



ST. BEDE'S  
COLLEGE  
1 8 7 6

**Save the Date!**

Whole College Open  
Day

4<sup>th</sup> October

Half Term Begins

22<sup>nd</sup> October -  
3:50pm

INSET Day

3<sup>rd</sup> November

Pupils return after  
Half Term

4<sup>th</sup> November

Break up for  
Christmas

12:00 pm - 17<sup>th</sup>  
December

# BEDE'S NEWS

## September 2025

Dear Parents,

It was great to see most of you attend our parent/tutor evening and Sixth Form Open Evening. For me it is a reminder of our partnership, based on trust, to help your children grow into adulthood.

While having a celebratory lunch with those pupils who won the Headteacher's commendation before the summer, the pupils shared with me how they were living the virtue of order: preparing their bag the night before, tidying up their folders to revise, etc

These little things, habits, helps us grow stronger and give us the

capacity to do more, achieve better results and reach further. Above all they helps us grow to understand that having our priorities right, order in our mind, is the key to a successful life.

I hope you have booked your tickets for the Ball and pencil in all the different dates for celebrating our 150th anniversary in your diary. 2026 is going to be a great year for our Bedian community.

All the best

Kind regards,

**Mrs Maria Kemp, Headteacher**





# THE PREP

We were excited to welcome our pupils back for the new academic year, and I am delighted that we have welcomed so many new families to our Prep.

Our curriculum provision continues to go from strength to strength. This year marks our second year of Concept Curriculum and inquiry-based learning. I recently had the opportunity to present an outline of our Concept Learning to a delegation of primary school teachers visiting from China, which was a thrilling experience.

It is also our second year of specialist science teaching, focused on inquiry-based learning and working scientifically. Preps 3-5 are taught by our Science Coordinator, Miss Harrison, while Prep 6 is taught by Mrs Ward in the College science labs. This specialist teaching is truly setting us apart from other Prep schools. Miss Harrison worked diligently over the summer to transform a spare Prep classroom into a vibrant STEM space, where Science and Computer Science lessons now take place.

Additionally, we have expanded our outdoor programme with specific learning activities; 'Bedian Rangers' is now on offer for Preps 3-5, led by Mrs Eddison and Mr Lalley. Last Thursday, we enjoyed a fantastic European Languages Day, thanks to the efforts of Mrs Casson, Mrs Leyden, and our Prep Language Ambassadors.

For September, our Virtue of the Month was Order. We have encouraged our pupils to embrace this virtue by fostering an environment where organisation and structure are paramount. Being orderly helps them manage their time effectively, keep their belongings tidy, and develop routines that will serve them throughout their lives. It has been marvellous to see our pupils take this to heart, demonstrating responsibility and creating a more focused atmosphere for learning.

With my very best wishes for the month of October.

**Mrs Claire Hunt, Head of Prep**





# THE SIXTH FORM

We were delighted to welcome our new Lower Sixth students at the start of term. Their induction day was rich and varied, combining important information with opportunities to build connections with the Upper Sixth.

The transition from GCSE to A level is a significant step, bringing with it higher expectations and greater academic demands. This month's Virtue of Order is especially apt, underlining the importance of time management as students adapt to a heavier workload, more detailed

note-taking, and wider reading beyond the syllabus.

It has also been encouraging to see the Upper Sixth beginning the year with focus and determination. Alongside their studies, they are busy preparing UCAS personal statements and exploring opportunities at university open days as they look ahead to the next stage of their education.

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



# PREP STARS OF THE WEEK





# PREP STARS OF THE WEEK



# PREP HOUSEPOINTS





# PREP HOUSEPOINTS





# PREP VIRTUE AWARDS

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



# PREP LANGUAGE AMBASSADORS





# PREP EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

## ¡VIVA ESPAÑA!

On Thursday 25th September, the Prep School enjoyed a truly fabulous celebration of European Day of Languages, with Spanish as this year's theme.

From the very start, the school was a sea of bright reds and yellows, as every child came dressed in the colours of Spain. The day began in the Sports Hall with a joyful whole-school conga and a lively singalong to *El Baile de la Fruta*. It was a wonderful sight to behold, full of music, movement and smiles!

Each class then visited *Cantina Abeja*, our very own healthy café. Here, our brilliant Language Ambassadors took fruit and water orders from the children—who had to order and pay entirely in Spanish.

This practical (and delicious!) experience was a big hit, with many pupils promising to try out their new skills on their next trip to Spain.

In the afternoon, every class enjoyed an inspiring flamenco workshop, led by a professional flamenco dancer and Spanish guitarist from *Espíritu Flamenco*. The children were captivated by the rhythms, movements and energy—it was truly ¡estupendo!

What a fantastic way to celebrate other languages and culture. The day was bursting with joy, colour, music and dance—and as if by magic, we even had the Spanish sun shining down on us.

**Mrs Claire Casson - Prep 5 teacher**





# PREP SPORTS REPORT

It is great to be up and running with sporting activities in the first month of the new year. Our co-curricular clubs at lunchtime and after school are well attended. A reminder that for these clubs, there is no charge and all pupils are welcome to attend.

## Cross Country

The first cross-country race of the year took place at Wythenshawe Park. The first race is a relay event, which is quite tricky as many pupils are not sure of the route. Also, it was the first time for most of our pupils. Thank you to all the parents for taking their child and supporting them, this is the most runners we have had for a few years.

Well done to all of our runners.

Kallisti D - Prep 2

Allegra O, Pasha B, Grace K and Isaac B, Alias W - Prep 3.

Ricky C, Teresa BS and Max K - Prep 4

Bertie O, Lilly-May H and Miriam BS - Prep 5

Orla K and Honor O - Prep 6.

The next race is Saturday, 4th October. Unfortunately, this does clash with our full College Open morning. If your child is still able to race, please inform Miss Sharp. [asharp@sbcm.co.uk](mailto:asharp@sbcm.co.uk)





## Football

It was lovely to welcome Mobberley School last week for friendly football fixtures. We had an A and a B team for both the boys and girls. Honours were even; we won both A team matches and lost both B team matches. It was great to see the matches played in a good spirit with lots of endeavour.

## Hockey

There is great excitement on a Friday lunchtime as we have Prep 1, 2, and 3 Hockey Club. As you can see from the photo, we also have lots of enthusiastic helpers. The younger pupils are really enjoying working with the older pupils.

The number of pupils in Prep 4, 5 and 6 playing after School on a Wednesday evening is also great. As they progress, they also have the opportunity to be grouped with College pupils in U3rd and L4th.

We aim to ensure that all pupils in the Prep have the opportunity to represent St. Bede's at some stage in their College life. Co-curricular clubs are a great way for pupils to develop their skills, teamwork and resilience.

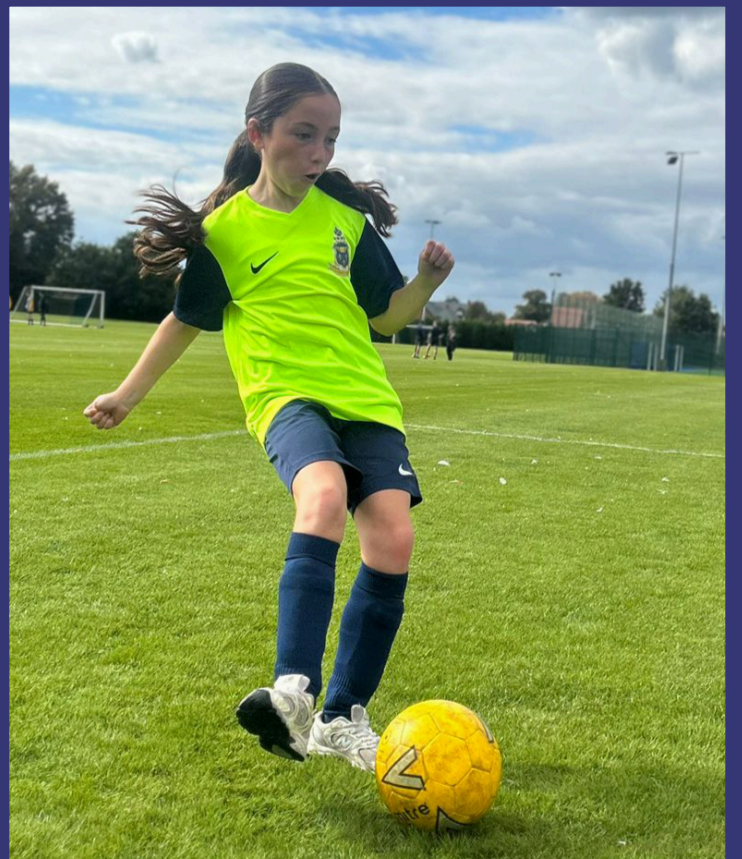
**Mrs Nora Lavorini - PE Teacher**













# BUILDING CONFIDENCE, SKILLS, AND MEMORIES FOR LIFE

## THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD - OPPORTUNITIES AT BRONZE, SILVER AND GOLD

We are delighted to share that our school continues to offer students the opportunity to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's (DofE) Award. This internationally recognised programme provides young people with the chance to develop resilience, independence, and valuable life skills through a series of challenges designed to inspire growth both personally and socially.

### Bronze Award (Year 9 and above)

The Bronze Award is the first stage and is open to students aged 14 and above. Participants undertake four sections:

- **Volunteering** - making a positive contribution to the community.
- **Physical** - committing to a sport or physical activity.
- **Skills** - developing personal talents and interests.

- **Expedition** - planning, preparing for, and completing a two-day outdoor journey as part of a team.

A Bronze participant said:

*"Taking part in the Bronze DofE Award was one of the best experiences I've had at school. I learned how to work as part of a team, gained more confidence in myself, and discovered that I could achieve more than I thought. The expedition was a challenge, but also so rewarding - I'll never forget it."*

### Silver Award (Year 10 and above)

Students who complete Bronze may progress to Silver, or choose to begin their DofE journey at this level. Requirements are more challenging, including a longer expedition and extended time commitments across the sections. This award builds on the foundations of Bronze, encouraging participants to deepen their skills, broaden their experiences, and take greater responsibility.





A Silver participant reflected:

*"Silver pushed me further than I expected. The expedition was longer and more demanding, but it taught me how to stay positive and support others when things got tough. I also developed a skill I now really enjoy and continue to use outside school. It felt like a real step up from Bronze."*

### **Gold Award (Year 11 and beyond)**

At the highest level, the Gold Award requires sustained commitment, leadership and resilience. Alongside Volunteering, Physical, Skills, and Expedition, participants complete a Residential section, spending time away from home with new people in an unfamiliar setting. Achieving Gold is a truly prestigious accomplishment and is highly valued by universities, employers, and future career pathways.

A Gold participant shared:

*"The Gold Award was life-changing. The Residential gave me the*

*confidence to meet new people, and the longer expedition tested every part of my determination. Completing Gold showed me that with persistence and teamwork, I can achieve anything. It has already made a difference in my university applications."*

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award not only equips students with practical abilities but also nurtures qualities such as commitment, teamwork and perseverance. These experiences enrich personal development and stand out on applications for further education and employment.

We warmly encourage families to support their children in taking part at Bronze, Silver or Gold level.

For further information, or to register interest in any of the awards, please contact the DofE Manager, Miss C. Whitney. [cwhitney@sbcm.co.uk](mailto:cwhitney@sbcm.co.uk)

**Miss Claire Whitney - D of E Manager**





# UPPER THIRD MEET THE ANGO-SAXONS

Our new Upper Third have been getting to grips with the Anglo-Saxons and what better way than by handling artefacts?

Each pair of students was given a mysterious object (some, admittedly somewhat more mysterious than others) and given just two minutes to decide what it was and what they could infer from it about life in the so-called 'Dark Ages'!

The Upper Third were fantastic with answers ranging from: "They liked to get drunk!" to "They liked to look amazing!" However, they remain convinced that the fire starter was a knuckle duster!

It's been a fantastic start to the year for all our Upper Thirds and we look forward to sharing more of our adventures in time with you in upcoming editions of Bede's News.

If you enjoy our lessons, why not try our clubs?

**Political Animals** is the club for you if you like to argue about the main events of the week! Thursday lunchtime in R1.

**Bedian Classics Club** is the place to be if you love hearing about the ancient world - Gods, Monsters, Heroes... myth and magic await! Wednesday lunchtime in R3.

**The Historians' Club** - original and best! Thought-provoking and often hilarious talks on any topic you can think of! Friday lunchtimes in B11.

**Mr Alasdair Power - Head of History & Classics**





# BUSINESS & GERMAN MUNICH RESIDENTIAL

At the end of June, forty pupils from Upper Fourth, Lower Fifth, Upper Fifth and Lower Sixth embarked on an unforgettable trip to Munich, led by Mrs Di Paola, Mrs Corbett, Mr Wilson and Mr Griffin. Designed for students studying GCSE and A Level German and Business, the trip offered a unique blend of cultural immersion and real-world industry insight.

We got off to a fantastic start with a smooth outbound flight expertly captained by one of our very own parents - a special touch that set the tone for a brilliant few days ahead. After a long journey, pupils arrived at the accommodation and settled in for a well-earned rest before diving into a packed itinerary.

The first full day began with a guided tour of the world-famous Allianz Arena, home to FC Bayern Munich. From there, students explored BMW World and the adjacent Olympic Park and Stadium—an inspiring visit for both car enthusiasts and budding business minds. The day ended on a sweet note with a relaxed ice-cream outing nearby, giving everyone a chance to unwind and reflect on the day's highlights.

Day two featured a visit to the impressive Audi Museum in Ingolstadt, where students saw the evolution of the brand and its global impact. This was followed by an afternoon at Hellabrunn Zoo and a fun evening of bowling to unwind.

On the third day, pupils explored Munich's beautiful old town on a walking tour before heading to the Erdinger Brewery for a fascinating factory tour that brought classroom business concepts to life. The group rounded off the day with another well-deserved ice-cream treat - a popular highlight of the trip!

The final day was spent enjoying a few last hours in Munich, with time for sightseeing and souvenir shopping before the journey home.

The trip was a huge success, with every excursion providing valuable insights and unforgettable memories. Pupils returned inspired, informed, and full of stories to tell, if a little exhausted!

**Mrs Jenni DiPaola & Mrs Mary Corbett - MFL Teacher & Head of Business, Economics & Psychology**









# ST BEDE'S SPORTS DAY 2025

On the penultimate day of last year's school term, the College held its annual Sports Day. This whole school event is an opportunity for students to compete in various athletic disciplines, parents to come and watch the action, teachers to celebrate achievements out of the classroom, but more importantly, it is a chance for the College to fully embrace our House system and showcase what an amazing sense of togetherness and unity it can bring.

The day started in a cavalcade of colour as the whole school walked to the College sports ground in their House colours of red, yellow, blue, and green. The weather was being kind, with both scorching temperatures and driving rain absent from the morning's register, leaving a perfect day for athletic competition. The sports ground had been immaculately prepared by the PE and ground staff, and as the

students gathered in their House areas, music from Mr Cank aided the already happy atmosphere amongst all.

The competition then began. Starting with an event that embodies the life lesson of promoting determination and a 'never give up' attitude, as it literally challenges students to overcome obstacles in their way as they strive for success; the hurdles!

Events then came thick and fast on both the track and field, with Mr Power, excelling in his role of announcer, keeping all competitors and spectators entertained whilst ensuring the programme of events ran to time. It wasn't long before he was able to announce the first of many school records being broken as Jaecole smashed the U3 400m previous best. In total, 15 individual school records were broken by





amazing performances from the students, with each one being celebrated and cheered by the whole College. The competition finished with the much anticipated relay events, pitching House team v House team. The home straight was lined with spectators, raucous in their applause for all the runners coming across the finishing line. It was great to hear the support from all!

With all the events completed, it was time for the overall results to be announced. Would this be the year for Bosco, Magdalene, Campion or would Siena be crowned overall champions? The excitement across students, teachers and parents was high with the Heads of House orchestrating the suspense. Finding out the overall boys and girls winners didn't help us to figure out who the overall winner would be, as Bosco won the boys' competition by 28

points but Siena won the Girls' by a 14 point margin. The House system really promotes a team ethos and the overall result really embodied that sentiment; when both results were combined, a different house was named, highlighting that together everybody achieves more. In an extremely close contest, Campion were overall champions by only eight points.

A huge thank you to all students for the wonderful performances and spirit shown on the day, to all the teachers involved in assisting the smooth running of the event, and to the numerous parents who came along and supported. I personally cannot wait for 2026!

**Mr S Morgan - Head of Physical Education**





Table of all the individual event winners. School Record holders in **bold**.

EVENT	YEAR	WINNER
80m Hurdles	U3 Girls	Nimi A
80m Hurdles	U3 Boys	Matthew J
80m Hurdles	L4 Girls	Erica O
80m Hurdles	L4 Boys	Ted A
80m Hurdles	U4 Girls	Eri A
80m Hurdles	U4 Boys	Reubin A
80m Hurdles	L5 Girls	Carey S
80m Hurdles	L5 Boys	James T
100m	U3 Girls	Deborah T
100m	U3 Boys	Jaecole P
100m	L4 Girls	Jakayah SP
100m	L4 Boys	<b>Ade O</b>
100m	U4 Girls	Francesca H
100m	U4 Boys	<b>Jason A</b>
100m	L5 Girls	Eniola O
100m	L5 Boys	<b>Javahn W</b>
200m	U3 Girls	Ruby B
200m	U3 Boys	Jaecole P
200m	L4 Girls	Lily B
200m	L4 Boys	<b>Lucian R</b>
200m	U4 Girls	<b>Zuriel S</b>
200m	U4 Boys	<b>Jason A</b>
200m	L5 Girls	Lily P
200m	L5 Boys	Edson DS
300m	U3 Girls	Myla B
300m	L4 Girls	Ruby B
300m	U4 Girls	Freya H
300m	L5 Girls	Caoimhe D
400m	U3 Boys	<b>Jaecole P</b>
400m	L4 Boys	<b>Ade O</b>
400m	U4 Boys	<b>Jason A</b>
400m	L5 Boys	Mason S
800m	U3 Girls	<b>Myla B</b>
800m	U3 Boys	Rory D
800m	L4 Girls	Ruby B
800m	L4 Boys	Mikey A



EVENT	YEAR	WINNER
800m	U4 Girls	Nell M
800m	U4 Boys	Logan G
800m	L5 Girls	<b>Carey S</b>
800m	L5 Boys	Jacob D
Shot	U3 Girls	Mayowa A
Shot	U3 Boys	James G
Shot	L4 Girls	<b>Jess H</b>
Shot	L4 Boys	Aayaan K
Shot	U4 Girls	Martha K
Shot	U4 Boys	Batista I
Shot	L5 Girls	Maisie S
Shot	L5 Boys	Archie T
Javelin	U3 Girls	Enya M
Javelin	U3 Boys	Victor P
Javelin	L4 Girls	Jess H
Javelin	L4 Boys	Aayaan K
Javelin	U4 Girls	Francesca H
Javelin	U4 Boys	Tom A
Javelin	L5 Girls	Caoimhe D
Javelin	L5 Boys	Oliver V
Standing Long Jump	U3 Girls	Kimmy O
Standing Long Jump	U3 Boys	Cole P
Standing Long Jump	L4 Girls	Erica O
Standing Long Jump	L4 Boys	Berham Z
Standing Long Jump	U4 Girls	Zuriel S
Standing Long Jump	U4 Boys	Prince David O
Standing Long Jump	L5 Girls	Ella N
Standing Long Jump	L5 Boys	James T
High Jump	U3 Girls	<b>Debroah T</b>
High Jump	U3 Boys	Ivan R
High Jump	L4 Girls	<b>Katelynne H</b>
High Jump	L4 Boys	Freddie W
High Jump	U4 Girls	Orla N
High Jump	U4 Boys	Tobi O
High Jump	L5 Girls	Olivia J
High Jump	L5 Boys	<b>Karim C + Sheriff O</b>







# JOSHUA'S DEBUT SINGLE

We are incredibly proud to celebrate the musical debut of former Upper Fifth student Joshua H, who has just released his very first single, "More Than She Knows". This beautiful and heartfelt track showcases not only Joshua's vocal talent but also his growing artistry as a musician and songwriter. It's a poignant, emotionally rich song that we hope marks the beginning of an exciting musical journey for him.

Joshua was a much-loved and vibrant member of our Performing Arts department. A previous drama student with a natural stage presence, he brought joy, humour, and passion to every performance. Whether acting in school plays, singing in assemblies, or entertaining visitors during open

days, Christmas fairs, and summer celebrations, Joshua consistently lit up the stage with his charisma and talent.

"More Than She Knows" is a testament to the kind of artist Joshua is becoming – sincere, soulful, and full of promise. We have no doubt this is just the beginning, and we look forward to seeing where his musical path takes him.

We encourage everyone to stream "More Than She Knows" and support one of our own as he takes this exciting next step in his creative journey. Well done, Joshua – we're all rooting for you!

**Mr Jonathan Dickson - Director of Performing Arts**



[\*\*CLICK HERE TO LISTEN\*\*](#)



# SUMMER FAIR EXTRAVAGANZA

The 7th June once again saw the whole College community coming together for our annual Summer Fair which was instigated and led by our students - even more so this year as they took responsibility for their House stalls. It was so inspiring to see their team work and leadership skills in action as they put their plans into action.

There were events ranging from face painting and tattoos to frog racing, water pong, hook a duck, higher/ lower, sweet and chocolate tombola and an incredible array of inflatables, which included a 30ft helter skelter and a gladiator duel!

Food was provided by the Bedian Diversity Initiative, ably led by CJ and his team, whilst candy floss

made the event even sweeter. Music was provided by our fabulous L4 band of Leo, Stas and Enrique and we even had our Alumni darts stall provided by Bedian Alumni Samson, Miguel and Sol. Despite the poor weather the smiles were as bright as ever! .

Thank you to all those who supported the event - raising over £1000 for the Lourdes group, with special thanks going to the Heads of House for working with and supporting their House captains - who were also fantastic - and the staff who manned the stalls. It was a truly Bedian occasion and we're already looking forward to next year.

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









# JESSICA'S ROWING SUCCESS

Over the summer break, Jessica enjoyed a series of fantastic achievements on the water. She began by winning the J14 Girls' Single race at the Runcorn Regatta, before going on to claim another victory in the J14 Girls' Double at the Warrington Regatta.

Her impressive performances earned

her a place at the British Rowing Championships in Nottingham, where she represented the school with great determination and skill, reaching the finals in her category.

Congratulations to Jessica on such an outstanding summer of rowing – a brilliant start to what promises to be an exciting sporting journey ahead!





# LANGUAGENUTS

The MFL department was delighted to launch an exciting new competition over the summer holiday using the language learning software, Sprachenut, where students could compete against each other. Any activities they completed, in whichever language they are learning, counted towards their points total in the competition, whilst providing them with engaging and motivating retrieval practice for listening, reading and writing skills. We are pleased to announce that the top 5 students who won Amazon vouchers are:

Carmen C

Charlotte K

Nathan A

Joan S-B

Charles C

A special mention and Class Charts positives also go to students who gained a lot of points but didn't quite make the top 5:

Noah A

Cameron W

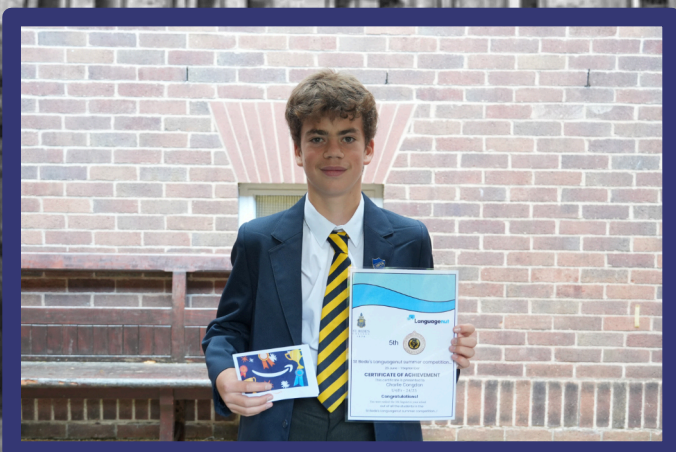
Carey S

Erijesu A

Tyrese W

Stay posted for the next competition to win great prizes, but remember that it is expected that all MFL students complete at least 5 minutes revision on Sprachenut daily, to boost your chances of success in the subject.

**Mrs Michelle Reid - Head of MFL**





# SIXTH FORM WELCOME DAY

As part of their first day, our new Lower Sixth students took part in a series of introductory sessions on the Bedian Research Project (BRP), Voices of Change, the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), and our new Level 3 certificates in both Core Maths and Sustainability.

Through the BRP, Sixth Formers engage with a range of short courses designed to prepare them for life beyond school. These sessions equip students with practical skills such as time management, effective note-taking, and independent research, while also encouraging personal growth through a course on Emotional Intelligence. A particularly inspiring element of the programme is the Oxford Character Project, and students also prepare and deliver TED-Ed Talk presentations, enabling them to share their ideas with clarity and conviction. The EPQ, a qualification highly regarded by universities,

offers students the chance to investigate a topic of personal interest in depth. It helps sharpen the critical thinking skills essential for A-level study.

The day also included an introduction to UCAS, where students were guided through the university application process and reassured of the support available in choosing a pathway and preparing strong personal statements. A lively Q&A with members of the Upper Sixth gave the new cohort a chance to ask questions and to get to know those with whom they will share the Common Room. The day concluded with team-building games and activities, ensuring that all of our Lower Sixth—including those joining us from other schools and countries—quickly felt part of the community.

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





# NEW OFFERINGS IN THE SIXTH FORM

This year, the Sixth Form introduces a number of new qualifications which students can take alongside their three or four A levels. Students may choose between the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) or one of two new courses: Core Maths and Sustainability.

The brand-new Level 3 Certificate in Sustainability explores the key principles of sustainability while encouraging students to develop positive, practical solutions to the urgent challenges facing governments, organisations, and individuals today. This course is particularly relevant for those considering careers in environmental conservation or degree programmes where sustainability modules are increasingly common. It will be graded Pass, Merit, Distinction, and Distinction\*, and is expected to carry up to 28 UCAS tariff points.

Core Maths is designed for students who are not taking A level Mathematics but who wish to strengthen their mathematical skills

to support other subjects, future study, or employment. With its emphasis on practical, real-world applications, Core Maths is especially useful for those pursuing courses or careers where mathematical skills are valuable but not the primary focus. The qualification is worth up to 20 UCAS points and is graded A to E.

Finally, Voices of Change is an exciting new weekly course that invites students to reflect on big ideas in philosophy, ethics, justice, and the Catholic faith. Delivered in a relaxed, discussion-based format, it provides a safe and respectful environment for students to share perspectives, question assumptions, and refine their ability to think critically and communicate effectively. This unique programme equips students with the skills to engage thoughtfully with some of the world's most important questions and to articulate their beliefs with clarity, confidence, and compassion.

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





# SOLOMON SHINES AT CATENIANS' PUBLIC SPEAKING NATIONAL FINAL

We are thrilled to celebrate Solomon, who secured an impressive second place at the Catenians' Public Speaking National Competition. With remarkable confidence and charm, Solomon captivated the audience as he questioned the notion that "manners are so yesterday," delivering his speech with both conviction and insight.

From the moment he stepped onto the stage, Solomon truly owned it, engaging the judges and audience alike with his poise and presence. His performance was praised not only

for its thoughtful content but also for the confidence and charisma he displayed throughout.

We are incredibly proud of Solomon's achievement and cannot wait to see him continue to shine as he pursues a career in the performing arts. With such talent and stage presence, this is just the beginning of what promises to be an exciting journey.

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





# SIXTH FORM OPEN DAY

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 25th. 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 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, Shriya and Solomon, were on hand to explain the role of the Perfect Team and our

celebratory events such as our 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 Anne McMonagle - Head of Sixth Form**





# LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2025

Once again it was a privilege to accompany our Sixth Form volunteers, along with Mrs Yearley and Fr Alvaro, to Lourdes in the summer holidays as part of the Salford Diocesan Pilgrimage.

The week began with the pre-departure Mass at St Patrick's and St Malachy's in Collyhurst where the Bishop reminded us, as per 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, that we are all part of the same body and it is in our differences that we are united.

Following a seamless departure from Liverpool airport we were greeted by the pilgrimage volunteer co-ordinators with the key message 'Ohana' which comes from the Hawaiian meaning family, and family means no one gets left behind. That set the tone for our week and our students certainly embraced the ethos of that opening presentation.

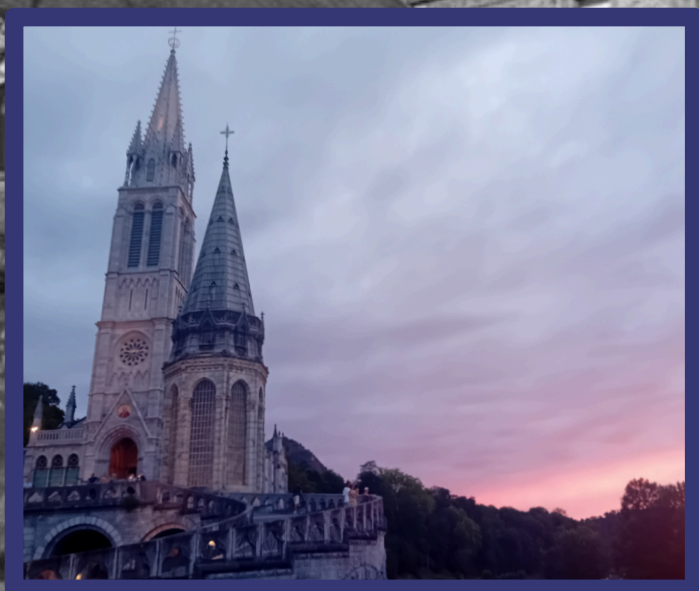
We couldn't have been more proud of the way they conducted themselves, always cheery and willing to engage and support anyone who needed help. Nothing was too much trouble. They were amazing ambassadors for their families, the College and for young people within the wider church.

As well as pushing the pilgrims to the various services they also took an active role in many of them, not least the water gesture where they blessed the hands of other pilgrims using the holy water from the grotto, and in the healing service where, as part of the volunteer team, they held hands to provide a ring of love and support around our poorly pilgrims. It was truly beautiful.

However, it wasn't all give - they also received many blessings. They were embraced by the Diocese and the many pilgrims they came into contact with, making new friends and sharing the joy that the pilgrimage never fails to bring. There was also time for amazing gelato and a trip to the water park as well as the end of pilgrimage celebration where we attended as characters from Shrek in line with the theme of 'children's characters'!

This year we had 2 students return back to Lourdes as they enjoyed it so much. Next year many of this year's volunteers are also hoping to return. We look forward to sharing this amazing experience with even more of our young people in 2026!

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









# CALLING ALL ALUMNI: JOIN US IN LOURDES IN 2026

Following the success of our ongoing involvement as part of the Salford Diocese pilgrimage to Lourdes we would like to invite St Bede's Alumni to join us in volunteering as part of the 2026 cohort. Unconfirmed dates are currently 30th July - 5th August.

You don't have to have been before, just be willing to embrace the spiritual opportunities and help the elderly &/or infirm pilgrims who otherwise wouldn't be able to make the journey unaided.

We can promise for those who join us that it will be an amazing experience

filled with laughter, and the joy and love of our Holy Mother! For anyone interested please complete the form <https://forms.gle/bqorvakEK6wMG3bj9>.

This is not a commitment to going but merely an expression of interest at this stage until arrangements have been confirmed.

If you have any questions regarding this please contact Mrs Corbett at [mcorbett@sbcm.co.uk](mailto:mcorbett@sbcm.co.uk)

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





# CALLING ALL PARENTS: JOIN THE PFA

- We have an active and busy PFA at St Bede's.
- We work together to promote faith, family, friendship and fun.
- We give our time and talents, and share our ideas when we can.
- We celebrate our school, children and teachers.

The PFA hosts and organises many events over the school year, including the Christmas Fair, Bede's and Brush art evening, a Comedy Night and other sociable and fundraising activities. The funds we raise are used to support many different aspects of school life, and are used to enrich the children's lives, experiences and surroundings.

Recently, we have contributed to a number of important projects, including improvements to the school library, the prep outdoor facilities, and changes to the upper school's areas.

We are in urgent need of support from parents across both the prep and the college. At the moment, we have a very small core team of around 5 people who attend meetings and organise events. All of us work full time, and we are concerned that without more people to help us, the PFA won't have much of a future. There is no 'joining' process, and neither are you obliged to attend every single meeting! Please do come along when you can. The meetings are monthly and are kept strictly between 7 and 8.30pm. We never run over! Dates of the meetings are communicated through the class whatsapp groups.

We are also in need of Christmas Fair raffle prizes! We need your help to provide fabulous prizes, so do get in contact with me on [pfa@sbcm.co.uk](mailto:pfa@sbcm.co.uk) about raffle prizes, or if you have any questions about the PFA.

Thank you

**Juliette Tomlinson - Chair of the St Bede's Parents and Friends Association**







# FATHER ALVARO'S SEPTEMBER MESSAGE

Welcome to a new year at St Bede's College. A new year that is anything but just another year. We are starting the academic year in which we will begin our 150th anniversary celebrations.

We opened with the traditional College Mass of the Holy Spirit, celebrated in the Sports Hall. This is a long-standing tradition in educational institutions, where the community begins the year by entrusting itself to the intercession and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Trinity or, as I told the students at the opening Mass, the One you turn to when, in the panic of exams, you rush to the chapel seeking peace and light. That is what the Holy Spirit gives when we call upon Him: peace, light, wisdom, understanding, and so much more. I encourage you to look up the seven gifts and twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit and, more importantly, to ask Him for them!

Just two days later, we witnessed another highlight of the month: the canonization in Rome of Blessed Carlo Acutis and Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, two young men who lived

their lives to the full. These new saints are role models and sources of inspiration for all of us, but especially for our students. Their short yet deeply meaningful lives show us what God can accomplish through ordinary people who open themselves to His action.

In my homily, I invited students and teachers alike to aspire and dream of making their lives instruments that reflect and communicate God's love to others. How can we do this? By nurturing a close relationship with Jesus through prayer and the sacraments.

Have a good start to the year!

**Fr Alvaro - College Priest**

## **Suggested Reading**

I invite you to buy and give a copy of the CTS book *Carlo Acutis: Saint of the Young* as a present to your children. As Cardinal Sarah writes, "This beautiful, agile, and inspiring book offers everyone, at whatever stage in their journey, a roadmap to Heaven following the steps of the first millennial saint."

**[Carlo Acutis: Saint of the Young](#)**



# *The* INSPIRED

COLLECTION



ST. BEDE'S  
COLLEGE  
1876

FRIDAY

14<sup>TH</sup>

NOVEMBER

4.30PM -

6.30PM

## Photography Exhibition

JOIN US IN THE VAUGHAN CORRIDOR TO  
EXPERIENCE HOW THE STAFF AND STUDENTS  
OF ST. BEDE'S COLLEGE HAVE BEEN INSPIRED.





# UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October - Whole College Open Day

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October - Break up for Half Term

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November - INSET Day

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November - Pupils Return

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November - Photography Exhibition

Wenesday 26<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November - Godspell Musical

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December - College Breaks up for Christmas - 12:00pm