



Headteacher's Update – Friday 1st July 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Pupil Leadership Appointments

I am delighted and proud to announce the below appointments to our pupil leadership team for the 2022/23 academic year.

Head Girl: Maya Thomas

Head Boy: James Sergeant

Deputy Head Girl: Isabel Brierley

Deputy Head Boy: Charlie Ormerod

Senior Prefects: Alfie Dowle, Darcy Ellis, Daniella Gough, Miranda Green, Alessia Mannino, Erin McGlue, Lydia Walker, Theo Williams.

We have a superb team and I look forward to working with all the successful candidates over the year ahead.

Headteacher's Commendations

Congratulations to our recipients this week:

Sophie Elliott (Year 7): Excellent achievement - Award in Gymnastics Competition

Andrei Leggoe (Year 9): Acts of Kindness

Shakeel Ali (Year 8), Lily Higham, Sofia O'Neill (Year 10): Excellent revision homework for exams

Patrick Commins-Menzies (Year 10): Outstanding effort in R.E.

Emily Douglas (Year 10): Excellent achievement: Preston Race for Life 5k run

Amy Butterworth, Charlie De'ath, Kenzie Nodwell, Carys Owen (Year 10): Outstanding effort in Art Exam

Eleanor Wright (Year 10): Excellent revision homework for exams

Foundation Governor Vacancies

We currently have vacancies for Foundations Governors on our Governing Body. The role of the Governing Body is to operate at a strategic level, for example by holding the Headteacher and leadership to account and overseeing the budget and financial performance of the school. Foundation Governors are appointed by the Bishop specifically to preserve and develop the Catholic ethos of the school.

The Diocese has published 'Called to Serve,' a guide to being a Foundation Governor in a Catholic school. An electronic version of this document is attached to this update. If you are a practicing Catholic and believe you have the skills, experience and availability to join the Governing Body, please feel free to contact me via head@stbedeslytham.lancs.sch.uk for a conversation regarding the role.

Father David's Silver Jubilee

This week saw the 25-year anniversary of the priestly ordination of our Priest Chaplain, Father David Burns – a milestone he shared with his brother, Father Peter! We were delighted to be able to celebrate the occasion in school with Father David on Wednesday, following Mass on the Feast of Sts. Peter and Paul in our Chapel. We have also recently learned that Father David will be moving on later this year to continue his ministry at St Bernadette's, Bispham. There will be a further opportunity to say thank you and farewell to Father David at the end of term.

Uniform update – reminder

A reminder of the update shared last week:

Further to my letter to all parents/carers before half-term, we have finalised arrangements with our uniform suppliers for the sale of the new school skirt. As a reminder, from September 2022 our existing school skirt will not be permissible for any pupil, and our uniform policy will provide three options:

- Traditional black school trousers from any retailer (as is currently the case)
- A new alternative tailored trouser, available from Saint Bede's uniform retailers
- The new badged knee-length school skirt, available from Saint Bede's uniform retailers

As I explained in my letter, we will be providing financial support to assist some families with the transition to the new uniform policy:

- The school will purchase a new skirt for all girls currently in Years 7-10 who are eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant (this includes pupils eligible for a free school meal at any time in the last 6 years).
- The school will purchase a new skirt for any household where there is more than one girl currently in Years 7-10.

All Parents/Carers who fall into any of the above categories will receive a separate letter shortly explaining how this support will be provided. I also encourage any family who do not fall into the categories above, but are concerned about meeting the cost of the new skirt, to contact the school via contact@stbedeslytham.lancs.sch.uk to discuss what support we can provide. In addition, the school will offer a 'buy-back' scheme to families of pupils currently in Year 10 who purchase a new skirt. This will involve the school reimbursing families £10 (approximately 50% of the cost of a new skirt) for a new skirt that is returned to the school in a reusable condition once these pupils leave Saint Bede's in Summer 2023.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr P Marsden
Headteacher