

# St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College

T: 0117 377 2200

E: [contact@stbcc.org](mailto:contact@stbcc.org)

W: [www.stbedesccl.org](http://www.stbedesccl.org)

Tw: STB\_Bristol



## Newsletter

Issue 346 31st March 2023

### MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL

As we approach Easter, it is time to reflect on a fantastic term for our college. Our inaugural Culture Week was a huge success, and was then followed by residential trips skiing, to CERN in Switzerland, and to Iceland. The college show, School of Rock, was another huge success, with great quality of performance and engagement from students across Year 8-13. Some students have been on retreat and others have enjoyed celebrating International Women's Day. All enjoyed the Speaking and Listening Activity Day. Older students have had the opportunity to visit the opera and watch live theatre. Bell Burnell have finished the term with an exciting charity event raising money for St Peter's Hospice. Amongst all these activities, students have worked hard on their academic studies and Year 11 and Year 13 are well prepared for their upcoming examinations.

*Almighty Father, who sent your only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sin, show us how we can honour you and bring glory to your name, by walking in the way of Jesus. Give us grace and mercy as we try and fail, guidance when we are not sure which way to go, and wisdom to trust you in all things. For your love brings light and life to all who seek it. May we seek you evermore as we walk with you into this Holy Week and towards Easter. Amen.*

God bless,  
Rob King



*May you find the renewal of hope, health, love and the spirit of God this Easter.*

*We wish all our families and parishes a Happy Easter.*

## REFLECTION



Holy Week begins with **Palm Sunday**, which commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

The following day is called **Holy Monday** when Jesus cursed the fig tree, sent out the merchants from the temple, and responded to those who questioned His authority. On **Holy Tuesday**, some observe Christ foretelling his own death. The next day is called **Holy Wednesday**, which remembers how Judas arranged the betrayal of Jesus with the chief priests.

Holy Wednesday is then followed by the 'Triduum' of Holy Week — Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday.

**Maundy Thursday** (also called Holy Thursday) commemorates Christ's "new commandment" that his disciples love one another as He has loved them (John 13:34). Maundy Thursday also marks the Last Supper that Jesus shared with His disciples, His prediction of His death, His betrayal by Judas Iscariot, and His arrest at the Garden of Gethsemane. Maundy Thursday services also include an act of foot washing, commemorating how Jesus washed His disciples' feet as an act of service preceding His arrest.

Known as the most sombre day for Christians, **Good Friday** remembers Jesus' trial before Pontius Pilate, His death sentence, torture, crucifixion, death, and burial. We fast on Good Friday, and many attend a church service where they meditate on and venerate the cross of Christ.

The Triduum of Holy Week concludes with **Holy Saturday**, the seventh day of the week, when Jesus rested in the tomb. On this day, Christians observe a late-night two-part Easter Vigil service. Jesus' resurrection on the eighth day is celebrated as Easter, marking the beginning of the Easter week, and the season of Eastertide.

**Reflection:** "Holy Week is a privileged time when we are called to draw near to Jesus: friendship with him is shown in times of difficulty." ~ **Pope Francis**  
We especially remember Pope Francis in our prayers at this time.

**Prayer:** Give me grace and mercy as I try and fail, guidance when I'm not sure which way to go, and wisdom to trust you in all things. For your love brings light and life to all who seek it. May I seek you evermore as I walk with you through this Holy Week and beyond. **Amen.**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2023

**31st March**  
**END OF TERM 4**

**2nd April**  
Berlin trip depart

**5th April**  
Berlin trip return

**17th April**  
**START OF TERM 5**

**26th April**  
Parents'  
Information  
Meeting for  
students going  
to Rome

## GREAT BRITAIN RECORD HOLDER!

Congratulations to year 9 student **Annie** who represented Great Britain at the Fin Swimming CMAS World Cup 2022 in Italy recently.

Fin Swimming is different to traditional swimming competitions as the swimmers use either bi-fins or a mono-fin and most races are swum completely underwater using a snorkel to breathe. They are much faster than normal races, but you have extra weight to carry as a mono-fin is 3kg.

Annie raced in three individual races securing 9th place in the 50 bi-fin, 10th place in the 100 mono-fin and 8th place in the 200m bi-fin. In the under 18 relay Annie and her team placed 10th and **broke the current GB record!**

Congratulations Annie, well done!



## SPRING CONCERT

Well done to all students who took part in this year's Art Exhibition and Spring Concert, which was held in college on Tuesday 28th March. The Art Exhibition was fantastic, with incredibly high quality and creative pieces of artwork on display.

The College Band, Junior Choir and Senior choir performed a number of pieces to a high standard and the drama and music soloists were truly outstanding. It was a pleasure to listen to and watch such amazing performances.

Thank you to all families who attended the Art Exhibition and Spring Concert and for supporting our wonderfully talented students.





## 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 **Leon**. Leon has shown great focus and attitude this term, continually striving to work hard. Congratulations.

You exemplify our St Bede's Way principles.  
We are proud of you.



## CATENIAN PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION

The 60th edition of the Catenian public speaking competition took place on Sunday 26th March at the Newman Hall; Westbury on Trym. Our contestants this year **Zuriel** and **Peter** spoke passionately and expertly about peace and monarchy, respectively.

When the prizes were handed out, Peter was in 2nd place (St Bede's are proud to have been either 1st or 2nd for the past twenty years).

Congratulations to both contestants.

Who will carry on this tradition next year?



## MOCK COP 26

On Tuesday 28th March two groups from the Sixth Form took part in a conference organised by the University of Bristol to debate issues surrounding climate change. A number of sixth forms from across the region, took part in the event where groups represented the interests of countries and organisations from across the world and debated the same resolutions as those at COP26 at Glasgow last November.

Our students put forward compelling cases, developing their own skills in negotiation and debate during the day, as well facing the complex reality of responding to the climate crisis.



## SNAP THE CHAT, EVERYONE'S A WINNER

On Wednesday 22nd March, four Year 12 teams from St. Bede's took part in the SuitUp SnapChat competition. SuitUp is a voluntary organisation based in New York which works with Fortune 500 companies to promote more diversity in the workforce of many of the world's largest and most successful businesses.

Every member of each team connected with the organisers in New York via Zoom video and each team was assigned two business coaches, one from the UK and the other from the USA. Over an intense period of 2 hours, the teams had to create a business pitch from scratch of an idea of how SnapChat's platform could be used to promote International Women's Day.

Using a template, the teams had to present their ideas and their marketing and funding strategies to the judges, who were the senior operating executive and the senior marketing manager for SnapChat's European operations. After considering the pitches, the judges provided feedback for each team on the strengths of their presentations and suggested areas for development before announcing the competition winners.

Team 3 consisting of **Angeline, Christina, Alex, Sachin, Johan** and **Jesvin** were **awarded first prize** for the adaptability of their idea and for the manner in which it builds upon SnapChat's existing platform. The organisers awarded each team member a £25 Amazon voucher and were very flattering about the enthusiasm of St. Bede's students and of the quality of their pitches.

Although SuitUp has worked with 1000s of students in America and are sponsored by very well known brands, this was the first time they had worked with an organisation overseas and it was a great opportunity for St. Bede's to raise our international profile!

Mr Bogle  
ICT and Computer Science Department



## DANCE SUCCESS

Congratulations to **Jamie** who competed at the Soar British Championships in North Wales last weekend. Jamie entered the under 16's freestyle solo and made the final 6. He then had to dance again and was placed 3rd, a fantastic result! On Sunday, he competed with his dance crew in the under 16's group event and was awarded 2nd place.

Fantastic, well done Jamie!



## BISHOP FLEMING EVENT

After a successful talk at Parliament, Aleena and Chris Mathew (year 13) and Mrs Hicks were invited to speak about Young Enterprise at the Bishop Fleming Academy Conference.

The Conference brought together a number of Bishop Fleming's clients, including Head Teachers, education professionals and industry leaders.

We were joined in our panel interview by the CEO of Young Enterprise, Sharon Davies, and the Director of the Young Enterprise West of England Volunteer Board, Paul Seymour.

Aleena and Chris once again stole the show by speaking so enthusiastically and confidently to the audience about running their own business during the Young Enterprise Company Programme. They answered the panel questions professionally, and had a queue of people waiting to meet them at the end of the event!

Overall another fabulous experience representing St Bede's. Well done!



## NATWEST CAREER SENSE EVENT

On Thursday 9th March our Year 12 Business and Economics students, Mrs Hicks and Miss Brooks attended the Career Sense Dream Bigger event run by NatWest.

During the all day workshop, students were encouraged to push themselves outside of their comfort zones, working in groups with industry experts to come up with solutions to the UK litter problem. The students were also encouraged to explore their entrepreneurial skills, using their Business and Economics specialisms.



The students absolutely threw themselves into the challenge, and we were so impressed that all students stood up and presented to the group at the end of the day.

The NatWest team commented on how professional, enthusiastic and polite our students were. After the event the students were asked to set up LinkedIn accounts, and have now been endorsed by the industry experts they worked with on the day.



## YOUNG ENTERPRISE AT CABOT CIRCUS

This year's Young Enterprise Company Programme Team "Bee Happy" took part in a trade fair at Cabot Circus on a chilly Saturday morning.

The team were once again selling their "Bags of Joy", filled with positive items such as stress balls and motivational stickers. The Year 10 team were very professional and polite with customers and stood out against the much older 6th form teams!

Their confidence and bright products awarded them the **"Best Trade Stand"** in the awards at the end of the day. The team also came runner up in the Dragon's Den pitches.

Mrs Hicks is extremely proud of the team; **Juvel, Alessia, Theodora, Miriam, Joel, Nicole, Kevin, Josh** and **Precious**. The team are now looking ahead to the **Area Final** on Thursday 4th May at UWE, where they will submit their Company Report, set up their trade stand, and present in front of all the teams and judges! Well done!



## WEST OF ENGLAND SEMI-FINALISTS

Congratulations to the year 10 Netball Team for making it to the West of England Under 16 Netball Semi Finals, beating schools from Bristol, North Somerset, South Gloucestershire and Bath to get there.

The girls played a fantastic game against a tough opponent in Winterbourne. In true St Bede's style, the girls showed superb resilience and strength of character in their toughest game to date. Unfortunately it wasn't meant to be. However, the girls are still **Bristol schools champions** - a title they have achieved for the third time, **making them the most successful netball team at St Bede's!**

We look forward to defending our title next year.



**TERM 5 WILL COMMENCE ON MONDAY 17 APRIL—WEEK A**

## CHES

This year, chess has seen a huge surge in popularity at St Bede's, demonstrated by the 100+ students who valiantly battled in the Inter-House tournament this term. After 4 gruelling qualifying rounds, 8 of St Bede's most skilled players remained to play the quarter finals in front of a live audience, with a magnificent double game then being played out for the semi-finals. It was a battle between Descartes and Seacole in the grand final on the last day of term - the frighteningly talented opponents **Jake** and **Kevin** fought valiantly to secure the points for their houses and, after an astonishing game, the victory fell on Descartes!

Congratulations to **Jake** on his win, and to everyone who took part in the competition as a contestant. The chess club would like to thank all students who spectated for creating such an amazing atmosphere, and the staff who supported the tournament in various ways; particularly the maintenance team for helping with the complexity of setting up the early rounds. We look forward to the ever-growing enthusiasm for chess continuing to benefit the students in so many ways, and an even better tournament next year!



## MUSIC EXAMINATIONS

Congratulations to the following students for achieving so highly in their recent music examinations:

**Dylan Land** - Guitar - Grade 7 - Distinction  
**Melissa Davies** - Voice - Grade 4 - Distinction  
**Livia Rodriguez** - Voice - Grade 4 - Merit  
**Sophia Rooney** - Voice - Grade 4 - Merit  
**Lily Eckersley** - Voice - Grade 5 - Distinction  
**Mollie Montanaro** - Voice - Grade 6 - Merit  
**Mabel Williams** - Violin - Grade 5 - Merit  
**Xu Yi Lin** - Violin - Grade 5 - Pass  
**Christopher Nicks** - Violin - Grade 4 - Merit  
**Joshua Wong** - Violin - Grade 3 - Pass  
**Yohannan Lobela** - Musical Theatre - Grade 2 - Distinction  
**Grace Lodge** - Musical Theatre - Grade 2 - Distinction  
**Ruby Reilly** - Musical Theatre - Grade 2 - Merit  
**Ella-Rose Evans** - Musical Theatre - Grade 3 - Merit  
**Henry Bush Evans** - Musical Theatre - Grade 8 - Distinction  
**Laurie Fleming** - Musical Theatre - Grade 8 - Distinction  
**Mabel Williams** - Piano - Grade 4 - Pass  
**Evan Watt** - Piano - Grade 4 - Pass  
**Joshua Wong** - Piano - Merit





## UNLOCK CYBER COMPETITION 2023

The annual Unlock Cyber competition is open to secondary schools in the southwest of England and involves teams of Year 8 students completing a series of online cyber security challenges within a two hour time frame.



The competition is hosted by Immersive Labs, a Bristol based cyber training company that has gained an international reputation for the quality of its 'training labs'. This year the competition was held on Wednesday 15 March which was one of the dates set for industrial action in the present teachers' pay and conditions dispute. As some of our teams had been practising for nearly 5 weeks for the competition, it was agreed that our students would participate from home using Google classroom and email to communicate with Mr Bogle.

This year's winners were St. John's Academy from Marlborough, with Bristol's Badminton and Fairfield schools in the runners' up places. Elaine Brown, UWE's Unlock Cyber Project Manager could have been speaking on our behalf when she announced "A huge well done to everyone who took part and a special well done to the teams from St. Bede's, who took part remotely on Wednesday, when their school was closed".



## BELL BURNELL HOUSE WELLNESS CHARITY CHALLENGE

This week Bell Burnell students and staff have been participating in a wellness charity event which saw them completing various challenges including:

- Regular exercise
- Following a healthy diet – healthy breakfast and fasting
- A consistent sleep routine
- Exposure to extreme temperatures - cold showers
- Appreciation of those around you - kindness activity
- Fear factor - high ropes, holding a tarantula or a snake

**The challenge was a sponsored event and so far the total money raised stands at £1260!**

This is an incredible amount of money and it will be donated to the House charity; St Peter's Hospice. Many congratulations to all who participated, Mr Johnson is very proud of you all. A special thank you to Sue, the manager at the Co-Op in Lawrence Weston who provided much of the food for the healthy breakfast.



## JUNIOR BASKETBALL TEAM

The junior basketball team played in the final of the Bristol School League this week against Fairfield. The boys had already played Fairfield in the qualifying league and knew that it was going to be a difficult game.

They made a very nervous start and Fairfield punished us in the first quarter. However, the boys grew in confidence as the game progressed but had too much to do. Fairfield were deserving winners and formidable opponents. However, Mr Johnson was very pleased with how the team grew this year and they deserved to be in the final after all of their hard work. Congratulations to the whole team!



## PASTEUR VISIT PRIMARY SCHOOL

On Wednesday, Pasteur House pupils from Year 8 - 11 delivered an assembly at St Bernard's Primary School, Shirehampton.

There was a lot of interaction as anti-bullying, anti-racism and awareness of social media and its dangers was explored.

The powerful message that it's time to change was conveyed to build a positive and kind future for everyone. Well done!





## CERN TRIP

At the end of February 30 6th form physics students along with Mr Davies, Mr Silver and Dr Walsh headed out to Geneva in Switzerland for 3 days to visit CERN, the European Centre for Nuclear Research.

The trip included visiting a museum of scientific history, climbing the tower of St Pierre Cathedral in the Old Quarter of Geneva, visiting the museum of natural history including Janus the 2 headed turtle and the Red Cross/Red Crescent museum which gave an insightful look into their role in conflict zones around the world.

The highlight of the trip was of course visiting CERN. CERN is a particle physics experiment that collides high speed protons in order to attempt to detect new particles such as the Higgs Boson. As the experiment was switched off we were able to go underground to the 27km circumference tunnel and see one of the experiments close up.

Both students and staff had a great time and learnt a lot in the 3 days we were there.



## CASHLESS CATERING - MESSAGE FOR FAMILIES

Please check accounts on SCOPAY to ensure that they are cleared of any arrears over the Easter break.

Please note it is safer to add money through SCOPAY rather than send children in with cash.



## SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

### Holiday Activity and Food Programme Easter 2023

There are a range of free and funded places for activities over the Easter break, please see the offer here:

#### **Eligibility for YHH HAF funded places**

This holiday provision is for school aged children from reception to year 11 (inclusive) who receive benefits-related free school meals.

Benefits-related free school meals (FSM) are available to pupils if their parents are in receipt of one of the qualifying benefits, and have a claim verified by their school or local authority.

#### **Universal infant free school meals (UFSM)**

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 in England's state-funded schools receive a free meal under the Department for Education (DfE) UFSM meal policy. Infant pupils who receive a free meal under UFSM must also be eligible for benefits-related FSM to be able to access a place on the HAF programme.

To find out more about benefits related free school meals and how to apply for them please visit: <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/schools-learning-and-early-years/travel-and-free-school-meals/free-school-meals>

#### **Non FSM eligible children and young people**

There is a limited amount of funding to provide free places to children and young people that are not in receipt of benefits related FSM but are considered vulnerable over the school holidays. To find out more about this and whether or not you qualify, please contact your chosen activity directly.

Bristol City Council — Families in Focus have also put together a booklet of information, services and activities for families over the Easter holidays. Please click here for further information: <https://bit.ly/42R8Q7S>



## 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 £10.90

**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 £10.90 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)

Further information on vacancies at the college please click [here](#)

## ST. BEDE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE TERM DATES 2023 – 2024

**Term 1:** Friday 1 September 2023 to Friday 20 October 2023

**Term 2:** Monday 30 October 2023 to Friday 15 December 2023

**Term 3:** Tuesday 2 January 2024 to Friday 9 February 2024

**Term 4:** Monday 19 February 2024 to Thursday 28 March 2024

**Term 5:** Monday 15 April 2024 to Friday 24 May 2024

**Term 6:** Monday 3 June 2024 to Tuesday 23 July 2024

### Inset days

Friday 1st September 2023

Monday 4th September 2023

Friday 20th October 2023

Friday 9th February 2024

Monday 22nd July 2024

Tuesday 23rd July 2024

**College will finish at 2:15pm on five days for additional in-service training (bus departure will be adjusted accordingly); dates to be confirmed**

# College Apps and Websites

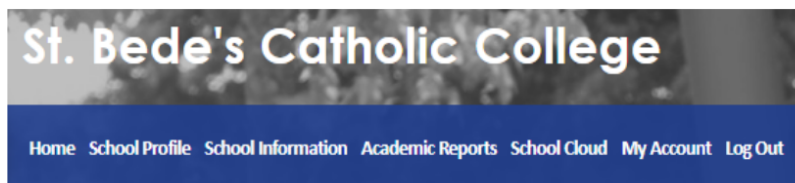
## Parent Portal

For:

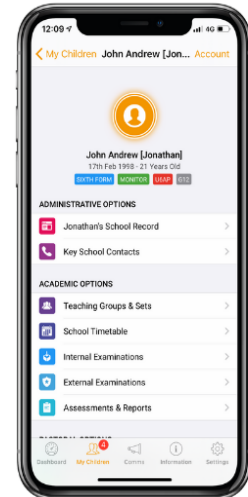
Attendance, Timetable, Exam information, Reports,  
School Cloud (parents evening)

If you would like to update your  
postal address please email:  
[contact@stbcc.org](mailto:contact@stbcc.org)

Using a web browser



Now available as an app  
from your app store  
School Code 50539



Click to find out more about Parent Portal

<https://www.isams.com/platform/apps/iparent/>

**My Ed** **MY Ed**  
BY IRIS

Updating email/telephone numbers

**For:** Reporting Absence and email school. You can still  
email [contact@stbcc.org](mailto:contact@stbcc.org) for non-absence related  
communication.

## ClassCharts

**For:** monitoring home  
learning and rewards and  
behaviour

## ScoPay

**For:** Payments

The number of apps we use to communicate is being  
reviewed and over the next 12-18 months will be minimised.