

# St. Bede's Catholic College

*Specialist Science and Sports College*



Issue 240 20th July 2017 T: 0117 377 2200 E: [contact@stbedesc.org](mailto:contact@stbedesc.org) W: [www.stbedesc.org](http://www.stbedesc.org)

## **MS HUGHES RETIRES AFTER 22 YEARS OF SERVICE**

We say farewell to Ms Hughes, Principal, as she retires after 22 years of service to the College. Ms Hughes was appointed by Governors in September 1995 and retires as Bristol's longest serving Headteacher.

Educated at a convent school in Ireland, Ms Hughes has had a career in teaching spanning over 40 years. In 2011 she became the first Bristol National Leader in Secondary Education. She has mentored over twenty headteachers, has been a trainer for the National College for Teaching and Leadership and was instrumental in the training at St. Bede's of more than 650 teachers from 75 schools around the region. She was appointed Vice Principal at St. Gregory's in Bath before joining St. Bede's as Principal in 1995. Since then the school has gone from strength to strength, becoming one of the highest achieving and most respected schools within the city, now serving over 1,000 pupils with its own independent Areté Sixth form.



We are all extremely blessed to have had the pleasure to work with her as a colleague. The children are also blessed. Many of our former pupils have been in contact to share memories and wish her well in retirement. With the aid of social media, pupils she hasn't seen in over 30 years have been in contact all of them with a story they will never forget; everyone with fond memories.

Ms Hughes said: "I have loved teaching – I loved teaching Maths and I have loved being a head. One of the many gifts I have received this past few weeks was a quotation from St John Paul II, hand-drawn for me by our 2012 Head Boy, Zachary Rigby:

*"Let us remember the past with gratitude  
Live the present with enthusiasm and  
Look forward to the future with confidence"*



I hope to do this and recommend it to you also. I would also like to thank our parents and children for their kind wishes and gifts I have received.

The new College Principal, Mr Maher, will thank God regularly for inheriting such a great school, such great children and such wonderful staff, and I wish you all well for the future."

Ms Hughes, we cannot thank you enough for your inspirational leadership, care and kindness.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**20th July 2017**

**Last Day of Term 6  
Pupils leave at 1.35pm**

**21st July 2017**

**In service Day**

**17th August 2017  
A Level Results Day**

**8.00am for students  
without a confirmed  
university place**

**9.30am for students  
with a confirmed  
university place**

**11.00am – 2pm  
for AS results**

**24th August 2017  
GCSE Results Day  
10.00am**

**4th September 2017  
START of Term 1**

**In service Day**

**5th September 2017**

**Pupils Return to  
College**

## STAFFING

As we approach the end of the year, we have 12 staff who are leaving us for pastures new.

- Ms C Hughes, Principal—Retirement
- Mr G Heraty, English Teacher—Retirement
- Mrs S McKenna, RF Teacher—Moving to a new school
- Mrs B Fennell, Science Technician—Retirement
- Mrs L Britton, Maths Teacher—Leaving teaching
- Ms M Rafee, Head of Chemistry—Moving to a new school
- Miss J Bigwood, Art Teacher—Moving to a new school
- Mr N Hunt, History Teacher—Moving to a new school
- Miss C Wise, Geography Teacher—Moving to a new school
- Miss O Calcaterra, English and Drama Teacher—Moving to a new school
- Mrs A Mebarki, French Teacher—End of fixed term contract
- Miss G Workman, History Teacher—End of fixed Term contract

Our sincere thanks for the service of all staff leaving, and our good wishes go with them. In the next newsletter we look forward to sharing with you new staff who will be joining us.

## SAYING GOODBYE TO YEAR 13

On the evening of Friday 7th July, 51 students and 25 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. We are delighted that virtually all students have offers from their preferred university, many at prestigious Russell Group providers, and will be shortly starting the next chapter of their lives. Best of luck for the next adventure, Year 13!



## SPORTS DAY

On Tuesday, 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— Pasteur with 634 points**

**2nd Place—Bell Burnell with 616 points**

**3rd Place—Descartes with 596 points**





## RIDING LESSONS

Six pupils from years 8-10 had their last riding lesson of the year at the Avon Riding School last week.

They have all improved hugely over the months and should be proud of their achievements. The beginners group are now able to trot without a leader and are much more confident with rising trot. The more advanced group have been working on their canter and straightness and have grown in confidence.

Riding will continue in September. If your child is interested in participating in riding lessons please see Miss Bassett.



## HARRY POTTER 20TH ANNIVERSARY LIBRARY COMPETITION



Monday 26th June 2017 marked 20 years since the iconic Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone was first published. To celebrate, the school library ran a quiz for students with a chance to win a beautiful 20th anniversary edition of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone. Judging by the number of entries and the children's impressive knowledge of the books, Harry Potter is clearly a firm favourite.

Congratulations to year 7 Pupil **Freddie Young**.

Good luck to everyone taking part in the Great Summer Reading Race over the holidays. Entry forms are available from the library and there are prizes to be won!

## RAINBOW RUN

Approximately 50 pupils, parents and staff from Bell Burnell House ran in the Rainbow Run across the Downs to raise money for the Children's Hospice South West in June. It was a very hot afternoon but we all had fun and looked very colourful at the end. From entrance fees and sponsorship we raised **£1600.00** Well done!



## PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to all pupils in Photography Club who have produced some wonderful photography this year. We were delighted to welcome local wildlife photographer Ian Wade to St Bede's to judge.

Congratulations to: 1st Place **Seamus Robinson**, Year 7

Seamus has been awarded a £50 voucher, 24" x 16" poster of their winning photo and a copy of Ian Wades book 'Bristol Safari.' Ian said: *'This is a beautifully executed image, one I can't find any faults with. The backlighting is excellent, the detail on the strawberries and raspberries is fantastic, the colours jump out of the screen and the lighting in the background on the bushes is awesome. It screams of summer and is excellent in every area.'*



2nd place was **James Hartley**, Year 7

James has been awarded a £25 voucher, 16" x 12" print of their winning photo, copy of Ian Wades book 'Bristol Safari.' Ian said: *'This shows an example of the relationship between the bee and the flower, which it's pollinating. It's an excellent example of storytelling in a single image and is an extremely tricky shot to capture, with the bee constantly moving from flower to flower. The background colours are beautiful and the bee is pin sharp. A great example of wildlife photography.'*

3rd place was awarded to **Megan Mounter**, Year 7

Megan has won a £15 voucher, 16" x 12" print of their winning photo, copy of Ian Wades book 'Bristol Safari.' Ian commented: *'It is really nice to see an example of black and white photography. The metallic pots against the texture of the sharp cactus make the image really stand out. The balance between light and dark is excellent. Great to see someone experimenting with black and white photography.'*



Photography club is held every Friday lunchtime in ICT and will resume again in the new academic year. All students are welcome.

## CARNEGIE COMPETITION



On 27th June, 11 year 9 pupils went to Clifton College to participate in a Carnegie Reading Scheme competition. The CILIP Carnegie Medal is awarded annually to the writer of an outstanding book written in English for children and young people. The pupils had been preparing for several weeks to present the book they thought deserved to win this year's competition: 'The Bone Sparrow' by Zana Fraillon.

We are delighted that St. Bede's won the best visiting school award after competing against three other schools and were presented with medals by the author Clare Funiss. Congratulations.



## KEY STAGE 3 LITERACY DAY 2017

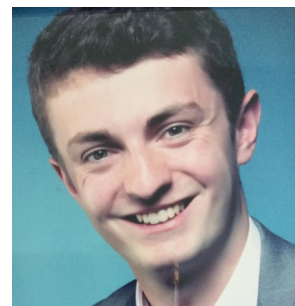
On Monday 10th July, Years 7, 8 and 9 took part in our KS3 Literacy Day coordinated by our Junior Leadership Team. Students engaged in a range of activities from debating, letter writing and interactive giant scrabble, to The Big Read and our very own literary version of Pointless! The question is: could you name a pointless Harry Potter character? The letters of advice that students wrote to their 30 year-old selves were definitely interesting too! We have included a selection on the last page of this newsletter. All of these events helped to highlight to the students the importance of literacy as a whole and we were delighted with how well they participated in the different sessions. We're looking forward to another great day next year.



## GRADUATION SUCCESS

Congratulations to former pupil Rowan Nevin (2011 - 2012) who has graduated from Portsmouth University with a **First Class BA Hons in Journalism**. Rowan was also awarded the Journalism prize for best SPIN (Special Investigation.) We are always delighted to hear of the success of our past pupils, please do let us know via [contact@stbedesc.org](mailto:contact@stbedesc.org).

We also look forward to receiving Graduation photographs to add to our Alumni Wall-of-fame.



## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to the following pupils from the parishes of St Bonaventure's, St Joseph's Portishead, St Francis Nailsea and The Immaculate Conception, Clevedon who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last Thursday, 13th July.

**Rebecca Bain, Oscar Banim, Molly Carr, Ellie Condron, Molly Dolan, Naoimh Dolan, Gabriela Dyba, Thomas Fernandes, Matthew Fraser, Niamh Fullerton, Caoimhe Fullerton, Nia Gathu, Emily Hartley, Joe Holloway, Antonella Licata, Emily Lunson, Benedict Lux, Anna Lux, Florence Magner, Claudia Maniglia, Roberta Maniglia, Ella McCulloch, Cara O'Farrell, Emily Pritchard, Mateusz Rabenda, Dominic Rahill, Isabel Romero and Harriet Roylance-Smith.**

*May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him.*

*Romans 15:13*



## 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 went on 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!

### SPORT NEWS

On Thursday 29th June we were given a fantastic opportunity to meet the amazing Judy Murray. We were able to develop our tennis skills and she taught us new techniques. Not only did she teach us to play well but she also spoke to us about how her sons got involved in tennis. We were delighted to be invited to attend the event at David Lloyd Sports Complex. We all had a great day of tennis.

**Emma Holbrook, Nell Eustace, Emily Lux and Krystal Palmer** Year 7.



### ADMISSIONS 2017

If you wish to apply for a Year 7 place for September 2018 Supplementary Information Forms should arrive in College by **31st October 2017**.

Parents must also have submitted the Common Application Form to their Local Authority by 31st October 2017.

### OPEN EVENING SEPTEMBER 2017

St Bede's Catholic College Open Evening for Year 5 and 6 pupils and parents will be on

**Thursday, 28th September 2017  
at 6.30pm**

### HOLOCAUST VISIT

Year 9 pupils were privileged to hear the testimony of Janine Webber, a Holocaust Survivor this week. Janine was born in Lwow, Poland (now Lviv, Ukraine) in 1932. From 1939, Lwow was occupied by Russian forces, until 1941 when the German army occupied the town. Persecution of the Jews of Lwow started very quickly after the German occupation, and Janine and her family had to leave their apartment and all of their belongings and move outside the town. They were allocated one room in a house for the whole family to live in. Janine's parents dug a hole under the wardrobe, which three people could fit into. After spending time moving and hiding, Janine managed to obtain false papers. Six months after the end of the war she was still afraid to admit to being Jewish and fearful of antisemitism in Poland so she moved to Paris. In 1956, Janine came to the UK to improve her English, where she met and married her husband. They had two sons and two grandsons. Today, Janine still lives in London and regularly shares her testimony with schools.

### TERM DATES FOR 2017-2018

#### Term 1:

\*Monday 4th September 2017 (Pupils return to College on Tuesday 5th September) to Friday 20th October 2017

#### Term 2:

Monday 30th October 2017 to Wednesday 20th December 2017

#### Term 3:

Wednesday 3rd January 2018 to Friday 9th February 2018

#### Term 4:

Monday 19th February 2018 to Friday 23rd March 2018

#### Term 5:

Monday 9th April 2018 to Friday 25th May 2018

#### Term 6:

Monday 4th June 2018 to Friday 20th July 2018

#### In service Days

\*Monday 4th September 2017, Friday 8th December 2017, Friday 9th February 2018, Friday 27th April 2018 and Friday 20th July 2018

## SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

**Video chat:** Some young people use video chat to keep in touch with friends and family. Sites and apps such as Skype, ooVoo or Omegle let the user have live face-to-face conversations through a webcam, either with one person or a group of people.

### What are the risks to young people?

- Some sites, such as Omegle, encourage users to talk to strangers, video conversations can be recorded and shared without their knowledge - causing distress or embarrassment.
- As conversations are live they can not control what the other person says or does. This may lead to your child seeing or hearing something that they find upsetting.

**Video sharing:** Apps such as Musical.ly and YouTube let you create and upload short videos. You can choose to lip-sync, perform dance routines, sing etc.

### What are the risks to young people?

- They could receive nasty or negative comments from other users
- They won't have control over who sees it. It could end up being shared via other social networks, such as Facebook, Instagram, and Whatsapp
- They may hear explicit language or see adult content from videos other people have shared.

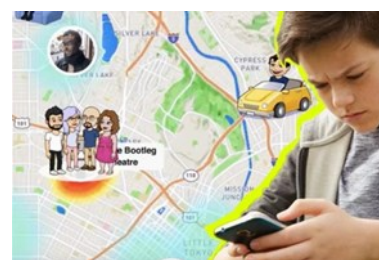
**Video streaming:** Live-streaming apps and sites let you film and broadcast videos in real time. People viewing the video can usually post comments or questions.

### What are the risks to young people?

- Videos are live so you don't know what you're going to see - it could be inappropriate, sexual or violent content
- Other users may post nasty comments or inappropriate questions. If your settings aren't private, strangers can watch or talk to you
- Videos often disappear after filming but some sites keep them for longer. If it's shared, your child may lose control of their video.

**Snap map** lets people browse a map of photos and videos that have been shared publicly. Users who are sharing their exact location appear on the map as a cartoon avatar. While location information is shared only with people on a "friends" list, that could include anybody, including strangers such as contacts from other apps and websites visited. Snap Map could be used to build up a picture of home addresses, travel routes, schools and workplaces.

**Top Tip:** Enable "ghost mode" to disappear from the map;  
When in photo-taking mode, pinch the screen to open your Snap Map  
Tap the settings cog in the right-hand corner of the screen  
Tap Ghost Mode to switch off location sharing



## 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 Monday 4th September is an In service day.  
Pupils return to College on Tuesday 5th September 2017.**

Please find link below to some Bristol Family Activities  
<http://www.stbedescc.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/Summer-Bulletin.pdf>

## LITERACY DAY—LETTERS OF ADVICE

Dear 30 year-old me,

Hey, I know what you're doing now- you're behind the wheel, feet on pedals, and fingers on paddles. Every time you're in the seat you only focus on your speed. Your son does exactly what you do.

I know what it feels like to win almost everything; coming fourth is not an option. You pledge every piece of track and kerb to get at least one more position. Get off the brake and pump the throttle like mad on Copse Corner, Maggots and Becketts. Keep it tight on La Source. DO NOT LIFT ON EAU ROUGE. Keep it neat through 130 R and slow down on Tamburello.

What did Papa tell you 15 years ago? You're not quick, too rough; not smooth. Ignore him and focus on the next corner. You'll never be like Senna. Just drive yourself.

You may be quick; you might have the best team; you might have the best car; you might even have the best engine: a 670cc 870BHP twin turbo-mounted V6 ERS system Renault Hybrid. Do you know what's better than a good car? The driver. And I mean you. Speeding up is better than slowing down. What does Red Bull do? It gives you wings. What do wings do? They make you fly as you're flying through Eau Rouge right now at tremendous speed. You should inspire your son to do this sport, and his son, and his, and his, and it can go on forever.

From 14 year-old you.

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Dear Future Self,

Don't ever forget. You might be thinking don't ever forget what? I don't mean forget the joys, sorrows and challenges that being a child has brought you, because you'll never know when those experiences could shape your life.

So here are some things that you could do so that you can get a better connection with your older self.

Go to the local store and if you enjoyed a particular item such as a film or music then buy it. It will always stay with you like a scrapbook filled with pleasant memories.

Forgive and forget. Be compassionate. In life, a compassionate person will go further than someone who isn't. If someone's hurt you, it's better to leave it than make it worse. I know, Future Self, this aspect was difficult for you in childhood but you need to develop this skill.

Remember people like your family and friends who have had a positive impact on you and when you move away, keep constant contact with them. They shape and form your life. Love and respect them. Even if all else fails they would be your support.

Respect yourself. Do the best you can and aspire to be great. Soon you can do great things.

For now, goodbye.

Your younger self.

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Hello there!

How's life? You better have finished school. If not, go back right now and finish! Even if you haven't become a pro-cricketer, still do it for fun. And keep the football going. I hope you haven't fallen into the wrong crowd. Change your path if you have. Don't hold onto the past. Let things go (unless it's good things that you're holding onto). You better have not forgotten about your parents, because they did more than you can even imagine for you.

Always give back to your family. I know you've had your moments with them, but never let that stop you. That includes your brother! You might even be best friends with him by now.

From 13 year-old you.