## St. Bede's Catholic College

## Specialist Science and Sports College

T: 0117 377 2200 E: contact@stbcc.org W: www.stbedescc.org Tw: STB\_Bristol

Newsletter

Issue 318 5th November 2021

### MESSAGE FROM MR KING, PRINCIPAL

Term 2 has begun with great enthusiasm. Students and staff have returned from their break refreshed and lessons have begun with engagement and focus. The rehearsals for the Advent service and this year's production are both up and running, and a number of new co-curricular opportunities will begin later this term.

Thank you all for your support in maintaining the COVID-19 health and safety measures including twice weekly testing, mask wearing on buses and regular hand washing. The college cleaning regime is still operating at a high level. The availability of vaccinations for our students is the next step of these measures.

We have been contacted by the Sirona NHS Vaccination team and they have confirmed that COVID-19 and flu vaccinations will be available in college during the week commencing the 15th of November. All information and consent forms will be sent out to families over the next few days - there will be separate consent forms for the two vaccinations. Please do note that there is a very strict cut off date to the acceptance of the vaccinations and due care should be taken as to which vaccination you would like your child to have, if any.

The link which we will send you will take you directly to the NHS Site and will give you all the details.

The COVID-19 vaccination in school is offered to all pupils who have already turned 12 years old and up to the age of 16. If your child is already 16 and has not had the vaccination, they are still able to receive it in school and need not visit a walk-in centre to do so.

The flu vaccination offered is a live vaccination (nasal spray) and will be offered for all pupils in school from Year 7 to Year 11. Please be aware that since the flu vaccination is a live vaccination you may want to check with your local health care provider if anyone in your family is immunocompromised.

Please make use of your SIMS Parent app to update your email address on our system if you have made any recent changes to it.

God bless,

Robert King Principal



#### **REFLECTION** — 13 November - St Frances Xavier Cabrini

Frances Xavier Cabrini (July 15, 1850 – December 22, 1917), was an Italian-American Roman Catholic nun.

Frances became dedicated to living a life for religious work from a young age and received a convent education at a school ran by the Daughters of the Sacred Heart.

A priest asked her to teach at the House of Providence Orphanage in Italy. When the House of Providence Orphanage closed, her bishop asked her to found the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart to care for the poor children in both schools and hospitals.



Frances wanted to continue her mission in China, but Pope Leo XIII urged her to go to the United States, "Not to the East, but the West," was his advice to her.

She founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a Catholic religious institute that was a major support to her fellow Italian immigrants to the United States. Frances founded 67 institutions, including orphanages, schools, and hospitals.

Her Feast day is celebrated on 13 November.

**Reflection:** "will go anywhere and do anything in order to communicate the love of Jesus to those who do not know Him or have forgotten Him"

St Frances Xavier Cabrini

#### Prayer:

God our Father, you called Frances Xavier Cabrini from Italy to serve the immigrants of America. By her example teach us concern for the stranger, the sick, and the frustrated. By her prayers help us to see Christ in all the men and women we meet. Amen.

## St Bede's Way Spotlight: Work Hard

The St. Bede's Way Spotlight is a new feature in our newsletter, we will endeavour each fortnight to identify someone who stands out as exemplifying one of our three St Bede's Way principles of "Word Hard. Be kind. Do the right thing."

Congratulations to Mrs Bartlett-Cosway, our Pastoral Support and Careers Development Officer, who while working full time to support our pupils in all manners of careers and pastoral issues, has completed the OCR Level 6 Diploma in "Career Guidance and Development".

Mrs Bartlett-Cosway demonstrates to us all that consistent hard work, resilience and perseverance are the keys to success.



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 8th November Ski Parents' Meeting 6.00pm

Thursday
11th November
Dry Ski Session
3.45pm—7.00pm

Thursday 18th November Dry Ski Session 3.45pm—7.00pm

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#### **DUKE OF EDINBURGH**

A big congratulations to the students below who, due to the pandemic, could not complete an expedition last year but have earnt their **Bronze Certificate of Achievement** for completing their Volunteering, Physical activity and Skill sections



Gianfranco Gordon, Jane Vijayakumar, Katie Skiffington, Callum Fielding, Seb Noto, Nathan Wong, Rebecca Kalemaj, Peter Nicks, Damon Watt, Imogen Hall, Isabella Bonacorsi, Edward Nicks, Reuben Matthew and Harriet Eden.

All of the named students above will be receiving their certificates over the coming weeks during assembly.

We have now closed all applications for joining DofE groups this year. We have 115 year 9s who have signed up to complete their bronze award, 94 year 10s for the their silver award, and 11 year 12s who have signed up to complete their gold award.

Fantastic numbers, good luck to all!

#### THE 2021 BEBRAS CHALLENGE

The Bebras Challenge is an international computational thinking challenge (with over 50 countries participating) and the UK Challenge is organised by Oxford University and the Raspberry Pi Foundation.



The 2021 Bebras Challenge runs from Monday 8 November until Friday 19 November and this year all St Bede's ICT and Computer Science students in Years 7, 8 and 9 have been enrolled for the competition. Our students will take the Challenge during their ICT or Computer Science lessons and will try to solve a set of logic based problems within a 40 minute window.

Students that perform well in the challenge will receive Merit or Distinction certificates and will also receive an invite to enter the Oxford University Computing Challenge which takes place in February and March next year.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to participate in a national competition and to be exposed to a new way of thinking. As the competition and the practice problems are all online, students who are isolating can also participate provided they have internet access. Isolating students can

contact Mr Bogle (I.bogle@stbcc.org) or their ICT teacher to obtain their login details for the challenge.

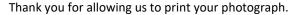




## **Wear It Pink Day**

At the end of last term pupils and staff were invited to accessorise their uniforms and 'Wear It Pink' to raise funds for Breast Cancer Awareness Day. We are pleased to announce that we raised £754.60! Well done to all who participated.









#### **MATHSWATCH**

Students in maths have been encouraged to do more independent study by using Mathswatch to watch videos and practice questions on topics that they need to consolidate. Each week the top 5 for 'most watched videos' and 'most completed practice questions' from each year group are displayed on the maths corridor.

At the end of the term all these students were entered in to a prize draw and the



Thank you for allowing us to print your photograph.

winners for last term are: Winona in year 7, Mark in year 8 and Valerie in year 10.

Congratulations to the many students who have stepped up to the challenge.



#### **POPPY EXHIBITION**

Thank you to all of our students, staff and community who have been busy making poppies for our forthcoming exhibition.

We have received a good number already but would love to see any poppies made either with fabric, knitted or crocheted to add to the exhibition.

Please hand in any finished poppies to Mrs McCauley in the Art department or to the college reception by Monday 8th November at 9.00am.

#### YEAR 11 RUGBY SUCCESS

The year 11 rugby team travelled to Clifton College at the end of last term to play their first game of the season. After a closely fought first half the score was very close and Clifton had a small lead of 5-0. The second half saw St. Bede's really pressurise Clifton and were rewarded with a try from Cian Kinsman. Teo Dye added two



points from the conversion. With 10 minutes remaining **Joel Uhlyk** crashed over the Clifton try line, and once again Teo converted. After such a physical game, the boys conducted themselves immaculately and should be very proud with the win 12-5. Congratulations!

#### PAST PUPIL SIGNS PROFESSIONAL CONTRACT WITH BRISTOL CITY FC

Congratulations to past pupil **Dylan Kadji** who has signed a professional contract with Bristol City Football Club. Dylan, who left St. Bede's in 2020, said: "It's a great feeling, a big burst of emotions and a proud moment for me and my family." You can read more information here: <a href="https://www.bcfc.co.uk/news/kadji-signs-first-professional deal/">https://www.bcfc.co.uk/news/kadji-signs-first-professional deal/</a>



Dylan, we are so proud of you and are excited to follow your progress.

#### **UNIFORM REMINDER**

With the winter approaching and the weather getting colder and wetter please remember the following uniform rules:

Pupils may wear the fine-knit 'V' neck navy pullover with college crest under their blazer and/or an outdoor garment – a plain waterproof jacket. All outdoor jackets should be plain, suitable for college and able to be carried in a school bag. Outdoor jackets must be removed once in the building. Multi-coloured hoodies, leather or denim jackets are not acceptable outdoor garments.

Furthermore, please remember our rules on jewellery:

Pupils, if they wish, may wear one stud in each ear only. The only additional visible jewellery permitted is a watch. In the interest of Health & Safety, **pupils are never allowed to wear hooked (hoop) earrings, nose studs, facial jewellery or rings.** 

If pupils wear extra and/or inappropriate jewellery, they will be asked to remove it. This means valuable items may be lost during the school day so the best practice is to not bring them into school at all.

We thank you for your continued support with this.

#### LIBRARY NEWS

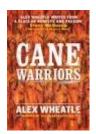
November is a big month in the library. We are currently focusing our displays on the approach of Remembrance Sunday and COP26, the United Nations 21st Climate Change Conference taking place in Glasgow at the moment.





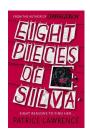
In addition, both Mrs Nicks and Mrs Hayman have big reading ambitions this month.

Mrs Nicks is aiming to read the 6 shortlisted titles for the Bristol Teen Book Award. This is voted on by Year 9+ Bristol students. Call into the library to borrow the titles yourself and then vote on who you want to win the award. (You can read or hear excerpts from the ones below by clicking on the cover)











Mrs Hayman is bored of books set in the USA or London and is aiming to read her way around the UK over the next few months. When she can work out how to print a big enough map there will be a display in the library! In the meantime she's read Patrice Lawrence's Splinters of Sunshine, set partly in Hastings on the South Coast and is about to read Alan Garner's The Owl Service, set in Wales. Do drop by the library or send an email to librarydesk@stbcc.org with any book recommendations for her (parents/carers too!)

Finally something to look out for next week. To celebrate Non Fiction November two departments are going head to head to have their subject be the most borrowed from the library. You can earn Achievement Points each time you borrow a book and tell Mrs Nicks or Mrs Hayman a fact from it. Look out for the posters around College next week!

#### **LEGO CLUB**

There has been a wonderful uptake of the lunchtime Lego Club which is held on Tuesday lunchtimes. Students have worked in groups to discuss, plan and build their creations and they have done a fantastic job!

This term, the students have are working towards a themed challenge and we cannot wait to see what they accomplish. For pupils interested in attending, please see Mrs Gouveia De Castro.

#### **PERIOD PRODUCTS**

We have a wide selection of Period products available at the college for all students who need them.

The products can be collected from Mrs Knowles who is based in Pupil Support.

#### **VACANCIES**

#### Cleaner

The hours of work are 16 hours per week, Mon—Thurs 3.15pm—6.30pm and Friday 3.30pm—6.30pm. The hourly rate for the post is £9.30 (increasing to £9.50)

#### **Invigilators**

St Bede's is looking to recruit a number of Invigilators to provide support to the examination process within the College.

Employment is offered on a casual, sessional basis and the hours of work would be between 8.30am to 4.30pm. The main external examinations take place in May/June each year but internal examinations can take place throughout the year. The hourly rate of pay is £9.30 (increasing to £9.50) which includes payment for a proportion of accrued holiday entitlement.

Successful candidates will be required to undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service check before starting work. For further information please call Mrs C Walker on 0117 377 2200 or email: c.walker@stbcc.org

#### **LOCKERS**

We have had a number of queries regarding the hire of college lockers. Unfortunately, at present, we do not have any available. Pupils will be informed via tutors if circumstances change. Thank you for your patience.

#### SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

