

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College

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ST. BEDE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE WINS NATIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENT RESULTS

We were delighted to hear this week that St. Bede's Catholic College has been recognised nationally for its excellent results in 2017 based on data from the Department of Education and Ofsted, analysed by SSAT (the Schools, Students and Teachers network). Our college was found to be among the best performing secondary schools in the country, receiving an award for being in the top 10% of non-selective schools nationally for attainment.

The SSAT Educational Outcomes database compares all state-funded schools in England, with the highest performing for a range of key measures presented with SSAT Educational Outcomes Awards, sponsored by Lexonik

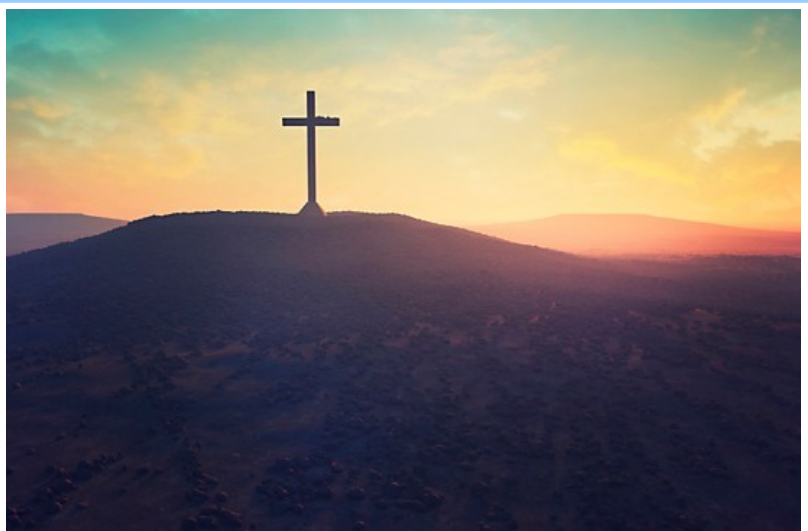
Garry Maher, Principal of St. Bede's Catholic College, said: *"This award is a reflection of the commitment and hard work of last year's Year 11 students. The dedication of teachers and the excellent partnerships that exist with parents demonstrates the aspiration we have for all learners at the college. This is an outstanding achievement and promises well for the continued success of students and everyone involved with St. Bede's."*

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT said:

"I am delighted that St. Bede's Catholic College has won an Educational Outcomes Award. This recognises an important aspect of the schools' work, but, as we know, there is much more to recognise in a good school like St. Bede's Catholic College. SSAT is pleased to recognise the quality of leadership and the hard work of all staff to ensure the success of every child. A big thank you and well done to pupils, parents, staff and governors."

May you find the renewal of hope, health, love and the spirit of God this Easter.

We wish all our families and parishes a Happy Easter.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

23rd March

END OF TERM 4

Pupils finish at 2.00pm

24th March

Duke of Edinburgh
Silver Training day

25th March

Year 11 History trip to
Berlin depart

28th March

Year 11 History trip to
Berlin return

30th March

GOOD FRIDAY

9th April

START OF TERM 5
Week B

13th April

Duke of Edinburgh
Bronze Award Group
1 depart

14th April

Duke of Edinburgh
Bronze Award Group
1 return

NEW SECURITY SYSTEM

We have installed a new security system at the college to ensure our pupils and staff are safe. Pupils from years 7—11 will no longer be able to enter the building before 8.00am. All parents and visitors will now need to come to the Main Reception to gain access to the college. This system will be activated at the beginning of Term 5.

EPQ PRESENTATION

On Wednesday 21st March Year 13 students took part in the EPQ presentation day. An EPQ requires the student to identify and design their own project, adopt a strategic approach to its management and work independently, it is an ideal vehicle for curriculum enrichment and academic extension and is warmly welcomed by universities because it provides evidence of a student's capacity for independent learning and the development of the very skills they will need to succeed at university. The students were tasked with delivering a 10 minute presentation on their individual research project as well as answering live questions from the audience, which is part of the qualification's formal requirements. It was a fantastic day, with everyone full of praise and positivity for all the students.



YOUNG ENTERPRISE

St. Bede's Young Enterprise Team 'Evoke' got through the West of England Area Heats on Thursday 15th March and have gained a place in the Area Finals at Kingweston House on Wednesday 25th April.

The team is made up of; **Ana Parish, Catherine Rolls, Annie Rogers, Giulia Ferrazzano, Megan Baber, Philippa Crane, Anna-Claire Lux** and **Ester Sukenikova**.

The team were showcasing their framed magnetic chalkboards. The frames are made from reclaimed wood, and decorated with pre-loved items that are filled with memories- from vintage tea sets to children's toys.

Evoke's tagline is 'more than a memory', and the team aim to set-up a service where customers can send in their unused yet memorable items and have them transformed into a useful memo board. The team also aspire to link up with Dementia UK, with the hope to spread their message and raise some funds for them.

Evoke were amongst 8 other teams to head through to the Area Final. Well done and we wish you the best of luck in the next stage of the competition!



RUGBY UPDATE

It has been a busy but frustrating term for Rugby at St. Bede's. With lots of Rugby 7s competitions scheduled before the Easter break we were hoping to be attending tournaments daily and the boys had been training accordingly. Unfortunately one opponent we had not prepared for was the 'Beast from the East!' Cancellations and postponements hampered our participation as many of the tournaments were called off. The most frustrating cancellation of all came at the 11th hour as our excellent year 11 sevens squad were sat in the bus, ready to leave for the **All England Under 16s 7s tournament in London**. "6 out of 7 fields are underwater, I'm afraid it's off." I'd dare say that the boys would have played wearing snorkels at that point but alas, it was a no go.



On the occasions when the weather has been a little kinder to us the college has performed admirably amongst strong opposition. Our Year 9 and 10s both battled to the very end in two strong Bristol Schools 7s tournaments and gave a fine account of their character and determination.

Our years 7s and 8s were also in competition, both performing excellently in the newly formed Bristol State School 7s. The year 7s were undefeated on the day, conceding only 3 tries in 5 games. Their demonstration of the values of rugby was a delight to see, particularly teamwork, sportsmanship, respect and enjoyment. Mention must be made to **Johan Regy** who was outstanding playing in his first Rugby tournament and has surely found a sport for the future.

After Easter the focus will go to the girl's rugby programme and an upcoming fixture for our Junior Girls versus Katharine Lady Berkeley. We look forward to sharing with you further sports news in future editions of our newsletter.

LANGUAGES SPEAKING COMPETITION

On Wednesday 21st March nine pupils attended the Languages Speaking competition at the Bath Royal High School. The competition attracts schools from the South West region and engenders confidence, fortitude and of course a passion for languages.

Congratulations to **Seamus Robinson, Charlotte Batt, Sophie Contenot, Alice Flageul, Matthew Chudley, John Gompels, Emily Lunson, Giulia Ferrazzano** and **Katie Gissing** who gave presentations from topics as diverse as holidays, family and signs of the zodiac.



Giulia Ferrazzano won the category of 'KS4 Near-native' with a wonderful and impassioned description of the region in Italy where her family comes from. Our other students gave their absolute best and were very unlucky not to win prizes. The Bath Royal High School were generous hosts and provided refreshments and lunch. All in all it was a great day and the students enjoyed themselves and many expressed interest in coming back again to compete next year.

FIRST STORY REGIONAL WRITING DAY

On Tuesday 20th March, the First Story writing group went to Bristol University. The day began with a welcome from the university team, followed by our first writing workshop with different schools. The writer who ran my workshop, Mimi Thebo, briefly discussed her books with us. The discussion was followed by an individual activity to help us understand how to create a character when writing a book.



After lunch, the university ambassadors took us on a guided tour of the campus. This campus visit was followed by meeting with another writer, Nikesh Shukla, who showed us how to write a book based on an imaginary character.

The day finished in the beautiful Great Hall of the Wills Memorial Building where students were selected to share the work they had created during the day. Miss Murray was very impressed with the quality of the writing we produced and those who got up to perform did St. Bede's proud. **Junior Toukam**, year 10.

LIBRARY

Bristol is one of the few places in the country that does not run a book award for authors of young adult books. Such awards help to promote reading for pleasure and research shows that teenagers who do read for pleasure are more likely to have a professional job aged 30 than those that don't. Launching later in the year 'The Day of Who' Book Prize is the first book award of its kind in Bristol and the first Young Adult award nationally dedicated to books exploring diversity. There will be a day of workshops run by the shortlisted authors which will be attended by Year 9 students from all secondary schools across Bristol and this will be followed by an award ceremony. The award is being organised by the School Library Association, which all school libraries in Bristol are members of. If you interested in being one of the sponsors of the award please contact librarydesk@stbcc.org

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

Around 20% of children may have either a behavioural or emotional problem at some time whilst growing up.

All young people are different. They have different rates of growth and development and have had different experiences that contribute to this. A change in a child's behaviour or emotional wellbeing may be noticed at home. Sometimes difficulties may only become noticeable at school or when the child is with others of the same age.

Parents who are concerned about their children's mental health and wellbeing can go on the MindEd for Families site for good quality, practical information free of charge. MindEd for Families offers relevant, practical information that parents and family members and professionals can trust. It includes top tips and helpful advice from parents with the lived experience of supporting a child with mental health problems.

<https://mindedforfamilies.org.uk/>

EASTER REVISION

We are offering numerous revision sessions for Year 11 and Year 13 pupils over the Easter Holidays.

Date	Year Group	Subject	Staff	Time
Monday, 26th March	11	Religious Formation	Mr McCarthy/ Mr Sutton	10.00am—2.00pm
Tuesday, 27th March	11 and 13	Art	Mrs Cannon	10.00am—2.00pm
	11	Textiles	Mrs McCauley	10.00am—2.00pm
	11	Design Technology	Ms Scadding	9.00am—3.00pm
	11	Music	Mr Lewis	10.00am—2.00pm
	13	Religious Formation	Mr McCarthy	10.00am—2.00pm
Wednesday, 28th March	11	Religious Formation Full Course	Mr McCarthy/ Mr Toffolo	10.00am—2.00pm
	11	Religious Formation Short Course	Mr Van De Poll	10.00am—12noon
	11	French (Speaking)	Mrs Owen/ Ms Sanders	10.00am—2.00pm
	13	Maths	Mrs Colebourne	9.00am—1.00pm
Thursday, 29th March	11	English Literature	Mr McNamara	10.00am—2.00pm
	11	Spanish (Speaking)	Mrs Owen	10.00am—2.00pm
	13	Religious Formation	Mr McCarthy	10.00am—2.00pm
Tuesday, 3rd April	11	French (Speaking)	Ms Sanders	10.00am—2.00pm
	11	Physics	Miss Povall	10.00am—2.00pm
	11	Music	Mr Poole	9.00am—3.00pm
Wednesday, 4th April	11	Maths Targeting Grades 4-6	Mr O'Gallagher	9.00am—1.00pm
Thursday, 5th April	11	Food	Mrs Walker	10.00am—2.00pm
Friday, 6th April	13	Psychology	Ms Hector	8.30am—12.30pm