

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College



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Newsletter

Issue 309 30th April 2021

MESSAGE FROM MR MAHER, PRINCIPAL

Schools Minister Nick Gibb has suggested again this week that students in secondary schools in England will no longer be required to wear face coverings in the classroom from 17th May. This decision is dependent on data continuing to fall.

Students in all year groups are working well but we all hope that this will happen to give us continued hope of a return to the normal function of schools and movement around the buildings.

Interviews for Vice Principal will be taking place next week and senior prefects will be involved in the interview process as they were for the appointment of the Principal.

As previously advised, we were fortunate to be awarded a grant of approximately £1 million as part of the government decarbonisation scheme. Work on this continues and will start on site at the end of June in order that this is completed over the summer holidays.

Could I remind parents not to park in the bus bays at the end of the day. The bus bays are to provide a safe exit for students travelling by bus which have not been able to park appropriately a number of times recently. Thank you for your cooperation on this.

REFLECTION – 1st May – St Joseph the Worker

This weekend we celebrate the Feast of St Joseph the Worker

Joseph understood the importance of work. He was a carpenter—a builder—and probably taught Jesus his trade. Through his work, Joseph honoured the Father in heaven and continued the act of creation. He lived in dignity.

To give workers a patron, the Church turned to Joseph, who had been made the Patron of the Universal Church by Pope Pius IX in 1870 and the model for fathers of families. Joseph was named protector of workers by Pope Benedict XV, and in 1955, the feast of Saint Joseph the Worker on May 1 was proclaimed by Pius the XII.

Reflection: "He [St. Joseph] belongs to the working-class, and he bore the burdens of poverty for himself and the Holy Family, whose tender and vigilant head he was." Pope Pius XI

Prayer:

Let us pray to Saint Joseph for his help in all our work and for those many people who want and need jobs but cannot find them.

God, the creator of all things, who formed the law of labour for the human race, graciously grant that by merits and patronage of St. Joseph, we may do the work you assign us and earn the reward you promise. You have created all things, and imposed on us all the necessity of work. Grant that, following Joseph's example, and under his protection, we may accomplish the works you give us and obtain the rewards You promise. Amen.



SURFERS AGAINST SEWAGE

We are very proud of the sixteen students who participated in a filmed poetry reading for the climate change and environmental charity Surfers Against Sewage. Filming took place on school grounds, in the sunshine, at the end of last term and all who participated excelled in their individual performances, showcasing high levels of professionalism whilst we had visitors in school.

St. Bede's and our young people are all now part of such a worthy cause that will hopefully bring about real change for the better when it comes to the ocean and climate change emergency that our nation is currently facing. As a college community we are very proud of our young people and their achievements.

You can view the poetry reading here:

<https://youtu.be/UdODJ5WSODQ>



CASHLESS SYSTEM

Please be advised that as a cashless school, except for school meals or charity donations, we no longer accept cash or cheques for payment of trips, equipment, uniform etc. Any uniform, revision guides, trips (except for Ski) or equipment will need to be paid via SCOPAY, which is accessible on the school website: <https://www.scopay.com/stbedecollege-bristol> If you are not registered to use SCOPAY please contact: finance@stbcc.org to obtain the 'link code' to enable you to use this service.

Outstanding Uniform

You may be aware that over the past year we have had issues obtaining the uniform needed for our students, particularly bearing in mind the change in the style of skirts, boys trousers and the introduction of trousers for girls last year. Unfortunately the situation is still not resolved, partly due still to the backlog of uniform outstanding to schools due to COVID and there is now an issue following the blockage of the Suez Canal, alongside problems with shipping goods in general.

We would like to update our list of outstanding uniform orders that were placed before Christmas. If you are waiting for any items of uniform from before Christmas please can you email Mrs Mason on c.mason@stbcc.org stating the name of your child(ren) and whether you placed the order online or on paper. We will then tie up the outstanding items with the original orders. If you can do this by the end of May this would be much appreciated.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

3rd May 2021
BANK HOLIDAY



FOUNDATION GOVERNOR VACANCY

St. Bede's Catholic College has a vacancy on the Governing Body for a Foundation Governor. We are particularly interested in anyone who may have an interest in Sites and Buildings, although this is not essential. For further information:

<https://cliftdiocese.com/news/could-you-be-a-school-governor/>

If you are interested, please complete the online form:

<https://schools.cliftdiocese.com/form->

LIBRARY

Mrs Hayman enjoyed reading her first recommendation 'I am Malala' in the sun last weekend and is looking forward to starting 'The Perfect Parent Project' by Stewart Foster when it comes out of quarantine. If you have a book recommendation, please email her on Library Desk and you could be in with a chance to win a book.

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

"On site, out of sight"

Reminder



As you are aware, our college policy on mobile phones recognises the safeguarding benefits of young people having mobile phones for the journey to and from college.

The policy is "on site, out of sight", meaning students can bring mobile phones to college but they must be kept out of sight when in college – either in their bag or in their locker, switched off.

Bringing a mobile phone will be at the student's own risk and the college will not accept responsibility for damage or loss of any such item. A failure to keep mobile phones, in any area of the college including Reception, "out of sight" will result in them being confiscated. Collection of confiscated items by parents from the college reception can be arranged by appointment.

Therefore, under no circumstances should children be phoning or texting home to report any discomfort or illness. Children who are feeling unwell must report to First Aid in the college as directed by a member of college staff.

Volunteer with Supportive Parents!

Special Educational Needs
Disability Information and
Advice Service

. Are you aged 11 - 25?

. Do you have special educational needs or a disability (SEND) ?

. Would you like to:

- Have your voice heard on SEND issues affecting young people?
- Make friends in an SEND friendly environment?

If the answer's yes, then join our Young Persons (YP) participation group!

Find out more on our [volunteering page!](#)

