



SAINT BEDE'S
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers

Headteacher's Update – Friday 11th November 2022

Headteacher's Commendations

Congratulations to our recipients this week:

Darcey Davies (Year 7): Act of kindness to a member of staff

John McGuckin-Kelly (Year 7): Outstanding personal achievement - English Reading Challenge

Cleo Dixon (Year 7): Outstanding achievement in extra-curricular activities - On the Beat Street Dance Competition

Hannah Sergeant (Year 8): Outstanding achievement in extra-curricular activities - Horse Riding.

Amelia Donnelly-Nelson, Alice Harrington (Year 8), Alexander Birt, Ella Flanagan, Jason Sandford-Jones (Year 9): Outstanding achievement in extra-curricular activities - Lamda Results 2022

Alexa Pisano (Year 11): Academic excellence in their Mathematics Test and Outstanding achievement in extra-curricular activities

Attendance Update

Please see below our whole-school attendance level for the current week and the academic year overall, which you can compare to the attendance level of your child in Class Charts.

Whole-school attendance this week: 93%

Whole-school attendance this year: 94%

Remembrance

Today is Armistice Day, the anniversary of the signing of the armistice on 11th November 1918 which ended the fighting in the First World War. The month of November is also, of course, a time in Catholic tradition where we remember and pray for those who have died.

There have been several remembrance activities in school this week, culminating in the 2-minute period of silence at 11am this morning. Thank you to Emily in Year 10 for playing the Last Post and Reveille so beautifully. There have also been special remembrance assemblies led by Mr Barnett, as well as our annual Mass of Remembrance on Wednesday which formed part of a day of retreat for Year 11 on the theme of peace, conflict and remembrance. We were privileged to be joined by veterans of the armed forces for the mass. Thank you to Miss Newsham, Paula and the RE & Chaplaincy team for organising such a powerful day. On Remembrance Sunday this weekend, staff and senior pupils will represent Saint Bede's at the commemorations in both Lytham and St Anne's.

At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them.

Presentation Evening

Last night we were delighted to be back at the Lowther Pavilion for our first full Presentation Evening since 2019. It was wonderful to see our 'Class of 2022' return to collect the various prizes and their hard-earned GCSE certificates. It was also lovely to welcome back Father David Burns, our former Priest-Chaplain, as our Guest of Honour. Thank you to senior pupils Charlie, Lydia, Maya and James for taking to the stage to speak, as well as to Mr Warrington and the choir for their fantastic musical interlude.

Safety in the Community

In recent weeks we have been contacted by several members of the public who are concerned about the risky behaviour of some of our pupils when crossing the roads around school in the morning and afternoon. Traffic is always busy at these times and there are, unfortunately, no pedestrian crossings in the immediate vicinity of school. It is therefore vitally important that pupils follow the classic advice of 'stop, look and listen' when crossing the road to ensure they do not put themselves, other pedestrians or road users at risk.

In the pupil bulletin this week I have written to pupils to raise this concern, but if your child walks home from school or walks to catch a public bus please could you reiterate this message at home.

Post-16 'Options' Evening

A reminder that on Wednesday 16th November we are hosting our annual Post-16 'Options' Evening in the Sports Hall. The event will provide pupils and their parents/carers with the opportunity to speak with representatives from colleges, universities and a range of professions about their options after Saint Bede's. We will be welcoming visitors from numerous fields including the armed forces, NHS, social work, law, engineering and retail among many others.

The event will run from 6pm to 8pm and is primarily aimed at Year 10 and 11 pupils and their parents/carers, who have received a separate invitation. However, if you have a younger child who you feel would benefit from the opportunity you are very welcome to join us. Please note that there will only be limited parking available on site due to the number of visitors, and so please park in the local area with consideration for residents.

Year 11 Mock Exams

A reminder to Year 11 parents and carers that Mock Exams will shortly begin with assessments for some pupils in practical subjects during week commencing 21st November, followed by formal exams for all pupils beginning on Monday 28th November. All pupils have been issued with a detailed timetable. Good luck to Mrs Horan and our Year 11 Food Preparation and Nutrition pupils, who will be completing their first practical assessment over the next fortnight.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr P Marsden
Headteacher