

WHAT'S THE LATEST FROM ST BEDE'S?

Our Spring term is now in full flow and mock exams are coming to a close. The Y11 students have been an absolute credit to themselves and the school in the way they have approached the process. We now enter revision season and you can see the details at the end of this blog. Aside from this, there have been some really exciting lessons taking place, preparations for the arrival of our Chinese exchange students and many extra-curricular activities. I do hope the start to your 2018 has been as enjoyable as ours.

As usual, you can see all the pictures along with many more stories on our Twitter page @stbedes1957.

Keep up to date with our ski trip at www.facebook.com/groups/stbedesormskirk.

A wonderful week with our Chinese Exchange Students



Once again the school has hosted 20 students from China as part of our Chinese Exchange programme. Miss Kelly has organised this event in conjunction with Edunion. Our students arrived at school on Sunday and immediately left with their families for a fun filled day around the North West.

Our guests enjoyed Monday in school with a welcome assembly followed by lessons at St Bede's. There was a real interest in the students in every class as they saw what life was like in an English school. In one Year 7 art class, the students were fully involved and enjoyed their experience.



The school was presented with some beautiful gifts from our Chinese guests during the opening assembly. Our students were a credit to us as they welcomed them to the school during the week.



For the remainder of the week, our guests enjoyed trips to Liverpool, the University of Central Lancashire, Laser Quest and many other exciting activities. The most pleasing aspect as a school has been the manner in which our student hosts have supported their students around school and at home. It has been a real pleasure to see so many smiling faces in classrooms and around the school.

The Chinese students were accompanied by their teachers who visited the same locations but also had an opportunity to discuss the education systems in China and England with myself and Miss Kelly. We enjoyed a lunch and dinner together and had opportunities to speak with subject leaders across the school.

Such an experience breaks down barriers that are often built up through stereotypes driven by media outlets or political agendas. When meeting people from seemingly distant cultures we often find that we have so much in common and much to learn from each other. I for one have learnt that the Chinese have a sleep on their desk after lunch, (I might try that myself)...or perhaps some cultural differences will always remain! Miss Kelly and the students will produce a separate report to this blog which will detail more about our experience of this cultural exchange. May I send a big thank you to all of the students, staff and parents involved. It has been a truly wonderful St Bede's community effort to make this happen.

Mrs Wren's recommended reads

Reading Matters

We are often asked by parents how they can help to engage their child in reading.

Parents and pupils also like to hear about recommendations for interesting and enjoyable books.

Our school librarian, Mrs Cain, is always keen to suggest particular authors, genres and series that will interest all our pupils, so she is definitely a good starting point. We're very lucky in St Bede's to have such a well-stocked and regularly updated library. We're even luckier to have the expertise of such a passionate librarian.

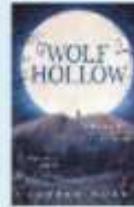
In the lead up to World Book Day on Thursday, 1st March, we will be sharing the names of some books and their authors that our pupils recommend. Enjoy!



David Walliams- Grandpa's Great Escape

Lauren Wolk- Wolf Hollow

Patrick Ness- A Monster Calls



Joseph Delaney- The Spook's Apprentice



Abi Elphinstone- Sky Song



Philip Reeve- Mortal Engines

Anthony Horowitz- The Diamond Brothers



Derek Landy- Skulduggery Pleasant

Accelerated reader speeds up St Bede's literacy levels

To support reading in school and at home, some pupils have access to Accelerated Reader. They read a book that they've chosen and then complete a short quiz, which tests how well they've understood the book. A comprehension rate of 90% or above shows the ideal reading progress.

These Year 7 pupils have all achieved 90% or above in their quizzes this half term:

Sally Abraham, Sofia Cavanagh, Amelia Fallon, Rada Flynn-Evans, Grace Grant, Callum Hampton, Jamie Hughes, Zoe Murphy, Shauna Nagle, Maxwell North, Jake Parkinson, Freya Ridsdale, Jack Rogers and Kevin Saunderson.

Our top Year 8 readers have read an impressive 45 novels between them:

Ellie Carberry, Ella Dillon, Ruby O'Brien, Henry Parkinson, Jasmine Roper, Isabella Waller and Hannah Williams.

Well done to them all.

Ruthless Year 7 football team progress again!

The year 7 girls' football team are now through to the semi-final of the Lancashire Cup after beating Unity College, Burnley 10-1 yesterday.

They displayed a great attitude throughout the game and played some fantastic football once again. It's a pleasure to see a team work so well together and represent the school at this level.



Isabella sings her way to a great achievement

Isabella Parker, 7AR, has recently gained a Distinction at Grade 5 in Musical Theatre (singing), which is GCSE level. Her singing teacher (external to school) is ecstatic with this achievement. We are of course all very happy to hear about this in school as another great example of the achievements our students make outside of school. I look forward to hearing more of Isabella in our school choir.



Primary event brings big crowds for our sports leaders

By Eleanor Cody

The 25th of January was a busy evening for St Bede's, as the school hosted another primary school athletics event in the sports hall. The school welcomed primary schools from across the Lancashire region to participate in the eventful competition; these included schools from Burscough and Ormskirk.

As the athletics takes place inside the school, the events are adapted to fit the hall, giving everyone a break from the cold weather. Due to the extensive amount of events in athletics, they have to be spread between both the sports hall and gym. In the sports hall, the primary school children compete in running events such as the relay races, sprinting and throwing. One of the relay races includes hurdles and speed bounce, which is the favourite race among most of the younger children. In the gym, smaller events take place including high jump, long jump, standing long jump and triple jump.

Events such as this one take preparation from West Lancs Sports Partnership, St Bede's and the schools involved. For the event to run as smoothly as possible not only do representatives from West Lancs run it but Sports Leaders in various years from both Ormskirk and St Bede's attend. They take on the responsibility of taking scores from each child, demonstrate events and add up the total scores to reveal the winners at the end of the evening. Without the Sports Leaders and sports specialists from West Lancs, events like these would not be possible.



NCS Opportunity for our Y11 students

NCS are visited school last week to present a fantastic development opportunity available to our Year 11 students. Briefly, it is an 18 day programme that aims to develop skills including leadership and team work. It encourages participants to forge new friendships and build confidence whilst having fun!

A letter has gone out in registers. The NCS were in school on Friday morning to deliver a presentation to Year 11 and were available at lunch to answer questions in the LRC. They will also be present at the year 11 parents evening to answer any parental questions.

Students signing up before 16th February get the programme for £35 with an early applicants discount (cost per head for the programme £50).

24 of our 2017 Year 11 students graduated from the programme last year. If your child is interested please find out more information at the parents' evening or contact school for more details. The letter sent home can also be seen below:



Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am delighted to let you know that this term your young person will be given the opportunity to sign up to National Citizen Service (NCS), a government-funded programme for 15-17 year olds. Working through physical, personal and creative challenges, this once-in-a-lifetime experience empowers young people to build skills and confidence to get ahead in work and life, whilst engaging with their local area.

The Challenge, the country's largest provider of NCS, is delivering 1000's of places across the Summer 2018. It is an 18 day programme set up to develop new skills throughout the entire process with the first two parts being residential, with all meals, kit and accommodation provided. First, teams develop their leadership and teamwork skills by working with some of the best outdoor instructors in the UK, enabling them to create friendships and build confidence. After a short break, young people return for phase two, where they stay away from home in accommodation provided and gain new skills. Finally, teams have the unique opportunity to design, pitch and deliver their own social action project. Then they graduate, receive a signed certificate from the Prime Minister and join the graduate programme, The Challenge Society.

The programme is worth over £1000 per head, but as it is government backed, they only ask for a maximum of £50 for a young person to take part with financial assistance available when needed. At our school, The Challenge are also offering an early applicants' discount of £35 when applying online by **Friday 16th February 2018**. The application fee covers all accommodation, food, transport, and specialist kit for the residential parts of the programme.

Representatives from NCS are speaking at a Year 11 assembly on **Friday 26th January 2018**, during which your young person will have the opportunity to express their interest in the programme.

For more information, visit NCSNORTHWEST.CO.UK where you will also be able to book a place on the website.

We highly recommend this unique and valuable opportunity and hope you will encourage your child to take part.

Yours sincerely,

NCS

If your child is not in Year 11 then keep an eye out for when they are as this is an annual programme.

Past students go onto Oxbridge Universities

Last week I was delighted to receive correspondence from Winstanley College which shared the great news that two of our ex-students had gone to Russell Group Universities. Billy Matthews and Alice Wong, have been offered places at Cambridge and Oxford respectively. Billy will be studying Land Economy while Alice Wong will be studying English Literature. We are really proud of these former students and hope that we can hear from their experiences at a future ROAR event!



Art club continues to grow

Art club have been busy this half term painting colourful animals onto fabric. Once they had painted their animal, we heat set the paint with a hot iron and then they started to sew into them. They have done a fantastic job and really enjoyed this project. They should all be really proud of what they created. Miss Harris donated some prizes and judged the 4 best images, which were given to Jan Carlo Canas, Lucie Deakin, James Ferguson and Joseph Danher. I did not envy her as the quality of work was so high.



Stewardship studied by our marvellous Year 8 students

Year 8s are learning about the importance of stewardship and caring for and looking after God's creation for future generations. They are specifically learning about the life of Chico Mendes and trying to use his example in order to think of ways that we too can be better stewards of the Earth. They have also been given the challenge of caring for, preserving, and rejecting the temptation to consume a chocolate over half term.... I am sure they will be excellent stewards and bring it back intact next week!



Drama class sees a local theatre first hand

Our year 11 GCSE drama group went on a theatre trip to Chester Story House on Wednesday 31st January to watch a performance of 'The Play that Goes Wrong' by Mischief theatre company. A great time was had by all and there should be some excellent reviews written in the end of year exam. Drama is a subject in which students achieve great results at St Bede's thanks to student efforts and the inspirational Mr Keown!



Revision season continues!

At St Bede's we are blessed with committed teachers who go above and beyond to support our students. Many classes have already started and just this morning a determined group of Y11 students attended a breakfast revision session with Miss Keys. It was a very early start and they have shown great commitment. There was even a lovely breakfast provided by Shona and the crew from our school kitchen.



Detailed below are just some of the subjects offering additional revision classes for our Y11 students in the run up to the summer exams.

Computer Science and BACS

Subject	Day	Time
Computer Science	Tuesday	3.20 – 4.20pm
BACS	Thursday	3.20 – 4.20pm

Additional support for this challenging GCSE is offered to students on a weekly basis. Please ensure that you attend these sessions if you require additional guidance.

RE Revision Y11

Teacher	Day	Time
Miss Kelly	Thursday	3.15 – 4.15pm
Miss Skidmore	Monday	3.15 – 4.15pm
Miss Keyes	Thursday	8.10 – 8.40am

There will be college intervention after February half term for a selection of students to enhance their knowledge on Judaism (paper 3). This will be delivered by St John Rigby College here at St Bede's. Chosen students will receive a letter prior to these sessions.

Additional Languages Support

Teacher	Language	Day	Time
Madame Gallagher	French (N3)	Tuesday	3.15 – 4.00pm
Frau Williams	German	Tuesday	3.15 – 4.00pm
Madame Williams	French/German	See below	

The revision sessions will be for both **French and German** and will run in N1 from 3.20 to 4.30 on the following dates.

Thursday 25th January

Thursday 1st February

Thursday 8th February

HALF TERM

Wednesday 21st February

Wednesday 28th February

Wednesday 7th March

Thursday 15th March

Thursday 22nd March

EASTER

GCSE Speaking exams commence 10th April 2018

Art GCSE Support

Teacher	Day	Time
Mrs Mitchell & Miss Byrom	12.50 – 1.35pm	Wednesday
Mrs Mitchell & Miss Byrom	3.30 – 4.30pm	Wednesday
Mrs Mitchell	12.50 – 1.35pm	Thursday
Mrs Mitchell	12.50 – 1.35pm	Thursday

PE Year 11 Revision Classes

Our dedicated PE staff are now running additional sessions each week in order to enhance specific areas of knowledge in the build up to the summer exams. Please see the details below and encourage your child to attend the right sessions for them.

Staff Member	Date	Topics to be covered in the session <i>(please see revision guide contents page)</i>
Miss McGee	Thursday 18 th January 2018	2.1 (16) Engagement in physical activity and sport in the UK 2.1 (17) Commercialisation of sport
Miss Gray	Thursday 25 th January 2018	2.1 (18) Ethical and social-cultural issues in physical activity and sport 2.2 (19) Characteristics of skilful movement and skill classification
Mr Shepherd	Thursday 1 st February 2018	2.2 (20) Goal setting 2.2 (21) Mental preparation
Mr Dawson	Thursday 8 th February 2018	2.2 (22) Types of guidance and feedback 2.3 (23) Health, fitness and well being
Mr Shepherd	Tuesday 20 th February 2018	2.3 (24) Diet and nutrition 1.2 (12) Components of fitness
Mr Dawson	Tuesday 27 th February 2018	1.2 (13) Principles of training 1.2 (14) Optimising training 1.2 (15) Injury Prevention
Miss Gray	Tuesday 6 th March 2018	1.1 (1) Major bones and the function of the skeleton 1.1 (2) Synovial joints, ligaments, tendons and cartilage 1.1 (3) Moment at hinge and ball and socket joints
Miss McGee	Tuesday 13 th March 2018	1.1 (4) major muscle groups and the roles that they play
Mr Shepherd	Tuesday 10 th April 2018	1.1 (5) Lever systems 1.1 (6) Planes of movement and axis of rotation
Mr Dawson	Tuesday 17 th April 2018	1.1 (7) Cardiovascular system 1.1 (8) Respiratory system
Miss Gray	Tuesday 24 th April 2018	1.1 (9) Aerobic and anaerobic exercise 1.1 (10) Short term effects of exercise 1.1 (11) Long term-effects of exercise

PE Extracurricular Timetable

Please have a look at the range of things that are currently taking place and encourage your child to get involved.

Physical Education 2017-2018 Extra-Curricular Term 3			
	Lunchtime Clubs 1:00pm -1:30pm	Lunchtime 3G Astro Turf 1:00pm -1:30pm	After School 3:15 – 4.30pm unless stated
Monday	Year 11 5 a side (Mr Denton)	Mr Cookson Year 7	Trampoline (All Years) Sports hall Carlos 3.15-4pm Girls Football (All Years) 3G Astro Miss Gray
Tuesday	Living for Sport – Sports Hall Mr Dawson	Mr Shepherd Year 8	Girls Netball (All Years) Courts/Sports Hall Miss McGee
Wednesday	Sports Leaders 'drop in' SPORTS HALL RECEPTION (Miss Gray) Girls Badminton– All Years (Miss Gray) Sports Hall	Mr Doogan Year 11	Year 10&11 Boys Basketball – Sports hall Mr Acou Table tennis (All years) Gym Mr Carey
Thursday		Miss Gray Year 10	Badminton (all years) Sports hall Mr Cox/Miss Woodcraft Hockey – 3G Astro (All years) Boys and Girls Mrs Turpin
Friday	Year 9 & 10 Boys Badminton (Mr Caygill) Sports Hall PE Detention Sports Hall Classroom (Mr Dawson)	Mrs Turpin Year 9	



- **Lunchtime Clubs** - You must wear appropriate footwear (no shoes) and remove ties, blazers and jumpers.
- **Afterschool Clubs** – You must wear a full PE kit and appropriate footwear (no shoes).
- You **will not be allowed to participate**, if you fail to attend with the incorrect footwear and/or kit.

Music Extracurricular Timetable

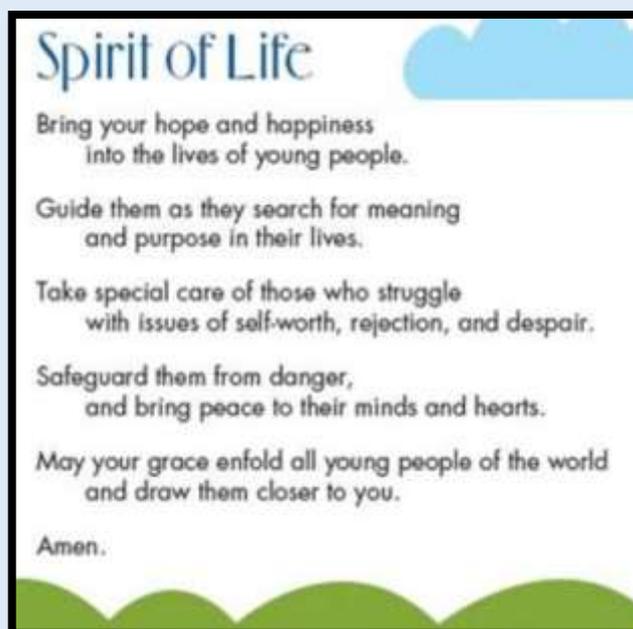
Please also see our musical programme below and encourage your child to meet new people and try new things.

Music Extra-Curricular activities				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Year 7 Choir	Chamber Choir Boys Group	Music Group (Instrumentalists & singers)	Boys Group	Senior Choir
				
Peripatetic Teachers				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sarah Monteith-Voice & Piano Sean Geldart - Guitar	Sarah Monteith-Voice & Piano	Sarah Monteith – voice & piano Sean Geldart-Guitar	Mark Howard- Percussion Sarah Monteith – voice & piano Paul Thomas – Woodwind	

Upcoming events

Event	Detail	Date
Ski Trip Departs	Ski trip will leave school during the day and return at the end of the half term break	09.02.18
School finishes for half term break		09.02.18
Inset Day	Students will be off school for the day and return from half term on Tuesday	19.02.18
Y11 Parents Evening	Following the Y11 reports, which will be sent out at the beginning of this week, the Y11 parents are invited in to discuss their child's progress	22.02.18

Prayer for



the week

Let us know your news!

If you are involved in any exciting activities or you have stories of St Bede's from years gone by. Please contact school and we can celebrate this in our fortnightly blog.

God bless,

Mr P Denton - Head of School