



ST. BEDE'S  
COLLEGE

# FEBRUARY BEDE'S NEWS



Mrs M Kemp  
Headteacher

# Be

part of a  
great  
tradition

*Dear parents,*

**I am so proud of our U5 and U6 who are navigating their way through their mocks with tremendous discipline and resilience.**

For them the journey that started in U3 is coming to an end, their subject knowledge is peaking and all their hard work will soon open the doors to different options for their future. At the same time the journey for our L4 and U4 commenced with "Options Evening". It was wonderful to see many of you there and I am sure some good conversations were had about GCSE subject choices.

Pope Francis told us on Ash Wednesday "How many distractions and trifles distract us from the things that really count! How often do we get caught up in our own wants and needs, lose sight of the heart of the matter, and fail to embrace the true meaning of our lives in this world! Lent is a time of truth, the Lord alone is God, and we are the work of his hands." During half term break I am sure we all had the opportunity to remember that our families hold us in that truth of love.

We have come back to school with the virtue of JOY in our hearts while we embrace the challenge of Lent to learn to love better, and give of ourselves better. Let us allow ourselves to be loved by Christ and guided by him through the Lenten season. For this very reason, we have organised our first Lenten retreat for parents and staff, which will take place on 7 March at 4.00 pm. I look forward to meeting you there.



Mrs C Hunt  
Head of Prep

## “Walk in love.” Ephesians 5:2

As we approach the end of February, the Feast of St. Valentine was celebrated with Prep 2 presenting their wonderful Valentine’s assembly to their parents and the rest of the Prep at the end of the half term. Our Virtue of the Month for February has been joy. We have been speaking with the children about how they can spread joy to those around them and remembering that we never really know what another person is going through, and always staying kind and spreading joy, will put a smile on anyone’s face.

Our pupils in Reception, Prep 1 and Prep 2 enjoyed a Kindness Workshop on Friday 3rd February and we marked Children’s Mental Health Week in the Prep with a number of different activities to support our pupils.

We have a lot to look forward to as we approach the end of our Spring term including our Prep 4 Easter Play and our Prep 6 Production. I also look forward to seeing many of our parents at Parents' Evening on Thursday 3rd March.

With my best wishes for the coming month.

Be

inspired

Mr D Rose  
Head of Sixth Form



## Following the half-term holiday, our Upper Sixth Form are sitting their mock examinations

which are a crucial part of their preparation for the final A level examinations. The progress they have made since November should be a source of encouragement so that they seek to achieve the very best grades of which they are capable in the summer. With a raft of exciting university offers and other opportunities within reach, it is all to play for.

Children's Mental Health Week was before half-term and whilst we consider our Sixth Formers to be young adults, with the associated rights and responsibilities, we seek to safeguard their mental wellbeing through strategies that encourage the development of an internal locus of control. This is especially important for our Lower Sixth students to take on board, as their summer examinations approach. It is vital that they understand the science behind embedding material into long-term memory so that it can be accessed under examination conditions, and then take practical steps to ensure this happens.

Mr Sanders, our Deputy Head Academic, launched the Lower Sixth's revision in an assembly in which he explained some aspects of the science of learning and gave very helpful, practical advice. His session will be augmented by a session in PSMEE on 17th March when an external speaker will give further guidance on how students can 'Ace Their Exams'. The summer examinations are important for our Lower Sixth as they will form the basis for their predicted grades at A level; we also hope that the increased independence that is a vital factor in a student's growth from GCSE to A Level to university, apprenticeship or career, might allow them to experience more joy in their lives. It is fitting that in this Lenten season, when we introspect and discipline ourselves so as to be more ready to experience the joy of Easter, that we take all opportunities available to help us to grow.

Be

grateful

# Virtue of the month:

## Joy

### Joy: the power of a smile

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Surely you have experienced how contagious a smile is, or how with a positive attitude you can enjoy the little things much more. Joy is a virtue of great significance, which helps us to have a happier, fuller life and to make others happier too. But joy is not only about laughter or having a good time: it is something much deeper. Joy comes from the acceptance of ourselves as we are, and the knowledge that we are loved by God and the people we care about.

Joy is also the capacity to keep our spirits up even when external circumstances are challenging or not as we would like them to be. Like all the other virtues, joy is built through small acts that become good habits. This requires effort and discipline in small things in life that have a profound impact, like taking the time to smile at someone, saying hello, or even trying not to let the setbacks of everyday life affect our mood.

A true Bedian is a person who always remains cheerful and, in this way, is able to transform for the better the circumstances and environments in which they find themselves. In this way the Prep pupils set out to smile at the people they encountered. In addition, Prep 2 wrote some jokes and distributed them around the school.

In College, the L4 shared joy by writing positive messages to their teachers. Even though U5 are doing their exams in preparation for GCSEs they still found joy in working and supporting each other; some took advantage of their Friday time to bring out their joy and shake off the stress with 'Just Dance Now' dance sessions. Sixth Formers took a more philosophical approach by debating whether joy could be considered a luxury after Having seen the tragic earthquakes that struck Turkey and Syria, as well as the wonderful story of the newborn baby rescued from the rubble.



# Safeguarding

## Children's Mental Health and Wellbeing

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The Department for Education has recently published its [State of the Nation research report on children's and young people's wellbeing](#). Perhaps unsurprisingly, the report found young people's wellbeing dipped in 2020 but had closely recovered to pre-pandemic levels by 2021, however, children's anxiety levels seem to have risen. Similarly the numbers of young people reporting low happiness levels has also increased in recent years and in older children (17-19 year olds) rates of self harm and eating problems were higher.

The report states, "While annual trends indicated that children and young people's subjective happiness and life satisfaction appears to have recovered to pre-pandemic levels by 2022 (The Children's Society, 2022), some measures, such as anxiousness among primary and secondary age pupils (DfE, 2022e), and loneliness (DfE, 2022g) and mental health among older young people (NHS Digital, 2022b), may have worsened further. However, it is not clear from these data why this might be the case." Click [here](#) to read the full report.

We were grateful to be joined by [Sarie Taylor](#) in January for both staff inset training and her Parent Conference on 'Understanding Anxiety'. She outlined how we work as humans and where our anxious thoughts come from. Many parents commented on how useful the session was and how engaging Sarie is, relating common anxious feelings to specific examples in her own life too. She talked about strategies that could be used to help young people work through their thoughts and feelings of being anxious. One example she gave was trying to avoid getting into detail about worries just before bedtime, since often any anxious thoughts are exacerbated by being tired and after a good sleep problems seem less significant.

We continue to support our pupils in their mental health and wellbeing through PSMEE lessons and tutor mentoring. The Prep also enjoyed many activities in [Children's Mental Health Week](#). One fantastic idea mentioned in the Prep newsletter before half term came from Teresa in Prep 5 who suggested having an 'unplug' day where we unplug ourselves from our devices. See the St. Bede's blog for a ['phone park' template](#) to store your phones.

As Saint Ignatius said, 'It is not the soul alone that should be healthy; if the mind is healthy in a healthy body, all will be healthy and much better prepared to give God greater service.'

*Mrs C Boylan, Assistant Head (Safeguarding & Ethos)*

# Assembly

On Thursday 9th February, Prep 2 welcomed their families into the chapel to watch their class assembly. The theme was 'Love' and the children really spread the love around! They had each learnt how to say 'I love you' in different languages, from French to Yaruba to Chinese, and then explained the Valentines' traditions in their countries. Prep 2 then told the story of St Valentines and finished with a lovely rendition of 'All You Need Is Love', which they had worked incredibly hard to learn! It was a wonderful assembly and reminded everyone how important it is to tell people you love them!

*Miss O Cunningham, Prep 2 Teacher*



Be

committed



# Stars of the week





# Class of the week







# House Points



Our half term housepoint winners enjoyed their celebration breakfast in the Joseph Refectory this morning.





Headteacher's Award for Enya and Lucy for kindness and hard work in adopting a rhino on behalf of the Prep



Zachary receiving an award for street dance



Sommie with his medal for winning a tournament for Man City Academy



Certificates for a hockey tournament

# *Happy Birthday!*

Charlotte, Prep 1

George, Prep 1

Si Dong, Prep 1

Ellie-Rosa, Prep 3

Gabrielle, Prep 4

Patrick, Prep 4

Leah, Prep 4

Joseph, Prep 5

Fia, Prep 5

Romilly, Prep 5

Gene, Prep 6

Jakayah, Prep 6

Kaili, Prep 6

Kiama, Prep 6

Knacara, Prep 6



# Bedian Ambassador

January: Fortitude



## U3

Joan S  
Jamie N  
Tyler M  
Jason A  
Ayaan N  
Thalia M

## L4

Joel H  
Noella M  
Eniola O  
Rachel C  
Harry S  
Sienna K

## U4

Horace L  
Joe M  
Kemarni D  
Vikash K  
Alexandra O  
Kitty M  
Martina T

## L5

Paddy McG  
Emily A  
John H  
Oliver S  
Cliona D  
Peter H  
David C

## U5

Gabe GK  
Harry S  
Evie C  
Shula S  
Onome G  
Maia T  
Tara G  
Flynn H

## L6

Sarah N  
Aaron A  
James C  
Katie L

## U6

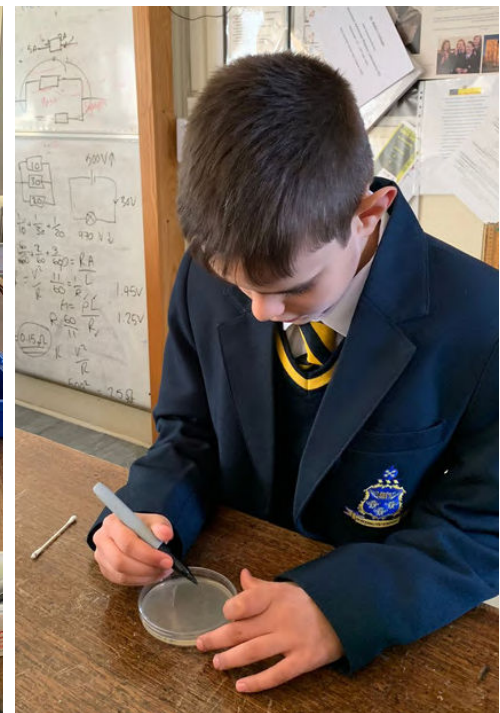
Tom J  
Devraj M  
Blaine B  
Chloe L

# SCIENCE

## Learning about germs

Prep 5 Stem Club investigated germs this week. They discussed the different types of pathogens and how they are everywhere. They can cause sickness or disease if they get into the wrong place or if they grow out of control. The children were asked to think of a place that might have germs and they had to collect a sample using a cotton bud. They rubbed their sample on a specially prepared agar plate to be placed in an incubator. They will look at their results after half term to see what they have found.

*Mrs A Edwards, Science Coordinator*



## Lower School Science Cell Modelling Competition

The Upper Third were involved in a cell modelling competition. They could choose any cell to model. The Lower Sixth judged the cells on creativity. Noah S, won the first prize, Lucy H won the second price and Orla N and Thomas E where in third place.

However, the decision was very difficult to make, as all the students presented different models of very original and creative cells. Congratulations to all of you on your great work.

The picture of the winners are below:

On the left is Orla N - Who won third place (Thomas Edmonson was joint third place but wasn't there when the photo was taken) in the middle is Noah S - who won first place on the right is Lucy H - who won second place

On the second photo attached are all the runners-up with the winners.

On the front row left to right: Sofia N, Joan S, Oliver H, Tyler M, Tafari G

Back row left to right: Orla N, Noah S, Lucy H

*Dr S. Shipley, Lower School Science Coordinator*



# ART

## Prep 5 visit Whitworth Art Gallery

Prep 5 had a wonderful time at Whitworth Art Gallery. They began the day with a 3D modelling session with Helen, a professional artist. They first explored Whitworth park, observing the different sculptures found and learning more about the artists involved in creating these sculptures. After gaining lots of inspiration, the children then worked hard in teams to create their own sculptures, using lots of different materials and resources.

It's safe to say, the children had a lot of fun and their creations were unique and innovative! After the art session, the children explored Whitworth Art Gallery and had an opportunity to learn about and sketch some of the artwork and textile design displayed, including William Morris, who they will study this term.

*Miss E Harrison, Prep 5 Teacher & Mrs C Casson, Prep 5 Teacher and MFL Co-ordinator*



# ENGLISH

## Kuziva Wows at the Catenians' Public Speaking Competition

On Sunday 5th February, Lower Sixth student Kuziva M won the Catenians' Regional Public Speaking Competition. She delivered a speech on the topic "Does Social Media do More Good than Harm?" The judges said she spoke with "astonishing eloquence, engaged the whole room and dealt with serious issues very effectively." Twelve other very talented Sixth Formers from Catholic schools across Greater Manchester took part, and were a delight to listen to. We are extremely proud of Kuziva and wish her all the best in the National Final in September.

*Mr Howes, Head of English &  
Dr A McMonagle, Deputy Head of Sixth Form*

## New mural in the English department

Over the half-term break an intrepid team of artistic English enthusiasts came into school for a day to paint a literary inspired mural on the English corridor. Miss Moore and Mr Howes were keen to make a creative mark... (Miss Moore much more neatly than Mr Howes!)

We were joined by a small group of students and a particular shout-out goes to Mr Manning from the Art Department who helped to turn our ideas into reality. A fun day was had by all - and some finishing touches will be added over the next week or two!

*Miss M Moore, English Teacher &  
Mr S Howes, Head of English*





## St. Bede's students in the United Nations Model 'MUNHIGH'

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Over the weekend of the 4th and 5th February, a group of 12 Upper Forth - Lower Sixth students joined Miss Moore and Mr Hughes at the 2023 Model United Nations 'MUNHIGH' event at Manchester High School for Girls. Model United Nations is a co-curricular club whereby students replicate the real life United Nations by debating current affairs from the perspectives of their allocated countries.

St Bede's College represented Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia and Australia on a number of committees. The students carried out extensive research of their assigned countries' political stances on current issues from the women's rights protests in Iran through to the issue of the distribution of Fenethylline across the Middle East.

Students represented St Bede's impressively with Aaron A (L6) serving as Guest Chair for the Human Rights Committee - meaning that he was integral in the organisation, management and running of the committee in the preparation and throughout the duration of the conference. Hannah M (L6) won the 'Highly Commended Delegate Award' within the World Health Organisation Committee for her contributions in debates and presentation of amendment proposals. Holly E (U4) received a certificate of recognition for her contributions in the Disarmament Committee and Dara S (U5) managed to successfully pass a resolution within the Emergency General Assembly on Sunday, presenting the stance of Ethiopia on the issue of the kidnapping of the UN Secretary Generals.

All of the pupils were actively engaged in debates with pupils from across the country and the world - with the presence of International School Lausanne!

Students also listened to a talk from the guest speaker Nihal Arthanayake, BBC broadcaster and publisher of the book 'Let's Talk: How to Have Better Conversations' in the closing ceremony about the importance of conferences such as Model United Nations and the need to engage with the dialogue going on in the world around them and "the beauty that comes from listening to understand rather than listening to respond."

Congratulations to all who took part - Holly E (U4), Sofia S (U4), Oliver S (L5), Shula S (U5), Dara S (U5), Jeanne B (U5), Lucia L (L6), Charlotte C (L6), Hannah M (L6), Kathryn K (L6) and Aaron A (L6). It was a brilliant conference and a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to meet like-minded people and to make long lasting friendships. If your child would be interested in attending the next conference with us, please contact Miss Moore ([mmoore@sbcm.co.uk](mailto:mmoore@sbcm.co.uk)) for more details and information on this. Model United Nations is open for students across the college from Upper Third all the way through to Upper Sixth.

*Miss M Moore, English Teacher*



# BEDIAN TALENT

## Clickity, Clackity!

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Jess received a distinction in her Junior Bronze Tap Exam! She has been dancing at June Rendell Dance Academy since she was 4 years old. She takes tap, ballet and jazz classes. This summer Jess will be part of the June Rendell Dance Academy's summer extravaganza.

Congratulations Jess on your great performance. Keep on tapping!



# Children's Mental Health Week 2023

The Prep celebrated Children's Mental Health Week from 6th-12th February through a variety of different activities. Each child had a journal which they filled out during the course of the week as they reflected each day on themselves and aspects of their mental health. Key Stage 2 enjoyed a daily challenge in association with Taskmasters to carry out activities to boost wellbeing. Many of the classes made posters and Prep 5 joined with Prep 1 to live out the theme of the week "Let's Connect" through dancing together. Aspects of anxiety and worry were explored in the upper school and children were given homework tasks to connect with their families at home too.

In KS1 and Reception enjoyed a visit from Krish who represented 52 Lives; a charity who carry out kind acts. After a talk on how kindness can lower stress and boost moods, all the children created a picture or a gift as an act of kindness to a child in need of support.

Prep 1 made wellbeing boxes and played a game passing a hula-hoop around whilst holding hands and staying connected to build teamwork. They also used the book *The Invisible String* to show how they are connected and they created beautiful art work. Some of the pupils also boosted their mental health by doing *Just Dance* with Mrs Hibbert.

Also, Reception Class enjoyed the story of 'The Invisible String' by Patrice Karst. The book tells the story of how we are all connected by the strings of love. This story inspired them to make their own 'Dream Catchers' using different coloured strings. Their dream catchers will remind them of how love connects us together.

*Mrs H Whipp, Prep 1 Teacher*



# World Faith Week

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World Faith Week was celebrated before half term and the children all explored a variety of faiths from around the world. Nursery and Prep 3 looked at Hinduism, Reception and Prep 4 studied Judaism, Prep 1 and Prep 5 studied Islam and Prep 2 and Prep 6 looked at Buddhism. The children learnt about these faiths using a variety of artefacts, videos and book resources.

In Nursery and Reception welcomed a special visitor; Mrs Singh, a Sikh and Manrai's mummy, was invited to meet our EYFS classes and share information about their religion and culture. Mrs Singh brought with her various artifacts, head pieces and decorations which the children enjoyed exploring. Thank you very much Mrs Singh and Manrai for sharing with us.

*Mrs H Whipp, Prep 1 Teacher & Mrs Kelly EYFS Coordinator*



# Alumni Clare Roberts received an OBE

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St Bede's alumnus Clare Roberts was awarded an OBE in July 2022 from Queen Elizabeth II, and last week she received the medal for her 'Outstanding Contribution' from King Charles III at Windsor Castle. Clare started her professional career as a pharmacist, but after the birth of her first daughter and the difficulties in finding a quality childcare centre, she decided to embark on the adventure of entrepreneurship, opening the first Kids Planet nursery in 2008.

Nowadays Kids Planet has 149 high-quality nurseries across the UK and is responsible for the care and education of more than 15,000 children providing basic and quality services to thousands of families.

Congratulations Clare! You are an example of commitment and dedication to the whole Bedian community.



# Understanding Anxiety: A lesson towards clarity by Sarie Taylor

At the end of January we were fortunate to be able to count on Sarie Taylor coach and psychotherapist joined us at St. Bede's with the thoroughly engaging 'Understanding Anxiety: A Lesson Towards Clarity' conference.

In the session, Sarie shared with the Bedian community the basics for a better understanding on how our brains work and what it means to be human.

Through this insight, we learnt more about how our worries for the future or stress affect us, and more importantly, Sarie shared tips on how to get out of our heads and back into life, so we can be more present and enjoy the moment.



# CAREER DEVELOPMENT

## The Cost of Fashion

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Apparel and Textiles PhD researcher at the University of Manchester, Claire Richardson, gave a talk to our Sixth Formers about Sustainable Fashion. Her educational and emotive presentation highlighted the clothing industry's role in both worker exploitation and ecological disaster; she also explained how materials are made and how to shop in more sustainable ways. Many of the students said they really enjoyed the talk and had not realised the extent of fast fashion's effects.

*Dr A McMonagle, Deputy Head of Sixth Form*



## Career Pathways take shape

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Finding a career takes more than great academic grades (although they help!). That's why we're working to develop the Careers Pathways programme we announced last year to support our pupils as they move from the Lower School into the Sixth Form and beyond.

A role model for our Pathways is the excellent Medical Forum that Mrs Prince has run for the past few years. This includes visits to school from a wide range of medical professionals, trips to lectures and medical conferences, support for the BMAT and UKCAT medical school application tests, practice interviews and much more!

The impact has been tremendous with pupils obtaining university places in medicine and veterinary science every year since it was founded in 2017 - and last year Jessica Nwigwe was accepted for Medicine at Cambridge University!

We've been talking to pupils in the Upper Fifth about how to further improve this - as a result of their feedback we're looking to add support for a wider range of medical careers, more personal mentoring through the application process and a central bank of work experience opportunities. And we're also developing our other Career Pathways in Law, Business, Apprenticeships, Oxford and Cambridge Universities and more.

To support our Career Pathways we've also been asking our alumni and parent community for help via social media - and have had a tremendous response. Please see this post on LinkedIn for more information.

If you would like to collaborate with our Career Pathways program or have any further questions about it, please email Mr S Hepburn, Careers Coordinator at [shepburn@sbcm.co.uk](mailto:shepburn@sbcm.co.uk)

*Mr S Hepburn, Careers Coordinator*



## Looking to help your child with career decisions?

Do not miss InvestIN's, parent event series, which is designed to give parents the essential tools they'll need to support their child on their career journey. Events are run by leading experts and are free to attend. InvestIN cover careers areas from developing confidence to applying for roles in sectors such as engineering, medicine and psychology or business.

*Mr S Hepburn, Careers Coordinator*

## Higher Education Evening: Steps beyond Sixth Form

Just before half term, Lower Sixth Students and their parents learned all about the process of applying to university at our Higher Education Evening. Ali Clark, Head of Student Recruitment at the University of Stirling, provided a comprehensive introduction to higher education, including how to choose the right course and university, how the UCAS process works, the best way to write a personal statement, and how to attain student finance and accommodation. Dr McMonagle, the College's UCAS adviser, then mentioned the College UCAS deadlines, university trips, Oxbridge support, mock interviews, and our Higher Education Day in June. Students have already started the process of planning their personal statements and are encouraged to complete wider reading, MOOCs, volunteering and work experience to make their applications really stand out.

*Dr A McMonagle, Deputy Head of Sixth Form*





# CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

## Responsible Leaders of the Future

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Sixth Form students recently completed The Oxford Character Project. Developed in partnership with the Human Flourishing Program at Harvard University, the 'Leadership for Flourishing' course engages students to become leaders driven by character and purpose. The course was led by Mrs Kemp, who was delighted to present students with their certificates. We continue to guide our Sixth Formers in developing "the moral and intellectual qualities to think with clarity, embrace diversity, navigate ambiguity, and persevere in the face of complex challenges."

*Dr A McMonagle, Deputy Head of Sixth Form & Mr D Rose, Head of Sixth Form*



## Peer Mentoring for Success

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Lower Sixth students now regularly mentor Lower and Upper Fifth students, using their subject knowledge and prior experience of GCSEs to support the younger years. It is wonderful to see such cooperation and sharing of knowledge, and we feel so proud that the students are running this all on their own. Congratulations to Lower Sixth student, Hannah M, who set up the initiative.

*Dr A McMonagle, Deputy Head of Sixth Form*

# PERFORMING ARTS



## Romeo and Juliet auditions

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Straight off the back of the success of Evita the Performing Arts department began the audition process for the summer Shakespeare production of Romeo and Juliet.

This is a long standing tradition of classic performances enjoyed with a picnic on the Headteacher's Lawn each summer. The Cast list will be announced shortly. There was a superb turn out for the audition process with fantastic representation from all year groups from Upper Third through to Sixth Form.

This summer will see the tragedy of Romeo and Juliet performed for our families and friends on 28th and 29th June at 19:00. Stay tuned for cast list, rehearsal pictures and developments from one of Shakespeare's most beloved plays.

*Mr J Dickson, Director of Performing Arts*





# SPORTS

## Ski Trip 2023

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Some lucky Bedians have enjoyed the opportunity to experience a different and more adventurous half-term break by going on a skiing trip. Thirty students and seven teachers travelled to the beautiful ski resort of Artesina, in Italy.

For some of the students, it was their first time skiing meaning this will have been a very memorable escapade for them. The students received 5 hours of lessons per day and by the end of the week they were all able to ski pistes of differing levels of difficulty.

But the fun didn't stop there. Although skiing is a very demanding sport, our Bedians still had energy left to continue enjoying themselves in the evening.

The Apres-ski activities included snow tubing, bumboarding, a quiz night, a disco and karaoke.

The Italian public and the ski instructors congratulated our party many times for the kind and considerate behaviour of our students. Happily, the week passed without any injuries!

*Mrs C Brewer, Maths Teacher*



## Lioness Cubs

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St Bede's hosted the annual AJIS Girl's Football Tournament on Friday 10th February. The Prep entered two teams and the girls performed brilliantly and should be incredibly proud of themselves. The Second Team consisted of girls playing competitive football for the very first time and although they didn't manage to win a game, they competed very well, showed a determined attitude throughout and will learn from this experience for future tournaments.

The Prep First Team who have played together on numerous occasions this year have been inspired by the examples set by their heroines in the England Lionesses Team and they were outstanding on the day. The team were initially placed in a qualifying group with AKS Lytham, Bolton and Kirkham and managed to win two of the games and draw the other. The results meant that they qualified for the top group with Cheadle, The Grange and Stockport. The girls performed valiantly against tough opposition and again managed to top the group!

Having qualified in first place, the girls met Cheadle in the final. It was a well contested game but an incredibly talented opposition team came out on top with a 3-0 win. However the girls held their heads up high when collecting their silver medals. Throughout the day they showed determination, skill and respect. They played like true Bedians!

*Mr K McGrath, Prep 3 Teacher*



## Indoor Athletics

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The Prep Athletics Team travelled to Robin Park, Wigan, to take part in the annual AJIS Indoor Athletics Meet. Most schools' teams consist of children in Years 5 & 6, the St Bede's athletics team was made up of twenty-four children from Prep 4 to Prep 6; the age gap did not deter them, being underdogs did not hinder them. Our children performed brilliantly. The team came back with a nine medal haul- one of our best ever medal tallies; In Prep 4 Deborah won Silver in the Vertical Jump, Shay, also Prep 4 and Lucy Prep 5 achieved Silver in the Paarluff Relay Race, Mukupa in Prep won Silver in the Vertical Jump and Ivan, also Prep 5 received Gold for the Triple Jump. In Prep 6 George won Bronze in the Boys Balance, Jordan gained Silver in the Triple Jump, Lucian was triumphant in the vertical jump winning Gold and Paul set a new AJIS record on his way to achieving Gold in the Chest Push. We are so incredibly proud of amazing athletes and their dedication to sport.

*Miss A Sharp, PE Teacher/PE Administrator*





# LIBRARY

## 2023's Bede's Reads Success Story

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As part of Advent at St Bede's College, pupils raise money through sponsored reading for Mary's Meals, a charity that feeds disadvantaged children in schools and so encourages them to continue their education.

Through this campaign, students personally benefit from reading and at the same time, their sponsors give the children of Mary's Meals a daily meal for an academic year. It's a win-win situation for everyone!

In addition, this fundraising campaign is a wonderful way for every student to experience Advent, a time to do something extra for others.

Together the students managed to raise £1,939 through JustGiving.com, just £61 under their £2,000 fundraising target! Mary's Meals has asked St Bede's to be a 'story' on their social media: "We think it would be great for other schools and may inspire some to do a similar challenge," commented the spokesperson for Mary's Meals.

The College will also be receiving a thank you letter and certificate to recognise the amazing efforts from the whole school community. We hope the students enjoyed the challenge and that it sparked their interest in reading and helping others. A huge thank you to everyone who took part and for being true Bedians to others!

*Miss M Pocas, College Librarian*



## Meeting a Holocaust Survivor

It's not everyday that you meet a Holocaust survivor, yet this year it was possible for many students to meet Trude Silman, native born Czechoslovakian. Upper Third students who are studying *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* by John Boyne, enjoyed a virtual meeting with Trude, who, more than 80-years-ago, was a Holocaust survivor and refugee child.

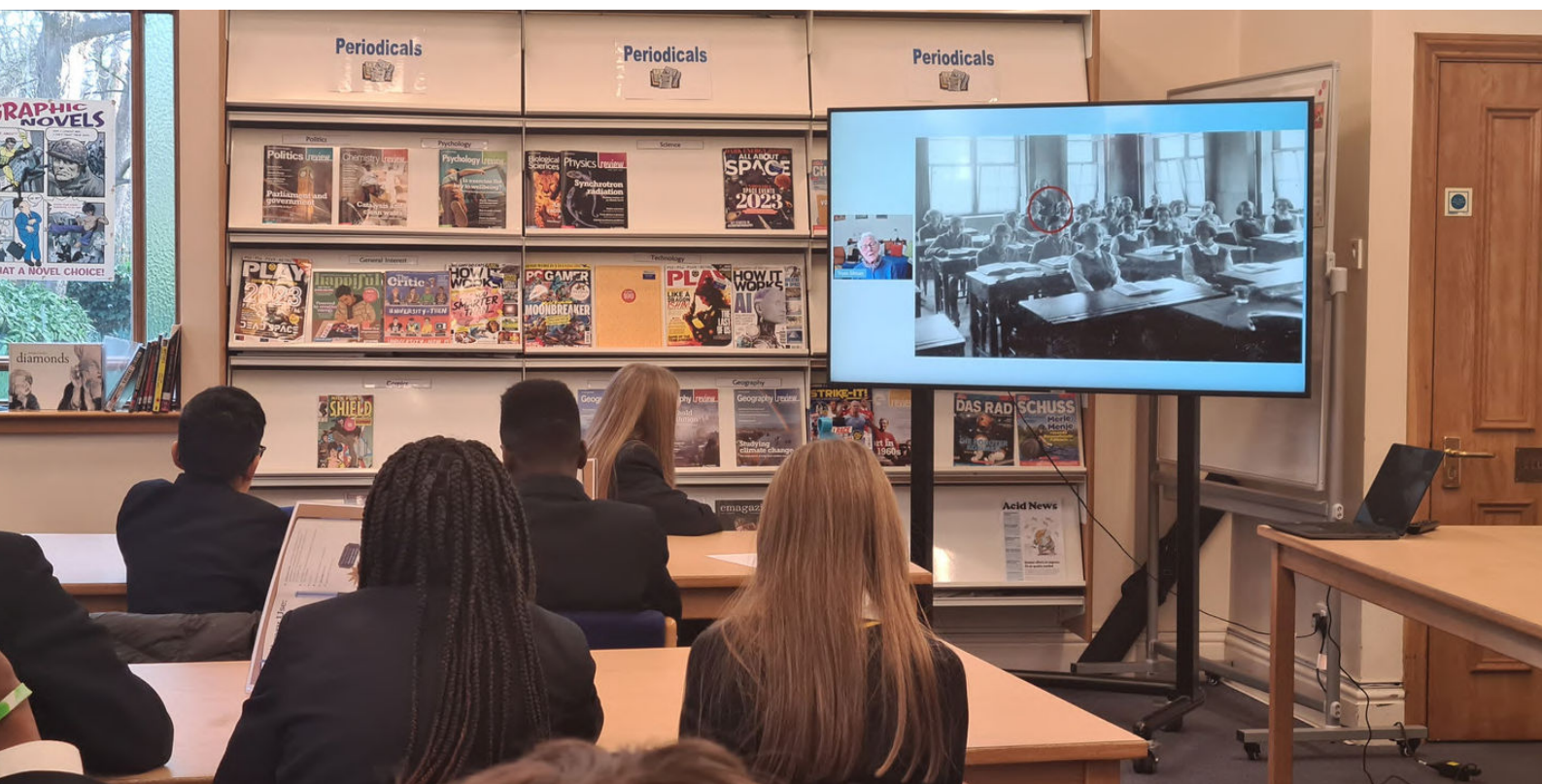
This brought the book to life, giving the students an understanding of the reality of Trude's experiences and relating them to the fictional characters of the book. Of course when one reads, ones' imagination takes one to the setting of the story.

Trude made this even more real by kindly sharing some photographs of her family and where they lived, her country before World War II broke out.

She also recounted a little bit about the invasion of Czechoslovakia by Germany, and their new life.

Students were engaged, asking her questions through an interactive chat function, such as, "What was it like when you came to England as a refugee child?", "Did you experience the war?" Trude made a new life for herself in the North of England. Her mother remains one of the two million who are still missing and her father was killed during the Holocaust. Students commented how interesting Trude's story was, and realised how fortunate they are! Many thanks to Holocaust Centre North who organised this event

*Miss M Pocas, College Librarian*



# LIBRARY

## Sixth Form Book Club

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St Bede's College played host to the Sixth Form Book Club this month where an animated discussion took place in the Maher Library. The session was chaired by members of our own Sixth Form and the book under consideration was 'Circe' by Madeline Miller. The students responded with great engagement, considering such questions as 'Is this a feminist book?' and the representation of gender and Greek mythology.

Several English teachers also attended - and some of them even joined in the discussion! It was a really enjoyable evening and we look forward to our next meeting when we will be discussing 'Things Fall Apart' by Chinua Achebe.

*Miss M Pocas, College Librarian &  
Mr S Howes, Head of English*



# CHAPLAINCY

## Ash Wednesday

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Over 600 St Bede's College students and staff members gathered into the Sports Hall for the Ash Wednesday Mass to start Lent.

In a liturgy carefully prepared by College chaplain Mrs Hibbert, a team of staff members helped College priest Fr Joe to distribute the ashes and students delivered the readings and led some of the hymns. Amara sang "You are Mine", whilst Prep school student Deborah sang "Be thou my Vision".

There was a special treat, reflecting the College's international nature, when two of our Romanian students Viktor and Tudor sang the beginning of one of the hymns in their native language.

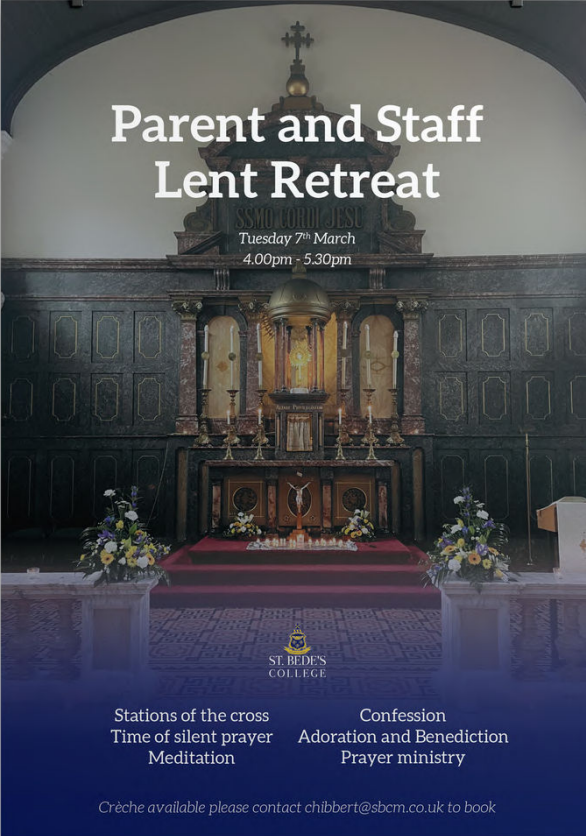
In his homily, Fr Joe told students that putting on ashes reminds us that one day we too will return to the dust, that is, we will die. So, Lent has this sad part to it, in that it looks towards death, above all the death of Jesus. But Jesus' death led to his Resurrection. So, Lent is not just about death, it is ultimately about life. When we give up something for Lent, we die to that thing, but only so as to rise to something greater. Lent is about dying to ourselves to live more to God and others.

*Mrs. C Hibbert, School Chaplain*





# REMINDERS



## Parent and Staff Lent Retreat

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March  
4.00pm - 5.30pm

ST. BEDE'S COLLEGE

Stations of the cross  
Time of silent prayer  
Meditation


Confession  
Adoration and Benediction  
Prayer ministry

Crèche available please contact [chibbert@sbcm.co.uk](mailto:chibbert@sbcm.co.uk) to book

## Reading Group

Open for Upper Third to Upper Fourth

Read the shortlisted books from the Cheshire Schools' Book Award 2023 and vote for your favourite one in April 2023, with the award ceremony planned for May 2023.



Meet Wednesdays lunchtime at the **Maier Library**

## Bosco House Red Run

Wednesday, 19th of April  
Prep 4, 5, & 6:  
Friday, 21st of April  
At the School sports Fields

Bring your school PE kit or Fancy dress but it must be in line with the colour theme **RED!**

How much money can you raise for your house charity?



# REMINDERS



ST. BEDE'S COLLEGE

St. Bede's College presents

# Spring Concert

Thursday 20th April  
6:30pm

An evening of beautiful music performed by students of the college

Alexandra Road South,  
Whalley Range  
Manchester, M16 8SP

Entry and parking through the rear entrance of the college



26.04.23

ST. BEDE'S COLLEGE

# Summer Dance Show '23

6pm - 7pm

A variety of Dance Pieces from GCSE Dance students and Bede's Dance Club

Get your tickets here!



ST. BEDE'S COLLEGE

# St. Bede's Prep Open Morning

Little stars, bright futures

Tuesday, 18 April 2023  
At 09:30

# FORTHCOMING EVENTS



## Wednesday, 1st March

| 9.00am, U5 & U6 Mock Examinations

## Thursday, 2nd March

| 9.00am, U5 & U6 Mock Examinations

| 4.45pm, U3 & U4 Parents' Evening (pe/ag)

## Friday, 3rd March

| 9.00am, U5 & U6 Mock Examinations

## Tuesday, 7th March

| 4.00pm, Parents and Staff Lent Retreat

## Thursday, 9th March

| 4.45pm, U5 Parents' Evening (pe/ag)

## Monday, 13th March

| STEM Week

## Tuesday, 14th March

| STEM Week

## Wednesday, 15th March

| STEM Week

## Thursday, 16th March

| STEM Week

| 4.45pm, L6 & U6 Parents' Evening (pe/ag)

## Friday, 17th March

| STEM Week

## Thursday, 23rd March

| 4.45pm, L4 & L5 Parents' Evening (pe/ag)

## Friday, 24th March

| 3:50pm, End of Term

[CLICK HERE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION](#)



# ST. BEDE'S COLLEGE




# Be Bedian

Own your future

 [www.sbcm.co.uk](http://www.sbcm.co.uk)

 0161 226 3323

 [admissions@sbcm.co.uk](mailto:admissions@sbcm.co.uk)

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