



Bishop Challoner News

15th October 2021 | No. 62

From the Headteacher...

It is hard to believe that we have come to the end of our first half term this academic year. The time has flown by!

There was a lovely start to the week with the Junior School's Harvest Festival Assembly led by Mr Lohan. There were lovely readings by Amaju, Aristede, Bella, Izzy, Martha and Olamide as well as fabulous singing by everyone with a further special treat of Year 1 and Year 2 singing 'Life is a Wonderful Thing', which they have learned in their Music lessons. There was a lovely quote at the end of the assembly – 'Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant' (Robert Louis Stevenson). So true.

Thank you for all your harvest contributions – we will be supporting the Bromley Borough Food Bank.

The week has been busy with Junior Parents Evenings on Monday and Wednesday and a Year 7 Parents Pastoral Evening. I hope both these events were reassuring and helpful. It was also lovely for our younger pupils to have the Farm experience yesterday. They really enjoyed their interaction with the sheep, guinea pigs, chicks and goats.

Pupil News

Congratulations to Ben C in Year 9 who has been selected to race with his motocross club East Kent in a series of competitions this weekend. This year Ben became the east Kent Club Champion, and you will see some fantastic pictures of Ben in action in this week's Newsletter.

Covid 19 Vaccination for children and young people 12-15 years

A reminder that Hounslow & Richmond Community Healthcare NHS Trust (HRCH) Covid 19 Vaccination Team will visit Bishop Challoner on Tuesday 2 November and the closing date for consents is 5 working days before the vaccination date i.e. Wednesday 27 October. No consents will be accepted after this date as they need a five-day period to double check consents and contact parents and carers with children who have particular medical conditions.

Year 11 Taster Day

On Wednesday Year 11 had a Sixth Form Taster experience whereby they could come to school in business attire and enjoy a flavour of the wider curriculum available to them in our Sixth Form. There were 10 different subjects available for our Year 11 to choose from. The subjects were Economics, Business Studies, Politics, Philosophy & Ethics, Classics, Fashion Design, Computer Science, Media, Psychology & Sociology and Physical Education.

I have already had a lot of positive feedback from our Year 11 and we may well run a second Taster experience next term. Thank you to all colleagues for running the sessions and to Mr Merrony for organising the day.

Black History Month

We have celebrated Black History Month across several areas of the school curriculum. These are detailed further in the Newsletter.

Aspire USA

We are welcoming Rosie Clarke (recently retired GB Steeplechaser) from Aspire USA on Tuesday 2 November to BCS to speak with our Sixth Form students regarding studying in the US. This is a very good opportunity to find out more about the US system and how the scholarship and entry system works. Rosie will be spending time with our Sports Scholars as well.

Also after half term, a reminder on Wednesday 3 November is our Sixth Form Open Evening from 6-8pm. I look forward to seeing many of you then.

In the meantime, can I wish you a relaxing half term and I look forward to seeing you all again in November.

With best wishes,

Mark Wallace

Mark Wallace – Headteacher
@Challoner_head



Year Seven...



On Thursday 7th and Friday 8th of October, the Year 7's rounded off their induction week in style. On Thursday, we had Wiseup, a team building company come into school to challenge the team building skills that our Year 7 had. This day involved a lot of team puzzles, riddles and most importantly fun. All year 7 pupils thoroughly enjoyed this day where they have gotten to know each other well ready for the years ahead.



Friday 8th October was an early start. Miss White, Mr Kent-Davies, Miss Johnstone, Mrs Restivo, Mr Lubi and 33 year 7 pupils set off on the M20 to arrive at our destination, Go Ape situated in Leeds Castle (not actually in Leeds). The day started off with a team building exercise which further solidified the foundations set the day before. After this, all the Year 7's went through a flurry of emotions which ranged from excitement to tears. This was because they were set off onto the high ropes course of Go ape, experiencing heights of up to 15m and balancing on pieces of wood held together by one thin piece of wire. Nevertheless, all year 7's got through the multiple courses put in front of them, they motivated each other to succeed and move forward. I am extremely proud of all the year 7's not just because most pupils fought through the tears, but the teamwork they have shown to get through this all together.

The highlight of the day, and all the year 7's agreed, was when it was the Year 7 Girls versus the 5 teachers who came on the trip. What resulted in this hard fought battle was me being dragged 20m across the field with my face firmly planted on the ground!

It was a pleasure seeing the all the Year 7 pupils bond well together and i look forward to seeing them progress throughout the year.



Mr Lubi - Head of KS3



More photos from GO APE!



Ground Force

Last week our wonderful Year 12's completed their first gardening session at the Shortlands Station Community project. The plan is to transform the derelict piece of land behind the station into a hub for the benefit of local schools and organisations. Students will spend one session working on the project during their Core RE lesson every half term.

This fantastic initiative is led by Dee Janes the ticket office clerk, who has raised over £340,000 for various charities. Dee was impressed with the efforts of the team saying "your school party was amazing, they saved me weeks of work".

The students cleared rocks, removed litter, rotivated and levelled out the ground ready for the next phase of the development. They left the site muddy, sweaty and very satisfied with their achievements. Passing commuters commented on the wonderful work they were doing and I was proud to tell them that these industrious young adults are members of the Bishop Challoner School Sixth Form.



Before



After



Mrs Patience - Teacher



Year 7 and 8 Football

The year 7 & 8's football team got their season off to a brilliant start beating Farrington's 3-1. They now progress into the second round of the Kent Schools Cup. Farrington's started strongly and dominated possession but some strong defending from Daniel Etomi limited their chances. Jewell scored a fantastic long range effort, nestling in the top corner to give Challoner the lead. The game was fairly end to end after that before Jewell got his second of the match.

The team then dominated the match through some excellent passing especially between Daniel, Jewell, Femi and Jaemar. Jaemar then scored a brilliant overhead kick to put Challoner firmly in control before Farrington's scored a late consolation.



The year 7 & 8 team continued their good start to the season with a first round win against London Enterprise Academy (LEA) in the ESFA Cup. Challoner started strongly, dominating the game but were unable to score the elusive first goal. A couple of counter attacks from LEA were stopped by some strong defence from our back four of Khalil, Jamie, Daniel E and Arlonzo. Daniel O then broke the deadlock with a powerful finish before Zech soon made it 2-0 just before half time.

Jewell made some strong athletic runs down the right wing but Challoner were never able to add the third goal despite numerous shots, including hitting the bar with one. LEA then managed to evade the defence via a long ball and their right winger coolly slotted the ball home in the corner to set up a nervy final few minutes. The team then made some crucial blocks and tackles to see out the game 2-1.

Good luck in the next round boys!



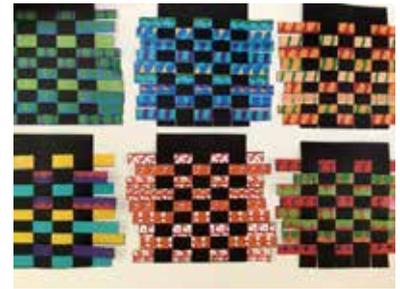
JUNIOR NEWS

We have had a very busy week, leading up to Half Term. Our Harvest Festival was a wonderful celebration of Thanksgiving, led by the children in Year 4. Thank you for all of your generous donations which will go to help local families in Bromley. I'm sure that they will be very much appreciated.

We welcomed 'West End in Schools' on Tuesday and had a lovely time exploring classic books through dance, language and movement.

On Wednesday Years 5 & 6 enjoyed an online talk from the author Joseph Coelho, it was a most informative session with ideas to inspire future writers. This was part of our celebration of Black History which has included presentations from Year 5 and 6 pupils, mask making and Kente patterns in Reception and exploring the music of Bob Marley in Year 1.

I would like to thank all the children for their good natured enthusiasm and hard work this half term and hope that you all enjoy a safe and happy break.



STARS OF THE WEEK



4th October 2021

Reception Nathan for his excellent handwriting.

Year 1 Finlay for his positive attitude and for working hard, especially in Maths.

Year 2 Avahana for her fantastic effort in Maths this week.

Year 3 Ana for excellent homework and completing the Challenge activity.

Year 4 Prue for excellent understand of the poem The Walrus and the Carpenter.

Year 5 Myles for outstanding effort and achievement in his homework about reading genres.

Year 6 Aida for enthusiasm and excellent participation in Spanish.

11th October 2021

Reception Scott for his development in his pencil control in letter formation and drawing.

Year 1 Carson for his excellent behaviour, concentration and hard work in all areas of the curriculum.

Year 2 Arin for his brilliant work in English writing a poem.

Year 3 Alexander for great Maths work.

Year 4 Delilah for excellent problem solving in Maths.

Year 5 Susan for recent extra effort made in all areas, including her Reading Journal.

Year 6 Matthew for his imaginative and original ideas in his written poetry during World Poetry Day.

Many congratulations to all of our Stars.

We are very proud of you!



Ms Barker - Head of Junior school



A day in the life of year 3

Inspired by the National Farmer's Union LIVE workshop we made healthy Rainbow Salads. Here are our creations:



Celebrating Harvest and our Harvest contributions by the Prayer corner:



Dressed up for Poetry day-inspired by our favourite poems:



A day in the life of year 3

Science soil investigations:



Bringing Books to Life - Our performance of The Enormous Crocodile:



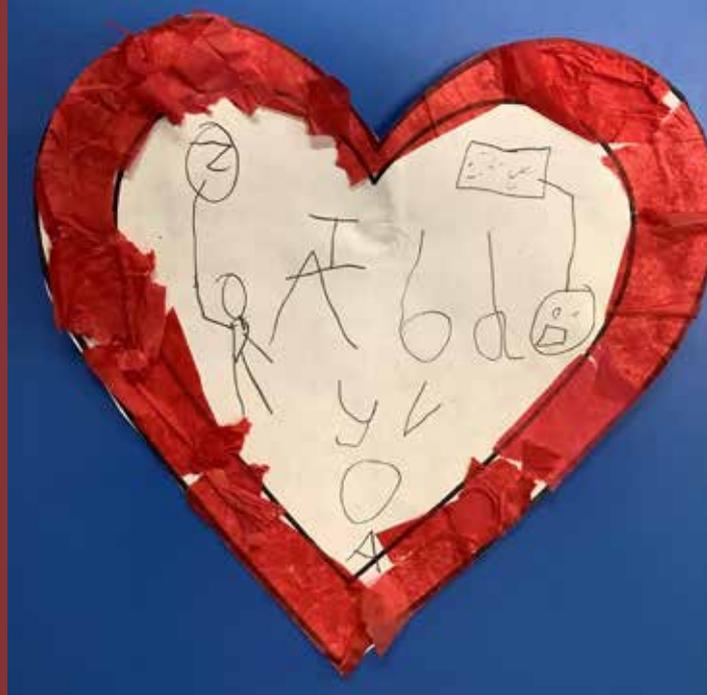
I would like to thank Year 3 for their super hard work this half term and for their efforts and contribution. Also, to rising to some of the homework challenges set this term, such as learning the alphabet backwards and learning the capital cities of South America. Perhaps you might like to attempt these over half term? Super work Year 3!

Mrs Sweet - Head of KS2 & KS3

Mrs Sweet - Year 3 Teacher



Reception Classroom



Reception Class have worked brilliantly this term and have continued to settle in amazingly well. The children have been working diligently on our topics and have created some excellent responses that are on display in our classroom and corridor. We also managed to cook a personalised pizza, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. A Michelin Star could be on its way!

In RE, we have been understanding that God loves and cares for each one of us. Children listened to the story 'Guess How Much I Love You' and created a heartfelt response.

Mr Peck - Reception Teacher

JUNIOR SPORTS



The year 6 netball team went to Newstead Wood school to play in the first of 2 qualifying competitions for the borough finals in November. The team were amazing through all matches with some strong interceptions, quick passes and accurate shooting. All the team played fantastically well but special mention must go to Cillian with his precise shooting, scoring 10 goals throughout the tournament, Bronte for the best shot of the day to win the game in the final few seconds and Imogen for her hard work at centre. The pupils won 5 out of their 6 games finishing second out of 7 teams. They now qualify for the borough finals at the end of November.

Well done year 6!!

Mr Oliver - Head of PE



SIXTHFORM NEWS

On Friday, October 8th, three members of our sixth form (accompanied by Mrs. Patience) attended a youth mental health summit at St. Dunstan's College, Catford. The event featured a large variety of interesting talks which inspired all students to consider the significance of youth and student mental health, and the steps that our society can take today in order to address, spread awareness of and vastly improve this staggeringly important issue.

The Children's Society estimates that at least one in six children and young people have a diagnosable mental health condition. What is more harrowing is the fact that 75% of these children do not receive the necessary help they need to treat and recover from these detrimental issues.



Addressing an important factor in youth mental health, happiness, was the summit's primary speaker, Sir Anthony Seldon, a political biographer who has worked in exceptionally high school and university staff positions (such as Master of Wellington College). Seldon is the co-founder of Action For Happiness, a UK based charity that strives to achieve a happier, united world. He shared with us a thought-provoking mnemonic on increasing one's natural state of happiness, which forms the words 'great dream', which I believe is a potentially effective tool to share with young people to inspire them to make a difference in not only their own lives, but the lives of every individual around them. It follows:

Giving - doing things for others.

Relating - connecting with others.

Exercising - taking care of your body.

Awareness - living life mindfully.

Trying out - learning new things.

Direction - looking forward to future goals.

Resilience - finding ways to bounce back.

Emotions - looking for what is good.

Acceptance - comfort in your identity.

Meaning - being part of something bigger.



This week, our three sixth form students (Ethan, Ebum and myself) who visited the summit met with our headteacher, Mr Wallace, to explore the matters discussed in the summit, and the ways in which we believe Bishop Challoner can address the ever-growing issue of youth mental health. We have decided that as a community we will work together to establish a number of ideas that we presented to Mr Wallace- for example, we are currently devising a plan to introduce a Peer Mentoring scheme in which older students will hold meetings with our younger section of the senior school to talk and give about school life. We expect that this will be a highly beneficial activity for our students who will be required to sit exams in the future- a concept that is currently associated with some uncertainty due to COVID-19 and the school hours that we have all missed. Also significant when considering this issue is social skills- which, for many young people, have been negatively effected by lockdowns and a reduction in group socialization; which could be positively improved through our older students' potential counsel.

Our three sixth formers will hold an assembly on Monday November 8th to further detail discussions held at the summit. Through sharing these with other students, we believe that we can begin to effectively spread the message of the huge importance of youth mental health within our school, and will use the guidance provided by experts such as Sir Anthony Seldon to describe the ways in which Bishop Challoner can work together to be a happy and healthy community.

Louis Thorn - Sixthformer





"The children celebrated their last Forest School sessions before the half term break with a tasty popcorn treat at Base Camp.

I am so very proud of all of the Nursery children who have started their Forest School journey this academic year. They have already shown amazing independence and are working on their skills and knowledge in this special outdoor learning environment.

It has been a lovely way to end my own Bishop Challoner journey this week - watching the next generation learn, play and have fun in a safe yet exciting Forest School.

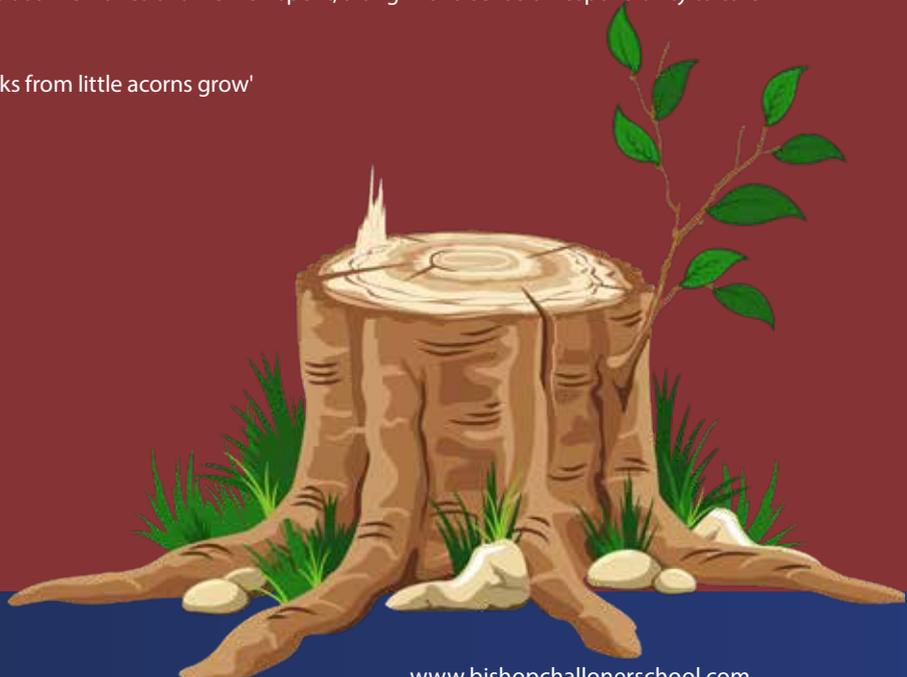
I have enjoyed every minute of my Forest School Leader role and am so honoured to have had the chance to teach our youngest children about such a special place.

It was always my aim to inspire everyone to have a love of nature and the outdoors. I hope that all the Bishop Challoner children who stepped into the Forest hold precious memories of time well-spent, along with a sense of responsibility to care and protect the natural world.

'Large streams from little fountains flow, tall oaks from little acorns grow'

Goodbye and God bless,

Mrs Coates



Wrap Around Care

How this Half Term has flown! Over the last two weeks children have been developing their skills using many different resources....

Preparing afternoon tea in the kitchen which was kindly donated by one of our children



Massive movers using Mobilo

Battleship from design to completion using paper

Miniature playdough figures.



Breakfast Club was brightened up with the varied characters from poems and nursery rhymes. Very exciting!

By way of saying farewell to Crèche, Mrs Reid brought in cupcakes and biscuits for the children to decorate.

Thank you, Mrs Reid. The children really enjoyed this and couldn't wait to get home to eat them.



SAFEGUARDING AND WELL- BEING INFORMATION

Dear Parents/Carers please see the attached links where you can find support.

Online counselling support for pupils

<https://www.kooth.com/>

Support for parents | NSPCC

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/>

Parenting can be rewarding, but it can also be challenging. We've got parenting tips for all stages of your child's life, as well as advice on how to deal with difficult situations. All parents can come under pressure or stress from time to time. Our Positive Parenting guide shares practical advice ...

www.nspcc.org.uk

Coping with your teenager - NHS

Many parents find their teenager's behaviour challenging. Teenagers' behaviour can be baffling, stressful, hurtful and often worrying. But in most cases it does not mean there is anything more serious going on than the natural process of becoming an adult.

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/children-and-young-adults/advice-for-parents/cope-with-your-teenager/>

Parenting teenagers | Relate

Parenting teenagers can be challenging and many parents find it hard to adapt to changes in their child's behaviour as they grow up. Here you'll find lots of practical advice on how to deal with common teen issues. If you have any questions, our counsellors are here to help.

www.relate.org.uk

<https://www.relate.org.uk/relationship-help/help-family-life-and-parenting/parenting-teenagers>



Designated Safeguarding Lead - Mrs Kate Brooker

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Monday

1 NOVEMBER

- All Saints Day, Holy Day of Obligation, Whole School Mass - 9:00am

Tuesday

2 NOVEMBER

- COVID19 Vaccinations for students 12 to 15 years - 10:00am

Wednesday

3 NOVEMBER

- Aspire USA Visit - Sixth Form - 9:00am
- Sixth Form Open Evening Current and Prospective students - 6:00pm

Thursday

4 NOVEMBER

- Junior School Assembly - 8:45am

Friday

5 NOVEMBER

- All Souls Day Mass alumni and parents invited - 6:30pm

Monday

8 NOVEMBER

- Whole School Assembly - 8:45am
- House Christmas Decoration

Wednesday

10 NOVEMBER

- Open Morning 9:30am

Thursday

11 NOVEMBER

- Remembrance Day Assembly - 10:50am
- Parents evening Year 13 - 5:00 pm

Friday

12 NOVEMBER

- Junior Pupil Voice - 12:15pm
- Globe Players Darama Production - 9:15am
- Family Race Night PTA event for Parents and Staff - 7:00pm

