

# St. Bede's Catholic College

## Specialist Science and Sports College



T: 0117 377 2200

E: [contact@stbcc.org](mailto:contact@stbcc.org)

W: [www.stbedesccl.org](http://www.stbedesccl.org)

Tw: STB\_Bristol

## Newsletter

Issue 301 3rd July 2020

### MESSAGE FROM MR MAHER, PRINCIPAL

I hope that you and your families remain safe and well.

As you will have heard in yesterday's government briefing, schools are to prepare for the return of all students in September in year bubbles. There is much to consider in the guidelines to ensure the safety of everyone at St Bede's and also that we comply with the recommendations being proposed. I will be updating the risk assessment with September in mind and will endeavour to share this along with the plans for the reopening before the end of this term.

The 'Return to learning and wellbeing' survey has been sent out to all families so that we can learn from the experiences of recent months. This will ensure that if there is a local lockdown in the future we are able to provide virtual lessons for all year groups along with what is provided via 'Show My Homework'.

The virtual taster sessions are available on line for students in Year 11 to make their final option choices for Areté should they be staying with us next year. We very much look forward to welcoming students as they begin their next phase of study.

Today would have been the Year 13 Leavers' Assembly followed this evening by their Prom. Although it is unlikely that we will be able to celebrate with students in the near future, I wanted to remind them that are not forgotten and are in all our thoughts every day.

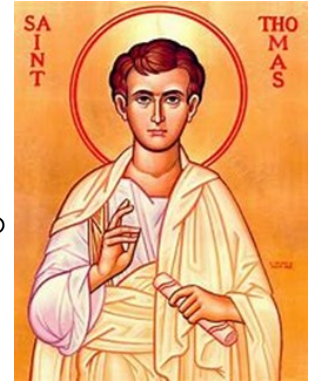
With prayers and every blessing,

J. G. Maher  
Principal



## REFLECTION— 3 July – St Thomas

This week we celebrate the feast day of St Thomas



The feast day of St. Thomas the Apostle is celebrated on July 3. Thomas was also called Didymus which means twin.

Thomas the Apostle was known for questioning things. He was not afraid to ask questions or state his disbelief. Jesus treated him with love and compassion.

St. Thomas was also known as "Doubting Thomas". After the resurrection Jesus appeared to the Apostles. Thomas was not there and did not believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. When Jesus later appeared to him he said "Peace be with you. Do not doubt but believe." (John 21:24) St. Thomas also asked Jesus "How can we follow you, when we know not where you are going?" Jesus responded, "I am the way, the truth and the life. Whoever follows me will live forever."

Thomas was one of the original twelve apostles. He was present at the Last Supper. He was also present when Jesus had the Apostles lower their nets and they miraculously caught many fish. After the resurrection, St. Thomas was sent to evangelize the Parthians, the Persians and India. He is believed to have built the first church in India. St. Thomas died a martyr's death when at Calamine in India he was speared to death while praying.

**Reflection:** After doubting that Jesus had indeed risen from the dead, Jesus appeared and showed his wounds to Thomas. After verifying the wounds were true, St. Thomas became convinced of the reality of the Resurrection and exclaimed, "My Lord and My God," thus making a public Profession of Faith in the Divinity of Jesus.

**Prayer:** Dear God,

Thank you that you're always there beside us, even when we're not sure what to believe.

Thank you that it is all right to have doubts and questions – you don't mind.

Help us to trust in you more and more, and like Thomas to keep growing in faith. Amen.

## BLACK LIVES MATTER

The #BlackLivesMatter protests recently, catalysed by George Floyd's death, have prompted St Bede's to re-commit to the message of anti-racism. As Christians, we know that all people are made in the likeness of God and are loved by God, and so we promote and support equality for all. Further to this, through our academic study and personal development programmes, all within the St Bede's community actively work to break down stereotypes and other barriers to BAME students reaching their full potential. Our work in this area is not perfect, and is something we will continue to work on, but we wanted to make this public commitment today.



In addition, below are some links to articles that may be helpful when discussing these matters with children:

<https://on.natgeo.com/3dToRPX>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/02/parenting/kids-books-racism-protest.html>

<https://bbc.in/2D1bYqd>

<https://bit.ly/38rtH5K>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/watch/p00y6zlr>

## MESSAGES OF SUPPORT

### Dear Year 12 students,

It has been lovely to see even more of you returning to college. We are delighted that so many of you have also joined the online lessons. Even virtually, it feels nice to be resuming some form of normality.

We know you are working hard on UCAS preparation, apprenticeship research and writing personal statements.

There are some webinars and live Q&A sessions being hosted by UWE in the coming weeks, that you may find useful.

You will need to register beforehand. To do so, follow the links below:

### Wednesday 8th July, 13:30-14:15 - "Writing a successful personal statement"

<https://bit.ly/2Aqjl9O>

### Thursday 9th July, 13:30-14:15 - "Writing a successful personal statement"

<https://bit.ly/2BpwGzT>

Remember to join the Google Meet sessions arranged by your tutors so that we can support you in this process. Your tutors will be emailing you directly with the date and time of these.

Best wishes, Miss Kirkbright and Mr Sutton

### Dear Year 11 Areté Sixth Form applicants,

As we are sadly unable to hold our usual Areté Taster Day this year, we have been thinking of ways to help you get excited about studying in the Sixth Form. We have put together resources that we hope will help you begin the process of induction, albeit virtually this year.

On the Sixth Form area of our website you will find a tab called 'Sixth Form Virtual Taster Day' with a series of video messages and taster lessons for each subject area. I recommend you watch the 'Hello from the Sixth Form team' videos first and then watch the taster lessons that are relevant for your desired course of study. If you are unsure about which subjects to study in September, this is a good opportunity to watch a range of subject taster lessons to help you in your decision-making process.

I will be in touch again with further details about the enrolment process, which will happen in August when GCSE results are issued.

I look forward to welcoming you to Areté in person in September.

Best wishes, Miss Kirkbright

### Physical Education

Please let us know which activities you liked best from the June exercises. I know some of you have certainly enjoyed some more than others. I agree with you, and I am still not very good at the dance ones although I know some of you have really enjoyed them! There will be more ideas to follow.

You will see that we have been asked to complete a survey on active lives. This is a request from Sport England. If possible please complete it (but check with someone at home first).

The link is on SMHW along with the letter that I emailed home. We hope you are all well and keeping active in some way. Stay Safe Miss C Chennells

## Descartes House - Different People, Different Strengths

As another fortnight has passed, I say again a warm hello to all Descartes pupils and families. I hope you are well and are still enjoying restrictions being lifted, although queuing for shops in the rain is not much fun!

I have added to the top of this the motto that was voted for earlier in the year by you all that was organised by Leila and Jacob. It is almost good to go on our logo. I am continuing to enjoy seeing lots of you at school and some new faces this week.

As I said in my SMHW message, I can't wait for us all to be able to be together as a House community. I am enjoying reading your messages and emails of what you have been up to, keep this coming!

I know I have said it before, but I will say it again! I am proud of each and every one of you for your resilience and efforts during this difficult time for us all. Please try not to worry about school work, do your best and we will sort the rest together! Remember, I am at the end of an email or SMHW if you need anything. Take care and stay safe.  
Ms Johnston

## Bell Burnell House

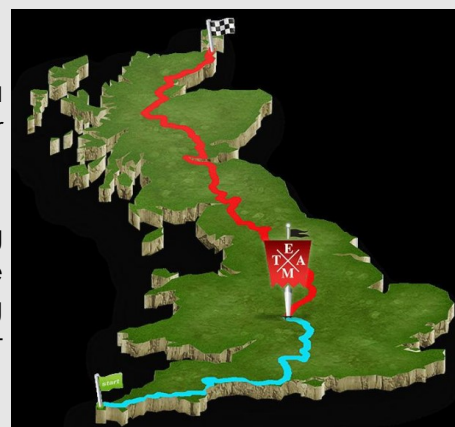
A warm hello to all Bell Burnell House pupils and families. As this is the term that we normally complete a massive charity event I thought that I would introduce my biggest lockdown challenge so far. The plan, as a Bell Burnell House team, is to walk, run and cycle the equivalent distance from Land's End to John O'Groats – 874 miles or 1407km.



We are using the Strava app to record the distances by each of you. Please therefore download the app and under 'clubs,' search Bell Burnell House Challenge, and request to join. At the moment we have 13 members which include both pupils and staff. Bell Burnell House has always participated in large numbers for this type of event, so I would love that EVERYONE joined in and helped us reach our goal by the end of this term. Even a short walk would add to the total. We have currently made it from Land's End to Worcester, which is a distance of 460km so with two weeks to go, we REALLY need YOUR help!

This challenge also links very well with Mr.Luke's plea from last week, that we all stay active and maintain or even improve our health during this lockdown period.

I have sent out lots of emails this week congratulating so many of you for the excellent work that you are producing, so well done for being so resilient. A big thank you must also go to the parents for your support and constant cajoling.



Take care and stay safe,  
Mr Johnson



### **Hello all my lovely year 7's,**

What a strange year it has been, I will certainly remember this one and all of you that is certain.

Around this time normally you would be transferring into the house system, so those coloured ties you so proudly wear will become even more important. I am keeping hold of the year group for a couple of weeks more but then I will pass you onto your wonderful Heads of House as I will need to take on the new year 7 group.

If you are not sure who your Head of House will be, this should help.

**Bell Burnell** - Mr Johnson

**Descartes** - Ms Johnston

**Pasteur** - Ms Sharp

**Seacole** - Mrs Turri

I know this is another change for you but it will be one you make together with your tutor groups and your Heads of House will look after you really well.

I would like to ask you one thing, remember what it felt like being new, possibly unsure and worried about the older students and look out for the new year 7's who will need your support! Please do keep emailing me about anything at all.

Wishing you all a great last couple of weeks of term. Mrs Carmichael

### **Seacole House**

Hello again, last newsletter we were at the start of the final term and now I'm sure you are like me and thinking about the end of this term. I'm hoping that I will be able to get away on my holiday to North Wales.

To inspire you to over these next two weeks I'm setting a scavenger hunt picture challenge for you. Each day will have a different theme and the idea is for you to find a picture that relates to the theme. The picture may be something you go out to find or maybe already in your photos. You can also use images from the internet but you must say they are not originally yours. For week 1 the themes are a car, a post box, something square, a flower and a sign. For week 2 the themes are a book cover, a circle, a flag, a vegetable and a celebration. More details will be on Show My Homework from Monday.

Finally certificate nominations this week are **Amelia Cygan, Jessica Escosio, William Jones** and **Luke Naylor**, well done virtual certificates will be on the way to you. Mrs Turri

### **Pasteur House**

Hello Lovely Pasteur Pupils,

In our penultimate newsletter, a huge 'Well Done' to you for maintaining such a positive mental attitude thus far. I know as we draw nearer to the end of term, many of us may have mixed emotions...Such as, What will happen next year? Have I done enough? My advice is still to try not to worry, stay positive, continue to engage with what you can, communicate (via email, Google Meet, Google classroom and all the other platforms available to you) with your subject teachers honestly, your Tutors, our support staff and of course your parents.....and me! We are a support network to help us get through this together and when we return, we will build on our experiences - together.

Please continue to send in work that you're proud of - there is an abundance of talent out there that continues to amaze me. Your stories of what you've been up to, what you have had to cope with and those stories that make me laugh are all really appreciated; as are your messages of support to me. You are such thoughtful young people who I miss dearly. Remember also, to look after, value and appreciate your lovely families, especially, as they have been juggling everything to ensure that this pandemic does not have a negative impact on you, on so many levels. You are awesome! Ms Sharp and Norman #inthistogether #anythingispossible

## PAST PUPIL SUCCESS

Congratulations to past pupil **Rebecca Gormley** (2009-2016) who achieved a **First Class Honours Degree** in **Human Geography** at **Cardiff University**. An amazing achievement.

We always look forward to hearing of the successes of our past pupils.  
Please do email us at [contact@stbcc.org](mailto:contact@stbcc.org)

## IMPORTANT NOTICE—Year 11 Areté Sixth Form applicants

Year 11 Areté Sixth Form applicants have been emailed a Google form to confirm the courses they would like to study in September.

We would be grateful if this form is completed by Wednesday 8th July 2020.

## SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

Here are some top tips to help you to ensure that your child is healthy, happy, and safe.

To help your child have a fun and safe summer break:

- Try not to relax the important rules – don't be surprised when the rules are stretched or broken
- Always know where they are – who they are with and who their friends are.
- Get them home safely – Make it completely acceptable for them to call day or night if they need a lift home
- Stay safe near water – Teenagers, are most at risk from features near to homes such as rivers, lakes, flooded quarries and coastal water near to the shore. Having an early conversation with teens about the risks of colder, open water is important.
- Even the strongest swimmer can be affected by cold water shock, which affects your ability to control breathing. This can lead to gasping, panic and – in the worst cases – drowning. Cold water shock can start in water of 15C – the average temperature of the sea around Britain is 12C : here is some advice about water safety: <https://bit.ly/2Bzjd8A>
- Stay safe in the sun – here is some special summer advice about sun safety <https://bit.ly/2YYi17M>



## UNIFORM UPDATE

### Important Notice: Please read before traveling to College to collect uniform

Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions, not all items have arrived at the college, in particular the college blazers.

#### Ordered on-line via SCOPAY?

Please check your order status on SCOPAY. If it says OPEN your order is not ready for collection. If it says RECEIVED, it is ready for COLLECTION.

#### Not ordered on-line via SCOPAY?

You will not be able to view your order status. If you have only ordered a small number of items (3 or less) please telephone the college to check your order status on 0117 3772200.

We are anticipating that any outstanding orders will be completed in time for the new college year. Please check for updates on the college website from 17th August 2020.

The days for collection are as follows:

Monday 6th July - Surnames A-E

Tuesday 7th July - Surnames F-L

Wednesday 8th July - Surnames M-R

Thursday 9th July - Surnames S-T

Friday 10th July - Surnames U-Z

If you are unable to make the allocated day please ring 0117 3772200 to arrange another day.

For exchanges the system is the same for the following week;

A-E 13th July

F-L 14th July

M-R 15th July

S-T 16th July

U-Z 17th July

**Payment:** Cash or Cheque only—We are currently unable to accept card payments. Cheques to be made payable to St. Bede's Catholic College.

Please note all items returned will be quarantined for 7 days before being re-issued. These will then be reallocated. You may not get the replacement for returned items immediately, please make sure you bring your receipt back with you so that it can be amended. You cannot return socks if they have been tried on.

If you have any queries please email [m.cheshire@stbcc.org](mailto:m.cheshire@stbcc.org).

Please could we also remind parents that all pupils should wear black shoes which can be polished or are patented. In the interests of safety, shoes must not have a heel. Canvas, suede or trainer shoes are not permitted.



## ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Achievement prize draws have taken place for each year group to win vouchers for the Mall at Cribbs Causeway.

Teachers have nominated pupils who have been working really well at home and many students received more than one nomination. The prize draw for each year group can be found by following the link below.

Congratulations to all of the winners, you will receive your vouchers on the reopening of school next academic year.

Year 7 prize draw: <https://www.loom.com/share/30a602e42ae545d9be939bcbcbde5be04>

Year 8 prize draw: <https://www.loom.com/share/14186a8deb44474e9e3293a60448053b>

Year 9 prize draw: <https://www.loom.com/share/977bb70c2ae744a3a402cc54038ab1d8>

Year 10 prize draw: <https://www.loom.com/share/fcbe5ff76abb4f16949379ffcadb60>

Year 12 prize draw: <https://www.loom.com/share/5dbb7bd9a0214144b1cba723f299d7a9>

Additional prize draw for students with work in the newsletter or on the website:

<https://www.loom.com/share/7d3ca6e358184d25b3608a787484ee83>

## CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT

As always our wonderful pupils have stepped up to produce fantastic work in all subjects. Please do visit our [Celebrate Achievement](#) page on our website.



Ella Griffiths, Year 7



Anthony Jacobs, Year 8



Lara Moriarty, Year 8



Dea Rasha, Year 8



Miranda Carr, Year 7



Morella Wallis, Year 8



## SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT



### Matters of the Mind

#### Every life is sacred

In a recent address Pope Francis condemned "the sin of racism". "We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life", he said.

..any kind of social or cultural discrimination in basic personal rights on the grounds of sex, race, colour, social conditions, language or religion, must be curbed and eradicated as incompatible with God's design.

Gaudium et Spes ("The Church in the Modern World"), Vatican II, 1965, #29



Dealing with racism is our collective responsibility, and not only when we are challenged by distressing scenes in the media. Here are some useful tips on how our young people can boost their awareness and positive mental health; <https://bit.ly/2ZBEpmb>



#### Preparations for the return to college – Survey

In order to be well placed to support children when we return to college for the start of the new academic year, the survey link here has been emailed out to all families for completion by Friday 10th July.

The questions are designed to provide us with a sense of the experiences of children while they have been away from the college and is therefore optional. Years 7-11 : <https://bit.ly/3iuUMcX>

Areté 6th Form : <https://bit.ly/3gplfaI>

## VACCINATIONS

If you have a child that was due his or her vaccination this year before lock down - you will need to take him or her to have it done at home over the next few weeks.

The vaccine that was due was the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Vaccine for your Male and Female child in YEAR 8 and Female child in YEAR 9.

If the clinics below do not suit, you can contact your immunisation team directly and arrange the vaccination with another clinic closer to you.

They can be contacted on the following numbers: **01454 868 387/01454 868 338 or 01275 373 104**

For your ease, please find the clinics listed below that have been given to us already:

Kingswood Locality Hub - Alma Road, Kingswood, BS15 4DA—Tel: **01454 868 387**  
Or Pill Clinic - 3 Station Road, Pill North Somerset, BS20 0AB—Tel: **01275 373104**

## LIBRARY NEWS

For the latest Library Newsletter please click the following link:

<http://www.stbedesc.org/attachments/download.asp?file=2103&type=pdf>

JULY 2020

VOL. 7



# ST. BEDE'S LIBRARY

What's On with the Library



## This Week:

**Plastic  
Free  
July**

**What's on  
your summer  
reading list?**

## CAREERS INFORMATION

Apprenticeship opportunities at HMRC21 Level 3 apprenticeships are available within HMRC's "Surge and Rapid Response Teams" This is an exciting opportunity for students who are 16 years or over and looking for an apprenticeship. The location is Bristol. Click the link for more information [57579](https://www.hmrc.gov.uk/apprenticeships/)

### Next steps for current year 11 pupils - Post 16

Details can be found within the careers information section at [www.stbedesc.org](http://www.stbedesc.org)

<https://bit.ly/3e34Bf2>

If you have applied for a course at the City of Bristol College please see here for the recent update from the College

<https://bit.ly/3glppjh>

## YOUTH ALPHA

Over the Lockdown period twenty-eight young people from the parishes of St Josephs, Portishead, St Francis' Nailsea and others across Bristol came together to meet weekly online. They were led by a group of six-formers, a Youth Leader, members of the Parish, Ms Sharp and Father Tom Dubois. The sessions sparked deep discussions, fun interaction, a sense of reflection and much more. The group also included St Bede's pupils from Years 9 to 11 who all enjoyed the course and 'having something to look forward to during Lockdown'. It is fair to say that the Alpha course is a journey that is recommended as there is a lot to think about and take away to help us all to grow spiritually.

