

# St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College

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## ENGLISH SPEAKING UNION COMPETITION SUCCESS

Last Tuesday, St Bede's hosted the **Bristol Heat** of the **English Speaking Union debate competition**. There were seven teams competing in total with two teams from St Bede's. Our Year 10 team was **Isobel Clothier, Elizabeth Phillips White** and **Jessica Ball**, while Year 11 was represented by **Catriona Davies, John Gompels** and **Isabel Romero**.



The competition was very strong with a high level of debate around complex topics such as 'Words only have power if we give it to them' and a consideration of whether it is time for the cinematic race of superheroes to become extinct.

A special mention to **Jessica Ball** who was awarded '**Best Questioner**' and the **Year 11 team** who were awarded **runners up** and will represent St Bede's in the Bristol Final in January. Good luck!



## REFLECTION — 30th November - Feast of Saint Andrew

Andrew was Simon Peter's younger brother and both were called to be disciples and 'fishers of men.' However, in John's Gospel it states that Andrew was actually a disciple of John the Baptist and then made the decision to follow Jesus afterwards. He was believed to be one of Jesus' closest disciples, as it was Andrew who told Jesus about the boy with the loaves and fishes and was present at the Last Supper.

After preaching the Good News, Andrew was crucified on an x-shaped cross, known today as St Andrew's cross, as he deemed himself 'unworthy to be crucified on the same type of cross as Jesus.' St Andrew is the patron saint of Scotland and of fishermen and singers.

### Prayer:

God, Saint Andrew obeyed the call of Jesus and followed him without question. Grant that we may be willing to do the same in our lives and follow Jesus even through times where our belief may be questioned or challenged. Amen.

### Reflection:

"The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother, Simon, and tell him, 'We have found the Messiah.'"



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### 2nd December

Beginning of Advent

### 3rd December

Year 11 Mock Examinations begin

### 6th December

Year 12  
Parents Evening  
4.30pm—7.30pm

### 10th December

Week of Year 10  
Examinations in English,  
Maths and Science

### 14th December

Year 11 Mock Examinations end

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## WELLNESS SEMINAR

On Monday, 19th November the second of our wellness evening seminars took place. Thank you to the large number of parents who attended the presentation on 'healthy mind, healthy body.'

Facts were shared on a number of topics including;

- how best to look after young people's wellness
- practical revision techniques
- how to engage the reluctant learner
- how to spot the signs and symptoms of self harm
- eating disorders and how to support them through their recovery

The resources from the seminar can be found on the college website  
<http://www.stbedescc.org/news/?pid=3&nid=1&storyid=29>

## GOLD CREST AWARD

The Gold CREST award is a science-based project in which research/experimentation is conducted on any area a student is interested in. Congratulations to one of our Areté students, who this week received his award following his investigation into how drones can be used in relief efforts after natural disasters (such as earthquakes)



## GREASE UPDATE

Grease rehearsals are well underway with students working hard at lunch times and after school to perfect 'The Hand Jive' and 'We Go Together'

Please keep an eye out for rehearsal schedules in term 3 as there will be some weekend rehearsals as we get closer to show week!

Thanks to all of the students for their dedication and commitment so far.



## ROTARY YOUNG CHEF COMPETITION

Well done to one of our GCSE Food and Nutrition students who participated in the Rotary Young Chef competition on Tuesday, 20th November.

Having prepared and cooked a meal of stuffed chicken with tomatoes and raspberry fromage frais for dessert the judges were suitably impressed.

A wonderful experience, well done.



## SENIOR MATHS CHALLENGE

We were delighted to hear last week that our Sixth Form Mathematicians gained great results in their most recent Senior Maths Challenge.

The Senior Maths Challenge is a national competition aimed at 16-19 year olds. The top 60% of students nationally receive a Gold, Silver or Bronze certificate.

Congratulations to:

**Joseph Alexander** who received a **Gold** award and will now qualify for the next round. **Ciara Stables, Sam Ould** and **Mateusz Mera** who each received a **Silver** award and **Carlo Berondo, Finley Norton, Dylan Skuse** and **Ethan Woolley** who received a **Bronze**.

## THE WIZARD OF OZ DVD

Following our wonderful college production of **The Wizard of Oz**, we are delighted to inform you that the DVD of the performance is now available to purchase for £3.00 from Miss Adams in the Drama Studio.



## SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to **Seamus Robinson** and **Maeve Robinson** who both competed in the Bristol Schools Cross Country event at Bristol Grammar School on Wednesday 28th November. A

brilliant run from **Seamus** saw him **win the competition**. A great run from Maeve saw her finish in 16th place.



Congratulations to our year 7 and 8 Netball teams who participated in the Bristol Netball Festival at Clifton College on Wednesday. Some great team work and results. Well done.



## YOUNG ENTERPRISE AT ST NICHOLAS MARKET

Good luck to our Young Enterprise team 'Affoldables' who will have a stall at St Nicholas Market this Saturday 1st December. They will be there with all of the other West of England teams, and this will be their first competition of the programme.

The team have chosen the name Affoldables as they have created a range of handy and helpful products that are also foldable and affordable. They will be selling their 'Totables' - foldable tote bags, and their 'Holdables' - memory foam pouches that fold around a carrier bag, handbag and sports bag handles to relieve pain from the handles digging in! If you are free or are in town on Saturday, please pop along and say hello! We will be there from 9am-3:30pm.



There has been lots of rugby going on at St Bede's over the first two terms. The year 8's are showing themselves to be an exciting and committed group with an unprecedented amount of players putting themselves forward for matches.

## ST BEDE'S RUGBY



Our year 9's have had more fixtures than ever having taken part in a new **Bristol Schools Rugby State School Cup** competition. The cup was split in to two pools of four. The top two teams going through to a finals competition at Lockleaze and the bottom two from each group going in to a 'plate' competition at the same ground. Unfortunately, we didn't quite do enough to make the



cup competition but went in to the plate full of enthusiasm and ambition. The level of the teams was pitched perfectly after the group stages and none of the games were decided by more than a score. After beating **Bristol Cathedral School** in the **semi-final**, St Bede's came a **very close second** to a talented **Castle School** side. The inaugural incarnation of this competition was a great success and will hopefully see a much needed resurgence in school's rugby in the area.

Our Year 10's have had some more positive results and have managed to qualify for the next round of the **NatWest Bowl** after **beating Oasis Academy Brightstowe**. They will now travel away to face either **Reading School** or **Dauntsey's School** from Devizes.

In an exciting first for the College, we were able to field an Areté side for a fixture against **St Brendan's College**. Having had a few of our extremely successful Year 11 side from the 17/18 academic year go through in to our sixth form, we were able to field a very competitive team and **won the fixture 38-14**. We hope for this to be the start of many fixtures for Areté as we see more of our students stay on for the next level of their education with us.



### YEAR 7 ACTIVITY TRIP TO FRANCE

There are two places remaining on the year 7 activity trip to France which takes place during enrichment week in July 2019. Please contact Miss Chennells for further information.

## A TRIP OF A LIFETIME TO NEPAL

In October, twenty pupils from St. Bede's were fortunate enough to travel to Nepal for 16 days with the Scouts Cabot District. The group visited world heritage sites in BoudhaNath, SwayambhuNath and PashpartiNath, before travelling to Meghauli where they ran a Jungle Jamboree camp for local scout groups. They also visited health improvement projects and took part in an elephant safari.

Areté student **Eloise Mills** gives us an insight into the trip:

*A few weeks ago I went to Nepal. It was amazing and a trip of a lifetime.*

*Imagine riding an elephant in the middle of a jungle, finding wild hippos, or being climbed on by wild monkeys at a monkey temple. Now for some, this may not sound like 'the trip of a lifetime' but it really was. We hiked over the himalayas, went down water rapids and danced till our feet dropped and even saw a dancing cow!*

*The trip allowed me to make so many new friends, some Nepalese and some who also travelled with the scouts. People that I would never have usually spoken to, either because of social groups or age differences, have now become some of my closest friends.*

*Being able to escape reality and live a completely different life, and being able to experience a completely different culture was incredible.*

*Nepal was an experience that really has changed my life. The way that I now see materialistic goods has completely changed from how I did a few months ago. I have learnt so much from those weeks away, from how much we over-value useless items and how much I am wasting my time watching television.*

*Now I'm not saying you should go ahead and join scouts but I am saying do something which means something. Join new clubs, experience new things and step out of your comfort zone, because in reality, life is extremely short and we can't afford to waste it.*

**Eloise Mills - Year 12**



## UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS

Congratulations to a number of our Arété students who have already received interviews and offers to their chosen universities following their recent UCAS applications.

We were delighted this week to hear that Arété students **Jack Burns**, **Crina Koncsag** and **Joseph Alexander** have been invited to interview at Cambridge and Oxford respectively. Jack has applied to read Engineering, Crina Law, and Joseph Maths. Good luck to them all.



## FLYING START

Last week 29 Year 8 students enjoyed a day off timetable to work with Airbus engineers on the 'Flying Start Challenge'. The day gave the girls and boys a chance to gain some insight into the aviation industry by building a glider. The Challenge aims to enthuse and inspire young people to consider a career in the engineering industry; whilst teaching them about basic engineering concepts. Success is down to the pupils' design and build skills, and down to the engineering knowledge they have acquired during the Challenge.

Over the course of the day the students worked in teams to design and build a glider. The activity helped them to develop their communication and teamwork skills in an educational (and fun!) setting. It was a vital requirement that the glider they produced could carry a weight of 40g. Beyond this, points were awarded for distance and accuracy - the highest scoring gliders were those which could fly the furthest in a straight line. The pupils were taught about the theory of lift, and about how symmetry, and balance of weight and lift, leads to a successful glider. They also had to consider their materials budget, a financial skill which is vital for future careers.

Two teams of 4 students were successful in getting through to the **regional final**, in which pupils have to complete a poster presentation and a quiz to illustrate their knowledge of gliders. This will be held at Aerospace Bristol and students will get the opportunity to tour the museum and view the last Concorde to fly.

Congratulations to **Maya McKelvey, Ludovica Ferrazzano, Kate Ford, Stephanie Piechocki-Combacal, Alfie Wake, Sam Nganga, Edmund Diana, Rumbidzai Bhunhu** and **Katarzyna Mazurek** who were part of the winning teams.



## CHAPLAINCY DAY

On Friday 23rd November, members of the Year 7 Chaplaincy team took part in a Chaplaincy Training day with other Chaplaincy groups in our feeder primary schools. The day began with all the groups getting to know each other, before they joined together to focus around the theme of 'Prayer,' marking the beginning of our Diocesan year of Prayer.

They discussed what prayer meant to them and how they could make it more exciting and interesting to get more of the school involved.

All of the schools came up with some great ideas and we are looking forward to putting these into practice throughout the year and across the college as a Chaplaincy team.



## BOOKBUZZ READING CHALLENGE

There has been a real buzz about reading as our Year 7 pupils partake in 'Bookbuzz'. Each pupil has chosen and received a free book. They are challenging themselves to complete the Bookbuzz Reading Challenge!

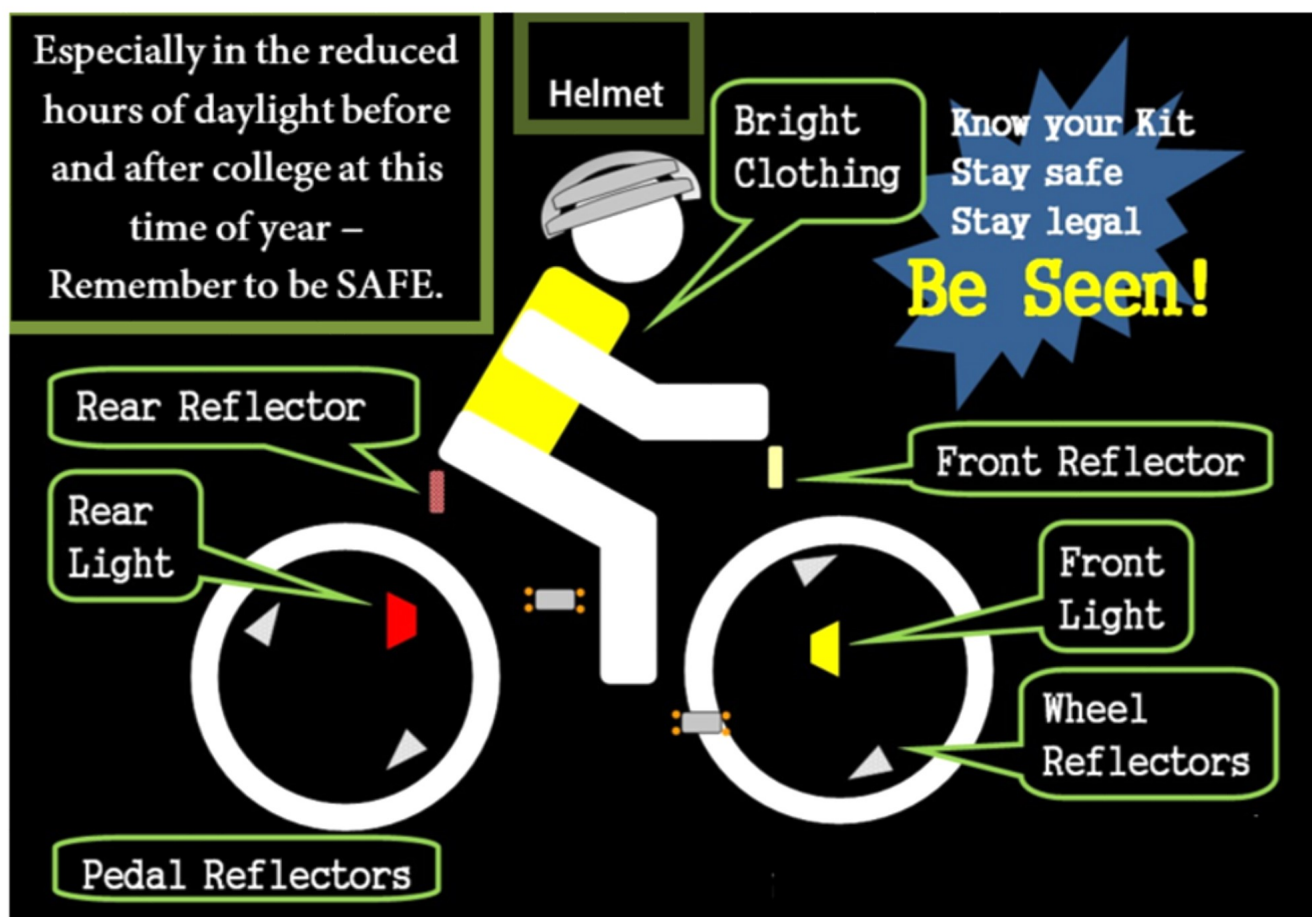
**Valerie Pat-Odoeme** said 'I liked learning about all the different books and taking the quiz. When all the books were introduced to me it gave me ideas of what to read and I'm now reading for 30 minutes every day. I used to read just for homework but now I'm reading by choice!'

**Thomas Harman** added: 'I chose *The Guggenheim Mystery*. It's a great book. Bookbuzz has inspired me to read different genres and I've really enjoyed listening to the authors talk about the books'.

Students can access Bookbuzz quizzes and competitions on the Booktrust website:  
<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/what-we-do/programmes-and-campaigns/bookbuzz/students/>



## SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT



## INTER HOUSE RESULTS

Following the **Inter House Netball** and **Rugby** events earlier this month the results are as follows:

		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
<b>GIRLS</b>	1st	PASTEUR	PASTEUR	PASTEUR	DESCARTES	BELL BURNELL
	2nd	DESCARTES	DESCARTES	DESCARTES	BELL BURNELL	DESCARTES
	3rd	BELL BURNELL	BELL BURNELL	BELL BURNELL	PASTEUR	PASTEUR
	4th	SEACOLE				
<b>BOYS</b>	1st	DESCARTES	BELL BURNELL	BELL BURNELL	DESCARTES	PASTEUR
	2nd	SEACOLE	PASTEUR	PASTEUR	BELL BURNELL	BELL BURNELL
	3rd	PASTEUR	DESCARTES	DESCARTES	PASTEUR	
	4th	BELL BURNELL				

Lower School Results	Pasteur	Descartes	Bell Burnell	Seacole
<b>End of Term 1</b>				
Cross Country	37	30	25	25
Spelling Bee	35	34	28	38
Great St Bede's Bake Off	34	13	33	25
Netball	20	17	15	13
Rugby	15	20	13	16
Total:	<b>141</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>117</b>

Upper School Results	Pasteur	Descartes	Bell Burnell
<b>End of Term 1</b>			
Cross Country	101	109	94
Spelling Bee	117	121	146
Great St Bede's Bake Off	52	81	43
Netball	70	67	66
Rugby	67	48	74
Total:	<b>407</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>423</b>