

# St. Bede's Catholic College

*Specialist Science and Sports College*

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## Newsletter

Issue 339 9th December 2022

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we have now entered Advent, the college community looks forward expectantly to Christmas. Having said this, we are working hard to slow our thinking and avoid rushing too quickly to the big day. Preparations for our Advent service are well under way and the music sounds wonderful!

As Father Paul Turner recently encouraged, we are trying to 'Listen with our Hearts' and first direct our minds and hearts to Christ's second coming at the end of time, and then to the anniversary of our Lord's birth at Christmas.

I encourage you to say the short prayer below as a family this wonderful Adventide.

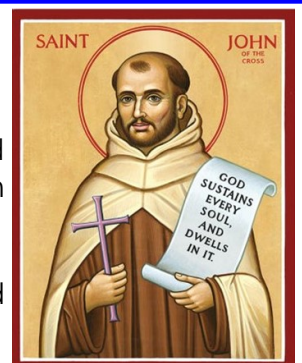
God of Love,  
Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.  
He is a sign of your love.  
Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent,  
As we wait and prepare for his coming.  
We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior.

God bless,  
Rob King

### REFLECTION – St. John of the Cross

The feast day of St. John of the Cross is celebrated on December 14. St. John of the Cross was a sixteenth century mystic and poet who worked with St. Teresa of Avila to reform the Carmelite order. He faced opposition and even imprisonment for his work.

St. John of the Cross is the patron saint of contemplatives, mystics, and Spanish poets.



**Reflection:** During his time in prison, he composed a poem called the Spiritual Canticle. Part of this poem goes:

"We must dig deeply in Christ. He is like a rich mine with many pockets containing treasures: however deep we dig we will never find their end or their limit. Indeed, in every pocket new seams of fresh riches are discovered on all sides."

#### Prayer:

Dear Lord, we thank You for giving us St. John of the Cross as an example of holiness. Help us to imitate the love of You he showed from the time he was a child.

St. John of the Cross, as you grew up in poverty with your family members, you began on the path to holiness. You continued seeking to serve God throughout the rest of your life.

Please bring my petitions before God Whom you sought to serve!

Amen

## ST BEDE'S TALENT SHOW

The college was abuzz on Tuesday evening for our first annual house talent show - 'Strictly St. Bede's has got the Great British Talent Factor'.

After a round of video auditions, 12 brilliant acts were chosen to perform for their houses. We saw singers, dancers, musicians, a gymnast and even some impressive iPad skills from the students. After the scores were given, it was year 11 rapper **Ian** and a dance duet from year 10 students **Miriam** and **Annette** that took the crown. Both acts scored a perfect 40, impressing the judges with their skills, creativity and performance.

In the house competition **Bell Burnell** had the highest overall score and take those points into their challenge for the inter house cup. Mr Johnson said: "I knew that Bell Burnell House was full of incredibly talented students but **Axel, Blanka, Chanelle, Precious** and **Liesel** were simply fantastic. A massive congratulations to all of them."

Ticket and refreshments sales from the evening raised an impressive **£230** for the house charities. Thanks to all students and staff who helped support the event and especially those who took part.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2022

**12th December**  
Advent Service  
6.30pm

**14th December**  
Christmas Dinner

**16th December**  
**END OF TERM 2**  
Finish at 1.55pm

**3rd January 2023**  
**START OF TERM 3**  
Week A



Please follow  
St. Bede's  
Catholic College  
on Twitter

**stb\_bristol**

## PSYCHOLOGY AND SCIENCE A LEVEL CONFERENCE

On the 30th November Year 12 Psychology students attended the annual Psychology and Science Conference at St George's, Bristol. Over the course of the day, eminent Psychologists gave fascinating presentations on a range of topics from 'bad science,' the neuroscience of dance and an interactive session introducing hypnosis and hypnotherapy.

*"This was a great experience that we would definitely recommend to anyone taking Psychology or anyone who just has a general interest in the discipline. Throughout the conference we questioned scientific concepts such as falsifiability and some forms of ethically challenging studies/research cases, including the 'Monster' case. We were introduced to some contemporary areas of study, such as Psychology's place in dance and magic as well as the much anticipated section on hypnosis led by the renowned Andrew Newton. It was overall an amazing insight into both practical and theoretical psychology. **Sophie, Year 12***



## 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

## GUIDANCE

The UKHSA has issued guidance on scarlet fever, following an increase in the number of cases which you may find useful:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ukhsa-update-on-scarlet-fever-and-invasive-group-a-strep>



## ENGLISH SPEAKING UNION COMPETITION

On Tuesday, 6th December six year 10 students took part in the second Bristol Heat of the ESU Speaking and Listening Competition competing against Badminton and Red Maids.

In a very tough evening of competition we were absolutely delighted that one of our teams progressed to the Bristol Final. Congratulations to:

### Team 1:

Chair - **Mya Griffiths**, Speaker - **Romily Maunder** and Questioner - **Livia Koikkara**

### Team 2:

Chair - **Alice Kealey**, Speaker - **Alessia Licata** and Questioner - **Freya Gallagher**

Team 1 was the team that progressed but it could just as easily have been team 2. Congratulations also to **Alice Blake** and **Neve Wilson** who played a very important part in the success.

The Bristol Final is on 24th January 2023 at Collegiate Senior School. Good luck!

## HOUSE CUP FOOTBALL WORLD CUP

Throughout football world cup, all tutor groups have been involved in a penalty shoot-out. The results are as follows:



		Bell Burnell	Pasteur	Descartes	Seacole
Year 7	boys	9	6	5	9
	girls	8	5	10	5
Year 8	boys	14	13	7	8
	girls	8	10	10	2
Year 9	boys	10	15	7	9
	girls	11	4	7	8
Year 10	boys	5	9	7	5
	girls	13	6	11	7
Year 11	boys	9	5	1	4
	girls	4	6	4	2

**Totals**

**91**

**79**

**69**

**59**

**1st**

**2nd**

**3rd**

**4th**

## 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. If you have any queries, please contact Mrs Charters on 0117 3772200 or [contact@stbcc.org](mailto:contact@stbcc.org)

## VACCINE STUDY

New vaccine study looking for participants: SUPER study - STANDING UP TO PERTUSSIS

UHBW and Bristol Vaccine Centre are evaluating a new vaccine for the prevention of whooping cough. We are recruiting volunteers (6-17 years old) for a clinical study and are looking for SUPERheroes like your child! If interested, please visit [www.supertrial.co.uk](http://www.supertrial.co.uk) or contact Bristol Vaccine Centre on +44 (0)117 342 0160 or [nasal-pertussis@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:nasal-pertussis@bristol.ac.uk).



## CALENDAR 2023

The St. Bede's Charity Calendar 2023, featuring 'highlights' of the last academic year is now available to purchase for £5.00 via scopay.



All proceeds will go towards our college charities.



## CHRISTMAS MEAL 14th DECEMBER 2022

Please remember that on the 14th December, unless your child(ren) have booked a Christmas lunch, there will be no other food served either at break or lunchtime, unless they are entitled to free school meals in which case they will be able to collect a sandwich.



## LIBRARY NEWS



We are lucky enough to have two Christmas trees in the Library. Under one of them we have our latest delivery of books, and under the other our festive reads – whether you like cosy Christmas stories or something darker for the long cold nights we've got you covered....

At the end of this newsletter we have included our Christmas quiz in case anyone would like try it at home – we're sorry you can't see the clues around the Library!

Thank you to our Library crafters for our lovely Christmas decorations.



Mrs Nicks and Mrs Hayman are very much looking forward to this BBC Radio adaptation of Susan Cooper's midwinter novel. The first episode is released on 20th December, followed by a daily episode tracking the time frame of the novel until New Year's Eve.

"When the Dark comes rising, who will turn it back?"

Congratulations to the Food and DT Departments who were the winners of November's Non-fiction Battle of C Block.



## SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT



Digital Safeguarding is an important factor to consider at this time of year. As Christmas draws near, many children may be looking forward to receiving new electronic devices or games, so we feel that this is an appropriate time to highlight some straight-forward online safety tips to help parents/carers make safer choices and support their children online.

### Top Tips

- Continue to take an active interest in your child's online life and engage in the digital world with them.
- Remind children that they can tell an adult if something happens online that makes them feel scared, worried or uncomfortable, without being told off or punished.
- Agree as a family, how the internet and technology will be used in your home; encourage children to use the online safety messages they learn in school and adapt these into your own family rules.
- Discuss online boundaries too; if your child loves to socialise online, talk to them about what is and isn't appropriate to share with their friends online.
- Always check the PEGI age rating and descriptors on games before buying them for your child and carefully consider whether the content is appropriate for them.
- Remember to role-model positive behaviour online; consider asking your child's permission before posting photos of them on social media this Christmas and empower them to have control over their 'digital reputation'.

Further information can be found here:

<http://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/have-a-conversation>

## FREE ACTIVITIES AND FOOD TO BRISTOL'S CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Children and young people who are eligible for free school meals will once again be able to access free holiday activities and nutritious meals this winter break.

With over 180 activities to choose from this holiday, including festive arts and crafts, cooking workshops and even Ninja Warrior, eligible families are encouraged to find out what's on this winter through the Your Holiday Hub website. Children and young people aged four to 16 who are eligible, and in-receipt of free school meals can access Your Holiday Hub for free.

Eligible families will also receive free school meal vouchers for the full winter holiday, which will be distributed by schools.

Funded by the UK Government's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme, over 3,700 Bristol children and young people benefitted from the programme over the summer holiday.

Food is central to the programme, as with each activity children and young people will also receive a hot meal and learn about food and healthy living. 1,960 activity packs and food parcels will be delivered to 45 organisations across Bristol this winter.

Eligible children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) or an education, health and care plan are welcome at YHH. Families can contact the organisation or session they would like to attend to discuss their child's individual needs.