



ST. BEDE'S
COLLEGE
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BEDE'S SUMMER NEWS SPECIAL



Mrs M Kemp
Headteacher

Dear Parents,

We have reached the end of another successful year, and what a magnificent way to end.

The students worked hard during the end of year examinations. It was impressive to see their commitment to their studies, to doing well and to making you proud of their achievements.

After various trips took place (Berlin, Normandy, DofE) we had the opportunity to enjoy Hamlet performed by students from U3 to L6. It was a complex production in three different locations around the College, and was really inspiring.

While Hamlet engaged some pupils in frantic rehearsals and set design, the rest were engaged in Project Week, which presented a real challenge to learn differently, to develop problem-solving skills, team work and creativity. It was great fun to see our students putting projects together throughout the week. U6 prizegiving and Ball followed, leading to Pastoral Week and Celebration Assembly.

Marcus Aurelius once said "our life is what our thoughts make it." And as we approach our summer holidays and finally have time to stop and reflect and enjoy our families, it is important we help our students to own their thoughts, to switch off from social media, discover themselves and find their voice. During Project Week the L4th put together a time capsule for the Bedians of the future. We have buried it at the feet of the statue of Our Lady in the Headteacher's lawn, putting our future in her hands and her protection.

Have a restful and joyful summer!

Mrs M Kemp

Dear Parents,

As we approach the end of the academic year, we reflect on our pupils' progress academically, socially and spiritually.

As Head of the Prep, I could not be prouder of our pupils and all of the staff who have worked with them and supported them. Our Virtue of the Month for June has been Creativity, evident in the amazing STEM learning this half-term, with activities like Lego Days and STEM Day stimulating pupil ideas and imaginations. It was also a joy to witness the outstanding College production of Hamlet, featuring many former Prep pupils.

It was wonderful seeing our Prep families at the Eucharistic Mass with Prep 3 on Sunday, 30th June, and the Prep 6 Celebration Mass on Tuesday, 2nd July. Saying "Farewell" to our Prep 6 pupils is always an emotional occasion; the year group have been truly exceptional.

On a personal note, as a parent, concluding almost 16 years of bringing my children to our school, and attending my youngest daughter, Anna's Upper Sixth Leavers' Mass, I have never felt more certain that our decision to send our daughters to St. Bede's was the right one.

With warm wishes for a happy and peaceful summer, and good luck to all students awaiting exam results in August, you are in my thoughts and prayers.

Mrs C Hunt, Head of Prep



Mrs C Hunt
Head of Prep





Dr A McMonagle
Head of Sixth Form

Dear Parents,

Our perception of failure radically alters our willingness to be creative.

Now that our Lower Sixth students have completed their summer examinations, the few who have performed below par have not seen failure as a disaster, but as an opportunity to learn. This is the kind of creative mindset we cultivate as Bedians.

Creativity, our Virtue of June, also involves assisting others when they can't find solutions - something I have observed time and time again in the Sixth Form. The students have also encouraged curiosity and creativity in their younger peers, performing engaging experiments in Chemistry Club and helping others through peer-mentoring. The creative skills of our Upper Sixth A level photographers were also on display in the College this month - the exhibition was truly a joy to behold. They should be so proud of their talents, determination and ability to create beautiful artefacts.

Many of our Sixth Formers are planning exciting summer trips and experiences; I hope they will thoroughly enjoy the creative mindset that travelling and experiencing different cultures engenders. I look forward to hearing all about their adventures in September.

Dr A McMonagle, Head of Sixth Form

Virtue of the Month

Creativity

Quiz

1. Which of the following is one of St Bede's characteristics?

- A Communication
- B Creativity
- C Charity
- D Courage

2. Who said, 'Creativity is intelligence having fun'?

- A Albert Einstein 🧠
- B Steve Jobs 💻
- C J.K. Rowling ✨
- D Walt Disney 🎨

3. Which fictional character embodies creativity to you?

- A Sherlock Holmes 🕵️
- B Hermione Granger 📖
- C Willy Wonka 🍬
- D Moana 🌊

There's no wrong answer

4. Which of these activities is most likely to boost your creativity?

- A Reading a book 📖
- B Going for a walk 🚶
- C Listening to music 🎵
- D Drawing or doodling 🎨

There's no wrong answer

June Virtue Winners

Creativity





SAFEGUARDING

Water Safety During the Summer

How many accidental drownings were there in 2023?

Answer: 157

Most were young males. June, July and August are the highest months for accidental drowning. More people die inland than at the coast, in rivers, canals, reservoirs and quarries. During May half-term in 2023, four teenagers died in just one week jumping into cold water at inland locations.

Even if young people are strong swimmers, they can suffer with cold water shock on immersion. The body reacts involuntarily to the cold water, causing blood vessels in the skin to close, making it harder for blood to flow around the body. The heart has to work harder and blood pressure increases. In the worst case scenario a heart attack can happen.

Gasping, which is a natural response to cold water, can also mean that water could be breathed in. Breathing rates can go up by as much as ten times.

All these reactions can cause panic, getting into difficulty and drowning.

The Royal Life Saving Society's website contains lots of useful information about staying safe in water over the summer.

*Mrs C Boylan,
Assistant Head of Safeguarding & Ethos*

Stars of the Week





House Point Winners



Prep half term winners enjoying their reward breakfast



House Point Winners of the Year!





Sports Awards



Girls' Cricket



Netball Manchester Champions

Gaelic Football & Swimming Certificates





Individual Awards



Individual Awards
for Football



Individual Awards
for Athletics



Individual Awards
for Swimming



Singing Exam Certificates





Math Challenge Bronze, Silver & Gold Awards





Headteacher's Award





Best Book Winners





Progress Awards & The 'always' Award Winners



Bedian Ambassador

June's Bedian Ambassador Winners



U3

Nick O'B
Kayur S
Stas K
Abdul R
Lily B
Red J

L4

Rudy V
Tommy D
Cameron W
Paramdeep R
Heidi O
Amaya F

U4

Carmela B
Oliver V
Angel I
Collins K
Lucy P
Joshua S
Laurence T
Dominic P

L5

Poppy R
Divine E
Horace L
Alex O
Johanna A
Macy M
Priya B
Bryndon M

L6

Tyreek C
Siena H
Milind P
Hashim N

Happy Birthday!

Month of June

Nursery
William

Prep 1
Elias
Pasha

Prep 2
James
Teresa

Prep 3
Ona
Kadima
Maximilian
Bene
Audrey

Prep 4
Evie
Jamie

Prep 5
Alec
Hugo

Prep 6
Ivan

Month of July

Nursery
Leonor

Reception
Bruno
Elijah
Manrai
MiMi
Sienna
Hugo-Otis
Nuh

Prep 1
Rachel
Benjamin
Penny

Prep 2
Voke

Prep 3
Danny
Bertie

Prep 5
Rosie
Isaac
Noelle
Elias
Tolu

Prep 6
Jackson
William
Ruby
Oceana
Teresa
Paloma

Month of August

Nursery
Jethro

Reception
Teresa

Prep 2
Santi
Elijah

Prep 3
Maysa

Prep 4
Lexi
Isabella

Prep 5
Mia
Annabelle

Prep 6
Amanee
Tommy
Samuel-
Praise

A SCHOOL FOR LIFE

At St Bede's, we're more than just a school – we're a family.

As one parent beautifully put it, 'Choosing St Bede's means entering a community that sparks your child's curiosity, imagination, and joy for discovery.'

Gratitude permeates every aspect of life here. Our students are empowered to embrace their individual talents and pursue their passions with zeal. With a focus on inquiry-based learning, our innovative curriculum encourages exploration and discovery. From our revitalised outdoor-learning programme to our state-of-the-art facilities, every opportunity is crafted to inspire.

Transitioning seamlessly from Prep to College, our students thrive in a supportive environment where leadership skills are honed and friendships flourish. With small class sizes and specialist teachers, we tailor learning to each child's needs, ensuring a rich and fulfilling educational journey.

Discover St. Bede's Prep School, where tradition meets innovation and every child's journey is celebrated and nurtured.



PREP

Creative Builders!

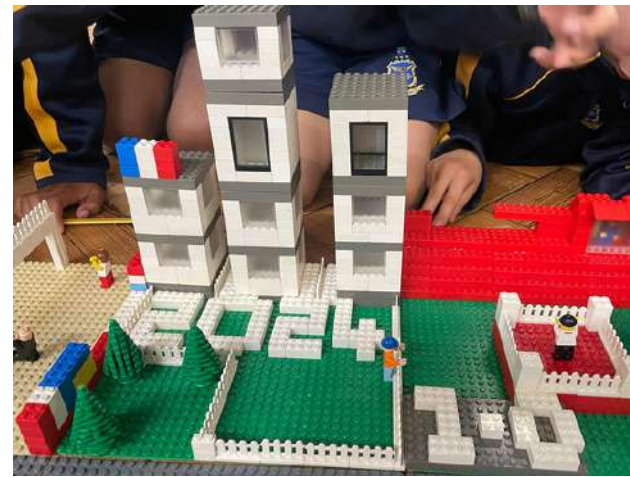
As part of our STEM curriculum, we enjoyed a workshop with Creative Builders. We used Lego to design an Olympic village and worked in teams to design sports stadia, swimming pools and all things related to the upcoming Paris Olympics. Using wires and bulbs, we created circuits to illuminate our lego structures. The end result of our teamwork was a huge illuminated Olympic village as you can see from our photos! We loved working together and using our skills of collaboration and problem solving.

Mrs Helena Whipp, , Prep 5W Class Teacher

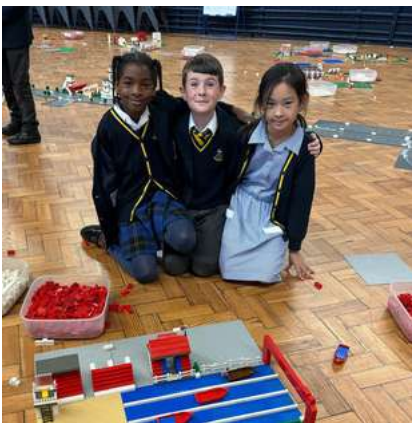


[Click here to watch reel](#)

PREP



PREP



Wax Museum

Our Prep 5 Wax Museum allowed children to 'become' an important historical figure from around the world. They researched their life, achievements and why they became so well-known or celebrated. The children prepared a short presentation about their chosen person in first person narrative, memorised it and proudly performed all afternoon. The costumes were fabulous and all the Prep classes and Prep 5 families greatly enjoyed visiting the Prep 5 Wax Museum. The children were truly wonderful, and it was a great occasion enjoyed by all.

Mrs C Casson, Prep 5 Class Teacher



[Click here to
watch reel](#)



History Activity

As part of Prep 5's studies about Victorian inventions, the children enjoyed a hot afternoon (under a shady tree) pitching their inventions to the Dragon's Den. In character from the 19th century, they used persuasive language to convince the Dragons to invest in their inventions. From sewing machines, motor engines, steam trains to flushing toilets and typewriters, most of the inventors received investments for a percentage of the company in return. The Dragons were fierce, however, and if the maths wasn't correct- they were OUT!

It was a great activity that was enjoyed by all.

Mrs C Casson, Prep 5 Class Teacher

Prep Spring Poetry Walk in Alexandra Park

Last half term, as part of the planned transition process between the Prep and College, children from Prep 6 met with Mr Howes and his team of brilliant U3rd and L6th students for an inspirational walk in Alexandra Park. The focus of the outing was to stimulate creativity for a spring poetry session and to give the Prep 6 children the opportunity to experience College life in the English Department. The children captured images of nature bursting into life to inspire their poetry writing back at school. What a breath of fresh air to take learning out of the classroom and explore the beauty of the park on our doorstep! This was a lovely morning for everyone involved which resulted in some impressive poetry writing. Thank you to Mr Howes for organising this activity and for the super input from all the students involved.

Mrs C Cartmell, Prep 6 Class Teacher



SPRING SENSORY

The winter has gone into slumber and the spring has awakened,
It was as if an artist had used his paintbrush and painted the trees with blossoms.

Blackbirds, wrens, magpies and sparrows
sing in the bright rays of sunlight,
Swans gracefully glide across the shimmering lake.

The transition between the grey and blue sky is phenomenal,
The white clouds hover above my head.

And when the Winter comes again
knocking on my door
I will wait in excitement until spring comes
once more.

By Amanee



A STROLL IN THE PARK

One day in the park
A little boy had a stroll
And this is what he saw:

A sea of violet blue bells swaying in the gentle breeze.
A line of trees covered in gentle green leaves.
A sapphire lake glistening in the sunlight.
A gentle little lady bird crawling along
And some daisies at the feet of a tree trunk.

He also saw a mischievous squirrel eating an acorn.

On his way home he found a whimsical white flower which he
picked for his mum and she put it on her window sill.

By George



Snowdrops in Spring

Spring sends her rain and warm wind to kiss the rich brown
soils, to waken the seeds and sing to them as they grow.

New life erupts, flowers wake up from their long winter
slumber.

Open, anxious beaks of baby sparrows push their way out of
their nest.

We recline into the springtime as if she were an armchair, her
flowers returning for another season.

Dew on the grass in the early spring morning fills our nostrils
with awe.

Refreshing, cut grass invigorates our feet as we take strides,
One of those spring days when, the flowers give us an inner
smile.

Penetrating our souls after the wintry cold,
Some magic trick Mother Nature did to our beautiful planet at
springtime.

By Victor



Hello Spring...

Scented freshly cut grass you could inhale until the end of time.

Perfectly blooming trees standing tall and proud.

Robins sweetly singing, flying around and sweetly bringing.

Insects in the bushes slowly begin to buzz and awaken.

Now, flowers blossom and shine like stars in the midnight sky.

Goodbye to winter and hello spring!

By Ivan



The Trafford Centre

Prep 6 enjoyed a wonderful day of activities at The Trafford Centre to reward them for their brilliant year. The fun began with a movie, Inside Out 2, followed by a hearty lunch at Pizza Hut, then onto bowling and laser tag, and finishing off with a spot of climbing. The children's manners and behaviour was complimented at our various venues. Well done, Prep 6!

Mrs C Casson, Prep 5 Class Teacher



Translation Competition

Some talented Prep 5 and 6 linguists worked hard to enter the Stephen Spender poetry translation competition. They translated their favourite poems from their mother tongues into English and wrote commentaries explaining the translation process. Well done for such wonderful efforts at this busy time of the year!

Mrs C Casson, Prep 5 Class Teacher

STEM Day

On 26th June, our Prep pupils took part in a STEM day. Pupils were invited to dress up as scientists; we had a variety of fantastic outfits, including doctors, astronauts, vets and even some crazy-haired scientists! Pupils had the opportunity to meet Build Environment specialists from Curtins. Pupils in EYFS and KS1 met with structural engineers. Nursery and Reception had to build strong structures that could not be blown over, inspired by the story of the three little pigs. Prep 1 and 2 learnt about buoyancy and designed and created their own tinfoil boats; they tested how much their boat could hold before it sank. Pupils in KS2 experienced a presentation from a Geotechnical and Environmental engineer and learned lots about rocks and the evolution of the earth and forces. Throughout the day, pupils also took part in lots of exciting STEM activities in their classrooms, including building space satellites and towers, designing marble mazes, creating fizzy artwork, making oobleck and slime and many more activities. It was a fantastic day for all. The experience has allowed children to work scientifically, develop their problem-solving and teamwork skills and most importantly be excited about science!

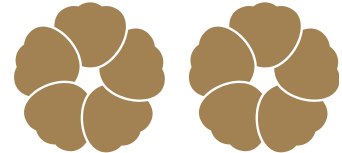
*Miss E Harrison, Prep 4H Class Teacher
Science Co-ordinator*

PREP SCIENCE



HISTORY

St Bede's at D-Day



On the 6th June, we paused to commemorate 80 years since the courageous Allied D-Day Normandy landings, a pivotal moment in history that led to victory in World War II. Among those who bravely stood on the shores of Normandy were two remarkable Old Bedians, whose names grace our War Memorials as eternal symbols of sacrifice and bravery.

Lennard Eaton Smith, born on January 4th, 1913, and Gerard Wilton, born on April 2nd, 1923, both answered the call of duty with unwavering courage. Lennard, a Gentlemen's Outfitter, and Gerard, a proud member of the Royal Armoured Corps (RAC), stood shoulder to shoulder with their comrades, facing the perils of war with unyielding resolve.

Their stories, etched in the annals of history, remind us of the bravery and selflessness displayed by the greatest generation. As we honour their memory today, let us never forget the sacrifices made by these brave souls, whose valour and dedication paved the way for the freedoms we cherish.

Mr A Power
Head of Classics, History and Politics



My name is David Heavers. I was a student at St Bede's during the WW2 years and have a selection of Baeda magazines over roughly five years. I was born in 1930 and attended the school from 1942 till 1947 during the war years. I recall the D-Day invasion of France; in our morning lesson with Geography teacher Mr Whalley, he proclaimed that our future lives were at stake in the next few hours of the Normandy operation. This was endorsed at a whole school assembly in the hall, where we prayed for ultimate success. It was a very touching assembly as many school chums had brothers, fathers and cousins involved in this day.

David Heavers, 93 (but still use the outside lane!)



MODERN LANGUAGES

St Bede's College Normandy Trip

From Monday, 17th June to Friday, 21st June, a group of 40 pupils and staff members from St Bede's College embarked on an educational and memorable trip to Normandy, France. The journey was filled with enriching experiences, historical insights and opportunities for personal growth.

Normandy



Day One:

The adventure began with a bus journey from Manchester to Portsmouth, followed by a scenic ferry ride to Caen. Upon arrival, the group settled into their accommodation at Le Château de la Baudonnière, a historic estate with a fascinating past. This château passed hands between numerous families and individuals throughout the 1900s and was even used as a command office after being occupied by the German military during WWII. This intriguing history added a unique dimension to our stay.

MODERN LANGUAGES

adventure

Day Two

The group visited a traditional French market in Villedieu-les-Poêles, a town known for its bell foundries and copperware. Pupils experienced the vibrant local culture and sampled regional delicacies. They practised their French phrases, saying "bonjour" to vendors and trying out "fromage" and "baguettes." This was followed by a visit to the iconic Mont Saint-Michel, a medieval abbey perched on a rocky island, offering stunning views and a rich historical backdrop.



Villedieu-les Poêles

Day Three

The third day was dedicated to exploring significant World War II sites. The group travelled to Arromanches, where they experienced the 360-degree cinema, immersing themselves in the events of D-Day with the "Arromanches 360" experience. This was followed by a reflective walk on the "plages du débarquement" (landing beaches) and a poignant visit to the American Cemetery at Colleville.





Day Four

Day four was spent at Le Château de la Baudonnière, where pupils engaged in various activities, including "fabrication de pain" (bread making), "tir à l'arc" (archery) and "course d'orientation" (orienteering). These activities not only offered fun and learning but also a glimpse into French history and traditions. The day concluded with a traditional French meal, featuring "escargots," "gratin dauphinois," "fromage de chèvre," and "tarte aux pommes," offering a delightful culinary experience.



Day Five

The pupils enjoyed their return journey, feeling as if they were on a cruise thanks to the gorgeous sunshine. It was a perfect ending to a trip filled with learning, cultural immersion, and camaraderie.

A special thanks to the staff members who organised and accompanied the trip (Miss Charlesworth, Miss Moore, Mr Griffin), ensuring it was a safe and enriching experience for all involved. Their dedication and hard work made this trip an unforgettable highlight of the school year.



[Click here to see our post](#)

MODERN LANGUAGES





Language Club

In the Language Club, children chose which language they wanted to learn- one group played Spanish snap, one played French snap and a third group learned complex food and drink sentences in Italian. Great fun!



PROJECT WEEK

Project Week Highlights

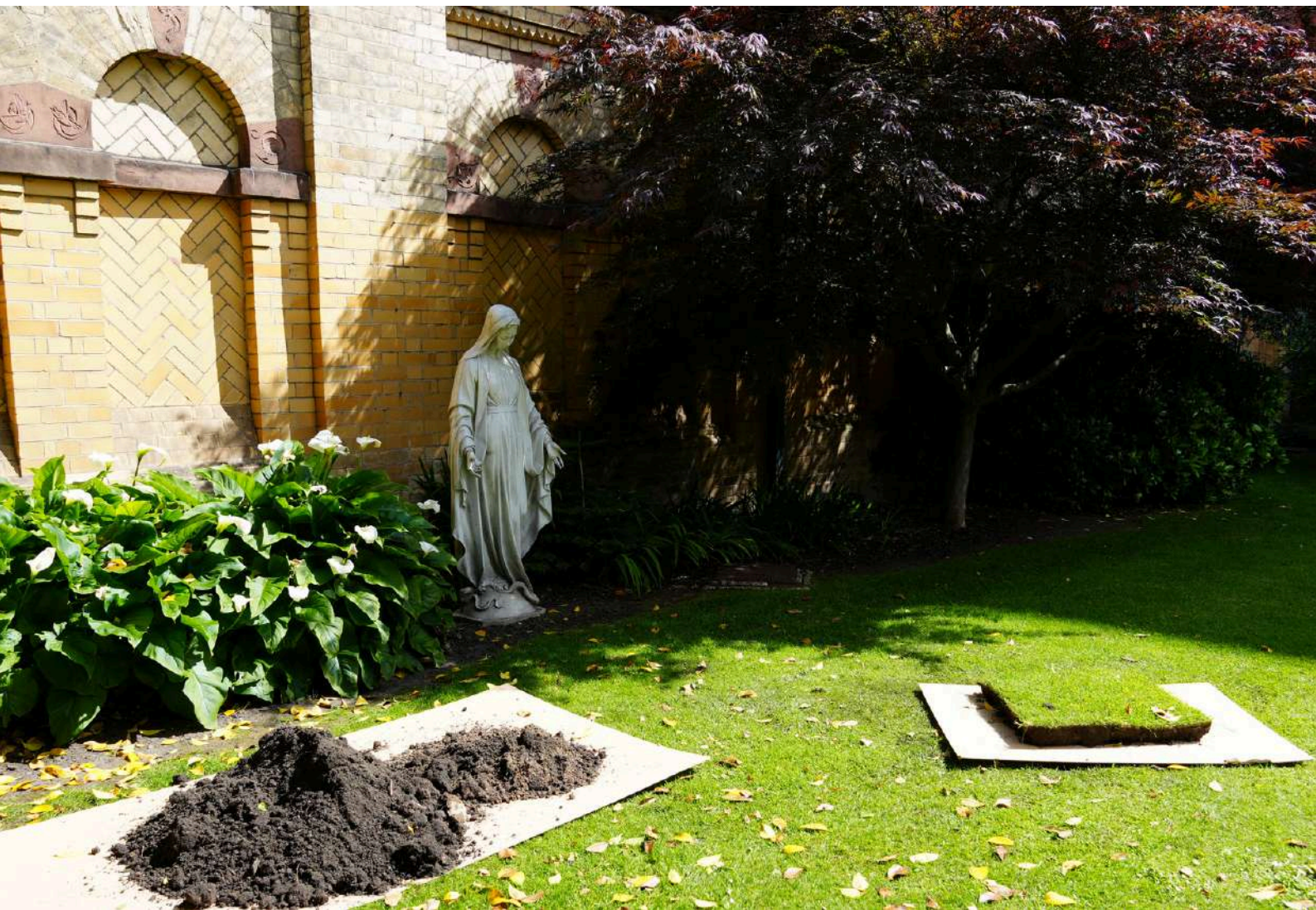
This week, Upper Third to Lower Fifth students embarked on exciting projects that took learning beyond the classroom. Upper Third created a dynamic news bulletin capturing the essence of Project Week. Lower Fourth curated a time capsule filled with memories, which was buried on the Headteacher's lawn. Upper Fourth produced an insightful podcast on Manchester's hidden gems, while Lower Fifth busted scientific myths in an entertaining showcase.

Throughout the week, our students honed their soft skills and embraced teamwork, resilience, and creativity. Stay tuned for more glimpses into their incredible journey!



[Click here to watch reel](#)

PROJECT WEEK



BE BEDIAN



We are very proud to have seen four of our Bedians shine on the big stage of Euro 2024, representing three different nations



Bedian Talent:
Phil Foden



Bedian Talent:
Cole Palmer



Bedian Talent:
Angus Gunn –
Guarding the net



Bedian Talent:
Jeremie Frimpong



HAMLET

For this year's 'Shakespeare on the Lawn' production, we entered the immersive world of Shakespeare's haunting masterpiece, Hamlet, which was brought to life in the echoing corridors and hidden corners of our historic school.

We witnessed betrayal, revenge and existential reflection like never before, with every detail meticulously crafted by our director, Mr. Dickson, the talented actors, and the dedicated team behind the scenes. From sound and lighting to set design, their professionalism and attention to detail made this production truly spectacular.

We are incredibly proud of the commitment and passion of our students, both on stage and behind the scenes. Thank you for joining us on this unforgettable journey into the world of Hamlet.



[Click here to watch reel](#)

PERFORMING ARTS



PERFORMING ARTS



Sparkling Curiosity and Creativity Through Dance

At St Bede's, we believe in learning by doing, sparking intellectual curiosity and nurturing creativity. Our recent GCSE Dance trips epitomised this philosophy and provided our students with unforgettable experiences.

Our first adventure took us to The Lowry, where we were mesmerised by the Sao Paulo Dance Company. Their performance was an incredible showcase of talent, leaving us all inspired and in awe. The dancers' skill and artistry highlighted the power of dance to convey deep emotion and complex stories.

Next, we journeyed to the Sale Waterside Centre to watch the Emergence Dance Company. Their performance was equally captivating, offering our students diverse perspectives on contemporary dance. The innovative choreography and dynamic performances broadened our students' appreciation of variety within the dance world.

All of our GCSE Dance students had a wonderful time on these trips. These experiences have not only enriched their understanding of dance but also ignited a deeper passion for the art. We look forward to many more adventures that inspire and educate our students.

Miss L Stark



[Click here to
see our post](#)

MUSIC

Music Enrichment at Manchester Metropolitan University

Lower Fourth students were taken to Manchester Metropolitan University for a day of Music enrichment. The sessions, led by recently-graduated teachers from the Royal Northern College of Music, allowed students to explore Samba, Choral Singing and Music Technology and Composition. The day ended with all the participating schools singing together in the University atrium, filling the space with the glorious sound of their voices in perfect harmony.

Mr A Stilburn



"It was a great experience to go to the Manchester Metropolitan University and I had lots of fun. I enjoyed the time with friends and experienced many different aspects of music. If you get a chance to go, I would really recommend it!"



"It was a great experience and I loved singing in different languages. I loved the singing and making music online. I had so much fun with my friends."

Glittering Gala: Sixth Form Ball Lights up the Midland Hotel

A wonderful time was had by all at the Sixth Form Ball on June 29th. Following Upper Sixth Prizegiving two days before, Saturday night at the Midland Hotel was a fabulous celebration of our students' time in the Sixth Form, and a lovely opportunity to say goodbye before they start their exciting journeys. Huge thanks to those students who helped to arrange the Ball, including Erin, Katie, Deli and Charlotte. The student awards were a very amusing moment of the night, when the Upper Sixth voted for winners of prizes such as 'Best Bromance', 'Most likely to be Famous' and 'Worst Driver'. Students and teachers loved dancing the night away. The atmosphere was one of fun, good humour and respect; I felt so proud of how the students conducted themselves and it was really heartwarming to see so many of them shaking their teachers' hands and thanking them at the end of the night.

Dr. A McMonagle, Head of Sixth Form



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watch reel](#)

SIXTH FORM



SIXTH FORM



Upper Sixth Prizegiving Evening

On June 27th, we sent our Upper Sixth off in style with our annual Prizegiving Ceremony.

The evening began with a mass of thanksgiving celebrated by Fr Alvaro. He encouraged the students to always remember their convictions, reminding them that they will never be alone as Jesus is always with them; just as the Gospel mentioned the sensible man who built his house on rock, so St Bede's has provided a solid foundation for their futures.

Dr McMonagle, Head of Sixth Form, welcomed pupils and their families with a summary of the accomplishments of the year group including public speaking, drama productions, mentoring schemes and charitable works, before Mr Sanders presented the subject prizes. Mrs Boylan followed with the Ethos prizes for those who had been the most inspired, committed and grateful. Lewis was presented with the Bedian Award for his demonstration of the spirit of service and commitment to the College.

The choir sang a medley, incorporating Make Me a Channel of Your Peace and songs from musicals with an inspiring message for the future. They closed the show with an uplifting rendition of Sing Unto the Lord.

Mrs Kemp thanked the year group for being such an inspiration to others and expressed her gratitude for the welcome they gave her when she started at the College as they started Sixth Form. In her address, she spoke to them about Henry Ford's hiring test and the importance of character, humility and the ability to empathise with others. These qualities, and not just academic achievements, are what will enable the Upper Sixth leavers to thrive.

The outgoing Head Boy, Deputy Head Boy and Head Girl and the current Head Boy and Head Girl spoke eloquently about St Bede's, what it means to them and how valued their experiences have been.

The evening finished with refreshments in the Our Lady Corridor, a fitting place, with all the photographs of Old Bedians looking on at the latest cohort to leave the College. Although they make their way onto a new chapter, we hope they will keep in touch and wish them every success for the future.

Dr A McMonagle Head of Sixth Form



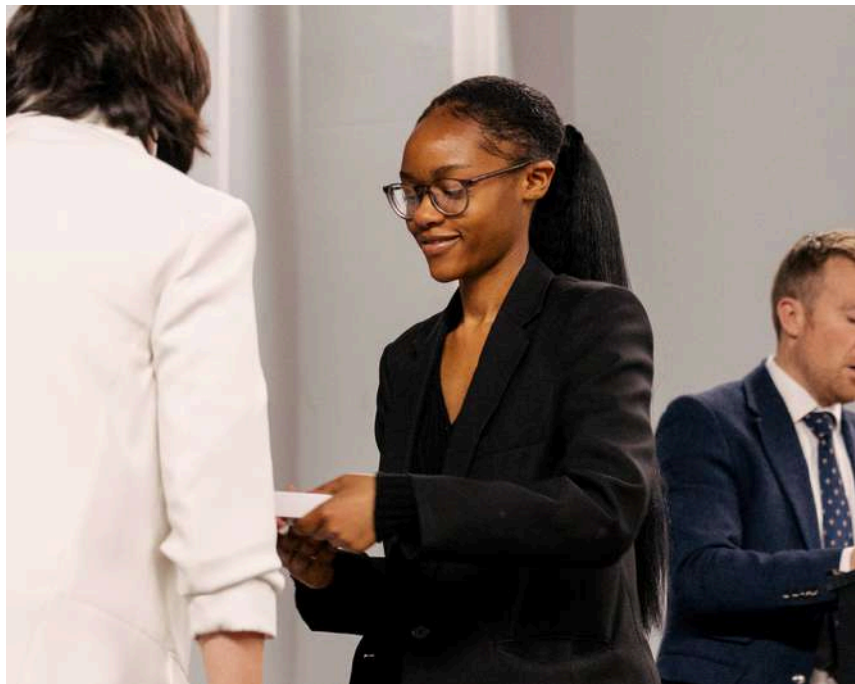
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SIXTH FORM



Awakening in Oxford

Two of our Lower Sixth students, Frankie and Siena, are thrilled to have been awarded places on [The Awakening Project](#). For a week at the end of July, they will enjoy personalised mentorship with tutors associated with the University of Oxford and the Canterbury Institute. The project encourages critical thinking, giving students early exposure to diverse points of view and demonstrating the benefits to freedom of inquiry. They are encouraged to reflect on work habits, virtues, decision-making, life goals, moral principles, and the deeper purpose of one's university years.

Last year's Head Boy, Aaron A, was lucky enough to take part in the project and thoroughly enjoyed it. As well as invaluable tutorials, he experienced walking tours of Oxford at night by historians, went punting and was taken around the Ashmolean by a mediaeval history and literature professor to learn how to look at and engage with art. He had tutorials in, and was allowed to explore, numerous colleges across the city.

Frankie and Siena are very excited to head off to Oxford in a few weeks. Frankie explained that she applied in order to meet students on the course she wants to complete, to learn what it will entail and how to prepare for it. She said she wants to set herself up for success and to "broaden my understanding of what it means to study Chemistry and further challenge myself by being exposed to a range of undergraduate topics." Siena is looking forward to enhancing her understanding of medical science and wants to "understand medicine from outside of my work experience and textbooks that I have read. I am most looking forward to having discussions with my assigned tutor who is currently studying health policy and global health research at Oxford University. Being exposed to the political side of healthcare will allow me to have a well rounded understanding of medicine and experience the study of medical science from a different point of view."

We look forward to hearing all about Frankie and Siena's experiences.

Dr A McMonagle, Head of Sixth Form



SIXTH FORM

Higher Education Day

This year's Higher Education Day offered the Lower Sixth a range of tips and advice for crafting their university applications. The day began with a workshop on how to access UCAS Hub, with students taking a proactive approach to starting their applications. Students then welcomed Joelle Pointing from The University of Liverpool for her presentation on what makes a strong personal statement. The Lower Sixth followed up with insightful questions, with some using the opportunity to learn more about the university itself. This was followed by a workshop on student finance and budgeting with Arooj Anwar from Manchester Metropolitan University. Students learned of the importance of good financial management, with some surprised to learn the cost of a block of cheese! The day concluded with the Sixth Formers applying their learning from the day to further development of their applications, followed by a research session on university open days. The Sixth Form team looks forward to seeing how these applications develop over the summer.

Ms K Brown, University Admissions Coordinator



A Week in my Dream Job

For as long as I can remember, being a vet has always been the only thing I have wanted to do. I have always had a passion for animals. Growing up in Hong Kong, a large and busy city, my interactions with animals were primarily limited to pets and occasional visits to urban animal shelters. The city's fast-paced environment is vastly different from the tranquil and calm English countryside, which made my work experience at Willows Farm Vets particularly enlightening and refreshing.

During my work experience, I was fortunate to gain firsthand experience, which provided valuable insights into the farm side of veterinary medicine. On my first day, I arrived at the office in the morning, and soon enough one of the vets received a call and we headed to a farm. I was lucky enough to be able to assist with pregnancy scans on dairy cows. I learned how vets play an important role in ensuring that the cows are in the best condition to maintain their health and productivity. By monitoring the health of the cows, vets help farmers to maximise their profit through improved herd fertility and milk production, which in turn supports the economic stability of farms. Having never encountered farm animals this close up, it was very rewarding to see the farm side of veterinary medicine.

Another valuable experience I had was at the Royal Cheshire Show. This event featured a wide variety of animals, including cows, pigs, sheep, alpacas, and even owls, showcasing the diversity of farm and domestic animals. While assisting the Willows Farm Vets with hospitality and emergency aid, I had the opportunity to explore the show's various competitions and exhibitions, which were both educational and entertaining. This work experience not only expanded my knowledge of veterinary medicine but also reinforced my commitment to pursuing a career as a vet. It provided me with a deeper understanding of the responsibilities and challenges faced by farm vets and inspired me to continue developing my skills and knowledge in this field.

Lamie C, Lower Sixth Student



A Fight Promoter with a Purpose: Inspirational Victor Theriault Visits St. Bede's College

The celebrated fight promoter, Victor Theriault, recently made an inspiring visit to St Bede's College Sixth Form. Known for his role in organising some of the most thrilling kickboxing and MMA bouts of our time, Victor took a step away from his duties to share his journey with students, emphasising the values of resilience, hard work and passion.

Victor, born in 1956, was one of 6 boys. After losing his father at a young age, his mother, Flora, was left to raise the boys on her own. With big dreams to finish Nursing school, the boys were placed in various foster care homes throughout their childhood until they could all be reunited with their mother, a Nursing graduate. Victor shared many moments in his life where he felt afraid and knew that he needed to learn how to defend himself, such as bullying incidents and the time a young man threatened him with a knife. He spoke about these difficult moments in his life to tell Sixth Formers that, without them, he likely wouldn't have developed his life-long passion for martial arts.

Growing up, most of the Theriault boys practised Japanese Jiu-Jitsu, kickboxing and/or Karate, with Victor's brother, Jean-Yves Theriault (The Iceman), demonstrating a natural ability in fighting that eventually led to him becoming 23-time World Kickboxing Champion known for his knockouts. Victor became incredibly dedicated to Karate and trained relentlessly to become a Canadian Karate champion. With Victor's background, he later became the Iceman's corner man and main event promoter, travelling with him around the world to both support him and organise the events that were broadcast on major TV networks. Victor isn't only passionate about martial arts, but about the beauty of a martial arts show: getting the right people, lighting, decor, sponsors, production and fighters. Since then, both Victor and Jean-Yves have been world-renowned as two very important figures who dominated the kickboxing space in the '80s and '90s and whose legacy lives on today.



SIXTH FORM



A career in the kickboxing world gave Victor many new contacts, and thus, opportunities that still follow him today. Notably, an MMA event held in 1996 - the first ever of its kind in the world - was shut down by the police due to legal disputes. This, however, started the process of legalising MMA, which has given reign to popular events now such as the UFC. Throughout his career, he has had the honour of working with legends such as Jean-Claude Van Damme, Chuck Norris and Mike Tyson. He even trained George St-Pierre for his last fight to help him improve his striking! One of his proudest moments was promoting Vitaly Klitschko's first kickboxing title bout in Las Vegas. Victor reiterated to the Sixth Form that it was only through hard work and resilience that these things were possible. Specifically, it is important to seize the opportunities when they come to you and believe in destiny and the Lord's path.



When visiting the Sixth Form, Victor shared his new venture with a video game called TaeBo Reboot, which is a martial arts virtual reality fitness project. This initiative is designed to revolutionise fitness and inspire the next generation to embrace physical activity. His goal is to give back to society by helping young people find their own strength, discipline and resilience through martial arts. During the session, Lyndon M tried out the virtual reality game live, which was very exciting to watch.



Victor's presentation was inspiring, motivational and one that students will remember for a long time. He made sure to reiterate that even when things are hard, it is vital that one does not give up. Tackle the obstacles. Discover your passion and pursue it relentlessly. Take what the Lord gives you and use it to motivate you. Make sure that what you love will make a positive impact on the world.

Mrs J Theriault, Sixth Form Enrichment Coordinator



Paintball Trip

On Wednesday, 3rd July, Lower Sixth students - chaperoned by Ms Theriault, Mr Howes and Mr Parkes - journeyed to Delta Force Paintballing in Botany Bay Woods. After being provided with full head goggles and body armour to ensure safety and protection, students were split into teams of Red vs Blue. Before starting their missions, all students were brought to a target range in which they were encouraged to practise shooting their paintball guns before going into battle with each other! A couple of students even chose to purchase paintball gun upgrades to enhance their experience. At the end of the session, the Red team came out victorious! Students commented that "I am so glad I tried it as it was something new that I had never done before - it was great fun." Another said "it was like playing Call of Duty in real life! It was also great to work in a team and feel like you're really on an adventure." The Lower Sixth voted for this as their end-of-year trip and seem to

Ms J Theriault, Sixth Form Enrichment Coordinator

SIXTH FORM



ALUMNI



ST. BEDE'S
COLLEGE
ALUMNI
1876

A History of St Bede's: A Shared Heritage

On Wednesday 3rd of July, the Academic Hall played host to a good number of Old Bedians. Even though the unseasonably wet July weather had forced us indoors, it was most fitting that the oldest part of the College, the old aquarium around which St Bede's had been built, played host to a celebration of our shared heritage. The gathering of alumni had convened to witness the launch of a new, two part *History of St Bede's College* by our College Historian and O.B, Lawrence Gregory.

It was truly special to see the span of generations all together in that one place. From those who only left in recent years to a Bedian who could recall the St Bede's of the Second World War, it was wonderful to hear their stories and the affection and esteem they still have for their alma mater as the College prepares to turn one-hundred and fifty. As the incumbent Head of History, it was my great honour to introduce Lawrence to the esteemed audience and it was terrific to see copies of his book selling like hot cakes after the speeches.

Lawrence is someone I greatly admire as an historian and as a friend. He follows the scent of truth like a bloodhound wherever it leads and his history is no hagiography of the of the College.

Rather it is a real history, exhaustively researched which shines a light on the difficult and miraculous birth of the special place, so dear to all of us. It also places St. Bede's as part of the of Anglo-Catholic story of the nineteenth and early twentieth century. It is the depth of scholarship and mastery of the historical context which places Lawrence's book far ahead of any of the dry school histories one sees elsewhere. It is a triumph of scholarship and we are indebted to Lawrence for the fifteen years of sweat and toil he poured into his labour of love.

The resounding success of the evening has made us all the more determined to move forward with more exciting alumni events which will be announced soon. It was a pleasure to connect and reconnect with so many Old Bedians, hear their stories and tap into a store of mutual love for our wonderful school.

Mr A Power
Head of Classics, History and Politics

ALUMNI



Sports Day

The excitement has been building for all the pupils in the Prep school in anticipation of Sports Day. We were blessed with two beautiful days which added to the enjoyment of the day for pupils, staff and parents. On Thursday morning it was Early Years and Key Stage 1. All pupils did a total of nine different activities ranging from skipping and relay races to space hoppers. The Prep 6 children were in charge of organising each station, and some had responsibility for helping the Nursery and Reception pupils. On Friday afternoon it was the turn of Key Stage 2. For the first time, Lower Fifth pupils assisted; it was so lovely to see fifty of them truly engage with and motivate their groups. All Prep pupils competed in four track events and four field events. It was so encouraging to see the determination and competitive spirit come out, and a great chance for the pupils to showcase their skills to their parents. Both Sports Days were a great success, mainly as the older pupils at each event were so organised, caring and encouraging to all the pupils. It was lovely to see the Bedian spirit in action.

*Mrs Nora Lavorni,
Head of Physical Education*



[Click here to
watch reel](#)



SPORTS RESULTS

Latest Sports Results

Girls' Cricket Team

The Girls Cricket team entered a Dynamo Cricket tournament and were overall Winners, winning 4 out of 4 games.

- vs Mauldeth Road: **WON** 98 - 64
- vs Man High 1: **WON** 89 - 73
- vs St Anne's: **WON** 84 - 31
- vs Man High 2: **WON** 109 - 69



The Prep cricket team finished 5th in the Manchester Cricket Finals

Latest Sports Results

Prep Football Inspire Tournament

The Boys Football team **WON** two matches and drew one



HOUSES

Reuben's Retreat

On Thursday 4th July on House Day, a group of our Lower Sixth students volunteered to accompany staff on a visit to a truly heartwarming charity called Reuben's Retreat in Glossop, which has been Siena's House Charity for the past two years. We were warmly welcomed by Lisa who gave us an informative and moving talk on the circumstances leading to the creation of the charity as well as an insight to the wonderful work they do. The Retreat is a countryside haven set amongst the rolling hills near to Glossop in Derbyshire. It supports families who have suffered the loss of a child or have a child living with medical complexities. The location hosts a good range of activities for families depending on their needs. This charity is wholly reliant on donations as it receives no funding from government or councils.

Having completed the first phase of the project, the charity currently supports around 750 individuals in the North West and further afield. For the next phase of the development, the charity is seeking to raise several million pounds to convert and renovate the remaining parts of the old building which are currently in a dilapidated state. It was fascinating to see the superb work of this truly amazing charity and the students were a credit to the College; they were all genuinely moved and inspired by what they saw, heard and experienced. A brilliant, emotional and uplifting morning for students and staff!

[Click to get involved and donate!](#)



CHAPLAINCY

For a Bedian, gratitude is not only a Christian virtue, but one of the three pillars of our identity: "Inspired, committed and grateful." And so it was fitting that we finished this intense, exciting, eventful and exhausting year with a Mass of Thanksgiving. We gave thanks to God for all the blessings and gifts that we have received during the academic year, and for the well-deserved holiday we can now enjoy.

Some of you have told me about your summer plans, including with exotic holidays in places like Spain, Turkey and Greece. As we prepare for the holidays, let's remember the words from the Gospel reading at our Thanksgiving Mass: "Come to me all who labour and are overburden, and I will give you rest!"

True rest comes only when we are with Jesus. The summer break is an opportunity to make more time to be with Him in prayer. So, when you pack your luggage for the summer holiday, do not forget to take Jesus and the gospels with you!

Have a lovely and restful summer.

Fr A Tintore, St. Bede's Priest



CHAPLAINCY

Bishop of Salford's residence visit, Wardley Halle

We are delighted to announce that our dedicated pupil chaplains at St. Bede's College recently visited Wardley Hall, the residence of the Bishop of Salford, to receive their Pin Level Award for the Faith in Action program. This prestigious award recognises their extraordinary dedication and commitment to living out their faith through numerous initiatives and acts of service.

Our pupil chaplains have shown exceptional leadership, completing over 20 hours of service both within the school and in the wider community. Their efforts have made a significant impact on our school and local community.

In addition to their service, our chaplains have led assemblies, sharing their faith and inspiring others to follow their example. We are incredibly proud of these young leaders who consistently demonstrate Christian values in their everyday actions.

During the presentation at Wardley Hall, led by Vicar General Fr Peter Hopkinson, the pupils were able to see the relic of St Ambrose Barlow, a local saint whose skull is within the wall of the grand staircase.

Congratulations!

*Mrs C Boylan,
Assistant Head of Safeguarding & Ethos*

Celebration Assembly

We ended this academic year in traditional fashion with Mass celebrated by Father Alvaro and a Celebration Assembly. And what a lot there was to celebrate! From Maths Challenge winners to Sports and Arts Colours, from Subject Prizes to Ethos Prizes, Headteacher's Commendations, and the House Shield, we commended our pupils' wonderful achievements.

Special mention must go to Bertie in the Upper Third, who was our first pupil to achieve the Behaviour for Learning Platinum Award for accumulating over 750 points.



First Holy Communion

Last Sunday, 30th June, we congratulated the children in Prep 3 who recently made their First Holy Communion in their own parishes. Mass was celebrated in the Chapel by Fr. Alvaro, followed by a joyful gathering where families enjoyed cake and refreshments together.

It was a beautiful occasion, marking an important milestone in the spiritual journeys of our young students.

Congratulations!

*Mrs Charlotte L. Hibbert
College Chaplain*



PASTORAL

Celebrating Pastoral Days: Music, Talks and New Skills

On their Pastoral Day, Upper Thirds and Lower Fourth's were treated to their very own concert by boy band Absnt Mind who performed their own songs as well as some pop covers. They spoke about mental health and wellbeing to the pupils and what inspired them to take up music. They advised the pupils to be true to themselves and to be understanding, since you can't know just by looking what others are going through.

The Upper Fourth's and Lower Fifth's, meanwhile, had a very moving and impactful talk by the Sophie Lancaster Foundation. Sophie's story is one that so many people go through on a daily basis. The pupils were told that with diversity sometimes come clashes, and whilst differences of opinion are fine, acting on them is not; how they talk to others matters and they should always approach people different from themselves with openness.

Next, the pupils returned to form groups, reflecting on the year gone by, and creating mini form yearbooks about who had inspired them this year, what they had committed to and what they were grateful for, as well as funniest moment, highlight of the year and advice to their future selves.

Finally the afternoon involved a 'knowledge whirl' with 15 minutes spent in different activities, such as flamenco dancing, chalking colourful bees, juggling skills and karaoke amongst many others.

The pupils had a great time learning different skills and challenging themselves to do something different.

*Mrs C Boylan,
Assistant Head of Safeguarding & Ethos*



PASTORAL



SUMMER FAIR

A Spectacular Day at St. Bede's Summer Fair

We recently celebrated Bede's Summer Fair, and it truly was a spectacular day! This year, the fair was dedicated to raising funds for our upcoming expedition to The Gambia in October.

The Summer Fair was packed with exciting attractions, including bouncy castles, delicious pizzas, refreshing ice creams, sweet doughnuts, a wheel of fortune, and colourful face painting, among many other delightful activities. Our Sixth Formers shone brightly, ensuring everyone had a fantastic time while successfully raising important funds for the Gambia project.

Our main focus is the Jammeh Kunder Nursery and Kindergarten School in Kombo Kerewan, founded in 2019 during the Covid-19 pandemic. During our visit to The Gambia, we will paint classrooms and work in the garden. The funds raised will support the nursery by helping pay its staff and providing essential furniture, such as basic tables and chairs, which the school currently lacks.

At St Bede's, events like the Summer Fair offer a chance for families, teachers and staff to come together, not only for celebration but also to support meaningful causes. This fair strengthened our community while directly funding our efforts to improve the learning environment for children in The Gambia. Through such initiatives, we foster gratitude and social responsibility, allowing our students to appreciate and embody what it means to be Bedian.

[Help us to continue to raise funds and make a difference](#)



[Click here to see our post](#)

SUMMER FAIR



GOOGLE TRIP

Google for Education: UK Leaders' Summit in Birmingham



On 4 July, we were invited to present our success story and our 'digital transformation journey' at a Google summit in Birmingham. The event, part of the Google for Education Leaders Series, focused on how to drive positive educational impact with technology.

The session was attended by senior leaders and senior executives from foundations, schools and colleges. It was a practical and inspiring day focused on increasing school performance through personalised learning, empowering teachers, creating financially sustainable educational technology plans, and improving cybersecurity practices.

Our presentation was given by Mr. Francisco Calmaestra, who highlighted our track record and achievements. Additionally, three students from St. Bede's shared their experiences, discussing how the integration of technology helps their learning and its practical applications in their daily activities.

The event also featured Dr. Fiona Aubrey-Smith and the LEO Academy Trust, who shared their evaluation of digital learning strategies to demonstrate tangible outcomes and improvements in learning, wellbeing and productivity.

Participants had the opportunity to join a community of peers to learn from each other, share experiences, exchange ideas, and use Google for Education technology. The day included drinks and refreshments, fostering an environment conducive to networking and collaboration.

We are grateful for the invitation and the opportunity to contribute to this important discussion on improving education through technology.

Mr F Calmaestra, Head of Strategy & Innovation.

"A huge thank you too for bringing with you such eloquent students - Cleon, Maria and Frankie were fantastic. I hope that you will not mind that I have written a letter for each of them (attached) by means of a thank you, and hope that you might be willing to pass it on?"

Fran, you are leading phenomenal work - and it's so important for other schools and leaders to see and hear about the journey that you have taken. A very heartfelt thank you to you."

*Dr Fiona Aubrey-Smith
Director, One Life Learning*

*"Dear Francisco,
Thank you so much for coming into Birmingham to deliver the keynote with your students. It set the tone of the day so well and we had lots of school leaders asking follow-up questions related to what you'd said. Thank you so much- it was excellent and the Google team there were genuinely thrilled to hear your story. The Head of Google has asked me to find "exactly the same quality of student voice" for our next event in Dublin in October- so she was clearly extremely impressed with your learners. I'm not sure where I'll find students as eloquent as yours though!"*

*Mrs Fiona Law
Head of Teaching & Learning
CANOPY EDUCATION CIC
Google Certified Educator*

GOOGLE TRIP



REMINDERS

Check out our new blog!



*Transformation Hero Award
by Google for Education*

Inspired · Committed · Grateful

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[Click to read the latest Sixth Form Review](#)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Thursday 15 August
A level Results Day

Thursday 22 August
GSCE Results Day

Monday 2nd - Tuesday 3rd September
Staff Inset

Wednesday 4th September
**Autumn Term begins - Prep, U3 and Sixth
Form return**

Thursday 5th September
Autumn Term begins - L4, U4, L5, U5

[Click here for further information](#)



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