

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College



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Newsletter

Issue 304 25th September 2020

MESSAGE FROM MR MAHER, PRINCIPAL

Students in all year groups have been responding to the new routines and expectations well. We are all learning to live with the restrictions being placed on us and acknowledge that this is not always easy. As I walk around the corridors students are engaged in learning and there is a calmness in classrooms which is encouraging to see. Students clearly want to learn and make the most of the opportunities they are being given.

All staff at St Bede's are working hard and are committed to ensuring students catch up on missed learning. We are extremely keen to remain open for all our young people and are constantly reviewing our systems and procedures to make sure we are doing all we can to avoid any future disruption to learning. It was therefore disappointing to have to send the letter home to parents yesterday with everything that had been put in place.

All students are now expected to wear face coverings at all times other than when they are in lessons or eating in the dining hall. Students were reminded of the new expectations as they arrived in College this morning and this will be reinforced next week. Cloth masks are easily washed and are better for the environment. Whilst being more cost effective we also find that students take more care of them rather than the disposable version.

I understand that this is a very anxious time for everyone involved with St Bede's and wanted to reassure you that I am following the advice from the Department for Education and will always endeavour to keep you well informed in a timely manner. May I also thank you for your continued support at this difficult time.

With prayers and all good wishes,
J.G Maher
Principal

HEAD BOY AND HEAD GIRL 2020-2021

Congratulations to the following Year 11 pupils who, following interview, were selected as Senior Prefects within the college.

Head Boy: **Len Noel**

Head Girl: **Aleena Thomas**

Deputy Head Boy: **Chris Mathew**

Deputy Head Girl: **Laurie Fleming**

Assistant Head Boy: **Alfie Cummings**

Assistant Head Girl: **Isobel Patel**

Senior Prefects:

**Jack Daniels, Albert Jackson,
Erin O'Callaghan, Emily Ridewood,
Seamus Robinson and Kasia Wozniak**



REFLECTION — 26 September

Memorial of Ss Cosmas and Damian

The feast day of Ss Cosmas and Damian is celebrated on September 26. They are the patron saints of (among others) doctors, surgeons, dentists, pharmacists, veterinarians, and barbers (who were the original surgeons).



Other than the fact that they existed and were buried in the Syrian city of Cyrrhus, very little is known for certain about Saints Cosmas and Damian.

According to tradition, they were twins, were educated in Syria and both were doctors. Renowned during their lives for their healing arts, they are said to have brought many pagans to the Christian Faith by offering their services free of charge, leading to them being named anargyrci "the silverless" or "the unmercenaries". Their careers were cut short around 300 AD when they were imprisoned during the persecution of Christians by the Roman emperor Diocletian, they were tortured and finally beheaded.

Their reputation for healing continued after their martyrdom, as many miraculous cures were attributed to their intercession.

Reflection: If so little about these saints is actually known, why do we honour them? When so many believers continue to honour the memory of martyrs, year after year and all over the world, there is good reason to believe that their lives were true witnesses to the Gospel. People who live and die according to their convictions and faith, give hope to the world long after their deaths. Their lives can inspire us and encourage us to be faithful during our little trials and sorrows.

Prayer:

O Physicians of souls, Saints Cosmas and Damian, stand before the Lord of All and ask Him to heal me and all those dear to me of any spiritual ills we may endure.

Drive away from us all sin and sadness of mind, all darkness and despair. Make us then willing and loving servants of Christ, following your holy example of detachment from the things of this world and care for the needs of our neighbours.

On the glorious day of the Universal Resurrection may we shine with you in the full health of our nature restored by the mercies of Jesus who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

VIRTUAL OPEN EVENING

The **St. Bede's Catholic College Virtual Open Evening** is now available to view on our website and Youtube Channel: [St. Bede's Catholic College, Bristol](#)

A reminder about applications:

Supplementary Information forms for prospective Year 7 pupils should arrive in College by **31st October 2020**. Parents must also have submitted the Common Application Form to their local authority by that date.

YEAR 7 NEWS

Year 7 have had another great week. I know there have been a few issues with various online accounts being created and logged into such as SatchelOne and Google Classroom and I thank all of you for your support and patience as we get everything organised.

Everyone in Year 7 has been set a simple task to complete on their tutor google classroom and it would be fantastic if everyone could have a go over the weekend. If there are any issues at home with accessing online work, please do get in touch.

I wish everyone a relaxing weekend and remind you all to start wearing your school jumpers as the weather is getting colder, particularly as the windows will remain open in the classrooms.

Mrs Carmichael
Head of Year 7

GABBLERS PUBLIC SPEAKING SUCCESS

We are absolutely delighted to be able to announce that **John Gompels** in Year 13 has won the prestigious Gabblers Public Speaking competition this year.

The grand final of the competition should have taken place just as the country locked down in March so it was decided to take aggregate score from the five "heats". John was a deserved winner in a year where the competition was especially fierce (QEH were second, BGS third). We are also immensely proud of **Megan Scarpati** who developed her public speaking skills so brilliantly in the competition too.



This is the **second year in a row that a St Bede's pupil has won The Gabblers** after **Shanaz Sharonsenthil** won last year. We believe that this is the first time that a state school has won twice in a row.

Huge congratulations to John and Megan!

YEAR 10 SCIENCE—INFORMATION

Please be advised that groupings for Year 10 science are temporary. Due to the partial closure of the school, we would like to give every child the opportunity to have their class placement reviewed. All Year 10 classes are currently studying the same topics to allow their teachers to review their progress in December prior to making any set changes or changes from Triple to Double Science and vice versa.



LIBRARY NEWS

"Reading is the key that opens doors to many good things in life. Reading shaped my dreams, and more reading helped me make my dreams come true."

— Ruth Bader Ginsburg , US Supreme Court Justice, 1933-2020

At St. Bede's we are keen readers for pleasure. Although we have had to close the physical library at the moment all pupils have now got access to the College library database so that they can still borrow books. They can access it at <https://u013370.microlibrarian.net/> and all pupils have been given their logons and passwords. Books are delivered to their classrooms and are quarantined for 72 hours on return before being available for reissue. If anyone has any problems accessing the database they can email the College Librarian, Mrs Hayman, on librarydesk@stbcc.org

DANCE

For obvious reasons our dance clubs are unable to take place this year. However, there is still a chance to represent St Bede's in the national schools' dance competition '**The Great Big Dance Off**'. The competition this year will be for solo entries and will be virtual.

The judging will be based on video entries and as a school we are allowed to submit multiple videos for KS3, 4 and 5. If you would like to be considered to represent St Bede's please record a video of yourself dancing any style or genre for no longer than 3m30s. Please note it is not a pro dancing competition, it is for schools, so all ages and dance abilities are welcomed! Costume is not required and will not play any role in the judging.

Email your video via www.wetransfer.com to Mrs Shaddick, Miss Hayre or Miss Simpson before Monday 12th October. More details can be found on show my homework.



GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE

We have received an 'almost final' update from AQA - which does not include timings.

This means that although ONE of the THREE set texts : 'A Christmas Carol' , AQA Poetry Anthology and 'An Inspector Calls' can/will be 'dropped' this will be decided by the individual student and their teacher. Discussions in class will be taking place over the forthcoming week. For further information:

<https://bit.ly/3cu6O3M>

Please follow
St. Bede's Catholic
College
on Twitter



[stb_bristol](https://twitter.com/stb_bristol)

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

Free School Meals

Did you know for every pupil registered for free school meals your child's school receives extra funding from the Government?



Is your child eligible for Free School Meals?



- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit with an annual gross income into the household that is no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on-paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

What to do next? Download an application form from our college website:

<https://bit.ly/33TPqI8>

or contact Mrs Mason on 0117 3772200

VACCINATIONS

Please find below the dates of vaccinations which will take place at college this academic year:

Thursday 24th September 2020

Flu vaccinations for all Year 7

Wednesday 30th September 2020

HPV Vaccinations for all Year 9

Tuesday 2nd February 2021

MenACWY/Dtp for all Year 9

Monday 10th May 2021

HPV Vaccinations for all Year 8

COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

Public Health England have produced a letter for schools which explains when a person requires a coronavirus test and what the symptoms of coronavirus are.

The intention of the letter is to help prevent children being taken out of school unnecessarily and answer some of the questions parents may have around testing. A copy of the letter has been uploaded to our website:

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



<https://bit.ly/3j4jhhd>

CLEANER VACANCY

The College has a vacancy for an all year round **Cleaner**.

This will be a permanent contract of **16 hours per week** for which the hours of work are 3.15pm to 6.30pm Monday to Thursday and 3.30pm – 6.30pm on Friday. The hourly rate is £9.00.

This post is subject to a 6-month probationary period. Successful candidates will be required to undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service Check before starting work.

A job description and application form can be downloaded from the website or a hard copy can be posted to you.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Wayne Haskins or Mr Martin Britton on 0117 377 2200.

POLITE REMINDER—DINNER MONEY

It would be really helpful if your child has the correct dinner money when paying for their school lunch. We are seeing a huge number of children, particularly at the beginning of the week, bringing large notes into college.

UNIFORM ORDERS

Please can we remind all parents/carers that uniform orders should be made online using the SCOPAY link. If you need any further information re: SCOPAY please email: finance@stbcc.org

BIKE SAFETY

With the increase in pupils cycling to college, please ensure your child is wearing a helmet and that bikes are roadworthy.

