



ST. BEDE'S  
COLLEGE  
1 8 7 6

### Save the Date!

Half Term Begins

Friday 14<sup>th</sup>  
February 3:50pm

Inset Day

Monday 24<sup>th</sup>  
February

Pupils return after  
Half-Term

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>  
February

# BEDE'S NEWS

## January 2025

Dear Parents,

It has been a privilege to start the year interviewing the applicants for U3 2025. It is beautiful to have the opportunity to get to know them and their families, so many of them mentioned that they know a family in the College who has recommended the school to them, or that they were inspired by our Bedian students during the taster and open days. I couldn't have been prouder of our community.

I have been away from the College for two weeks recovering from surgery, and it gave me an opportunity to have time to reflect upon those New Year resolutions that we all make during the month of January. Perhaps due to the fact that I had to remain inactive I took a different route this year and rather than thinking what else I needed to do, or what I would like to improve,

I decided to focus on those areas in my life for which I am grateful for: my Faith, my family, my friends and of course St Bede's. My resolutions are therefore centered around being more appreciative and to cherish them through acts of service and kindness. In a society where experiences have become paramount I would like to take the opportunity to encourage you all to slow down and ponder, have good conversations around the dinner table with your children about how extraordinary an ordinary life lived to the full can be.

I was also lucky enough to be able to be back just on time for the Saturday performance of Oliver which was truly wonderful. My sincere thanks to the students, the staff and of course you the parents, for your commitment and support.

**Mrs Maria Kemp, Headteacher**





# THE PREP

Happy New Year to all of our families!

As we step into 2025, it has been a genuine pleasure to meet both new and prospective families this month. We warmly welcomed new pupils into various classes and are eagerly anticipating those who may join us in September. Our pupils have been kind and welcoming to our visitors, embodying the spirit of our College community.

This month, our virtue was Fortitude, and we have been actively developing skills associated with resilience and bravery. Across all year groups, students have engaged in discussions and activities that encourage them to face challenges with confidence. It has been heartening to witness their growth in both character and determination.

In terms of curriculum enrichment, we recently had the opportunity to take our pupils from Nursery to Prep 6 to the extraordinary immersive David Hockney exhibition at Aviva Studios, Manchester. This experience was not only visually stunning but also profoundly inspiring, as Hockney's work encourages us to embrace and appreciate the innate beauty of our world. Upon returning to school, the children eagerly participated in Hockney-inspired art activities, allowing

them to express their creativity and newfound appreciation for art.

Additionally, pupils in Preps 4-6 were delighted to attend the dress rehearsal of the College production of *Oliver*. The level of talent displayed was truly impressive, leaving both pupils and staff in awe. It was particularly special to witness so many of our former Prep pupils taking on significant roles, a testament to the nurturing environment we strive to foster.

In Prep sport, we have celebrated several successes, particularly at our recent indoor athletics events held at both Sport City and Robin Park, Wigan. Our pupils demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship and skill, making us immensely proud of their achievements.

As we look ahead to the end of this half term, we are excited to celebrate World Faith Week from 10-14 February. This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to gain a broader understanding of various cultures and beliefs. We hope some of our parents may be able to join us in sharing their faiths and experiences.

With my best wishes for February,

Claire Hunt

**Mrs Claire Hunt, Head of Prep**



# THE SIXTH FORM

Fortitude, the College's virtue of January, is embraced and lived by our Sixth Formers, especially our Upper Sixth who are preparing for their mock examinations at the end of February. Fortitude ensures steadiness of will, even when difficulties arise; it is the strength that keeps us going, allowing us to persevere despite the challenges that test our resolve. Our students are a testament to this virtue, as I see them building and increasing their mental and emotional resilience day by day. Many have faced incredibly challenging circumstances, yet have shown remarkable commitment to their studies, demonstrating that fortitude is not about the absence of hardship, but the ability to rise

above it with courage and purpose.

As our Upper Sixth students approach their A-level examinations in just four months, they embody a mindset of growth and perseverance. They understand that while we cannot control the challenges life throws our way (like the stress of A levels!) we can control how we respond to them. Supported by their families, teachers, and friends, and strengthened by their faith, they face this crucial period with steadfastness and optimism. Their determination to keep going, no matter what, is inspiring.

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

# BEDIAN AMBASSADORS

Students who best exemplified December's virtue of the month, *Generosity*

	<b>Upper Third</b>	<b>Lower Fourth</b>	<b>Upper Fourth</b>
	Mukupu K Matteo C Ava G Nancy J Rose H Toby C	Haris A Freddie W Daniel P Archie G Jessica H Josh C	Artemis W Paul B Archie S Madeline H Tobi O Erin F
<b>Lower Fifth</b>	<b>Upper Fifth</b>	<b>Lower Sixth</b>	<b>Upper Sixth</b>
Joshua S Alexandre O Danielle C Jay O Elliott C Zara T		Jack KF Austin G Curtis W	Reuben P Jeanne B Kamwana M



# PREP AWARDS WINNERS

January Virtue - Fortitude



## Stars of the Week



# Housepoint Winners



# Cross Country Runners



# Athletics Medals



# AT THE HEART OF DAVID HOCKNEY...

On January 22nd, the whole Prep school embarked on an unforgettable journey to the David Hockney exhibition at Aviva Studios in the heart of Manchester's vibrant and ever expanding city centre. This cutting-edge venue, with its spacious and innovative design, set the stage for an immersive experience like no other.

The exhibition, titled Bigger & Closer (not smaller & further away), features Hockney's iconic art in a way that invites visitors to step inside his world through huge, state-of-the-art projections. Having first opened at Lightroom in London to critical acclaim, this is the first time the show has travelled beyond the capital, and Manchester was lucky to be its next stop. The use of revolutionary sound and projection technologies created an environment that felt truly alive; the artwork itself was constantly evolving around us.

The experience was divided into six chapters, each showcasing a different phase of Hockney's remarkable career, from his iconic LA landscapes to his more recent works from Yorkshire and Normandy. As the exhibition

progressed, the room transformed with each new section, illuminating the progression of Hockney's art and the innovative methods he has used throughout his life.

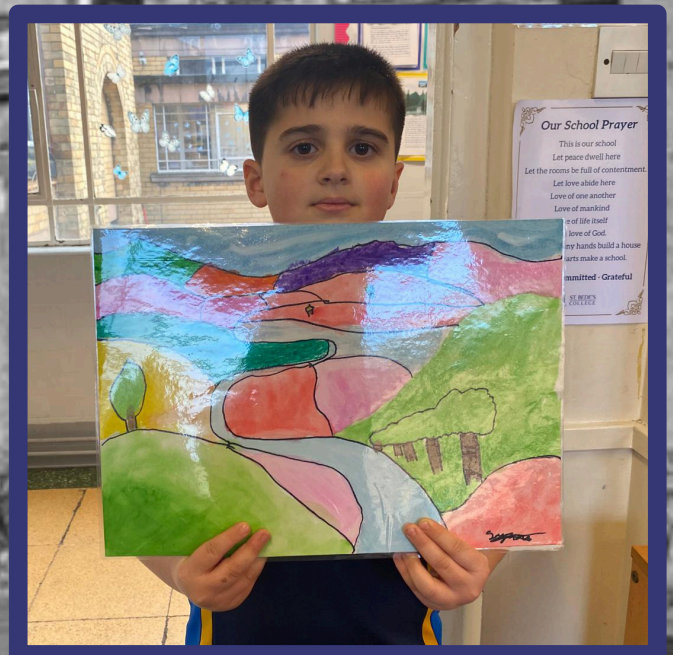
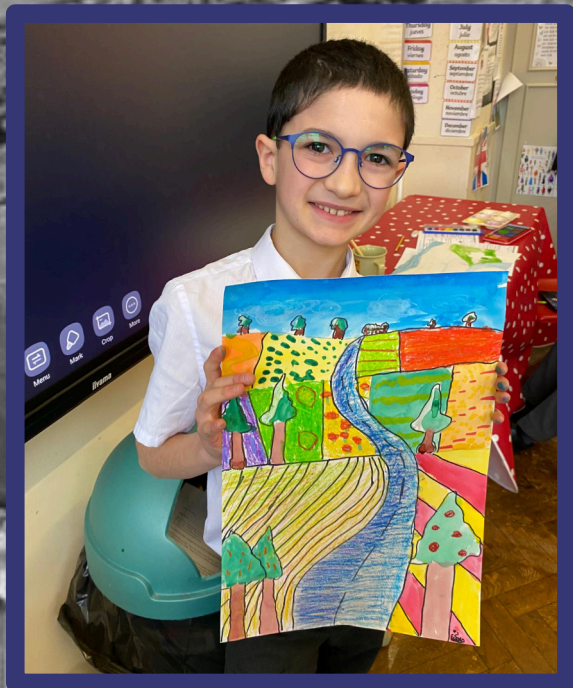
The children learnt about a variety of techniques, aspects of perspective, experimentation with photography and exploration of new technologies. We saw how Hockney uses photography as a "way of drawing with a camera," creating stunning collages of polaroids that capture the passing of time, and how he embraces digital tools, such as his iPad, to capture the joy of spring. The visual feast was accompanied by a specially composed score by Nico Muhly that set the mood, guiding us through the experience in a deeply engaging way.

For anyone with a passion for art or technology, this exhibition is not to be missed. It also served as a reminder of just how lucky we are to have such a plethora of cultural opportunities on our doorstep. We all left with a deeper appreciation of David Hockney's work and the ways in which art can evolve, grow, and continue to inspire.

**Mrs Clare Cartmell - Prep Teacher**







# PREP INDOOR ATHLETICS SUCCESS

Continuing on from the success of the indoor athletics team reaching the finals of the Greater Manchester Schools, the pupils did themselves proud in the AJIS North West Schools competition. We entered full teams for Prep 5 and Prep 6 with both boys' and girls' teams. For some this was their first experience of competing in an athletics competition. It is a little daunting as over twenty schools entered. We

were all impressed with the effort and skill level pupils demonstrated in their events. January's virtue is fortitude and it was lovely to see the pupils put this important virtue into practice. Several medals were won in all the teams, but special mention must go to Victor. Victor is only Prep 4 and he won gold in the vertical jump.

**Mrs Nora Lavorini - PE Teacher**

# PREP CROSS COUNTRY

Well done to the brave few who endured cold conditions to compete in the latest race in the Manchester Harriers Saturday morning league. As ever the pupils ran well and still had smiles on their faces at the end! Lots of grit and determination were in evidence. The next race is on Saturday 8th March, there are four races, two for year 3&4 and two for year 5&6. If interested please contact Miss Sharp [asharp@sbcm.co.uk](mailto:asharp@sbcm.co.uk).

Attached is the link to the Manchester Harriers site if you require further information <https://manchesterharriers.co.uk/competition/primary-schools-cross-country-league/#:~:text=For%20over%2050%20years%20Manchester,to%20March%20in%20Wythenshawe%20Park>

**Mrs Nora Lavorini - PE Teacher**





# BASKETBALL SUCCESS

In recent weeks the pupils have been playing lots of basketball during their lessons. It was lovely to give some pupils their first taste of basketball competition by playing in the Manchester Schools Inspire tournament as well as the excel tournament.

The Inspire team played six matches and won four of them. There was a noticeable improvement in dribbling and shooting as the matches progressed.

The Manchester Schools Excel competition is a higher standard and played at regional centres around Manchester. The Excel team had a tough start losing to a very strong St. Barnabus. After this the team played very well and won their remaining three matches. The team have now progressed to the Manchester Schools finals

Well done to all the pupils who participated.

**Mrs Nora Lavorini - PE Teacher**



# GOLD SUCCESS IN THE UPPER THIRD

Pupils in the College earn house points for their achievements in and out of the classroom. These points are recorded on an online platform called Class Charts, where parents can track their progress. Special badges are awarded to pupils upon reaching key milestones.

We are proud to announce Victor in the Upper Third as the first pupil this year to achieve the coveted Gold badge, earning over 500 house points. He was soon followed by Josep, who earned the second Gold badge. The two boys sat down with Mrs. Ward to reflect on their outstanding transition to the College.

**Victor, congratulations on achieving the Gold badge for house points! How does it feel to be the first pupil this year to receive this award?**

Victor - It feels really good! I knew at the start of the year I wanted to get the gold award but I didn't think I would be the first. It feels as though my hard work has paid off. We didn't have Class Charts in the prep; it was very exciting when it was first introduced to Upper Third and watching your positive points increase over time. What I like about the system is that I feel like it appreciates when you do extra things, more than just what is asked of you.

**Together, you both earned the first Bronze, Silver, and Gold awards this year. What do you think has been the key to your success?**

Josep - You are rewarded for attending sports fixtures and putting in extra effort in lessons such as interacting, volunteering answers, and putting your hand up.



Victor - Leaving the yard at break just a minute earlier pays off because you receive house points for prompt arrival to lessons.

**Pupils can earn points by participating in co-curricular activities. What clubs have you been involved in this year, and how have they enriched your College experience?**

Victor - Hockey has taught me leadership skills. It has taught me patience with others who are new to the sport. Commitment is so important to the sport.

Josep - Hockey is growing in popularity which is great to see. I also play football and we are striving to get as far in competitions as we can.

We both like reading a lot and the library awards lots of house points. There are not just sports clubs in the College, there is the Orchestra too; [Josep] I play grade 5 piano [Victor] and I play grade 4 violin.

**Another way pupils earn house points is by being voted the Bedian Ambassador by their peers. Which virtue would you like to be nominated for?**

Josep - I would like to be the Gratitude ambassador, I am really thankful for everything I have.

Victor - I feel like Diligence is the one for me. I like to take extra care, especially with my presentation in bookwork.

**You've both represented your form on the student council. What have you enjoyed most about being form captain?**

Josep - Being Form Captain isn't about being the leader or in charge, you're more of a representative of your form. It makes me feel proud to be able to be the voice for our group.

Victor - I liked attending the student voice with other form captains, hearing their perspectives and getting to share my thoughts on what can be done to improve College life.

**What advice would you give to fellow pupils who are working towards their next Class Charts badge?**

Victor - There is a place for everyone at St Bede's no matter what your interests are - there is something for everyone.

Josep - Interact in lessons, get there on time, put your hand up try to get your voice out there. Most of my positives are for effort in lessons.

**In the past, only one pupil has achieved the prestigious Platinum badge for 700 house points. Do you think you can reach this milestone? What steps will you take in the coming months to work towards this goal?**

Victor - Yes! I am determined to get it. I'm going to put in extra effort in lessons, volunteer to help out and share extra work that I do with the teachers.

Josep - It is going to be hard to get it. I will try by collecting prompt arrival points, and trying my best in sports and clubs. I'm going to revise in order to gain more confidence in lessons so that I can put in extra effort and impress my teachers.

Congratulations to Victor and Josep for their inspirational achievements, and best of luck to all pupils striving for their next Class Charts award!

**Mrs Jessica Ward - Head of Upper Third**

# UPPER THIRD: SPEAKING QUALIFICATION

In U3 we have recently embarked upon the English Speaking Board qualification. As part of this, students from U3 will present three different speeches on varying topics and will take part in a group discussion. It is a fantastic opportunity to stretch and challenge our U3 and grow their confidence in terms of their presentation skills and their ability to write well. Recently, U3 have just finished their first part of the ESB where they have written and presented topical speeches about their favourite songs or poems. From Maya Angelou to Oasis, it has been an enjoyable experience for all as students have delighted in researching and learning from others about the wide world of music and poetry.

**Mr Zachary Rees - Teacher of English**



# HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY - INTERVIEWING A SURVIVOR

On the 27th of January was Holocaust Memorial Day, a group of U4 pupils participated in a Zoom event in the Library hosted by the National Literacy Trust with children's author Tom Palmer and Holocaust survivor Alfred Garwood.

Alfred was born in a Nazi ghetto, imprisoned in Bergen-Belsen Concentration Camp, and later put on a train destined for Terezin Concentration Camp when he and his family were liberated by the Red Army. Alfred spent the rest of his childhood in Britain and grew up in the center of a community of Holocaust survivors. He has since written extensively on the psychological implications of trauma relating to genocide whilst also working as a General Practitioner.

This event was hugely impactful upon our pupils and gave them real insight into the experiences and impact of those who were persecuted under the Nazi regime. The pupils had the opportunity to ask questions, as well as hear Alfred's testimony and message to future generations. One of the pupils commented that 'I'd never really thought of how traumatizing the War could have been for children (...) it gave me a new perspective' (Vicky K), 'I think it was a great opportunity to hear Alfred's testimony, I've learned a lot and am very grateful' (Iria C).

**Miss Megan Moore - Literacy Lead/  
College Librarian**





# MAHD INTERCONTINENTAL CUP, RIYADH, 7TH - 14TH DECEMBER

Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 is catalyzing a massive shift in the country's economic landscape, with a particular focus on reducing its reliance on oil. Tourism and leisure are central to this vision, with the government seeking to position the Kingdom as a global hub for international events, including sports.

One of the key initiatives in this regard is the MAHD Academy, launched in July 2020 under the guidance of HRH Prince Abdulaziz bin Turki al-Faisal, Saudi Arabia's Sports Minister. The academy is a cornerstone of the Kingdom's strategy to nurture and identify sports talent, and aligns with Vision 2030's broader goals of investing in youth and building world-class sports infrastructure.

A prime example of Saudi Arabia's growing sports presence is the invitation extended to Manchester City's U14 team to compete in the MAHD Intercontinental Cup, held recently in Riyadh from December 7th to 14th. The tournament brought together teams from Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Brazil, and Mexico.

After a long journey that involved a change of flights in Doha, the team arrived at the Ramada Hotel in Riyadh on Saturday afternoon. Despite the exhausting travel, the boys were immediately greeted by a camera crew, which they quickly learned would be following their every move throughout the week. The crew's presence added a touch of excitement and curiosity, but with no game that day there wasn't much action to capture.



The event itself took on a round robin format which meant that every team played each other, with the top two battling it out in the final at the end of the week. In their first match, Manchester City drew 1-1 against Deportivo Cruz Azul, a feisty team from Mexico (Nathan Aina with the goal). Each game required a winner, so the boys' nerves were put to the test with a penalty shoot out. One by one they calmly slotted home their penalties and when Cruz faltered, they took the victory 8-7. The second game was against a tough Fluminense side from Brazil. Fluminense looked physically bigger and stronger than Manchester City but they lacked the fluency and guile of their opponents and two strikes from Jayden Samuels secured a well deserved 2-1 win.

The boys had a day off after this game which they used to visit Riyadh's flagship entertainment centre, Boulevard World - a sprawling amusement park with culture at its core. It features more than a dozen pavilions dedicated to

different countries and regions where replicas of iconic landmarks can be seen, such as the Eiffel Tower. Visitors are encouraged to "travel the world" and sample the cultures and traditions of some of the most storied destinations including France, The USA, Italy, Morocco, Greece, India, China, Japan, Spain, Turkey, Africa and Thailand. The whole group, including staff and coaches, enjoyed pitting themselves against each other with a couple of games of laser tag in the 'WarZone' before splitting off into smaller groups and heading out to the country of their choice for something to eat. Italy and pizza seemed the popular choice for many, whilst the colours and smells of the Asian floating markets attracted others.

Back to the football and half way through the tournament Manchester City were well placed in the table but they were derailed slightly when they lost 2-4 to Sundowns FC (Raez Plummer as the goal scorer of both), who were a very



fast and energetic team from South Africa. Sadly, this game also saw Marcell Tanoh suffer a very bad injury to his knee which resulted in him returning home early from the tournament.

Despite this setback, the boys showed incredible resilience and strength of character, and rose again the following day to beat the well supported home team, MAHD Academy 1-0 (Nathan Aina with the goal). This result put them in the final on the last day against the team they had beaten earlier in the week, Fluminense.

The final was a tight affair with few chances for either side in the early stages. Manchester City played their usual patient, possession game, trying to move the Fluminense players about with crisp, pinpoint passing in order to carve out an opening; Fluminense bullied their way around the pitch. The first goal came from Manchester City, which

was not a surprise and even less so that it came from another cool finish by Nathan Aina. 1-0 at half time and Manchester City were looking good for their lead. But then in the second half, Fluminense appeared to find new life in their legs and they began to pile on the pressure. Conversely, Manchester City began to tire and once the score went to 1-1 the result seemed inevitable. And so it was, Fluminense went on to score the winner moments before the end of the game and time ran out for Manchester City to respond.

The boys were exceptional all week, both on and off the pitch, and during education sessions before each fixture. They didn't come away with the trophy but they can hold their heads high knowing they left everything out on the pitch and played each game in the right spirit. They were a pleasure to travel with and a credit to both Manchester City and St Bede's College.

**Miss Clare Whitney - PE Teacher**





# SIXTH FORM: INTRODUCING OUR 2025 PREFECT TEAM

Before the Christmas break, our new Prefect Team was announced during the College's Celebration Assembly. I am delighted to now share this introduction with the wider Bedian community. Over the coming months, I look forward to witnessing the dedication and enthusiasm of the team as they take on their new responsibilities.

To mark their welcome, I asked each prefect to share a few words about

themselves. Their responses were truly inspiring, showcasing not only their individuality but also their deep appreciation for St. Bede's and the opportunities it provides. Reading their reflections was a reminder of the strong sense of belonging and pride they feel as part of our community. I hope you enjoy learning more about this outstanding group of young leaders.

**Dr Anne McMonagle - Head of Sixth Form**





Hello, my name is Shriya and I am honored to serve as the Head Girl of St. Bede's College for 2025!

I moved from South Africa just over two years ago and since then, I have fully embraced the Bedian culture and community. St Bede's has shown me that with determination and perseverance, anything is possible. This school has inspired me to become the best version of myself and has taught me to appreciate the privilege of being part of such a strong and supportive community. As Head Girl, my goal is to instill this same sense of possibility and gratitude in my peers. I

Hello, my name is Solomon. I am honoured and excited to have been appointed Head Boy of the College for 2025. I have been part of the Bedian family since 2012, as part of St Bede's inaugural nursery intake. I truly believe there's something special about this place.

I'm studying Drama, History, Chemistry and English Literature in hopes of making it to the West End stage! I find my A-Levels deeply fulfilling, not only because they're fascinating, but they also enable me to be a more independent student - something I value very much as part of being a Bedian. To relax from my academics, I particularly enjoy singing and classical guitar, which I've been lucky enough to perform at many concerts, both inside and outside of school. I hope to complete my diploma for the latter later this year.

firmly believe that every student at St. Bede's has the potential not only to succeed but to surpass expectations and achieve greatness.

In addition to fulfilling my responsibilities in this role, I am resolutely committed to academic excellence and personal growth. I plan to pursue a marketing degree at university, with the ambition of contributing to business strategies in the ever-evolving global marketplace. Alongside my academic endeavors, I continue to nurture my passion for sprinting: a discipline that instills focus, perseverance and the drive to push boundaries. Currently, I am studying Business, English Language, PE, and Psychology at A-level.

I am excited for the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead in the coming year. Together, I believe we can build a legacy of success and inspiration at St. Bede's College, motivating one another to reach our full potential.

## **HEAD GIRL**

**Shriya N**



It is such a privilege to be Head Boy of the College, and I look forward to expanding the sense of community we foster amongst our peers, as well as relationships with our alumni network.

## **HEAD BOY**

**Solomon T**

Hello, my name is Michael and I am delighted to be Deputy Head boy for this year. I have been at St Bede's since Prep four and have really enjoyed my time here. My favourite aspect of St Bede's is the close connections between the students and the teachers.

I believe that everyone in the school should be involved with the co-curricular activities and events which we have on offer at St Bede's as these have really helped me to build my confidence and people skills, which is something I would like to pass on to other students. I am currently studying Maths, Physics and Design Technology, and am particularly looking forward to building my project in DT, which will be a new storage system for the PE Department. I enjoy playing and coaching hockey at St Bede's; I also



coach, play and score cricket matches in the summer for my cricket club. I look forward to helping out at College events.

#### **DEPUTY HEAD BOY**

**Michael B**



Hello, my name is Holly, and I am proud to be Deputy Head Girl at St Bede's College for 2025. In addition to taking an EPQ, I am currently studying Biology, History and Theology. While I'm still considering my options for the future, I know I want to pursue a path that aligns with my passion for protecting

animals and the environment. My ultimate dream is to move abroad, where I can give as many animals as possible a better quality of life, and experience the world's natural beauty.

The Sixth Form here at St Bede's is truly a welcoming and inspiring community, where we are all encouraged to pursue our passions and challenge ourselves academically, all within such a supportive and inclusive environment. As Co-Editor-in-Chief of 'The Buzz', I've loved leading our school newspaper and giving students a voice, and I am excited to bring this same energy to my role as Deputy Head Girl, as well as being truly committed to supporting my peers and implementing sustainability initiatives that make a difference for our school and the planet.

#### **DEPUTY HEAD GIRL**

**Holly F**



My name is Tanisha and I am studying English Language, Business and Psychology. It is a great pleasure to be House Captain of Siena and I

hope to bring new ideas and creativity to the role. My interests include spending time with my family and friends, engaging with new people and travelling to different cities. I am also very interested in learning new things. After my A levels, I would like to pursue a career in real estate or become a flight attendant. I aspire to do a degree level apprenticeship in real estate to achieve this goal. I am enjoying St Bede's Sixth Form, especially the amount of support I receive from all my teachers. I feel as though this can help me to broaden my understanding of my subjects and truly excel.

**Tanisha B**

Hello, my name is Cliona, and I am currently studying English Literature, Theology and Drama for my A levels. I enjoy taking part in the school musicals and productions, and am currently rehearsing for the production of 'Oliver!'. I also write articles for 'The Buzz', the college newspaper, where I hold the position of correspondent. In my free time, I enjoy going to the theatre and spending time with my friends. As prefect of Upper Third, I am thrilled to introduce new students to our school and help them feel welcomed.

**Cliona D**



Hello, my name is Elsie and I am a Bosco House Captain and Lower Fifth Prefect. I'm excited to be a part of the 2025 prefect team. I study Biology, Chemistry and Maths and I'm hoping to do Chemistry at university. I am also a co-editor of 'The Buzz' newspaper, which we print about once a month. I look forward to supporting and getting to know the Lower Fifth students and helping at Bosco house events.

**Elsie H**



Hi, I'm Sam and I am the House Captain for Bosco. I enjoy playing guitar, writing and going to the gym in my spare time. I am currently studying Chemistry, History and Maths with the hopes of studying either Chemical Engineering or potentially History with Economics. I am also doing an EPQ focusing on Libya post-Gaddafi which I find particularly interesting. I have genuinely really enjoyed my time so far in the Sixth Form and I hope to be a great House Captain, looking forward to the many projects and activities coming up in the new year.

**Samuel H**



Hello, my name is Ayyan and I am delighted to be a Sixth Form Prefect. I study Maths, Physics and Business and hope to pursue a career in Engineering. My favorite sport is boxing as it is an art that only few can master. In my free time I like to run and play chess as it involves critical thinking, problem solving and planning. I am looking forward to supporting the Upper Fifth in particular this year and helping them reach their potential and goals for the future.

**Ayyan K**

Hello, my name is Charles Jr., however most know me as CJ. My roles in the prefect team are: Bedian Diversity Initiative (BDI) President and Champion House Captain. There are three things I love a lot: Jesus, Acting and Arsenal. I want to study Accounting at University and take that forward as a Career, whilst hopefully doing TV Acting, playing music and being an entrepreneur on the side. I am currently studying Maths, Economics, Psychology and Drama. One thing I love about St. Bede's College and Sixth Form is the community we create. We are all one family: the Bedian family.

**CJ K**





Hello, my name is Paddy. I am extremely excited to be a part of the 2025-2026 perfect team! I study English Literature, Theology & Art; I am very grateful to be studying here at St Bede's. In the Sixth Form, we are encouraged to pursue our interests and there are so many different opportunities inside and outside of school that truly allow us to flourish as students. I am proud to be the President of the 'European Society' in the BDI, As well as this I am also a Sixth Form correspondent for 'The Buzz'. I look forward to inspiring the lower-fourth students and helping them achieve their goals!

**Paddy M**

Hello, my name is Favour and I am currently studying Drama, Politics and Theology to pursue a career in Law at university; I also hope to continue acting and music in my spare time. I love singing, listening to music and composing my own songs. I am currently part of the BDI and I am the Afro - Caribbean president.

I recently joined the school in Lower Sixth and since then I have gotten to know how welcoming everyone at St Bede's is. The College has taught me the importance of consistency and how important it is to keep going even when you feel like giving up, and so as a prefect of the Upper Third, I look forward to working with them and helping them achieve their full potential.

**Favour O**



Hello, my name is Ilsa, and I am proud to be Magdalene House Captain and supporter of Lower Fourth students. As someone who is new to St. Bede's, I have quickly come to appreciate the supportive and inclusive community that encourages every student to excel academically and personally. I am currently studying Biology, Psychology and English Language, and I aspire to pursue a career in Midwifery. Outside of school, I am training in skiing and enjoy reading, which helps me to broaden my perspective. I look forward to working with the Lower Fourths, supporting their journey, and contributing to the vibrant life of Magdalene House.

**Ilsa P**



Hi, my name is Ayo. I am dedicated to supporting the Lower Fifth students and contributing positively to our school community. I take pride in being a role model and helping to create an inclusive environment for everyone. My main interest is football and I enjoy studying Maths, P.E. and Business Studies for A Level. I look forward to working with the Lower Fifth and being involved in activities and events around school.

**Ayo S**



My name is Ellie and I am very excited to be Champion House Captain. I take A level Classics, Politics and Theology, and I hope to one day go into a career in law. In my spare time I like to read and play music. Over the next year I hope that I can help the younger students in many ways and be part of the various events in the college.

**Ellie S**

Hello, my name is Travis and I am currently studying Physical Education, Maths, Biology and Chemistry. I would like to study Medicine and become a team physician in the future. I am the goalkeeper of the school football team and the coach of the volleyball club. I am delighted to have been appointed as Vice President of the BDI. As a prefect of the Lower Fourth, I am looking forward to promoting culture diversity and sports among the students.

**Travis W**





Hi, my name is Ruby and I am a prefect this year. I'm currently studying English Language, Business and Psychology; I plan to take a gap year after A levels and then study Psychology at university. I'm also hoping to introduce a safe space for my fellow pupils in all years so they come for any advice or guidance if needed. I hope the students can see me as a friend to come to and I am looking forward to helping as much as I can.

**Ruby W**

Greetings and salutations Bedians, my name is Yoshi and I am the House Captain of Magdalene and a prefect responsible for Upper Fourth. I am very honoured to be a member of the Sixth Form prefect team. I am currently studying Chemistry, Physics, Maths and Politics as A-levels. I have a broad range of interests: playing the piano, learning about science (especially Physics and Chemistry. . . sorry Biology!), reading, learning languages and many more. My favourite thing to do is to sleep. If Upper Fourths see me around the campus please feel free to greet me and I will be very happy



**Yoshi Y**



Hi, my name is Sofia and I am excited to be one of the Sixth Form prefects supporting Upper Fourth this year. For A levels I am currently studying Biology, Chemistry and History in hope of pursuing a future career in Medicine. Some interests of mine include running and rock climbing, and I regularly volunteer at a nursing home on the weekends. Having recently joined the Sixth Form, I've already been able to witness the supportive and welcoming environment St Bede's provides. I look forward to helping students enhance their college experience and make the most of the opportunities available to them.

**Sofia Z**

# LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2025

St Bede's have a long and proud tradition of supporting the Salford Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. Our students give up part of their summer holidays to join medical staff and clergy to support sick and elderly members of the community, enabling them to make the journey to Lourdes and bathe in the healing waters.

Once again we have a fantastic group of students who are looking to join the pilgrimage this year. As it's such an amazing and valuable experience spiritually, emotionally and socially we want to ensure that as many students as possible are able to participate. However, the financial cost to the students for

volunteering is significant, and to reduce the burden we are fundraising to try and make it as affordable as possible.

All monies raised will go towards reducing the cost of the pilgrimage for the students and we are immensely grateful for your support. There are fundraising events taking place in school and we have created a gofundme page which you can donate to using the link attached. Please share with your friends, family and members of your parish community.

<https://gofund.me/a123c2e2>

**Mrs Mary Corbett - Head of Business & Economics**

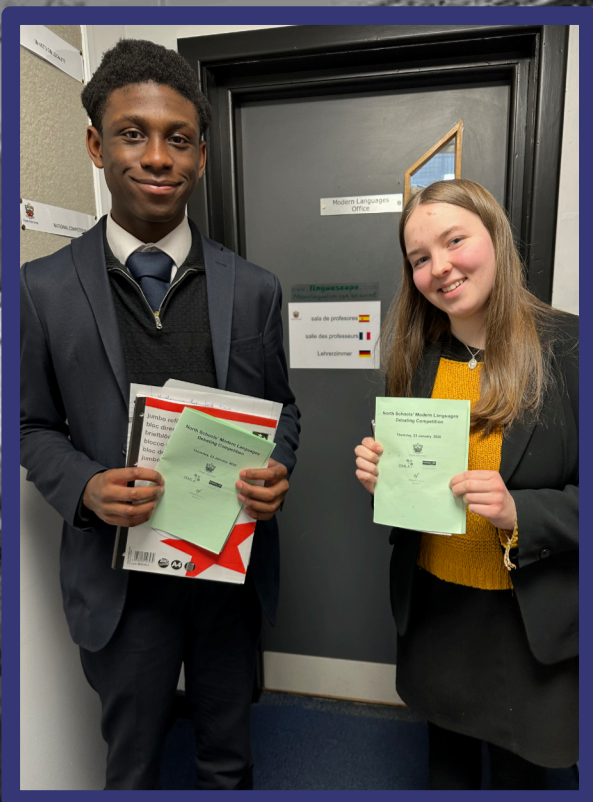


# NORTH SCHOOLS' MODERN LANGUAGES DEBATING COMPETITION

On Thursday 25th January, Joy M and Bridget S, U6, took part in the North Schools' Modern Languages Debating Competition at Cheadle Hulme School. They debated in French on the motions 'Youth is the best time of our lives' and 'We can never know what's true' and really did themselves proud. They formulated a variety of excellent ideas for and against the motions

and expressed themselves clearly, accurately and confidently. Although they didn't progress to the final (based on points), they won their heat against Cheadle Hulme High School and performed brilliantly against Stockport Grammar School. Bravo!

**Mrs Michelle Reid - Head of Languages**



# THE PREVENTION OF YOUNG ADULT SUICIDE:

## MIKE PALMER (3 DADS WALKING) VISITS UPPER SIXTH STUDENTS TO RAISE AWARENESS

On Tuesday, 14th January, Mr Mike Palmer from 3 Dads Walking, in collaboration with Papyrus (Prevention of Young Suicide), visited Upper Sixth students to discuss the story of his beloved daughter, Beth, who lost her life due to suicide at the tender age of 17. After this tragic event, he joined two other grieving fathers, Andy and Tim, to form 3 Dads Walking, a mission dedicated to raising awareness about a topic people often find very difficult to discuss.

Suicide is the biggest killer of people under 35 in the UK, but not enough people discuss this fact - especially in schools. Mr Palmer spoke about his journey from school to school, and to parliament; he is very much passionate about ensuring that young suicide prevention is integrated into the curriculum. At St Bede's, we fully support this mission and were enthusiastic about having him in as a guest speaker to the Sixth Form.

Papyrus, in collaboration with 3 Dads Walking, has generated over £1m. Papyrus runs a 24/7 suicide prevention hotline for anyone under the age of 35. At the end of his talk, Mr Palmer offered the Sixth Form students wristbands, pens and pins featuring further information about Papyrus.

Mr Palmer's story taught both teachers and students in attendance that it is vital we listen and support each other in times of difficulty. No matter the crises we face, there is always a solution and help available. The world is always a better place with each one of us in it.

For further information and support, please visit <https://www.3dadswalking.uk/> and <https://www.papyrus-uk.org/>.

**Miss Jordana Theriault - Sixth Form Enrichment Coordinator**



# A YEAR OF JUBILEE 2025!

Pope Francis has declared that the year 2025 will be a Holy Year of Jubilee for the Catholic Church - an event that takes place once every 25 years. The theme for the 2025 Jubilee is "Pilgrims of Hope", an invitation to showcase the hope of our Christian faith to people right across the world.

This special year is an opportunity for all of us to renew our faith,

reflect on our spiritual journeys, and embrace the message of hope that Pope Francis encourages us to carry through our lives.

To bring this vision to life, the Pupil Chaplains at both the Prep and College levels will be playing a key role throughout the year.

**Mrs Charlotte Hibbert - College Chaplain**





# DIACONATE ORDINATION FOR PAST PUPIL

Congratulations to Theo S, alumni on his Diaconate ordination on December 28th 2024. The College community rejoices with Theo on this significant step to his vocation. We continue to pray for him on his journey, as he prepares for his priestly ordination this summer. God bless Theo abundantly.

**Mrs Charlotte Hibbert - College Chaplain**





# FATHER ALVARO'S JANUARY MESSAGE

## PILGRIMS OF HOPE: EMBRACING THE HOLY YEAR 2025

As we begin a new year and return to school, it's a perfect time to reflect on the hopes and challenges that shape our journey ahead. More particularly so during this Holy Year, in which the Church is inviting us to reflect in the virtue of hope.

On Christmas Eve, Pope Francis opened the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, inaugurating the Holy Year 2025 as the "Year of Hope." In a world marked by conflict, uncertainty, and despair, the Pope invites us to journey through this year as pilgrims of hope, drawing strength from God's promises.



In considering Christian hope, we are faced with the following question: Is Christian Hope just another name for optimism? What makes Christian hope different from wishful thinking?

Christian hope is not based on subjective wishes or naive desires but on the certainty of Christ's victory over sin and death. This assurance enables Christians to face life's challenges with faith and trust, confident in God's help and protection.

The Jubilee logo beautifully reflects this message, depicting four figures moving forward together, led by the Cross of Jesus. The Cross extends into an anchor, symbolizing hope amidst turbulent waves. In line with the Holy Father's initiative, I invite you all to reflect on the role Christian hope plays in our lives and how we can grow together in bringing hope and joy to our college, homes, and communities—even in the midst of suffering and trials.

**Fr Alvaro - College Priest**



# UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February - 5PM Upper Fifth & Upper Sixth  
Revision Evening for Parents

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February - 6PM Higher Education Evening for  
Lower Sixth and their Parents

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February - 3:50PM College Closes for Half-Term

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February - INSET day

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February - Students return after Half-Term

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March - Whole College Open Morning

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April - 3:50PM College Closes for Easter

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April - Students return after Half-Term

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May - Prep Open Morning