



ST. BEDE'S  
COLLEGE  
1 8 7 6

**Save the Date!**

Christmas Fair

*Saturday 7  
December, 09:30-  
12:30*

# BEDE'S NEWS

## October 2024

Dear Parents,

October is dedicated to the Rosary, a beautiful prayer that invites us to remember and celebrate the life of Christ. I have placed St Bede's in the hands of Our Lady, asking for her special protection over our students, especially during the first Bedian trip to The Gambia over half-term. Our students embraced the culture with open hearts and demonstrated an inspiring spirit of service.

A heartfelt thank you to the PFA. Their fundraising efforts made possible the redesign of the College Library and the creation of the new Outdoor Learning Centre for Prep in the Regis. Both spaces have had a tremendous impact on our students, enhancing their learning experience. Teachers are using

these areas to inspire a genuine love of learning, and we've already seen increased engagement from pupils. It is truly a privilege to be part of such a generous and dedicated community.

Lastly, I wanted to share the joy we felt as a College in welcoming Net Ministries before half-term. The young team shared their personal faith journeys, demonstrating how it shapes their values and deepens their capacity to love others. This was a powerful experience for our students, and I hope it has encouraged them to reflect on their own dignity and the positive influence they can have on those around them.

Kind regards,

**Mrs M Kemp, Headteacher**



# THE PREP

It was truly wonderful to welcome our pupils back to school this week. This half-term is always incredibly exciting, especially with the delightful build-up to Christmas!

This month, we have been focusing on the virtue of Loyalty and Friendship, an opportunity for our children to explore the positive attributes and qualities that make for good companionship. It has been heartwarming to see the discussions and reflections that have taken place in school.

It has also been a privilege to visit each class and share experiences with the new Concept Curriculum introduced during the first half-term. The way our pupils have

embraced this approach has been nothing short of inspiring. The ideas they have generated and the direction their learning is taking is very exciting!

Additionally, our recent INSET day provided valuable training for the Prep team in Outdoor Learning, conducted on our newly developed Regis grounds. We all left the training feeling invigorated and can't wait to incorporate these new ideas into our lessons for the children.

With my best wishes for November,

**Mrs C Hunt, Head of Prep**



# THE SIXTH FORM

October's Virtue of Friendship and Loyalty is lived every day in our Sixth Form. It is common to see students helping each other with assignments, celebrating each other's achievements, and offering encouragement during stressful times. The tight-knit community fosters an environment where friendship and loyalty flourish; everyone has a role to play, and this interconnectedness creates a culture of empathy and understanding.

Our Common Room encourages genuine relationships, with everyone getting the chance to truly know each other. This sense

of familiarity means that students naturally develop a sense of loyalty to one another, often stepping up to support friends both academically and emotionally. Our environment does not just teach academic skills; it encourages personal growth, emotional intelligence and a genuine care for others' well-being.

As such, students are learning the value of standing by others. The loyalty developed now is something I hope they will carry forward to make positive impacts on the world around them.

**Dr A McMonagle, Head of Sixth Form**



# BEDIAN AMBASSADORS

Students who best exemplified September's virtue of the month, *Order*.

Upper Third	Lower Fourth	Upper Fourth	Lower Fifth
Barnaby B Teresa A Carmen C Rory D Anna Leigh O Malaika S	Julie M Kayur S Ibrahim S Edwin L Raghad A Stanislav K	Allura U Prince David O Maxwell T William B Logan G Joe J	Laurence T Sophie I Harry S Karen Z Carey S Oliver V Angel I
Upper Fifth	Lower Sixth	Upper Sixth	
Sol B-M Jessia L Matilda M Julia Y Jennah M Kenawa M Zackria M	Robyn G Paddy McG John H	Frankie I Jacob MG Ross C	





# THE GAMBIA EXPEDITION 2024

After months of preparation and fundraising, seven Sixth Form students set out on a trip to The Gambia, West Africa led by teachers Mrs Collard, Mrs Meakin and Mr Fernandez.

Here is a brief account of their experience.

This incredible opportunity allowed us to lend a helping hand at a local nursery. The *Jammeh Kunder Nursery School and Day Care Centre* in Kombo Kerewan was founded in 2019 amidst the pandemic. For four days, we worked alongside the nursery teachers, engaging with the children through games, crafts, stories and songs. We were also able to leave our mark on the nursery through various paintings and murals.

## Day One

On Tuesday 15th October we

apprehensively travelled to the nursery. As we made our way there through the streets, experiencing different sights, smells and way of life, we all similarly shared feelings of overpowering excitement, alongside nervousness. Very quickly after arriving at the Nursery, all of our nerves and apprehension faded away as we met the beautiful and very sweet children, aged from 3 to 6 years old. We began this day by introducing ourselves to the children and staff, and then spent some time playing with the children. They were very keen to sing us some songs!

There are three classrooms at the nursery, comprising three different age groups. With the youngest pupils we made three-dimensional flowers using straws for the stem, a paper flower template ornately decorated by the children, and tissue paper strands as tassels for the flowers to move in the wind. The older children made





animatronic monkey puppets with moving arms and legs attached to them with strings.

### **Day Two**

We had lots of great craft ideas (which we had prepared and planned beforehand) for the children and set about creating colourful snakes, as well as drawing and colouring in alphabet designs. The older children, led by Rafal, made their own animal pictures using handprints. There was a wonderful array of lions, leopards, turtles and jellyfish, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed mixing different paint colours and getting messy! The children loved to see their completed artwork and were very proud of the finished products. It was a delight to witness their happiness and joy.

### **Day Three**

Once we arrived at the nursery, our main aim for the day was to create two murals. Outside, we created an alphabet with corresponding pictures which had been requested by the nursery staff. Paddy, the artist amongst us, designed and drew the pictures, creating a wonderful mural which the children can learn from. Inside,

Elsie and Robyn brought to life a colourful scene featuring a tree surrounded by flowers, monkeys, and snakes - an imaginative design inspired by the nursery children's own artwork. This will act as a reminder of our visit and hopefully bring them good memories. We even had time to paint a smaller alphabet mural in one of the classrooms.

One of our best memories of the nursery was seeing the children playing with the outdoor toys and games we gave them. They loved the skipping ropes, large puzzles, and parachute, and we even did our own Sports Day involving egg & spoon races and sack races! Oli thoroughly enjoyed playing some football and cricket with the children and Ed gave some excellent piggy backs. The young girls at the nursery were infatuated with Cliona's long hair and she patiently allowed them to braid it.

### **Day Four**

Friday 18th October was our last full day at the nursery and we had plenty to accomplish. In the morning, we loaded the car up with gifts and donations for the nursery, the children, and the local community. Each child was given a

small bag with different toys in it tailored to their age. These included the wonderful donations of pens, pencils, notebooks, pencil cases, toys and bubbles provided by the students and parents at St Bede's. The children were overwhelmed with their gift bags and their animal headbands. It was such a privilege to be able to share in this very special experience.

Women from the local community also visited the school that morning and we were able to present donations of nappies, again kindly donated by the students and parents at St Bede's.

As well as our work in the nursery, whilst in The Gambia we had time to visit local attractions, and experience Gambian culture.

### **Museums and Parks**

On our first day in The Gambia, we embarked on a tour of Banjul, the capital city. This began at a striking monument which offered views of the city below. Climbing many stairs, we reached a small museum inside the monument, filled with fascinating artefacts that communicated the history of The

Gambia. The museum staff shared insights about both the ancient and more recent history of the country, enriching our understanding of its vibrant culture and traditions.

During our time in The Gambia, we visited two animal parks: a crocodile park and a monkey park, both of which offered unforgettable experiences. At the crocodile park, the visit began in a few small museum rooms that showcased aspects of Gambian culture, including traditional musical instruments. We then carried on walking through a forest and were amazed at the enormity and grandeur of an elephant tree! We reached the crocodiles and were in awe of being in the direct presence of such wonderful reptiles. The park owner shared that he cared for around 100 crocodiles and fed them large quantities of fish every morning to keep them well-fed. To our amazement, he invited us to pet some of the crocodiles and even offered us the chance to buy necklaces made from crocodile teeth.

On Saturday, October 19th, we visited the monkey park, where the park ranger greeted us with a brief







history of the area and introduced us to the diverse species that inhabit the rainforest. From snakes and spiders to mongoose and bush babies, the park was teeming with life, including two types of monkeys: red and green. We walked into the forest and very soon we saw many monkeys playfully climbing and hanging from trees. The park ranger provided us with peanuts to feed them, and to our delight, some even stood on our shoulders.

### **Culture and Food**

Every day after working at the nursery, we enjoyed meals in local restaurants. After learning about the history of The Gambia we embraced the cultural diversity and different cuisines. The main delicacies that were served universally in The Gambia were: domoda, a peanut meat stew; yassa, a curried chicken with various spices and vegetables and benechin, tomato-based spicy rice that accompanies all meals in The Gambia. These scrumptious delicacies helped us to immerse further into the culture!

In a similar aspect, strolling through the streets of the Gambian craft markets allowed us to develop our

cultural understanding through experiencing an environment overlaid with paintings, sculptures, garments, clothes, gifts and jewellery. We also collectively developed social skills communicating with the market stall owners and their bold antics, ultimately reaching a compromise on price! Exploring these areas allowed us to view all forms of Gambian art as well as to purchase souvenirs for family members and friends.

This was an incredibly special experience and we are so grateful for the opportunity. Exploring different cultures allows us to fulfil one of the aims of St Bede's which is to consistently further our cultural enrichment and understanding.

### **Ceremonies and Free Time**

When we weren't helping at the nursery or immersing ourselves in Gambian culture, we spent time simply enjoying each other's company away from the distraction of screens! Often there were Gambian bands playing a range of music, from slow soul to upbeat Kumpo dance music, evoking a sense of energy and celebration. Some performers wore grand

garments such as the Kumpo dance outfit, comprised of strips of 'Rhun' palm tree, creating a textile that moves in line with the rhythm of the dance while embodying the spirit of Kumpo.

On the penultimate day before we made our way back to the UK, we were fortunate to be invited to a Muslim Naming Ceremony which takes place seven days after a child's birth. The ceremony consisted of prayers, blessings, enjoying food, singing, dancing and vibrant and expensive outfits being worn. The women within the family all contributed by making the meals, whilst the elders (some of the men) said many prayers and blessings for the baby girl and her parents. They were delighted that we were able to share in this special celebration and cooked a lovely beef domoda and rice for us. We took the opportunity to reflect whilst having this meal and each of us spoke about what we were grateful for, many of us thanking our parents for giving us such a wonderful opportunity. After the meal, we celebrated the birth of new life and were invited to sing and dance with the family. To be able to visit the local community

and be so kindly welcomed gave us an overwhelming feeling of joy and tranquility. It allowed us to strengthen our connection with locals by experiencing such a joyous moment together.

On our last day in The Gambia we attended mass at the local Catholic Church, St Peter's. The mass was beautiful and the music really added to the joyfulness. To finish our trip we enjoyed lunch at Lamin's compound. Lamin had been our guide for the week and sharing a traditional Gambian meal, surrounded by his family, was a perfect way to finish an incredible week in The Gambia.

It is difficult to put into words the extraordinary experience we shared together, and really this account does not do it justice.

We would like to offer our thanks to everyone who donated, helped us to fundraise for the nursery and offered us prayers for our journey. Also thank you to Mrs Meakin and Mr Fernandez for accompanying us on the trip and supporting and helping with preparation beforehand. A special thank you to Mrs Collard for all of her hard





work, time, organisation and care: without her this trip would not have been possible.

This truly was an incredible, once in a lifetime experience that will remain with us forever.

**Written by Paddy, Cliona and Elsie**

#### **A concluding note by Mrs Collard**

This was St Bede's first trip to The Gambia and I could not have asked for a better team of students or staff! They entered into everything with such gusto and enthusiasm and were the best travelling companions, volunteers and fundraisers we could have asked for. I couldn't be prouder of all of them! We have so many wonderful memories of the trip that we will all sincerely and genuinely treasure.

I would like to add my thanks to everyone who donated towards our fundraising. We raised over £4,000 for the Jammeh Kunder Nursery School which will be used to pay staff salaries for a year, provide outdoor play equipment for the children and fix the rotting roof! In addition, we took 10 suitcases of donations to the nursery including nappies, clothes and gifts for the children. The nursery were very

grateful for all these donations, and have asked us to pass on their thanks.

**Mrs A Collard, Head of Mathematics**

# NATIONAL POETRY DAY - BREAKING RECORDS AT BEDE'S!

**ON THURSDAY 3RD OCTOBER IT WAS NATIONAL POETRY DAY AND THE NEWLY RENOVATED MAHER LIBRARY WAS BUSTLING WITH ACTIVITY!**

## **Guinness World Record Attempt with Laura Mucha**

A group of pupils in the Upper Third - Upper Fourth were selected to take part in Laura Mucha's Guinness World Record attempt for the largest poetry lesson across multiple venues. The group of 31 pupils were involved in a workshop to create a poem based on submissions sent in to Mucha, collaborating with 1,500 other schools internationally - an estimated 221,000 students!

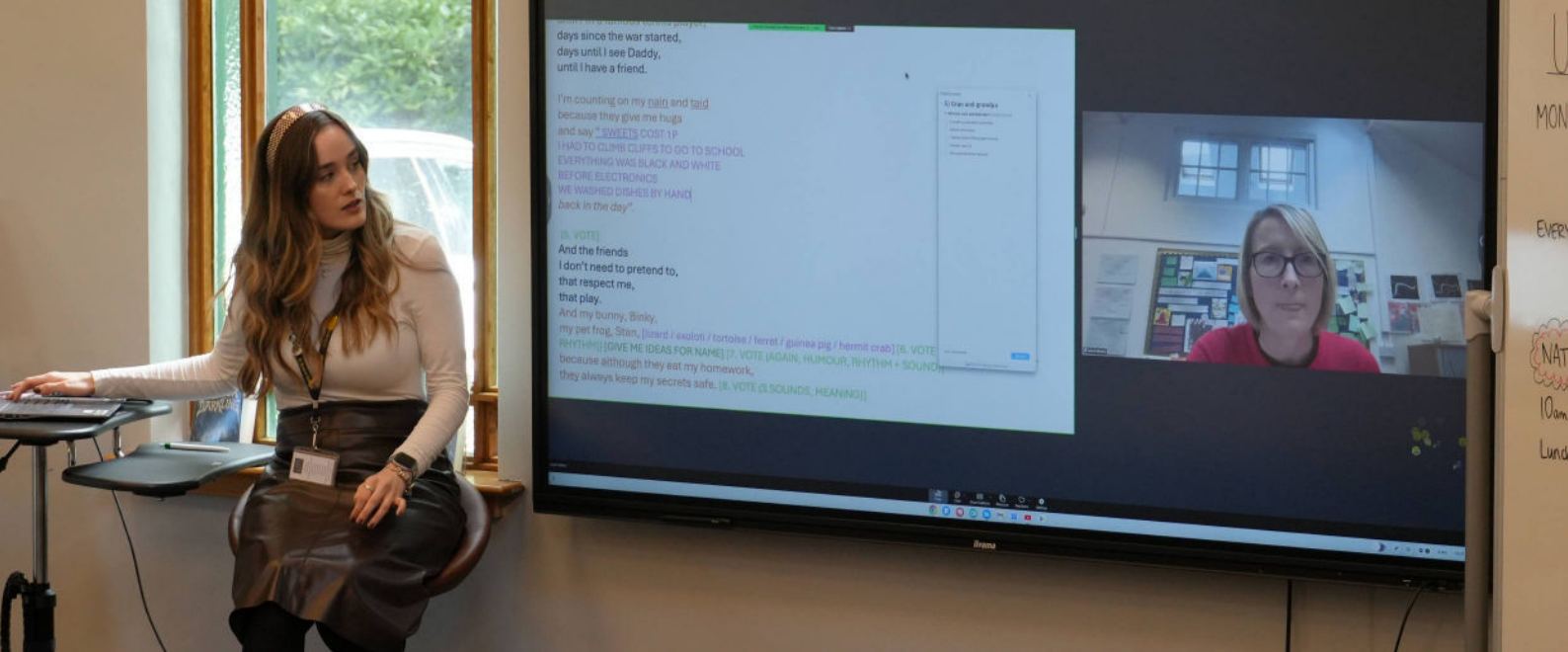
The poem created through collaboration via Zoom will be displayed in magazines,

newspapers, as well as on billboards, taxis and buses across the country - so keep your eyes peeled for a poem titled 'What are you Counting?' over the next few weeks! This was a fantastic event that the students thoroughly enjoyed being a part of - and the fantastic achievement of being World Record breakers!

## **Poetry Readings with Prep**

At Lunch time, pupils in Prep 5 and 6 came to the Library along with staff members to take part in a Poetry Reading event. Pupils and Staff picked poems either linked to the theme of 'counting', or poems





that they really like to read aloud in front of an audience filled with pupils from across the Prep and College. There were some stellar performances from our Prep pupils, who had written their own poems, as well as some talented teachers - with two standouts being Mr Power's rendition of The Naming of Cats by T. S. Elliot and Mr Howes' interactive performance of The Charge of the Light Brigade by Lord Tennyson!

It was fantastic to see the College come together across all age groups to celebrate poetry and recognise its value within our school! Lots of fun was had by all and we're really proud of all of those who took part.

**Miss M Moore, Literacy Lead**





# SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Clubs, competitions, trips and outreach were just some of the aspects of Sixth Form life that were on display at Sixth Form Open Evening on September 26th.

Our Lower and Upper Sixth students informed visitors all about the Bedian Diversity Initiative, the Buzz newspaper, our staff-student choir, and trips to The Gambia and

Lourdes, as well as our use of Manchester as a classroom. There were also opportunities to find out about the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) - worth half an A level - and the Bedian Research Project. Parents and students also discovered more about Duke of Edinburgh, Sport and Games, as well as the support offered around





### Careers and University Admissions.

Head Girl and Boy, Tara and Maciej, were on hand to sign Lower and Upper Fifth students up for Peer Mentoring, as well as to explain the role of the Perfect Team and our celebratory events such as the annual Prizegiving and Sixth Form Ball.

As always, our teachers answered questions about A level subjects and current students spoke of how supported they feel pastorally as well as academically; with small

class sizes, fantastic tutors and tight-knit friendships, they spoke of how pleased they are to be at St Bede's Sixth Form. Our Admissions Officers were also available to share information about grade requirements, academic scholarships, bursaries and charities who support Sixth Form students.

It was a busy evening and truly a delight to welcome guests from St Bede's and further afield.

**Dr A McMonagle, Head of Sixth Form**



# UPPER FIFTH FANTASTIC FIELDWORK - GEOGRAPHERS IN ACTION!

**ON THE 14TH AND 15TH OF OCTOBER OUR UPPER FIFTH GEOGRAPHERS WENT TO YORKSHIRE, TO THE CRANEDALE CENTRE, TO COMPLETE GCSE FIELDWORK.**

Upon arrival at the field study centre, students were issued with worksheets, clipboards and packed lunches, after a brief tour and explanation of how the Centre works. Then, having travelled to the nearby town of Bridlington, students sat in beautiful sunshine on the steps of the impressive town centre leisure complex, discussing how best to proceed with the Human Geography fieldwork investigation into regeneration of parts of the coastal town. They then headed off to collect data on footfall and completed Good Public Place surveys at different locations. The focus of their study was to quantify the level of success of

urban regeneration. Students took photographs to capture typical characteristics of areas and geolocated them to support their data collection. A mixture of sunshine, clouds and purchases of candy floss meant the data collection process was enjoyable and successful, with an excellent spirit throughout the group and a great sense of teamwork.

The following day, the weather was significantly different with thick clouds and rain, so donning extra layers and waterproofs we headed off to different sites along the course of the River Derwent to complete Physical Geography







fieldwork. This involved getting into the river channel to measure width, depth and dissolved load. The students worked efficiently in small teams, collecting data accurately and without too much disruption to the natural environment. There was plenty of water and mud to have to work around, but the students coped well and came away with good sets of results.

Mrs Smith and I were impressed with the students' work ethic and commitment.

**Mr D Parkes, Head of Geography**



# NET MINISTRIES ARRIVES AT ST BEDE'S COLLEGE, INSPIRING STUDENTS TO DEEPEN THEIR FAITH

**A TEAM FROM NET MINISTRIES SCOTLAND, CONSISTING OF MISSIONARIES FROM THE U.S., VISITED THE COLLEGE TO LEAD AN IMPACTFUL FAITH FORMATION RETREAT.**

The retreat guided students through a journey of self-discovery and spiritual growth with the theme of *"Free Indeed, to be Known"*.

Throughout the week, the NET team worked closely with students, engaging with those from the Lower Fourth, Upper Fourth, and Lower Fifth. Small group sessions were a cornerstone of the retreat, allowing students to break into more intimate circles for guided discussions, personal sharing, and prayer. These groups fostered

deeper connections among peers, as they shared their individual faith journeys and struggles.

For many students, this was a transformational experience, with a student from the Lower Fourth sharing: *"This has been the best day in school, nothing like what I expected - I've had so much fun as well."*

St Bede's College embraces this mission of spiritual renewal, and it is clear that the NET Ministries visit has left a lasting impact on both





students and staff alike. St Bede's is committed to continuing the mission of supporting pupils' spiritual growth, encouraging them to carry the lessons of the retreat into their everyday lives, and to remember the central message: knowing who they are in God, and knowing God deeply.

**Mrs C Hibbert, College Chaplain**





# UPPER FIFTH DANCE STUDENTS SHINE AT CONWAY CENTRE RESIDENTIAL

From October 11th to 13th, our Upper Fifth GCSE Dance students embarked on an inspiring residential at the Conway Centre in Anglesey, where they joined students from seven other schools for a weekend devoted to creativity and collaboration. The event featured a series of practical workshops led by AQA external professionals and an industry expert who performed in one of the Set Studies analysed for the GCSE Dance exam.

Throughout the weekend, our students showed a true Bedian spirit, immersing themselves fully in each workshop with dedication and enthusiasm. The experience not only helped prepare them for their coursework but also offered a fantastic opportunity to enhance their skills and connect with other young dancers. An unforgettable weekend was had by all!

**Miss L Stark, Teacher of Dance**



# DEBATE CLUB

In our school's debate club, students engage in lively discussions on various topics, ranging from 'Do Aliens exist on this earth?' to 'Humans should not eat animals.'

Each session allows participants to research, construct arguments, and practise eloquence, all while learning to listen and respond to opposing viewpoints. This not only enhances their ability to articulate

thoughts but also cultivates respect for differing opinions.

Students have recently started to use 'Points of Information' in order to formally interject in the midst of an opponent's argument. Students have enjoyed using 'POI' and this has greatly enhanced the passion during the debate.

**Mr Z Rees, Teacher of English**

# MATHS CHALLENGES

The Mathematics Department is very proud of their students' achievements in the Maths Challenges this term.

On 1st October, 31 A level Mathematics students took part in the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge, a 90 minute, 25 multiple choice question first round aimed at students in Upper Sixth or below. The problems on the Senior Maths Challenge are designed to make pupils think, and provide stimulating problems for both beginners and experienced problem solvers.

We are thrilled that Ho W, Isobel H and Dara S achieved a Gold certificate. Due to their exceptional performance in the Senior Maths Challenge they were invited to participate in the follow-on round, the Andrew Jobbings Senior Kangaroo which is a 60 minute, 20 question 'integer answer' challenge

which will take place in November. We wish them good luck for this challenge. 12 pupils also achieved a Silver Certificate in the Senior Maths Challenge and 9 pupils achieved a Bronze certificate.

In addition to the Senior Maths Challenge, Frankie I, Francesca S, Lamie C and Dara S also took part in the Mathematical Olympiad for Girls. This challenge is aimed at girls and young women across the UK and consists of five challenging problems. Lamie, Frankie and Dara achieved distinctions, and Francesca achieved a merit certificate. Well done girls on such a fabulous achievement.

We look forward to the Intermediate and Junior Maths Challenges in the Spring and Summer Terms respectively.

**Mrs A Collard, Head of Mathematics**



# UPPER THIRD ACADEMY STUDENTS' CELEBRATION

To end the half term on a high note, our Upper Third Academy students enjoyed a well-earned celebration with hot chocolate and donuts. These young athletes, selected by Manchester City Football Club for their training academy, are balancing an intensive football schedule with starting secondary school - a feat that's no small achievement.

Not only have they made an excellent start to life at St Bede's College, excelling in fundraising activities and house competitions,

but they are also training and competing at a level few can imagine. Whether they go on to future careers in professional sports or apply their talents in other areas, their dedication to both their craft and studies is remarkable.

It's a testament to the strength of our sporting ethos at the College, and we look forward to watching their continued success - both on and off the pitch.

**Mrs M Parker, Assistant Head (MCFC)**





# THE PAPER BIRDS - WORKSHOP AND SHOW AT HOME THEATRE

We had the pleasure of welcoming one of the country's most exciting verbatim and political theatre companies to school for a workshop with our Upper Fifth, Lower Sixth, and Upper Sixth Drama students.

The Paper Birds worked with our students, demonstrating how they develop their work through the devising process. It was fantastic to see our students collaborate with industry professionals, who provided valuable context to their classroom learning and helped them shape their own unique ideas into performance.

Later, we attended the evening performance of *Feel Me*, The Paper Birds' new show at HOME Theatre, Manchester. The performance was outstanding and perfectly complemented the day's workshop experience. As an immersive, audience-led show, it allowed students to interact with actors on stage and contribute to the narrative using their mobile phones - an element they absolutely loved. A great day was had by all.

**Mr J Dickson, Director of  
Performing Arts**





# HARVEST FESTIVAL

We celebrated the Harvest season with a wonderful assembly presented by our Prep 5 pupils. The focus of the assembly was 'Harvests Around the World'. The children transported us on a journey across the globe to learn about the traditions and festivals which take place to celebrate Harvest. We were also very grateful to our families for their donations to the Caritas Foodbank and Homeless Shelter.

**Mrs C Hunt, Head of Prep**

The Cornerstone Day Centre expressed deep gratitude for the generous contributions of food and

toiletries. Thanks to these donations, they'll be able to provide essential parcels for those in need, carrying them through to Christmas. Collections were gathered from both the College and the Prep, with our dedicated pupil Chaplains loading the van, and Sixth Form students and staff delivering the items to Cornerstone. We're also thrilled to announce that we raised £663 - well beyond our £500 goal! A huge thank you to all the families for their incredible support. If you would like to, [please donate here!](#)

**Mrs C Hibbert, College Chaplain**





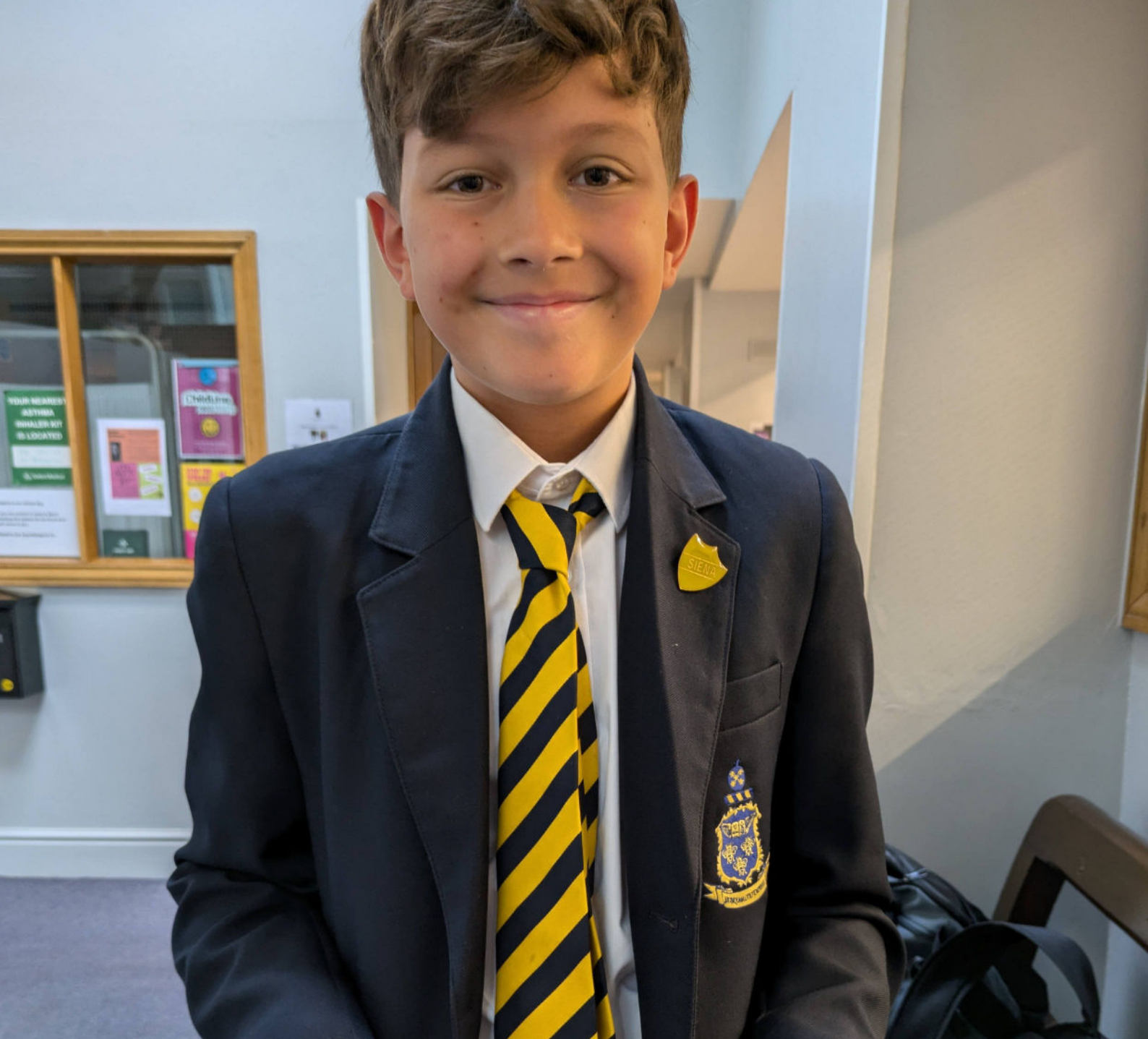
# MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP FOR LOWER SIXTH STUDENTS

18 Students studying for an EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) in Lower Sixth got the chance to experience what research at University level is like this month as they went to Manchester University Library, experienced a tour of some of the the 4 million books and journals available to them and registered for membership of the library to access its resources to support their research. Our students are now able to use this main library facility which extends over five floors, and others including the Sir John Rylands Library on Deansgate, 7 days a week. Alongside access to a

global network of academic writing with specialist areas including Law, Music and Medicine, the library provides an excellent range of study areas with a variety of temperatures, lighting and desk facilities to allow them to pick an ambience best suited to their personal preferences and learning style. It was smiles all round and not just for the photo ID cards as students described the trip as exciting and inspiring.

**Mrs S Bolton, Bedian Research Programme Director & Teacher of Economics & Business**





# EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES 2024

On Thursday 26th September and throughout that whole week, College pupils celebrated European Day of Languages. Bake-Off returned and this time it was a House competition! Pupils were back in the kitchen, busying themselves with their beautiful bakes, all with a European theme! It was wonderful to see so many delicious-looking designs and

judging them was no easy task. Each participant was awarded three House Points for their hard work and enthusiasm, but there could only be one overall winner: Holly H, representing Siena House, for her splendid Spanish 'Hola' cake! Holly received a £10 Amazon gift card and 10 House Points. Runners up were Joseph B (Bosco) for his amazing Spanish brownie



stack, Ed J (Magdalene) for his Spanish cake, Lincoln S (Campion) for his Spanish cupcakes, and George K (Siena) for his German, Spanish, French and Italian cupcakes, all of whom received an additional five House Points and an Amazon gift card.

House charities raised £128 for Caritas by selling slices of cake, which was added to by the money raised through other activities, such as Own Clothes Day, this year with a Hispanic theme. Thomas N won the 'Guess the number of lollies' game, with numbers in Ukrainian, correctly estimating that there

were 90 (дев'яносто)! In form time, students had great fun guessing the identity of 11 'Masked Linguists', staff members who impressively spoke a variety of European languages, modern and old, including Czech, Portuguese, Italian, Latin and Anglo Saxon. Many thanks, danke, gracias and merci beaucoup to all pupils and staff who made EDoL 2024 one to remember! Well done to everyone who took part and for making such a positive contribution to College life.

**Mrs M Reid, Head of Modern Languages**



# A WOODLAND ADVENTURE FOR PREP TEAM

On Monday, 28th October, our Prep staff took a refreshing step into the world of Outdoor Learning during an INSET day training session, where outdoor learning experts guided them through activities designed to deliver the Prep Curriculum in an outdoor environment utilising nature's great gifts and enhancing learning skills.

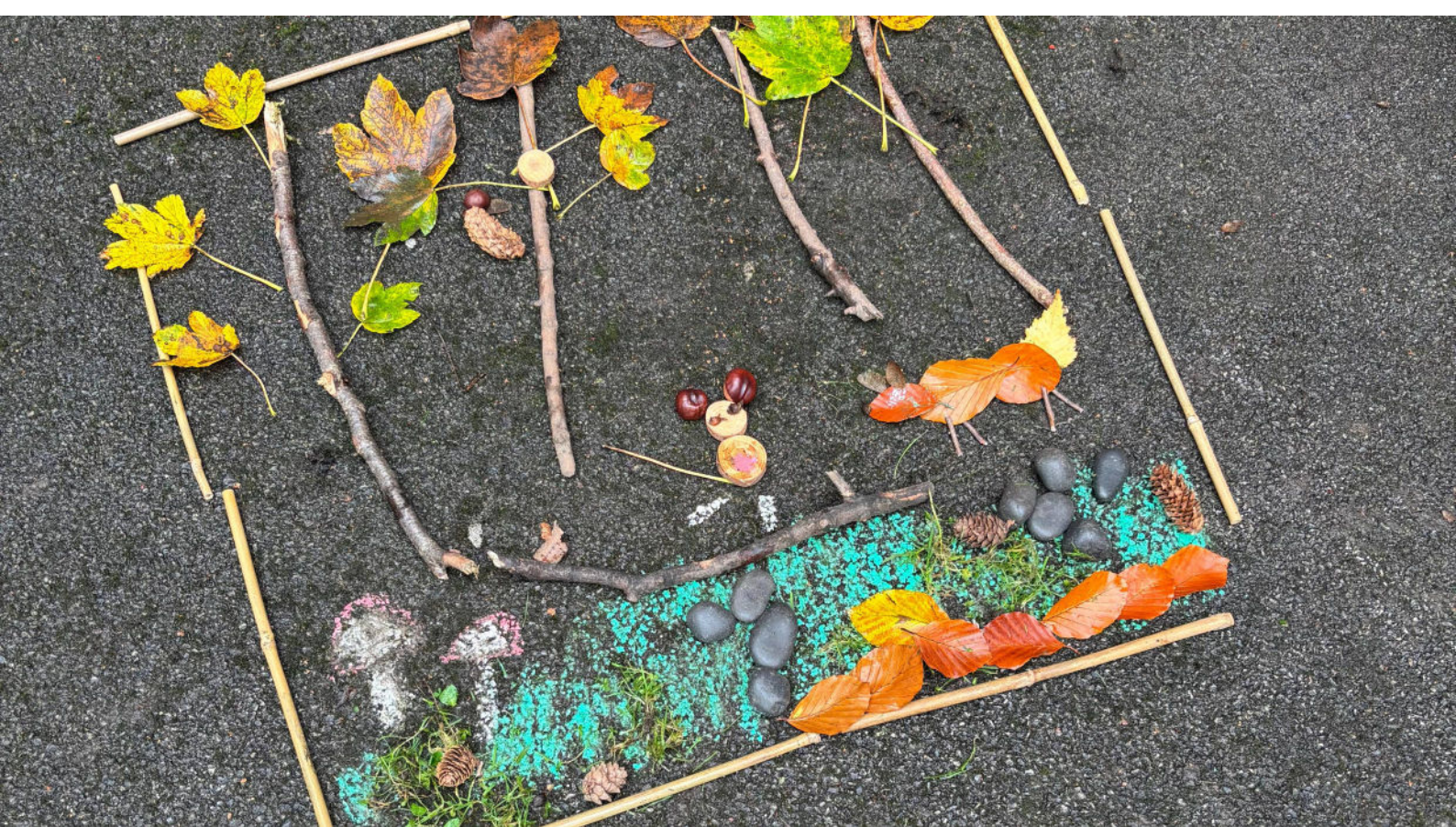
This training was all about equipping our Prep team to lead all our young Bedians in greater learning opportunities using the latest evidence-based teaching methods.

This session included an inspiring introduction to Outdoor Curriculum Based Learning followed by hands-on activities in the core subjects of Maths, English and Science in our beautiful new outdoor learning environment. There were many

highlights from the day, most especially recreating classic children's literature and story telling using foraged materials. It was a fantastic opportunity for our staff to unleash their creativity and witness the excitement that such activities will inspire in our Prep Children.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the PFA for their generous support, without which this new facility and the vision for our Bedian Rangers program would not have been possible. With this training, our staff are now fully equipped and eagerly looking forward to helping our Prep pupils further cultivate their curiosity alongside a lifelong appreciation for the wonders of the environment.

**Mr I Kemp, Head of Institutional, Expansion & Alumni**



# MEDICAL FORUM GUEST SPEAKER

**ON FRIDAY, 12TH OCTOBER, WE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF WELCOMING CAHAL RAFFERTY, A FORMER PUPIL AND NOW A REGISTRAR IN MEDICAL ONCOLOGY IN CLATTERBRIDGE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST, BACK TO THE COLLEGE.**

Cahal shared his journey and experiences with our Lower and Upper Sixth students who are considering a career in medicine. His talk offered invaluable insight into the challenges and rewards of the field, as well as practical advice on the university application process.

Cahal's overview provided students with a realistic perspective on the demands of medical school, with his first hand experience attending the University of Liverpool and the resilience required to succeed. Following his talk, students had the opportunity to ask questions, leading to an engaging discussion. He addressed various topics, from

preparing a strong personal statement to the importance of work experience and balancing studies with personal life.

This visit was both inspiring and informative, giving our prospective medics the chance to learn from someone who has successfully navigated the path they are embarking on. We wish to greatly thank Cahal for his time and commitment in supporting our students, and we look forward to several other visits from other Alumni as part of our Medical Forum.

**Mrs R Prince, Head of Science**





# PREP 1 CONCEPT CURRICULUM

In the Prep we have been delighted with the introduction of our Concept Curriculum. Prep 1's concept this term has been 'Extremes' and our learning has led us to explore *The Seven Wonders of the World*. We have learnt many

exciting things and produced some incredible work, including our wonderful display. Some of our class also made amazing models at home. Well done, Prep 1!

**Mrs C Hunt, Head of Prep**



# SUCCESS FOR BEDIAN SINGERS AT HAZEL GROVE MUSIC FESTIVAL

Just before October half-term, three of our talented singing pupils - Annie W Romilly G and Holly H - achieved great success at the Hazel Grove Music Festival. Under the expert adjudication of renowned singer and conductor Andrew Padmore, they participated in both

the Classical and Music Theatre vocal categories, showcasing their skills and dedication. Congratulations to all three on their wonderful performances!

**Miss L Ashworth, Peripatetic Teacher of Music**

# L4TH STUDENT RAISES FUNDS FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Mr Dickson would like to congratulate his form member, Matthew, on a remarkable accomplishment! Matthew completed a 10k walk for Cancer Research, raising over £1,660 in

support of the cause. A fantastic achievement - well done, Matthew!

**Mr J Dickson, Director of Performing Arts**





# HOUSE WEEK

House Week began on the 7th of October, with exciting competitions taking place across all subjects within the College, and winners receiving House Points and recognition of their fantastic achievements and hard work within lessons. Well done to everyone who participated in the various competitions and challenges throughout House Week, as well as those who have been eagerly awaiting the weekly quizzes and rolling House Point totals during Form Time.

As part of House Week, the Modern Foreign Languages Department hosted an inter-House bake off, where students impressed the judges by decorating their tasty treats with Spanish-themed icing and pictures. After judging, the cakes were sold and the money raised was donated to our College charity, Caritas. The overall Star Baker and individual House champions received those all-important House Points for their fabulously Spanish creations, but all of the entries looked and tasted muy delicioso!

Congratulations to the Bake-Off winners:

Overall Winner: Holly H (Siena) - Spanish Hola Cake

Bosco: Joseph B - Spanish Brownie Stack

Magdalene: Ed J - Spanish Cake

Siena: George K - German, Spanish, French and Italian Cupcakes

Campion: Lincoln S - Spanish Cupcakes

Students from all year groups also competed with each other at inter-House Countdown challenges during lunchtimes during House Week. Instead of striving for the teapot though, students aimed to win House Points and victory for their team. The House teams had thirty seconds to either make the longest word using all available letters, solve a numbers problem, or face the nine-letter conundrum. Students demonstrated their keen English and Mathematics



skills and each match was dramatically close.

**The competitors and finishing positions were:**

Upper Fifth and Sixth Form:

1st Bosco: Samuel H, Abdulsamad A

2nd Siena: Maciej W, Hamza B

3rd Magdalene: Vinanya K, Patrick K

4th Campion: Paddy McG, Sofia K

**Lower Fifth:**

1st Bosco: Tyrese W, Rachel C

2nd Siena: Elliott Y, MicheleP

3rd: Magdalene: Jibrail J, Jaiden-Amari B

4th: Campion: Azariah H, Ines A

Upper Fourth:

1st Magdalene: Joan SB, Vicky K

2nd Bosco: Madeline H, Jacob L

3rd Campion: Justin L, Allura U E

4th Siena: Logan G, Thomas E

Lower Fourth:

1st Magdalene: Edwin L, Berham Z

2nd Siena: Katelynne H, Bertie E

3rd Bosco: Stas K, Leonardo P

4th Campion: Miguel R, Zachary T

Upper Third:

1st: Magdalene: Feddie C, Josep S B

2nd Siena: Erin C, Galla G

3rd Bosco: Amanee A, Barnaby B

4th Campion: Emily B, Amelia T

Thank you and well done to the participants of inter-House Countdown this year, as well as to the audience who came to cheer on their Houses!

The Heads of Houses: Siena (Miss Charlesworth), Bosco (Mr. Henderson), Campion (Mr. Piskorz), Magdalene (Mr. Wilson).

**Miss J Charlesworth, Head of Siena House**