

# St. Bede's Catholic College

## Specialist Science and Sports College



T: 0117 377 2200

E: [contact@stbcc.org](mailto:contact@stbcc.org)

W: [www.stbedesccl.org](http://www.stbedesccl.org)

Tw: STB\_Bristol

## Newsletter

Issue 320 3rd December 2021

### MESSAGE FROM MR KING, PRINCIPAL

Dear families,

Thank you all for the messages of support after the Section 48 Inspection was published. As I said last week, we are delighted to be able to celebrate that St Bede's was judged to be outstanding in all areas.

The report outlines so much of what makes this college such a special place to study, particularly emphasising the quality of the Catholic Life, the excellent Religious Education and the centrality of prayer to the life of the school. The success of the college is founded on the strong, supportive relationships between the staff, the families, the students and the parishes - we appreciate the contributions of all of our stakeholders.

It can now be found on the college website [here](#)

A huge thank you for your support in quickly reintroducing face coverings in communal areas. Students have followed the guidance very well due to their understanding of the local and national circumstances as well as the support of their families and the staff at the college.

The Year 11s have begun their mock exams with great focus and diligence. We hope this is a time for students to show what they can do as well as identify areas in which they need support over the next six months. The Year 13 mock exams will follow in January.

At the beginning of Advent we consider the coming of Jesus, both the baby Jesus 2000 years ago and into our life here and now in 2021. Pope Francis reminded us on Sunday that an essential ingredient for living an alert and joyful life is prayer. He asked us to pray, "Come, Lord Jesus, come." I hope that, over the next few weeks, you and your families can nurture a faith and hope that lay good preparations for Christmas.

God bless,

Robert King  
Principal



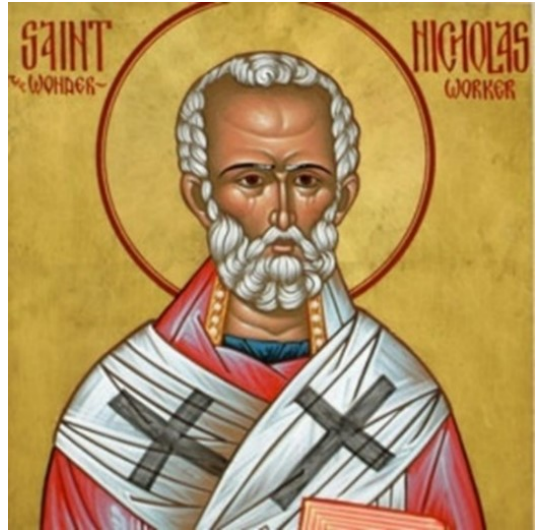
## REFLECTION – 6 December

### St Nicholas

The feast day of St. Nicholas is celebrated on December 6.

Nicholas was a 4 Century bishop. He was known for his generosity and kindness, which gave rise to legends of miracles he performed for the poor and unhappy.

One such story is that he gave 3 bags of gold to 3 sisters in their stockings which were drying over the fire, to allow them to marry as it was custom that the bride's family provided a dowry which they didn't have.



St Nicholas is the basis for Santa Claus or Father Christmas.

In many European countries St Nicholas Day is celebrated with children receiving gifts in remembrance of his charity to others.

**Reflection:** "The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic Gods giving, by grace, through faith, and this is not of ourselves."  
St Nicholas

#### **Prayer:**

God of joy and cheer, we thank you for your servant, the good bishop Nicholas.  
In loving the poor, he showed us your kindness;  
in caring for your children, he revealed your love.  
Make us thoughtful without need of reward so that we, too,  
may be good followers of Jesus.

Amen

## St Bede's Way Spotlight: Be kind.

The St. Bede's Way Spotlight identifies someone who stands out as exemplifying one of our three St Bede's Way principles of "Work Hard. Be kind. Do the right thing."

Congratulations to year 11 pupil **Fatima Timera** who has been a huge support to her peers.

Since becoming a House Prefect Fatima has really embraced the responsibility. She always thinks of other before herself and has taken this philosophy to a different level in the way that she is mentoring other pupils. She truly represents the St. Bede's Way!

**Fatima your work ethic and kindness towards others, exemplifies our St Bede's Way principles. We are so proud of you.**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Wednesday**  
**8th December**  
Christmas Lunch

**Thursday**  
**9th December**  
Year 13  
Parents' Evening  
4.00pm—7.00pm

**Tuesday**  
**14th December**  
Year 11  
RSHE Day

**Wednesday**  
**15th December**  
Advent Services  
**Service 1 Year 7 & 8**  
Parents, carers and families only  
5.30pm—6.30pm

**Service 2 Years 9-13**  
Parents, carers and families only  
7.00pm—8.00pm

**Thursday**  
**17th December**  
END OF TERM 2  
Pupils finish at 2.00pm

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Our Annual Advent and Christmas Service will be held in the Main Hall on Wednesday 15th December 2021. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we are holding two services this year in order to ensure all pupils have the opportunity to participate.

### **Service 1: 5:30pm–6:30pm** **Year 7 & 8 families only**

Readers and musicians from all year groups will be participating in this service. Parents, carers and family members of pupils in Years 7 and 8 are welcome to join the congregation. Free tickets should be ordered on <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/st-bedes-catholic-college-advent-service-1-year-7-8-families-only-tickets-207048075367>

### **Service 2: 7:00pm–8:00pm** **Year 9—13 families only**

Readers and musicians from Years 9-13 will be participating in this service. Parents, carers and family members of students in Years 9-13 are welcome to join the congregation. Free tickets should be ordered on <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/st-bedes-catholic-college-advent-service-2-years-9-13-families-only-tickets-216207170467> We look forward to welcoming you into the College from 6:45pm.

Please note that the number of seats for both services is limited due to the Covid-19 pandemic and tickets will be available on a first come, first served basis. We strongly recommend that you book your seats on Eventbrite as soon as possible.



## VACCINATION PROGRAMME

During the week of the 15th of November we facilitated a very successful flu and Covid-19 vaccination program for the Sirona Immunisation team.

Some pupils may have missed the opportunity to receive the flu vaccination that was offered at the College. There will be a follow up session given at our Local community catch up clinics and the Sirona team will notify us of these dates in the near future which we will be able to share with you.

The Covid-19 Vaccinations can be booked online at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

For further information please contact the Sirona NHS team on 01275 373 104 or 01454 868 387.



## CURRICULUM CORNER

This week we focus on **PSHCE or Personal, Social, Health, Careers & Economic Education**

*"Today's children and young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and risks. In this environment, children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way."*

Department for Education (2019), Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) and Health Education: Statutory guidance for governing bodies, proprietors, head teachers, principals, senior leadership teams, teachers

Students receive one PSHCE lesson per fortnight, plus an enrichment week in Term 6 and RSE days for Year 10 and Year 11. All PSHCE lessons for each year group are timetabled together so that visiting speakers / joint activities can be accommodated. Our specialist PSHCE staff plan one or two topics and teach on rotation to produce consistency. The College is affiliated with the PSHE Association, through which the latest resources and best practices are disseminated to staff by the PSHCE coordinator.

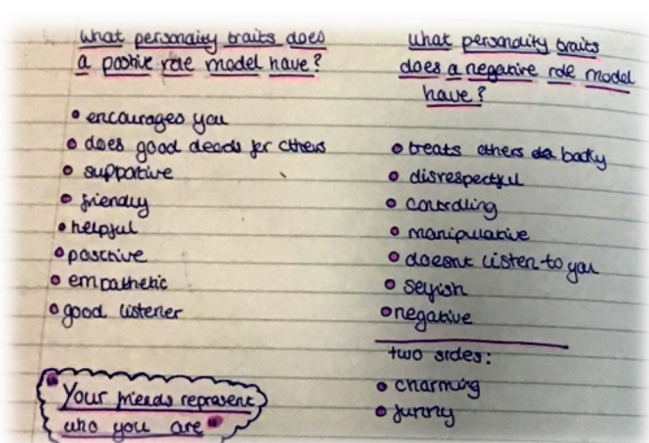
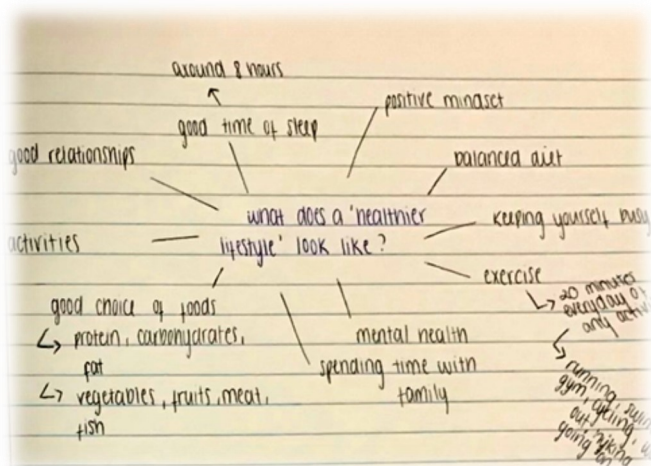
Topics covered are grouped under the headings:

Living in the Wider World, Health & Well Being, Relationships, Citizenship. Addressing Extremism and Radicalisation

The PSHCE curriculum helps to fulfil the College's safeguarding responsibility by focusing on relevant issues (e.g. bullying, consent). The teaching of PSHCE is fully consistent with the College's Catholic ethos and supports students in their living faith. Students graduate with a well-formed understanding of contemporary issues related to PSHCE, and are able to take their place as responsible members of society. Further details can be found here: [PSHCE and RSE information](#)

In our recent inspections, our PSHCE programme was complimented. In the Ofsted report, inspectors wrote "There is a well-structured curriculum in place for personal social and health education that is complemented by the religious formation programme. As a result pupils including those in the sixth form are developing an understanding of life beyond the school. Pupils learn about healthy relationships, the rule of law and how to keep safe. Pupils appreciate the careers guidance that is woven through the curriculum."

In our Section 48 report, "The personal, social and health education programme is well designed and holistic in nature."





## CAREERS INFORMATION

T Levels are an alternative to A Levels, Apprenticeships and other 16 to 19 courses. They are new courses which follow GCSEs and are equivalent to 3 A levels. These 2-year courses, which launched September 2020, have been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares students for work, further training or study.

T Levels offer students a mixture of classroom learning and 'on-the-job' experience during an industry placement of at least 315 hours (approximately 45 days).

The first T Levels started in September 2020 at selected schools and colleges in England since then more T Levels have been introduced to further schools and colleges, at present Weston College and Access Creative College offer T Levels with SGS College offering them from September 2022.

Click on [The Parent Guide](#) to T Levels for more information.

Click on [T Level Provider list to](#) see a full list of providers in your area and which T Levels are available to students.



## MICRO-LIBRARY

The Christmas elves have arrived early in the English Faculty this year.

We are delighted to have been able to create a micro-library for all of our English teaching rooms. This collection contains some fantastic contemporary fiction aimed particularly at KS3 students.

Authors include Sarah Crossan and Tom Palmer. Each micro-library has over 40 books - which one will your child choose?



## YEAR 11 PROM

We are pleased to announce that a Prom has been arranged for our year 11 leavers. It will be held on Friday 1st July 2022 at the end of their GCSE exams.

The event is now open on SCOpay. The cost this year is £33 and must be paid by 31st January 2022.

## DARREN JONES MP VISIT TO A LEVEL POLITICS STUDENTS

Darren Jones, MP for Bristol North West visited Areté on Friday 26 November. Mr Jones, who grew up within yards of the college on Long Cross, spoke earnestly and fondly of his youth in Lawrence Weston.

He became interested in politics when the Labour government of Tony Blair enacted policies that improved the lives of him and his family, particularly the creation of the minimum wage.

The A Level Politics students in Years 12 and 13 prepared questions in lessons beforehand and asked them during the lengthy Q and A session. Some of the questions which really impressed the MP included 'To which model of representation do you subscribe and why: trustee; delegate; descriptive?' (**Krystal Palmer**, Year 12) and 'Do you think the current electoral system needs reforming and if so would you propose a more proportional representation model?' (**Will Finch** Year 13)

At one point the MP commented to one of the students, 'You should be a journalist for The Times!' The event was well received by all, regardless of ideological affiliations or persuasions and provided another great example of a healthy democracy in action.

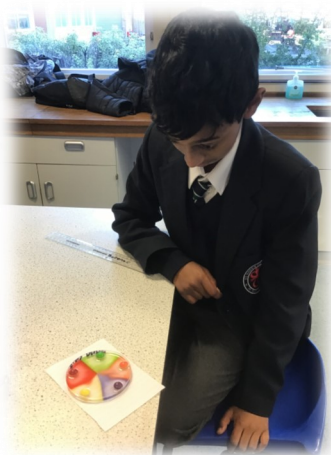


## SCIENCE CLUB

Year 7 Science Club is held on Thursday lunchtimes and is open to all. A dedicated team of Year 10 students volunteer as part of the Duke of Edinburgh programme and are supporting the teacher with the practical tasks.



Year 10 student Oliver said: 'Science club is a great opportunity to enjoy science and gain experience.' Joshwin added: 'I like helping out with science club as I help educate young minds.'



This term students have been investigating the colours produced when different metals burn which has helped them understand the chemistry of fireworks. Last week they made model lava lamps and this week we investigated how temperature affects the rate of diffusion of skittle colours.

Next week Science Club are making bath salts and all are welcome.

## LIBRARY NEWS

The library is blitzing its overdue books list at the moment. You or your child may have received an email reminding to return overdue books. We thought an overview of the process might be helpful.

### Is your book overdue?

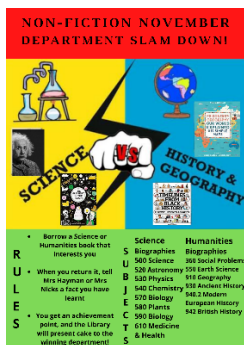
If borrowers don't return or renew items before their due date they receive a series of 3 emailed reminders over a period of 4 weeks. If the items are still outstanding, parents are emailed directly and asked to either assist in returning the item, provide a good quality second hand copy or pay the standard lost/damaged book fee via SCOpay.

### Will I have to pay Library Fines?

There are no library fines for overdue books.

If a borrower cannot return an item that they have borrowed or it is damaged beyond repair, there is now a standard book replacement charge of £7.00 per item. (unless the book is particularly expensive) Parents will be emailed directly about the overdue items before any fees are placed on SCOpay and are encouraged to email the library to discuss returns and the possibility of providing good second hand replacements before payments are requested.

If you have books that are currently overdue, please give the librarians an early Christmas present and return or renew them!



### Bristol Teen Book Awards Book Club

**Don't forget that all the books shortlisted for this award are available to borrow from the library and year 9s plus are eligible to vote to choose the winner**

If you are interested, join the [Bristol Teen Book Award Google Classroom](#) Class code **ncdhlcu**

### Non Fiction November

This has been an extremely close competition. Thank you to all who have taken part – we have received some fascinating facts! We are able to reveal that the winner is Humanities!





## SPORTS NEWS

### NETBALL

This week the **year 9 netball team** participated in the Bristol School's Netball Tournament at Clifton College. They played 5 other schools in a round robin tournament and were a credit to the school. They fought hard and played some fantastic netball. The girls finished in second place winning 4 out of their 5 games. A massive well done to all who took part. We are proud of you all.



Thank you for allowing us to print your photograph



The **year 7 netball team** recently attended their first ever tournament. They had a great time and learned a lot in all their games against other schools getting better as the tournament went on. Well done year 7!

Thank you for allowing us to print your photograph

### BASKETBALL

The junior and senior basketball team played their first games against Redland Green School this week. The juniors came from behind in a spirited fight back to win convincingly in the four quarter 62 - 46.

Unfortunately the senior team could not match this and although they improved throughout the game, Redland Green won 58 - 46. Both teams played very well and Mr Johnson is looking forward to seeing them develop further in their future games after Christmas.

### RUGBY

Next week we look forward to the finals of the Bristol schools rugby competition. Years 7, 8, 9 and 11 were entered into this competition and all of them have reached the final. We wish them the best of luck next week.

### CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to all who took part in the Bristol schools cross country last week. Everyone ran incredibly well. A special mention must go to **Ashton** who won his race. Also **Maeve** who finished sixth and **Caisey** eighth. Well done to everyone who took part.

## FOOD PRACTICAL LESSONS

Please could we ask that students weigh their ingredients out at home as part of their homework. When ingredients are not weighed out it adds extra time to the 1 hour practical lesson which means that the end products are not finished to highest standard. Thank you for your continued support.



## SPORTS LEADERS

Congratulations to the students who completed their Sports Leadership Modules this year and have received their Sport Leaders badge.

We have already accrued 262 volunteer hours so far and will continue right through until the summer supporting Primary school festivals and events, for schools in North Bristol. Once each student completes a minimum of 10 hours, alongside the modules, they will have completed the course and gain their certificate.



We currently have 37 students from years 10 and 11 doing Sports Leadership, with 29 students already completed their modules, and a further 8 students who have completed their hours too.

Sport Leadership is designed to use sport and physical activity to help young people develop and hone their leadership skills whilst helping themselves and others stay physically active.

Young people learn and demonstrate important life skills such as effective communication and organisation whilst developing their social and academic confidence.

Students plan, support, lead and evaluate sports/physical activity sessions, as well as learning about, "What makes a good leader?" and "How to effectively work in a team". As well as excellent peer to peer learning and development, skills learnt support their CV and employability.

We have had some excellent feedback from our local schools, *"Thanks so much for the athletics this evening. They loved it, the leaders were fantastic and some of our most inactive and SEN pupils in Year 5/6 have now said they think they want to become athletes!"* (Blaise Primary) as well as , *"We had an absolutely brilliant time. Seeing the excitement and joy on the faces of those that don't normally partake in sports events was priceless. Your leaders were fantastic too!"* (ss Peter & Paul).

Well done to the following students;

**Abel Mathew, Alanna O'Reilly, Alison O'Shaughnessy, Alistair John, Amarachi Akumonye, Anna Granger, Anna Palatty, Bianca Lapitan, Blanka Nowak, Carys Wilson, Christabel Namugenyi, Oladapo Delano, Divina Sivajoti, Dylan Tudor, Eleri Walsh, Emily Harkin, Hugo Sukenik, Isabella Bonacorsi, Jaimee Ellwood, Jenny Ngugi, Kouni Villanova, Kristel Matitu, Lia Rajesh, Lily Loughlin, Louise Lai, Maeve Robinson, Maja Kliczka, Martha Rees, Maryfrances Pat-Odoeme, Matilda Francis, Olivia Manning, Pia Hucker, Reuben Mathew, Rosie Turvey, Siminta Maurutyte, Simona Manoj and Tanaka Bhunhu.**

## VACANCIES

Governors at St. Bede's would like to appoint the following:

### Cover Supervisor

Cover Supervisor, 31.25 hours per week (08.30 – 15.30, Monday to Friday, 15 minute morning break and 30 minute lunch break), term time only including 5 in-service training days.

The annual salary for this post is St Bede's Grade 8, point 12-18 - £15,974 - £17,989

The closing date for applications will be noon on 6th December 2021

### 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 £9.50 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.

Further information is available on the vacancy section of the college website or from Mrs C Walker on 0117 3772200

## SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

### Keep children safe online this Christmas - Top tips

Over the Christmas period, families are being encouraged to discuss staying safe online. Mobile phones, tablets and laptops can open up a world of exploration, learning and fun and children should be encouraged to make the most of the benefits. But there are also risks and dangers to being online, and by working together parents and children can learn to safely navigate the internet and social media.

Advice about the best way to keep children safe is available from a range of websites, and the UK Council for Child Internet Safety has published a useful guide for parents and carers whose children are using social media.

Among the top tips are:

- Explain how children can use privacy settings to make sure only approved friends can see posts and images, and warn them about sharing personal information
- Check if any of the mobile apps they use have location services enabled, and disable this if they do not want to be tracked
- Show them how to report offensive comments or block people who upset them
- Check 'tagging' settings so that when others are posting or sharing photos online, your child's identity is not revealed
- Encourage your child to come and talk to you if they see anything that upsets them
- Ask them to show you which social media apps they use, what they like about them and talk about how to use them safely

You can find out more about how children use social media, the apps they use, the risks they face, how to use privacy settings, and advice and tips about how to talk to your children at:

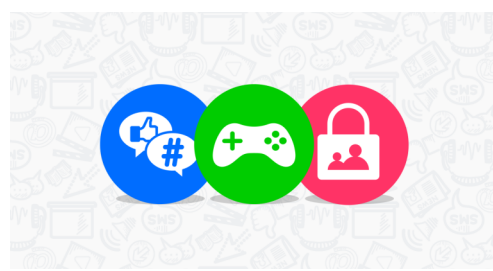
[www.childnet.com/sns](http://www.childnet.com/sns)

[www.parentzone.org.uk](http://www.parentzone.org.uk)

[www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org)

[www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety)

[www.askaboutgames.com](http://www.askaboutgames.com)



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