

## **Headteacher's Update – Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023**



Dear Parents/Carers

### **Reflection**

Our prayer theme for this week is:

#### **Knowledge and Wisdom**

*“Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God”  
Corinthians 1:24*

In Catholic tradition, wisdom is the first of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. This is not simply the human knowledge and experience that we may learn from our parents, our teachers, and throughout our lives. Wisdom is being able to see the world – events, problems, conflicts - with God's eyes, rather than as we might want to see them. Wisdom is what the Holy Spirit does within us so that we can bring to every situation the perspective of a loving God. Wisdom is badly needed in our world today!

### **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%**

### **BEDE Headteacher's Commendations**

Congratulations to our recipients this week:

#### ***Excellence***

**Cleo Dixon (Year 8):** Cheerdance UK competition at Blackpool Tower.

**Alexander Birt, Kuba Dunajko, Toby Gough (Year 10):** Achieved the Chief Scout Gold Award

**Adam Burrough, Ella Flanagan, Jess Mitton, Ryan Pascucci, Louise Vlasova (Year 10):** Excellent attainment in English

**Edie Bridgeman (Year 10):** Awarded 4<sup>th</sup> place in the Youth Climbing Series

### **Post-16 'Choices' Evening**

On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November we are hosting our annual Post-16 'Choices' 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, 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 due consideration for residents.

### **Presentation Evening**

It was wonderful to see our 'Class of 2023' return to collect the various prizes and their hard-earned GCSE certificates during our Presentation Evening at the Lowther Pavilion last week. It was also lovely to welcome back Mrs Caron Walker, our recently retired Deputy Headteacher, as our Guest of Honour. In her address Mrs Walker shared some sage advice to our former pupils about making the most of life's many opportunities.

Thank you to senior pupils Jemma, Jennifer, Joseph and Macee for taking to the stage to speak, and to Lilah in Year 7 and David in Year 10 for their fantastic solo musical performances.

### **Year 11 Mock Exams**

A reminder to Year 11 parents and carers that Mock Exams will begin with assessments for some pupils in practical subjects during week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> November, followed by formal exams for all pupils beginning on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November. All pupils have been issued with a detailed timetable. Good luck to Mrs Horan and our Food Preparation and Nutrition pupils, who will be completing their first practical assessment over the course of this week.

### **Year 7 Assembly with PCSO Gary Hickman**

On Wednesday afternoon we will be visited by our local Police Community Support Officer Gary Hickman, who will be speaking to Year 7 pupils about the important topic of knife crime. His presentation aims to make young people aware of the implications of carrying knives and other offensive weapons, as well as how to report concerns if they know or suspect that someone is carrying one.

Have a good week.

Mr P Marsden  
Headteacher