

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College

T: 0117 377 2200

E: contact@stbcc.org

W: www.stbedesccl.org

Tw: STB_Bristol



Newsletter

Issue 353 8th September 2023

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL

Where does the time go? Here we are at the beginning of another new academic year and it was wonderful to welcome all students to college on Tuesday, but especially our new Year 7s and 12s. The Year 7s began bright and full of hope for their time at St Bede's, and at 140, Year 12 is our biggest (and potentially best) cohort yet in Areté. Exciting times for our community and the individuals within it.

As you may have read, earlier in the summer we celebrated the exam results of our outgoing Year 13 and Year 11. Both groups did amazingly well, setting themselves up well for the next steps of their lives. We are so proud of them all!

Below is the prayer I said with all the students as they began this new year:

Lord Jesus, I ask for Your help as I begin this new school year.

Allow me to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before me.

Open my eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings.

Open my heart and mind to new friends and new teachers.

Give me a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with my studies and courage to accept new opportunities.

Help me to be attentive to my teachers and let me experience Your presence in my new friends.

Jesus, inspire me to do my best this year!

Amen



REFLECTION— 9 September Memorial of St Peter Claver

The feast day of St. Peter Claver is celebrated on September 9. He is the patron saint of African missions.

St. Peter Claver was a member of the Society of Jesus and is the patron of African missions and of interracial justice, due to his work with slaves in Colombia.

St. Peter was born at Verdu, Catalonia, Spain in 1580. He entered the Jesuit college of Barcelona, becoming a Jesuit novitiate, taking his final vows on Aug 8, 1604.

St. Peter left his homeland to become a missionary in the colonies of the new world. He ministered to the slaves arriving daily in Cartagena (now Columbia). Over a thousand slaves arrived in Cartagena every month. He brought them food, ministered to their medical needs and prayed with them. He followed them to the plantation they were taken to. After instructing them in the faith, he baptized them. By 1651 he had baptized over 300,000 slaves into the faith.

After suffering from illness for four years, St. Peter died on Sept. 8, 1654 and was canonized in 1888.

Reflection: “We must speak to them with our hands by giving, before we try to speak to them with our lips.” Quote by St Peter Claver

Prayer: God of mercy and love,
You offer all peoples the dignity of sharing in your life.
By the example and prayers of Saint Peter Claver, strengthen us to overcome all racial hatreds and to love each other as brothers and sisters.
We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.



MUSIC LESSONS AND CHOIR REHEARSALS

We are looking forward to resuming our choir and band rehearsals next week. The Junior Choir rehearses at lunch on Mondays, the college Band rehearses at lunch on Tuesdays and the Senior Choir rehearses at lunch on Thursdays. New members are most welcome.



Instrument and voice lessons will start the week commencing Monday 18th September.

Timetables will be displayed in the music corridor next week. Spaces for instrument and voice lessons are still available. If you would like your child to have music lessons at St. Bede's, please click the following link to complete the reply slip on Google Forms:

<https://bit.ly/44IC7S6>

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

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

Miss T Bhatt
Science Teacher

Mrs S Kalfopulos
Learning Support Assistant

Mr T Clements
Supply Teacher

Ms B Mendez
Exams & Data Officer

Miss D Copperstone
Maths Teacher

Mr D Moroz
Geography Teacher

Mrs S Curtis
Learning Support Assistant

Mrs R Parry
SENDCO and RF Teacher

Mr J Everitt
6th Form Academic Mentor and Advisor

Mr M Quinlan
Science Teacher

Mrs M Harkin
Supply Teacher

Mrs P Tam
Maths Teacher

Miss K Inker
Learning Support Assistant

Mr A Wood
Science Teacher

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 year 10 student, Antonio Milanese Piva.

Antonio was a fantastic ambassador for the college earlier this week when he very kindly assisted the Reception team. Taking the initiative to introduce himself to one of our new families, Antonio was able to help the family with their communications with the college.

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

GCSE AND A LEVEL RESULTS

All those who are part of the St Bede's Catholic College community are delighted to celebrate the successes of Year 11 and Year 13 students this year.

The students and their teachers have worked so hard over the last two years in extremely challenging circumstances to overcome the complications, further develop a passion for their subjects and prepare well for the summer examinations. It is then extremely pleasing to see them rewarded for their character and resilience with outstanding grades today".

Result highlights for A Level Examinations

A* - B 50%

A* - A 28%

62% of students achieved at least one B grade or higher

Average Grade C+

A special congratulations go to our top achieving students, including:

Natalie Carr with 4 A*s, studying Biomedicine at Hertford College, University of Oxford.

Eden Shepherd with 3 A*s and 2 As, studying Computer Science at Christ Church, University of Oxford.

Grace Ridewood with 3 A*s and 2As, studying Medicine at University of Exeter.

Emily Ridewood with 2 A*s and 2 As, studying Psychological and Behavioural Sciences at Christ's College, University of Cambridge.

Samantha Biju Joseph with 2 A*s and 1 A, studying Medicine at University of Cardiff.

Laurie Fleming with 1 A* and 3 As, studying Law at University of Bristol.

Leonía Chaligha with 1 A*, 2 As and 1 B, studying Psychology at University of Exeter.

Nathaniel Fernandes with 4 As, will be taking a gap year.

Fabrizio Pullara with 4 As, studying Law at University of Cardiff.

Emma Holbrook with 4As, studying Sports Science at Loughborough University.

Erin O'Callaghan with 3 As and 1 B, studying Sociology and Criminology at University of Liverpool.

Arppan Enchackal with 3 As and 1 B, studying Physics.

Jozef Smietanka with 3 As and 1 C, will be taking a gap year.

Andreea Koncsag with 3 As, studying Biochemistry at University of Manchester.

Aleena Aditya with 3As, studying Architecture at University of Cardiff

Result highlights for GCSE Examinations

86% of students achieved a 4 or higher in English and Maths and 21% achieved a 7 or higher in English and Maths. The Attainment 8 score was 5.7.

The top achievers include:

Amelia Olds: Nine grade 9s and one grade 6.

Borys Staruzyk: Eight grade 9s and two grade 8s.

William Jones: Eight grade 9s, one grade 8 and one grade 7.

Amarachi Akumonye: Seven grade 9s, two grade 8s and one grade 7.

Isabel Braithwaite: Seven grade 9s, two grade 8s and a Level 2 Distinction.

Dillon Conefrey-Unwin: Six grade 9s, two grade 8s and two grade 6s.

Adam Preisner: Six grade 9s, two grade 8s and two grade 6s.

Antonina Parry: Five grade 9s and five grade 8s.

Theo Fernandes: Five grade 9s, four grade 8s and one grade 7.

Cameron Duckett: Five grade 9s, two grade 8s and three grade 7s.

Amelia Ould: Five grade 9s, two grade 8s, two grade 7s and one grade 6.

Sharlene Careng: Four grade 9s, one Level 2 Distinction*, four grade 8s and one grade 7.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2023

22nd September

Pasteur
& Descartes
House Charity
Quiz Night

5th October

Year 9
Battlefields trip
depart

5th October

**MAIN COLLEGE
OPEN EVENING
6.00pm**



LOCKERS

Year 7 Lockers will be issued toward the end of Term 1.

Parents will be notified in advance when payments can be made via ScoPay and keys will be issued by Tutor group to Tutors and given to the pupils.

This process may take a few days to facilitate and we thank you in advance for your patience.

St. Bede's Catholic College Term and Holiday 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 on:

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 (dates to be confirmed) for in-service training (bus departure will be adjusted accordingly)

Monday 9th October

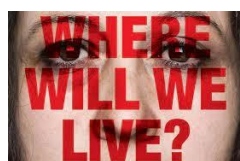
Tuesday 14th November

Friday 12th January

Friday 22nd March

Wednesday 8th May

LUNCH PRICES From 1st September, Main meals, including halal and special diet meals, will now be £2.75. The Free School Meal allowance is also to a maximum of £2.75



**Pasteur & Descartes
Family Quiz**

22nd September 2023

Venue: St Bede's Catholic College

Doors open @ 6pm (6.30pm start)

(Finish 8.30pm ish)

Family Fun. Raffle. Prizes. Entertainment. Quiz

Any Raffle Prize donations, gratefully received.
Please see Ms Sharp or Ms Johnston
...and House Captains, Tutor Reps from Pasteur
and Descartes for tickets...

**Raising funds for our House Charities:
Shelter: The Housing and Homeless
Charity**

**Everyone Welcome!
All Houses!!**



College Apps and Websites

Parent Portal

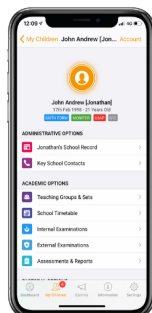
For:

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

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/>



For: Reporting Absence and email school. You can still
email 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.**

VACANCIES

St Bede's Catholic College has a vacancy for a School Meals Supervisory Assistant to supervise, guide and assist pupils during the midday break, so as to ensure the safety, general welfare and proper conduct of pupils during this period.

The usual hours of work are 12.00pm – 1.30pm Monday to Friday, term time only and there is the opportunity of a free school meal or a drink.

The hourly rate is currently £10.90. For further information please click [here](#)

**Year 7 and Year 12 students will
receive their logins for Parent
portal week beginning 11th
September 2023**

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

Internet Filtering in the home

We know that children, particularly younger children, can be bothered by things they see online, and filters can be a helpful tool in reducing the chances of coming across something upsetting.

We are aware that the four big internet providers in the UK – BT, Sky, TalkTalk and Virgin Media, provide their customers with free parental controls which can be activated at any time.

Please follow the link here to access some very helpful advice and guidance about how to set up filters on your home internet to help prevent age inappropriate content being accessed on devices in your home.

Please follow this link : <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parental-controls-offered-by-your-home-internet-provider>

LIBRARY NEWS

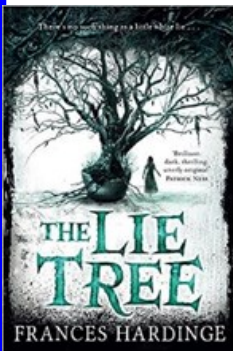


Earlier this week we celebrated International Literacy Day although we encourage reading all year round at St Bede's. Our Library is open to pupils every day for book borrowing, book chat and sharing recommendations. We are lucky to welcome visiting authors every year to talk to different year groups.

If you are found reading around College you might be given a Get Caught Reading ticket. If you are, bring it to the Library and you could be in with a chance to win a book.

Book recommendations

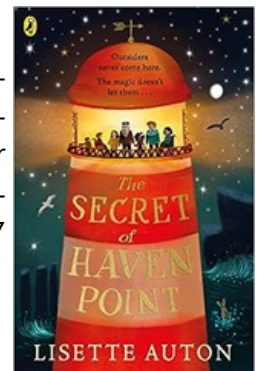
Mrs Hayman has a new favourite author. "I can't believe I haven't read one of Frances Hardinge's books before. I read 2 over the holidays and am completely hooked! She writes so well, with a perfect blend of history and mystery"



Suitable for anyone who loves their books with a dark and creepy twist!

You can borrow all her novels, or see what else Mrs Hayman and Mrs Nicks have read in the Library. Come and recommend your own favourite summer reads to us too

Mrs Nicks discovered Lisette Auton's debut title 'The Secret of Haven Point'. It was shortlisted for this year's Adri- en Prize award. "I loved following the adventure of 'Alpha Lux' and her found family of fellow 'wrecklings' living in a light house hiding mer- maids from the outside world. Particularly recommended for Year 7 and any fans of Sophie Anderson



Click on either of these covers to read the first chapter on line

REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FROM FAMILIES

As you know, mobile phones are allowed 'On site, out of sight'. To support the students in this, please can all families refrain from phoning or messaging their children during the college day. If you need to contact them, please call main reception.

Mr King

EDUCATION SUNDAY—10th September

Education Sunday falls on the second Sunday of September just as the new academic year starts and is one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in England and Wales, established 175 years ago in 1848. It provides an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks to all involved in making Catholic schools places of enlightenment, as well as to look forward in anticipation of the year ahead.

It is day is when Catholic Church congregations commemorate their predecessors of the 19th century, many of whom were living in poverty, who paid for Catholic schools to be built. Our parishioner forebears and their Bishops rightly saw education as the principal means of handing on the faith and improving the spiritual, moral, social and cultural lives of children and young people. Their sacrifices helped re-establish the 2,175 Catholic schools and four universities that we celebrate in church on 10 September. Established by the Bishops in 1848, Education Sunday is one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in the liturgical calendar of England and Wales. In the 175 years since then the Catholic Church has become the country's largest provider of secondary schools and second-largest provider of primary schools. Catholic education is by far the largest charitable activity of the Church here, and we give thanks for the many thousands of teachers, lecturers, academics, support staff, leaders, governors, advisers and others who have found their vocation in Catholic education, and without whom this would be impossible.

Catholic schools continue to be true to their mission: they educate more pupils from the most deprived backgrounds; outperform national GCSE English and Maths averages by five percentage points; and are more ethnically diverse than other state-funded schools. For this success to continue, however, the help of the whole Catholic community remains essential. As throughout history, all Catholics need to be prepared to support, promote and defend Catholic education. There are many ways to do this: in prayer for vocations to Catholic education; asking your diocese about becoming a school foundation governor or Trust Director*; or encouraging a young person to become a teacher in a Catholic school. In this way, we can hand on to the next generation the great educational legacy of those poor and immigrant Catholic communities of the Victorian era who built our schools and universities.

Catholic education is indeed a tremendous achievement to be celebrated – happy Education Sunday.

*If you would like to support Catholic education by becoming a Foundation Governor or Trust Director, please contact Bill McEntee, Governance Officer, Clifton Diocese via bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com