

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College



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Newsletter

Issue 312 18th June 2021

MESSAGE FROM MR MAHER, PRINCIPAL

It was an anxious start to Term 6 with four confirmed cases of Covid-19 and the frustration for students and their families having to isolate from college again. Thank you to all families for ensuring that your children continue the twice weekly lateral flow testing – this is making a difference. The government announcement of the postponement of the full easing of restrictions in England has also been incredibly disappointing for everyone and has necessitated further amendments to our plans for year 6 and sixth form transition events at the end of June and beginning of July.

Final arrangements for moderation and checking of teacher assessed grades has been completed prior to the deadline for uploading results to the examination boards on Friday 18th June. Students in years 11 and 13 have demonstrated incredible resilience throughout this year with advice changing continually. The final assessments were undertaken in a diligent manner and the outcome bodes well for the results in August. I would like to thank all teachers for the efforts they have gone to in ensuring a fair and consistent system which will stand up to scrutiny from outside agencies.

Let us all hope that college life will return to 'normal' in September and allow for students to move around college together freely and for all the activities for which St Bede's is known to continue. Students have missed the opportunities for sport, music and drama and are looking forward to the comprehensive range of co-curricular activities to resume as soon as possible. It is part of the rich programme of activities which makes St Bede's the special place it is.

With prayers and every blessing,

J. G. Maher
Principal



REFLECTION – Nativity of John the Baptist

This week we celebrate the
Solemnity of the Nativity of John the Baptist

John the Baptist spent his adult life preparing the way for Jesus, and proclaiming, “**the Kingdom of Heaven is close at hand.**” He was born to Zachary and Elizabeth, an elderly married couple. The Angel Gabriel had visited Zachary and told him that his wife would bear a child, even though she was already past the childbearing age.

Elizabeth was Mary's cousin and Zachary was a priest of the Temple in Jerusalem. As a baby in the womb, John recognized Jesus' presence in Mary's womb when Mary visited Elizabeth soon after the Annunciation. Both women were expecting children at the same time.



John was probably born at Ain-Karim, which is southwest of Jerusalem. As a young adult, he lived as a hermit in the desert of Judea until about A.D. 27. When he was 30, he began to preach on the banks of the Jordan, calling for repentance and baptizing people in the river waters. When Jesus came to John to be baptized, John recognized Jesus as the Messiah and baptized Him, saying: “It is I who need baptism from you.”

John continued to preach after Jesus was baptised, but was imprisoned not long after by Herod Antipas.

John was beheaded at the request of Salome, daughter of Herodias. Many came to know Jesus through John, namely the Apostles Andrew and John.

Reflection: When Jesus stepped into the waters of the Jordan and was baptised by John the Baptist, he did so not because he was in need of repentance, or conversion: he did it to be among people who need forgiveness, among us sinners, and to take upon himself the burden of our sins.

Pope Francis

Prayer:

Beloved Jesus,

We ask your graces and blessings and for the intercession of your cousin Saint John the Baptist.

We ask you, Lord Jesus, that with our hearts and bodies we praise and bless you always.

Amen

ONLINE SAFETY AND RESPONSIBILITY NOTICE FROM HEADS OF HOUSE

The sun is shining and Term Six is in full swing already - with some pupils having to self-isolate and work from home. The positive attitude and work ethos has been super, so it is with sadness that there have been a small number of pupils who have made upsetting remarks (often anonymously) online to others, which has caused upset and distress.

We are so proud of how our pupils look out for each other and support each other; communicating online can be such a powerful and positive experience. Online Safety is of paramount importance to us all. Parents too, please remember, you are able to monitor online use through settings - disabling access to apps etc. on mobile devices can avoid unnecessary dialogue and use after a certain time in the evening which in turn should hopefully encourage a good night's sleep. Behaving responsibly online has so many benefits.

Please all be kind to each other and stay safe.

Ms Sharp Head of Pasteur
Ms Johnston Head of Descartes
Mr Johnson Head of Bell Burnell
Mrs Turri Head of Seacole
Ms Carmichael Head of Year 7



YOUNG CARERS

At St. Bede's we have always valued our Young Carers and the extra role they play in their families and homes. We belong to the YCiS - Young Carers in School programme. They define a Young Carer as:

" Anyone under the age of 18 who provides care for another family member, parent or sibling, be this practical or emotional that would normally be expected of an adult. Care can include anything from helping with household chores, cooking, medical assistance, organising and supporting siblings and emotional support. Most Young Carers do not identify as carers at first as they are caring for someone they love."



Sometimes a young person might find they take on such a role for a temporary time due to family circumstances or for a longer period.

At St Bede's we offer each Young Carer the opportunity for a discrete well being check in, each term or more regularly with the 121 team.

If you wish to talk about your child regarding this role please do contact either their Tutor, Head of House/Year or our Young Carer contact f.darcy@stbcc.org

Additional information is also available via: <https://www.carerssupportcentre.org.uk/young-carers/> Tel: 0117 958 9980 or Email: youngc@carerssupportcentre.org.uk

ACTIVITY TRIP

Year 7 and 8 enjoyed an activity trip to Shropshire last weekend. Blessed with beautiful weather, they all had a great time. **Edie** and **Brendan** share their experience.

The trip to Shropshire was most definitely one to remember! My favourite activity was the high ropes. We had to walk across platforms which moved when you stepped on them. We also canoed and kayaked across an ice cold lake and raced each other. The weather was hot and humid and the air was warm even when the sun hid behind the clouds.

The trip had a wide range of activities from raft building to rifle shooting. The raft building and kayaking was on a small lake which was super cold on a hot day. We also participated in abseiling and high ropes.



INSTRUMENTAL AND VOCAL TUITION SEPTEMBER 2021

We are hoping to resume instrumental and vocal tuition from September. Pupils opting to learn an instrument or have voice lessons are taught by one of the college's visiting music teachers. Pupils have a 30-minute lesson each week for 33 weeks of the academic year. Lessons are held on the same day each week and the times follow a rotation to ensure your child does not miss the same curriculum subject each week.

For pupils learning in pairs, the cost of lessons is £282 per year, paid by a monthly direct debit of £23.50 per month. For 1-2-1 tuition, the cost is £540 per year, paid by a monthly direct debit of £45 per month. Pupils who are entitled to Pupil Premium funding are supported with the cost of lessons.

Letters will be sent to parents and carers over the next few weeks. If you would like your child to have music lessons at St. Bede's, please return the reply slip at the bottom of the letter to Mrs Mason in Reception, together with a completed direct debit form.



CITY OF BRISTOL COLLEGE

Digital Open Event aimed at students who may still be looking for a college place for September 2021.

26th June 2021 10:00 – 13:00

To attend the event click on the link below and complete the registration form.

www.cityofbristol.ac.uk/events/open-event-26-june/

WESTON COLLEGE

Whether you haven't yet applied and want to know more, or have already applied and want to see the facilities, visit Weston College open evening.

30th June 2021

15:30 – 19:30

www.weston.ac.uk/event/june-open-event

NEW MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

The Cardinal Newman Catholic Educational Trust, consisting of 9 Catholic Primary Schools in Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset is looking for 8 new Directors to form its Trust Board. This is an exciting opportunity to be part of one of the first Multi Academy Trusts within Clifton Diocese. If you have enthusiasm and commitment, can take a strategic view and contribute to boardroom discussions, then you can make a valuable contribution to the governing board of this new Multi Academy Trust. It also provides the opportunity to use your life/work skills and experience, to provide the best possible education for the benefit of the children in our schools.

If you are interested in applying for the position of a Foundation or Co-opted Director and would like to have a more detailed conversation before making the decision to apply for the post, please contact either Claire Emery, external project manager via: claire@emerysupportservices.co.uk OR Colleen Collett, Director of Schools and Colleges, Clifton Diocese at colleen.collett@cliftondiocese.com to arrange a mutually convenient time to talk.

Closing date for applications is 12.00 noon on Friday 25th June.

COVID SYMPTOMS

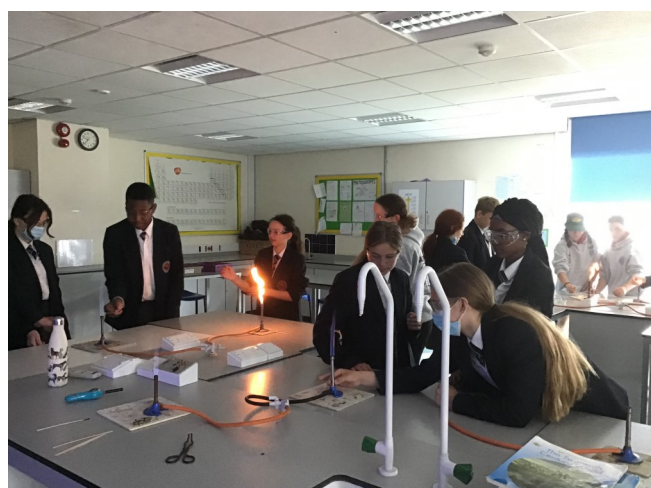
A polite reminder to parents/carers that if your child has ANY symptoms of COVID-19, in particular symptoms of the new Delta variant which include **headache, sore throat, runny nose or fever**, please do keep them at home (along with all siblings) and request a PCR lab test. You are able to visit a PCR test centre or arrange a test to be delivered straight to your home at:

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>



SCIENCE PRACTICALS

Pupils and staff are thoroughly enjoying Science practical lessons which have commenced again this term.



FOOD PRACTICAL PAYMENTS

Please could all parents of year 7 and 8 log in to SCOPAY to pay £2.00 for Food practical's and tasting this term.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

21st June 2021

Year 10
Exams start

23rd June 2021

Areté Taster
Day 1

24th June 2021

Areté Taster
Day 2

24th June 2021

Year 7
Parents' Evening
4.30pm—7.30pm

29th June 2021

Year 10
Exams end



SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

could you foster?



**we urgently need
foster carers
in your area**



We can help you to provide a young person with a stable, secure home.

Call us on 0800 389 0143

Visit us at www.nexusfostering.co.uk

VACANCIES

Governors at St. Bede's Catholic College would like to appoint a **Healthcare Assistant**, 37 Hours per week, over 5 days Term time only (38 weeks a year) to join the existing team to provide medical support and practical access to the curriculum for a student in the 11-16 age range. The ideal candidate will have healthcare experience, but full training for working with the student will be provided.

The annual salary for this post is £16,364 – £18,067, depending on experience. This post is fixed term until 31st August 2022, in the first instance – it's continuation is dependent on the continuation of funding.

Further details are available on our website: <https://bit.ly/33zJkqr>



Matters of the Mind



EDUCATIONAL
PSYCHOLOGY

WELLBEING WEBINARS

For Bristol parents & carers

ANXIETY

Exploring the way our minds can generate anxiety and how it can dominate our day. We'll look at different ways to relate to anxiety, leaving us with a bit more choice to pursue what matters to us.



SELF-CARE

Many times our own self-care can slip way down our to-do lists. Here we'll explore the cultivation of a compassionate attitude towards ourselves and our wellbeing.

NOTICING

We can spend up to 47% of our waking hours on autopilot – where our body is in one place and our mind is elsewhere. Here we'll explore and practice different ways to connect with the here and now for our well-being.



ENGAGING, PRACTICAL SESSIONS WITH TAKEAWAY TECHNIQUES

Online bite-sized sessions with an experienced psychologist.
Standalone sessions, attend any or all webinars.

*Click dates
to book*

ANXIETY

TUESDAY
29TH JUNE
12.30-1.30PM

SELF-CARE

THURSDAY
8TH JULY
12.30-1.30PM

NOTICING

TUESDAY
13TH JULY
12.30-1.30PM



ARETÉ SIXTH FORM TASTER DAYS
Wednesday 23rd June and
Thursday 24th June 2021

Please contact sixthform@stbcc.org to register your interest

www.stbedescc.org