



ST. BEDE'S
COLLEGE
1 8 7 6

Save the Date!

Lower Sixth &
Upper Sixth
Parents Evening

Thursday 20th
March

Lower Fourth &
Lower Fifth
Parents Evening

Thursday 27th
March

BEDE'S NEWS

February 2025

Dear Parents,

I hope you have had a great half term, resting, building family memories and in exam years preparing for Mocks with balance and responsibility.

February always feels like a short transition month. We now have longer days, and we can start to feel the warmer weather breaking through. Our environment therefore has helped us live the virtue of joy but it is important that we realise virtue is a habit formed of conscious decisions or actions not just a feeling.

The virtue of joy has its root in gratitude and appreciation of all things in our life: good things because they make us happy, and what we perceive as bad because they give us the opportunity to embrace a challenge, difficulty or learn about ourselves and how to change.

The consequence of joy is related to

charity; when we are joyous, whether we feel like it or not, we make life pleasing to others with the humility of not expecting a gain for ourselves.

I wanted to share with you that our students start the day now with music in the playground. To build their cultural capital we are going to expose them to music for the composer of the month as they come into school until they go to form time.

After their initial surprise I hope they grow to appreciate the beauty of music and the richness of communication through it.

Next week we start Lent with Ash Wednesday. Let's embrace this period of conversation to grow closer in our friendship with God, who died for us, to teach true charity towards others.

Kind regards

Mrs Maria Kemp, Headteacher





THE PREP

As we reflect on the month of February, our virtue of Joy was truly exemplified during our celebration of World Faith Week. This initiative provided our children with an invaluable opportunity to delve into and appreciate other world religions alongside the Catholic values and ethos upon which our College exists. Throughout the week, our pupils showcased their understanding and respect for different cultures, sharing personal insights and stories about their faiths with great pride and enthusiasm. We were particularly pleased with contributions from parents and grandparents, who actively engaged in discussions, enriching the learning experience for everyone involved. This collaboration across year groups was a testament to our school's steadfast commitment to fostering understanding, respect, and harmony among diverse communities, which contributes to the warm and inclusive environment that we are proud to support.

In addition to this enriching event, we extend our gratitude to our pupils and their families for their generous donations to the Lourdes Fund. Your kindness and generosity have facilitated the raising of over £200, funds that will significantly

support our Sixth Formers as they embark on their pilgrimage this summer. This financial assistance ensures that our students can fully experience the spiritual and personal growth that this journey offers, and we are immensely grateful for your support in making this possible.

Our commitment to curriculum enrichment continues to thrive. Recently, our Prep 6 pupils enjoyed an inspiring visit to The Imperial War Museum, where they gained valuable insights into historical events and learned about the impact of war on society. This interactive experience not only broadened their understanding of history but also encouraged critical thinking and discussion around the themes of peace and conflict. Meanwhile, our Prep 1 students embarked on an exciting field trip to The Museum of Science and Industry for 'Operation Ouch', where they explored fascinating scientific concepts through engaging exhibits and hands-on activities.

As we transition into March, we look forward to building upon the joy and learning that February has brought us.

With my best wishes for the month ahead.

Mrs Claire Hunt, Head of Prep



THE SIXTH FORM

In the Sixth Form, February's Virtue of Joy is found in supporting classmates, celebrating achievements, and trusting that even setbacks and challenges are opportunities for growth.

As Upper Sixth students face the pressures of mock examinations and wait to receive university offers, it can be easy to let stress overshadow joy. Our students are lucky and grateful to be able to experience an education, and joy can be found in the hard work they put in to show that appreciation.

Small actions, like offering encouragement before an exam or celebrating a friend's university offer, allow students to feel uplifted and to become a source of joy for others. I know that they have the strength and self-knowledge to meet all the successes and challenges ahead with courage and confidence.

Dr Anne McMonagle, Head of Sixth Form

BEDIAN AMBASSADORS

Students who best exemplified January's virtue of the month, *Fortitude*

| Upper Third | Lower Fourth | Upper Fourth |
|--|--|--|
| James G Deborah T Nuoling W Tyler H Romilly G Irene DR | Alice I Berham Z Nick O Bobbi J Skylah-Rae M Tolani R | Tyler M Harry C David O Nell M Zain P Sophia N |
| Lower Fifth | Upper Fifth | Sixth Form |
| Amara BB Sheriff O Leo G Edson DS Jaiden B Noella M Nika Y | Liliella C Gideon B-A Luke S Martina T Macy M Femi O Tom O | Gonzalo FG Ayo S Alex O Dara S Oliver T Siena H |



PREP AWARDS WINNERS

February Virtue - Joy



Headteacher's Award Winners



DRAMA MAKERS CLUB SHINE BRIGHTLY!

We were absolutely delighted to witness the outstanding work of our Prep co-curricular Drama Makers Club at the end of half term. The pupils, who have been honing their skills with our brilliant teaching assistant, Miss Daisy Jones, since October, proudly presented their play, 'The Wizard's Box.'

Throughout the sessions, the focus was on engaging workshops that explored various drama styles while encouraging the children's creativity. Miss Jones worked closely with the pupils to craft a script, which was later edited into a fantastic final draft.

The culmination of their efforts was a delightful performance for families and fellow Prep students at the end of term. It was truly wonderful to see how the pupils developed new skills and grew in confidence, showcasing their exciting piece. Well done to all involved - what a memorable experience for our aspiring young actors!

Mrs Claire Hunt - Head of Prep



PREP 3 CHROMEBOOK SKILLS

Head's turned in Prep 3 this term as a group of parents quietly filed into the back of the classroom for a special viewing of the children's chromebook work. The class were fully expectant of their visitors, but under the parents' warm and attentive gaze, the school day became a bit more interesting!

The class hosted google slide presentations based on the Concept Curriculum topic of 'We Can Be Heroes'. The children in turn presented a piece of work individually based on historical heroes, modern day heroes and

family heroes. It was a very impressive display considering the fact that Prep 3 were only introduced to their chromebook devices in September having transitioned from the infants.

The activity was a chance to invite parents into their children's classrooms to observe instruction and classroom expectations in action. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all and there were some very proud parents in attendance!

Mrs Claire Hunt - Head of Prep



PREP WORLD FAITH WEEK

Last week the Prep school celebrated World Faith Week with a number of special lessons and workshops from members of different religions.

Prep 1 and 5 got together to learn about Islam. Activities included decorating their own stars and crescents out of paper plates and learning about the importance of Prayer mats in Islamic practice.

Reception and Prep 4 were joined by Mr Lee-Rodriguez to learn about Judaism. Pupils tried on various religious pieces of clothing including the Tallit and the Kippah then enjoyed sharing a loaf of traditional Challah Bread.

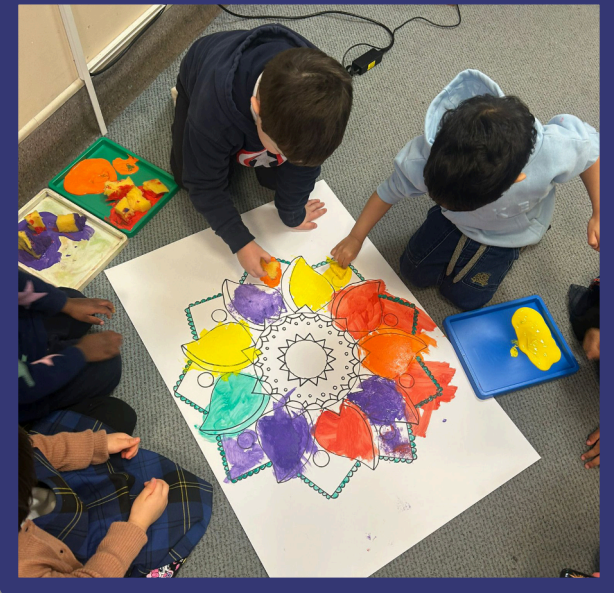
Prep 3 and Nursery students enjoyed a workshop on Hinduism where they coloured their own Rangoli patterns, a traditional activity in Hindu households during festivals such as Diwali

Prep 2 and 6 Joined together to watch a Buddhist guided meditation. Prep 2 then had a visit from Mrs Amandakone to learn more about Buddhism and the life of the Buddha. I've, grow, and continue to inspire.

Mrs Claire Hunt - Head of Prep







U11 BASKETBALL MANCHESTER SCHOOLS FINALS

Well done to the players who played in the Manchester Schools basketball finals. Matches were played on a full court rather than the half court in the qualifying tournament. Standard was high in all teams, and the scores were close

in all matches. It was pleasing to see that teamwork and confidence improved as the matches progressed. Overall they finished in 6th place out of 10 schools.

Mrs Nora Lavorini - PE teacher in charge of Prep PE

U11 GIRLS HOCKEY FESTIVAL AT ROSSALL SCHOOL

Why is it always freezing cold for the Rossall hockey festival? The girls played well and had some good performances. The results were 4-0 win v Kings Chester, 0-0 v The Grange, lost 3-1 v AKS Lytham, lost 1-0 to The Riley School. The matches were close and the team were unlucky not to progress to the cup stages. In the Plate beat Rossall 1-0 in the semi final, after a tense shuffle

to defend. This is a 1v1 with the GK and the attacker has 6 seconds to try and score. In the final a narrow 1-0 defeat to The Grange. Altogether a great team performance. It was so cold a team photo was taken after assembly with the girls proudly sporting their medals.

Mrs Nora Lavorini - PE teacher in charge of Prep PE



PREP SPORTS CLUBS

Whilst it is great to see so many pupils playing competitive matches against other schools, sport in the Prep is about so much more. There is great attendance at Prep sports clubs this year, both at lunchtimes and after school. Extra curricular sessions are a great way for your child to have fun and further develop their skills with friends and children in other year groups. As well as improving physical skills, it is a great opportunity to develop social skills and improve teamwork and communication skills. For sessions in the sports hall trainers or pumps are

required. For those that play in lots of clubs it may be worth keeping a spare pair at school so they do not need to be barefoot. However, as you can see from the photo a cold sports hall floor does not deter the children! A reminder that there is no charge for sports clubs and all pupils are welcome to attend. If your child is interested in attending any of the sports clubs please let us know or they can speak to Miss Sharp or Mrs Lavorini.

Mrs Nora Lavorini - PE teacher in charge of Prep PE



PREP 1 VISIT THE COLLEGE SCIENCE LAB

In Prep 1 Concept Curriculum lessons this term, our new concept is 'Movement'. When exploring this notion, the children have shown fascination and great interest in the human body. On Wednesday 5th February, Prep 1 embarked on a highly memorable visit to the Science lab in the College. They took part in a Biology lesson delivered by Mrs Ward, Head of Upper Third and College Science teacher and were supported by a number of Upper Third college students.

Through actively participating in a demonstration of the digestive system, the children worked directly with scientific concepts. Utilising models of the digestive system and using apparatus to highlight different stages of the digestion process, the children engaged in a practical, hands on and highly exciting lesson. The visit to the college Science lab without doubt added profound excitement

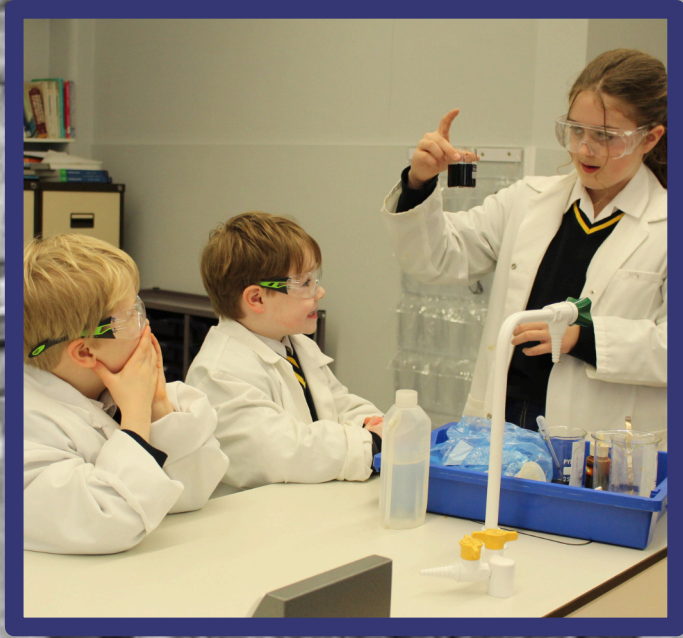
to learning, and sparked real curiosity within the Prep 1 students in relation to their new concept.

Working in the college lab setting involved teamwork. Through working together, the Upper Third and Prep 1 students quickly learned to collaborate, share ideas, and solve problems together, which enhanced communication and critical thinking skills throughout the lesson. It was heartwarming to see how the Upper Third students demonstrated leadership skills and great empathy as they helped their younger peers with the tasks and understanding of new concepts.

Through taking part in this incredibly unique lesson, it gave the opportunity for both sets of children to teach, learn, and grow together which was incredibly rewarding to see.

Mrs Victoria Johnston - Prep 1 Class Teacher





SAFER INTERNET DAY 2025 - TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE?

In February we recognise Safer Internet Day, which this year took place on the 11th February 2025. The UK Safer Internet Center looks at current concerns facing students across the UK and attempts to raise awareness toward a particular issue.

This year, the tagline was 'Too good to be true?' which looked at the definition of scams and how to spot them online. We looked at the uptake of AI to write and run elaborate scams and fraudulent activities; how to spot social engineering techniques; and the importance of protecting your personal data online.

Upper Third and Lower Fourth were introduced to key markers of scams, how to look after personal data and who they could contact if information got out which could be a risk to themselves or family. We had a focus on online interactions within gaming communities and how certain pieces of personal information can be obtained by online users. Online there are images that you may have seen, that encourage you to use personal information to form a 'superhero name' or to tell your fortune etc. These are usually posted by different accounts but all linked to the same group or individual - so one may ask you to use your date of birth and another may ask you to use your first and last initial, both of which will go back to the same person.

Upper Fourth, Lower Fifth, Upper Fifth and Lower Sixth looked at risks of social media and social engineering. We looked at

prominent forms and effective ways information can be obtained such as phishing, pharming and pretexting. All of which have shown a large increase in recent years as more and more information is out in public domains allowing more convincing emails, messages and threats to be used. For example, if you received an email from a bank you did not bank with you could easily ignore it, but, if you receive an email from a bank you are part of you will give it pause for thought. How could they do this? Ask yourself, do you follow your bank on your social media profiles? Have you posted on their posts? If you have done either of these, chances are you will have an account with that bank.

New research over the past year, from the top internet and media providers in the UK, have seen 48% of teens (13-18) falling prey to online or messaging scams revealing another person's personal data, their own personal data and even, in over a quarter of cases, financial information.

We would like to equip our students with the knowledge to keep themselves safe online and grow up with the understanding that the internet and the people who use it are amazing. However, there are risks to be aware of and we should always be careful by asking ourselves:

Is it too good to be true?

**Mr Russell Stephenson - Teacher of
Computer Science with
Mathematics**

MFL HOME CINEMA TRIPS FEB 2025

February saw MFL pupils visit HOME cinema in Manchester for their annual GCSE Study Mornings for German and Spanish.

First up was a screening of the Oscar winning 'Zone of Interest', a chilling depiction of the brutality of the Holocaust, directed by Jonathan Glazer. Th German-language film focuses on the everyday life of Auschwitz Commandant Hermann Höss and his wife Hedwig, who live next door to the camp with their children. The session was introduced by Sebastian Truskolaski, lecturer in German Cultural Studies at the University of Manchester, who, following the screening, led a thought-provoking, interactive discussion about the film.

The following week, Lower Fifth students attended a screening of 'La

Suprema', an inspiring Colombian film about an Afro-Colombian teenager, living in a remote village in the Colombian Caribbean region erased from maps where electricity has not yet arrived. She learns her uncle will box for the world title and it will be broadcast live on TV and the film follows her inspiring and at times hilarious quest for the village community to watch the fight. The students impressed through their interaction with the series of language exercises in Spanish, led by Dr Carmen Herrero of Manchester Metropolitan University, including film analysis and discussion of the main themes in the film and its characters.

Ms Michelle Reid and Mrs Jenni Di Paola - Head of MFL and Teacher of MFL



INTERMEDIATE MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE

On 29 January 2025, 96 pupils took part in the Intermediate Mathematics Challenge. This is a 60 minute, 25 multiple choice Challenge which encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency to make students think. Our pupils did exceptionally well achieving 8 Gold certificates, 16 Silver certificates and 21 Bronze certificates. Ines A, Thomas E, Horace L, Carlson L, Harris M, Martina T, Elliot Y and Berham Z all achieved a Gold Certificate. As a result of their impressive scores five pupils have qualified for the Grey and Pink Kangaroo, the follow on rounds to the Intermediate Mathematics

Challenge. They are Berham, Thomas, Elliot, Carlson and Horace. A special mention needs to go to Berham and Thomas. The Intermediate Mathematics Challenge is aimed at pupils in Upper Fifth or below, and both these pupils scored highly enough for the follow on round despite only being in Lower Fourth and Upper Fourth respectively.

Congratulations to all the pupils who took part in the Challenge on some excellent results, and best of luck to those pupils taking part in the Grey and Pink Kangaroo.

Mrs Amanda Collard - Head of Maths

FOOTBALL STAR TURNED ENTREPRENEUR

On the 20th January St Bede's welcomed former Manchester United and England Under 20 footballer, Febian Brandy, to speak to Lower Fifth Business students about his business, Skouted.

In 2017 Febian started Skouted, a digital app that allows players to upload digital footage of their footballing skills, to enable individuals to be scouted by some of the world's most renowned football teams. Over the course of an 8-year period, Febian's business has expanded dramatically and he now operates in over three continents, most recently securing contracts in Nigeria and Morocco.

The Lower Fifth were given a variety of insights into Febian's business: how he has utilised technology to grow Skouted, what stakeholders have influenced his business the most and how he dealt

with these additional pressures. Another important element that Febian discussed was how external factors, such as COVID, affected his business both positively and negatively. The Lower Fifth then had the opportunity to interview Febian, asking him a variety of questions from what entrepreneurial skills he thinks lead him to success and how he is planning to expand his business in the next five years.

We would like to thank Febian for taking the time to come into St Bede's to share his wealth of business knowledge with the Lower Fifth. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the morning and it gave them a fantastic opportunity to apply the knowledge they have been learning in class.

Miss Nicole English - Business Teacher

MENORAH SYNAGOGUE

In February the Lower Fifth got an amazing opportunity to visit Manchester's 'Menorah Synagogue' which practices Reform Judaism. This trip was a chance to enhance our GCSE study of Judaism and to see our study come to life. To start they shared the logo of their Synagogue with us which was a creative combination of a Menorah and the Star of David symbols. After a talk about their community, we were split into small groups to look at different features and artifacts in the Synagogue in detail. I was fascinated by how big the Torah scroll was, and they showed us how to read it correctly. We were told about the 613 commandments, how Jewish people read the scroll with a yad, as it is so precious it cannot be touched. We could see the effort that goes into hand writing each line, requiring so much focus and time that each scroll costs up to a years wage to create! They also shared a story of someone dropping a Torah scroll by accident and the punishment was to fast for 40 days!

They showed us many objects and features, such as the Tallit with the Tzitzit which represents the 613 commandments in the Mitzvot. They offered us an opportunity to wear a Kippah, a little cap you wear when you worship in Judaism. I saw and heard the lady blowing on the Shofar, a real animal horn that acts as an instrument. Many celebrations like the Bar and Bat Mitzvah were described, and we also got an explanation of how different Shabbat celebrations are for Reform and Orthodox Jews.

Lastly, they demonstrated some of their Hebrew prayers for us, and kindly shared some kosher bread and grape juice (as we couldn't have wine) as a recreation of the Shabbat blessings - they tasted amazing and I enjoyed it so much! Thank you very much to the Religion teachers and members in the Synagogue for giving us this opportunity to learn more about the Jewish faith.

Written by Nika Y in Lower Fifth



HOUSE WEEK

Students from each year group once again competed for glory in the inter-House competitions during the last week of half-term. After a successful series of Catchphrase before Christmas, Bosco managed to snatch the lead number of House Points, with three victories over Siena's two. This time, the competition was Taskmaster. Every lunchtime, a representative of each House was given a series of tasks. These ranged from a test of skill, such as inflating the largest balloon, to the downright silly: making a self-portrait out of toilet roll. In the final round, students participated in the Prize Task round wherein they had to submit a photo to the Taskmaster and argue why their submission was the winner. Prize tasks included 'choose the best liquid', 'best thing in your room for a zombie apocalypse', and 'best thing with eyes'.

Students demonstrated a fierce competitive spirit, but maintained good Bedian cheer and sportsmanship as they fought to win the overall result. We are pleased to announce the results of the inter-House Taskmaster competition:

Sixth Form / Upper Fifth:

1st: Ross C (Magdalene)

Joint 2nd: Paddy M (Siena) & Samad A (Bosco)

3rd: Divine (Campion)

Lower Fifth:

1st: Tanaka M (Campion)

2nd: Carey S (Magdalene)

3rd: Tyrese w (Bosco)

4th: Michele P (Siena)

Upper Fourth:

1st: Charlie C (Campion)

2nd: Dara S (Magdalene)

Joint 3rd: Logan G (Siena) & Jacob L (Bosco)

Lower Fourth:

1st - Bertie E (Siena)

2nd - Dara S (Magdalene)

3rd - Stas K (Bosco)

4th - Kiama M (Campion)

Upper Third:

1st - Carmen C (Bosco)

2nd - Caroline K (Siena)

3rd - Victor P (Campion)

4th - Nimi A (Magdalene)

Thank you to all students who participated, as well as the members of the audience who cheered on their friends. A special thanks also to Mr. Wright, Mrs. McCormick, and Mr. Cank, who acted as our Taskmasters.

In other House news, Campion House launched their annual Rolo sale! This has been a St. Bede's tradition and favourite for years, in which pupils buy a Rolo to send to someone in the College of their choosing around Valentine's Day. This year was another huge success, with over 250 Rolos sold! Mr. Piskorz wishes to extend a huge thanks to Campion House Captains Eleanor S and Charles K for their dedication in selling and distributing Rolos, with all money raised going to Caritas.

Finally, we invite you to consider: who would you give your last Rolo to?

Miss Jess Charlesworth - Head of Siena House

HIGHER EDUCATION EVENING

Lower Sixth students and their parents attended Higher Education Evening on 6th February, an event designed to allow parents to support their children as they navigate their way through the university application process. Ali Clark, who is Head of Student Recruitment at the University of Stirling delivered a talk all about the new structure of the personal statement, how to choose a university, and how to choose a course. She also relayed some useful information about university accommodation and

student finance. Ms Brown, our university admissions coordinator, spoke more specifically about how the process works in the College, including predicted grades, references, offers and clearing. Finally, we advised on preparation students need to do for some courses, like admissions tests and interviews. It was a well-attended evening and we look forward to starting the UCAS process with Lower Sixth in the coming weeks.

Dr Anne McMonagle - Head of Sixth Form



SPINAL INJURIES ASSOCIATION VISIT

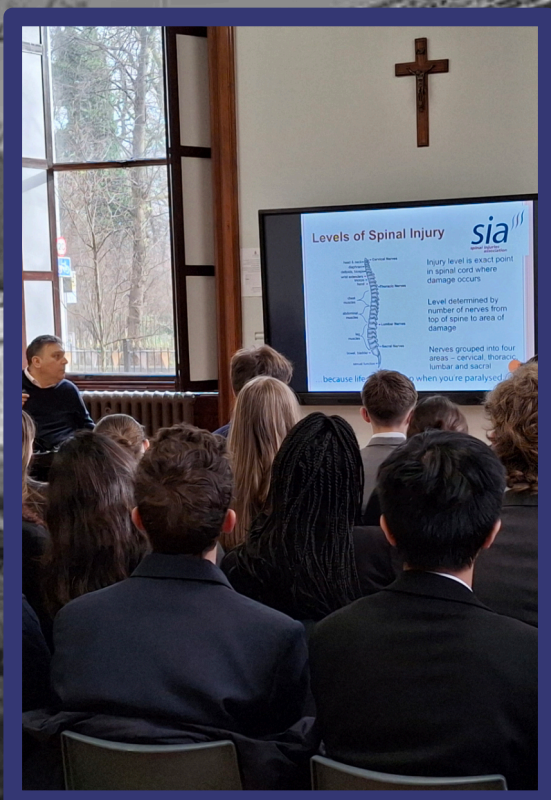
Jonathan Fogerty, an Associate Solicitor and trustee of the Spinal Injuries Association, recently visited our Lower Sixth to share his insights on 'Living with a Disability.' Having sustained a spinal cord injury in his early teens, Jonathan is now a passionate advocate for individuals with disabilities.

During his engaging talk, he recounted the circumstances of his own injury and highlighted activities that can pose a risk to young people. He also spoke how his daily life has changed, showcasing images of the

modifications made to his car and home. Students were particularly intrigued by pictures of his travels and even his experiences skiing.

Beyond raising awareness of the importance of making spaces more accessible for wheelchair users, Jonathan's story left a lasting impression. His resilience and determination served as a true source of inspiration for all who attended.

Dr Anne McMonagle - Head of Sixth Form



BUSINESS IN ACTION

Business and DT A Level students were treated to a visit to Jaguar Land Rover in Solihull to see how Range Rovers are made. Under the supervision of our very knowledgeable guides we learned about the supply chain process, and challenges that JLR have faced since the end of Covid, and saw some of their 700 robots in action on the flow production line. Students were fascinated that in a factory with 700 robots and 400 workers - but only 1 person controlling the whole operation - how well organised and smoothly the process worked as they produce a new vehicle every 30 seconds. They were able to link their theory with practice as they learned about managing quality, the use of technology, product development, mass customisation, outsourcing and key human resource issues as well as finding out how JLR is working to be ever more sustainable.

It was also exciting to see their new factory being built following their controversial rebrand and the development of their new models for a new generation of JLR customers, all currently top secret, so we could tell you but

Student thoughts:

Ayo

'Jaguar Land Rover was a fun and exciting experience for me because I got to experience how cars in the vehicle industry are manufactured. We also learned about the history of Land Rover, the collaborations with competitors like BMW, Ford and Jaguar. Another thing I learned is why it's important to be innovative and constantly develop existing products.'

Shriya

'The most insightful part of the tour was where we experienced how cars are manufactured. It was intriguing to learn about the high levels of automation within this plant, driving efficiency and higher production. This is interesting as it accentuated the ever-changing global marketplace of automation and how this has led to increased productivity within the industry.'

Mrs Mary Corbett - Head of Business, Economics and Psychology

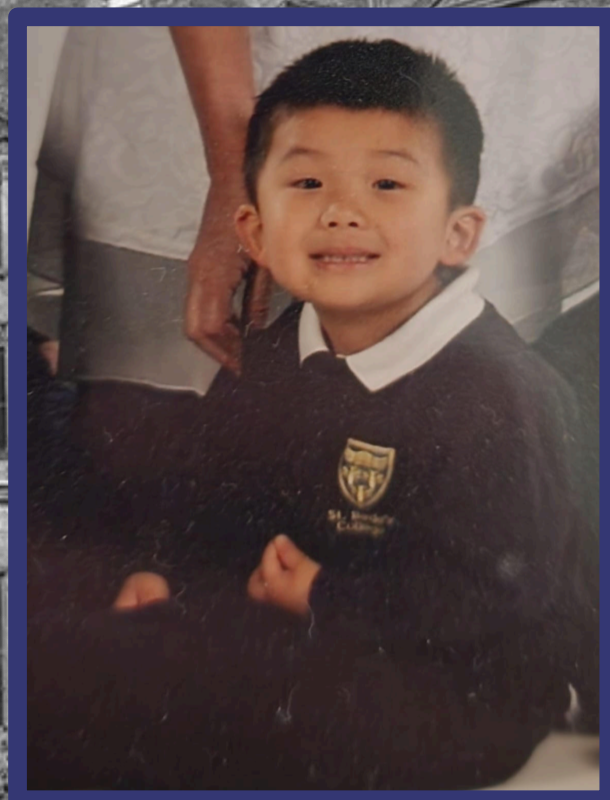


SOLOMON WOWS CATENIAN JUDGES

Our Head Boy, Solomon, won the Regional Catenians' Public Speaking Competition on Sunday 2 February. Competing against 12 highly impressive students from Catholic Sixth Forms across Greater Manchester, he spoke about the merits of good manners and politeness. The judges commented on Solomon's poise and clarity and said he was "clever, engaging and warm, with star quality in abundance." He has been very busy

lately, implementing a peer mentoring scheme for our GCSE students, fundraising for his upcoming trip to Lourdes and playing Fagin in our recent College production of 'Oliver!' We have had the joy of watching Solomon grow and develop since he joined us at the age of 3 as part of the inaugural Nursery intake. It is wonderful to see him thrive and own his future.

Dr Anne McMonagle - Head of Sixth Form



MATHEMATICS A LEVEL STUDY WEEKEND

On Friday 7 February, fourteen Upper Sixth students accompanied by three teachers set off for Castleton in the Peak District for a weekend of Mathematics study lessons in preparation for their February mock examinations. We stayed at YHA Castleton Losehill Hall where we had access to a conference room for the weekend; perfect for our study sessions! We covered lots of A Level Mathematics, including trigonometry, differentiation, integration, statistics and mechanics. We were very impressed with the pupils'

commitment and engagement in these sessions. There was also plenty of time for fun. We walked into Castleton where we enjoyed cake and hot drinks from a local cafe, and Mr Cooper's quiz on Saturday evening was a definite highlight of our weekend! I would like to thank Mr Cooper and Miss Tipton for accompanying us on the trip, and the Upper Sixth Mathematicians for their fabulous company.

Mrs Amanda Collard - Head of Sixth Form



SIXTH FORM STUDENTS EXPLORE CUTTING-EDGE CAR MANUFACTURING AT LAND ROVER JAGUAR

Design Technology and Business Sixth Form students recently had the exciting opportunity to visit the Land Rover Jaguar factory in Solihull for an immersive and educational tour.

The visit began with a tour of the state-of-the-art body shop, where students observed the incredible combination of robotics and human craftsmanship on the production line. With over 300 robots in action, one of the highlights was watching a group of them install hundreds of rivets into a car in just 90 seconds!

Students were then driven across the vast factory complex in specially designed safari-style Land Rovers, stopping at key areas to gain deeper insight into the manufacturing process.

Exploring the History of Range Rover

At the museum, students took a journey through time, learning about the evolution of the iconic Range Rover. Guides explained how the vehicle's design has changed over the decades, adapting to advancements in technology,

sustainability, and consumer needs. From the first-ever Range Rover to the latest limited-edition models, students saw how innovation has shaped the brand into a global leader in luxury and performance. The session concluded with an exciting hands-on experience—students had the chance to sit inside the newest Range Rover model.

A First Look at Production

Amazingly, each Range Rover takes 36 hours to build, yet a new one rolls off the production line every 90 seconds! The group witnessed the final stage of production, watching the newest models take their very first drive off the assembly line.

Throughout the visit, students demonstrated curiosity and engagement, asking insightful questions and impressing the guides with their knowledge. The tour provided valuable real-world connections to their coursework, making it a truly inspiring and educational experience.

Miss Sarah Manning - Teacher of Design Technology



LOWER SIXTH FORM TRIPS

As part of encouraging our Sixth Formers to increase their independence and become more exposed to the city around them, we asked Lower Sixth students to take trips out during their first term. They experienced planning, budgeting and being out and about without supervision. Alongside our PSMEE lessons in life skills, these trips are a gentle introduction to life after St

Bede's. The next set of trips will make use of Manchester as a classroom and expose students to a range of cultural activities. Below are some summaries of the trips undertaken by L6PRI, L6SIN and L6 HOW:

Dr Anne McMonagle - Head of Sixth Form

L6PRI

We all got the bus into town, went bowling and then had a meal together. We organised the trip very quickly and all stuck to the plan; even when the bus was late, we all managed to get there as a group. We learnt how crucial organisation is when planning trips, including organising the time, the venue and the money - and everyone contributing was also really

important. Socially, it helped us all get to know each other better. It was really good fun and the food at the meal was great.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/139jekkiW4-ET5UQN2YxPutYU-w5Cwv2/view?usp=sharing>

Mrs Rachael Prince - Head of Science



L6HOW

We went as a form to the Trafford centre on a Saturday afternoon. We decided to go to the cinema and split into groups to see Paddington 3, Gladiator 2 and Wicked. Afterwards we ate together. Doing this trip helped us to live the virtues of generosity and fortitude. We were generous with our time - it was

difficult to find a time where everyone was available so we had to cancel other commitments to be able to complete the trip. We worked around people's schedules to make sure that the whole form could attend.

Mr Sean Howes - Head of English

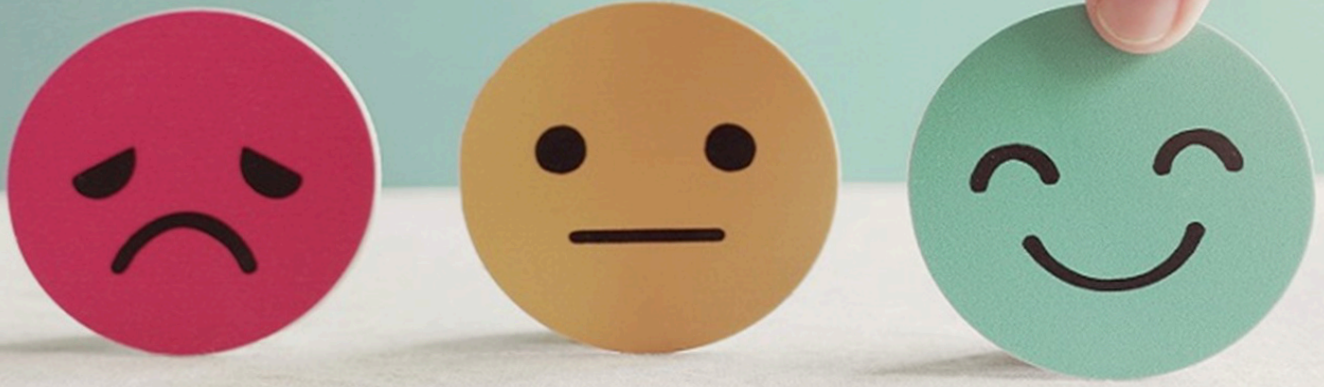
L6SIN

We took a trip to the Christmas Markets to get into the festive cheer as a form group. It was linked to December's virtue, Generosity, by embodying that Christmas isn't all about material gifts- or chocolate. Rather, it's about sharing and cherishing experiences with friends. Additionally, the generous spirit of the trip ensured nobody was left out

of the excitement of Christmas time. We all learned about group communication, organisation and patience; also, it allowed us to be socially savvy in a non-academic environment.

Mrs Hannah Singleton - Head of Religious Education





STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

At St Bede's, we are dedicated to supporting the emotional well-being and mental health of our students. We offer a school-based counselling service in collaboration with two experienced external counsellors: Emma Jorritsma, who has been with us for some time and Nicola Taylor, who recently joined us here at the college.

What is Counselling?

Counselling is a professional and therapeutic service that offers individuals a safe, confidential space to explore their thoughts, feelings, and experiences. It is a collaborative process between a trained counsellor and a client, designed to help the client gain insight, develop coping strategies, and improve emotional well-being.

The purpose of counselling is not to give advice, but to empower individuals to better understand themselves, build resilience, and find their own solutions to challenges.

Effective counselling relies on engagement and open communication. Clients need to be willing to explore their struggles and express their feelings. If they find this difficult, counselling may not be the right approach for them at this stage, and alternative support options could be considered such as lower lever wellbeing support.

Introduction: Nicola Taylor MBACP (Accred) – External Counsellor at St Bede's College

I am pleased to introduce myself as the newly appointed external counsellor working alongside Emma Jorritsma at St Bede's College. My name is Nicola Taylor, I'm a fully qualified and accredited member of the British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy (BACP). I specialise in supporting children and young people who may be struggling with their mental health and emotional well-being.

With over five and a half years of experience across charity, private, and education sectors, I began supporting students at St Bede's College in January. I am passionate about creating a welcoming and non-judgmental space, encouraging young people to explore their emotions, thoughts, and challenges with curiosity and confidence.

As an integrative counsellor, I tailor my approach to meet the unique needs of each child. Drawing from multiple psychological theories and techniques, I blend person-centred, relational, and solution-focused approaches, incorporating creative interventions, psychoeducation, and CBT-based tools to provide flexible and effective support.

I have experience working with a wide range of mental health and well-being concerns, including:

- Anxiety
- Anger management
- Self-esteem challenges
- Bereavement and loss
- Emotional regulation
- Low mood and depression
- Relationship difficulties
- Self-identity struggles
- Self-harm and suicidal ideation

I am here to support your child through the difficulties they may be experiencing and to work collaboratively with the school community to promote emotional well-being.

Fees

We are pleased to offer a reduced rate of £40 per session to students at St Bede's. This provides access to private counselling at a 25% lower rate than a standard private session outside of the school environment.

If you feel your child would benefit from counselling sessions, please discuss the prospect of this with them. It's vital your child has a willingness to engage in counselling for sessions to take place.

To refer your child to the service please contact your child's head of year or Nurse Karen Taylor. A referral form can then be completed and your child added to our short waiting list.

Mrs Nicola Taylor - External School Councillor



SALFORD DIOCESE YOUTH MINISTRY INSPIRES SIXTH FORM AND PREP PUPILS WITH FAITH AND ACTION AWARD

On Tuesday 4 February Lorraine Leonard, a member of the Salford Diocese Youth Ministry Team, visited our college to speak to Sixth Form students and the Pupil Chaplains in the Sixth Form and Prep. Lorraine's visit was an exciting opportunity for our pupils to learn about the 'Faith and Action Award', a program designed to inspire young people to live out their faith through volunteer work and community engagement.

The Faith and Action Award is similar to the Duke of Edinburgh Award but focuses specifically on encouraging students to make a positive impact in their school and local community. By volunteering their time and energy, pupils have the chance to live out the values of their faith while developing essential life skills.

Lorraine outlined the various levels of the award, beginning with the Pin Award, which some Prep Six pupils achieved last year. These students will now progress to the Bronze Award, continuing their journey of faith and service. The Gold Award, the highest level of the program, was also introduced to our Sixth Form students, providing them with a unique challenge to make an even greater impact in their communities.

This initiative serves as a wonderful reminder of the importance of giving back to others, and we look forward to seeing our pupils rise to this challenge, both in their school and wider community.

Mrs Charlotte Hibbert - College Chaplain



PREP PUPIL CHAPLAINS LEAD INSPIRING ASSEMBLY ON THE YEAR OF JUBILEE 2025

This week, our Prep School students were treated to a meaningful assembly led by our chaplains, focusing on the upcoming *Year of Jubilee 2025* declared by Pope Francis. The chaplains explained how this year is a time of spiritual renewal, marking a journey of hope, reflection, and reconciliation.

The theme of the assembly, *Pilgrims of Hope*, emphasised that we are all on a shared journey of faith, growing closer to God and each other. The students were actively engaged and listened attentively, reflecting on the importance of hope in their lives.

The assembly concluded with a heartfelt performance of 'We Have a Hope in Jesus', a song that beautifully captured the essence of the message. Our students' participation was moving, and we are excited to continue this journey together in the Year of Jubilee 2025, filled with hope and renewal.

Mrs Charlotte Hibbert - College Chaplain





FATHER ALVARO'S FEBRUARY MESSAGE

THE VIRTUE OF THE YEAR: HOPE

One of the defining characteristics of our College is the Christian foundation that underpins every activity and program we run. I was deeply moved to hear that the cast and production team—both pupils and staff—of the very successful musical *Oliver!* gathered in the chapel for a few moments of prayer before each performance, entrusting their work to God. No wonder it went so well!

This Christian foundation is particularly evident in our “Virtue of the Month” program. Each month, during form time and assemblies, pupils are invited to reflect on a specific virtue and explore ways to grow in and live it out. This aligns beautifully with what the Church is inviting us to do during this Jubilee Year: to reflect on and grow in the virtue of hope.

As Pope Francis writes in the Bull of Indiction of the Jubilee: “Everyone knows what it is to hope. In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring.”

At the core of hope, we find the longing for goodness, the desire for happiness that God has placed in every human heart.

Christian hope does more than inspire—it purifies and elevates our human hopes, directing them toward our ultimate goal: the Kingdom of Heaven. But how does it do this? In the following newsletter articles, I would like to explore the similarities and differences between human and Christian hope.

Fr Alvaro - College Priest



UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 12th March - Whole College Open Morning

Thursday 13th March Upper Fifth Parents' Evening

Thursday 20th March - Lower Sixth & Upper Sixth Parents Evening

Thursday 27th March - Lower Fourth & Lower Fifth Parents Evening

Monday 31st March - Spring Concert

Thursday 3rd April - Upper Third & Upper Fourth Parents Evening

Thursday 10th April - Upper Fifth Interviews

Thursday 10th April - Prep 6 Show

Friday 11th April - 3:50PM College Closes for Easter

Monday 28th April - Students return after Half-Term

Friday 2nd May - College Dance Showcase

Monday 5th May - Early May Bank Holiday