

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College



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AIRBUS ENGINEERS FLYING START CHALLENGE

Last week 24 pupils from years 7, 8 and 9 enjoyed a day off timetable to work with Airbus engineers on the 'Flying Start Challenge'. The day gave the pupils a chance to gain some insight into the aviation industry by building a glider. The Challenge aims to enthuse and inspire young people to consider a career in the engineering industry; whilst teaching them about basic engineering concepts. Success is down to the pupils' design and build skills, and to the engineering knowledge they have acquired during the Challenge.



Over the course of the day the pupils worked in teams to design and build a glider. The activity helped them to develop their communication and teamwork skills in an educational (and fun!) setting. It was a vital requirement that the glider they produced could carry a weight of 40g. Beyond this, points were awarded for distance and accuracy - the highest scoring gliders were those which could fly the furthest in a straight line.

The pupils were taught about the theory of lift, and about how symmetry, and balance of weight and lift, lends to a successful glider. They also had to consider their materials budget, a financial skill which is vital for future careers. The Challenge continues with a regional final, in which pupils have to complete a poster presentation and a quiz to illustrate their knowledge of gliders, and will culminate in the grand final at Fleet Air Museum where the teams will also take part in engineering activities.

WATER POLO SUCCESS



Congratulations to year 11 pupil **Dylan Morley** who has been successful on the Water Polo circuit recently. Dylan, who has been a member of Bristol Central Water Polo for approximately 5 years, competed recently for the South West in an under 16s National competition. In a sport which can require the average player to swim 1.5 miles per game it takes strength and determination, both qualities in which Dylan has to succeed. He told us *"I really enjoy the sport, it is so much fun. My ambition is to compete more Nationally and would love to compete Internationally."* This weekend, Dylan will compete at Millfield School, Somerset.

Dylan, we wish you the best of luck!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

9th DECEMBER 2016
Year 11 Mock
Examinations end
14th DECEMBER 2016
Advent Service
6.30pm
16th DECEMBER 2016
END OF TERM 2
Pupils finish at 2.05pm

REMINDER FOR PARENTS

Could parents dropping off or picking up children do so on the Long Cross, in the interest of the safety of all our children. Please also remind your children of the need to exercise great care crossing the road. Under no circumstances should they walk/run out between the buses. It would also be appreciated if parents are respectful of our local residents and under no circumstances park in such a way as to limit their access to their homes. Thank you.

Clothes for a Cause

We will once again be collecting for 'Clothes for a Cause' in the first two weeks in January. We would be grateful to receive clothes, belts, hand bags, shoes and boots. Thank you.

SIXTH FORM RELIGIOUS STUDIES TRIP TO LONDON

Last Wednesday, a number of year twelve and thirteen pupils set off for London on a Religious Studies and Philosophy based conference. The conference was an educational talk about the relationship between Science and Religion by some of the pioneers within the subject, that many of us have studied.

A major highlight of the trip was hearing Professor Richard Dawkins, an evolutionary biologist and avid atheist, lecture about his views on religion. It was stimulating and very informative and enjoyable - that will no doubt help us explain his opinions in future essays and exams! We were privileged to hear from Richard Swinburne, a British Philosopher, on his compelling views about why God exists. He was true to his writings, and used logic and mathematics to prove his points, leading to a fascinating conclusion that impressed us all. Overall, the trip was a very valuable, and exciting experience that will help us immensely in the future, and I am thankful that I had the opportunity to experience such a coveted talk by such influential 21st century scholars.

Jasmine Dodd Year 13



MOVEMBER

A group of St Bede's staff once again put away their shavers for the month of November; in the name of charity.

Movember continues to raise funds and awareness in order to improve men's health. This year our pupils helped by buying chocolate and biscuits from the staff involved.

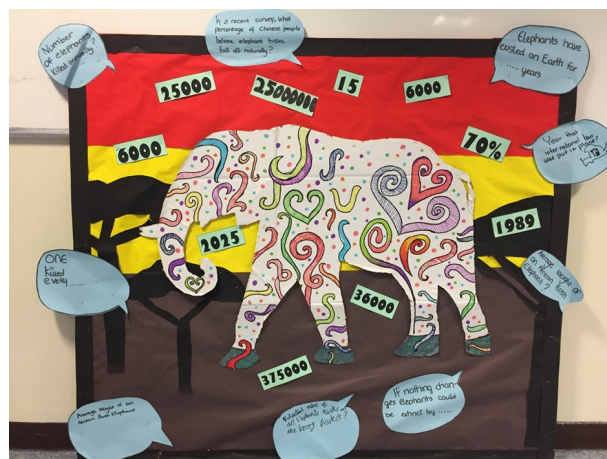
The final total was an impressive £151.64!

If you would like to find out more information (or donate) please visit - the Movember website (<https://uk.movember.com/>).



ANIMAL ETHICS CLUB DISCUSS THE CRISIS FACING ELEPHANTS

This term, the Animal Ethics club have been exploring the crisis currently facing wild elephants. Due to hunting for the illegal ivory trade, certain species of elephants are facing extinction by 2025. The Animal Ethics club have been researching the issue, current charities and movements that are trying to raise awareness about the threat. Using their research, pupils created a display board and presented the information to others during a lunch time. They successfully managed to withstand a barrage of questions from pupils and staff and produced some fantastic, well informed information in the process. Well done Animal Ethics team!



NATIONAL CUP FOOTBALL DREAM STILL ALIVE FOR YEAR 8 BOYS

Congratulations to the **Year 8 boys football team** who beat Highworth Warneford School, Swindon 3 - 1 this week in Round 5 of the **National Cup**. Despite conceding an early goal, they fought back well and equalised through **Dylan Kadji** mid way through the first half.

A much improved second half with goals from **Joe Lewis** and **Jason Soodeen** saw the boys safely through to Round 6 after Christmas.

The boys started their campaign back in September and were **one of 670 schools** to enter. They are now into the **last 32** schools and face yet another away fixture down to East Berkshire in January.

So far they have travelled to Backwell in Round 2 winning 6-3, Wootton Bassett in Round 3 winning 6-0 and Churchdown, Cheltenham in Round 4 winning 3-2. Good luck in the next round.

ROTARY YOUNG CHEF COMPETITION

Congratulations to **Antonella Licata**, Year 11 And **Beth Kane** Year 12 who entered the Rotary Young Chef of the year competition at Bristol Free School last week.

Both pupils performed well under such pressure and we are delighted to announce that **Antonella** received **3rd** prize and **Beth** was **awarded 4th place**.

Antonella cooked a beautiful Salmon with Pak choi with a Torta Della Nonna dessert. Beth's speciality was homemade pasta with a sticky Chicken and Spinach Sauce and profiteroles for dessert.

Well done Antonella and Beth.

SINGING FOR CHARITY

On Friday, 2nd December pupils from Years 10-13 visited the Cabot Circus Shopping Quarter to sing Christmas Carols to the public. In true festive spirit our choir sang with gusto and we are delighted that the event raised over £200 for Macmillan. Well done to you all.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Wednesday, 14th December.

Tickets for Christmas Dinner are selling fast and the last day to purchase, will be on **Monday 12th December** from the **Snack Bar** at **BREAKTIME** only.

The cost of the dinner will be £2.40.

All pupils who want Christmas Dinner must buy a ticket in advance.

Christmas Dinner will not be available if you do not have a ticket.

The only other food served on that day will be sandwiches.



MILITARY PREPARATION COLLEGE

We were delighted this week to hear from ex pupil **Olivia Candy** (2011-2016) who has been training at the Military Preparation College in Bristol since the Summer. Olivia was initially inspired after visiting Fairford Airshow with her Dad and she is now keen to pursue a career as an Army Medic.

Olivia starts specialist medical training in the new year and we look forward to hearing about her progress.

ST BEDE'S RUGBY



With the festive season upon us the rugby schedule at St Bede's shows no sign of relenting.

We reported last time on an upcoming festival for our year 7 boys. They were due to face Bristol Metropolitan and Bristol Free School at St Bede's. Unfortunately Bristol Free did not turn up so we ended up playing a long game against Bristol Met. Whilst our boys stuck to their task well, they were not able to match the levels of intensity and physicality that Bristol Met brought and were given a valuable lesson in the 'want to win' a lesson that will stand them in good stead later on!

Our girl's rugby club is well under way and with numbers regularly high, the future looks bright for the St Bede's girls' team. After getting to grips with some of the rules on the 3G pitch, we will shortly be moving on to the grass where the girls will learn to tackle and ruck. Anyone that is interested is still very welcome to come along and try the game. All you will need is a pair of studded boots (moulded studs are fine) and we recommend a mouthguard. After that, just courage and enthusiasm!

Catching up with the rest of our rugby news, we are happy to report more good fortune for our year 10 side. They managed to come through the last round of the national cup relatively unscathed. Grinding out a 19-12 win against determined opposition from Marling School, Stroud. The boys played very well and given slightly better conditions may have won more comfortably. Special mention must be given to **Levi Hope** who was unfortunately forced to leave the field through injury. He has been playing superbly for his side and he will be missed in the upcoming games.

The final two weeks of term see our year 10s continue with meaningful and challenging fixtures. Having also won their Bristol Schools Cup semi-final in the time since our last instalment, the boys head in to the Final today at SGS WISE campus. They will hope to go one better than last year when they were pipped to the post in the final. The following week they have the next round of the National Cup where they will face Sir Thomas Rich's. This is a school with a proud rugby tradition likely to pose a serious threat to our campaign.

Finally our year 11's look forward to their own final today as they also travel to SGS WISE campus to contest the Bristol Schools final. Another one of our sides that will be hoping to go one better than last year when they were crowned runners up.

We will update you on all, just before Christmas.

SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

Police are encouraging all schools to promote this important message;

Did you know?

Some people think carrying a knife protects you. What they don't realise is...

It could cost you your life if your knife is used against you.

If you get caught carrying a knife you could get four years in prison.

A stab wound on any part of the body could be fatal.

If you know someone who is carrying a knife don't keep silent. Report it.

Call Avon and Somerset Constabulary on 101 or report knife crime anonymously to the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Carrying a knife doesn't protect you. The evidence suggests that if someone is carrying a knife and gets into difficulty, they are tempted to use the knife. They may never intend using it, but within seconds they may have stabbed someone or the knife has been used against them.

Is it real?

Be aware of the dangers of carrying 'imitation' knives that anybody could be confused into thinking are the real thing. This state of confusion could result in a physical act of self-defence. The Police too may be forced into taking action to arrest or disarm an individual with any form of imitation weapon.



Police have issued a national warning against carrying a harmless item that could be mistaken for a harmful weapon. Examples of these are shown, but there are many others.



PRIMARY SCHOOL FOOTBALL LEAGUES

From September through to March, St Bede's hosts two primary school football leagues; the St Bede's Premier League and the St Bede's Championship. A total of 19 primary schools take part in a 7-a-side league in a round robin format for boys and girls in Years 5 and 6.

In the first two rounds we have witnessed some excellent football and it is looking to be an extremely competitive event. The schools taking part are:

Premier League

Henleaze Juniors, Shirehampton, Elmlea Juniors, Stoke Bishop, Westbury Park, St Bonaventure's, Colston Primary, Horfield, Westbury-on-Trym and Bishop Road.

Championship

Oasis Bank Leaze, Littlemead, Brentry, Henbury Court, Oasis Long Cross, NOVA, Our Lady of the Rosary, St Teresa's and Stoke Park.

The football leagues form a part of the School Games structure and are coordinated by the School Games Organiser based at St Bede's.

St Bonaventure's Parish Confirmation Programme

There will be a **registration meeting** at St Bonaventure's on **Sunday 11th December from 11.00am—12.30pm** in the Presbytery for young parishioners who wish to be confirmed by Bishop Declan next year. The programme will start on Sunday 8th January. Confirmation is a very exciting and important step in the journey of faith. Part of confirmation is about accepting the gift of faith and it is essential that this commitment of faith is demonstrated by those young people undertaking the programme.