

WHAT'S THE LATEST FROM ST BEDE'S?

The year begins well

Welcome to another edition of our blog. We have had a wonderful start to our academic year which is now in full flow. This week we celebrated our open evening with prospective students and their relatives. The evening saw over 100 students volunteer their time to support the school. It was a real privilege to introduce the school and our 'world class' vision that is now writ large around the premises. If your child volunteered they were a real credit to you and showed St Bede's in the best possible light.

It's been a busy first few weeks which has been captured to an extent in this fortnight's blog. Keep up to date with daily news via our twitter page (@stbedes1957).

Open Evening is a great success

On Tuesday of this week we celebrated our open evening which was a big success. The students were a real credit to the school and as ever our best advert! We had around 150 students that volunteered to support the evening. Some students were based in departments while others gave tours. Our head boy and head girl gave speeches as did four of our Year 7 students who have been with us for a matter of weeks! If you were not at the evening here is what they had to say:

Good evening everybody, my name is Joseph. I came from Town Green Primary School and started in year 7 at St Bedes a few weeks ago. So this time last year I was sitting where you are now. Everyone thinks that high school is going to be really scary and here are some of the things I was worried about. I was worried about making friends because not many people came from Town Green so I thought I would hardly know anybody but I have made a lot of new friends. I was also convinced I was going to get lost but I haven't got lostyet ! Lastly I was anxious about being the new and smallest again in school but all the older children are very nice, friendly and helpful. I loved Town Green but I'm finding St Bedes great because of the extracurricular activities, there is something for everyone. The staff are all very nice and have all helped us settle in to St Bedes. I really enjoy the new subjects like French and German and the school dinners are delicious. There is a lot more responsibility and independence and you have to be very organised because you get tons of homework ! I hope you enjoy looking around St Bedes this evening.

Hello my name is Daniel,

I've been at St Bedes for 3 weeks and I'm really enjoying it. The first day of St Bedes I was struggling to find my way around school and to get to all of my classes but because of how friendly and welcoming everyone is, now I know the school like the back of my hand. So far my favourite subject is science because we get to do lots of fun experiments and the teachers will aid you to achieve your best. Also the food is amazing, so much better than primary. I would recommend the wraps and the pizza. The homemade cakes are also delicious. Here at St Bedes, there are many great facilities including: astroturf and basketball to name but a few.

In my opinion, St Bedes is an excellent high school and opens up your mind to new skills

Thank you for listening and enjoy the rest of your evening.

Open Evening Speech

We all know what a momentous occasion sending your child to high school for the first time can be, and your primary concern will no doubt be the safety of your child, and their wellbeing at school. At St. Bede's we are in the fortunate position to have teachers who take your child's wellbeing and safety just as seriously as you do, which ultimately means that there is a very friendly, inclusive and welcoming environment at St. Bede's. Starting high school is difficult for everybody, but before long every pupil is made to feel like they belong in the school's very special community. I have known people who were one of maybe only two to come from their primary school, but these people go on to make great friends from pretty much Day 1 and I would say that even in terms of myself, coming from St. Anne's, many of the people I know now did not go to the same primary school.

That is due, in many respects to the pupils we have here at St. Bede's and – I know I may be a bit biased to say this – but I don't think you could find a better group of young people anywhere in the country. We have visitors and parents noting how the students are welcoming, tolerant and have a brilliantly positive attitude towards school life. Every year, this is perhaps best embodied by the Good Shepherd Appeal in the Easter half-term, when pupils from all year groups go to fantastic efforts to raise money for vulnerable people in the Liverpool area. For me personally, I know what this atmosphere means because I wake up every morning happy to learn and work with the people in my year. This is probably the most important factor towards making St. Bede's a world class school. I think the fact that pupils are so on board with that vision is the reason why we are consistently striving towards the best possible results.

We cannot discount the impact of the school's ethos to this cause either. The integration of faith into learning and pastoral life truly enhances education at St. Bede's. We have regular masses as a year group and also have whole school masses at important times of the religious calendar. The role of both Father Godric and the school, chaplain, Claire, at St. Bede's cannot be over-stated. They can often be found around school and are one of the main reasons why we stand out amongst other schools in the archdiocese. I feel that the school truly embodies its mission statement, "Lex tua lux", or "learning through light" because the involvement of the Catholic faith creates the best environment in which to learn.

When I came into the school, I was not overly concerned about my future or my role within the community. Now, as I'm sure Skye would agree with me, I look back and know that I am completely different as a person. That's not to say that all of your children will change beyond recognition, but by the time they leave every child can say that they have become much more mature as a person – and that is testament to the ethos at St. Bede's.

100% of students in education or employment

We received news last week that once again, our NEET (not in education, employment or training) figure was once again 0%. Therefore, every single one of the Cohort of 2018 secured a future pathway that they are now engaged with. This does not happen without a lot of hard work by the students and the staff at St Bede's. Mrs Turpin leads on Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG). Here is her report from the last 12 months:

CEIAG 2017-2018

Over the last few weeks of the last academic year, our yr. 10's participated in activities to prepare them for life after St Bede's. They had taster days at two sixth form colleges – Runshaw and Winstanley – where they followed a timetable with their possible post 16 subjects. As you can see from the photos they all had an enjoyable day.



In the week beginning 2nd July they all participated in business and enterprise week. They were able to develop key employability skills such as teamwork, communication skills, working to deadlines, time management and taking on responsibility whilst improving their self-confidence and motivation.



Lourdes trip launch for summer 2019

During the summer, nineteen of the last year 11 cohort took part in the Archdiocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. We are extremely proud of them and the many other past pupils who travelled to Lourdes in order to serve others. Young people who participate in the trip frequently describe the experience as life-changing. Below is an article which appeared in the Champion newspaper which describes the pilgrimage in more detail.



Teenagers from West Lancs who joined with more than 400 others from the region for a pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Caring teenagers take part in UK's largest youth pilgrimage to Lourdes

Report by **Kenny Parker**

LOCAL teenagers have taken part in the UK's largest youth pilgrimage to Lourdes to help the sick and disabled.

Youngsters from West Lancs who attend St Bede's Catholic High School in Ormskirk joined with more than 400 others from throughout the region to travel by coach and ferry to the Pyrenees, as part of the annual youth pilgrimage organised by the Catholic Archdiocese of Liverpool for a week of faith, service and friendship.

The young pilgrims journeyed via Dover in a nine-coach cavalcade which took around 26 hours to reach its destination, with two coaches from Lancashire, including the young people from West Lancs.

Once at Lourdes the teenagers spent a week helping and serving the sick and

sensory impaired pilgrims who had travelled from the North West by plane.

For many of the young people, the work involved rising at 6am to help in the hospital, while others pushed the sick and disabled in wheelchairs to the different places of devotion and to Mass.

Kathy Charnock, from Parbold, who volunteered to help with the pilgrimage, said the days were often long with duties not finishing until 10pm. "It is wonderful to see such selfless giving by the young people, especially in today's climate where there is much negativity towards young people," she said.

More than 1,500 pilgrims made the journey to Lourdes this year as part of the annual Liverpool Archdiocesan pilgrimage.

Kathy said that one young person commented that the week had given them so much more confidence, allowing them the

opportunity to grow and develop whilst the interaction with the sick pilgrims had been inspiring, as they had shown such courage despite often being in pain and discomfort.

After the trip one of the young pilgrims from West Lancs, Matthew, 16, wrote on social media: "Lourdes is unlike any other place I've been to. It's such a unique experience."

As part of the preparation for the pilgrimage, the young people, organised various fundraising events to cover the £520 travel costs they each had to pay. They were supported in this by schools and local businesses.

Kathy added: "It's fantastic to see so many young people united in faith, and giving of their time in service and friendship to others. We would like to thank everyone who supported us before and during the pilgrimage."

Application forms for the 2019 pilgrimage will be available to download from Monday 1st October at 9am. <http://www.animateyouth.org/lourdes/lourdes-youth/>.

Any pupil in year 10 or above is welcome to apply. Places are allocated on a first come first served basis. Pupils are supported in fundraising for the trip in school and parishes.

Miss Skidmore or Clare Guidi is happy to answer any queries about the pilgrimage and support pupils who are applying.

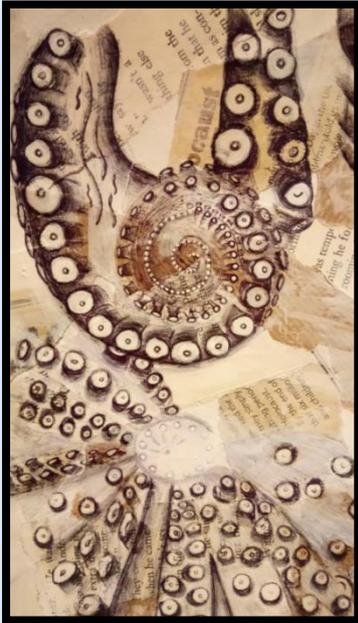
Year 7 get off to a flying start

We have had a successful transition for our new Y7 students which has included a welcome mass, alongside an internet safety assembly, pedestrian road safety assembly on Monday 10th and Y7 sports trials. The pupils were happy to get involved and give answers in both assemblies. Football trials were very well supported and we had 41 boys taking part. Their first game finished in a 13-0 victory against Tarleton Academy.

World Class Work

Our vision is clear, 'A world class Catholic education that encourages our students to want to make the world a better place'. In this section of the blog I will be sharing some of the world class work our students produce at St Bede's.

Year 10 have made an amazing start to their Art GCSE. They have worked extremely hard on these mixed media pen and ink drawings. I am astounded at the high standard of work that has been produced so far. Keep up the good work Year 10!



Lewis signs for Accrington Stanley

Lewis Grimshaw is one of our top footballers in Year 8. He has recently signed a two year contract with Accrington Stanley. It is always great to see our students developing their skills outside of school and Lewis is no exception. We all wish him the very best and I look forward to hearing about his progress.



Mrs Harris qualifies as SENCO after four year course

The SENCO award is a prestigious qualification which is only achieved by hard work and on the job development. It has been wonderful to watch Mrs Harris' growth in the role as a result of her studies and commitment to the students in our school who benefit so much from her support. I am sure you will all join me in congratulating Mrs Harris on this success!



Dave Blendell retires after 20 years at St Bede's

He was the first to arrive every morning for over 20 years! This past summer our much loved site operative Dave Blendell retired from St Bede's. Dave always had a smile for everyone and was there to open and close the gates. He also did a million and one other duties. He will sorely missed by his colleagues on the site team and by the whole St Bede's community. We wish Dave all the very best in whatever he does in the future. We celebrated his retirement with a cake decorated in the colours of his favourite team, Manchester United. The cake, like Manchester United, will be sat in the middle of the table for the foreseeable future.



Follow your child's day through Class Charts

If you have not received your log on details for Class Charts please contact school in order to track your child's progress through the day. You can see behaviour points and achievement points through a live feed. There is also a homework feature. You should have had the details already but if you have not received them or you have misplaced them; please contact your child's form teacher or head of year to get the necessary log on details.



Get involved at Amplify

Amplify Youth Group has started the new term with lots of new ideas. Each week will see a new theme for the session. The recent cookery session was a particular success.

The youth club is run by the parishes of St Anne's & St Elizabeth's every Wednesday 3.15 - 5pm in St Anne's parish centre. The facilities are excellent and many of our pupils go along to enjoy spending unstructured time with their friends in a supervised environment.

The session is aimed at years 7, 8, 9 & 10 and to attend just turn up. Sessions cost 50p.

More info on the website: amplifyyouth.co.uk.

The screenshot shows the website for Amplify Youth Group. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for HOME, WEDNESDAYS, D OF E AWARD, PARENT ZONE, ABOUT US, WHATS ON, and GET IN TOUCH. The main header features the Amplify Youth Group logo and the text 'St Anne's & St Elizabeth's Parish based in Ormskirk'. Below the header, there is a prominent banner that reads 'New term, new ideas! Why don't you pop along!' with a large 'Reminder!' graphic. To the right of the banner is a search bar and a 'Recent Posts' section. The 'Recent Posts' section lists three articles: 'Wednesday 26th September session info', 'Time for a break but we will be back in September!', and 'Gold expedition to Arran info'. At the bottom, there is a 'Find us on Facebook' section with a button that says 'Find us on Facebook'.

Are you considering teaching?

St Bede's is part of the Catholic Schools Direct programme which trains and develops teachers within a Catholic setting. There is a combination of university input and on-the-job training. Please see the flyer below and make contact via the details shown.

Interested in teaching in a Catholic Secondary School?



Wigan & West Lancashire

Catholic School Direct

We believe in nurturing the whole child, to grow in faith and realise their full potential.
 We believe that you will have the best start in your teaching career by choosing to train within our supportive Catholic community.
 Teachers trained by us make a positive difference to children's lives.
 School Direct is a teacher training programme which puts schools/colleges at the heart of the process.
 You will be trained in two of our good or outstanding Catholic schools in the Liverpool Archdiocese (Section 48). This will lead to the award of Qualified Teacher Status (QTS).
 Our partner, Liverpool Hope University, will work with us to provide additional high quality training which leads to the Post Graduate Certificate of Education (PGCE).
 (Our schools / colleges work closely together to provide an on-going programme of Continuing Professional Development to enhance your career.)
 We welcome enquiries and applications from committed graduates who wish to join us in shaping Catholic education in the future.




We have training places for September 2019 in the following subjects;

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mathematics English Physics Chemistry Biology History Physical Education Geography 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Religious Education Computer Science MFL—Spanish with French MFL - Spanish MFL—French with Spanish MFL—French Music Drama
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SEARCH FOR UCAS COURSE CODE : 27Q



St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School
Ashton-in-Makerfield



St Bede's Catholic High School, Ormskirk



St Mary's Catholic High School, Astley



St John Fisher Catholic High School, Wigan



Holy Cross Catholic High School, Chorley



St John Rigby Catholic Sixth Form College, Wigan



Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Engineering College, Skelmersdale



St Peter's Catholic High School, Darnley



St Gregory's Catholic High School, Warrington

enquiries@catholicdsd.org.uk

www.catholicdsd.org.uk



Contact Address:
 St Mary's Catholic High School
 Manchester Road, Astley
 Tyldesley, Manchester
 M29 7EE
 Tel: 01942 766906 Fax: 01942 884357

Vacancies at St Bede's

Find all the details on our school website: <http://www.sbchs.co.uk/vacancies/support-staff-vacancies/>.

Support Staff Vacancies

Catering Officer

[Catering Officer Job Description](#)
[CES Support Staff Application Form](#)
[Monitoring Form](#)
[Notes to Applicants](#)
[Person Specification](#)
[Post Information](#)
[Recruitment Privacy Notice](#)
[Rehabilitation of Offenders Act](#)

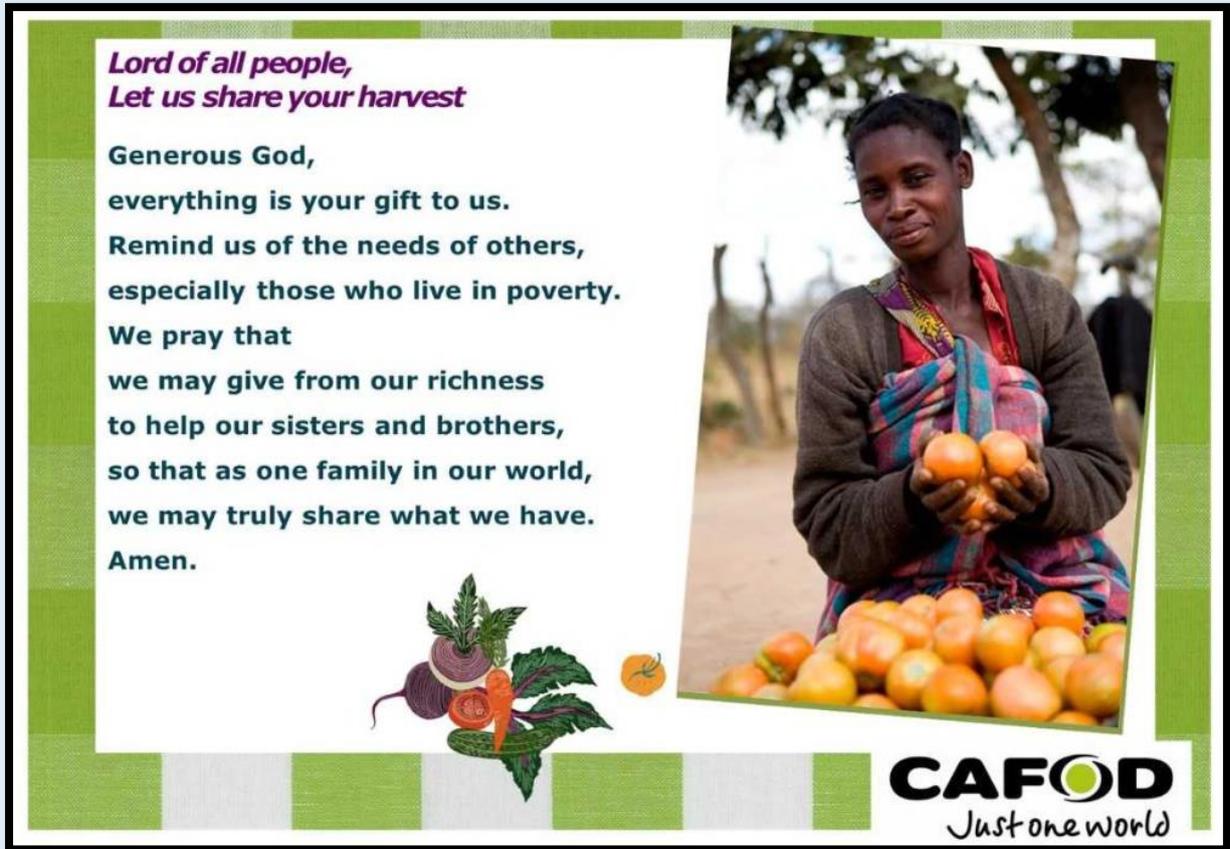
Get active at St Bede's

There are a great range of activities you or your child can be involved with at St Bede's. See the calendar below and get involved!

 Physical Education 2018-2019 Extra-Curricular Term 1			
Boys football fixtures and girls netball fixtures will also run on a variety of days throughout this term			
	Lunchtime Clubs 1:00pm -1:30pm	Lunchtime 3G Astro Turf 1:00pm -1:30pm	After School 3:15 – 4.30pm unless stated
Monday	Girls Badminton Sports hall Miss Gray Sports Leaders 'drop in' SPORTS HALL RECEPTION	Mr Cookson Year 8	Trampoline (All Years) Sports hall Carlos 3.15-4pm
Tuesday	Year 11 Boys Football (5 aside) Sports hall Mr Denton	Mr Shepherd Year 10	Netball Sports hall & courts Miss McGee/Ms Caldwell
Wednesday	Year 7, 8 & 9 Boys Basketball Sports hall Mr Edgar	Miss Gray Year 9	Girls Football 3G Astro Miss Gray Badminton – boys & girls Sports hall Mr Edgar
Thursday	Year 10 & 11 Boys Badminton Sports Hall Mr Caygill	Mr Doolan Year 7	Hockey (all years) 3G Astro Mrs Turpin
Friday	Living for Sport Sports Hall Mr Dawson PE Detention Sports hall (Mr Dawson)	Mrs Turpin Year 11	

- 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.

Prayer for the week



**Lord of all people,
Let us share your harvest**

**Generous God,
everything is your gift to us.
Remind us of the needs of others,
especially those who live in poverty.
We pray that
we may give from our richness
to help our sisters and brothers,
so that as one family in our world,
we may truly share what we have.
Amen.**

CAFOD
Just one world

Requests for prayer

We continue to pray for Father Boniface and Father Godric as they continue their recovery from illness. We pray for all our new Year 7 students who begin their time with us. We pray for the students, who have left us last year, always remember that you may leave St Bede's but St Bede's never leaves you. Finally, we pray for all of our school families, especially those experiencing difficult times. May you all know the Lord's presence.

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. Also if you have a relative or friend who you would like our school community to pray for let us know via admin@sbchs.co.uk.

God bless,

Mr P Denton,

Headteacher