



Bishop Challoner News

7 December 2018 | No. 5

From the Headteacher...

The season of advent is one of anticipation, appreciation and celebration. We are very much looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible at St Edmund's Church for our Christmas Carol Service next Tuesday.

Our Junior pupils performed their wonderful 'The Magical Christmas Jigsaw' this week. Well done to all of our performers and to the staff for supporting and motivating the children so brilliantly. It was a spectacular occasion and our children should all feel incredibly proud of themselves. We look forward to a further performance from our Nursery children next Thursday with 'A little Bird Told me'.

Yesterday we invited residents from Nettlestead Care Home to an afternoon of entertainment, tea and cake. Our sixth formers looked after the visitors and our junior and senior pupils sang carols to them.

Bishop Challoner pupils and staff past and present were competing and volunteering at the ISA swimming Nationals last Saturday at the London Aquatics Centre in Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. Well done to all participants and to Ms Restivo and Mrs Woolaway for supporting the pupils.



Meeting with Celline, Rania, Matthew and Lucas in Year 7 was an enjoyable experience. It enabled me to reflect on their term and to find out about their highlights. I was reassured when they informed me that they were happy and settled.

We hope that many of the pupils will take part in a competition to write a Bishop Challoner School prayer. Mrs Patience will be sending a letter to parents outlining the requirements of this competition. The prayer must reflect our Mission Statement, 'Through faith and a broad education our 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'.

This is the last Bishop Challoner News until the New Year. I will be sending my end of term letter to parents on Wednesday 12th December.



Paula Anderson – Headteacher

 @Challoner_head



SENIOR NEWS

Onatti Productions Years 7 & 8

Years 7 and 8 were transported to a different dimension and had the experience of going up to space for the afternoon.

Onatti Productions did not fail to disappoint, the actors were fabulous and the storyline, set and entertainment value were wonderful. It was great to see Tobias in Year 7 take on an active role.

Ms Napier – French Teacher



We are very much looking forward to inviting Onatti Productions to return to Bishop Challoner next year.

Special thanks again to Ms Ruston and Laurence in Year 8 for great lighting arrangements.



Miss Ruston – Science Technician

EXTRA-CURRICULUM

Eco-Club

Well done to everyone that has attended Eco-club. We have done lots of recycling and made Eco robots out of tin cans and a battery operated kit.

Next term we will have a 'Name the Robot' competition and use this as our Eco-club mascot. Pupils have also focused on the topic of litter and written 'litter -acy' poems. We are working towards our silver award and so will be planning a whole school assembly on the topic of litter soon. Please continue to 'reduce, reuse and recycle' at home and at school.

Have a very happy Christmas and New Year and thank you to all my Eco warriors for all your hard work.



Maths Reviews: 'The Cabinet of Mathematical Curiosities' by Ian Stewart

As Christmas approaches, I thought I would review a book that contains lots of games, puzzles, stories and factoids about Mathematics that would demonstrate why it is an endlessly interesting and fascinating subject. 'The Cabinet of Mathematical Curiosities' is one of those books that you do not have to read from front to back to follow the path or story that the author has pre-determined, but a book that you can dip into now and again, perfect for the busy holiday season ahead. There is a curiosity in this book for everyone to engage with.

Professor Stewart started keeping notebooks from the age of fourteen in which he recorded all manner of things that he found interesting. The set of notebooks grew to a total of six, and over spilled into a filing cabinet, mainly due to the invention of the photocopier. In his introduction, the author points out that Mathematics is not simply the sum of everything that is studied at school. There are various aspects that we do not get to explore in school, and much of it is fun and interesting, which is a viewpoint and as a fellow mathematician, I happen to whole heartedly agree with.

Throughout the book, amongst the various puzzles and factoids, are short essays, in which the author has adopted an informal and non-technical approach to explore some of the more complex aspects of Mathematics, such as the Four-colour problem, Chaos Theory and Fractals. The book also contains, in the words of the author, 'some shorter snappy sections' that explore various discoveries such as π , prime numbers and Pythagoras' theorem. In the book, anecdotes about famous mathematicians are also included, as well as their 'endearing foibles', which not only gives the reader an historical perspective about the subject but also weaves a sense of humour into the book.

On some occasions, when attempting to solve a problem, a whole new area of Mathematics is born. These occasions are rare, and the most famous problem is The Bridges Konigsberg problem. In Konigsberg there two islands connected by seven bridges. This gave rise to the following conundrum:

Can you find a path such that each of the seven bridges is crossed exactly once?

This was a question that Leonard Euler set out to solve in 1735, and this led to the birth of graph theory. I will leave you to read the book to discover if Euler managed to prove if a solution to this problem exists.

One of my favourite pieces in this book is the 'Six Degrees of Separation'. In 1967, Stanley Milgram prepared 160 letters with the name of his stockbroker on the envelope, but none of the envelopes had addresses on them. He 'lost' the letters so that random members of the public could find them, and hopefully send them on. When the letters had arrived at the stockbroker's office, they had done so in at most six steps. This led Milgram to the idea that everyone on the planet is connected by five intermediaries at most which gives the six degrees of separation. The concept behind this is that there are some people who are incredibly well connected that form the connections to allow smaller networks to be linked together. There is a similar idea linking famous actors/actresses to Kevin Bacon as he has been in a large number of films. Anyone who has been in a film with Kevin Bacon has a Bacon number of 1. An actor/actress with a Bacon number of 2 would have been in a film with an actor/actress who has been in a film with Kevin Bacon, and so on (see oracleofbacon.org for more information). The challenge here is to see if you can break the six degrees of separation, and again, I will leave it to you to read the book to discover more about the six degrees of separation.

During the busy festive season, find time to dip into this wonderful book to widen your Mathematical knowledge - you may find some new amazing 'trick' or factoids to amaze and astound your family and friends.

Dr Samuel – Head of Mathematics



Forest School Visitors

The Forest School had some special visitors this week. Two charity mornings were arranged in order for local pre-school children to experience a Forest School session.

"It has been such a privilege to be able to support Threshers and give their children an experience that they will never forget."

Bishop Challoner Nursery have forged links with local children's charity, Ada and Albert. The charity aims to support local children's charities via their Charity Boutique and Community Hub from their premises in Chislehurst.

Threshers Day Nursery in St Mary's Cray are one of the projects supported by Ada and Albert. This charity and government funded pre-school were put in touch with Bishop Challoner Nursery by Ada and Albert, and we hope that this will be the start of an

Mrs Coates - Forest School Leader



excellent relationship between the two settings.

16 children came to our Forest School sessions this week, and experienced all the muddy, messy fun that this special outdoor learning area has to offer.

Special thanks to Mr Snadden, Mr Hickman and Mr Cable for driving the minibus to and from Threshers. Also a big thank you to Mr McArthur from the DT department who made the children some lovely Forest School medals as a memento of their morning.



JUNIOR NEWS

Year 4 - BFG and Dream Catchers

This term, Year 4 have been learning about The BFG. We wrote instructions on how to make a drink of our choice, based on the BFG's Froboscottle. We had to make our drinks by measuring carefully, as our drinks had to be exactly 1 litre. We added a variety of different ingredients, such as Bloodbottler's saliva and Tears from a Giant.

This week, we have been focusing on dreams. We wrote our own imaginative dreams and then created dream jars using colours to show the emotions in our dreams. We added glitter and stars too, to make our dream jars extra special.

By Olivia and Annabelle (Year 4)



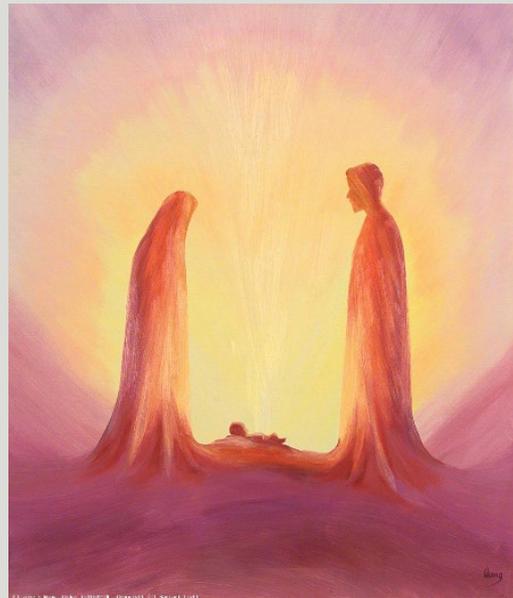
Advent End of Term Thought 2018

Advent is a wonderful time of year but sadly the true meaning of Advent is often lost in all the hype, sales, sparkle and glitter.

Dietrich Boenhoffer was a German Pastor who lived in Nazi Germany during WWII. He was a public opponent of the Nazi regime. On 8th April 1945 he was condemned to death on false charges at Flossenburgh Concentration Camp and was put to death. This was just two weeks before the camp was liberated. Dietrich had a profound understanding of the Incarnation of Christ and his power to liberate us. Despite his sufferings he never lost hope. I invite you to read his reflection in preparation for Christmas:

Dietrich Bonhoeffer: "Those Who Go to the Manger Will be Transformed."

"If God chooses Mary as his instrument,
if God himself wants to come into this world
in the manger at Bethlehem,
that is no idyllic family affair,
but the beginning of a complete turnaround,
a reordering of everything on this earth.
If we wish to take part in this Advent and Christmas
event,
then we cannot simply be bystanders or onlookers,
as if we were at the theatre, enjoying all the cheerful
images.
No, we ourselves are swept into the action there,
into the conversion of all things.
We have to play our part too on this stage,



for the spectator is already an actor.
We cannot withdraw.
What part, then, do we play?
Pious shepherds, on bended knee?
Kings who come bearing gifts?
What sort of play is this, where Mary becomes the
mother of God?
Where God enters the world in the lowliness of the
manger?
The judgment of the world and its redemption—
that is taking place here.
And the Christ child in the manger is himself the one
who pronounces the judgment and the redemption of
the world.
He repels the great and the powerful.
He puts down the mighty from their thrones,
he humbles the arrogant,
his arm overpowers all the proud and the strong,
he raises what is lowly and makes it great and splendid
in his compassion.
Therefore we approach his manger
not as if it were the cradle of any other child.
Those who wish to come to his manger
find that something is happening within them."

Gerard Lohan - School Chaplain

ONE LAST THING...

All pupils are invited to take part in a competition to create the Bishop Challoner School Prayer via the entry form, which will be sent home. Deadline for entries is 1st February 2019.

The winner will have their prayer credited to them and published in the school diary, and they will receive an Amazon Gift Voucher. All entrants will receive house points and credits.

Safeguarding Essentials

Bishop Challoner is committed to promoting the safety and welfare of all our pupils. Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility. If you have any safeguarding concerns, please report them immediately to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), Mrs S Woolaway, or the Deputy DSL, Ms A Barker.

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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

 [SEE FULL CALENDAR](#)

Tuesday

11 DECEMBER

- 11+ Application Closing Date
- St Edmund's Carol Service, 7.00pm

Wednesday

12 DECEMBER

- Community Mass

Thursday

13 DECEMBER

- Nursery Christmas Play, 6.00pm

Friday

14 DECEMBER

- End of Term Mass, 8.45am
- Senior School Reports Sent Home
- Term Ends, 12.00

