

Headteacher's Update – Friday 26th May 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Reflection

Our prayer theme for next week is:

Be Faithful

*‘Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy.’ **1 Peter 1:8***

Faith, at its core, is deep-rooted in the expectation of good things to come. It goes beyond hope. While much of hope lives in the mind, faith is steeped in the heart and the spirit. It cannot be explained away by reason or logic or be understood through a single dimension.

The Bible teaches that “faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” As Catholics, our faith is a means to building our relationship with God. Faith is how we receive the benefits of what Jesus has done for us; we are saved by grace through faith. Whilst we have not seen God, we have faith in the ‘good things’ to come, our salvation through Jesus Christ.

Headteacher's Commendations

Congratulations to our recipients this week:

Ffion Butcher, Phoebe Curtis, Robert Taylor (Year 7): Performances at Lowther Pavilion and The Grand Theatre

Patrick Hesketh (Year 8): Contribution to Catholic School Life

Jason Collister, Ella Hodson-Sharples, Thomas Wade-Stevenson (Year 8), Alexander Birt, Lucy Appleton, Daniel Burgon, Connor Heath, Eleanor Robinson, Lola Tipton, Grace Tyson, Mollie Yates, Elphaba Yeung (Year 9): Excellence in French

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: 91%

Whole-school attendance this year: 93%

Year 11 Update

We have reached ‘half-time’ in the GCSE exam season. Well done to Year 11 pupils for the effort and resilience they have shown throughout a very demanding fortnight. There is a programme of revision sessions taking place in school during the half-term holiday, but it is important that pupils also find some opportunity to rest and recover over the next week. Exams will resume with English Language for all pupils on Monday 5th June.

Patronal Feast

Thank you to Father John and the pupils of Harcourt House, who celebrated a lovely Mass together earlier this week as we marked the Feast of Saint Bede in school.

Timing of the school day

A reminder that following a recent consultation, with effect from September 2023 the school day will be extended by 10 minutes. The school day will begin at 8.45am and will end at 3.15pm. Among other things this will allow us to introduce more opportunity for pupils to read together. I will write to you again with further details after half-term.

Ski Trip 2024

I am pleased to inform you that that it is our intention to reintroduce the traditional Saint Bede's ski trip in 2024 for pupils currently in Years 7, 8, 9. A separate letter is being issued today with further details. I am very conscious that a school ski trip is always very expensive, particularly in the current economic climate, but I also know that this is something that many parents/carers and pupils have been keen to see return and I am grateful to Mr Frankel for offering this opportunity.

'Stars in Their Eyes' 2023

Congratulations to all the performers who have been selected to participate in our 'Stars in Their Eyes' talent show on Tuesday 18th July. I know that Mr Warrington and Mrs King were extremely impressed by the standard on display during the auditions this week, so thank you and well done to everyone who took part.

Half-term

Saint Bede's is closing for the half-term break this afternoon. School will re-open for all pupils at 8.55am on Monday 5th June.

I wish all our pupils and their families a lovely Bank Holiday weekend and half-term break.

Mr P Marsden
Headteacher