

# WHAT'S THE LATEST FROM ST BEDE'S?

## Lent is upon us

Since our last blog, we have celebrated Ash Wednesday and reflected during this period of Lent. We are all thinking about what we might give up but also what we might give to each other. This period of Lent is a time of waiting and remembering the sacrifice of Jesus as he walked into the wilderness to face hardship and temptation. During this period of Lent, we hope that all of you will be able to take time to think and reflect upon Jesus' sacrifice.

As ever, this blog is packed with actions, events, and achievements. We are so proud of every single one of our students. Please do continue to share your achievements with me so I can display them proudly for you all to enjoy. We will begin this blog with a prayer for lent.

**Dear Lord, as I begin  
my journey toward  
spiritual growth,  
help me to look  
deep within myself  
and let go of the old  
and embrace the new  
life that comes from you.**

## Ski Austria trip finally happens

49 pupils and 5 staff recently visited Hochfugen in Austria for the annual St Bede's ski trip. An amazing time was had by all on the slopes and in the hostel.

Pupils got to ski on one of Austria's prettiest and most expansive mountain ranges.

The pupils were very well behaved and represented the school in a positive manner. It was a brilliant experience for the pupils and the staff also really enjoyed the week.



Here are a few quotes...

'I enjoyed the plane as it was funny with my mates next to me. The coach was a bit better because the plane can be a bit much. I really liked the hotel because the people there were really nice and welcoming. The food wasn't too bad either. The bedrooms were a bit cramped but that's ok with me. I really enjoyed the slopes, going as fast as possible! Lastly, the instructors were very friendly, and you could have a good laugh with them. Overall, the trip was great! 😊 '

'I loved the trip. I was glad we flew there. The skiing was good.'

'I would like to go next year. Thank you.'

'The first thing I would like to say is that I thought the plane was great and it was easy to talk to my friends and relax. The next thing I will say is I thought the coach there was very fun with lots of time to talk to the person sitting next to me.'

'On to the actual resort, I thought it was great. I thought the games room was a great place to hang around with my friends also with table tennis to play with one another. The staff and food in the resort were also really nice.'

'I thought the instructors and slopes were great. The instructor I had was very nice and taught me many things on this trip. As well as that, there were lots of tracks to try on the slopes and there was one for everyone at any level, whether it was the top level or the bottom. Overall, this trip was amazing, and it was a great experience for me personally and all of my peers. I just wanted to thank you and the staff for making it possible through COVID.'

'The trip was very good the coach was fine and the plane was very organised. The hotel was nice and the rooms were funny with all of my mates. The slopes were great and helped me to become a better skier and our instructor was funny and helpful.'

'The plane was good and it was a really nice view out of the window. The coach was good but it was scary on the windy roads. The bedrooms were nice and spacious and the view was great. The instructors were really nice and helped us to learn to ski.'

'I'd like to start off with saying that the whole trip was absolutely amazing. I really enjoyed the plane trip there; it was my first experience going on a plane and it was spectacular! The coach journey was fun, and I loved the bedrooms, and the instructors were very nice as well and the slopes were very fun! I definitely enjoyed the Milka chocolate, that was a bonus.'





## Swimming gala success

A massive congratulations to the SBCHS swimming team who finished 2nd overall in the annual district swimming gala.

Special mention to Y7 girls/boys and Y8 and 9 girls on winning their age group competitions.

Lastly, an outstanding achievement for our Y11 boys' backstroke swimmer Will Jackson who broke the U16's West Lancashire record.



## Charlie smashes it

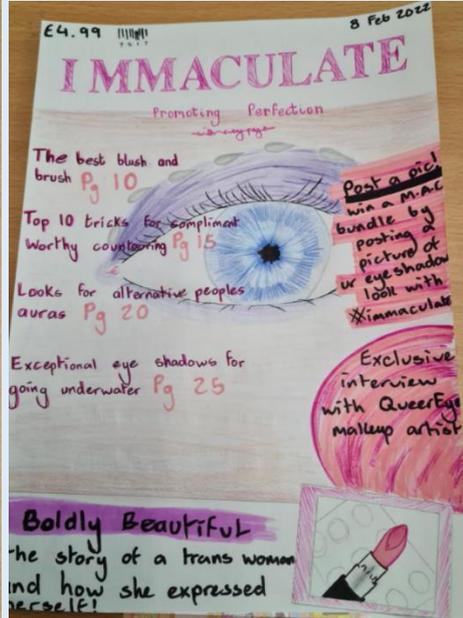
Charlie Williams recently won the Southport open age table tennis championship. He is the youngest person at 14 to ever win it!

Charlie also recently represented St Bede's and Lancashire at the county table tennis championships in which he won. He will now represent St Bede's at the national competition in Wolverhampton on April 2nd. He is currently ranked 42nd in the country for u16's. This is a fantastic achievement for a Year 9 pupil.

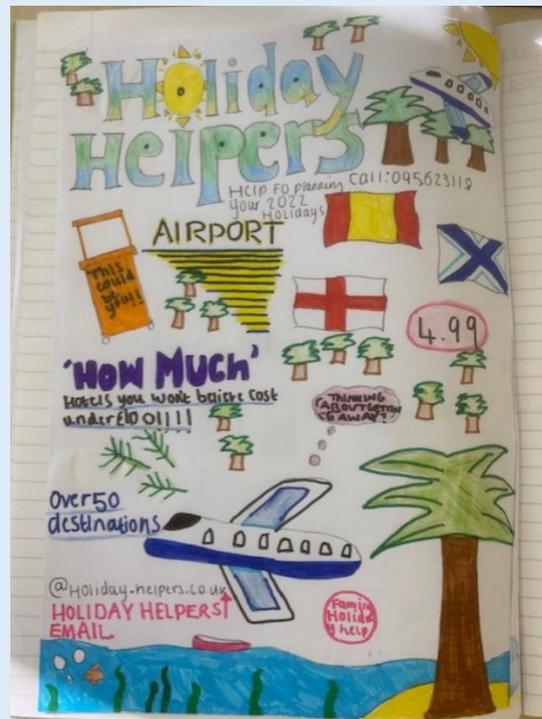
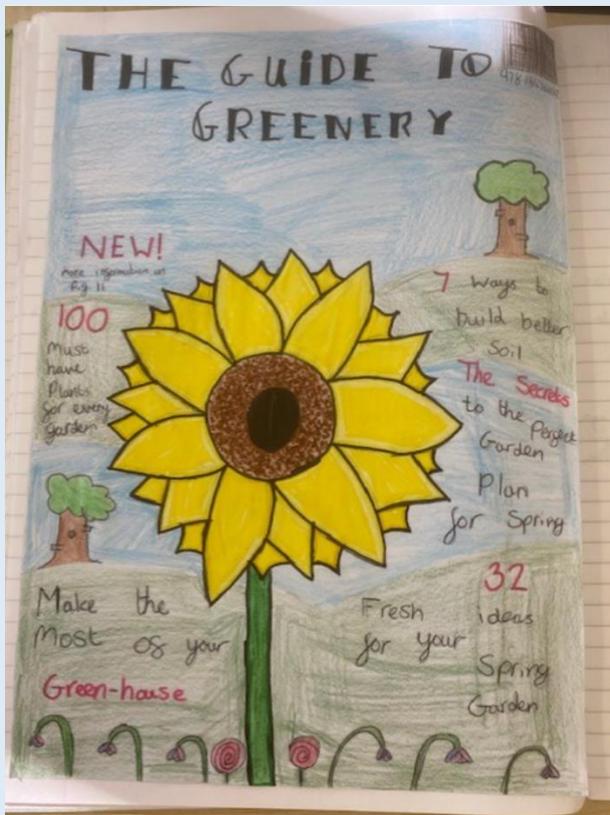
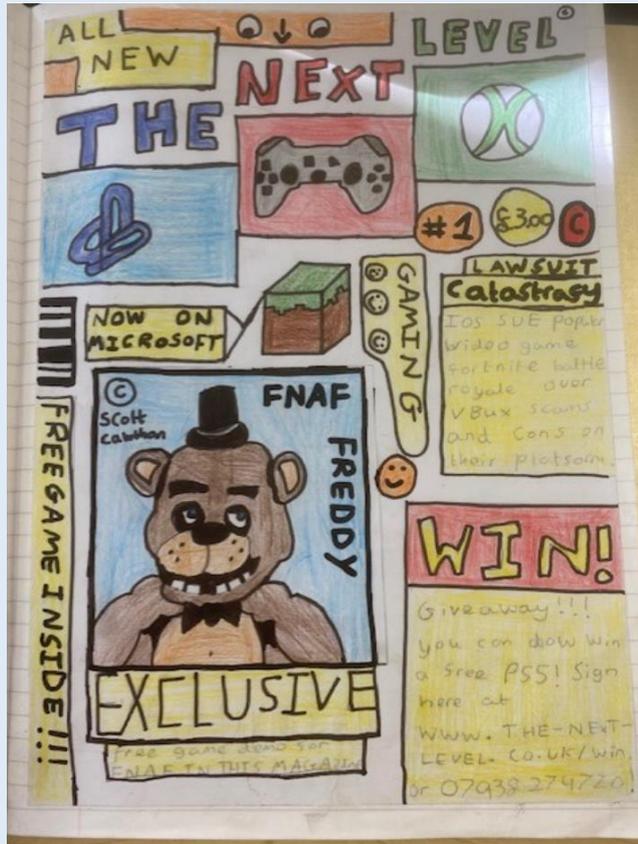


## Media class makes the front cover

Year 9 media students have been designing their own magazine front covers. They have been studying common techniques for communicating ideas and media production. Their end product shows they have learnt a lot and applied it really well. Here some examples from Mrs Collins' class:



More media magic was produced in Miss Ferries' lesson:



## Deep debate in Y11

Miss McDowall shared the work of her Year 11 class with me. They are currently working on debate topics. They are focusing on Language Component 2 Section B - Transactional Writing. They will have to write a letter and an article for this section of the exam. Miss McDowall explained:

'We have been focusing on these two tasks a lot during lessons, so today we looked at debates to help them formulate opinions and structure arguments clearly and thoughtfully. They were split into two groups to argue different sides for the debate topics 'girls feel more peer pressure than boys.' and 'is technology going to save the world or kill it?'

Both groups had to work together to put forward the best argument. Each member of the class contributed to the debate either as an argument or a rebuttal. One member of the class was the speaker who led the debate, and one was the scribe who made summaries of each side's points. This will help them to articulate ideas verbally and in a written format.'

Keep up the great work Year 11!



## Heidi wins top prize!

Heidi in Year 7 won the Hope Street mascot competition. She was awarded with the top prize by our Mayor. Heidi's design reflects the need for people, young and old, to keep talking about their feelings to maintain a positive sense of wellness and good mental health.



You can find out more about the work of Hope Street in Ormskirk by visiting their website:

<https://hopest.org.uk/>.

We received the following message from the Hope Street organiser, Sheila Byrne: 'A lovely family came to support the competition and as it happened the young girl, Heidi Colothan, was announced as the winner with her design of a parrot that can't stop talking. There were so many fantastic entries that we found it difficult to select; therefore, we decided upon a 2nd place with the positivity cloud by Isabel Blackledge, and 3rd place the thinking hat by Luke Pickett, which the parrot and cloud will both wear as part of the costumes. Can you please thank all of the staff, parents/carers, and children for participating? A lot of effort went into all of the entries and they were amazing!'

A big well done to Heidi, Isabel, Luke, and everyone who entered the competition. Please check out Hope Street.



## A word from our chaplain

Please find below a letter from our Million Minutes Peace and Justice group. It is a statement of solidarity in support of our brothers and sisters in Ukraine and other areas of conflict.

### St Bede's pupils stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Ukraine

We all have our own ideas of what peace is and of course we all want peace in our world. We can all say we want peace but what can we do to move closer to making peace achievable?

Yes, we can say that our journey to peace begins within ourselves. It starts with the way we act with each other, the way we forgive each other, peace can come from having faith in the knowledge that deep down there is inherent goodness in all people as we are all created in the image of God.

As young people we also recognise that the ideas of peace and solidarity are deeply intertwined. So, if we want peace we must act together as one. Joining together in prayer and organising an appeal to support those who suffer is a reflection of this solidarity.

Solidarity is an expression of our interconnectedness. We are all brothers and sisters. This bond allows us to feel a responsibility to care for each other, it is this bond, this feeling of solidarity that leads us to pray for peace, to pray together against violence, aggression and injustice in the Ukraine.

Therefore, when we think about what's happening in Ukraine at the moment, we may feel anxious about what is happening. Yet when we see the united condemnation of Putin by millions across the world, when we see the generosity and hospitality of countries welcoming those forced to flee their homes and when we see people united in prayer, our fear subsides.

St Bede's pupils are united in our passion for peace and justice in our world. We are a beacon for those who need hope. As young people we stand together and invite you to join with us in praying for a world with no fear, but a rather a world with peace, justice, and harmony between people and world leaders, especially in the Ukraine.

### **St Bede's Million Minutes Peace and Justice Group**

#### Peace Vigil

The statement, along with prayers for peace, were written and shared by members of our justice and peace group who were part of the Ecumenical Peace Vigil for Ukraine organised in Ormskirk on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> February. The vigil was very well attended, and it gave our young people the opportunity to witness solidarity, share their thoughts on the current situation and to pray for peace.

The following pupils represented our school wonderfully:

- Katie Clegg
- Sophie and Lucy Orledge
- Keir Lawrenson
- Vincent Lapinid
- Evie Caddick
- Frankie Guidi

To address a large crowd about peace and justice in a public place at such a young age is wonderful to see; they are exceptional role models.

### Support

Parents and carers, at this time of year St Bede's raises money to support The Good Shepherd Appeal. This allows us to help support vulnerable families in our community. Rising energy and fuel costs, an increase in inflation, and the increase in national insurance contributions mean many families will struggle to pay for everyday essentials.

We also recognise, the absolute necessity to support all those who are affected by the horrific conflict in the Ukraine.

It is therefore our intention to focus on the Good Shepherd Appeal up until Easter. After Easter, we will coordinate a school response to the Ukraine crisis organising a school led appeal.

In the meantime, we would like to share with you the link below. This will allow you to donate to the CAFOD Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal should you wish to do so.

[https://cafod.org.uk/?utm\\_source=the%20catholic%20agency%20for%20overseas%20development%20\(cafod\)&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=R125765+IG+Ukraine+Humanitarian+Appeal+-+20220303&utm\\_term=Hero\\_Image&utm\\_id=252153&sfmc\\_id=91860025](https://cafod.org.uk/?utm_source=the%20catholic%20agency%20for%20overseas%20development%20(cafod)&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=R125765+IG+Ukraine+Humanitarian+Appeal+-+20220303&utm_term=Hero_Image&utm_id=252153&sfmc_id=91860025)

### Pupils' personal and spiritual wellbeing.

As the crisis goes on, our children are bombarded with news and images of conflict. This can have a significant impact upon them. They will have lots of questions both in terms of how the conflict is developing but also from a faith perspective. In order to address this, I am meeting with each year 10 and 11 during their form time, allowing us to discuss these issues and questions. I am speaking to all year 7, 8 and 9 pupils during RE lessons.

Finally, as Christians we recognise that nothing is more powerful than prayer. Joining our prayers to the millions of others who are also praying for our brothers and sisters in Ukraine is an act of solidarity, we are called to "Pray without ceasing." Chaplaincy is available for pupil and staff prayer and reflection during lunchtimes and we have a prayer station for Ukraine in the main hall, inviting our pupils to pray to Our Lady Untier of Knots who will intercede for us.

We also ask you to join us in praying for the people of Ukraine, that they will feel God's presence. We pray for world leaders. We ask God to strengthen their determination to work for peace and justice, and that compassion, strength and wisdom might guide their choices.

### Year 8 Confirmation

Dear parent/guardian,

The archdiocese of Liverpool is inviting young people in year 8 (and above) to the sacrament of confirmation.

Confirmation is a sacrament through which we receive the Holy Spirit to make us stronger and more perfect Christians and true witnesses of Jesus Christ.

The preparation for the sacrament will be started through a series of video introductions to the sacrament from Animate, the archdiocesan youth ministry team (if your child has not seen these in school please direct them to <https://www.youtube.com/user/AnimateYouth> and find the four 'Called ... videos).

Year 8 pupils will then study the subject of confirmation in their RE classes.

There will also be preparation sessions at a local level in your town/local area. Following these local preparation times young people will be invited to be confirmed.

If your child would like to receive the sacrament of confirmation this year it is **essential** they register online at: <https://liverpoolcalled.co.uk/>

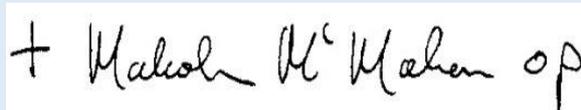
Registration must take place before the **21<sup>st</sup> March**.

Please complete the form that can be accessed through clicking the button at the top right-hand side of the webpage ('Register for Confirmation'). If you are unable to do this at home, please inform the school chaplain who will be able to help.

When a young person has registered, they will be contacted by your local confirmation co-ordinator who will take you through the next steps of the preparation process.

If you have any questions, please contact Fr Simon Gore on [s.gore@animateyouth.co.uk](mailto:s.gore@animateyouth.co.uk) Or your parish priest.

Yours sincerely,



Archbishop of Liverpool

#### Message from The Dream Team Year 10- Bede Fest Is Back!

At this time of year, as part of our Lenten preparation, we raise money for The Good Shepherd Appeal, Nugent care. Sadly, over the last two years we have been unable to hold Ormskirk's very own version of Glastonbury, Bede Fest! Bede Fest is our biggest fundraiser, so we are delighted that this year we are able to bring it back. Alongside Bede Fest, form classes raise money in a variety ways.

For those of you who don't know about Bede Fest, it's a festival of music (we have our very own staff band! ) and stalls to raise money for Nugent Care.

Bede Fest is on the 1<sup>st</sup> April.

Pupils wear festival themed clothes.

All pupils can purchase wristbands for entry £3, the closing date for purchase via School Gateway is 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

Wristbands will be distributed to pupils on the 1<sup>st</sup> April by form teachers.

Pupils can bring cash for a variety of stalls – Henna, face painting and glitter, photobooth, donut and sweet stalls etc.

The Dream Team

## Future teachers!

This week, two year 7 pupils showed incredible leadership skills within their PE lesson. Jessica Heffey and Rosie Merity have been participating in their dance module for three weeks and decided they wanted to have a go at leading the lesson themselves. The two pupils gave up their time after school to choreograph their own contemporary routine and taught this to the rest of the class during their PE lesson. The class completely embraced the experience and were fantastic. The routine itself was beautiful and really stretched the pupils. During the lesson, Jessica and Rosie made sure every pupil knew exactly what they were doing and spoke to each pupil to offer help and guidance. Such a fantastic accomplishment and definitely two future leaders!



## Netball success!

We have had a great few weeks of netball with the district tournaments being well underway!

The year 8 netball team was made up of Iris Atkinson, Eleanor Greenhouse, Grace Pedley, Scarlett Kinsey, Mia Jones, Evie Caddick and Olivia Birmingham. Despite it being their first time playing together as a team, they did great and ended up in 4<sup>th</sup> place in the district – well done!



The year 7 netball team was made up of Emily Cook, Scarlett Knight, Olivia Blundell, Bella Hollewell, Poppy Wood, Ava Kelly, Evie Pinnington and Luke Pickett. It was an absolutely fantastic performance by the team who drew one match and won their remaining five. This resulted in them winning the tournament and becoming district champions! Well done team!





The year 10 team was made up of Grace Kelly, Evie Maher, Grace McDermott, Suzie Owens, Grace Carlyle, Alexandra Carroll and Ella Galligan. Despite it being extremely cold, the team played great together and showed improvement with each match!



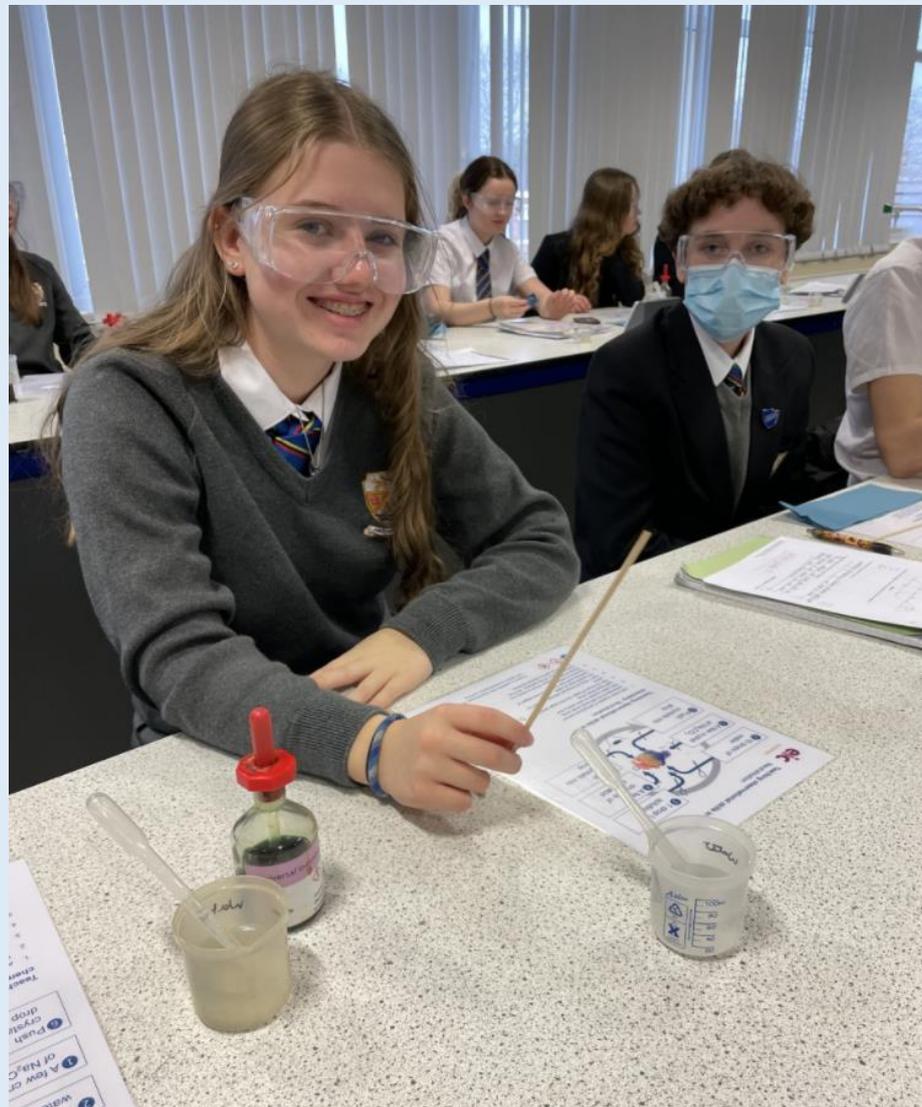
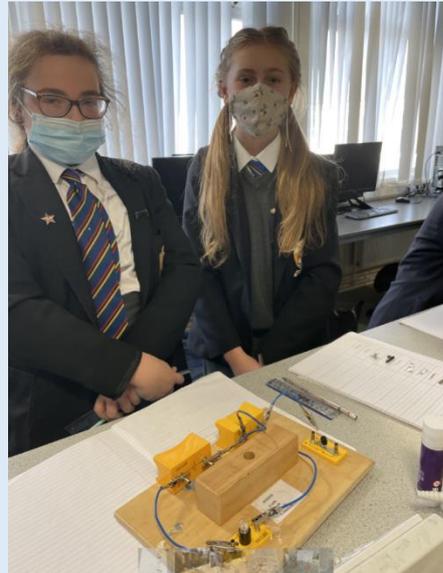
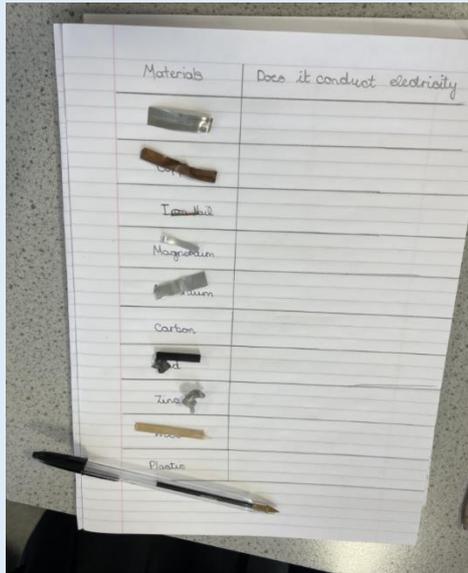
## Runshaw college visit

Last week, three of our year 11 pupils attended Runshaw College for a morning to get a feel of what college life will be like. Laura Privett, Aidan Parkes and Sam Orlino were given a tour around the whole campus with a particular focus on the subjects they want to study next year. The pupils were also lucky enough to see some additional extras of the college such as the games room and sports hall. The smell of the freshly baked cookies around the college was also a particular highlight for the pupils!



## Super science

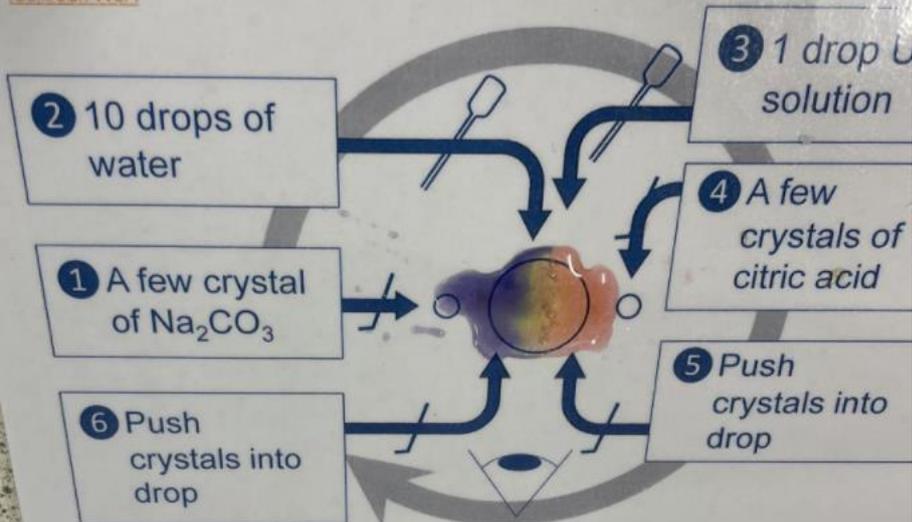
Mrs Tilson shared some great stories from science with me. Year 7 have been investigating the properties of metals and non-metals on the periodic table. Year 10 Chemistry have been investigating metal carbonates "microscale". These experiments focus on observational skills whilst using a reduced number of resources and producing less chemical waste. Year 10 Physics are currently investigating uses of lenses and ray diagrams. We made our own telescopes and projectors!





## Teaching observational skills in chemistry Neutralisation

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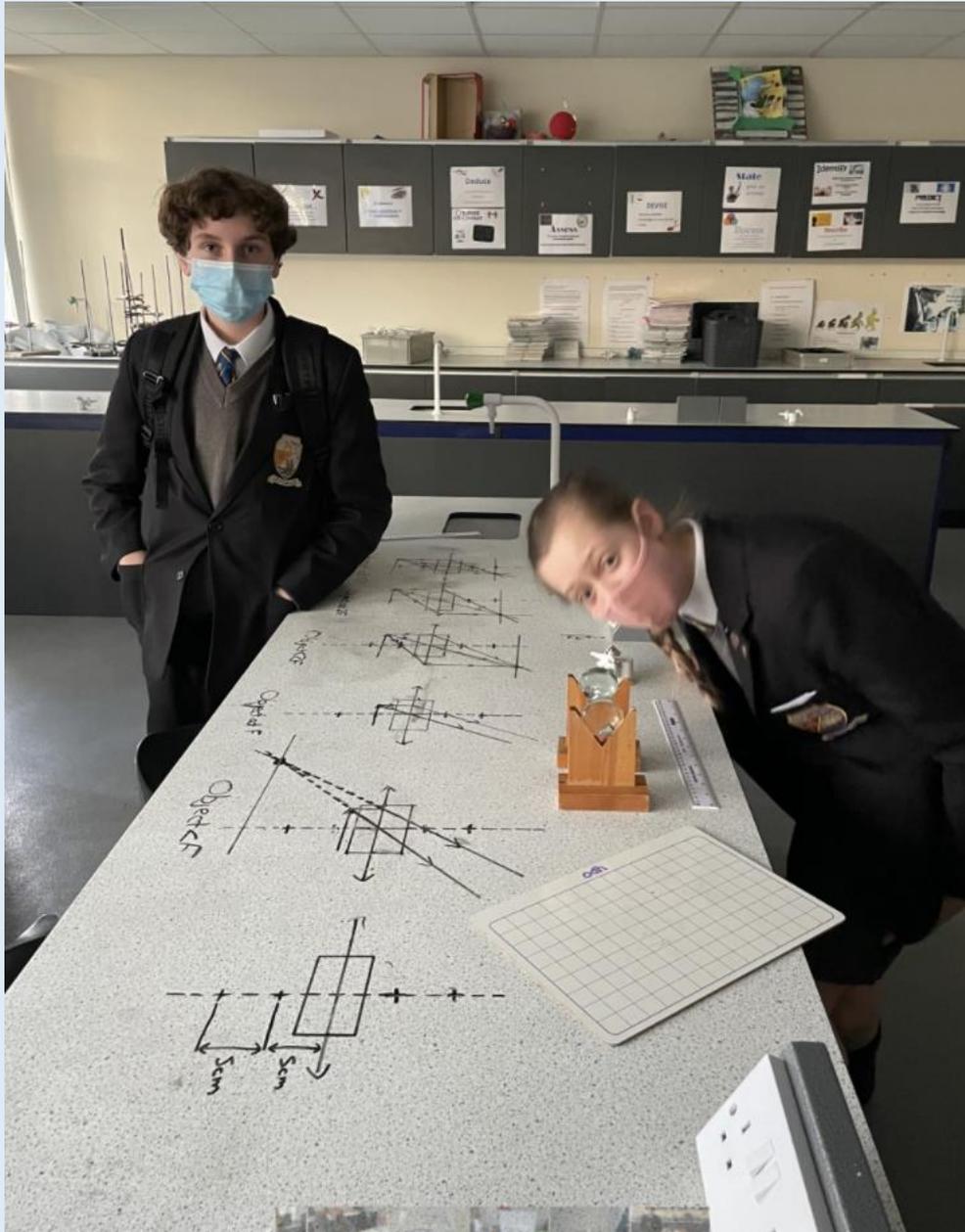


### Teaching observational skills in chemistry: Neutralisation

1. Add a few crystals of anhydrous sodium carbonate to the left-hand small circle.
2. Add a few crystals of citric acid to the right-hand small circle.
3. Add 10 drops of water into the large central circle.
4. Add 1 drop of universal indicator solution to the central drop of water.
5. Carefully push the crystals into the edges of the drop of water.
6. Observe the dissolution of the crystals, the change in colour of the indicator, and the formation of carbon dioxide bubbles.



Ensure a suitable risk assessment has been carried out before completing this activity.



## Geography students hit Liverpool One

In the last couple of weeks, the Yr11 Geography field trip to Liverpool One took place where students were investigating the success of the regeneration project. The students' behaviour was praised by passers-by and fellow users of public transport. We're very proud to hear such great comments.



## Meat Free Monday was a sell-out

The school Environment Group has invited all pupils and staff to choose a vegetarian option on a Monday. The aim is to reduce our personal carbon footprint and the impact of greenhouse gases on climate change. Pupils and staff can select from a wider selection of vegetarian meals on a Monday.

The vegetarian meals will be available in the Pasta / Main Meal queue in the canteen. The first Meat Free Monday was a success and the whole new menu was sold out. Those who choose the vegetarian meals will receive LSGSLA Class chart points and a raffle ticket for a prize draw each week.

Thanks to Mrs Guy and all the catering staff for their hard work.





## Gardening Angels Community Planting

St Bede's Gardening Angels teamed up with St Anne's Justice and Peace group and Ormskirk School Pastors to plant 120 hedge plants in the shape of a heart. Well done to all those involved.







## 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](mailto:admin@sbchs.co.uk).

God bless,

Mr P Denton, Headteacher