

# St. Bede's Catholic College

*Specialist Science and Sports College*

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## Newsletter

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### MESSAGE FROM MR KING, PRINCIPAL

As we move towards the summer exam season, I want to reflect on the particular successes of Years 11 and 13. These year groups have managed their disrupted educational journey with great stoicism and resilience and are tackling their revision programmes with great determination. We are all very proud of them and wish them all the best for the next couple of months.

Thursday's annual Prize Giving allowed us to gather as students, staff and families to celebrate the successes of our students. Awards were presented for attitude, achievement and excellence in certain subjects, as well whole college awards for commitment to the spiritual life, charity, the college community and many other things. Our guest speaker, Mr Junior Saunders, delivered an engaging and inspirational speech to all in attendance.

Last Thursday saw the college host another very special event. Usually students prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation through their parishes, but this year the college was able to offer a programme. The successful group were all anointed by Bishop Declan at the mass at St Bede's. It was a moving occasion, as each student declared "I am ready and willing".

I have also been immensely proud of the students in Bell Burnell living out their Catholic Social Teaching via their huge charity fundraising event. All students have been involved in some way and their commitment to St Peter's Hospice shows their understanding of the importance of the life and dignity of the human person.

God bless,  
Rob King



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### 9th May 2022

Year 10 Silver DoE  
Practice Expedition  
2 depart (evening)

### 11th May 2022

Year 10 Silver DoE  
Practice Expedition  
2 return

### 12th May 2022

Year 9 Kintbury  
trip depart

### 15th May 2022

Year 9 Kintbury  
Trip return

### 16th May 2022

Examination  
period begins

Year 10 Silver DoE  
Practice Expedition  
3 depart (evening)

### 18th May 2022

Year 10 Silver DoE  
Practice Expedition  
3 return

### 24th May 2022

6.00pm UCAS  
Parents' Eve

## REFLECTION 4 May – The English Martyrs

Last week, we celebrated the feast of the English Martyrs.

The English Martyrs are a group of Roman Catholic martyrs executed by English authorities during the Reformation, most during the reign of Elizabeth I.



An act of Parliament in 1571 made it high treason to question the queen's title as head of the Church of England, thus making the practice of Roman Catholicism an essentially treasonable act and authorized the confiscation of the property of Roman Catholics, many of whom fled to the European continent. In the ensuing persecution, 183 English Catholics were put to death between 1577 and 1603; altogether, some 600 Catholics died in the persecutions of the 16th and 17th centuries.

Forty of these victims were canonized by Pope Paul VI in 1970 as representatives of all the martyrs, including St. Margaret Clitherow, St. Cuthbert Mayne, and St. Edmund Campion.

In 1987 Pope John Paul II beatified an additional 85 martyrs who died between 1584 and 1689 in England, Scotland, and Wales. Many were priests or members of religious orders, but 59 including seven of those canonized were lay Catholics.

**Reflection:** "I am a Catholic man and a priest; in that faith I have lived and on that faith do I intend to die. If you esteem my religion treason, then I am guilty; as for the other treason, I never committed any, God is my judge." St Edmund Campion, one of the Martyrs

**Prayer:** Almighty God, who in our country raised up martyrs from every walk of life to vindicate the authority of Your Church in teaching and worship, grant through their intercession, we pray, that all our people may be gathered once again to celebrate the same sacraments under the one Shepherd, Jesus Christ Your Son. Amen.

## PRAYER LIST

This week we invite our college community to pray for: Lee D and Doreen W.

We welcome your suggestions for people to pray for in our next newsletter. Please follow the link below:

<https://forms.gle/qq5Te9HiCgtPgKMU7>



## PRIZE GIVING

We welcomed Junior Saunders, Motivational Educator as our special guest at the 26th Annual Prize Giving ceremony yesterday evening. Junior, spoke about his personal experience of growing up in care and how his deep-rooted faith has enabled him to embrace life. He gave an uplifting speech expressing the importance of love, respect and feeling valued and urged all students to look out for one another.



As St. Bede's celebrates its 60th Anniversary Mr King said: We should be proud of our history, understand and respect it but ultimately now is about you, a very diverse, kind and gifted group of young people. I want you to be inspired and have a sense of belonging so you continue to be motivated to create your own part of this school's story.

Prizes were presented to over 250 pupils who were awarded for high achievement, excellent attitude and public spirit within the community. Although the names of many of the prize winners were known before the evening, there were surprise awards announced at the ceremony itself:

Congratulations to **Connor Gudge** and **Jesse Ilayesa** (Vice Principals' Awards) and **Katie Skiffington** and **Matilda Odemwingie** (Principal's Award).

A huge number of children received nominations from staff and a scrupulous effort to be fair, resulted in the final list. We hope that pupils deserving of an award, but who did not receive one this year, will be recognised at Prize Giving celebrations in future years. A copy of the Prize Giving programme is on our website.



## MUSIC EXAMINATIONS

Congratulations to **Adam** and **Morella** who achieved Distinctions in their recent Music examinations.

**Adam Boczarski**—Classical Guitar Grade 3

**Morella Wallis**—Piano Grade 5



## St Bede's Way Spotlight: Work hard, Be kind and Do the right thing

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."**

The situation in Ukraine has touched the hearts of so many people across the world. We all want to do our bit. **Oskar** and **Eliza**, in Pasteur House, suggested that pupils accessorise college uniform in blue and yellow and make a small donation.

We had great fun, enhanced an important awareness as well as raising just under **£1000** for this worthy cause.

Thank you to you both and all the pupils and staff who stepped up to make this day happen.

**Oskar and Eliza your kindness exemplifies our St Bede's Way principles. We are proud of you.**



Thank you for allowing us to print your photograph

## AVON SCHOOLS SPORTS HALL CHAMPIONSHIPS



Congratulations to year 8 pupil **Lucy** who recently represented St Bede's at the Avon Schools Sports Hall Championships held at Bristol Grammar School. Lucy competed in the 2 lap track race and shot put. In the 2 lap race Lucy won her heat and, in the final, came 2nd, but was the first year 8 to finish and win her age group. In the shot put competition Lucy came 2nd. Well done!

Thank you for allowing us to print your photograph

## BIOMETRIC FINGERPRINTS FOR CASHLESS CATERING

You may be aware that a letter has been sent to you requesting a response on whether or not you authorise us to obtain your child(ren)'s fingerprint for the purpose of introducing cashless catering in July. Thank you to those families who have responded, it is much appreciated. If you haven't been able to respond yet, please can you search for the email about Biometric Fingerprints sent out on 19 April 2022. It may have gone into your spam folder, and respond either way as soon as possible. A link to a copy of the letter can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3kMU39D>

Please email Mrs Cheshire on [m.cheshire@stbcc.org](mailto:m.cheshire@stbcc.org), if you are unable to access the link, giving the name of your child, their tutor group and your decision. Please note Year 11 students are not being asked at this point to sign up. However, if they are intending to remain in the sixth form, you can send an email to the above with your response.

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Year 11 students completed their Duke of Edinburgh silver expedition in the Forest of Dean, ending at this beautiful viewpoint. Well done to the 15 students who are out on their assessed expedition in the final term.



This term the year 10 Silver students will also be on their practice expeditions as well as the year 12 Gold students. Good luck to everyone!

## INTER HOUSE

Congratulations to **Seacole** House who were victorious in the recent inter house boys Basketball competition and **Descartes** who won the inter house girls football.

**NHS**

Test and Trace

## Living with COVID-19: advice for those aged 18 and under

Has your child or young person aged 18 or under tested positive, or do they feel unwell with COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms? If so, there are a few simple steps they can take to protect their family and community – especially those at highest risk of severe illness.



**If they feel unwell and have a high temperature, with COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms, they should:**



**Try to stay at home,**  
avoid contact with others  
and follow the guidance  
on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)



**Try to avoid going to school, college or childcare** until they no longer have a high temperature and are well enough to return



**Carry on attending as normal if they only have mild symptoms** like a runny nose, sore throat or slight cough and otherwise feel well



**If they have had a positive test for COVID-19, they should:**



**Try to stay at home,**  
avoid contact with others  
for 3 days and follow the  
guidance on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)



**Try to avoid going to school, college or childcare** during this time, where they can



**Go back after 3 days,**  
but only if they no longer  
have a high temperature and  
feel well enough to do so

Find out more on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)

## LIBRARY NEWS



### Four book challenge

We were delighted to have so much interest in our Four Book Challenge this year. Pupils read 4 books from 4 different genres and wrote a review on our library database to complete the challenge. Mr King presented our winner with a book and all who completed the challenge received a small treat!



### Deaf Awareness week

Last week has been Deaf Awareness Week. We have showcased our books with deaf protagonists and have been practising our finger spelling



### Greenaway Shadowing

This term some of our year 7's have joined the national Kate Greenaway Medal shadowing scheme, meeting each Thursday, reviewing the shortlisted titles, completing illustrator challenges and ultimately voting for their favourites for the Greenaway Shadowers' award. Click on the shortlist picture to find out more information about the award and this year's Shortlist.



### New books/overdue books

We have lots of beautiful new books in the library for all ages, covering fiction and non-fiction. However, we love our old books as well! Mrs Nicks is spending a lot of time chasing our overdue books at the moment. Please encourage your child to check their emails for overdue reminders and return or renew any that they have, and also keep an eye open for any College library books around the house. This is especially the case for Year 11s and 13s



### Our reading

As a fantasy fan, I can't believe it has taken me this long to discover Garth Nix. A book with a bookseller is the next best thing to one with a librarian! Click on the cover for the opportunity to read the first chapter

### Coming soon – Platinum Jubilee reads

We will be celebrating the Jubilee with a display all around the library of some of our favourite books published during the last 70 years – watch this space!



## SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT



A recent report by Ofcom highlighted that over half of 3-17-year-olds are using TikTok.

### **What is TikTok?**

TikTok is a video-sharing platform where you can watch and create videos, and livestream. The app has an age-rating of 13+.

Users can browse different videos on TikTok via a personalised feed known as the 'For You Page'. You can also search for content using topics or hashtags.

### **Is TikTok safe for children?**

TikTok can be a creative outlet for young people as it allows them to learn about video editing and discover new interests.

However, it can be easy for children and young people to come across inappropriate content on the app.

Because TikTok uses algorithms to show users new content, it's easy for young people to come across inappropriate or upsetting videos. The platform also has communication features that allow users to privately message each other which could put your child at risk of being contacted by someone they don't know.

### **How to keep your child safe on TikTok using safety settings**

There are six security settings that can help you to keep TikTok safe for your child and prevent them seeing anything that might worry or upset them:

#### **Family Pairing**

This allows you to connect your child's account with your own. It gives you access to parental controls to help manage who they can speak to and how long they can spend on the app.

#### **Private account**

Setting your child's account to private means that only approved followers will be able to watch their videos.

#### **Restricted mode**

This feature helps to filter out videos that may contain inappropriate or adult topics and stop them appearing on your child's 'For You Page'.

#### **Comment filters**

Enable to manage who can comment on your child's videos and stop inappropriate comments from appearing on their feed.

#### **Direct messages**

This can help them manage who can contact them privately on the app. You can choose who can send them direct messages by selecting 'Friends only' or 'No one'.

#### **Daily screen time**

This setting allows you manage how long your child can spend on the app. You can set a daily time limit, and once it's up you'll need to enter a passcode to keep using the platform.

Source <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/child-safe-settings-tiktok>

# Areté Sixth Form

ST BEDE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE



**Areté Sixth Form Taster Day**  
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022**