

Headteacher's Update – Friday 10th February 2023



SAINT BEDE'S
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers

Reflection

Our prayer theme for next week is:

Love one another

Loving others as I love myself is a very big ask. Why? Because selfish human nature can get in the way, building higher the barriers of unfair judgement and prejudice between us.

Jesus loved all those he met by accepting them and treating them with respect, whoever they were. To love others as Jesus loves me means giving people my time and energy, and treating others as I would want to be treated myself - with respect and kindness. This is easy to do with the people I like, but what about loving those whom I dislike? What about those who are different to me, even those who I see as my enemies?

The good news is that I can grow to love more and more like Jesus if I just stay close to him, follow his lead, and let his love for me fill my heart. I am then able to love others because Jesus loves me.

Headteacher's Commendations

Congratulations to our recipients this week:

Evie Abberley (Year 7): Distinction in a LAMDA level 2 acting exam

Artem Bairak (Year 9): Being a model of resilience and progress in RE

Molly Emsley, James Holt, Mikey Moran, Izabella Thornton (Year 7): Enthusiasm and increased confidence in English.

Hettie Bridgeman, Bella James Montano (Year 7), Edie Bridgeman, Emilia Beacham, Isabel Tuck,

Holly Weafer (Year 9): Outstanding creativity in Art homework

Jayden Richardson (Year 9): School and extra-curricular sporting excellence

Byron Bretherton (Year 11): Fantastic commitment to progress in RE

Daniella Gough (Year 11): Multiple acts of kindness to both staff and pupils.

Corey McGow (Year 11): Effort and progress in RE

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: 92%

Whole-school attendance this year: 93%

School Production

We are now less than two weeks away from opening night of our school production: Narnia – The Musical. After months of dedicated preparation this promises to be an occasion not to be missed. We hope as many pupils, parents/carers and friends of the school as possible will be able to join us.

Tickets are still available on ParentPay for the shows on 23rd and 24th February. If you have friends or family members without access to ParentPay who wish to purchase tickets, please advise them to email our Finance & HR Manager Miss Gresty at sgresty@stbedeslytham.lancs.sch.uk giving the name of the person who wishes to make the purchase.

Year 9 Update

Well done to Year 9 pupils, who this week have risen admirably to the challenge of formal exams in the Sports Hall for the first time. I am grateful to Mrs Beere, Mr Barnett and our team of invigilators for once again ensuring the smooth running of the arrangements throughout.

Next month the 'Options' process will begin, where Year 9 pupils and their parents/carers will make some choices about the subjects they will continue to study in Years 10 and 11. This will commence with our Options Information Evening in school for parents/carers and pupils on Wednesday 8th March. I will write to you with further details after half-term.

NEU Industrial Action

A reminder that because of industrial action, **school will be closed to Year 10 pupils on Tuesday 28th February**. Pupils in Years 7, 8, 9 and 11 will attend school as normal.

A small number of our most vulnerable Year 10 pupils will be invited into school and will be supported to complete the work other pupils will be completing at home. Provision will also be made for a packed lunch to be provided for Year 10 pupils who are entitled to a free school meal. I will write to you again with full details of the arrangements for the day immediately after half-term.

Parental Feedback Surveys

Thank you for the large number of responses received so far to the parent and carer survey which was issued earlier this week. The survey will remain open until Monday 27th February, and we would be grateful for any further feedback.

We are also seeking the views of Year 10 parents and carers following our Parents Evening on Monday. This survey will also close on Monday 27th February and can be accessed via the link sent earlier.

Dates for your diary

Please see below some important dates for next half-term:

- Wednesday 22nd February: Ash Wednesday lunchtime Mass in the Chapel
- Thursday 23rd – Friday 24th February: School production – Narnia: The Musical
- Tuesday 28th February: NEU industrial action (school closed to Year 10 pupils)
- Monday 6th – Friday 10th March: Year 10 Castlerigg residential retreat
- Wednesday 8th March: Year 9 Options Information Evening (6.30pm)
- Wednesday 15th – Thursday 16th March: NEU industrial action (arrangements to be confirmed)
- Monday 20th March: Year 10 Mock Exams begin
- Wednesday 22nd March: Year 7 Parents Evening (4pm – 7pm, postponed from 16th March due to industrial action)
- Friday 31st March: Easter liturgies for all year groups. School closes for the Easter holidays at 1pm.

Half-term

Saint Bede's closes this afternoon for half-term. School will re-open for all pupils on Monday 20th February at 8.55am.

I wish all our pupils and families a lovely half-term break.

Mr P Marsden
Headteacher