

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College



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St. Bede's welcomes winning author as its First Patron of Reading

We are delighted that award winning author Chelsey Flood has accepted our invitation to be our very first **Patron of Reading at St. Bede's**.

Ms Flood, who is looking forward to working with pupils and staff to promote reading and writing, tells us a little more about her plans for St. Bede's:

*Hi! My name is C J Flood, and I am the first **Patron of Reading at St. Bede's**. I've met some of you before through creative writing workshops and a book signing, and I'm really excited to get to know more St Bede's pupils over the next year.*



*I have loved reading ever since I learned how, and I started writing stories as soon as I could write. My first ones were Enid Blyton rip offs or adventure stories, which my friends loved. They weren't very good, but I knew that writing was the job for me, and I've now had two novels published by Simon and Schuster: **Infinite Sky** and **Nightwanderers**.*

Over the next year, I will be working closely with pupils and staff to promote reading for pleasure. My newsletter will be issued every half term and contain news about what I've been doing, pupils' work, opportunities, book reviews, writing tips and much more. I will also run a writing competition and a reading challenge...

*I'm so excited about being **Patron of Reading for St. Bede's**, and I can't wait to meet and work with as many pupils as possible. Write ups about my visits and pupils work will appear on my blog, which you can visit at www.cjflood.blogspot.co.uk.*

So keep in touch! Follow me on Instagram www.instagram.com/cjflood or Twitter @cjflood_author or 'like' Infinite Sky or C J Flood on Facebook. And if you want to ask a question or send a suggestion, email me at chelseyflood@hotmail.com.

My favourite reads as a teen: All Point Horrors, especially The Accident by Diane Hoh and The Bell Jar by Sylvia Plath.

My favourite teen reads now: How I Live Now, by Meg Rosoff, ACID by Emma Pass, Where Things Come Back by John Corey Whaley.

We look forward to the invaluable expertise, encouragement and guidance Ms Flood will offer our pupils and staff over the forthcoming months.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

23rd February

**Year 11 Parents'
Information Evening
and Independent
Advice on Careers**

Meet the
Professionals
followed by
English, Maths and
Science Exam
Preparation
6.15pm—7.45pm

3rd March 2016
World Book Day

**Year 8 Paris Trip
Depart**

6th March 2016
**Year 8 Paris Trip
Return**

Girls Basketball
St Bede's vs Colstons
Juniors 12-2 win
Seniors 10-10 draw
**St Bede's vs OAB and
Fairfield**
Both Juniors and
Seniors had convincing
wins!

SKI TRIP



Last week, 43 pupils and 6 teachers made the long journey to Dachstein West in Austria for the annual ski trip. Our hotel was fantastic and was surrounded by amazing views of the mountains. With a big fall of snow in the middle of the week, followed by blue sky for the rest of our stay, the skiing was brilliant!

There was something different to do every night, from Austrian skittles to a horse drawn sleigh ride. As the week flew by, with the help of our excellent ski instructors, all of the pupils really improved. Everyone was soon able to ski down a red run from the top of the mountain to the bottom. The instructors singled out **Caity Garrett, Molly Hale, Lawrence Cooke** and **Daniel White** as the **most improved skiers**. **Paul Whitehead** was awarded **King of the mountain** and **Milly Watkins** was our **Queen**. It was an awesome trip, and all of the pupils embraced its ethos.



ACROBATIC GYMNASTICS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS!



Congratulations to year 10 pupil **Kenedi Cross** who has been selected, along with her partner to **represent GREAT BRITAIN in the Acrobatic Gymnastic World Championships** in March this year. Kenedi, who belongs to the Harriers club in Patchway, will travel to Putain in China. The team is currently looking for sponsorship—more information can be found on the following link:

<http://www.bristolpost.co.uk/GYMNASTICS-Great-Britain-honour-Bristol-Harriers/story-28738255-detail/story.html#>

What a wonderful achievement.

**Imagine we could have a World Champion in our College -
no pressure Kenedi!**

POETRY BY HEART

Congratulations to year 10 pupil **Peter Savery** who yesterday took part in the 'Poetry by Heart' speaking competition at the Tobacco Factory in Bristol. Peter, who competed against 7 other schools in the Bristol area, recited two poems



during the competition and was awarded 2nd place!

Well done.

CONGRATULATIONS - YEAR 7 BOYS SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS COUNTY CHAMPIONS!

Well done to the **Year 7 Sportshall Athletics team** who were crowned **County Champions** at the University of the West England on the 1st February as part of the Level 3 Winter Games. The competition saw the top two schools from each area of the county compete over indoor track and field events. A strong performance within the field events was followed up by excellent track wins from **Dylan Kadji** and **Louie Francisco** and second place finishes from **Jason Soodeen**, **Joe Lewis** and the 4 boys in the two lap relay.



Year 11 Parents' Information Evening Meet the Professionals followed by English, Maths and Science Exam Preparation Tuesday 23rd February 6.15pm to 7.45pm

'Meet the Professionals' 6.15pm—7.00pm

As part of our Independent Careers Advice and Guidance we try to ensure that our pupils are fully informed about options open to them for Further and Higher education, so that they make the right choices. As you are aware we recently held a careers fair to which a number of post 16, universities and apprenticeship providers were invited. We would now like to invite pupils and parents to meet with professionals from a variety of backgrounds including Finance Directors, Surgeons, Designers, Engineers, Doctors, Opticians, Solicitors and Nurses. The professionals, who are parents of ours, have kindly agreed to be available in the blue area from 6.15pm- 7pm to talk to our young people and to answer questions about; what they studied at A level, why they chose their profession, routes into the different professions, applicable A levels and university degrees, the rewards of working in the profession and careers prospects.

This is an excellent opportunity for our pupils to gain a valuable insight into different professions. Staff will be on hand to help to ensure that all pupils have an opportunity to meet as many of our guests as possible. We are anticipating a great deal of interest so please arrive on time to avoid disappointment.

GCSE English, Maths and Science Exam Preparation from 7.00pm to 7.45pm

The 'Meet the Professionals' event will be followed by an invaluable evening of guidance in how to support your child when revising for GCSEs in English, Maths and Science. We will explain the exact content of the exams and their requirements, so that parents will feel more confident when assisting their children at home.

BRITISH SCHOOLS JUDO CHAMPIONSHIPS

Congratulations to year 9 pupil **Finley Norton** who has been selected to represent St. Bede's in the **British Schools Judo Championships**. Finley, who trains in Patchway, will travel to Sheffield in April to compete.

We wish Finley the very best of luck!



BRISTOL CITY WOMENS FOOTBALL CLUB

Congratulations to year 11 pupil **Marika Niekowal** who has been selected, following a lengthy trial, to play for **Bristol City Womens Football Team**.

Marika, who plays striker, has enjoyed all the challenges facing her so far and is looking forward to playing Arsenal Womens FC in April.



TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS



Congratulations to year 7 pupil **Louis Price** who has been selected to play Table Tennis in the **Swedish International Championship** in Stockholm next week. Louis, who has been playing for nearly three years, trains at the WISE Campus in Filton and is the **current County Champion**.

Louis, will represent **GREAT BRITAIN** in the under 13 category and is really looking forward to the experience.

**What a wonderful achievement. Well done Louis!
Another Champion in our College!**

PARKING - POLITE REMINDER

Please could we remind parents to avoid parking in the designated coach bays at the front of the college at the beginning and end of the school day. We need to ensure that our pupils can get on and off the coaches safely. Also, when we have evenings for parents it is extremely important that these events do not cause an inconvenience to our neighbours. Please **NEVER** park in front of the driveway of a neighbour. Thank you for your understanding.

HOPE—Season of Lent

Bishop Declan invites you to join him during this season of Lent to celebrate the abundant mercy of God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The Reconciliation Liturgy will be held on
Thursday 25th February
at Cathedral, Clifton at 7.00pm.

GCSE SCIENCE REVISION GUIDES

We are currently in the process of setting up an online payments system for you to be able to order the Year 10 and Year 11 CGP Science Revision Guides from the school website, at a reduced price.

We will notify you of when the next order will be placed, so you won't miss out. Watch this space!

Please note: new GCSE Science courses are being introduced, so students starting Year 10 in September 2016 will need books for the new Grade 9-1 GCSE Science range.

SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

educate.against.hate

Protecting children from radicalisation and extremism is as important as protecting them from other potential harm such as drugs, gangs and sexual exploitation. Messages of hate can take many forms. Extremist groups use them to recruit young people. The government has recently launched a website where you will find information to help you understand the issues and protect your child. **www.educateagainsthate.com/parents**

Further advice for parents and carers on Radicalisation & Extremism can be found on our college website: www.stbedesc.org/safeguarding or, paper copies are available from the college reception.

STAFF VACANCIES

The Governors at St. Bede's wish to appoint the following:

Vice Principal—September 2016—Closing date: Thursday, 25th February 2016

Science/Physics Teacher—September 2016 - Closing date: Thursday, 25th February 2016

English and Drama Teacher—September 2016—Wednesday, 2nd March 2016

Science Technician—April 2016—Closing date: Friday, 4th March 2016

Further details are available on our website www.stbedesc.org

The College also has a vacancy for a **First Aid Co-Ordinator**. The hours of work are 22.5 hours per week over 5 days, term time only plus 2 in-service days. Remuneration is St Bede's Grade 6, salary £8,460- £9,042 per annum.

This post is subject to a 6 month probationary period. The successful candidate will be required to undergo an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Check before starting work.

Job descriptions and application forms can be downloaded from the website.

St. Bede's is a "Living Wage" employer.