



From the Headteacher...

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for your continued warm welcome, whether that be at drop off or pick up, or indeed yesterday afternoon's 'Meet the Head'. I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting you and look forward to our developing working relationship.

I must thank the PTA for their warm welcome yesterday during their first meeting of the school year. I thought it was a really productive meeting and look forward to our plans for this academic year. It was also good to see several of you drop into the PTA's Second-Hand Uniform sale last Friday afternoon.

It has been really pleasing to see extra-curricular clubs and activities restart this week. I have been able to see some of these in action and I am delighted to see good numbers of students being involved. I very much enjoyed my hockey group as well – a talented bunch!

Thank you to colleagues, led by Ms Ludlam and Mr Peck, for running the Tapestry Introduction for parents on Monday after school. It is always reassuring for you to see how to access and use this excellent resource.

Pupil Successes

There were further Athletic successes last weekend at the Kent County Relay Championships, details of which are in this newsletter. Congratulations Adam and Jamie.

As well it was a great weekend for Adam in Year 5 in cricket; again more details in the newsletter. Congratulations Adam.

School Events

A reminder that we have our first Open Event of the school year on Saturday 25 September from 9.30-12.00 noon. We are asking many of our students to help with Open Day and this can be in the form of conducting tours, helping with department displays or even giving talks.

There will be many more opportunities to see the school and meet me as we progress through this term.

Year 11 & Year 12 Careers Interviews

Thank you to Mrs Shields for organising an independent careers advisor to interview each student from Year 11 and Year 12 from next week (interviews will run from 22 – 28 September). All students have already been sent an individual letter informing them of their appointment, which is taking place remotely.

Year 10 & Year 11 Study Skills

Elevate Study Skills Company will be coming to school to work with our Year 10 and Year 11 students on Thursday 23 September.

Feedback

Thank you to parents who have responded to my feedback request from last week. Any further thoughts are most welcome and if you could forward these to my PA, Penny Dormer, at parents@bcsweb.co.uk.

Challoner Connect

Similarly, if you would like to become involved with the school in lending your expertise and knowledge in upskilling our students to the skills and expertise required for the world of work and further study, then do use the same email address above to get in touch with my PA. Thank you.

I hope you have a relaxing weekend.

My best wishes

Mark Wallace – Headteacher
 @Challoner_head



SENIOR NEWS

Year Seven Religious Education



It has been wonderful to welcome our new Year 7 students to the senior school. In their Religious Education lessons, they have started exploring the history and traditions of the Bishop Challoner school community. Each student has spent time reflecting on how they are made in the image and likeness of God, with their own unique set of gifts and talents. We are so excited to sense the feeling of community already displayed among the Year 7 students and we look forward to following their progress as they continue their journey through the school.

SENIOR NEWS

New senior wellbeing club launches

This week saw a great turnout for the first Wednesday Wellness lunchtime club. Year 9 practised some gentle yoga moves and breathing exercises in a little oasis of calm that took place in the Performing Arts hut.

Each week Mrs Miotti and Mrs Patience will run activities that allow time to focus on personal wellbeing and make connections between physical health and how it affects mental wellbeing and ability to learn.

It was wonderful to see so many smiling faces as the session came to a close, with one pupil commenting that it had made her feel 'happier already'.

We look forward to welcoming year 9 every Wednesday up until Christmas and enjoying a variety of activities to help boost creativity and positivity.

Mindful focus of this week: focus on moments of fortune



and consciously notice the small everyday joys that often go unnoticed (eg. someone holding the door open for you, a lovely friendly smile, etc). The aim is to look at life through a more positive lens and practise gratitude.

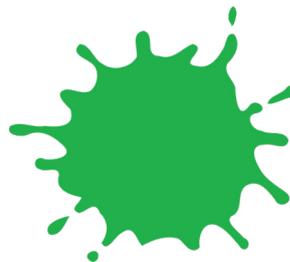
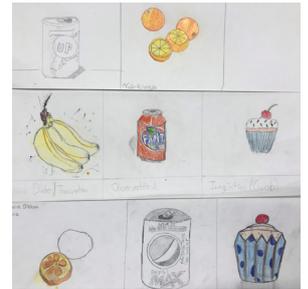
Mrs Miotti & Mrs Patience



SENIOR NEWS

In the art room

This week our fantastic Year 7 students have been drawing objects in their first project entitled "Still Life". The aim was to create one image from imagination, one from observation and one by transcribing the work of an artist. The students concentrated hard as they looked closely at a soft drinks can, then they imagined a cupcake and finally studied the work of Emma Dibben, copying it as faithfully as they could. The results look impressive.



Mr Coultart – Art Teacher



SENIOR SPORTS

Athletics - Blackheath & Bromley Harriers

Another athletics update as the season approaches its close:

Yesterday was the Kent County Relay Championships, where Adam (year 12) and Jamie (year 7) were representing their club, Blackheath & Bromley Harriers.

Adam, competing in the combined U17 and U20 age group, won gold in the men's 4x400m relay and silver in the men's 4x200m relay (setting a new club record at the same time).

Jamie, competing in the U13 age group, won 4x200m relay gold and 4x100m relay silver. Congratulations to our two Kent champions!

Mr Ellerton - Parent



NURSERY NEWS

A Warm Welcome

"It has been wonderful to welcome children and families back to nursery over the last two weeks and meet new friends who have joined us. The children are settling wonderfully and are taking full advantage of exploring their new environment. The sun has been a fantastic addition and we've embraced being able to be out of doors as much as possible.

. The climbing frame remains a firm favourite and it is great to have our large sand pit back open now that Covid guidance has changed

Welcome all - you are all very welcome indeed and fabulous additions."



Ms Ludlam - Head of Nursery / EYFS Co-ordinator

JUNIOR NEWS

Reception Classroom

Reception Class are settling in well at Bishop Challoner.

The children have been working hard on our topics of , 'Marvellous Me' and 'British Values' and have created some good responses that are on display in our classroom. Our room looks lovely!

In RE we have also been looking at 'God's World.'



Mr Peck - Head of Reception



JUNIOR NEWS

The first two weeks of term have flown by and we are certainly all getting back into the routines of school. The children have returned with such positivity and we have all been so impressed with them.

Now that we are no longer restricted by bubbles and distancing, we have some lovely things planned in the Junior School. On Friday 8th October we will be celebrating National Poetry Day and on Tuesday 12th October we have arranged creative workshops for all Junior classes as we 'Bring Books to Life'.

I would like to share with you our Pupil Voice representatives for the coming year. We are holding our first meeting next week and I am looking forward to working with the children and hearing their ideas and suggestions. Thank you to all the children who stood for election and well done to Emma, Luca, Anastasia, Alex, Bella, Sula, Matthew, Aurora, Martha & Louis.

Stars of the Week



Reception Nicholas for his excellent effort in PE.

Year 1 Alexander for enthusiasm and focus in lessons.

Year 2 Saana for always following instructions and being ready to learn.

Year 3 David for making such a positive start to Year 3.

Year 4 Amaju for a hardworking start to Year 4.

Year 5 Ryan for excellent behaviour for learning, especially in Maths.

Year 6 Theo for his excellent and impressive contribution in History last week.



Many congratulations to all our Stars this week!

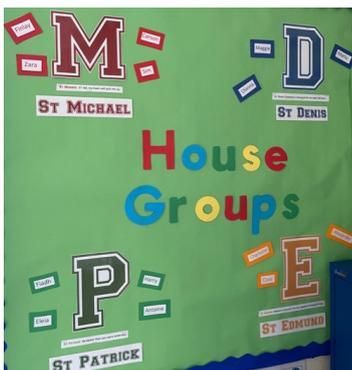
Ms Barker - Head of KS1 & KS2

House information

Welcome back to another competitive, but friendly year of House events. By now, many of the staff and students will be wearing their House colours with pride. House display boards in the form rooms are also looking good around the whole school.

The next House event is in October, with a theme of egg cartons, and I will arrange a letter to inform all participants of the criteria in the next few weeks.

St Edmund's are the reigning champions, so who will step up this year for the title?



Mr Peck - House Co-ordinator

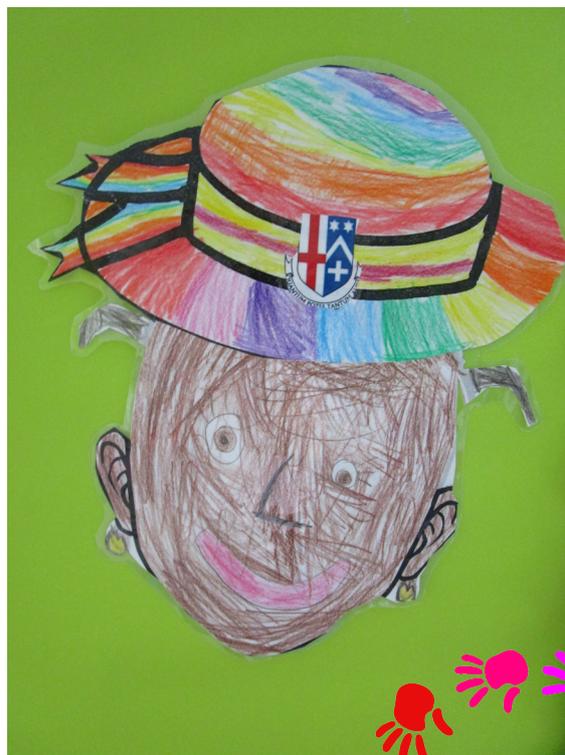


Year One Classroom

The Year One children have returned to school full of enthusiasm and have shown high levels of concentration and dedication towards their work. They have been trying their best at all tasks and have shown resilience when faced with a challenge.

The children have been caring towards each other in the classroom and thought hard about how to show that they are kind and respectful around the school.

Well done Year One! You have made a super start.



Drawing by Charlotte - Year one



Ms Bateman - Year one Teacher

Beckenham Cricket Club



This is Adam in year 5 with his medals awarded from Beckenham Cricket Club.

In the last game of the season, Adam scored a hat trick, taking three wickets in one game. Congratulations!



Mrs Pittman - Marketing and Admissions



Sixth Form Article



Each year, thousands of UK students choose to cross the daunting bridge into higher education and prepare for their futures ahead, and often it is argued that the greatest way to prepare for university enrolment and the careers it offers beyond is through attending a school sixth form. This year, Bishop Challoner's sixth form welcomed a considerable number of students- each a hard-working, driven individual in their own right, to join last year's cohort, who are now enthusiastic to face the year ahead, and to add to Bishop Challoner's ever-growing list of highly successful alumni.

The coming of the new autumn term has brought many significant changes to the school's staff- which has directly affected our sixth form, centrally in many of our students witnessing staff changes for their respective subject choices- a difficult task to contemplate when considering the massive difficulty of A-level exams and the necessary communication between staff and student that is essential to academic success. However, Bishop Challoner, with its forever unchanged and embraced fundamental ethos of 'Quantum potes tantum aude'- daring to do one's best- will face any challenge faced by its staff and students: and so far our new staff have been exceptional in delivering professional, concise and interesting tuition; and our new students have greeted each member with a warm welcome to the family that is our school.

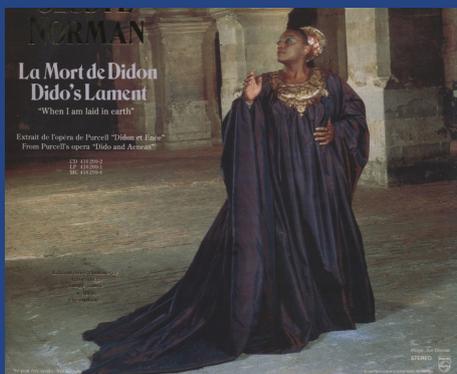
One of our sixth form's new form tutors, Mr. Merrony, has invigorated the minds of our year 13 pupils and encouraged them to begin the demanding process of preparing UCAS applications, and having gathered large amounts of experience with this task in other schools, is already presenting an informed and brilliantly cooperative approach to assisting students in this early stage of choosing courses, universities, apprenticeships and occupations, and preparing their necessary applications.

Our new head and deputy headteachers, Mr. Wallace and Mrs. Brooker, have expressed a keen motivation to make our amazing school the best that it can truly be, and are overseeing our sixth form students becoming young leaders of the school, mainly by offering them opportunities to instruct younger students in the extra-curricular activities of the school's many departments.

To conclude, our sixth form has begun this new school year with a hopeful determination in facing the many challenges ahead, and can be expected to blossom into a highly successful team of young adults throughout this school year. Myself and my fellow sixth form students look forward to becoming role models of this brilliant school and, in particular, would like to thank the school's parents and staff in making this year's transition seamless, productive and most enjoyable.

Written by Louis - Year 13

SIXTH FORM NEWS



We welcome this autumn term our first Year 13 students studying Classical Civilisation. Last year in Year 12 we studied Homer's Iliad and the interactions between the Ancient Greeks and the Persians. This year we move onto Virgil's Aeneid and also begin our studies of Ancient Greek Religion.

In studying these topics we have begun to think about issues of identity and the interactions between different cultures in the ancient Mediterranean, particularly regarding refugees. We are beginning to look at Classical Reception, which addresses the way in which we think about and respond to the ancient world, touching on the idea of the portrayal of characters from the Aeneid in Purcell's opera "Dido & Aeneas" in 1688.

Ms Newbould - Sixth Form Teacher



The clubs are back in town!



We are so happy to announce that extracurricular activities started this week. On Tuesday for the first time we had skateboarding. Despite the rainy day pupils were outside on their boards.



Ms Robins & Ms Restivo



WRAPAROUND CARE NEWS

It was wonderful to see the children return last week glowing with health and enthusiasm for the new year ahead.

We have made the most of the warm weather by playing outside for as long as we could each afternoon.

There were football matches alongside a restaurant, a game of sardines in a Wendy House and much more; and even elephants eating donuts.

Mr Peck donated a flat pack shop which was build the first afternoon at Creche this September and has been in constant use both in the morning and afternoon, indoors and out.

Thank you all for your support with our Wraparound Care.



Mrs Vander Elst

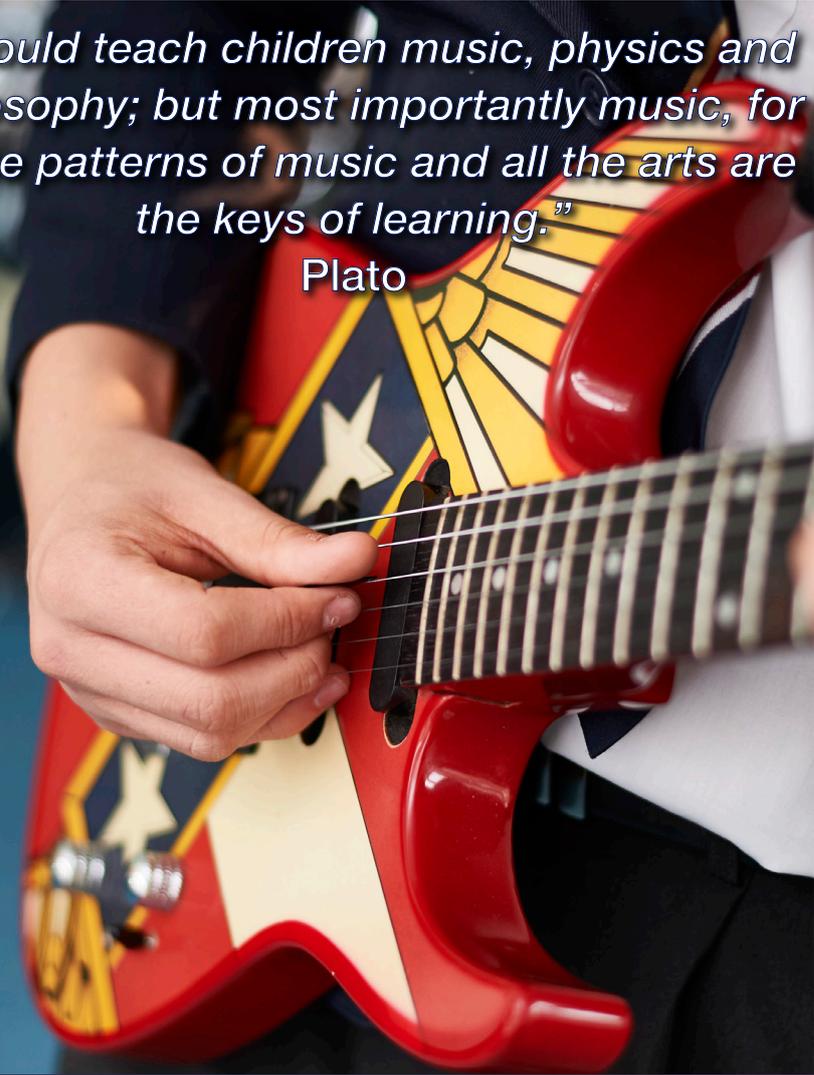


Instrumental & Singing Lessons at BCS



"I would teach children music, physics and philosophy; but most importantly music, for in the patterns of music and all the arts are the keys of learning."

Plato



The music department offers instrumental and singing tuition in most instruments.

The music tutors will arrange lessons in a rotating basis during the school day.

Parents are welcome to indicate their preferred choice of time. Priority will be given to KS4 and sixth form in allocating times out of academic lesson time.

To organise lessons, and check on prices, please get in contact directly with the appropriate teacher.

If you have any other queries, feel free to email me directly at mkent-davies@bcsweb.co.uk.

Mr Mike Kent-Davies
Music Teacher

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Emily Atkinson | Singing | atkinson.emily@gmail.com |
| Christiana Campbell | Violin / Viola | cl.c@hotmail.co.uk |
| Chris Murray | Cello | christopherjmurray@hotmail.com |
| TBA | Guitar / Bass | |
| John Ellmer | Drums | john.ellmer@talktalk.net |
| Tracy James | Sax / Clarinet / Flute | info@tracyjames.co.uk |
| Mathew Turner | Trumpet / brass Piano / keyboard | turner.music@hotmail.co.uk |



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

20 SEPTEMBER

- Whole School Assembly 8:45am

Wednesday

22 SEPTEMBER

- Year 11 & 12 Careers Interviews begin (individual appointment times)

Thursday

23 SEPTEMBER

- Individual/Sibling Photographs 8:45am
- Year 10 & 11 Study Skills Sessions 11:00am
- Year 10 Information Evening 7:00pm (Online)

Friday

24 SEPTEMBER

- Year 11 Mass 9:00am

Saturday

25 SEPTEMBER

- Open Day 9:30am till 12:00pm

Monday

27 SEPTEMBER

- Whole School Assembly 8:45am

Tuesday

28 SEPTEMBER

- Whole School Assembly 8:45am

Wednesday

29 SEPTEMBER

- Reception Liturgy 9:15am

Friday

01 OCTOBER

- Head's Coffee Morning 9:15am
- Year 10 Mass 9:45am

