



From the Headteacher...

I hope that you and your families are remaining safe and that the term has started well for your sons and daughters.

The learning and teaching is being delivered remotely with a small number of critical worker children from the junior department in school. Our nursery continues to operate as normal and I know that many of the children have braved the cold and had some fantastic sessions at Forest School.

My thanks to the staff for making some refinements to their online learning delivery since our previous lockdown and for ensuring that we continue to provide high quality provision. Whether the children are onsite or working from home they can all share the same learning experience and still see their friends virtually. Thank you to the parents for your positive feedback to-date and a special well done to the pupils for adapting to and engaging with the changes so well. This is certainly a time to reflect on and live by our school motto 'Quantum Potes Tantum Aude,' which challenges each member of our community to dare to do their very best.

It has also been good to catch up with some of the pupils over Teams to check on how they are getting on and being supported.

We are pleased that our Year 7 parents found the parents' evening on Thursday a positive experience. Thank you for your patience and understanding with our new systems that we have developed in order to provide effective remote communication between parents and teachers.

Mission Statement

Through faith and a broad education, Bishop Challoner School strives to develop and nurture each child's unique talents. To Live, Love and Learn like Christ and fulfil their true potential in an ever changing world.



In my assembly last week, I touched on the theme of family and asked the pupils to focus on the good things and to consider their own families. I mentioned that they may like to think about God as a Father who knows and loves and cares for everyone, or that they might want to think about Bishop Challoner as a family where people care for and support one another. Schools work best when we all support each other when we stay united.

Look after yourselves and stay safe.



Paula Anderson – Headteacher
@Challoner_head



Welcome back to 2021.....

Unlike primary and secondary education, Early Years provision in preschools and day nurseries have been allowed to stay open.

On 6th January we opened our doors to both new starters and children returning to us after the break. It has been wonderful to support stability and normality for our youngest children in these confusing times. The support of our families who are helping and guiding with remote learning has been hugely appreciated - thank you.

Our Forest School resumed on the 11th and the children and staff alike have been very glad to get outdoors for the morning and learn and explore in the



fresh air. The weather has been very cold and even a little wet, but this means that the outdoor classroom changes and enhances the learning - when a child tries to dig in the frozen soil this leads to a wealth of valuable discussion and reasoning. During the winter, our site looks very different - the leaves have dropped, and the trees are bare, but there are signs of Spring starting to form - buds on trees and bulbs tentatively poking their heads out.



The return to Forest School after a holiday is always an exciting time because the site has inevitably changed when it has been untouched - for me this is always most noticeable after Easter, so this is something to really look forward to which will help us get through the rest of the winter in lockdown.

Ms Ludlam, Head of Nursery / EYFS Co-ordinator



SENIOR NEWS

Kahoot in Maths....

Year 7 having been enjoying Kahoot quizzes with me. Henry has come out on top in the past 3 Kahoot quizzes, his recent victory was close but can he have a perfect record before we return to school? Watch this space.....

Mr Lubi, Mathematics Teacher



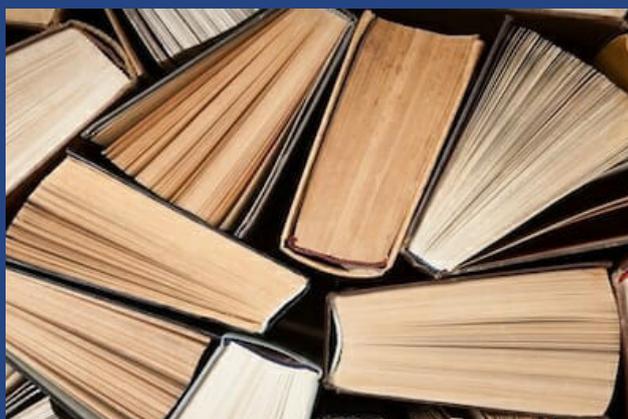
SENIOR NEWS

What are you reading?

The English department has been so very impressed with the dedication and commitment of our pupils during this period of lockdown. A huge well done to all, and a special mention to those who have emailed me about books they are reading at home. I always enjoy hearing about private reading choices, and can be called upon for book recommendations (fmiotti@bcsweb.co.uk).

I would like to share this uplifting poem about 'Hope' by Emily Dickinson, in the hope that we all find ways to uplift ourselves until we feel our freedoms returning.

Mrs Miotti, Head of English



'Hope' is the thing with feathers –
That perches in the soul –
And sings the tune without the words –
And never stops – at all –
And sweetest – in the Gale – is heard –
And sore must be the storm –
That could abash the little Bird
That kept so many warm –
I've heard it in the chilliest land –
And on the strangest Sea –
Yet – never – in Extremity,
It asked a crumb – of me.



Junior PE Challenge

It has been a great start to the junior PE challenge with lots of pupils and parents emailing us. Year 2 are leading the way with the most amount of exercising. 64% of the class have sent in their exercise, closely followed by year 5 with just over 50% and year 6 have just under 50% of their pupils sending in their exercise. There have been some stand out performers. These include Alex (year 2) who has exercised for 24.5km, Milana (year 3) completing 41.5km, Adam (year 4) 30.6km, George (year 5) with 22.6km and Jehan (year 6) completing 40.7km. Excellent job boys and girls, keep up the good work!

Now in terms of the prize for the most amount of kilometres exercised by year group:

In third place - year 4 with 87 points
second place - year 6 with 94.85 points
In first place - year 2 with a whopping 153.2 points

In



Well done to year 2 and every pupil and parent involved in the junior PE challenge. You have completed a combined 373.6 kilometres in the first 9 days, a great achievement. Keep it up in the junior school!

The PE department



WELCOME

Bishop Challoner would like to welcome Mr Ramdhan who has joined the school as part of his teacher training. Mr Ramdhan will be teaching PE to both the Senior and Junior School and has kindly been attending school to teach PE to our key worker children since the start of term.

Mr Snadden, PE Teacher

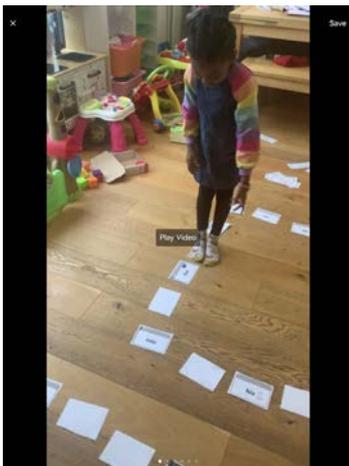


JUNIOR NEWS

It has been lovely to see the way that the children have engaged with remote learning this time around. Anyone would think that we are getting used to this!

We all hope to be back together soon but, in the meantime, I thought I would share with you some of the things that have made me smile this week.

Reception Class have not let a lack of classroom get in the way of their learning or having fun! From building rockets and being astronauts to learning about Jesus and the Fisherman, they have clearly had a very busy week.

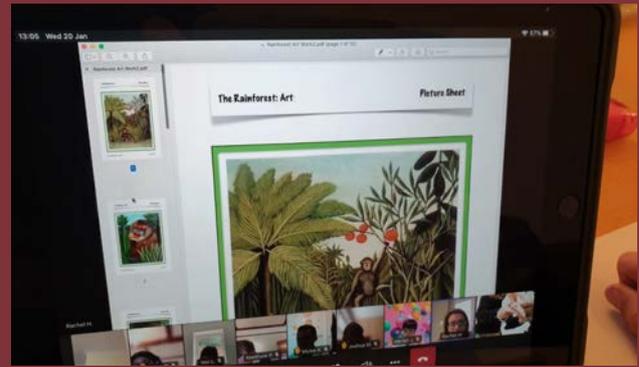


Year 2 have been reading *The Alien Hotel* and have designed their own alien houses. Well done Anastasia and Gabriella.



I also wanted to give a mention this week to our children of Critical Workers who are with us in school. The children have all been extremely sensible and focused. They have worked hard, followed instructions and adapted once again to the changes we have had to put in place.

Year 4 children were to be found enjoying their art lesson linked to geography and the rainforests.



While we are currently unable to teach PE, it has been lovely to see so many Junior children getting involved with the PE Challenge.

Well done to Year 2 who have taken an early lead!

Many thanks to Mr Oliver and the PE Team for organising this.



Twitter Please follow us on Twitter during this period of remote learning. We can be found @BishopJuniors. #LearningNeverStops

Diary Dates - Junior Reports and Parents' Evening

We will be sending Junior reports home on Friday 26th February and Parents' Evening will be taking place remotely via Teams during the following week.

I hope you all have a restful weekend.

Very best wishes

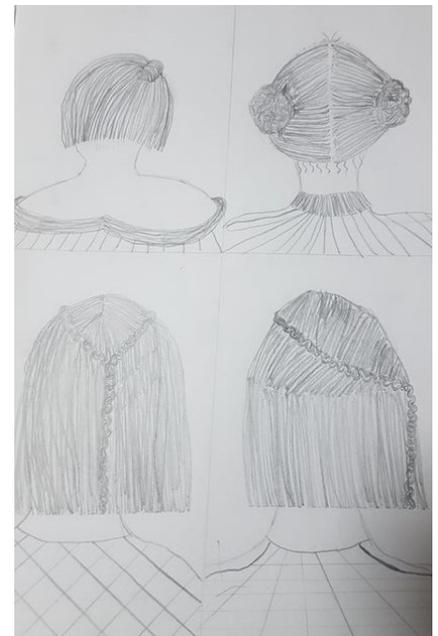
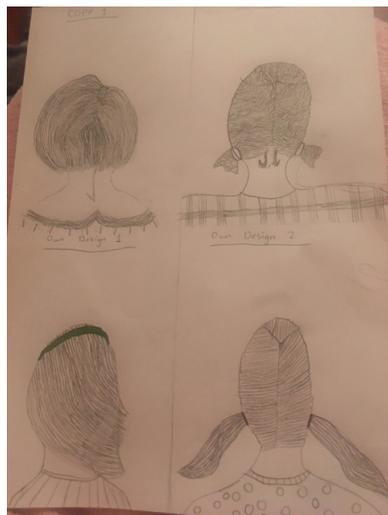
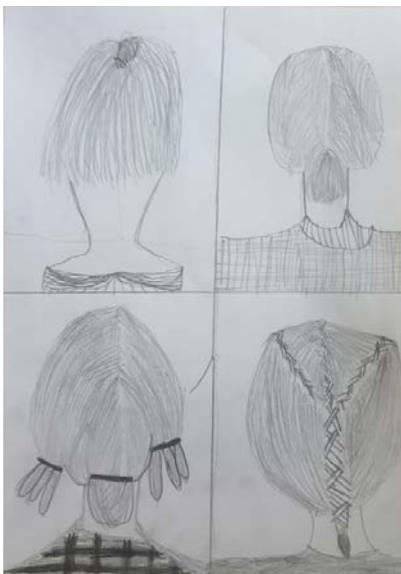
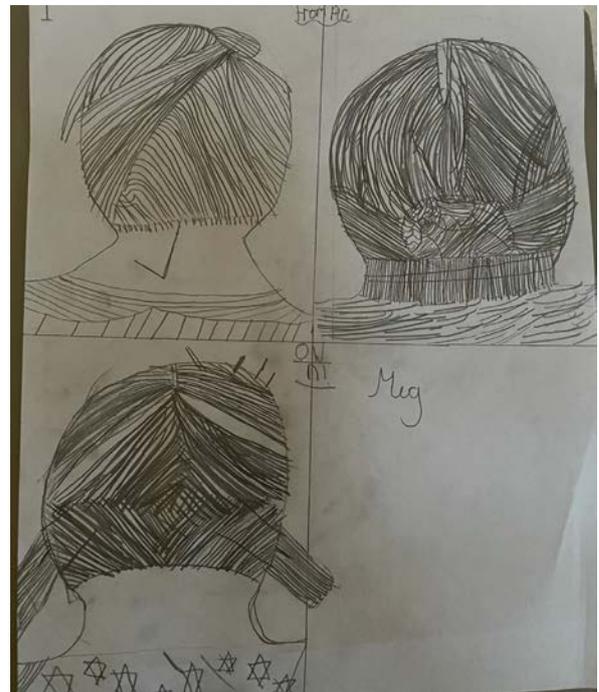
Ms Barker, Head of KS1 and KS2



YEAR 5 ARTWORK

This period of remote learning has given our wonderful artists in year 5 the chance to explore linear mark making in a project about hair. They worked hard on pattern, line and shape as they copied two drawings from a visual source before using their powers of invention to come up with their own designs. The pupils seem to have taken so much care and attention in the construction of these final studies.

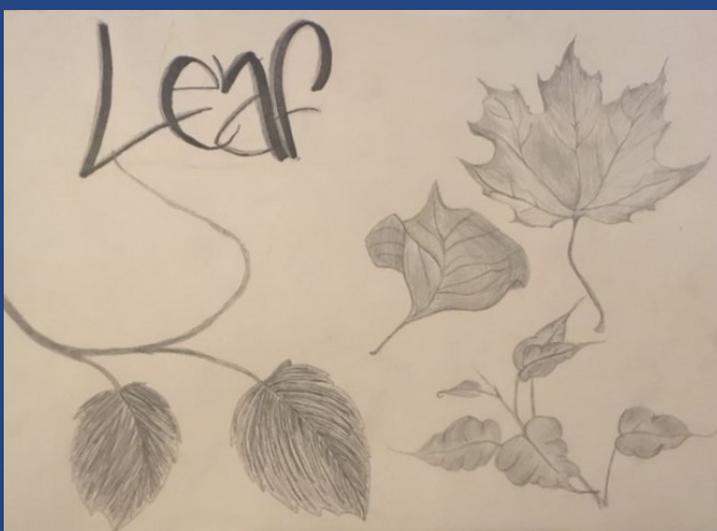
Mr Coultart, Head of Art



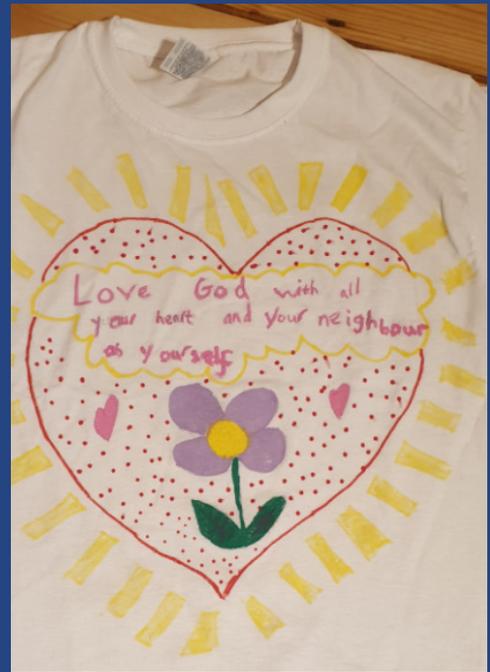
SENIOR ARTWORK

This period of remote learning has given the opportunity for Mr Coultart's GCSE Art students to explore repeat patterns in a project based on the Natural Form. Before the motif making and the tracing and development of the pattern itself, students had to make some preparatory drawings. The initial phase included making sketches of leaves and we were so impressed by some of the results. Students had taken their time to explore line and tone in great detail.

Mr Coultart, Head of Art



YEAR 3 ARTWORK



BREAKFAST CLUB AND CRÈCHE

January 26th was the day in 1788 when Captain Arthur Phillip sailed into Sydney Cove, New South Wales.

At Crèche, the children created art, using crayons, paint and cotton buds, in the style of the Australian Indigenous People, formerly known as Aborigines.



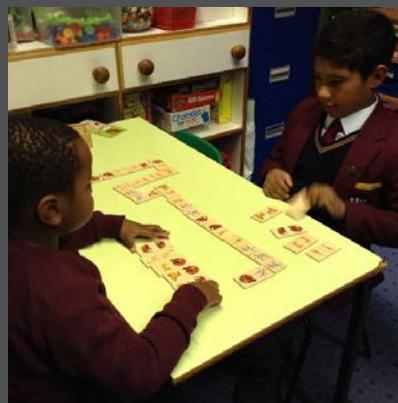
Other children used modelling clay to shape tools and bowls that would have been made from bark.



They also found time to make self portraits...



..And taking part in other activities, individually, in pairs or altogether whether it be a tricky jigsaw puzzle, Dominoes or balloon volleyball.



Another superb team effort by them all. Thanks go to Mrs Black and Mrs Reid for their support.

Mrs Vander Elst, Breakfast Club/Crèche leader



JUNIOR NEWS

Forest School

Here are some of the remote Forest School activities for Reception. Children were asked to create the letter "T" out of natural materials, as this was our focus sound of the day.

As part of our 'Space' topic this term, children were asked to create a rocket out of natural materials, to infinity, and beyond.

Mr Peck, Reception Class Teacher



EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES RETURNING IN LOCKDOWN

We know that resilience in children can be built in school through positive relationships with staff and friendships. Our clubs programme is evolving and finding new ways to operate in lockdown. In true BC form, teachers are striving to provide opportunities to develop skills, allow like-minded pupils to meet (virtually) and pursue hobbies.

Ms Restivo is keeping in touch with the fencing club through setting weekly challenges on Teams. Mr Kent-Davies is beginning music club next week on Thursday lunchtimes.

Mrs Robins has moved her Classic film club online and has started with 'Blue Murder at St Trinians' on Monday lunchtimes. She is inviting any other interested pupils to contact her if they would like to join.

Mrs Newbould has launched 'Wednesday Crafternoon' from 3.45-4.15pm for year 6 and senior school. Week 1 will begin with origami.

More clubs will be coming soon. If you have an idea for a club that could work over Teams this half term, contact Mrs Otley to help set this up.

Mrs Otley, Enrichment Co-ordinator



PTA NEWS



Although different from the usual event, the PTA managed to hold a successful "Secret Santa" at Christmas raising £240 which the children of the Junior School thoroughly enjoyed.

We also sent £150 to St Edmund's Church for two families for Christmas.

The PTA would love to hear from parents/students with suggestions for virtual events. Please email us at pta@bcswb.co.uk

Thank you for your continued support.

Karan Reid, PTA Chair



SAFEGUARDING ESSENTIALS

Bishop Challoner subscribes to the excellent online safeguarding training provider - SSS Learning. All staff and volunteers regularly complete training sessions to ensure they have up to date safeguarding knowledge to enable them to support all our pupils. This term we are focussing on mental health and wellbeing. SSS have also produced 10 Top Tips for Parents, to help support their children during these challenging times. If you would like to watch their video, please visit:

<https://ssscpd.co.uk/education/parentsandguardians/child-mental-health-10-tips-for-parents/-/ZwOdLJ4lZKEipQRjqTyjpj==>

TikTok tackles safeguarding:

Children on TikTok will face new restrictions in an attempt to prevent grooming on the platform, with particularly strict new rules for users under 16.

Users under 16 would no longer be able to receive comments from strangers, have their videos used for "duets" or mark their posts as available to be downloaded. Their accounts will default to "private", which prevents anyone other than friends from viewing their videos.

More information can be found at : <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2021/jan/13/toktok-to-tackle-grooming-with-curbs-for-young-users>

We have also been made aware of a free webinar to help support anxiety with online learning:

https://www.creativeeducation.co.uk/product/how-to-support-anxious-online-learners-26th-january/?mc_cid=52f1993acf&mc_eid=f0d4e5cca6

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 26 JANUARY

- Year 9 Parents/Options Evening, 5.30-8.00pm

Thursday 4 FEBRUARY

- Year 11 Parents' Evening, 5.00-7.00pm

Monday 8 FEBRUARY

- Year 9 Options Deadline

Tuesday 9 FEBRUARY

- Safer Internet Day

Wednesday 10 FEBRUARY

- Deadline for A level option choices

Friday 12 FEBRUARY

- End of Term, 3.45pm

