

Headteacher's Update – Friday 24th May 2024



SAINT BEDE'S
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Reflection

***Jesus replied, "You do not realise now what I am doing, but later you will understand."
(Jn 13:7)***

There are times in our lives when God's plan for us seems impossible to understand. We find ourselves in situations we cannot see a way through, and question why certain things are happening. In this passage, Jesus reminds us that it is crucial in these times to hold on to our faith and trust in God's plan for us. Just as Jesus told Peter, we too will understand in time.

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: 90%
Whole-school attendance this year: 93%

Year 11 Update

It has been a joyous but emotional afternoon, as we celebrated our wonderful Year 11 pupils during their Leavers' Service in the school hall. Thank you to the pupils and staff who shared their various memories, and to our singers and the Choir for their musical contributions. We hope our pupils have enjoyed their day and appreciated the gesture of the Ice Cream Van! Thank you also to Mr Warrington and the musicians who performed on the yard at lunchtime.

Of course, Year 11 have not yet 'left' Saint Bede's and a great deal of hard work remains after half-term. As we did during the Easter holidays, we are offering revision sessions in school during the half-break in a number of subjects. Please see the schedule being issued separately for details of the sessions running each day.

This morning, I outlined to pupils the arrangements below for the remainder of the exam period from Monday 3rd June. I would be grateful if you discussed these with your child.

- Pupils must continue to attend school for **all exams** and **all revision sessions** in **all subjects** they have been entered for by the school. Failing to attend an exam or revision session may result in Year 11 privileges, including attendance at the 'Prom', being withdrawn.
- If pupils are expected in school for an exam or revision session, they should arrive at school at 8.45am and register with their form tutor in the usual way.
- After a pupil has completed all exams and/or revision sessions they are expected to attend each day, they will be able to leave the site and do not need to wait until the end of the school day. However, if a pupil chooses to remain on site because they prefer to study in school, or because they travel home on a school bus, a supervised study room will be provided.
- If a pupil has an exam or revision session in both the morning and afternoon, they must remain on site for the full day. Pupils will not be permitted to 'sign out' of school and return later.
- If a pupil does not have an exam or revision session on a particular day, they do not need to attend school and may study at home. However, if a pupil prefers to study in school, they should arrive at 8.45am and register with their Form Tutor as usual. Again, a supervised study room will be provided.

Details of the revision and exam timetable for the week commencing Monday 3rd June are being issued with this update. If you have a child in Year 11, please study it carefully with them and ensure they attend school for all sessions and exams in the subjects they have been entered for.

Mrs Slee

Today we have said goodbye to Mrs Slee, who is retiring after an extraordinary 24 years' service in our Learning Support Department. In recent years, Mrs Slee has played a particularly important role overseeing the care provided to our pupils with medical needs. We thank her for her contribution to Saint Bede's and wish her every happiness in retirement.

Saint Bede's 'Summer Soiree'

Our major Performing Arts event this summer will be a 'Summer Soiree' on Friday 12th July at 7pm in the school hall. We are looking to showcase singers, actors, musicians, dancers, and verse and prose speakers in any language. Auditions are being held in the school hall on **Monday 10th June from 3.15pm-5pm**. Pupils can audition as a soloist, duo or group. Pupils who have prepared something for a dance exams, LAMDA piece or music 'grade' are encouraged to come along and share this in an audition. Similarly, we would love to see contributions from pupils who have written their own poetry or script. Any pupils who play in a band or an ensemble – bring your instruments and audition!

Class Charts

Class Charts is the platform we use to communicate with parents and carers regarding attendance, behaviour and achievements. It is expected that all parents/carers have activated their Class Charts account and access it regularly. **Please note that if your child receives a detention, this will only be communicated via Class Charts** and no separate email reminders will be issued.

Should you experience any difficulty activating or using your Class Charts account, please contact remotesupport@stbedeslytham.lancs.sch.uk.

Acceptable school shoes – September 2024

A reminder that from September 2024 we will be properly enforcing our policy regarding school shoes. In particular, 'trainer-type' shoes, including the 'Air Force 1' shoe by Nike, will no longer be acceptable. We hope that these new expectations will be helpful to parents and carers, by removing the pressure to purchase extremely expensive designer trainers.

A leaflet which clearly illustrates shoe designs and styles which will be acceptable from September is enclosed with this update.

Half-term

Saint Bede's has closed today for half-term. School will re-open for all pupils at 8.45am on Monday 3rd June.

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

Mr P Marsden
Headteacher