

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College



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Newsletter

Issue 290 20th December 2019

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



REFLECTION—25 December – Nativity of the Lord

What is the real meaning of Christmas? Is it the gifts under the tree, the lights in the windows, the cards, eating turkey with family and friends? It is all of these things and so much more.



Christmas is a season of great joy. It is a time of God showing His great love for us. It is a time of healing and renewed strength. Christmas is when we celebrate the birth of the Christ child. God sent His Son, Jesus, into the world to be born. His birth brought great joy to the world. Shepherds, wise men, and angels all shared in the excitement of knowing about this great event. They knew this was no ordinary baby. The prophets had told of His coming hundreds of years before. The star stopped over Bethlehem just to mark the way for those who were looking for this special child.

Why did God send His son to this sometimes cruel and hard world? He sent Jesus to us so that one day, He would grow up to become a very important part of history. His story is one of truth, love, and hope. It brought salvation to all of us.

Wishing you a happy and holy Christmas.

Reflection: I bring you news of great joy: today a saviour has been born to us, Christ the Lord. Luke 2: 10-11

Prayer:

Dear Lord

May this Christmas be full of peace within our hearts.

May we be reminded of new birth, and of redeeming love.

May we dwell within each moment and savour all we have.

May we find hope and power to pray for things that make us sad.

May our heart be ever thankful and our faith rise up high in praise.

May we know we're loved and treasured at this very special time of year. Amen

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

20th December 2019

END OF TERM 2

College will finish at
1.55pm
Coaches have
been advised

6th January 2020

START OF TERM 3 Week B

9th January 2020

Ski Trip
Parents' Meeting

13th January 2020

Year 13
Mock Exams
commence

13th January 2020

Week of Year 12
classroom exams

16th January 2020

Year 10
Future Quest trip

16th January 2020

Year 10
Parents' Evening
4.30pm- 7.30pm

17th January 2020

Year 11
Mock Results Day



CATHERINE HUGHES OBE

On Tuesday 26th November, Catherine Hughes former Principal at St. Bede's Catholic College received an OBE for her services to Education. It was presented by Prince William, Duke of Cambridge at Buckingham Palace.

We know that the St. Bede's community will share in our delight at hearing this news. A wonderful accolade and so well deserved after years of inspirational leadership, dedication and kindness. Our sincere congratulations.



ADVENT PRAYER STATIONS

During this season of Advent, every student in Years 7, 8 and 9 have had the opportunity to visit the chapel and use the Advent Prayer Stations that have been created.

The prayer stations allow us to reflect on the true meaning of the season and to think of others that may not be as fortunate as we are. There were stations looking at the 4 main themes of Advent, Hope, Peace Joy and Love as well as the chance to re-visit the nativity story and the role we see ourselves in.

The prayer stations were very well used by all students who, hopefully, will continue to take the chance to reflect on the real reason for the season.



ADVENT SERVICE

On Wednesday 18th December our college community came together for our Advent Service.

The atmosphere created was truly magical and a beautiful way to start the Christmas break.

Thank you to our pupils and staff for their hard work and our families and parishes for joining us.



CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations to pupils who received achievement awards yesterday.

They were nominated by Heads of House, Head of Year 7 and tutors for their consistent excellent attitude towards their studies.

Mr Maher presented the pupils with a small gift in recognition of their hard work.



JULIAN TRUST HAMPERS

Thank you all for your generosity this Christmas by donating various items for the hampers for the Julian Trust. These hampers will be used to provide hot food for the homeless in Bristol.

Years 7-13 have been busy filling the hampers and have managed to fill many hampers this Christmas. Year 10 pupils took the hampers to the shelter and were given a tour of the building by one of the volunteers who himself was homeless a few years ago. The pupils came away having a greater understanding of the important work that charities such as the Julian Trust do to serve the homeless in our city.



BAMBINELLI BLESSING

Bambinelli Sunday is a beautiful tradition that was started by Pope St. John Paul II and is celebrated on Gaudete Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent.

Thousands of people come to St. Peter's Square bringing the Baby Jesus figurines from their creches and nativity scenes; then, at the time of the Pope's Angelus address, he blesses all the little figures of the Child Jesus.

We were delighted to have our college crib figure blessed at Clevedon's Church of the Immaculate Conception last Sunday, 15th December by Fr Reg Gray.



WINTER FESTIVE FUN

Staff and pupils entered the festive spirit with an ice skating trip earlier this week.

What we may have lacked in pirouettes and sautés, we certainly made up for in laughter and fun!

On behalf of Bell Burnell, Descartes, Pasteur and Seacole house, we would like to wish all our pupils and their families a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year.



BOOK HAMPERS

"The more things that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." Dr Seuss - I can read with my eyes shut!

As part of our school-wide commitment to reading, this week Mr Maher presented book hampers to sixteen lucky recipients for them to enjoy over the Christmas holidays.



CAFOD YOUNG VOLUNTEERS CAKE SALE

On Thursday, 19th December our Year 10 CAFOD Young Volunteers held a cake sale at break time to raise money for CAFOD. They were delighted to raise nearly £100.00!

Well done.



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FOOD HAMPERS

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

Thank you to Mrs Louwers, Mrs Nevin and Mrs White who put them together and decorated them. Best wishes to all recipients.



MRS C'S CHRISTMAS CAFÉ

Mrs Curnock opened her Christmas Café for one day only last week to serve festive treats. Thank you to the Duke of Edinburgh pupils who prepared the refreshments.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

