



AUTUMN 2024

HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME



As I am sure you would expect, it has been a busy start to the new academic year. Our new Year 7 pupils have settled into life at St Bede's extremely well and I would like to thank Father Brian, Mrs Donlon, Mr Pollard and everyone involved in both organising and attending our New Families Mass last week. This is an important starting point for our Year 7 pupils in their journey of Faith as they progress through our school.

Our Open Evening was once again extremely well attended. Our pupils were central to the success of the evening and the feedback from prospective families on their pride and knowledge of their school was a constant throughout the night. Can I thank everyone involved.

This term saw the opening of our new Food Technology classroom. This will provide an opportunity for pupils to gain essential knowledge and skills across the Food and Nutrition curriculum. We have also relocated and expanded our school Taylor Library to provide additional opportunities and resources for our pupils to read for academic knowledge, and also for pleasure.

Over the course of the half term there have been numerous visits and events both in and outside of school. The feedback from organisers and member of the public has been nothing but positive, something I know will continue throughout the rest of the academic year.

Our 'Be recognised' Awards' Evening took place on Thursday 10th October. It was another opportunity to celebrate the talents and successes of our pupils. It was a highly competitive process and all our winners should be enormously proud of their achievements. Congratulations to all who received a well-deserved prize.

Mr. Milton

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

To keep up to date with our latest news as and when it happens and to celebrate all things St. Bede's, follow our social media channels: https://www.stbedesblackburn.com/social/



UPCOMING DATES

- 28/10 School reopens @ 8am
- 4/11 Year 11 Mock exams begin (2 weeks)
- 8/11 Year 7 and Year 11 Group photos
- 8/11 Year 11 Individual photos
- 13/11 Year 9 Drama Trip
- 20/11 Year 11 English trip
- 21/11 Year 10 trip to Oxford University
- 21/11 Year 11 Celebration of Achievement Evening





"Everything is possible for one who believes" Mark 9:23

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Promoting the importance of good attendance continues to be a key focus at St Bede's. Good attendance and punctuality are not only a legal requirement but essential in order for pupils to get the most out of their experience at St Bede's. This includes their academic progress, wellbeing and wider life chances.



This term, we have the 'Ber months' attendance challenge. Pupils with excellent attendance will receive additional reward points each month. If they maintain this throughout October to December, they will be entered into the 'Wheel of Names' for a chance to win a £50 Amazon voucher.

Please can we take this opportunity to remind families that holidays during term time will not be authorised and may incur a penalty notice.



KINDNESS MISSION FOR OCTOBER

During October, we remember Mary, Mother of God who is a role model of charity for Catholics. Inspired by her qualities of kindness and love, all pupils have taken part in the October Kindness Challenge. Pupils have carried out acts of kindness throughout the month and have also donated items to the 'bring a tin' initiative, for the Billy Project foodbank in Mill Hill, Blackburn.

DEBATE TEAM

Year 10 Debating Leadership Team at Stonyhurst College experiencing the historical collections.



GCSE RESULTS - CLASS OF 2024



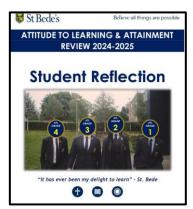
Celebrating GCSE Success!

On the 11th November we look forward to an evening of celebration as our former Year 11 students return to St Bede's to receive their GCSE certificates.

The success of our students is a testament to their hard work, perseverance, and commitment throughout their time at St Bede's. We are incredibly proud of how our students rose to the challenges, demonstrating resilience and determination in their studies which led to many students achieving remarkable results across a range of subjects.

Congratulations to all our students for their welldeserved success, and a heartfelt thank you to the staff and families who supported them along the way. We wish them every success in the next stage of their lives!

ATTITUDE TO LEARNING GRADES



This week, students have received their Attitude to Learning Grades; families have received these via Class Charts. During Prep time, students reflected on their progress & achievement this half term & looked ahead to next half term with personal targets.

WALK FOR CREATION

Year 7 have been completing their 'Walk for Creation' in their RE & Geography lessons: Admiring our Common Home.



OUR MISSION

At St Bede's we believe that all things are possible. Our pupils are guided and encouraged to fulfil their God-given potential and are inspired to become the best versions of themselves; the people that God created them to be.

Together, we will learn to understand and live moral lives, based on the gospel values of; hope, love, forgiveness and compassion. We believe that every person is made and loved by God, with the potential to grow into the likeness of Christ.

Being part of the St Bede's community will be a journey of faith, discovery and learning where all pupils are provided with the opportunities to shine.

STAFF UPDATES

We are excited to welcome many new staff members to the St. Bede's team; this term, we have welcomed:

Mrs Adam - Science

Mr Baxendale - Art Mr Calderbank - Computing Mr Crewe - Food & Nutrition Miss Hanslod - Science Ms Lonsdale - Maths Miss Patel - Spanish Mr Valli - Science Mr Wilkinson - Music Mr Wilkon - Cover Supervisor Mrs Elliot - Food & Nutrition

STUDENT GUARDIANS & PREP CAPTAINS

Introducing our 2024-25 Guardians and Prep Captains in Years 7-10. These are two of many student leadership roles that are part of the enriching Stewardship ethos of St. Bede's.







This half term, we revealed our newly refurbished Taylor Library in its new location in the Arrowsmith Building. Led by our student Librarians, our school library is a hive of activity each lunchtime.



Year 7 enjoyed their Library induction sessions. Each student received their library loyalty card and borrowed their first books from our Taylor Library.



HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

This half term, we have introduced our new homeschool communication system. Thank you to all families who have used the Parent and Pupil Codes to give you individual access to your child's Timetable, Behaviour & Assessment Profile, Personal Study and daily Announcements. Students have shared that they are enjoying the new system; particularly the daily breakdown of their Bedes' totals for Behaviour for Learning.



BE RECOGNISED AWARDS' EVENING

A night to remember!

On Thursday 10th October students and their families gathered in school for an evening of recognition and celebration. The event recognised the achievements and contributions of students in Years 8 to 11.





Thank you to all our school community who joined us for the annual Year 7 Mass of Welcome with Father Brian. Thank you to our student Prayer Leaders, school choir, musicians & staff choir.

> Mass of Welcome Tuesday, 8th October, 2024

> > /ear 7 2024



The night was filled with inspiring moments, as students were recognised for their dedication and hard work as they strive to be the best version on themselves and to fulfil their God given potential.

Alongside subject awards, students were awarded for: excellent attendance, exemplary behaviour for learning, success in the Ebacc subjects, contribution to the school community and to the Catholic life of the school.

Congratulations to all who received awards and for shining brightly and inspiring others to do the same!



SPOTLIGHT ON SPORT

St Bede's has continued its impressive sporting form this academic year, with a number of teams securing league titles. The Year 10 and 11 netball teams have both secured the Blackburn with Darwen league championship. This is a fantastic achievement for both squads, demonstrating their skill, teamwork, and dedication.

ve come in order that you might have life, life in all its fullness" John 10:10

Additionally, last year's Year 8 indoor cricket team have now had their League Championship title officially confirmed. This is a testament to their continued excellence in the sport.

Year 11 Sports' Young Leaders have also been supporting with the Primary Pentathlon Challenge.



The school's sporting success is a credit to the hard work and commitment of the students and staff. It is also a reflection of the positive sporting culture that exists at St Bede's.

PRIMARY PAIRED READING

Pupils from the Learning Hub have been supporting our Partner Primary Schools in Reading. We have visited St Edward's, St Anne's and will be visiting St Paul's and Feniscowles in the coming weeks. It is a fabulous opportunity to build links with our primary schools and it really helps with our pupils' confidence and love of reading. Pupils feel a sense of responsibility after supporting the younger children and we are working towards them seeing reading as a joy rather than a chore.



ETHOS DAY

Inspired by our mission statement, all pupils took part in the Ethos Day on the last day of the summer term and were given the mission to 'shine and be the best versions of themselves'. Pupils could take part in a range of different activities where they could 'shine' and learn new skills! Activities included gardening, making bath bombs, crochet, drama and lots more, even the ice cream van made a visit for a sweet treat.



During the Ethos Day, pupils in the art workshop created a beautifully decorated cross inspired by St Bede. The cross will now be a permanent feature for focus during assemblies and worship.

NO MORE COUNTY LINES



We welcomed theatre production companies, *Message Trust* and *Narrative Alchemy* who showcased their 'No More County Lines' Tour in Blackburn! Students went away from the inspiring sessions well-equipped with practical tips and techniques to stay safe and say 'no' to crime.



EXTRA CURRICULAR TIMETABLE

This half term there have been a range of educational visits. Including the GCSE Drama trip to the Asylum & Refugee Centre in Blackburn. This visit provided our students with a unique opportunity to learn about the lives of refugees and asylum seekers. This will now inform the planning of their next drama performance. Year 11 GCSE Geography students also experienced a fieldwork visit where pupils collected data from the River Darwen.



NEW FOR 2024-25: FOOD AND NUTRITION

St Bede's is proud to announce the launch of its new Food and Nutrition curriculum, coupled with a stateof-the-art kitchen facility. Key stage 3 students who have experienced Food & Nutrition for the first Technology rotation have had the opportunity to experiment with a wide range of ingredients, learn culinary techniques, and gain practical experience in a professional kitchen environment. All KS3 students will experience the Food & Nutrition course when they reach this point in the rotation.



As part of the introduction of Food & Nutrition, Key Stage 3 students will rotate through a variety of technology subjects, including Food & Nutrition, Resistant Materials, Graphics and Computing. This comprehensive approach will allow students to explore their interests and discover their passions within the field of Technology, whilst experiencing each discipline in a more concentrated approach.

We look forward to the future culinary dishes our students cook up in the St Bede's kitchen!

SCHOOL PRODUCTION 2025

Are you ready to go beyond the reef? Make way... Make way... MOANA is on its way to St. Bede's for this academic year's school production! Auditions have begun for the latest production which will be sailing into St. Bede's in the Spring term!



OPEN EVENING

Over 600 people visited us for our Open Evening which allowed us to showcase our wonderful school and pupils. Our pupil ambassadors were fantastic role models and an absolute credit to both our school and their families.



CAREERS' EVENTS

Year 11 experienced the world of work at WEC Group Training Academy.



The BAE Roadshow team provided our pupils with an amazing learning opportunity, illustrating the idea of electricity through engaging demonstrations and activities.



We were very proud to welcome back our former students to share their experiences of Westholme Sixth Form with Year 11.



Wishing all our school community a happy and safe Half Term break.

