

WHAT'S THE LATEST FROM ST BEDE'S

Welcome to my final blog of the year. This edition celebrates the great events that have taken place in the last 2 weeks of term. May I take this opportunity to wish all students and staff a safe and restful summer holiday. It has been a great year for the school and that is down to the great efforts of staff and students, along with the support from parents/guardians and the wider school community.

A wonderful evening to celebrate the 60th Anniversary

Around 250 people were our guests on Saturday night for our 60th Anniversary celebration. The event was organised by the *Friends of St Bede's* (FSOB). I have seen first-hand the work that a core group of our school's supporters have put into some fantastic events. The evening was supported by the Cricketers Arms who supplied the food and drinks. We had music from our school music group and solo artists. Jermone Ness entertained us with some fabulous guitar solo music. Then the Y10 music group sang a selection of modern songs before James McCoy and then Sarah Prescott gave outstanding performances. Both former students sang with confidence and joy which was a real pleasure to see and hear. In addition, the attendees were treated to an on-stage interview by, former student and now legendary impressionist, John Culshaw and another member of our school community, three time ABA Heavyweight Champion Tony Bellew. Thank you to both of our special guests who gave up their time to attend the event, sign the many autographs and smile for the numerous photos.



The evening continued with a superb act, Retro Sound, playing music from the 1950s and 1960s. The group pulled out some floor fillers and took many of our audience back to the music they would have enjoyed during their years at St Bede's. It then culminated with a good old fashioned school disco! During the night the Friends of St Bede's ran the raffle and auctioned off boxing gloves signed by Mr Bellew. We were also able to raffle a diamond necklace thanks to a very generous gift from David Moss Jewellers, who continue to be a fantastic support to the school. A special thank you goes to Mr Holt who compared the evening with style and composure. In a week with so many celebrations taking place, Mr Holt, the Friends of St Bede's and the St Bede's community have really pulled together to make this a special time in the school's history. I know I speak on behalf of all who attended to give a big thank you to all of those people who made such a special occur. That includes the people whose work is not seen such as our site

staff Joe, David and Wayne along with our cleaners who were in on Sunday to clear up after the event. Your efforts often go unseen but we are very grateful and truly appreciate the work you put in on a daily basis. St Bede's is truly blessed to have such a caring body of staff and supporters.

A rollercoaster of a day in Blackpool

Last Friday, students were rewarded with an action packed day at Blackpool Pleasure Beach. Around 400 students made the trip on several coaches who left with much excitement early on Friday morning. The students had a great time and managed to enjoy the variety of rides on offer at the Pleasure Beach. As with any event, an awful lot of planning and thought goes into making the day enjoyable but above all safe for all who take part. I would like to thank our heads of year: Miss McGhee, Mr Cox, Mr Lockyer, Mr Doolan and trip leader, Mrs Woodcraft. Mrs Woodcraft put in a great deal of time to ensure that every student had a safe and enjoyable experience. At school, Mr Molyneux organised a day of fun for students who stayed in school. Teacher's planned exciting experiments in science, sporting activities in PE, creative activities in art and RE and a number of other subject areas. I have already seen countless occasions where staff and students have pulled together to make St Bede's a place that offers a range of activities for students as well as excellent academic provision.





60th Anniversary Badge Created

Isabelle Murray produced a winning design for our commemorative 60th anniversary badge. The badge will be given to all students and was also available to buy at our 60th anniversary celebration. Mr Horrocks presented the badge to Isabelle who is the first student to receive one. Well done Isabelle and we are delighted with your creative design. This is another initiative from the fantastic 'Friends of St Bedes' who have done so much for the school this year.



Summer Tea Party

On Friday 7th July we welcomed over 90 local older people to our annual Afternoon Tea Party. It was a wonderful afternoon, the Dream Team pupil fundraising group decorated the hall, and served tea. Miss Woodcraft's catering team served lots of delicious cake. The choirs, musicians, and dancers provided entertainment. The afternoon ended with us all singing along to St Bede's answer to Elvis, James McCoy. A



great time was had by all. The event was made possible by the generous support of parents who donated an avalanche of cake and raffle prizes. Surplus cake was donated to our local food bank. Thank you for your support!



The GCSE Food group were the pupils who organised the refreshments for the afternoon tea party in the morning + served it to all the guests after lunch. They worked hard all day + showed great dedication to our St Bede's community. The pupils were Joe Carter, Lawrence Pomford, Ben Spencer, Eryn Holmes, Jasmine Allinson, Caelan McDonnell, Lydia Taylor, Jess O'Neil, Abigail Tedham, Hannah Cheetham, Becky Bunclark + Poppy Rattle.

The following pupils stayed after school on the 6th July + produced a variety of sweet goods for the afternoon tea party. They worked exceptionally well, particularly as it was a very hot day; in and out of the kitchen. The pupils involved were Isabelle Murray, Reine Kelly, Regan Kelly, Jess Hodge, Holly Williams, Kadie Culshaw, Joanna Thomson, Julia Turkowski, Hannan Birkett, Anya Hillton, Ava Staunton, Ciara Kirwan, Amy Skillen, Greg Owens, Henry Houghton + Luke Golding.

More fantastic pieces of art produced by our students

Year 8 have been working hard on their paintings inspired by Aboriginal Art. They are beginning to look very striking.

Heather Digwood has created some intricate story stones.



Roksana Krol has made a mixed media canvas by using natural materials.



Rebecca Brown has painted her story onto wood blocks that she prepared at home.



Year 9 have been inspired by Hundertwasser's; 'Irieland Over the Balkans'.

Irieland over the Balkans is made up using lots of lines, in different colours, to create patterns and scenery. It is the portrait of a woman, merged into a housing association, whose face is shaped by lots of lines. The spiral at the bottom of the picture, in greens and blues, forms the lines which go on to shape the rest of the picture. The woman's face in the picture is the Bulgaria actress Irina Maleeva, whom Hundertwasser was close to. He dedicated this painting as a memory. It is a very unusual portrait to represent the actress. Portraits are supposed to represent people in their natural surroundings, but Hundertwasser takes this idea even further by making Irina part of her surroundings.

The pupils have used mod roc to cast their face which they then merged into a landscape and painted with acrylic paint.



Nicole Crompton & Marianne Jackson-Hutton



Ben Barclay and Joseph Caygill



Chloe Siner and Hannah Southam

Photography competition winners announced

Our students have been snapping around the local area and beyond in an effort to be our photographer of the year. The winners were announced this week in the Y9 assembly.

1st Place - The Giraffe Adam Ayscough

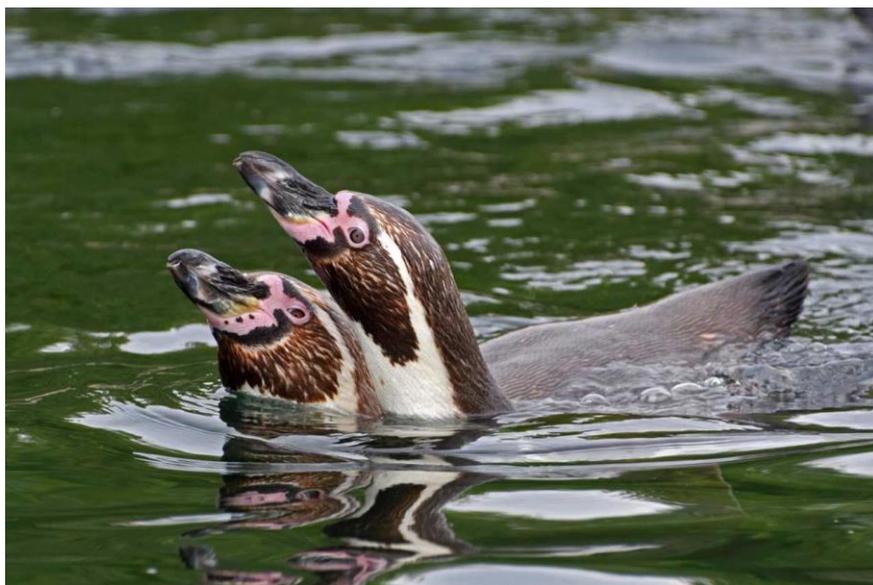
2nd Place - Two Penguins swimming Fin Connell

3rd Place - The Orang-utan Marianne Jackson-Hutton

The competition was extremely difficult to judge and as a department we were really impressed by the quality of the photographs taken. We will be displaying some of the best entries in school this week. The prizes will be John Lewis vouchers to hopefully spend on something photography related!

Here are the winning photographs:





Mini-masters event is a great success

West Lancashire 'Mini Masters' Conference On Monday 10th July, 13 Year 9 pupils represented the school in the West Lancashire 'Mini Masters' conference. Pupils had a chance to listen to keynote speakers including; Dr Stuart Wood, a music therapist and research lead at Guildhall School of Music and Drama, and Joanna Barnard, an author and winner of the Bath Novel Award in 2014. Throughout the day St Bede's pupils joined with schools from across the district to take part in a wide range of seminar sessions on themes ranging from dystopian fiction through to behavioural economics. The pupils who attended were: Joseph Caygill, Joseph Johnson, Isobel Housley, Matt Russo, Alyssa Bretherton, Nicole Crompton, Luca Smith, Ben Barclay, Erin Hoy, Skye Hayes, Olivia Ponting, Finn Connell and Grace Carberry. You all represented the school with great pride, well done!

St Bede's continues to excel across the sporting board

At the District Triathlon event on the 29th June, we performed well and won the following medals:

Well done to all who took part and represented the school with such pride and character.

	<u>Year 7</u>	<u>Year 8</u>	<u>Year 9</u>	<u>Year 10</u>
1st place 	<u>BOYS</u> Bobby Bjork	<u>GIRLS</u> Connie Roberts		<u>BOYS</u> Eoin O'Connor
2nd place 		<u>GIRLS</u> Ella Prescott		<u>BOYS</u> Joe Taubman
3rd place 		<u>GIRLS</u> Jess Taubman	<u>GIRLS</u> Nicole Crompton <u>BOYS</u> Matt Russo	<u>GIRLS</u> Fran Price

DISTRICT ATHLETICS 2017 ROBIN PARK WEDNESDAY 12th JULY

A very successful day for our pupils at the District Athletics competition held at Robin Park. The year 9&10 boys team (see above) came first place, displaying a very strong team performance. Year 7 girls, year 8 girls and the year 9 & 10 girls teams all took second place overall. Well done to all the pupils involved and for displaying great attitudes throughout the competition.



Living for Sport visit Thursday 6th July 2017

We had our second Living for Sport (Sky Sports) visit from Courtney Fry this year. He worked with a group of boys from our Living for Sport club, from years 8-9. Courtney gave a motivational talk to the group, and shared with them his background and his successes, particularly in boxing. The boys then did a practical session with Courtney, where he set them a number of group challenges throughout the day.



SPORTATHON

The PE Department ran their annual fundraising event on Friday 16th June from 5:30pm – 9:30pm. There was a great turn out from our pupils once again and a fun night was had by all!!



Success for ex-student!

Many of our St Bede's family will have graduated this summer from the various universities they attended. One such student was Cammie Rudge. Cammie attended the University of Liverpool and graduated with a degree in Forensic Psychology. She is now going on to study a masters degree at the same university.



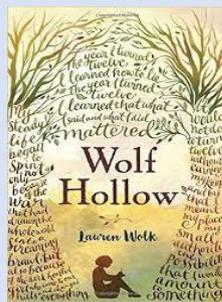
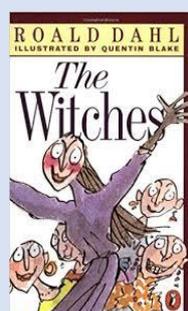
If you attended St Bede's or you know of any success stories of others who attended, whatever they maybe, please let us know so we can share the news in our blog.

Well done Cammie from all at St Bede's and well done to all other members of our St Bede's family who have graduated this year.

Year 10 River study at the River Wyre

As part of their GCSE Geography course year 10 went to the River Wyre on the 11th and 13th of July to conduct a river study. The aim of the day was to investigate how a river changes along its course. The pupils had a wonderful day; they enjoyed being out of school (and splashing in the river too!) The pupils expertly conducted techniques where they measured the width, depth and velocity of the river. They also analysed the shape and size of the stones. Later in the day the pupils moved onto Garstang town centre where they were able to see how planners are protecting the town with various flood defences.





The Big Book Quiz 2017

The Big Book Quiz is a competition held amongst schools in the North West, aimed at promoting the virtues of reading for pleasure. It provides our school with the opportunity to celebrate and showcase our enthusiastic and widely read pupils. Year 7 and 8 pupils can get involved, and work in a team of no more than five, reading four books together. The quiz requires them to remember important details from the texts, and they have to answer ten questions on each book.



Year 7 pupils Gregory Owens, Ciara Kirwan and Hannah Birkett with their team mascot

Finalists Mark Watkinson, Dylan Jones, Luke Parry, Luke Caygill and Laura Bjork

Year 7 pupils Calvin Bretherton, Katie Withers, Josh Watt, Harry Sankey and Charlie Cunningham also competed and are looking forward to doing it again next year.





Readers took part in the first round in April, held at Our Lady Queen of Peace. This is our fourth year of taking part and our teams have always been successful in this competition. We competed against teams from Our Lady's, Tarleton Academy and Lathom High School. This year, we achieved first and second place, yet again, and got through to the final (again!) Our continued success seems to be inevitable, and our competitors often groan when they hear "St Bede's" being announced as winners and runners-up! Well done to first round winners Samuel Hughes, Maddie Lees, Debita Oz, Elise Rankin-Mills and Martha Owens.



The final was at Wigan Youth Zone in July. The two St Bede's teams who got through to the final had to read four new books (see above) in just a couple of months. Overall, sixty two teams competed in the whole competition and there were eleven teams in the final, and we finished in second and third places, which was a great achievement. A big well done to everyone who took part for their commitment and hard work, and special thanks to our wonderful school librarian Mrs Cain!

Literacy Matters at St Bede's



In September 2016, forty Year 10 pupils were appointed as Literacy Leaders, and they've worked all year as inspiring reading buddies to pupils in Years 7 and 8. The Literacy Leaders have met with the lower school pupils in the library each week, listening to them read, and encouraging and motivating them to engage with the stories and characters. The younger pupils have developed the necessary skills of decoding words, accuracy in pronunciation, comprehension and inference, and have got to know their reading buddies well. The Literacy Leaders have been nurturing role models and have shared their love of reading.





Year 10 Literacy Leader Sophie Mullally said she really enjoyed the experience of being a mentor to Ava. She said, "Ava and I always say hello to each other around school now. I would've loved to have known Year 10 pupils when I was in Year 7. I've gained more confidence being a Literacy Leader as it's helped me to learn how to give positive, constructive feedback. I've also enjoyed reading together. We've talked about the stories and the characters together, and if we didn't like a character we'd share our opinions, always chatting about the story and engaging with the books."

Year 7 pupil Ava-Jane Hills said that Sophie would really help her when she was struggling with a word. "We read four books together over the year. I didn't really like reading books, but I wanted to go to the library every week to read with Sophie because it was fun! Since starting the guided reading, I've read loads of books on my own- I'm just reading *The Spook's Curse* and I love it."

Like Ava, most pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 read books through Accelerated Reader, either in their English lessons, at break and lunch times in the library or at home. They choose from a wide selection in the school library, or can find Accelerated Reader books in their local, public library or bookshops. After reading a book, they complete a quiz which tests them on their memory, comprehension and vocabulary skills. The reading scheme guides pupils to read books that are within their reading ability and encourages them to make progress, as they can see themselves moving through the levels of difficulty. They also really enjoy doing the short quiz on the computer when they finish each book, and aim to get above 85%.

Some of our Year 7 success stories this year are: Andrew Hogan, Jake Nagle, Olivia Salters, Marcus Ryan, Will Merritt, Joseph Nunnerley, Shane Rainford, Callum Steven, Maddie Farley, Nathan Gallagher, Cian Hales, Ava Jane Hills, Isabella Hoy, Robert Knowles and Jack Murphy. The Year 8 pupils who've done really well this year are: Scott Westhead, Bethan Duke, Jayden Harrison, Joe McKay, Nathan Salisbury and Thomas McLauchlan.

Y8 go French with a game of boules!



The game is traditionally played with metallic balls on a dirt surface (as long as it's flat and level). Many villages throughout France have a boules playing area, which provides a social focal point for neighbours to meet, play or watch the world go by.





MFL Tour de France competition continues

As the 2017 Tour de France gets closer to the final stage in Paris this Sunday, we've seen the yellow jersey (awarded to the rider who has the overall lead) taken off Chris Froome (team SKY) by the Italian cyclist Fabian Aru (team ASTANA), only to be won back again by Froome the very next day!

After a much needed second rest day on Monday 18th July, the tour has passed through some of the most beautiful towns and villages of South East France, and team SUNWEB has picked up a few stage wins thanks to the French cyclist Warren Barguil, and the Australian Michael Matthews. Year 7 pupils Paul Parry and Molly Winters have been picking up the prizes!

Chris Froome still retains the yellow jersey, but can he keep hold of it until the cyclists cross the finish line in Paris on Sunday?

In the meantime, the Champs - Elysées is ready and waiting, decorated with the flags which were put up after last Friday's Bastille Day celebrations, when the new president of France, Emmanuel Macron, led a military parade down this world famous avenue. Afterwards, people celebrated this national holiday all over France with fireworks and parties.

Good luck to all competition entrants, and we will see you in September to announce the green, white, polka dot and yellow jersey winners. Bonne chance, too, to the cyclists after a gruelling 3 weeks in the saddle.

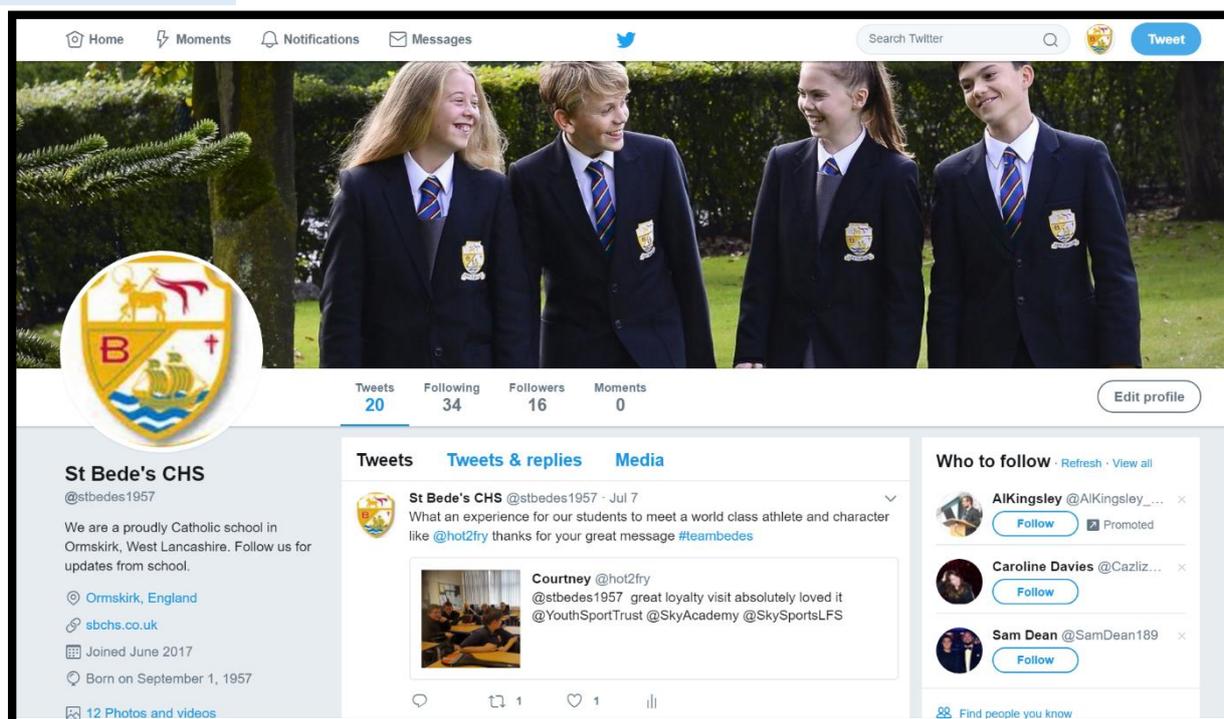
Table of winners so far....

Tour de France 2017 Stage wins so far... Wednesday 19 th July		
Stage	Stage won by	Pupil winner
9. Nantua - Chambéry	Rigoberto URAN - CANNONDALE	Lucy Mc Loughlin Charlie Cunningham
10. Périgueux - Bergerac	Marcel KITTEL - QUICK STEP	Joe Guidi Liv Middleton Dan Towler
11. Eymet - Pau	Marcel KITTEL - QUICK STEP	Joe Guidi Liv Middleton Dan Towler
12. Pau -Peyragudes	Romain BARDET - AG2R LA MONDIALE	Nicholas Pereira Julia Turkowski
13. Saint Girons - Foix	Warren BARGUIL - SUNWEB	Paul Parry Molly Winters
14. Blagnac - Rodez	Michael MATTHEWS - SUNWEB	Paul Parry Molly Winters
15. Laissac - le Puy-en-Velay	Bauke MOLLEMA - TREK	Joe Formby Elliott Brennan
16. Le Puy-en-Velay - Romans sur Isère	Michael MATTHEWS - SUNWEB	Paul Parry Molly Winters

More sporting success for our St Bede's footballer

Niall Moran has been selected for the Lancashire Schools U16 County Squad for the 2017/18 season. Over 120 players attended the trials, they announced the standard of players on trial, was the highest they've had for many a year. Niall is currently on Accrington Stanley's books but a certain Head of School may try and convince him that the white of Tranmere is a far better colour to be playing in!

You can now follow us on twitter @stbedes1957 for latest news and information.



Have a wonderful summer everyone!

God bless,