

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College



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MR MCDERMOTT RETIRES AFTER 22 YEARS OF SERVICE AT ST. BEDE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE

**Today we say farewell to Mr McDermott,
Vice Principal as he retires after 22 years of service to
the College.**

Mr McDermott was appointed by Governors and Dr Skeets in 1994 and has served the college superbly for 22 years.

When he took up his Vice Principal role not one child currently in the school was born and his own children were in primary schools in Cambridge.

Mr McDermott, in his first year at St. Bede's Catholic College, lived in the Presbytery at Our Lady of the Rosary as he had not been able to sell his house in Cambridge.

We are all extremely blessed to have had the pleasure to work with him as a colleague. The children are also blessed to have had his teaching and his leadership. The esteem in which he is held by the pupils is all pervading.

Mr McDermott has served under 11 Secretaries of State for Education and, has worked with 17 Assistant Headteachers at the College.

We will all miss him but wish him the best as he starts the new adventure that is retirement!



ENJOY THE HOLIDAY

As we break for what will hopefully be a lovely long holiday, may I thank all our families, friends and parishes for their support this year. We have had yet another successful year and there is still much we can do to improve further. I hope all our families have a fabulous and well deserved holiday.

**Please note Thursday 1st September is an In-service day.
Pupils return to College on Friday 2nd September 2016.**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

20th July 2016

Last Day of Term 6
Pupils leave at 2.05pm

21st July 2016

In service Day

18th August 2016

A Level Results Day
9.30am

AS Level Results
10.30am

25th August 2016

GCSE Results Day
10.00am

1st September 2016

START of Term 1
In service Day

2nd September 2016

Pupils Return to
College

5th September 2016

WEEK A

STAFFING

As we approach the end of the year, we have 6 staff who are leaving us for pastures new.

Mr P McDermott, Vice Principal—Retirement

Miss J Lobbett, Leader of Music, Art & Design—Promotion to Assistant Principal in London

Ms W Yau, Science Teacher — Moving to a new school

Mr C Holley, ICT Technician—Going to University to study for a degree

Mr J Carter, Community Sports Personnel—moving to a new post in Bath

Miss H Shuter, Physics Intern—Back to University

Our sincere thanks for the service of all staff leaving, and our good wishes go with them.

We look forward to sharing with you new staff who will be joining us in September in the next newsletter.

SPORTS DAY



On Friday, 8th July pupils and staff had a great morning as we celebrated our Annual Sports Day. In warm but cloudy conditions, our pupils excelled as they competed to win points for their house. Having already completed the field events earlier in the week, the final results were:



1st Place—Bell Burnell with 591 points

2nd Place—Pasteur with 582 points

3rd Place—Descartes with 520 points

TURIN ACRO CUP 2016

Congratulations to Year 10 pupil **Kenedi Cross** and her partner Vada Finniear who competed in the Turin Cup in Italy on 8th-11th July 2016.

It was Kenedi and Vada's last competition as they are no longer physically compatible but what a wonderful way to finish! We are delighted to inform you that **Kenedi and her awesome partner were crowned Gold Medallists!**

In a few months Kenedi will have a new partner and will look forward to competing later in the year.



SWAZILAND WORLD CHALLENGE

On Saturday 16th July nine students along with Mr Atkinson set off to Swaziland. The students will be working with World Challenge to help those less fortunate in Africa.

The trip will no doubt create lifelong memories for our Sixth Form students and we look forward to hearing about their adventure on their return at the end of July.



YEAR 11 PROM

On the evening of Friday 1st July, staff joined our Year 11 pupils at their Prom at the MShed in Bristol. The occasion was just wonderful and all pupils and staff thoroughly enjoyed the evening. The young people were stunning in their evening clothes. Photographs from the evening can be viewed on our website. What a joy it was to see how they had grown in just 5 years with us.



A and AS LEVEL RESULTS

Thursday 18th August 2016
in Arete Block

Year 13 Results will be available from **9.30am—12 noon**

Year 12 Results from **10.30am—12 noon**

GCSE RESULTS DAY

The College will be open from **10am - 12pm** for pupils to collect GCSE results on **Thursday 25th August**. There will also be a careers guidance representative to provide additional support for anyone wishing to choose an alternative post 16 route, in light of results.

Year 10 results will be available at the Start of Term 1 in September.

A VISIT FROM A HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR

On 18th July the History department was extremely privileged to welcome into school Mr Steven Frank. He spoke to the year 9 pupils about his experience of living through the Holocaust. Steven was born in 1935 into a secular Jewish family in Amsterdam, Holland. His father was a well known Dutch lawyer and joined the Dutch resistance where he organised the issue of false papers to enable people to escape across the border to the safety of Switzerland. In 1942 he was betrayed and arrested in his office in Amsterdam and imprisoned, tortured and sent to Auschwitz where, he was gassed in January 1943.

Steven, his mother and two brothers slowly began to rebuild their lives in England. He now lives in Hertfordshire and regularly speaks in schools about his experiences during the Holocaust.



St Bede's pupils were extremely moved by the impact of Steven's story and his words will stay with them for a very long time.

OLYMPIC DOOR DECORATING

Our Tutor groups were set the challenge earlier this term to decorate their tutor room door in an Olympic Sport. Last Friday, Ms Hughes judged the doors and we are pleased to announce our winners are:

7PCCH Miss Chennells —Judo

8PKL Mrs Lewis—Canoe Slalom

8DASC Miss Jones —Fencing

8DPB Miss Bassett—Hockey

The most imaginary, bold and busy door was 8PRS
Miss Shaddick



PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

In photography club this term the students were allowed to choose a topic that interested them for the end of year competition. We were delighted at the high quality of the entries and judging a winner and runners up would have been a very tough decision. Luckily we didn't have to make this choice as Ian Wade, a professional photographer who joined us for a talk in April, judged for us. Ian wasn't able to join us for the prize giving but emailed us the results and gave some fantastic comments about each entry. These can be seen on the school website.

Winner – **Josie Morgan**

1st Runner Up – **Annabel Levett**

2nd Runner Up – **Kieron Obee**

Highly Commended – **Anna Harris and Isobel Clothier**

The photography club will be starting again in September and is open to all years.



BELL BURNELL HOUSE DAY

Bell Burnell pupils were visited by the Scouts on Friday of Enrichment week.

Pupils were engaged in a series of problem solving activities. They were also challenged to climb a portable climbing wall to raise money for House charities. Their target was to climb the equivalent distance to reach the international space centre. With just a few minutes remaining they successfully achieved their goal. A big thank you to Co-Op in Lawrence Weston who donated all the food for the day. Also a massive thank you to the scout leaders who gave of their time to ensure the children had a fantastic experience.



TERM DATES FOR 2016-2017

Term 1: Thursday 1st September 2016 to Friday 21st October 2016

Term 2: Monday 31st October 2016 to Friday 16th December 2016

Term 3: Tuesday 3rd January 2017 to Friday 10th February 2017

Term 4: Monday 20th February 2017 to Friday 7th April 2017

Term 5: Monday 24th April 2017 to Friday 26th May 2017

Term 6 : Monday 5th June 2017 to Friday 21st July 2017

In service Days

Thursday 1st September 2016

Friday 2nd December 2016

Friday 3rd February 2017

Friday 28th April 2017

Friday 21st July 2017

PARENT SURVEY

Thank you to those who have already completed the Online Parent Survey emailed last week. If you wish to take the opportunity to share your thoughts on the College please do so before Friday, 22nd July 2016.

RAISING FUNDS FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Congratulations to Miss Wise, Miss Hancock and Mrs White who competed in the 10K/5K run at the Downs in Bristol on 3rd July for Cancer Research.

All three members of staff were delighted with their finish times and look forward to running in their next event in September.



SUMMER HOLIDAY SPORTS CLUBS

The St Bede's Community Sports team will be running a sports club for 5 weeks during the summer holidays. The clubs will run from Monday 25th July until Friday 26th August from 9am-3pm for boys and girls aged 7-14.

The sessions will consist of multi-sports activities and will include sports such as basketball, tennis, cricket, football, dodgeball and athletics.

The cost per week will be £45 or £12 per day. To book a place or to gain further information please contact Rob Allan, Sports Development Officer, on 07825 767582 or email r.allan@stbcc.org.

SAYING GOODBYE TO YEAR 13

On the evening of Wednesday 6th July, 51 students and 27 staff gathered at the Aztec West Hotel for the Year 13 Leavers' Dinner. The evening, a formal three course dinner followed by a disco, was enjoyed by staff and students alike who took the opportunity to celebrate the two years they have spent working together. Ms Hughes told the students 'they will be future leaders' and that they should 'never be afraid to dream big dreams', a message inscribed on a paperweight given to each student as a farewell gift. Best of luck for the next adventure, Year 13! Virtually all students have offers from their preferred University and we are delighted to celebrate our first **Oxford University** offer to **Carys Greenaway** to study Law.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS

On the weekend of the 11th and 12th of June, 32 Year 10 students completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition. This involved 2 days walking and a night camping, all equipment for which was carried in rucksacks. The 5 groups were not blessed with good weather, however the sun was seen at times during the weekend, including enough dry weather to have a bonfire with marshmallows on Saturday night. Fortunately no group got lost, and we all arrived in Cheddar in high spirits, but also glad to get back to the warmth and dry.

Dan Long, Year 10



NUMERACY DAY

A week after Years 7, 8 and 9 took part in the successful 'KS3 Literacy Day', the Junior Leadership Team ran the 'KS3 Numeracy Day', a second off-timetable day to develop in our young people a positive attitude towards numeracy and helping them see its importance in the wider world. Pupils participated in a range of activities, including 'Survival Budgeting,' a 'Big Quiz' and culminating with 'Equation Bingo!' in the assembly at the end of the day. We were pleased with the level of enthusiasm pupils showed for all of the activities, and are looking forward to seeing pupils utilising these skills effectively in the next academic year.

GRADUATION SUCCESS

We were delighted this week to hear of the following successes of our former pupils:

- ◆ **Georgia Bradshaw (2005-2010)**
Upper Second Class Honours in Dance
University of West of London
- ◆ **Edmund Magner (2006-2011)**
Upper Second Class Honours in
Chemistry Sheffield University
- ◆ **Marcus White (2006-2011)**
Upper Second Class Honours in Physics
University College London

We are now awaiting their Graduation photograph for our Alumni Wall of Fame.

BLOODHOUND MICRO:BIT ROCKET CAR COMPETITION FINALS

On the 5th of July four year 7 students visited Santa Pod Raceway in Wellingborough to compete in the Bloodhound Micro:bit Rocket Car Competition Finals. After a 3 hour drive starting at 6am the team met competitors from around 20 other schools from all over the country and by 11am their rocket car build was well underway. The cars of all competing teams ran twice on the famous drag strip with modification allowed in-between. Team Dancing Queens achieved an average speed of 35.85 mph placing them in a commendable 20th place against teams comprised mainly of year 9 and 10 students and in the top 5% of teams nationwide (around 400). In recognition of this outstanding achievement the names of the team members and the college will be included on the fin of Bloodhound SSC when it runs at Hakskeen Pan in South Africa next year.

Mr Hirani
Leader of ICT

PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS HAVE A QUACKING TIME....

Psychology students had a visit earlier this week from two ducklings. The whole point of the project was to see if imprinting worked. Imprinting occurs when a hatchling, particularly a duckling, chick or gosling, learns the characteristics of the first suitable life form it sees and regards the living thing - whether bird, human or otherwise - as its parent. The students certainly enjoyed experiencing being a mother duck for the day! Both ducklings are now heading off to live as pets at a farm in North Somerset.



ENRICHMENT WEEK

Last week the whole school had a spectacular week of enrichment. Year 7 visited Bristol Zoo and experienced a French Breakfast, Year 8 visited the Big Pit in Wales, Clevedon and Clifton for a RF Retreat and Year 9 chose a day of activities to suit their interests which included film making, Dance, and Art. It was a week of learning new knowledge and different skills and was enjoyed by all. On the Friday we had a House Day, a perfect ending to a hectic week!



Our Top 40 authors from Sept 2015 to July 2016

***Read books by these popular authors
to find out what you're missing!***



1	Jeff Kinney *	21	Jonathan Meres
2	Robert Muchamore *	22	Tracy Alexander ♦
3	Cathy Cassidy *	23	J.K.Rowling *
4	Jacqueline Wilson	24	Suzanne Collins *
5	Darren Shan *	25	Stephanie Perkins *
6	Natsumi Mukai (manga)*	26	C.J.Flood ♦
7	Anthony Horowitz *	27	Derek Landy *
8	Liz Pichon	28	Josephine Angelini *
9	Malorie Blackman *	29	Eoin Colfer *
10	Rachel Renee Russell *	30	Charlie Higson *
11	Zoe Sugg	31	Sarah Crossan
12	Veronica Roth *	32	Chris Bradford *♦
13	Michael Morpurgo	33	Frances Hardinge
14	John Green	34	Bali Rai ♦
15	Roald Dahl	35	Patrick Ness *
16	Holly Smale *	36	David Walliams
17	James Dashner *	37	Eiichiro Oda (manga) *
18	Cassandra Clare *	38	Gayle Forman *
19	Michael Grant *	39	Robin Talley
20	Rick Riordan *	40	Raina Telgemeier

* series ♦ authors who have visited St Bede's

Writing workshops

"Chelsey Flood our Patron of Reading visited recently. She did a workshop with some classes and gave us a chance to write our own stories. She showed me that anyone can write a story and I realised authors are just like normal people, she isn't any different to you or me just because she can write a good selling book. Chelsey has a great talent, like other people at school. Who knows maybe one day they too may write great books like Chelsey's. She showed me something I didn't know before and showed me anyone can write, if you just give it a go. Thank You." **Kelly-Ann Steadman**, Year 10



Masterclass with CJ Flood

"It is not a usual occurrence to be sitting in a masterclass with an award winning author. For this special master class with the talented author Chelsey Flood students were selected because of their winning entries in the 'Last Person on the Planet' creative writing competition conducted by our Reading Patron. The quality of the entries was extremely high and she notified the teaching staff how hard she found it to narrow them down. CJ Flood opened the eyes of the many students that attended the class on how they can analyse and improve their writing. The masterclass entailed CJ Flood and the students examining the first paragraphs of some of the entries. The renowned author revealed her tips and secrets about how a satisfactory sentence can be enhanced to leave the reader gripped with suspense. Simply incredible." **Jansen Roy**, Year 10

BRISTOL AND AREA COUNTY ATHLETICS FINALS

5 teams made the county finals at Bath University this year. Congratulations to the Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 boys and the Year 10 girls. The teams competed in various events including shot putt, javelin, long jump, 100m, 300m 800m or 1500m and their scores were totalled to make a team score. After an extremely competitive day the results were:

Year 7 boys = 2nd
Year 8 boys = 1st
Year 9 boys = 5th
Year 10 boys = 2nd
Year 10 girls = 2nd
Well done!



SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

Here's to Summer...

The summer social scene is very exciting: No school, potential for relaxed rules, and ample free time.

Teenagers can be risk-takers and the summer months may present a number of challenges to parents and carers. The key is to make consequences clear. The primary mission is to keep children safe.

Here are some top tips to help you to ensure that your child is healthy, happy, and safe.

To help in having a fun and safe summer break:

- Don't relax the important rules—don't be surprised when the rules are stretched or broken
- Always know where they are—who they are with and who their friends are
- Get them home safely—Make it completely acceptable for them to call day or night if they need a lift home
- Stay safe near water – Teenagers, are most at risk from features near to homes such as rivers, lakes, flooded quarries and coastal water near to the shore. Having an early conversation with teens about the risks of colder, open water is important.
- Even the strongest swimmer can be affected by cold water shock, which affects your ability to control breathing. This can lead to gasping, panic and – in the worst cases – drowning. Cold water shock can start in water of 15C – the average temperature of the sea around Britain is 12C : here is some advice about water safety: <http://www.rospe.com/leisure-safety/water/advice/children-young-people/>
- Stay safe in the sun – here is some special summer advice about sun safety <http://www.nhs.uk/livewell/skin/pages/sunsafer.aspx>
- Don't leave children unsupervised overnight and make it clear that drinking and using drugs is illegal and dangerous.
- Relationships – be concerned if they are mixing with older people who you don't know. Remind them about healthy relationships
- Support – a lot of teenagers struggle with their feelings and emotions. Help them talk it out.
- Safer Internet use – help young people to try taking a break from social media. Summer is a great opportunity to switch off !
- If you are going on holiday as a family and your house will be unoccupied, make sure your child has not told anyone on the internet of a possible opportunity crime!