

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College

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Newsletter

Issue 338 25th November 2022

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As the days have become shorter and the weather has deteriorated, it has been fantastic to continue to see the students sparkle across the college. Year 11 have begun their mock exam season with focus and dedication after engaging so well with the careers fayre and university and apprenticeship presentations last week. The rugby teams have been thriving across all year groups and Year 7 enjoyed a revitalising retreat to Viney Hill. Students embraced the Odd Socks Day to mark the start of anti-bullying week and students raised money for the college charity, WWF, from the football shirt day. As Delia Owens wrote, "Autumn leaves don't fall, they fly. They take their time and wander on this their only chance to soar".

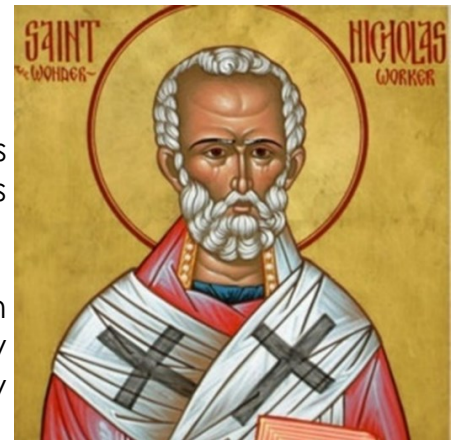
God bless,
Rob King

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: **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 the spotlight falls on **Maisie-Lee, Gabby** and **Albin** who have achieved the highest number of "Work Hard" achievement points in the college.

Maisie-Lee, Gabby and Albin your hard work exemplifies our St Bede's Way principles.

Keep up the great work! Well done.



BACK TO BEDROCK

St. Bede's have invested in a fantastic literacy improvement tool called Bedrock Learning, which teaches students in Year 7 and 8 the ambitious language they need to succeed at school and beyond. As your child progresses through their bespoke curriculum which has been made appropriate for their level, they will study hundreds of words and read fiction and non-fiction texts regularly. All Year 7 and Year 8 pupils are expected to complete half an hour of English homework once a week using Bedrock (along with their usual reading homework). We have seen tremendous results using this literacy tool and really believe in its power to aid children's long term learning. Bedrock club runs in A19 every Tuesday lunchtime for anyone who would benefit from having easy access to a laptop and a quiet place to get it done. English teachers will also be on hand to assist with any problems.

A huge well done to **Maya Malinowska and Amalie Jackson** who have achieved fantastic results recently. **Special praise** should also go to **Damian Bielinski and Max Pritchard**, who have **earned the most points** through their usage of Bedrock.

As their guardian, you can see your child's knowledge organiser, and you will receive weekly progress reports on your child's progress via email when you create your Bedrock account. Parent / guardian account details will be sent home later this term.

Happy Bedrocking.
The English Team.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2022

2nd December

Year 11 Mock
Exams end

8th December

Year 13
Progress Evening

12th December

Advent Service
6.30pm

14th December

Christmas Dinner

16th December

END OF TERM 2
Finish at 2.00pm



Please follow
St. Bede's
Catholic College
on Twitter

stb_bristol

BANK HOLIDAY MAY 2023

To mark the
Coronation of
King Charles III,
St. Bede's will be
closed on
**Monday 8th May
2023**

CASHLESS CATERING

Please can parents and carers check their child(ren)'s SCOPAY accounts regularly to ensure they have sufficient money available for their child(ren) to spend at break and/or lunchtime. We currently have a number of students with arrears and this affects the smooth running of the lunchtime queues.

If you wish to discuss any issues in regard to your child(ren) possibly overspending please contact us on 0117 2355623 or email m.cheshire@stbcc.org. Please note the cashloader does not identify whether a child's account is in debit or credit.

There is now an app available called Infinity Order, which students can download to a device, which enables you, and them, to see at a glance how much your child(ren) have on their account. The link to this has been issued to your children via their school email address.

SKI TRIP

Applications are now open for the **2024 ski trip travelling to the Skiwelt** in Austria. Letters have been emailed to parents, who need to complete the Google link by Friday 2nd December. The trip is open to students in years 7-12 (but year 11 can only apply if they are remaining in our 6th form)

Please contact Mr Johnson for any further information.



ST. BEDE'S ALUMNI RUGBY SUCCESS

Congratulations to St. Bede's Alumni, **Bo Osborn-Clarke** who made her debut for Bristol Bears Ladies last weekend. A fantastic game and a great try from Bo!



ARETÉ SIXTH FORM APPLICATIONS

Applications for Areté Sixth Form 2023 are now open. If you would like to apply, please do so via the following link:

<https://stbcc.applicaa.com/year12>

Closing date 9th January 2023

YEAR 9 VISIT TO THE FIRST WORLD WAR BATTLEFIELDS OCTOBER 2023

We are pleased to be able to offer **current year 8 students** the opportunity to enrich their studies with a 3 day visit to the battlefields of the Ypres Salient in Belgium and the Somme in France in October 2023. The visit will give students the opportunity to examine sections of trenches, to visit both Allied and German cemeteries and a number of museums including the excellent 'In Flanders Field' museum in Ypres. We will also take part in the very moving ceremony of remembrance at the Menin Gate in Ypres.

The visit is planned for the following dates:

Thursday 5th October 2023 - Saturday 7th October 2023

If you would like your child to participate in this visit, please click the following link: <https://forms.gle/vHtKnh4ZwnskoWxN9> to express your interest.

CHRISTMAS MEAL

Please make sure your child(ren) have registered for Christmas Dinner by Wednesday 30th November if they wish to participate in the Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 14th December.



Students can notify their tutor, use the googlemail link issued via their school email or register at the finance office. Free School Meals pupils who do not wish to have the cooked meal will be provided with a sandwich lunch. No other food will be available on that day.

ADVENT SERVICE

Our annual Advent and Christmas Service, will be held at 6:30pm in the Main Hall on Monday 12th December 2022. We very much hope that your child will be able to participate in the Advent and Christmas Service and that you and your family are available to join us in the congregation too.

If your child is participating in the Advent and Christmas Service, as part of the college choir and/or band, please click the following link to complete the reply slip and reserve seats: <https://forms.gle/UCjXmREdHUKV9oDS7>

Please note that seats in the congregation for the Advent and Christmas Service are available on a first come, first served basis. In the interest of fairness, we do ask that families reserve no more than 6 tickets.

We recommend that you book your seats on Google Forms as soon as possible.



THE LIBRARY CELEBRATES FOOTBALL!

We are following the World Cup in the Library, with a mixture of football stories, a look at the issues surrounding the choice of Qatar as the host nation, and some books to represent the countries in England and Wales' group.



Mrs Hayman has been meaning to read Kwame Alexander's *Booked* for ages and so was very excited that the graphic novel version of it arrived in the Library this week. A football novel in free verse, with an awesome librarian character – how did it take me so long to pick it up! Click on the picture to link to an extract, then come by and borrow it from the Library.



Mrs Nicks was delighted to discover Katya Balen Author of the Carnegie medal winning and st Bede's favourite 'October October', has written another beautiful hopeful book. It is published by the wonderfully dyslexia friendly Barrington Stoke. Click on the picture to link to an extract.



Looking forward to the season of Advent, thank you to our Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Volunteers for putting together this display for us.

Please note that, due to staff training, the Library will be shut after school on Wednesday 30th November.



CYBERFIRST GIRLS COMPETITION 2023

The CyberFirst Girls' Competition is designed to provide a fun but challenging environment to inspire the next generation of young women to consider a career in cyber security. It is administered by the National Cyber Security Centre which is part of GCHQ, the UK government's intelligence and security organisation.



In last year's competition, a team of St Bede's students achieved the amazing feat of qualifying for the UK regional finals in February and they shared their experience with this year's competitors during a recent competition launch assembly.

Their achievements have clearly inspired 10 teams of St Bede's Year 8 girls to register for this year's competition, compared with the 3 St Bede's teams that participated in last year's qualifiers. The qualifying round runs from Monday 21 November until Wednesday 30 November and I'm sure our students will gain invaluable cyber and team building skills whilst taking part, good luck Year 8!



Martyna, Leona, Leona and Niamh being presented with gift bags and a certificate as runners up from Alex Chalk QC, the Government's Solicitor General, at the UK regional finals in Cheltenham in February 2022.

Mr Bogle
ICT and Computing Department



Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 16th December
Wear a Christmas Jumper for donation toward a good cause

RUGBY NEWS

The year 9 and 10 teams participated in the finals of the Bristol and Area Cup this week. The year 9 team played a triangular and faced RGS in their first game. Although Mr Johnson believed it was one of their best performances this season, RGS beat them by one try. We were by far the better team and for long periods of the game, as RGS struggled to get out of their half. Unfortunately, one excellent passage of play enabled RGS to break through and score the only try of the game. Without a rest, we then faced Oasis John Williams who are reigning Bristol School Champions. The boys battled very hard and especially in some dreadful weather. However, Oasis were too strong and thoroughly deserved the victory and the cup.

The year 10 team finished fourth having played in some absolutely awful weather. Bristol Free School beat them in the semi final by three tries and the boys never really recovered from the cold. They did well to come back out of the changing room for the 3rd / 4th place game and although Warren scored an excellent driving try, Mangotsfield came out on top. The final was between Bristol free and Castle, with Castle retaining the Cup for the second year in a row.

The overall competition has a great format and both teams should be proud to reach the finals from the nine strong teams who entered across Bristol and South Gloucester. Several of our players will now be selected to represent Bristol against Stroud after Christmas.



SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT ROAD SAFETY

Cycling is a healthy and enjoyable activity and many of our pupils cycle to school. As the winter months approach it is important to make our young people aware of the risks and provide them with strategies to take positive action to remain safer.



- Always wear a helmet
- Wear visible clothing and check front and back lights work
- Do not wear earphones to listen to music on your journey
- Regularly maintain your bike
- Don't trust that drivers will spot you and be able to stop in time – some drivers may be going too fast and may not pay enough attention, so anything you can do to protect yourself is a good thing.

If you would like to find out more information please visit <http://think.direct.gov.uk/education/secondary/parents/cycle-safety/>



Matters of the Mind

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-62602913>

Sometimes, harmful or abusive behaviours are presented on social media. But our young people are now faced with the challenge of dealing with the presence of popular online personalities or social media influencers who become well-known and even famous for exhibiting this behaviour over online platforms. This is especially concerning when children and young people begin to view this harmful content online.

Andrew Tate is a well-known media presence who openly promotes harmful behaviours like misogyny, violence against women and minorities, and inappropriate portrayal of sexual misconduct. His views and behaviours have resulted in his accounts being removed from social media platforms like TikTok, Facebook, and Instagram for violating policies on “dangerous organisations and individuals.” This followed a successful campaign by UK-based advocacy group Hope Not Hate to remove him from all major platforms.

Despite most media outlets naming Tate to be a “misogynist”, he claims all allegations of abuse, assault, rape, and even human trafficking that have been put against him were “taken out of context.”

By talking to our young people about why the views shared by Andrew Tate are in complete contrast to our Christian values and beliefs, we can help to keep them safe from harm.

Advice for families if your child is accessing harmful content;

- Stay calm. If the child or young person in your care is exhibiting these behaviours or being targeted by them, the best thing you can do is realise that there is a problem that they need your help with. Approach them with gentleness and love, even if you dislike their behaviour.
- Talk to them. Ask them to explain what happened, and give them space to tell you in their own words. It may be emotional or embarrassing to discuss, but being able to talk through complex feelings in a supportive environment will help them.
- Be honest. It can be hard, but consider how your own actions (or those of family members or friends) might be affecting this behaviour. This may present in shouting, teasing, pressure, or even bullying, and could affect their coping mechanisms.
- Identify help. It's important that children and young people have someone they can turn to for help, even if that person is not you.

POLITE NOTICE

To support the safe arrival and exit of students that travel to college on a coach, please do not park in the coach bays on Lawrence Weston Road between 8.15am and 9.00am and 2.45pm and 3.30pm.

VACANCIES

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 8.30 am to 4.30 pm. 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 £9.90 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.

A job description and application form can be downloaded from the website or a hard copy can be posted out to you. Closing date for the receipt of applications is

If you have any queries, please contact Mrs Charters on 0117 3772200 or contact@stbcc.org

**HOME
START**
Bristol



Volunteer with us now - because childhood can't wait

Can you spare up to 3 hours a week to make a difference to a family living in Bristol or South Glos? Our volunteers support families with children under 5 who are going through tough times. Why not join our next volunteer preparation course starting on Thursday 19th January 2023, details below.

Contact us today to find out more.

homestartbristol.org.uk

0117 9501170

Charity no. 1116207
Unit 11, Greenway Business Centre, Doncaster Road, BRISTOL,
BS10 5PY



**Greenway Centre,
Doncaster Road,
Southmead, Bristol
BS10 5PY**

Thursdays
19/01/2023 -
23/02/2023
9:30- 2:30