

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College



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Newsletter

Issue 303 11th September 2020

MESSAGE FROM MR MAHER, PRINCIPAL

It was a pleasure to welcome the students back to St. Bede's last week after the enforced period away. Students were eager to return to College and I have been extremely impressed by how well they have coped with the new routines and the amount of information they have been given. Students have demonstrated resilience and have taken to the new timings with relative ease which is encouraging for the future.



Students are in year group bubbles in different buildings over the College and movement between lessons is very limited in key stage 3 and kept to the minimum at key stages 4 and 5. Teachers are moving between lessons to facilitate this new procedure and routines are becoming well established.

Staff and students are encouraged to wear face coverings around the College in communal areas although this has not been mandated at the current time. We will continue to monitor this situation closely over the coming days as the number of cases continues to rise across Bristol and in other parts of England. Students should keep their face covering in a re-sealable plastic bag during the day and if they are disposing of their face covering on entry to the College, they should do so in the bins provided.

The attached video clip is helpful and explains how to safely put on and remove a face covering. I would ask you to reinforce this message with your child over the weekend:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-53877292>

Students travelling on school transport or public transport should all be wearing a face covering as per government requirements.

Hand sanitiser is provided at each entry point to the College and students are encouraged to wash their hands at break and lunchtimes. Break and lunchtime arrangements are working well with each year group separated from each other at their designated time. The canteen continues to provide hot food for students who wish to purchase this.

The cleaning routine throughout the College has increased in line with government guidance and the site staff have worked extremely hard over the summer to prepare the College for the safe return of students.

It has been a positive start to the term and we will continue to be vigilant over the coming weeks to ensure that any issues are addressed and communicated to you directly using the usual platforms.

With prayers and all good wishes,
J. G. Maher
Principal

Phenomenal success GCSE and A Level students at St Bede's

GCSE Results—2020

Staff and Governors celebrated excellent achievements again this year. Students at all levels were awarded grades matching their highest expectations and in many cases, exceeding their targets. Results of the most talented students were exceptionally strong with some outstanding performances at Grades 9 - 7 including 79% of students achieving Grade 7+ in French and 65% of students achieving Grade 7+ in Music.

Headline Figures include:

89% achieved Grade 4+ in both English and Mathematics

10% of all grades were Grade 9

24% of all grades were at 8+

39% of all grades were at 7+

60% of all grades were at 6+

81% of all grades were at 5+

94% of all grades were at 4+

Best average grade in College this year is awarded jointly to **Jessica Ball** and **Isobel Clothier** who both achieved ten Grade 9s and one Grade 8 at an average of 8.91.

Olivia Morgan also achieved nine Grade 9s and two Grade 8s, **Leo John** achieved eight Grade 9s, a Distinction + and two Grade 8s, and **Amy Koikkara** achieved nine Grade 9s, one Grade 8 and a Merit.

23 other students achieved ten or more and a further 104 students between them shared 347 grades at 7+.

The increased challenge that recent months have brought has not diminished the work of Year 11 students. It is important to remember that students have been with us for five years and the results sees the culmination of all the hard work and steely determination that has been achieved.

A Level Results - 2020

'A' Level provision in Areté is well established and St Bede's continues to be amongst the best in the city.

89 students completed their study with us and they are now celebrating the following successes.

A* - C	87%	A* - E	100%
A* - B	59%	2 A* - E	100%
A* - A	33%	1 A* - B	78%
Average Grade	B		

The U-turn by the government meant that the grades awarded are an improvement on both 2018 and 2019 giving us an excellent outcome for our students. This is also a more accurate reflection of the progress that students have made building on their outstanding 'examined' results at GCSE. We are delighted that this now reflects the 3-year upward trend accurately.

Elizabeth White, Chair of Governors said 'the students and teachers have to be commended for the exceptional results again this year particularly in light of the additional pressures that the Coronavirus has brought'.

Garry Maher, Principal, said 'I am delighted for the students. Their hard work over many years, great teaching and the overwhelming support from parents have resulted in the College continuing to go from strength to strength. The challenges that everyone has faced over recent months does not take away from the excellent achievements and is a testament to the strength and resilience of everyone'.

There is much to celebrate in 2020.

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 baptised them. By 1651 he had baptised 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.



BELL BURNELL HOUSE AWARDS

Mr Johnson was delighted this week to award Bell Burnell badges to year 9 pupils who were the worthy winners of Bell Burnell's Lockdown Challenges.

From baking to music making, Bell Burnell truly have some fantastic talent. Congratulations to you all.



YEAR 11 PREFECTS

The year 11 pupils were awarded their prefect ties and badges this week. Tutors, Heads of House and the Senior Leadership Team nominated students for their positive approach to college, together with participation in college events over the years. Congratulations.

WELCOME TO NEW STAFF

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

- **Mr L Bogle** — ICT Teacher
- **Mr P Brookin** — Science Teacher
- **Mr S Colebourne** — Head of Mathematics
- **Mr A Devès** — Modern Foreign Language Teacher
- **Dr R Hewitt** — Science Teacher
- **Miss E Kendall** — Design Technology, Art & Music Technician
- **Miss G O'Brien** — English Teacher
- **Miss E Power** — Mathematics Teacher
- **Mrs S Prewett** — Mathematics Teacher
- **Dr J Walsh** — Science Teacher

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on Twitter



[stb_bristol](#)

GREAT START FOR YEAR 7

Year 7 all deserve a good rest this weekend after a very busy and exciting first few days. I am impressed with how quickly they have settled into St. Bede's and extremely proud of the way they have embraced every new challenge, of which there have been more than usual. Each day I am greeted by smiling faces and immaculate uniforms and I have had nothing but praise from their teachers and tutors.

I would like to introduce the new tutors: **Mr McNamara, Miss Boyd, Miss Chennells, Mr Davies, Miss Power, Dr Walsh, Miss Cumiskey** and **Miss Hancock**. They really are a fantastic team and are getting to know the tutor groups very well already. A big thank you to each of them for their hard work in helping year 7 settle in.

I am looking forward to getting to know the year group and seeing what they are made of.

Well done year 7 for taking everything in your stride. A fantastic start to St Bede's!

NHS CARE PLANS

If your child suffers from asthma, allergy or medical condition that requires an NHS care plan, please can you ensure a copy is supplied to the college if you have not done so already. You can only request the NHS care plan from your child's named hospital consultant or allergy/asthma nurse, not your GP.

GOOD LUCK

Good luck to year 11 pupil **Seamus Robinson** who will be competing today in the 1500m Northern Ireland Track Championship.



ADMISSIONS 2020

If you wish to apply for a **Year 7 place for September 2021**, the Supplementary Information Forms should arrive in College by **31st October 2020**.

Parents must also have submitted the Common Application Form to their Local Authority by 31st October 2020.

CAMBRIDGE CHEMISTRY CHALLENGE

In June, 5 Year 12 students participated in the Cambridge Chemistry Challenge Lower 6th competition. The competition involves a written paper, which is an ideal challenge for all students taking A Level Chemistry, and in particular the most able.

This year, the 5 students involved showed great determination to prepare for, and complete the competition during the challenging situation of lock down. All students performed incredibly well in the written paper – demonstrating their firm grasp and understanding of the A level curriculum.

Congratulations to **Matthew Wood** who was awarded a silver certificate (awarded to only the top 17% of participants) and **Oscar Banim** who received a copper certificate (awarded to only top 34% of participants). All students gained very high marks, and should be commended on this accomplishment, particularly given the difficult circumstances. Well done.

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

TikTok is a social media platform that lets you create, share and discover 60 second videos. You can use music and effects to enhance your videos and you can also browse other people's videos and interact with them. Please be aware that the official age rating is 13+. We have received a notification to warn parents and carers about a recent posting of suicide content. If any child has been affected by content accessed on-line they can also speak to their form tutor at our college.



The advice from the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) is as follows;

We recommend reading TikTok's Community Guidelines and picking out parts you think are important for your child to know. Some of the sections can seem a bit scary to talk to children about, such as suicide and self-harm or terrorism. But it's important that your child knows they can speak to you if they come across anything worrying, as well as how to report and block content or users.

In addition, parents and carers are advised to ensure that Tik Tok and other social media platform settings are explored so that accounts are set to private so that videos are only shared with their friends.

Further advice and guidance is available here: <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/tiktok/>

Term and Holiday Dates 2020-2021

Term 1: 1st September to 23rd October
Term 2: 2nd November to 18th December
Term 3: 4th January to 12th February
Term 4: 22nd February to 1st April
Term 5: 19th April to 28th May
Term 6: 7th June to 21st July

Inset on:

Tuesday 1st September
Wednesday 2nd September
Friday 23rd October
Friday 12th February
Thursday 1st April
Wednesday 21st July

The school year is 195 days and includes six in-service days used for staff training