

# St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College

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## Newsletter

Issue 356 20th October 2023

### MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL

We have all been shocked by the violence seen during the recent Israel-Palestine conflict. We pray for all those that have lost their lives, been injured or been displaced from their homes. The college stands against all forms of antisemitism and Islamophobia and we pray for peace and an opportunity to reconcile.

*God of All, Protector and Redeemer,*

*Watch over the people of the Middle East as their nations face struggle and strife.*

*Grant safety to their citizens and residents, visitors and guests.*

*Grant wisdom and courage to national leaders throughout the region.*

*Grant insight to their advisors and understanding to their friends.*

*Make them all shining lights of peace. Amen*

Thank you to all our families all for your support in making Term 1 such a success. We appreciate your commitment to ensuring good attendance and punctuality, as well as encouraging your children to wear their uniform smartly and complete home learning to a good standard. Best wishes for a restful half-term.

God bless,

R King

### BEST PROGRESS SCORE IN BRISTOL

**Congratulations to students and staff**

**Year 11 from summer 2023**

**achieved the best progress of any school in Bristol!**

Progress 8 is the national measure of progress – how much better than similar students in other schools do our children perform.

The Institute of Fiscal Studies recently reported that Progress 8 was a “reliable measure of school effectiveness” and should be considered when making secondary school applications.

Our score of 0.57 puts **St Bede's in the highest Department for Education band, “Well above average”, top for all Bristol schools and well into the top 10% of schools nationally.**

It means that our children, on average, achieved over half a grade higher in each subject than similar students in the average school.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2023

**20th October**  
**INSET DAY**  
**END OF TERM 1**

**30th October**  
**START OF TERM 2**

**31st October**  
Deadline for  
applications to St.  
Bede's  
(for September  
2024)

**1st November**  
Dry Ski Session 1  
3.30pm—6.30pm

**2nd November**  
**ARETÉ**  
**SIXTH FORM**  
**OPEN EVENING**  
**6.00pm**

**7th November**  
Arete Art trip to  
St. Ives depart

**8th November**  
Dry Ski Session 2  
3.30pm—6.30pm

**9th November**  
Year 8  
Progress Evening  
(Virtual)

**15th November**  
Dry Ski Session 3  
3.30pm—6.30pm

**20th November**  
Year 11 Mock  
Examinations start

**22nd November**  
Dry Ski Session 4  
3.30pm—6.30pm

## 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.**"

Congratulations to Nicole, Precious, Chanelle, Angela, Emma, Peace, Annabel, Nicole, Yohannan and Eseose who not only prepared but also delivered our Black History Month assembly, with the theme "Saluting our Sisters", in all of our house assemblies.

Your hard work exemplifies our St Bede's Way principles. We are proud of you.



## REFLECTION – 22 OCTOBER ST JOHN PAUL II

Pope John Paul II was the head of the Catholic Church from 16 October 1978 to his death in 2005. He was the second longest-serving pope in history. As a Pole, he was the first non-Italian pope in 455 years.



He travelled more than any other pope before him, visiting many of the countries of the world. He is also famous for starting the annual World Youth Day.

John Paul II was canonized by Pope Francis on April 27, 2014 which means that the Polish Pope is now known as Saint John Paul II.

**Reflection:** "I plead with you, never, ever give up on hope, never doubt, never tire, and never become discouraged. Be not afraid." St John Paul II

### **Prayer:**

Dear Lord Jesus, we are inspired by St John Paul II, who brought Your love and Gospel to many people and nations. We pray that we too can bring You to our friends and family.

He comforted all children of the Church in times of chaos and uncertainty. Grant us, through his intercession, a love for all mankind and the radiance of Jesus. Amen

## WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

### #HELLOYELLOW

On the 10th October 2023 students and staff wore yellow accessories to raise awareness for World Mental Health Day and to raise funds for the charity, close to our hearts, Young Minds. We raised a total of £101.96

It was a great atmosphere and we brightened our day by sharing the message, you are not alone.



## YEAR 9 WORLD WAR BATTLEFIELDS TRIP TO YPRES SALIENT AND THE SOMME

At 6.00am on Thursday 5th October, 38 excited Year 9 pupils and 5 staff set off on their tour of the First World War Battlefield sites.

We visited the fascinating In Flanders Field Museum and attended the moving ceremony at the Menin Gate.

On day two, we toured the Somme area and held our own ceremony, laying a wreath at Thiepval in memory of those who sacrificed their lives in the First World War. Our First World War experience was tied together by a visit to Tyne Cot cemetery and the German cemetery at Langemark, before our final stop at the Passchendaele Memorial Museum.



## TRAMPOLINE SUCCESS

Congratulations to year 10 student **Jess Paessler** who participated in the **National League finals** in Double Mini Trampolines (DMT) recently.

The competition in Sheffield, saw top competitors from all over the country, take part. Jess, who trains with Axis trampoline club, performed brilliantly finishing 9th best in the country in her age group. Well done!

## POLITE REMINDER

Please could we ask that uniform, particularly PE kits, are named. Thank you

## ACTIVITIES DURING HALF TERM

Families in Focus at Bristol City Council have put together a series of activities available for families over the half term break. Please click the following link for information: <https://bit.ly/46HCyhm>

## INTER HOUSE—CROSS COUNTRY

Earlier this week, year 7-11 participated in the Inter House Cross Country competition. It was wonderful to witness the enthusiasm of our students as they ran around our fields.

Congratulations to overall winner Bell Burnell House who were triumphant on this occasion and have earned points for the House Cup.

A special mention to the following students who gained first place in their year group:

Year 7 **Seb Rosa** and **Thea Griffiths**  
 Year 8 **Eryk Wilk** and **Isla Brown**  
 Year 9 **Patrick O'Neill** and **Ruth Watson**  
 Year 10 **Ciaran O'Donnell** and **Emily James**  
 Year 11 **Amaury Flageul** and **Millie Griffiths**



### Interhouse Cross Country Year results

		Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Girls	1st 8	B/B	PAST	B/B	PAST	B/B
	2nd 6	SEA	SEA	PAST	B/B	DES
	3rd 4	PAST	B/B	DES		PAST
	4th 2	DES	DES	SEA	DES/SEA	SEA
Boys	1st 8	B/B	B/B	DES	SEA	B/B
	2nd 6	DES	PAST	B/B	PAST	DES
	3rd 4	PAST	SEA	PAST	B/B	SEA
	4th 2	SEA	DES	SEA	DES	PAST

# Free School Meals

Did you know for every pupil registered for free school meals your child's school receives extra funding from the Government?



Is your child eligible for Free School Meals?



- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit with an annual gross income into the household that is no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on-paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

## What to do next?

Download an application form from our college website: <https://bit.ly/3eSQJtJ>

## FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

We are looking for someone with enthusiasm, passion and a belief in Catholic education who is keen to support St Bede's in being the best it can be.

You do not need to be an expert in education; our board is made up of governors with a range of experience and expertise and we are looking for a diverse range of people to contribute to this. We would particularly welcome candidates with legal, personnel, financial or marketing expertise.

St Bede's has a superb reputation locally, within the Diocese and nationally. We are recognised by the Diocese as an Outstanding Catholic College.

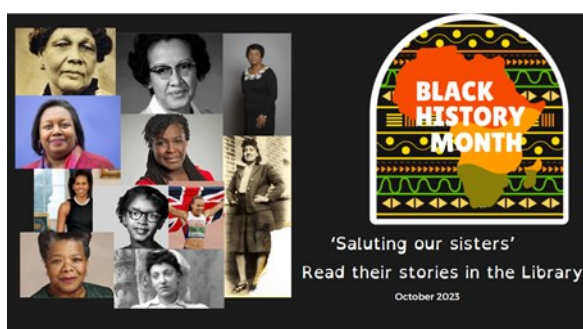
Full Governing Body meetings and committee meetings are held 3 times a year, during the day.

Further information about being a governor in a catholic school can be found here: <https://schools.cliftondiocese.com/governance>

If you wish to support the college by becoming a foundation governor, please complete the application form which can be found here: <https://schools.cliftondiocese.com/form-2>

## LIBRARY NEWS

Black History Month – We are celebrating black history month in the Library with multiple displays of books by brilliant black authors and highlighting some of the many stories of inspiring Black women with our 'Saluting our sisters' display.



Why not borrow a book from the Library?

## New books and reading congratulations

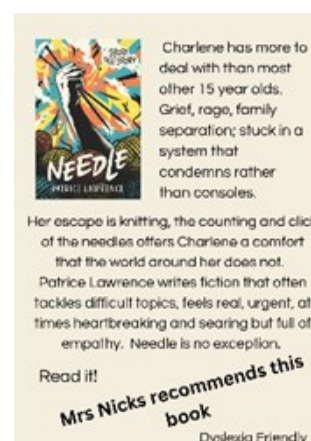


We were very excited to start the week with a whole box full of new books. Lots have already been borrowed but we have still have enough for a beautiful display in the library.

Congratulations to **Maria, Melissa, Martha, and Juno** in Year 7 who have been our top borrowers this term - they've all managed to borrow well over 20 books each! We've enjoyed talking to them about their choices and look forward to seeing what they borrow next.

We will be announcing our first Get Caught Reading winners at the beginning of next term. We have caught so many people reading that we are delighted to say we will be drawing multiple names from the Get Caught Reading Jar!

Coming soon... Next term is sure to be as busy and exciting in the library. Look out for: Non- Fiction November - our annual Slamdown across the faculties; the launch of the 2023/24 Bristol Teen Book Award - the only annual book award decided entirely by Bristol school pupils; the winners of Term One's Get Caught Reading challenge and we will be unleashing our inner Whovians as we celebrate the return of our favourite Doctor!



## YEAR 7 ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2024

Parents/carers of any Year 6 children (born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013) wishing to join St Bede's Catholic College are reminded that now is the time to apply for their secondary school place for September 2024. To make your application:

1. you **must** complete the secondary transfer **application** form provided by your home Local Authority (available on the **LA** website) by 31 October, **and**:
2. if you are applying for a baptised Catholic child or for child of another faith denomination, you should **also** complete a Supplementary Information Form (available on **our** website) and provide a copy of your child's baptism certificate/proof of membership, also by 31 October.



ST BEDE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE  
SIXTH FORM

# OPEN EVENING

**Thursday 2nd November 2023**

**6.00pm - 8.00pm**

[www.stbedescc.org](http://www.stbedescc.org)  
Tel: 0117 3772200



## SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

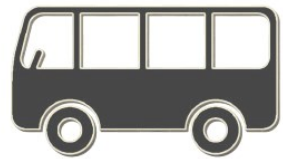
### Key safety measures when travelling to and from college

#### WEARING SEATBELTS

The only exemption to this rule is for buses that are designed for urban use, such as buses that have room for passengers to stand and are used for short journeys, in both time and distance and are undertaken at moderate speeds on urban routes.

This means that buses that travel on the motorway, dual carriageway or country roads, are legally required to have seat belts.

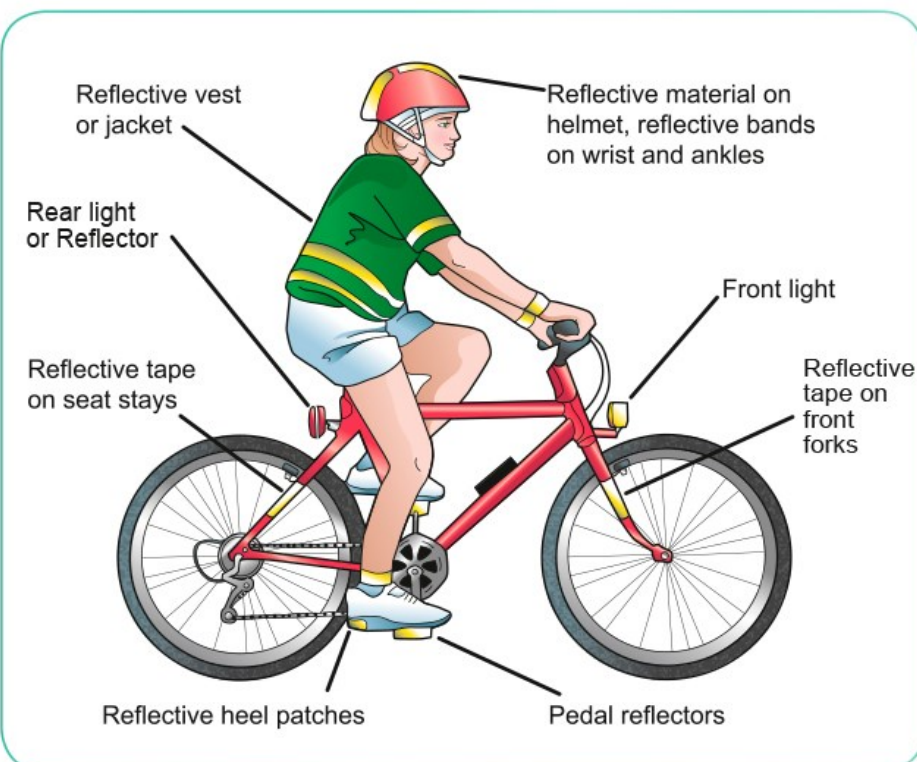
**General Rule:** if the vehicle you are travelling on is fitted with seat belts, you are legally required to wear it



#### CYCLING TO COLLEGE

#### IMPORTANT NOTE

Always remember to wear a helmet



## YEAR 11 RETREAT BRECON CENTRE, LYNTON

As part of our retreat programme, 10 Year 11 pupils joined 2 other Diocesan schools, St Bernadette's and St Gregory's, on a weekend retreat to Lynton in Devon.

This was an opportunity to take some time out before the demands of Year 11 really kick in and to reflect.

We enjoyed outdoor activities and also times of reflection. It was a weekend enjoyed by all.



Alice, in Year 11 commented: "Our weekend at the beacon activity centre was really fun. It was packed full of activities such as the zipwire, crate stacking, a bonfire on the beach and more. As well as activities hosted by the centre, the chaplains from our school and St Gregory's (in Bath), Mr Loud and Mr Robinson, did quizzes with us in the evening and we did morning and evening prayers. It was a great weekend and gave us the opportunity to get to know other schools and see our friends."

## CAREERS FAIR

We welcomed representatives from colleges, universities and employers to St. Bede's yesterday for our annual Careers Fair.

Year 11 pupils had the opportunity to discuss the next step in their education and employment. After the event, they were offered opportunities to attend interesting talks on Apprenticeships and 'University Life.'



# EXCITING CASUAL JOB OPPORTUNITY AT ST BEDE'S



## EXAMS

### Exams Invigilator

St. Bede's is looking to recruit Exams 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 morning and afternoon sessions.

Depending length of exams

8:30am—12:00 noon  
AM Session

12:30pm—3:30pm  
PM Session

The hourly rate of pay is £10.90

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 to you.

If you have any queries, please contact Miss Mendez (Examinations Officer)  
[exams@stbcc.org](mailto:exams@stbcc.org)

Come and join the team!

Other vacancies available at the college are:

### Learning Support Assistant (LSA)

30 Hours per week, over 5 days (*part time requests will be considered*)

Term time only including in-service training days.

Monday to Friday 08.30 – 15.30 (15 min morning break and 45 minute lunchbreak)

### School Meals Supervisory Assistant

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: <https://bit.ly/3rWy5rJ>

#### Upcoming Exams Internal GCSE and A Level MOCKS SEASON:

November & Dec 2023  
January 2024  
May 2024  
June 2024

#### Dates of public examinations GCSE & A LEVEL \*Essential to be available on these dates

Monday 13th May  
Wednesday 26 June

\*A training day will be held  
in March 24  
(date to be confirmed)