



# Newsletter

Saint Bede's Catholic High School

April 2023



## REFLECTION

*As we prepare for Easter, there is plenty to love about eggs, bunnies and chocolates, but Easter Day holds a much deeper meaning. Yes, this highly anticipated holiday offers an opportunity to gather with family, but it can be so much more. At Easter, we remember the love Christ showed mankind when he gave the ultimate sacrifice on our behalf. He is risen from the dead, so we truly have reason to celebrate!*

*We can honour Christ's sacrifice everyday by committing ourselves to regular prayer and Mass attendance, showing compassion and grace to others and committing ourselves to reading the Bible*

*While this special day offers a valuable reminder and reason to celebrate, it should by no means be the only day on which we show our gratitude. After all, this holiday regularly changes dates in our modern calendar, reminding us that the essence of Easter is not exclusive to one single day.*

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## PRAYER

*We pray for world leaders: that the Holy Spirit open their eyes to injustice and guide them to speak out for what is right and take action to build a better future. Lord, hear our prayer.*

*We pray for our school community: that, in this time of Lent, we will listen to the voice of Jesus and grow in love of God and neighbour. Lord, hear our prayer.*

*We pray for those affected by the earthquakes in Türkiye and Syria. May God give them strength and hope and may they receive the practical help they need. Lord, hear our prayer.*

*We pray for the Church, may Christians everywhere be filled with joy at their salvation received through the sacrifice of Jesus and share the Good News with all. Lord, hear our prayer.*

*We pray for everyone who is sick, bereaved or dealing with loss; and for all who support them. May God grant each of them peace and comfort, courage and perseverance. Lord, hear our prayer.*

## Mr Marsden

### Dear Pupils, Parents and Carers

*I'm delighted to share with you our Easter newsletter, which celebrates many of the things that have been happening in school over the term. As you will see, our pupils and staff have been very busy!*

*The highlight has to be our school production, 'Narnia: The Musical', which was performed in the school hall over two fantastic nights. This term has also seen the Year 10 Castlerigg Retreat, Year 8 pupils visiting the Grand Theatre for a day celebrating for a Shakespeare day, and numerous sporting activities to give just a few examples.*

*There is sadness today as we say thank you and goodbye to Mrs Walker, who is retiring after a 35 year teaching career, including 10 years as our Deputy Headteacher. During this period she had made an immense contribution to the lives of many, many children and their families, especially some of those who are the most vulnerable. I have said more in my end of term letter to parents/carers, and we will be thanking Mrs Walker in school today. We wish her a very happy and healthy retirement.*

*Easter is, of course, the greatest of all Christian feasts. It reminds us that, through his resurrection, Jesus has overcome death and sin. He is alive within our midst and he welcomes us in a new life with him. I wish all of our families a happy and blessed Easter.*

**Best wishes**

**Mr Marsden**

**Headteacher**



## CHAPLAINCY

## Easter Cross Competition

Mrs Hoston's annual Easter Cross competition showed what a wide range of skills Year 7 have. The crosses are to be made using any skills that they have learnt at school or complete at home, work can be 2D or 3D and made out of any materials. Each year we are astonished at the variety of work submitted, from drawing and painting to paper quilling and quilting.

It was a hard decision for Head of Year 7, Miss Rodgers, Head of RE Miss Newsham and Mrs Hoston to select their top choices that reflected the religious side rather than the commercial side of Easter. Those selected are on exhibition in the SLC and prized will be delivered for their efforts. The big winners were Katie Heath, Hettie Bridgeman, Noah Greenhalgh and Bea Smith.



After the success of last year's collaboration of the Easter cross and the Lenten bake sale, we teamed up again to make the bake sale even bigger! The Easter Cross bakes were sold at break time bake sale on the last day of term, along with any other donations. All proceeds from the sale will be donated to CAFOD. Those that donated a bake based on the Easter cross have been judged by staff in the morning but will have to wait till after the holiday for the results.

## Catechesis with Fr. John

In recent weeks, pupils across all year groups have enjoyed discussing with Fr. John his experiences of the priesthood and had the opportunity to ask him any questions about Catholic life.

Last week Fr. John held catechesis lessons for Year 9 pupils to help develop their understanding of life after death.

Pupils said it was 'helpful to gain a greater understanding of God's plan of salvation.'



## CHAPLAINCY

### Prayer Group

Each Wednesday, pupils gather in the chapel for The Prayer Group. We begin by coming face to face with Jesus during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, where pupils share their thoughts, feelings, worries and hopes. Every pupil has created a personal prayer journal, which they use to reflect on scripture during Lectio Divina and write prayers for their families, friends and the world.

A few young people made journals as gifts to share with others, to help them develop their faith. Everyone has really enjoyed learning how to sign the lyrics of worship songs, led by our Year 11 student Daniella. Each Prayer Group concludes with pupils volunteering to share their prayers aloud or speak them silently in their own hearts.



### Celebrating Mass

This half term Finch house came together to celebrate Mass, for the Feast of St. David. We were especially impressed by pupil's prayerful and reverent behaviour throughout. Thank you those who contributed to the preparation of the Mass, especially our readers and servers.

Next half term we look forward to celebrating Mass with Year 8 on their retreat day, Harcourt house for the Feast of St Bede and a voluntary Mass for the Feast of the Ascension.

### Easter Liturgies

As we prepare for Holy Week, pupils and staff joined together to reflect on Jesus' passion, death in preparation for the celebration of His resurrection. Our fantastic readers shared accounts from those who were present on Jesus' journey to the cross; enabling us to recognise the suffering that Jesus endured to fulfil the plan of salvation. Today we pray in thanksgiving, for God's unconditional love and forgiveness.

### Bake Sale

Thank you for all the generous contributions of cakes and biscuits for our CAFOD bake sale today. Together we all raised money to help the victims of the earthquake across Turkey and Syria. Thank you to all the pupils and staff who helped to prepare and ensure the smooth running of the event.



## CHAPLAINCY

### YEAR 10 RESIDENTIAL TRIP TO CASTLERIGG

Sixty Year 10s travelled to Keswick for a residential at Castlerigg Manor on 6th March. The retreat gave pupils the opportunity to explore their faith, work within groups to overcome tasks and test their own resilience as well as giving them an opportunity to bond with their peers.

We also had the opportunity to visit some beautiful areas of Keswick on walks around the area, visiting the lake, the stone circle and a local activity centre where the pupils took part rock climbing and archery. As well as enjoying some heavy snowfall, the group also had the opportunity to visit Keswick town centre to do some shopping on the last day.

A fantastic trip all round with many asking if they could stay for another week!



## Saint Bede's Production of Narnia

Narnia Production

*We were thrilled to be able to welcome pupils, parents and carers into Saint Bede's for our school production of Narnia.*

*It has been several years since we have been able to host a musical in school and we were delighted to again showcase the creative talent we have among our wonderful pupils. The pupils who make up the cast and crew, worked very hard and gave up a huge amount of their time to make the production so spectacular. A huge thank-you and well done to them all.*

*Thank you to Mrs King and Mr Warrington, ably supported by many other staff, who were able to give up their time and for their passion and dedication which enabled our students to have this opportunity. We would also like to thank parents and carers who supported the show in so many ways, from taxi driving to learning lines! We all worked together to create something magical; it was written for Saint Bede's; produced for Saint Bede's and performed by our very own pupils - working together like this was an absolute joy.*



## Geography

### Geography Club

In September we formed our Geography Club and we meet weekly on Wednesday lunchtimes in Room 16. We play geography-based games where we learn more about different countries and geographical information, we have watched some geographical documentaries (we love David Attenborough!) and we helped to judge the Antarctic Flag competition held in Year 7. Each week, we record weather data for the school so that we can track it and see how it changes through the seasons by measuring the temperature, precipitation and wind speed in the allotment area behind the Science Block. We have recently signed up to a Polar Pen Pal scheme and have sent a letter with some questions to a polar scientist and we are eagerly awaiting their response.



### Rivers and Waterfalls



This term, Year 7 have completed a topic on rivers. The enquiry question was to consider how rivers change as they move downstream. As part of the topic, students have written some extraordinary stories on the hydrological cycle as well as completing the shoe box challenge, where they were encouraged to research a river landform or a river of their choice and create either a 3D model or a video to illustrate its formation. We've had some spectacular waterfalls, meanders and presentations of local rivers, so if you happen to be out and about this half-term, look out for these river processes taking place.

Here are some questions to ask your child to encourage a discussion on rivers.

- What are the three main types of processes that occur in a river?
- Can you name a landform that is created by erosion?
- Can you name a landform that is created by deposition?
- Do you know why a river deposits material?
- Can you name the 4 ways in which a river erodes and can you show me the actions you learnt in class?
- Can you name and describe the 4 ways in which a river transports material? What actions did you learn in class to help you remember them?
- How did you decide to manage the River Severn? Did you choose hard or soft engineering? Why?
- Tell me some facts and information about the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD).



## ENGLISH

### Shakespeare Masterclass

Blackpool 6<sup>th</sup> Form College popped into Saint Bede's last week to deliver a 'masterclass' to Year 11 pupils in order to help them develop their understanding of Friar Lawrence in 'Romeo and Juliet' It allowed them to explore the deeper analysis required at 'A' Level which, of course, can be applied in their GCSEs. Pupils found it helpful to experience a lecture-style seminar and to learn how the skills that they have acquired at school could help them if they chose A-level English or English Literature.

### World Book Day

This year, pupils' celebrated World Book Day by guessing which members of staff were 'The Masked Reader' and by decorating a potato in order to represent a concept or character from their favourite book. There were some fantastic entries which were voted on by pupils to decide the winner. Congratulations to our winning entries and well done to all pupils who took part.

- Charlotte Brown 7BE (First place)
- Sophie Edworthy 7HA (Second place)
- Emily Ready 9FI (Third place)

### Effervescent English Awards



The following pupils have been recognised by their English teachers this term due to their consistent effort and positive attitude to learning. There were many worthy winners but we could only select two per teacher. Well done to the Spring Term recipients. We are very proud of you!

Mr Barnett:

Sophia 10CO

Joseph 10HA

Mrs Blackburn:

Laila 10FI

Erin 11CO

Miss Beswick:

Elise 7S

Grace 9B

Miss Rodgers:

Brody 7HA

Ava Lawrenson 9CO

Mrs Holmes:

Amy 11FI

Alfie 11CO

Mrs Tankard:

Kateryna 10BA

Olivia 10Mu

Can you find the answers to Mr Binns' Easter Maths Challenge?

### Mr Binns' Easter Challenge 1

- What is the sum of all the prime numbers displayed on the Easter eggs?

A: 44   B: 55   C: 66   D: 77   E: 88

### Mr Binns' Easter Challenge 2

- 100 students in Year 7 were asked about their favourite subjects
- They answered Mathematics, PE or Science
- 45 of the students are boys and the rest are girls
- 12 boys chose PE
- 15 boys and 17 girls chose Mathematics
- A total of 30 students chose Science
- Using the table if needed, find the total number of girls who chose Science

	Mathematics	PE	Science	Total
Boys				
Girls				
Total				

A: 10   B: 11   C: 12   D: 14   E: 16

### Mr Binns' Easter Challenge 3

- There are 52 cards in a deck
- Mr Binns is going to give two cards to Mr Youde
- How many different pairs of cards could Mr Youde get?

A: 52   B: 124   C: 663   D: 1326   E: 2652

## Maths Feast



A team of Year 10 pupils took some time out of their hectic exam schedule to represent the school at Blackpool Sixth Form College this term. They took part in a Mathematics Feast, provided by the Advanced Mathematics Support Programme. The pupils worked superbly as a team through four challenging rounds against other schools in the local area. They answered questions on the positions of hiding mice, areas of complex shapes and using a system to estimate the exact value of pi based on repeating a complex algebraic expression. They performed admirably, receiving a certificate for scoring highly across all rounds, and eventually finishing in 3<sup>rd</sup> place out of 17 schools.

## Notices

### Parking

Although the vast majority of parents park safely and considerately when dropping off or collecting their children, a small number are still using the zig-zag markings for that purpose.

The markings are a vital safety feature that helps to provide uninterrupted vision for pupils crossing the road to enter/exit the school site.

According to Highway Code Rule 243, you should not park near a school entrance – as well as anywhere that would prevent access for emergency services, at or near a bus stop, opposite or within 10 metres of a junction, over a dropped kerb, and in front of an entrance to a property. Fixed penalty notices and fines can be issued in the event of infringement of these rules.

We ask for everyone's support in helping to keep our children safe.

We are grateful for your help in keeping our children and the pupils at St Peter's safe.

