

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College

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Newsletter

Issue 362 26th January 2024

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL

It was wonderful to take part in the Descartes House Mass this week, timed this week as the house's patron saint, Thomas Aquinas, has his feast day this weekend. Students heard about how this intellectual colossus combined a huge theological contribution to civilisation with a humble love for Christ. A wonderful role model for our students.

Year 8 and Year 9 have now begun their options process. It was great to see so many families at the information evening on Thursday. We find this to be an exciting and engaging time for students, as they review their own progress and look to the future. Subject teachers, Heads of House, tutors and Mr Osborne are all here to offer guidance and to support each student through the process.

REFLECTION—Conversion of St Paul

The Feast Day of the Conversion of St Paul is celebrated on 25 January.

Saul (as he was called at the time) hated Christians and travelled from place to place to persecute and kill Christians so he was not expecting what happened on the road to Damascus but it changed his life completely.



Jesus appeared to him, asked him why he hated Him so much and converted him to the faith. Paul went on to become a great traveller and preacher, spreading the word of Jesus, attempting to unite the world in love.

Reflection:

But whatever I am now, it is all because God poured out his special favour on me—and not without results. For I have worked harder than any of the other apostles; yet it was not I but God who was working through me by his grace 1 Corinthians 15:10

Prayer:

O God, who taught the whole world through the preaching of the blessed Apostle Paul, draw us, we pray, nearer to you through the example of him whose conversion we celebrate, and so make us witnesses to your truth in the world.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2024

29th January
A Level Music trip

9th February
INSET DAY
END OF TERM 3

19th February
START OF TERM 4

21st February
Meet the
Professionals
Careers event for
Year 11

21st February
Year 10, 12, 13
Opera trip

22nd February
Year 11 and Year 13
Photos

**27th February —
29th February**
St. Bede's presents
'Matilda'
6.30pm

ST BEDE'S 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 Areté student **Ben** on being named **Swim England South West Young Volunteer of the Year 2023!**

Ben has had a long association with Clevedon Swimming Club, swimming competitively for the club as a junior and most recently being named as Senior Captain. He volunteers in his spare time and is a valuable coach to the younger squad.

The South West Region covers the whole of Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Wiltshire, Gloucestershire and Somerset and covers the disciplines of Artistic Swimming, Diving, Water Polo, Open Water Swimming as well as Pool Swimming. So to achieve the title of South West Young Volunteer of the Year is a wonderful achievement.

Ben, you exemplify our St Bede's Way principles, we are so proud of you.



SPORTS NEWS

Sports Hall Athletics News

Congratulations to our Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 athletes who have taken part in the Bristol Schools Championships in Sports Hall Athletics over the last term.

They have competed in two rounds; one with North Bristol and then another with all the winners from the areas of Bristol. There have been some fantastic achievements across the years with **Years 7 and 8 Girls and 9 and 10 Boys being crowned Bristol Champions!**

The Year 7 and 8 girls will now compete against the top 8 teams from across the South West. Thank you to all the athletes who competed hard. A wonderful achievement, well done.

Year 7 Girls Football

On a very windy Monday the Year 7 girls went across to Imperial Sports Ground to play in the Bristol 7 aside tournament. They all did incredibly well and smiled through the hail! There was some excellent football played, well done girls.



HE+

Year 13 students who completed Cambridge University's HE+ Outreach Programme were awarded their Certificates of Participation in the project earlier this week.

They had to produce a poster on the theme of 'uncertainty', with areas such as psychiatry, Wikipedia, and language considered.

Requiring research and skills in analysis and academic writing, the project prepares our students for the challenge of further study at university. Well done to all.



YEAR 11 MOCK INTERVIEWS

On Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th January our Year 11 students completed a successful day of mock interviews, delivered by industry professionals from across the local area including HPE, RAF, Burges-Salmon and local colleges.

It is important for students to experience an interview and gain some skills for when they are attending the real thing and help to support their future career ambitions. It was a hugely successful event with many positive comments from both the interviewers and the interviewees.



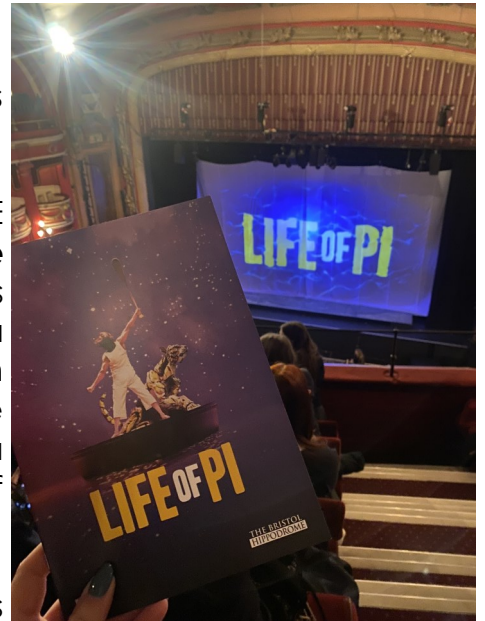
GCSE AND A LEVEL DRAMA THEATRE TRIPS

Last week our GCSE and A Level Drama students embarked on enriching theatrical experiences.

On Wednesday 17th January year 10 and 11 GCSE Drama students saw the brilliant stage production of **The Life of Pi** at the Bristol Hippodrome. It was a spectacular show with incredible puppetry and a myriad of theatrical elements, providing students with ample material for analysis and evaluation. The performance not only entertained but also served as a valuable resource for the live theatre review section of their upcoming exams.

A Level Drama students saw Frantic Assembly's reimagining of Franz Kafka's classic novella '**Metamorphosis**' on Thursday 18th January at Bristol Old Vic.

The portrayal of Gregor Samsa's transformation was brought to life with incredible physicality, leaving the students in awe of the performers' prowess. Beyond the stellar acting, students were captivated by the unique and innovative staging and set design.



PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SALE

Thank you to families who have donated pre-loved uniform. Following the success of our first pre-loved uniform sale, run by our student council, we are delighted to announce that the next pre-loved uniform sale will take place on **Wednesday 31st January** at **12:45pm** in **D9**.

***Please note this sale is for students only**

This month we have a large number of St. Bede's rugby tops, winter tracksuit tops and college jumpers. Students will have an opportunity to purchase uniform during lunchtime for £5.00 per item (**cash only**)

Items will be sold, as seen, to students on a first come first served basis and all proceeds will go to our college charities; Shelter, St. Peter's Hospice and Children's Hospice South West.

Please note no refunds will be available for items purchased.



SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

Measles outbreaks

The Department for Education have confirmed the recent news stories that there have been recent localised outbreaks of measles centred around the West Midlands. There is a risk of further outbreaks in other areas unless urgent action is taken to increase Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccination take up in areas with low MMR vaccine rates.

Measles spreads very easily among those who are unvaccinated, especially in nurseries and schools. The best protection against measles for children and adults is to get both doses of the MMR vaccine. It is never too late to have these vaccinations.

The following UKHSA guidance is available on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)

- [Health protection in children and young people settings, including education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/health-protection-in-children-and-young-people-settings-including-education)
- [Managing outbreaks and incidents - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\).](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/managing-outbreaks-and-incidents)

The NHS also has the following advice for parents on measles:

- [Measles - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/)

The Department for Education has published an [Education Hub blog](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/education-hub-blog) with guidance on measles and the MMR vaccine for parents, nurseries and schools.

LIBRARY NEWS

This week in the Library we are marking Holocaust Memorial Day which takes place on Saturday 27th January.

"Each year people from across the UK take part in our Light the Darkness national moment for Holocaust Memorial Day.

At 8pm on 27 January people across the nation will light candles and put them safely in their windows to:

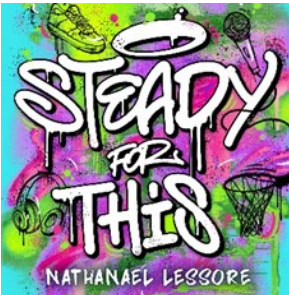
- ♦ remember those who were murdered for who they were
- ♦ stand against prejudice and hatred today"

<https://www.hmd.org.uk/take-part-in-holocaust-memorial-day/ukhmd/lightthedarkness/>



We've had an excellent response to our Reading Resolution January. There is still room on our wall for a few more though, so if you want to join us, please come in to the Library and collect a form. Don't forget, all sorts of reading count!

See below for some audiobook suggestions



Mrs Hayman says "I read this a few months ago as it is shortlisted for this year's Bristol Teen Book Award. It's a great, warm hearted and funny take on a difficult situation and I think will be a brilliant audiobook." Click on the picture to access the full audiobook as well as others from World Book Day



Stop press! The World Book Day vouchers are in College and will be distributed just before half term before the books go on sale on 15th February. Check out the list of books available here <https://www.worldbookday.com/books-and-tokens/books/> Don't forget you can also use the voucher to get £1 off the price of any book at participating booksellers

Coming Soon! Look out for: the recommendations from the Year 7 Science Book Club, the winner of Bristol Teen Book awards, our February author of the month and more in the next newsletter.

PRIMARY NORTH BRISTOL SCHOOL GAMES EVENTS

Year 10 Sports Leaders developing their officiating skills in basketball and netball

Year 5 and 6 Basketball

The Year 10 Sports Leadership team are continuing to take part in various leadership opportunities. On Monday 15th January, the leaders improved their confidence by officiating mini games of basketball in groups and showcased various skills such as dictating the play and being precise with their decision making of the impressive fast-paced games. The leaders demonstrated amazing effort to maintain the flow of the event.



Fiona and Purity officiating a game



Amy, Daniela and Emily officiating a game

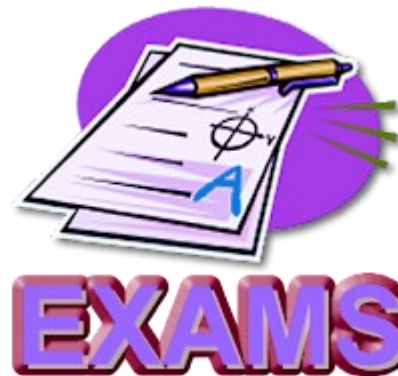
Year 5 and 6 Netball Qualification Event

A huge thank you to **Izzy** and **Adona** for supporting the primary school's netball qualification event on Monday 22nd January.

Both students supported the younger children in Year 5 and 6 to gain a better understanding of the scoring system in netball and kept them engaged in the game even if they were not on court.



EXCITING CASUAL JOB OPPORTUNITY AT ST BEDE'S



Exams Invigilator

St. Bede's Catholic College 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 are based on morning and afternoon sessions, dependent on the length of exams.

8:30am—12:00 noon

AM Session

12:30pm—3:30pm

PM Session

The hourly rate of pay is £11.50

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)

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 upon request.

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

Come and join the team!

FREE SCHOOL MEALS VOUCHERS

The Free School Meals vouchers to cover the half term break (12th—16th February), will be issued to families on Friday 9th February 2024.



ST BEDE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE PRODUCTION OF

BOOK BY
DENNIS KELLY

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY
TIM MINCHIN



ROALD DAHL'S
Matilda
THE MUSICAL
JR.

TUESDAY 27TH, WEDNESDAY 28TH &
THURSDAY 29TH FEBRUARY 2024
6.30PM IN THE HALL

www.ticketsource.co.uk/stbcc

SEE MRS ADAMS/MR LEWIS FOR MORE INFO!

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with
Music Theatre International

All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI
www.mtishows.co.uk



Holocaust Memorial Day Prayer

The Fragility of Freedom

"We commit ourselves to stand against antisemitism,
injustice and prejudice wherever it might be found.
Together we remember the Holocaust and pray that love
will triumph over evil."

Bishop Declan Lang

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/holocaust-memorial-day/>

Eternal God, we come before you,
conscious of the fragility of freedom,
to remember the victims of the Holocaust.

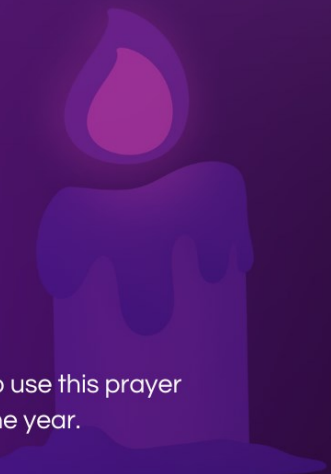
We lament the loss of the six million Jews
who were killed in the Holocaust,
the millions of other victims of Nazi persecution,
and victims of all genocides.

Remembering the past,
help us today to use what freedom we have to
stand up for those whose freedom is denied.

We pray for a day
when all shall be free
to live in peace, unity and love.
Amen.

The Council of Christians and Jews (CCJ) are encouraging people to use this prayer
for Holocaust memorial day, 27 January, and throughout the year.

<https://ccj.org.uk/HMDPrayer2024>





YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION GROUP

OTR's Nature Works is running a programme with Action for Conservation at The Ardagh, in the heart of Horfield Common. This is for anyone aged 11-20 who wants to learn about climate and social justice, reconnect with nature and take action for the environment in their city, with other young people.

The programme will support you in building your skills, knowledge and confidence to create your own environmental project as part of a group. You can expect nature crafts, games and mindfulness, alongside learning about climate change and activism globally and locally.

For ages 11-20

**Starts Thursday
1st February
4.30-6.30pm
for 4 months**

**The Ardagh,
in Horfield
Common,
BS6 7YL**



otr x 

YOU CAN FIND MORE DETAILS AND SIGN UP HERE:
otrbristol.org.uk/what-we-do/youth-climate-action-group/

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT



NEXT LINK. PLUS+
 changing the face of
 domestic abuse support services
 Bristol



<https://nextlinkhousing.co.uk/>

Next Link domestic abuse telephone help lines are open 8.30am – 5.30pm Monday to Friday and 9.30am – 1pm Saturday

0800 4700 280

Help is also available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on the National Domestic Violence Helpline – Freephone 0808 2000 247



FEBRUARY HALF TERM

OPEN ACCESS PLAY SESSIONS

led by Children's Scrapstore

What is open access? Children are free to come and go as they please so they need to be responsible for themselves.

Children **aged 8 and over** can come on their own if they are allowed out unsupervised. **Under 8's** need to have an adult with them.

These sessions are all about MAGIC!

Fully funded lunch will be provided for children.

FREE

10:30AM - 12:30PM
TUESDAY 13TH
FEBRUARY
PARK BY BMX TRACK
LAWRENCE WESTON,
BS11 0EZ

10:30AM - 12:30PM
THURSDAY 15TH
FEBRUARY
BEVERSTON GARDENS,
LAWRENCE WESTON,
BS11 0SB

Come and get creative and imaginative at these regular play sessions. Expect **magical** arts and crafts, sports kit, construction materials and much more!



Contact - playteam@childrensscrapstore.co.uk
for more information

