

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College

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Newsletter

Issue 366 28th March 2024

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL

It was wonderful to formally open the St Oscar Romero Building last Tuesday when Bishop Declan came to bless the building. We also welcomed student representatives, local priests, governors, the architects, and some previous members of the college leadership team to celebrate the occasion. The college has come a long way from 2013 when only 21 students joined our first Year 12 group. We now have 135 in Year 12 and expect 150 students to join us in September 2024.



I was also delighted this week that St Bede's has been recognised by the Schools, Students and Teachers Network (SSAT) for being in the top 10% of non-selective schools nationally for student attainment in the 2023 end of KS4 exams. This is a great testament to the high quality teaching that the students receive, as well as the hard work and dedication the students themselves put into their academic studies.

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



What is Holy Week?

Holy Week recounts the final days of Jesus' life including his death, burial, and resurrection.

HOLY WEEK

What is Palm Sunday?

Jesus rode on a donkey into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. The people waved branches at him, shouting, "Hosanna".



A LOT CAN HAPPEN IN 7 DAYS

Let's reflect

What would it be like to be in the crowd that welcomed Jesus to Jerusalem?
How can I welcome Jesus today?

What is Maundy Thursday?

Jesus celebrated the Last Supper with his friends. He washed their feet which was usually the job of a servant. Then he broke bread saying 'This is my body' and shared wine saying 'This is my blood.' This was on Maundy Thursday.

Let's reflect

How would feel to have someone as important as Jesus washing my feet?
How can I serve people humbly like Jesus?

What is Good Friday?

Jesus was arrested and crucified on Good Friday.
Even on the Cross he forgave the people who were hurting him.

Let's reflect

How does it feel to know Jesus is always loving and forgiving?
How can I be forgiving?

What is Easter Sunday?

After the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices to go and anoint the body of Jesus.

Very early on Sunday morning, at sunrise, they went to the tomb. On the way they said to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" (It was a very large stone.) Then they looked up and saw that the stone had already been rolled back. So they entered the tomb, where they saw a young man sitting at the right, wearing a white robe—and they were alarmed.

"Don't be alarmed," he said. "I know you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is not here—he has been raised! Look, here is the place where he was placed. Now go and give this message to his disciples, including Peter: 'He is going to Galilee ahead of you; there you will see him, just as he told you.'"

Jesus' death show us how much God loves everyone.

His resurrection reminds us that even in the most difficult situations there is always hope.

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**

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.**

FIN SWIMMING WORLD CUP

Congratulations to year 10 students **Annie** and **Edie** who **represented Great Britain at the Fin Swimming CMAS World Cup 2024** in Italy last week.

Edie raced in three individual events, and Annie raced in four individual races and the in the under 18's relay team. In the 50m bi-fin race **Annie broke the current GB record** for under 15 year olds.

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. Both girls swim for Neptune Fin Swimming Club in Bristol.

Well Done to you both, an incredible achievement!



MUSIC EXAM RESULTS

Congratulations to the following students for their excellent results in recent music exams.

Edith Davies (Grade 4 Drum Kit) - Distinction
Melissa Davies (Grade 5 Musical Theatre) - Distinction
Ella-Rose Evans (Grade 4 Musical Theatre) - Merit
Ruby Reilly (Grade 3 Pop Vocals) - Distinction
Livia Rodrigues (Grade 5 Musical Theatre) - Distinction
Sophie Rooney (Grade 5 Musical Theatre) - Distinction
Jessica Walter (Grade 2 Trumpet) - Merit



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2024

2nd April

Berlin trip depart

5th April

Berlin trip return

15th April

START OF TERM 5

Week A

16th April

Year 10

Sports Residential
trip depart

18th April

Year 10

Sports Residential
trip return

THE ST BEDE'S WAYS SPOTLIGHT Work Hard, Be Kind, 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 11 student Oliver who recently represented St. Bede's in the Bristol Schools Swimming Championships.

We are delighted that in the 50m backstroke, Oliver took the Bristol Champion title.

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



ENGLISH AND ART TRIP TO LONDON

On Monday the 18th March, English, Art and Textiles students took part in a day trip to London.

In the morning, we visited the Tate Modern, which featured exhibitions from Yoko Ono and other experimental artists. Afterwards, the students watched a 90-minute, modernised version of Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet' in the Globe Theatre. The play included graffiti, electric scooters, BMX bikes and current themes to present a unique and interesting interpretation of the classic story.

We all had a great day and the students took away valuable lessons towards their GCSE courses too!



ST BEDE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR PERFORMANCE

We are delighted that our excellent outcomes have been recognised by SSAT (The Schools, Students and Teachers Network) in this year's Educational Outcomes Awards. The award recognises that St Bede's is among the highest performing secondary schools in the country, based on 2023 performance data and information from Ofsted.

St Bede's has been recognised in two categories, receiving awards for being in the top 20% of schools nationally for student progress and in the top 10% of non-selective schools for student attainment in the 2023 end of KS4 exams.

The SSAT Educational Outcomes database compares all state-funded schools in England. To be recognised with an Educational Outcomes Award is a significant achievement and a testament to the work of the whole school community.

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT said:

"Congratulations to St Bede's Catholic College on winning two SSAT Educational Outcomes Awards. This success is down to the superb learning and teaching, outstanding support and inspirational leadership of students, staff, parents and governors. You have made a huge difference to the lives of the young people in your school. Thank you."



SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to the Year 7 Netball team who after becoming Bristol Champions earlier in the year travelled to Bath. They came up against an incredibly strong Hayesfield team who after some excellent netball came out on top.

Well done on an excellent first year of secondary netball.



At the beginning of March, several Year 7 and 8 girls got the opportunity to participate in a day of football.

Delivered by Bristol Rovers, the girls completed a range of different football activities with other schools and then fun games after lunch.

A fun afternoon was had by all on international women's day.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Congratulations to the students of St. Bede's who have successfully completed their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Awards within the past year. In a celebratory gathering, these students were presented with certificates and badges by Mr. King. The Duke of Edinburgh Award is a wonderful opportunity to develop skills outside of the normal school curriculum and each student demonstrated tremendous commitment over several months; engaging in developing a skill, physical activities, and contributing to the community through volunteer work. They took part in expeditions, carrying with them all necessary provisions for their journey. For those earning the Bronze Award, this included a two-day and one-night trek through the scenic Cotswolds, while recipients of the Silver Award undertook a three-day, two-night adventure in the beautiful Wye Valley.

A huge well done to all these students for their remarkable achievements, and I hope that they will all continue to take on the challenge in the next level of the Duke of Edinburgh Award.



BRISTOL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC, SPEECH AND DRAMA

Congratulations to Areté student **Kelly-Anne**.

After being awarded a number of prizes in this year's Bristol Festival of Music, Speech and Drama, Kelly was invited to perform at Tuesday evening's awards ceremony and concert. Here, Kelly-Anne found out that she has been named the overall winner of the entire junior vocal section of the competition and that she has been awarded the Adjudicators' Award. A fantastic achievement. Well done, Kelly-Anne! of the competition and that she has been awarded the Adjudicators' Award. A fantastic achievement.



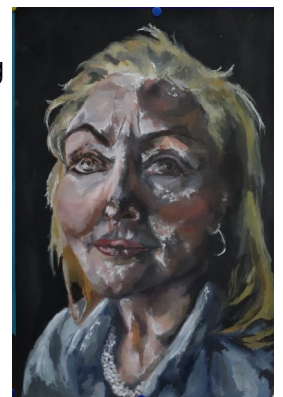
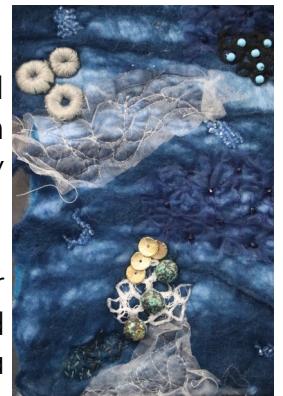
Well done, Kelly-Anne!

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 Wednesday 27th March. The Art Exhibition was fantastic, with incredibly high quality and creative pieces of artwork on display.

The College Band, String Group, Jazz Band, Junior Choir, Senior Choir and Boys' 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.



REMINDER TO FAMILIES—PARKING

As you know, our primary responsibility at St Bede's is to keep all our students safe. Over recent weeks it has become obvious that a growing number of parents/carers are parking on Lawrence Weston Road, right outside the college at the end of the college day. This area is very busy with pedestrians at this time and the parking spaces are needed to allow our college buses to park safely.

Therefore I ask you all to park a little further away from college and not to use Lawrence Weston Road to park when collecting your children. Please could we ask that you are also mindful of our neighbours and not park in front of driveways.

Thank you for your full support in this matter.

ST. BEDE'S CYBER CHAMPS

Congratulations to **Gabby, Finnian, Oliver** and **Troy** who were the winners of the 2024 Unlock Cyber Challenge, an online cyber security competition open to all Year 8 students from schools in the south west of England.



Competing under the team name "Hackproof", they were among 30 of our Year 8 students who participated in the challenge earlier this month. The annual challenge is hosted by Immersive Labs, a leading Bristol-based cyber security training company who work with some of the world's largest companies. Team Hackproof had to learn new cyber security skills in their spare time using Immersive Labs' training platform and then see off competition from Bristol Grammar School and other schools further afield to prove themselves the worthy and convincing winners of this year's competition.

MORE CYBER SUCCESS IN THE CYBER EXPLORERS' CUP

Not to be outdone by Year 8, St Bede's were represented by a Year 9 team in the Cyber Explorers Cup 2024, a UK wide cyber security competition in which any school in the UK could enter one team of 4 students. Our team was composed of **John, Ace, Nikk** and **Kacper**.

When the details of the top 50 schools were published, we discovered the St Bede's team were in a very impressive 11th place.

Once again, St Bede's talented students have shown they can compete with the best in the world of cyber!

Mr Bogle, ICT and Digital Media.

Placement	Country	Team
1st	England	The Fallibroome Academy
2nd	England	Nottingham High School
3rd	Northern Ireland	Royal Belfast Academy Institution
4th	England	Allerton High School
5th	England	The Tiffin Girls' School
6th	England	Home School - E. Ghazanfari
7th	England	Rawlins Academy
8th	England	Kent College Pembury
9th	England	The John Fisher School Purley
10th	England	Home School - R. Lund
11th	England	St Bede's Catholic College

SPORTS PHOTOS

The following team sports photos are now available to purchase on SCOPAY.



YEAR 10 BOYS RUGBY



YEAR 11 BOYS RUGBY



YEAR 11 BOYS FOOTBALL



JUNIOR BOYS BASKETBALL



SENIOR BOYS BASKETBALL



YEAR 7 BOYS FOOTBALL



YEAR 7 GIRLS FOOTBALL



SENIOR GIRLS FOOTBALL



SWIMMING TEAM



GIRLS JUNIOR FOOTBALL

LIBRARY NEWS

Year Seven Science Book Club

We met in the Library one final time to watch the Royal Society Young People's Book Prize award ceremony. We were delighted that several of the questions our judging panel put forward were posed to the authors.



As one book club ends, two more spring into being! We are delighted to be shadowing the Yoto Carnegie Book Awards for Illustration and Writing with our Year 7s and 9s. If you'd like to join us, please let us know

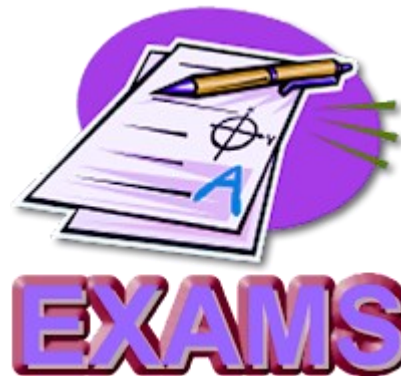
What are you going to be reading this Easter?

Mrs Hayman and Mrs Nicks will be continuing to read the Carnegie shortlist.

Mrs Hayman is reading Safiyyah's War by Hiba Noor Khan, which is a fascinating retelling of the true story of the Paris Mosque's involvement in saving Jews from the Nazis in World War II. Mrs Nicks is reading The Boy Lost in the Maze by Joseph Coelho, which is a verse novel blending Greek mythology with a 21st Century quest (recommended for Year 10+) . Mrs Hayman is also going to take home The Light Thieves by Helena Duggan, which comes very highly recommended by Joana in Year 7! You can see extracts of these by clicking on the titles.

Do let us know if you read anything great over the holidays that you think we should have in the Library.

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!

COLLECTION OF GCSE AND A LEVEL CERTIFICATES

GCSE and A Level Certificates from the Summer 2023 season are available for collection

All the certificates are kept securely in the exams office and need to be collected in person.

We do not post, as they are confidential documents and expensive to replace.

Please click the following link to our website for more information: <https://bit.ly/488W99S>

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

The HPV vaccine (that protects against several types of cancer) is available for any Year 11 students (girls and boys) who have not received a dose previously. If your child has not yet received this vaccine, please book an appointment at <https://imms.sirona-cic.org.uk/hpv/2023/book?v=2.0> If you have any queries please contact the Immunisation Team directly on 0300 1245515 or email sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net

FOSTERING IN OUR REGION

Unfortunately the number of foster care places in Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset is fewer than the number of children needing this care.

If you, or someone you know, might be interested in fostering a child please visit:

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/social-care-and-health/children-and-families/adoption-fostering-and-private-fostering/fostering-and-short-break-care>

<https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/children-and-families/fostering-and-adoption/fostering/>
<https://fostering.n-somerset.gov.uk/>

EXTERNAL AGENCY

Please find below and overleaf a schedule of Easter activities organised by Bristol City Council and Oasis Hub.

IMPORTANT EASTER INFORMATION



As part of the Bristol City Council "Your Holiday Hub" Programme, we have partnered with other organisations to offer a wide variety of activities for children & young people throughout the Easter Holidays !

Activities are FREE, aimed at children 8+, and include a healthy and nutritious lunch.

All activities have limited spaces available (which will be allocated on a first-come-first-serve-basis). To book your child(ren)s place, please complete the booking form via the link below. <https://forms.office.com/e/kU3Vz9DxLH>

**Alternatively, to find out more please contact
Jordon on 07935 954811 or
via email: Jordon.Hudd@oasisukorg**



HUB EASTER SCHEDULE



Monday 1st April	Bank Holiday - No Sessions Scheduled.
Tuesday 2nd April	Young Women's Group with the Families in Focus Team (Closed Targeted Session).
Wednesday 3rd April	10:30-2:30pm / Play Session with the Children's Scrapstore 1pm-5pm / Abseiling with Mendip Outdoor Pursuits*
Thursday 4th April	3:30pm-7pm / Extended Youth Club Session at Ambition Lawrence Weston
Friday 5th April	10:30-2:30pm / Cycle Maintenance Workshop (learn how to fix & repair your bikes) @ALW

Starts: 2nd April 2024 - Ends: April 12th 2024. *Sessions are accessible by sign-up only. All activities are subject to change or cancellation. Lunch provided. Contact Jordon on 07935 954811 for more info. Booking will be prioritised on a first-come-first serve basis and you will be contacted if your child **has been** allocated a space.



HUB EASTER SCHEDULE



Monday 8th April	10am-2pm / GRT Graffiti Spraying Workshop (Closed Targeted Session) at St Anthony's Park.
Tuesday 9th April	10:30am-1pm/ Kickboxing Session with Pro K Kickboxing at Ambition Lawrence Weston.
Wednesday 10th April	10:30-2:30PM / Play Session with the Children's Scrapstore 9am-1pm / Rock Climbing with Young Bristol*
Thursday 11th April	10am-2pm / GRT Graffiti Spraying Workshop (Closed Targeted Session) 3:30pm-7PM / Extended Youth Club Session at ALW
Friday 12th April	10:30-2:30PM / Cycle Ride to Bristol Suspension Bridge, Starting at ALW*

Starts: 2nd April 2024 - Ends: April 12th 2024. *Sessions are accessible by sign-up only. All activities are subject to change or cancellation. Lunch provided. Contact Jordon on 07935 954811 for more info. Booking will be prioritised on a first-come-first serve basis and you will be contacted if your child **has been** allocated a space.

