

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College

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Newsletter

Issue 329 20th May 2022

MESSAGE FROM MR KING, PRINCIPAL

Over the last 12 months, St. Bede's has been in the process of upgrading its energy supply so that the main building's heating and electricity are now supplied through solar panels. This was a huge investment and vital work to improve the carbon footprint of the college, along with saving the college money in the future as energy prices soar. This is a first step in our bigger mission to inspire students to be good stewards of the earth, to conserve and protect God's creation and the earth's resources. Thank you to my colleagues that worked tirelessly to ensure this project was a success and I look forward to working with the students to make further advances in the future.

As you know, it is my desire that we consistently live out our core mission to ensure that each child is challenged and given every opportunity to flourish and grow spiritually, academically and socially within a Christian environment. With this in mind, the governors have agreed to support me in driving our college improvement agenda by increasing in-service training (INSET) in 2022/23. We will maintain our normal five INSET days, but will add some shorter afternoon sessions for staff to focus on improving their practice in areas such as mastery, curriculum development, leadership, SEND provision, and pastoral care. This will mean the college day will be slightly shortened on occasion next academic year, but I am confident the impact of this work will have a huge impact on the quality of provision at St Bede's next year and well beyond. We will ensure the impact on the curriculum is spread evenly and I will be able to circulate the agreed dates and times for INSET after the June governors meeting.

God bless,

Rob King
Principal



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

24th May 2022

6.00pm UCAS
Parents' Eve

25th May 2022

Feast of St. Bede

27th May 2022

Commissioning of
Eucharistic Ministers

27th May 2022

END OF TERM 5

6th June 2022

START OF TERM 6
Week A

PRAYER LIST

This week we invite our college community to pray for: Lee and James

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

<https://forms.gle/qq5Te9HiCgtPgKMU7>



REFLECTION 25 May St. Bede

Next week, we celebrate the feast of St Bede. The Venerable Bede, or Saint Bede, was an English monk who lived in a monastery in Northumberland. He is best known for writing the Ecclesiastical History of the English. He was born in 673 and taken to a monastery at 7 years old. Bede learned Latin, Greek and Hebrew and became one of the most learned men in England. St. Bede, is widely regarded as the greatest of all the Anglo-Saxon scholars.

The Venerable Bede died in 735. Even on the day of his death, he was busy dictating a translation of the Gospel of St. John. When finished, he lay upon the floor of his cell singing, "Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost"

The Church declared him to be 'venerable' in 836. He was made a saint in 1899, as well as a Doctor of the Church, the only English man to hold that title.

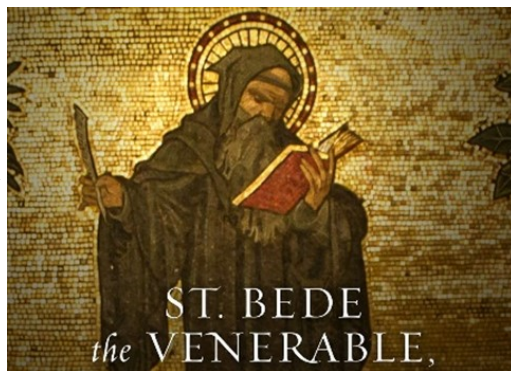
Reflection: He wrote of himself:

"I have devoted my energies to the study of the scriptures, observing monastic discipline, and singing the daily services in church; study, teaching, and writing have always been my delight."

Prayer:

We celebrate the Feast of our Patronal Saint, St Bede, and ask for his intercession as we continue to work and learn together as a community of faith, following his focus, "It has ever been my delight to learn, to teach and to write."

God our father, we bring ourselves to you with all of our gifts. On this feast of the Venerable St Bede, help us to bring joy, love and peace to all and to always seek and learn the truth of what we know is right over what we know is wrong and express it in works of charity to help all.
Amen



MOTIVATIONAL MESSAGE TO GCSE STUDENTS

Junior Saunders has been a regular visitor to St. Bede's over the past year, motivating and inspiring our students during assemblies, careers events and at our Prize Giving.

Junior has prepared a short video for students sitting examinations. Please take a look:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LJx1U2vKM9U>



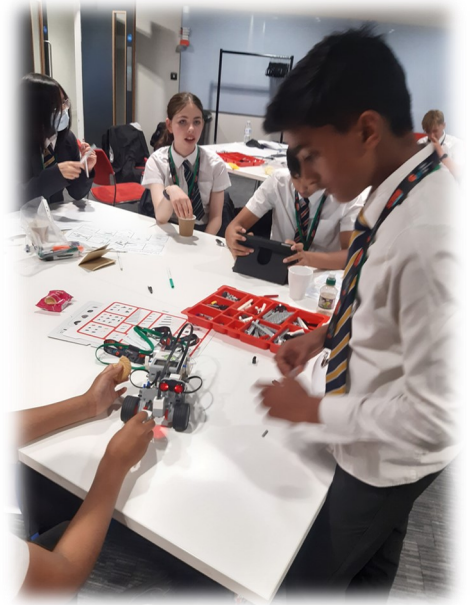
YEAR 9 STEM COMPETITION

Congratulations to the year 9 Stem team who recently took part in the Global Underwater challenge.

The competition was to design, build, program and then market an underwater rover to negotiate obstacles on the ocean floor. They then had to pitch the design to a select panel of judges. The team of **Thomas, Albert, Andrea, Imogen, Aidan** and **Rohan** showed excellent resilience, teamwork and problem solving skills.

The day culminated in a tour which focussed on the cutting edge, multi-million pound technology at the National Composites Centre in Emerson's Green.

A fantastic day, had by all.



TRIATHLON SUCCESS

On Sunday 8th May, year 7 students **Adele, Alessio, Victoria** and **Wojciech** participated in the Flight Centre Schools Triathlon organised by Restless Development, raising an incredible £315.00

The event, will be matched pound for pound by the UK government through the Power Up appeal.

£100.00 of the money raised by the year 7 team will be donated to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF-UK), our college charity, to help tackling the climate crisis and preserve biodiversity.

Well done!



A BUSY SEASON FOR DUKE OF EDINBURGH EXPEDITIONS

Good luck to all the students embarking upon their Bronze, Silver or Gold expeditions throughout the summer terms.

There have been a number of expeditions this term, with many year 10 students heading into the Forest of Dean for their practice expedition.

This is an incredibly tricky area to navigate at times, with multiple pathways throughout the forest. One particular year 10 group (pictured) maintained high spirits, despite making a navigation error straight from the campsite, resulting in an 8km diversion to the beautiful Symonds Yat!



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.**"

This week our spotlight highlights year 7 pupil **Kacper** who has shown incredible kindness and support to a new student at St. Bede's who has recently arrived from Ukraine.

Kacper, your kindness exemplifies our St Bede's Way principles. We are proud of you.



Kacper, thank you for allowing us to print your photograph

ST. BEDE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE CELEBRATES ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

This year we commemorate the 60th Anniversary of St. Bede's Catholic College.

As part of our celebrations all students and staff gathered last week, in glorious sunshine, for a whole college photograph.

The photograph will be available to purchase from next week. Further details will be sent to all families via email.



**CALLING ALL FORMER STUDENTS OF ST. BEDE'S -
PLEASE SIGN UP TO OUR ALUMNI COMMUNITY**

St. Bede's Catholic College are looking for former students to sign up to our alumni community. If you would like to inspire and advise our current pupils or if you would like to reminisce and reconnect, please sign up to our free hub.

If you are currently in year 11 and year 13 at St. Bede's, we would love to get you on board too!

To sign up **scan the QR code:**

1. Go to **www.futurefirst.org.uk**
2. Go to '**Sign Up**' tab
3. Click '**Leaving or Former Student**'
4. Type in **St Bede's Catholic College**

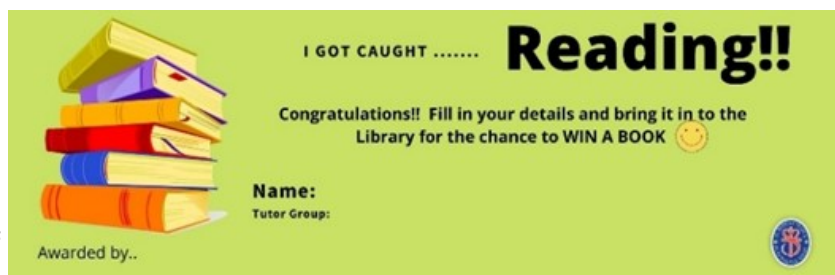


LIBRARY NEWS

It's been another fortnight in the Library with lots going on and we would like to share some highlights of what is coming up over the next few weeks.

Get caught reading

We are launching a new scheme to encourage our students to read around school. Staff have been issued with tickets to hand out to any pupil 'caught' reading, to be entered into a termly prize draw. There is no limit on the number of tickets an individual can be awarded each term.



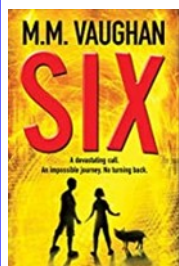
Read together

As May is National Share a Story month the librarians have put together a display of excellent titles that the library has multiple copies of, so pupils can enjoy reading together with their friends. There were so many good choices, we couldn't fit them all into the display!

Celebrate reading

As part of the national Platinum Jubilee celebrations, the Reading Agency and BBC Arts have created a list of exceptional titles published across the commonwealth over the last 70 years for Adults to explore, read and enjoy. Click on the image to find out more.

There is a wonderful display spanning the length of the library of children's and YA titles from across the decades. Follow this link to the [library catalogue](#), log in and check out our reading lists to see how many you have read.



Book Review

Thank you to Rico for recommending this to me! This is an amazing Science Fiction book, with strong likeable characters and raising some real moral questions of how our world's resources should be used. Click on the cover to read the first few chapters.

Coming Soon...

Look out for 'Murder' in the Library!

MEDICATION UPDATE

If your child suffers from hayfever please can you ensure they are medicated before they come to school or have their inhalers with them. Thank you.

WATER BOTTLES

As the weather becomes warmer please can we remind all pupils to bring a refillable water bottle to college. There are numerous fountains available throughout the college for pupils to use. Thank you.

BELL BURNELL HOUSE CHARITY EVENT

Bell Burnell House completed their 'Around the World in 8 Days' charity event this term and over the last few days have been collecting their sponsorship money. The aim was for every student in the House to complete a minimum of 1km in 8 days, or 1km every day, for 8 days. Others participated with their tutor groups in a team 1000 challenge, and some joined in non-sporting events too.



97 students volunteered to be "Bell Burnell Bulldogs" (which is the House logo) and attempted 1km every day for 8 days. They raised sponsorship from friends and family, and received an event t-shirt (which was designed by **Emilie Esteves Louw**, in year 9) The 1km events included rowing, running, skipping, x-trainer, cycling and a 3 legged race. The Bulldogs had so much energy and really drove the event forward.

The challenge was also extended to families and friends of Bell Burnell House living all around the world. Mr Johnson received pictures from North America, Argentina, Switzerland, France, Wales, Algeria, Israel, Uganda, Philippines, Singapore and Australia.

So far students and staff have raised a staggering £3321.00! However, as so many of the donations were through the Just Giving site, another £707 can be given through gift aid. Therefore, the total amount raised is **£4028.00!** This amazing sum will go to the Bell Burnell House charity, St. Peter's Hospice.

The attitude and determination shown by all of the students was utterly incredible. Mr Johnson is exceedingly proud of all of their efforts. A massive THANK YOU to all of the students and families who participated. A big thank you to the Co-Op in Lawrence Weston and Aldi who were very supportive of the event and have very kindly donated prizes.



CONSIDERATION FOR OUR NEIGHBOURS IN LAWRENCE WESTON

Please ask students to consider our neighbours when they get onto the public buses after college finishes. It is important we maintain good relationships by being calm, patient and courteous around what can sometimes be very busy bus stops.

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

Allergy Alert: A reminder

In the interest of those pupils with serious allergies to various types of nuts, please may we remind parents **not to send pupils into school** with nuts or nut based products, ie; Nutella, peanut butter or cereal bars containing nuts.

Pupils with allergies can become seriously unwell just by being near these products, without actually consuming them. Thank you for your kind co operation.



**Please do not bring any products containing nuts into the college.
Thank you for helping to keep the children safe.**

