



From the Headteacher.....

I would like to thank you for your cooperation and understanding with the closure of Bishop Challoner on Thursday. The unpredictability of the weather saw many schools close within the catchment. I was delighted that school was able to resume today and continue as normal.

The junior children thoroughly enjoyed building snowmen in teams as they ventured out in their hats, scarves and gloves. It was an opportunity for them to explore and to be creative by producing some interesting creations.

Pupils dressed up as literary characters for the day and fully embraced the event with enthusiasm. A special thank you to Mrs Miotti for organising World Book Day and for leading an assembly encouraging pupils to read a variety of books. A fantastic effort made by pupils despite the inclement weather.

Tomorrow we will be holding our Open Morning and we are grateful to the pupils who will be supporting us. We are expecting a good number of pre-registered families and hopefully many others who will have seen our advertising. Your son and daughters are excellent ambassadors and I am confident they will do a super job!

Please keep warm over the weekend.

Paula Anderson



Senior Sport

Fencing



Gabriella (Year 12) and Georgia (Year 11) both qualified for the British Youth Championships taking place in Sheffield in May. They fenced in the U18 Sabre Championships 2018 last weekend with Gabriela winning gold and Georgia, Silver. Congratulations.

Whole School News

World Book Day



The whole school celebrated World Book Day on Wednesday. Pupils of all ages dressed as a favourite book character and came together in a special assembly to celebrate authors, illustrators, books and the growth of women through literature—all to appreciate the importance of reading.

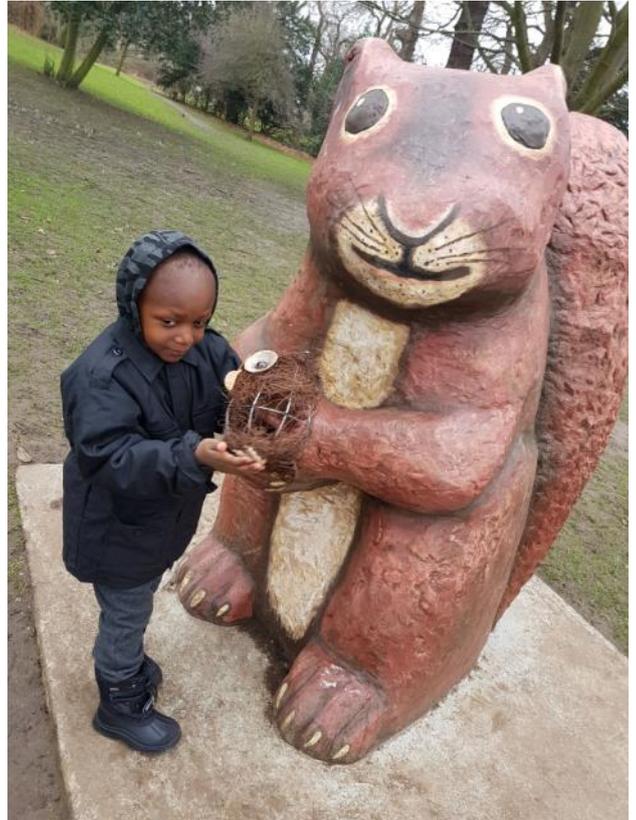
This event is marked annually in over 100 countries all over the world.

Mrs Miotti, Head of English



Nursery News

Forest School



The Forest School children have enjoyed the chance to take home our very own mascot, Twilight the Owl. They get to take her home for a whole week, and Twilight is rewarded to those children who have shown a love and respect for Forest School.



Twilight loves being outside and the children are encouraged to go outside with their families and friends and show them all that they are learning at Forest School.

So far Twilight has been on a bike ride, met the Gruffalo, roosted in the trees and explored the outdoors in lots of wild and wonderful places.



A big thanks to all the parents who have helped to bring Twilight's adventures to life for the children. We all love hearing what she has been up to, your ongoing support is very much appreciated.

Mrs Coates, Forest School Leader



Chaplaincy Corner



On Thursday 8th February, Year 9 pupils had an in-house day of reflection. The theme for the day was 'Service and Discipleship'. Using a variety of Scripture passages we considered various biblical characters and how their discipleship was lived out. We also reflected on modern day people who were known for their service to humanity including: Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King, Aung Su Kyi and Ghandi. The pupils were participated in group work where they chose from a range of activities including dramas, original poems and raps or posters about service and discipleship. The groups worked very well collectively and created some inspirational poems and posters and some excellent dramas which they presented to the rest of their year group.

There was also a session on '*Lectio Divina*' (Divine Reading), which is an ancient form of prayer in the Church. We used 1 Corinthians: 13 known popularly as 'the hymn to love' and this was a fitting passage to use as it highlights the true meaning of love in the context of service. The pupils then shared their experiences of *lectio* with the rest of the group and offered some insightful contributions.

After lunch pupils broke up into groups and did an activity where they were each given a specific character to act as, for example, a disabled man, a young child, a pregnant woman etc. and they had to collectively choose which character's life was the least valuable. This led into a very interesting discussion and debate about the dignity and equal rights of human beings, from the weakest and most vulnerable, to the strongest. This was viewed from a Catholic/ Christian perspective in contrast with some secular opinions. We ended the retreat with a meditation about Jesus and the example that he gave of service when he washed the feet of his disciples. It was a very enjoyable day with Year 9 as they engaged throughout and approached each activity with positivity and enthusiasm.

I am particularly grateful for Dr Free and Mr Bader for helping me to run the retreat.

Gerard Lohan
School Chaplain

PTA Notice



Bishop Challoner School PTA



Diary Dates

Tuesday, 6th March * Y9 DTP Vaccinations
Wednesday, 7th March * Community Mass * Y3-6 Quiz Club
Thursday, 8th March * Y8 Parents' Evening, 5pm
Friday, 9th March * PTA Meeting, 8.30am * Y9 Reconciliation Service * Nursery-Y2 Mother's Day Celebration

House News

Competition

Design an Easter Egg House Competition

Draw your design on paper or decorate an egg

Closing Date: Friday 9th March

Entries to Mrs Mabb



EYFS & KS1 Notice

We are pleased and proud to announce our

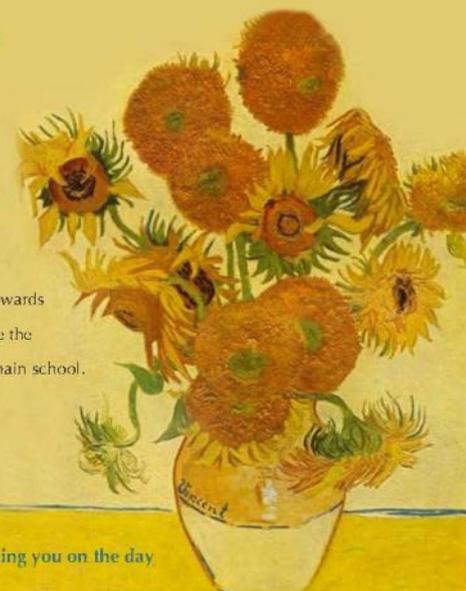
Van Gogh inspired EYFS & Key Stage One Art Exhibition

Wednesday 14th March

3-4.15pm

Dining Hall

You can purchase your child's art work for £10.00 and the money raised will go towards a mark making shed to enhance the Outdoor Learning Area in the main school.



We look forward to welcoming you on the day