEA	BB	PAS	PAS
	3rd	BB	DES	PAS	SEA	SEA
	4th	SEA	BB	DES	DES	DES

Boys	1st	SEA	SEA	BB	BB	BB
	2nd	PAS	PAS	SEA	PAS	SEA
	3rd	BB	BB	DES	DES	PAS
	4th	DES	DES	PAS	SEA	DES

	PASTEUR	DESCARTES	BELL BURNELL	SEACOLE
Total	56	30	60	54

These points go towards the house cup.

Well done to all of those who participated. And a big thank you to those students who helped sign up, do the results, course marshall and volunteer to be a front runner.

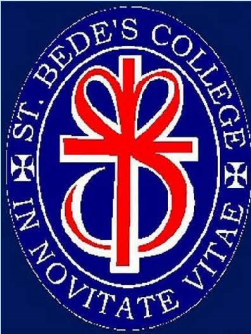


## NEW IMPROVED GYM

Our Year 11 pupils are completing the final stage of their ME's journey through St Bede's Core PE. In Key Stage 4, pupils are given greater choice over who they work with and which activities they take part in, allowing them to develop their independence and personal interests.

Here we see one of our Year 11 groups testing their strength on the brand-new gym rig. The upgraded facilities have created a real buzz of excitement, and the pupils are already making the most of them.

Through the four MEs — Physical, Social, Thinking, and Personal — students continue to develop key life skills such as confidence, teamwork, problem-solving, and resilience, as well as improving their overall fitness and wellbeing.



# ST BEDE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

## \* BECOME A PARENT GOVERNOR \*

### Help Shape Our College's Future

We're looking for enthusiastic and committed parents to join our Governing Body. As a Parent Governor, you will play a vital role in supporting the college's vision, ensuring every student flourishes academically, spiritually, and personally.

#### WHAT DOES A PARENT GOVERNOR DO?

- ✓ Represent parents' voices in key school decisions
- ✓ Support and challenge school leadership
- ✓ Help set strategic direction and uphold Catholic values
- ✓ Work as part of a dedicated team to improve outcomes for all students

#### WHO CAN APPLY?



Parent or carer of students currently enrolled at St Bede's Catholic College

**APPLY BY: 17th October 2025**

via this link:

<https://forms.gle/F2tYaTEjgX3Gagsu7>

*"Being a Parent Governor has been so rewarding - it's a chance to make a real difference".* Current Parent Governor at St Bede's

Join us in shaping a bright, faith-filled future for our students!

## ATTENDANCE REMINDERS

### Illness in college

This is a reminder that it is at the discretion of the principal if a student receives an authorised absence mark when not in college. If a child attends college and displays as unwell to Student Support they will be encouraged to stay in college if possible. If the first aid coordinator is unable to encourage them to stay in college, then the Senior Leadership Team will be notified and they will make the decision if the student is to be sent home as unwell based on NHS guidance.

If a student contacts home directly and is collected from college the absence will not be authorised, and following college rules the student will receive a detention for using their mobile phone.

### Too ill to come to college

If your child is too unwell to come to college, please contact the college by 9am via the mychildatschool app or by email to [absence@stbcc.org](mailto:absence@stbcc.org). Please provide specific details of the reason for absence as unwell or ill will not be authorised. Students' absences are authorised based on the NHS guidance so without a detailed reason for absence it will not be authorised.

### Lesson Marks

Please keep contacting [absence@stbcc.org](mailto:absence@stbcc.org) if you believe your child has an incorrect mark for the daily registration periods (tutor/lesson 4). These are the only marks that have an impact on your child's overall attendance figure. If you believe that your child has an incorrect mark for any of the other lessons, please send us an email and it will be passed on to the teacher of that lesson to decide if they need to amend the mark.

## EXTERNAL ADVERTISEMENT

### St Bernard's Catholic Primary School are looking for a School Governor.

St. Bernard's Catholic Primary School, Shirehampton, is a warm, welcoming community where every child is nurtured to grow academically, spiritually, and socially.

We are seeking: Foundation Governors and  
A Chair of Governors

We would be delighted to welcome a person who:

- Is passionate about Catholic education and ethos
- Wants children to flourish in faith and learning
- Is able to commit time and make a difference

### Get in Touch

Please call the headteacher, Mr Jordan, on 0117 903 0352 to register interest or Ask to questions. To gain an impression of our school follow the QR to our site.

