



Bishop Challoner News

9 November 2018 | No. 1

From the Headteacher...

I hope that you have all had a wonderful half term and had an opportunity to spend time with your family.

As a school we are continually looking at ways of keeping you informed of what is happening in school. Our Challoner Update is taking on a new look from now on and will be called Bishop Challoner News and we hope you like it. Remember, we have a school Twitter feed too and I regularly post information on this Twitter page https://twitter.com/challoner_head. I do hope that many of you will continue to follow all the key events and happenings that are going on during the term.

Thank you to the parents, staff and pupils for taking the time to make poppies to commemorate the centenary of the end of the First World War. The school community remembered 100 years since the end of WW1 by holding a Remembrance Service on Thursday morning. We welcomed visitors and some alumni to this special occasion and remembered the bravery of those who fought, lived and died at home and overseas. It was heart-warming to see so many people there, honouring the fallen and remembering those who survived.

Please could I ask all parents to be extra vigilant in terms of their virtual safety when accessing the internet/social media sites. We are not able to control what your son or daughter may be accessing out of school hours. We need to ensure that the safety of our pupils remains a priority both when in school as well as off site. The UK Safer Internet Centre has updated its guidance for parents regarding online safety. There is age specific guidance for parents of: 3-7 year olds, 7-11 year olds, 11-14 year olds and 14-18 year olds. Advice



for each age bracket includes information about how the age group are interacting with the internet, top tips to help parents support the young people at this age, and ideas to help parents start a conversation about digital wellbeing. Please copy and paste the link if you wish to find out more. www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/digital-wellbeing---guidance-parents

Interviews for prospective Year 7 pupils continue to happen this term and I will soon be inviting our existing Year 6 pupils and their parents to a meeting to discuss the transition to senior school. I am aware that Ms Barker is arranging to meet with nursery parents to discuss the transition to Reception class for September 2019.

I very much enjoyed meeting with Jannah, Roisin, Alexander, Tristan, Tiffany and Sam-Al on Tuesday lunchtime for a chat and refreshments. They are enjoying the challenges of Year 6 and looking forward to the Christmas play!

The deadline for sixth form scholarship applications is Tuesday 20th November, 12 noon. Interviews will take place in the week commencing Monday 26th November. Scholarships available include academic, music, sport, art and performing arts.



Paula Anderson

Paula Anderson – Headteacher

 @Challoner_head



SENIOR SPORT

Excellent Sports Performance

Bishop Challoner sports teams have started the 2018/19 season with several excellent performances and results.

The Year 10 Football team have had a strong start to the season with convincing wins against City of London and Farrington's. These results were amidst two very unlucky results losing to Cleve Park School on penalties in the Kent Cup and conceding a last minute goal v Haberdashers, Elstree, in the Independent Schools Cup (ISFA). The Year 10's face Dunotar School, Surrey, in the next round of the of the English Small Schools Cup (ESFA) after a 3-2 win v Kingston Grammar.

The Year 9 team have also performed well with a strong performance against Radnor House winning 9-2 and Blake scoring 5 goals. The Year 9 team have been unlucky in the cups losing to very strong Claremount Fan Court and Cleeve Park teams in the ESFA and Kent Cup respectively.

Mr Snadden – Head of Senior PE



The Year 8 team are unbeaten, demonstrating their potential with a A + B team victory v St Michael's Prep, Otford, with the As running away 6-4 winners and the B's 7-2 with Daniel hitting the back of the net four times.

The Year 7s have also had a start to their Bishop Challoner Senior school careers beating Eaton Manor School A + B's 3-1 and 5-0 respectively.

The upcoming term will see a number of fixtures take place as the Girls' Netball teams play Croydon High School, our Year 10 & 11's represent the school in the Bromley Table Tennis competition and the Year 11 Basketball team play Langley Boys.

Careers Week

All Year 11 students and their parents have had the opportunity this week to participate in an individual careers interview with an independent careers adviser. Each session was tailored to the potential career path of the individual student and explored both post 16 study and university options. On Monday evening a number of parents also attended school to hear the careers adviser speak about current careers, university and employment trends. During the talk, Mr Collins spoke about a number of things including,

SENIOR NEWS

the rise in popularity of apprenticeship degree courses and implications of the increased costs of attending university in this country.

Year 11 will continue to look at potential careers next week when they participate in a careers and 6th form taster day. We have a wide range of professionals who have very kindly offered to speak to our students about the highlights of their area of expertise.

Mrs Shields – Head of Key Stage 4 & Religious Education



Maths Reviews and Fascinating Maths

Every fortnight, the mathematics department will aim to shine a light on a particular aspect or concept in mathematics. Alternatively, we will review a particular article, book or documentary series about mathematics that might be of interest. In the first article of this series, the book titled 'The Simpsons and their Mathematical Secrets' by Simon Singh is reviewed.

Maths Review: 'The Simpsons and their Mathematical Secrets' by Simon Singh

The Simpsons is the longest running animation series, and according to Simon Singh, 'arguably the most successful television show in history'. When watching this popular long running show (it has been translated into many other languages), there are lots of mathematical concepts that, in a very subtle manner, have been dropped into the show. The reason for this, according to Simon Singh, is because 'many of the writers of The Simpsons are deeply in love with numbers, and their ultimate desire is to drip-feed morsels of mathematics into the subconscious minds of viewers'. The show contains many jokes where mathematics is at the heart of the punch line.

'The Simpsons and their Mathematical Secrets' provides a nice easy introduction to various mathematical concepts, including π , e , infinity, prime numbers, probability, topology and Fermat's Last Theorem, to name but a few. In addition to this, Singh also discusses the reason why and how some of these concepts have appeared in this popular television show. The more complex mathematical concepts are covered in the appendices, such as Fractals and Fractional dimensions. Fractals are self-replicating patterns at every scale, that is, the pattern appears to look the same regardless of the level of magnification.

Included with the various biographies of the great mathematicians are the biographies of scriptwriters who have a strong interest and enthusiasm for mathematics. All these writers have followed a very similar career path: maths team at school, read maths or physics at Harvard and a postgraduate degree in maths or a related subject from Harvard, Berkley or Princeton before being lured away by the idea of becoming a scriptwriter in Hollywood.

To me, one of the most memorable episodes is one titled

'Girls Just Want to Have Sums', first broadcast in 2006. In this episode, Principal Skinner recklessly makes the observation that girls are not as good at maths when compared to their male counterparts. The pupils are split based on their gender; the boys studying what is viewed as 'real' maths, while the girls consider questions such as 'how do numbers make you feel?' Lisa cannot bear not studying what is viewed as 'real' maths, and seeks Bart's help to become a boy. When it is revealed that it was actually Lisa who won the prize, Bart declares: 'the only reason Lisa won is because she learned to think like a boy; I turned her into a burping, farting, bullying math machine.' Lisa response to this is: 'I did get better at math, but it was only by abandoning everything I believed in. I guess the real reason we don't see many women in math and science is...', at which point Lisa is interrupted by a boy playing a flute. Singh informs us that the writers '... did not want to deliver a simplistic or glib conclusion, or find themselves in 'Skinner-like trouble'. Singh goes on to discuss this issue in more detail, drawing our attention to the correspondence between Carl Friedrich Gauss and Sophie German in the early 1800s. At various intervals in the book, there are five 'examinations', each one consisting of mathematical jokes at different levels: 'elementary', 'high school', 'university senior', 'masters degree', and 'PhD'. You do not necessarily need to have studied maths or a related subject at university to understand these jokes – just make sure you watch for the puns otherwise you will miss some of the punchlines.

This book is a thoroughly interesting read, shining a light on mathematical concepts that are not studied in school as well as a brief history of mathematics. It is a must read to anyone who is a fan of The Simpsons, mathematics or both.

Dr J Samuel – Head of Mathematics



Year 5, 3D Volcano Project

Over half term, Year 5 were set the task of working on a 3-dimensional volcano for homework.

Recently we have been studying about Extreme Earth in Geography and History . We have covered the water cycle and tornados and have glimpsed droughts and floods. Everyone's volcano will be on display and exploded (but not with flames).

They all look amazing and Year 5 (including myself) have put their full time, effort and care into constructing each and every piece of them. Amelie, Year 5



Mrs Sweet – Year 5 Teacher



To make my volcano, I used the internet to find out exactly how to make an eruptible model. There was a wide variety of materials, but the most popular were: Plastic, Paper Mache, and Cardboard, Paper, Felt, Clay Tissue Paper and lots more. Overall, the volcanoes looked very realistic.

Most of our expectations were that the bicarbonate of soda and white vinegar would work together to form an explosive eruption, just like a real life volcano. Philippa, Year 5



The Forest School children have been introduced to 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.

NURSERY NEWS

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.

Twilight is a very popular member of the Forest School team. She even has her very own Twitter hashtag #adventuresoftwilight, and parents often tweet their adventures on the Nursery twitter feed. It is fantastic to see what Twilight has been up to as she explores the outdoors in our local community.

A big thank you 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. Thank you to all our Nursery families for your support with our Forest School initiative, it is very much appreciated.

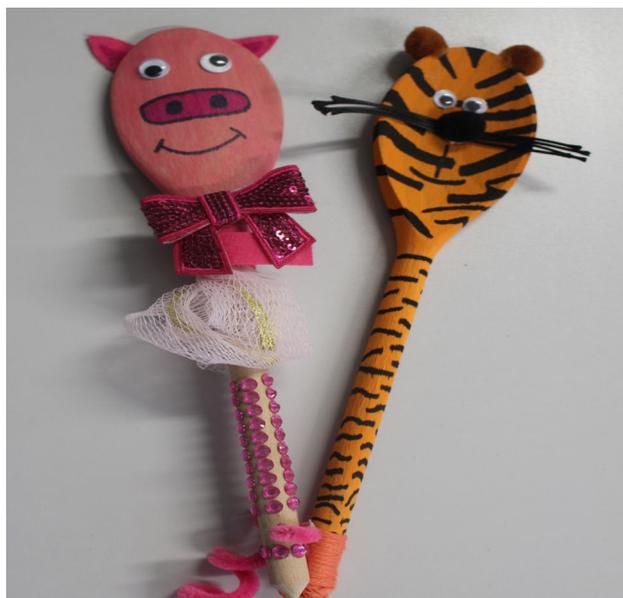


Mrs Coates – Forest School Leader



Animal Spoons Competition

Over the half term break our House theme was 'Creative.' We held a House competition for all pupils (and the odd member of staff, you know who you are) but on different themes.



Years 10-13 worked creatively on either the theme of Fashion or Food and we asked that all children from Nursery to year 9 use a wooden spoon and create an animal of their choice using this as the basis.

I think you would agree with me that the standard of these creations looks amazing. Well done to all who took part. A winner will be announced shortly and please keep an eye out for the up coming House Christmas Competition.



Mr Peck – Year 5 Teacher & House Coordinator



EXTRA CURRICULAR

Swimming Competition

Amelie, Year 5, brings home an impressive collection of medals at the Swimming Competition held on 4th November

- 2x gold medals
- 1 x silver medal
- 1x bronze medal
- 2x 4th places
- 1 x 5th place

Maximize your potential

With the examinations fast approaching, Mr Jeremy Dry of Maximize Your Potential was invited in to present a seminar on study skills and the art of self-improvement to our Year 11, 12 and 13 students.

The students were a bit surprised to find the hall was set up in examination style with desks in rows. The idea behind this was to let them know this is something different and to encourage them to focus.

The seminar itself involved advice, anecdotes and case studies from the sports and business world on how to be successful and achieve your goals. They learnt that often success comes as a result of many failures which was illustrated using Sir Richard Branson and his failed Virgin Cola brand. Small gains in different areas can have a big impact on your studies highlighted using the British Cycling Team and beds for Manchester United.



The importance of believing in yourself was illustrated using Mohamed Ali and Jessica Innis-Hill. They were also advised to get 8 to 9 hours sleep a night, which can only really happen if they stop using their phone, laptop early as blue light keeps the brain active. The suggestion was that they should leave communication devices in another room to reduce temptation. Other suggestions included good diet and exercise and, interestingly, having cold showers; something all successful people do as it invigorates you and gets you ready for the day.



Mr Bryson – Head of Sixth Form



Sixth Formers lay out a Remembrance Lawn

Our sixth form students assisted with positioning the hundreds of mini remembrance crosses on the school lawn to honour those who fell in WW1 and for pupils to remember loved ones.



ONE LAST THING...

School Christmas lunch menu for Junior and Senior pupils



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

 [SEE FULL CALENDAR](#)

Monday

12 NOVEMBER

- Y12&13 Chemistry In Action visit
- U12 B Football Vs City of London Academy

Tuesday

13 NOVEMBER

- Sixth Form Taster Day
- Sixth Form Scholarship Application deadline

Wednesday

14 NOVEMBER

- Community Mass
- U13 A Football vs Hilden Green

Thursday

15 NOVEMBER

- Junior Pupil Voice

Friday

16 NOVEMBER

- Y12&13 Biology in Action Trip
- Y5&6 Mass
- U12 Football vs Radnor House

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