

# St. Bede's Catholic College

## Specialist Science and Sports College



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## Newsletter

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### MESSAGE FROM MR MAHER, PRINCIPAL

As we approach the end of the academic year, I wanted to say thank you to all students and families for the resilience everyone has demonstrated in what has been another incredibly challenging year.

Covid-19 has certainly tested the resolve of many and it is with regret that I have had to send the entire year 7 group home this morning following six cases reported today. I would emphasise the importance of the twice weekly lateral flow tests being completed. A further home testing kit will be distributed to your child before the end of term. I would also urge the remaining year groups to wear face coverings in college although advice from government does not require this at the moment.

Life in college continues with interviews for House Captains and the Head Prefects for next year. Each year group will be involved in a day of reflection next week facilitated by staff from the Kintbury Retreat Centre. All new staff who will be joining St Bede's in the Autumn Term spent the day in college yesterday and are all very much looking forward to being here in September.

Let us all hope that college life will return to 'normal' and allow for students to move around college together freely. Students have all indicated that they have missed the 'busyness' of school being in their year bubble and it will be good to see the interaction between older and younger students returning and the community coming together as family again.

With prayers and every blessing,

J. G. Maher  
Principal



## REFLECTION

**3 July – St Thomas**

**This weekend we celebrate the feast day of St Thomas**

The feast day of St. Thomas, the Apostle, is celebrated on July 3. Thomas was known for questioning things. He was not afraid to ask questions or state his disbelief.

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. After the resurrection, St. Thomas was sent to evangelize the Parthians, the Persians and India. He died as a martyr at Calamine in India, when 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

O St. Thomas, you spread the light of Christ in the hearts of the people. You humbly confessed "My Lord and My God" and sacrificed your life for love of him. We pray to you to strengthen us with love and faith in Jesus Christ so that we may dedicate ourselves totally to the cause of the kingdom of justice, peace and love. We pray that through your intercession we may be protected from all trials, dangers and temptations and be strengthened in the love of God.  
Amen.

## KITCHEN GARDEN

Our college kitchen garden is looking wonderful.

We now have a huge number of potatoes, runner beans and berries.

Thank you to our pupil and staff volunteers for looking after it so well.



## NUT FREE SCHOOL

A polite reminder that we are a **nut free school**.

Please do not send your child in with any product that contains nuts – we have a number of pupils at St. Bede's with severe allergies and proximity to or contact with them is potentially life threatening for those children. Thank you.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**7th July 2021**

Year 8 HPV vaccinations

**20th July 2021**

Last Day of Term 6 for students

**21st July 2021**

INSET DAY



## KINDNESS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

This term has seen the return of a number of 'live' assemblies. It has been a joy to come together in thought and prayer within year groups. As an added treat, Pasteur and Descartes joined up our assemblies to consider '*Kindness Can Make a Difference*'. This presented the opportunity to celebrate some of the kindness and positivity of nominated pupils from each Tutor Group, throughout the pandemic, as well as to appreciate and enjoy some of our wonderful musicians - all adhering to social distancing rules of course.

It was lovely to have a small taste of the brightness ahead as we come together again, physically and, as a community.



Learn to Code with Professor Cody

Code a Game  
Competition 2021



## YEAR 7 SCRATCH GAME COMPETITION

St Bede's has registered for entry into a national Scratch game competition for Year 7 students being hosted by Edulito, an education consultancy and training provider.

**The winning entry will receive a £100 gift voucher** (and their school will receive a £300 Edulito training voucher).

There are a set of conditions to enter:

- Entrants must be in Year 7
- Entrants must be made via their school (via Mr Bogle)
- Entrants have to watch 4 video clips about using Scratch (each between 6-8 minutes long)
- Entrants must create a free online Scratch account
- Entrants must create a Scratch game

Entrants must send a link to their Scratch game to Mr Bogle by 3pm on **Friday 16 July** (email [l.bogle@stbcc.org](mailto:l.bogle@stbcc.org))

This is a voluntary and extracurricular activity but any interested Year 7 students or families should visit [www.edulito.com/competition.html](http://www.edulito.com/competition.html) for full details of the competition and to watch the competition video clips. Good luck!



## YEAR 8 CYBER CHALLENGE

On Wednesday 23 June, sixteen Year 8 students from St Bede's competed against dozens of other schools across the UK in the Cyber Unlock challenge co-hosted by UWE and cybersecurity experts, Immersive Labs.

Typically, Bristol-based Immersive Labs are used to working with a wide range of large organisations from public services such as the NHS and the Metropolitan Police to private organisations such as AirBnB, Procter and Gamble and a host of well known financial organisations.

For the Cyber Unlock challenge, Immersive Labs provided all participating students with access to their online "labs" which allow users to improve their cyber expertise through a mixture of theory and practical activities including virtual environments that simulate real-life cyber attacks.

Armed with some last minute training in analysing metadata, registry keys, malware and social media archives, our St Bede's students were informed to "just have fun ... but win at all costs". Although most of our local competitors were schools in the private sector, St Bede's' students held their own and Mr Bogle warned the organisers that Bristol Grammar School's staff representative was wearing a loud tie that was clearly causing issues with our network capabilities.

Ironically, just over an hour and a half into the two hour competition, Immersive Labs' network severed all schools' connections and the Challenge had to be closed without a confirmed winner. Nonetheless, our students enjoyed the competition and learned new ethical hacking skills.

Immersive Labs are offering free use of their Student Digital Cyber Academy as a prize for those that took part in the Unlock Cyber Challenge labs for one whole year, a great opportunity from a company described as "the world's leader in providing cyber training for employers".

Well done Year 8!



## 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>





## Matters of the Mind

A short, breathing exercise video has been developed by [stem4](#) to help people who experience anxiety over immunisations, in response to the COVID-19 vaccination rollout. This initiative is already being used in vaccination centres in London and has strong support from clinicians working on the vaccination programme.

The two minute video, is fully accessible and designed for all ages to benefit from. We believe it would be helpful to students who feel anxious as they go for their **HPV vaccinations at school**. <https://bit.ly/360Wxd2>

### SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT



### Sirona School Health Nurse Webinar Series - July 2021



Dental Health  
Tuesday 6th July  
11am - 12pm



Continence in Children  
and Young People  
Wednesday 7th July  
10am - 11am



Understanding Your  
Child's Wellbeing  
Wednesday 7th July  
10am - 11.30am



Eating Disorder Awareness  
Thursday 8th July  
10am - 11am



Keeping your Child  
Happy and Healthy  
Friday 9th July  
11am - 12pm



Healthy Eating  
Monday 12th July  
2pm - 3pm



Helping your Child  
with Sleep  
Tuesday 13th July  
10am—11am



Scan the QR  
code to view  
and book onto  
the events

Service provided by:

**Sirona**  
care & health





# Summer holiday borrowing opens Monday 12th July

Check out the [library catalogue](#) to browse and reserve books. (email librarydesk if you have any problems logging on)



All books currently issued are due back before the end of term. That includes all overdue books!

(Look out for an email reminder in the next couple of weeks. If you want to renew your book you will need to email librarydesk. Books more than 21 days overdue will not be renewed and **MUST** be returned)