

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College

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Newsletter

Issue 341 13th January 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

The new year has begun well at St Bede's, with our Epiphany services on Friday a real highlight. The liturgy and music were fantastic and the students engaged so well with the opportunity to celebrate the revelation of Christ as the Son of God.

This first fortnight has also been marked by Year 13s having worked so diligently towards their mock exams. They have been an absolute credit to the college and their families. It was also wonderful to welcome families of Year 11 students into college for their progress evening. Students are working hard and making great progress towards top grades this summer.

Attendance has continued to improve after the bout of illnesses in December. Thank you for all your support in ensuring students attend as often as possible, whilst also keeping them at home when they are ill and have a temperature as per our guidance from the UK Health Security Agency. Good attendance really is a super power for students when considering their academic progress, as was shown in last year's exam results.

God bless,
Rob King

REFLECTION—St Hilary of Poitiers

The Feast Day of St Hilary of Poitiers is celebrated on 13 January

Hilary of Poitiers was Bishop of Poitiers and a Doctor of the Church. His name comes from the Latin word for happy or cheerful.

Hilary was born at Poitiers either at the end of the 3rd or beginning of the 4th century A.D. His parents were pagans. He received a good pagan education, which included a high level of Greek. He studied, later on, the Old and New Testament writings, and with his wife and his daughter was baptized and received into the Church, after which he was appointed as Bishop. He was one of the great champions of Catholic belief in the divinity of Christ. His ambition was to be called a pupil of the truth. The truth being found in the Gospel messages.

Hilary died in Poitiers in 367. Pope Pius IX formally recognized him a Doctor of the Church in 1851.

Reflection:

"I am well aware, almighty God and father, that in my life, I owe you a most particular duty. It is to make my every thought and word speak of You." **St Hilary of Poitiers.**

Prayer:

Grant, we pray You, Almighty God, that the example of St Hilary and that of all Your Saints may lead us to a better life, so that by keeping their feast-days we may be brought to imitate their good deeds. St Hilary was a champion of the Truth; may we never tell lies to excuse ourselves, to hurt others, to gain or to make ourselves look more important. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2023

19th January

Year 12 EPQ
Information
meeting
(via Zoom)
6.00pm

24th January

Year 8 HPV
Vaccinations

24th January

College will close
at 2:15pm for
staff training

26th January

Year 8 & 9
Curriculum
Evening
6.00pm—8.30pm

30th January

Culture Week

3rd February

Year 11 PSHE
and Careers Day



Please follow

St. Bede's
Catholic College

on Twitter

stb_bristol

REMINDER: Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) 2023 (Year 12 students only) Information Evening Thursday 19th January 2023 at 6pm

Letters have been sent to families of students in Year 12 to invite them to attend an information meeting (via Zoom) about the EPQ.

The EPQ is worth half an A Level (through UCAS points) and takes place from Term 3, Year 12 (February 2023) until the end of Term 1, Year 13 (October 2023). It is highly valued by higher education institutions and gives students key skills that they can carry through to university studies and workplaces. Some universities offer lower entry requirements for those who achieve an A at EPQ. Recent research has shown that those who complete the EPQ, perform better in their A Level studies and have better outcomes at university. The students research and produce a product (either a 5,000 word essay or an artefact with a 1,000 – 2,000 word essay) on any topic that they are interested. It is not necessary to RSVP, please just join the meeting using this link or the one on the letter that was sent out last week.

<https://bit.ly/3GDyxi2>

Meeting ID: 726 9343 2186

Passcode: CvH69s

The slides will be made available after the meeting if you are unable to attend. Please email Mrs Gibson (a.gibson@stbcc.org) if you have any questions.

ECO CLUB

Eco club is continuing to look at plastics this term and are in the process of making more plastic eco bricks like the ones shown in the picture.

So that we have enough plastics available to complete this activity, we would appreciate any plastic that you may have at home, that you would normally recycle or throw away.

Things such as: 2 litre plastic bottles, clean, dry, plastic carrier bags, plastic wrappers that shops use to wrap fruit punnets or bananas in, milk bottles, plastic food trays and yogurt pots.

As long as they are clean we can use them.

If you have any plastic items, please send them into College with your son/daughter who can bring them to D9.



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 **Cayden** and **Joseph** in year 9. As part of the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award both students have been volunteering with the Forest School club at Holy Family RC Primary. The reports we have received from the school have been so positive, well done.

Cayden and Joseph, your hard work exemplifies our St Bede's Way principles.

We are proud of you.

BASKETBALL SUCCESS

Congratulations to the senior basketball team who demonstrated real team spirit against Redland Green School earlier this week. A fantastic game resulting in a great victory. Well done!



UPCOMING SEND COFFEE MORNINGS

Drop us a message if you need help with transport for our Inns Court Coffee morning



SOS!SEN

Jan 12th, Inns Court, with SEND advice from SOS!SEN, 10:30-12:30

Jan 16th: Compass Point Primary, 9-10:30am

Jan 19th: Wansdyke Primary School, 9-10:30am

Jan 23rd: Glenfron Primary School, 9-10:30am*

Jan 31st, Holy Cross RC, 9-10:30am

Feb 2nd, Oasis Academy Brightstowe, 9-10:30am

Feb 6th, Ashton Vale Primary, 9-10:30am

Feb 10th, Avanti Gardens, 9-10:30am*

*Open to all families in the area



WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

Welcome to the new staff joining us at St. Bede's Catholic College:

Miss J Newman
Mrs S Moseley
Mrs A Williams
Mrs N Spencer

First Aid Coordinator and Student Support Officer
Learning Support Assistant
Head of Design Technology and Food
Psychology Teacher



Matters of the Mind

This time of year is a great time to re-consider our sense of purpose

Having clarity about our aims and ambitions can make it easier to get up in the morning. A purpose instils us with energy, gives us a sense of direction, encourages engagement with the world around us and creates a clearer sense of self. Having a purpose provides us with a focus and a sense of achievement as we work towards our target.

Studies have shown that when people feel like they are contributing to a higher purpose, they often have a healthier and happier outlook. They can also prove more resilient to stress.

Physical fitness is a great way to find a sense of purpose. Whatever the parameters of your physical abilities, having something to train towards creates purpose.

As well as improving our fitness, exercise has an added benefit. When we get our body moving, our brain's hypothalamus and pituitary gland produce neurochemicals called endorphins, which create a sense of euphoria and well-being and help to combat stress.

Physical activity also stimulates the release of dopamine, norepinephrine, and serotonin which all play an important role in regulating mood. Exercise actually helps us to feel happier.



Extract from www.bbc.co.uk <https://bbc.in/38fVFjE>

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

An Important note about Seat Belts

The rule is, if the vehicle is fitted with seatbelts, it is the responsibility of the passengers to use them.

Please remind your son or daughter to wear the belt and remain seated at all times when travelling to and from college.

LIBRARY NEWS

Reading Resolutions

We are encouraging everyone to share their reading resolutions for 2023 with us. You don't have to have three, and full disclosure – neither Mrs Nicks or Mrs Hayman managed to keep theirs all last year. However, they found it helpful to have something in mind, and to have a community to support them. If you'd like to be part of it, drop by the Library to pick up a form.



World Religion Day in the Library

World Religion Day takes place each January, aiming to promote understanding and peace between all religions as well as mutual understanding and tolerance between peoples from different backgrounds.


World Religion Day 2023 takes place on **Sunday, 15 January**.

Come and see our display of non-fiction books, and also stories of people of different faiths.

New for 2023 - Graphic Novel Book Club

We are launching a new book club in the library open to all. If you enjoy graphic novels and comic books, ask Mrs Hayman or Mrs Nicks for more details and sign up in the library.






I have been looking forward to reading this book, since it came into the library. I was very glad to borrow it over the Christmas holidays. I was not disappointed, I couldn't put it down. The story is set in a fantastical Georgian London, full of magic and mystery. It is fast paced and the details of the characters are beautifully put together.

The author has clearly done research into Georgian society and the setting feels authentic with a mystical twist. If you are looking for an exciting magical mystery novel or enjoy fantastical historical fiction like Terry Pratchett's 'Dodger', Christopher Edge's '12 Minutes to Midnight' or Peter Bunzl's 'MagicBorn' this is the book for you. I can't wait to find out what happens next for Marisee & Robert, I hope I don't have to wait too long!

Mrs Nicks recommends this book



As this is a graphic novel it feels like an easy read. The sense of achievement of finishing a book quickly is great, yet even more so if you enjoy it. This book, however, is worth spending more time on. The imagery throughout the book is beautiful.

Sometimes the illustrations feel obvious; other times they seem to be open to interpretation and you can find yourself staring at them for a long time. The art is subjective and you can take it as you see it, which gives the book a personal feel. It is a comforting book which reminds me that we all lived through a historic and difficult time.

Miss Power recommends this book



I have to confess that the cover drew me to this book first, but the writing inside is equally as beautiful. It is an unnerving play on a fairy tale world breaking into ours, with all the danger that implies, but also a story about anxiety, mental health and the importance of asking for help. This is shortlisted for the 2023 Adrien Prize and I am looking forward to reading the rest of the list.

Mrs Hayman recommends this book

VACANCIES

Governors of St Bede's wish to appoint the following:

School Meals Supervisory Assistant

The usual hours of work are 12.00pm – 1.30pm Monday to Friday, term time only. There is the opportunity of a free school meal or a drink. The hourly rate is currently £10.50

Learning Support Assistant

Governors of St Bede's wish to appoint a Learning Support Assistant to join the existing team to provide small group and in class support across the 11-16 age range. This post is to commence as soon as possible.

The position is 30 Hours per week, over 5 days. Term time only including in-service training days.

The actual annual salary for this post is £15,577 - £17,056 (FTE £21,968 - £24,054)

Cover Supervisor

We are looking to appoint an enthusiastic and innovative Cover Supervisor to join our highly successful team of mutually supportive colleagues

The hours of work will be 08.30 – 15.30, Monday to Friday, 30-minute lunch break, term time only for which the annual salary is St Bede's Grade 8, point 12-18 - £18,734 - £20,912

Science Teacher

St Bede's wish to appoint a part time, maternity leave cover (0.8 contract) Science teacher to deliver high quality lessons while successfully nurturing and inspiring our students from 28th February 2023 until 27th February 2024 (or earlier return of substantive post holder)

The closing date for application for Science Teacher will be noon on Thursday 19th January 2023

Further details for all positions are available from our website <https://www.stbedescc.org/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=12> or contact c.walker@stbcc.org

Offers of employment are subject to Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service clearance, excellent references and medical clearance.

