

BEDE'S NEWS

29 March 2019

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The Headmaster's Review of the Week

Dear Bedian Family,

As I write to you all looking out across the Headmaster's Lawn and into the playground, I feel utterly energised following our inaugural breakfast meeting of parents and staff in the Joseph Refectory this morning. It was such an uplifting event and an important opportunity for us to collectively discuss the life of the College and our exciting shared aims for the future. The event also generated great interest in the relaunched St. Bede's College Parents' Association (SBPA) and thank you to the many parents who signed up to offer their support.

The theme of the Week here at the College is "Saying Sorry". This week's parable of the prodigal son is really about the father who is God - God is always ready to forgive. The elder son represents the scribes and the Pharisees who are not. It is important I feel that many of us continue to experience the Sacrament of Reconciliation and spend essential time reflecting and repenting, knowing that we will be forgiven by our loving heavenly father. As scripture says "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." (Luke 15:21).

It has been another extremely vibrant week here at St. Bede's, with a vast range of different activities taking place both here and offsite. On Monday our latest Team of the Week were the Duke of Edinburgh Gold practice expedition (to the Peak District) students, who coped tremendously with the many challenges that they faced. I was also able to say well done to the many Upper Fifth pupils who performed really well in their recent mocks.

It has been quite a week for our U12 footballers and their coaching team! I was privileged to be able to attend their Manchester Schools' Final against MGS (away) on Tuesday afternoon, in which they played with great endeavour and skill but unfortunately came up short against a slightly stronger side. I am delighted to report that the very next day, the same squad of players won the U12 Invitational Football Tournament back again at MGS - it was such a fantastic victory and the team did not concede a single goal during the entire tournament!

On my return to the College after the football on Tuesday, it was tremendous to see so many boys and girls from a range of different schools playing in the Junior School / Prep Netball tournament held here and always great to see young people engaged in exercise outdoors. Our annual Spring Concert that evening was a joy to behold and I was so proud of our wonderful performers, whether they were singing in public for the first time or seasoned veterans. I would also like to congratulate Miss Smith and Mr Davies on putting together such a great programme.

On Wednesday I held a lunch with the U15 Netball squad and coaching team in the Joseph Refectory in order to personally congratulate them on their outstanding season and to also commiserate with them following their recent loss in the Independent Schools Netball National Final. We continue to be really proud of them, and all of our pupils for that matter! It was a lovely treat for me on Thursday afternoon, as my wife Roxanne and our daughter Anna were able to visit the College and meet many pupils and staff. I know that Anna really enjoyed seeing where her Daddy works and the three of us were also able to pop into the Prep School Parents' Evening that afternoon.

As we progress through this Lenten season, we continue to keep you all in our prayers. I would also like to take this opportunity to kindly ask you to pray for the happy repose of the soul of my cousin Helen Buckley (we knew her as Len) who passed away recently, and keep her husband Toby, my Uncle Noel and Aunt Helen and the members of their respective families in your thoughts and prayers at the moment. I will be attending her Memorial Service over in Carrigaline, Co. Cork in the Republic of Ireland tomorrow afternoon and she will be very much missed by all who knew her.

I would like to wish all our much-loved mothers a lovely Mothers' Day on Sunday and give a special mention to my wife Roxanne.

With every good wish and may God bless you all,

Mr L d'Arcy
Headmaster
@LouisdArcy1





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Book Award Shadowing

The shortlist for this year's prestigious Carnegie Medal has now been announced and pupils in Upper Fourth and above are being invited to form a team to shadow the awards – reading, judging and voting on the eight shortlisted titles. The team will meet weekly in the Library and any interested pupils are encouraged to see Mrs Poolton and join her in reading and discussing some brilliant books.

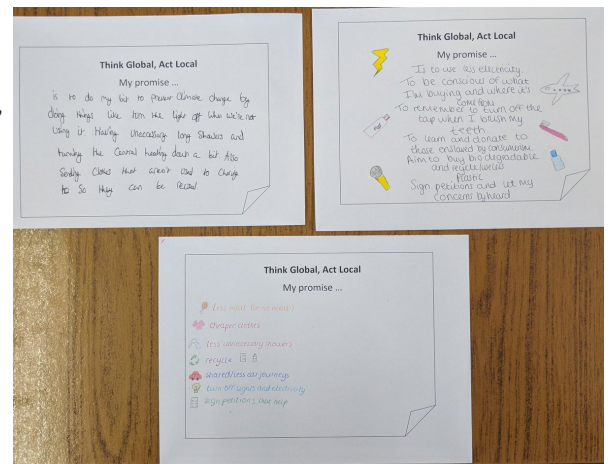
Mrs Poolton



Think Global - Act Local

Over the last two weeks Mrs Hibbert has delivered a set of highly thought provoking lessons to our Upper Fourth Geography classes, on the theme of Think Global, Act Local. Building on from Bishop John's latest pastoral letter, and the Environmental Issues module all pupils studied in term one, Mrs Hibbert challenged each class to think about the small changes they could make to their daily lives. Students completed their own Think Global, Act Local promise, with ideas including:

- Turning the taps off when brushing your teeth
- Considering the environmental and social impact of buying into fast fashion
- Switching off lights when leaving a room
- Buying locally sourced food
- Rewilding an area of your garden, allowing nature to thrive
- Recycling/donating bottle tops in school to Mrs Kavanagh



Through looking at the devastation caused by Cyclone Idai, students were once again reminded that climate change is something that needs to be acted upon now and is not solely a concern for the future. We are very grateful to Mrs Hibbert for delivering such a timely message this Lent and hope you too will consider the small actions which could make a big difference to our local and global communities.

You can follow @bedesgeog on Twitter to keep up to date with the latest news from the Geography Department and take a look at some of the completed student promises.

Miss Livesey

Going for Gold

This week a group of our intrepid Sixth Formers were 'team of the week'. They recently completed their Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Gold practice expedition in the Peak District. They are now evaluating their experience before they put it into practice for the real thing!





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Harry Potter Fun

Book Club members invited Upper Third and Lower Fourth pupils to the Library for Harry Potter themed fun last week. Activities included wand making, mixing potions, writing with quills and various quizzes and games, with refreshment provided by Harry Potter cakes and Butterbeer.

Great fun was had by all so special thanks must go to the Book Club members who worked with Mrs Poolton to plan and set up the activities. Book Club meets every Friday in the Library at 1.10pm to enjoy book based games, quizzes and crafts. Everyone welcome!

Mrs Poolton



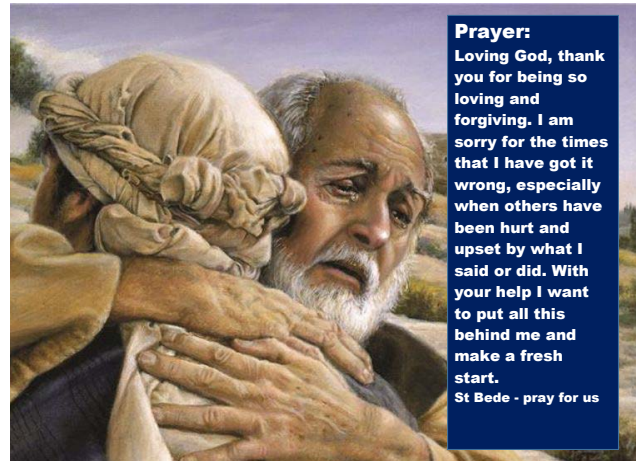
Theme of the Week

Saying Sorry

"Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." (Luke 15:21)

Challenge:

This week's parable of the prodigal son is really about the father who is God. God is always ready to forgive. The elder son represents the scribes and the Pharisees who are not. Go to confession and spend time reflecting and repenting, knowing that you will be forgiven by your loving heavenly father.



Prayer:

Loving God, thank you for being so loving and forgiving. I am sorry for the times that I have got it wrong, especially when others have been hurt and upset by what I said or did. With your help I want to put all this behind me and make a fresh start.
St Bede - pray for us

Medical Careers Day

Fourteen pupils from Upper and Lower Fifth attended a day designed for those interested in a career in medicine. Led by medical students from Manchester University, pupils experienced a range of medical activities including workshop sessions on emergency medical assistance, diagnostics, anatomy and medical ethics. After examining brain scans, x-rays and "urine" sample, role-playing real medical scenarios and administering CPR techniques, they were able to ask medical students questions about their studies and hear about a day in the life of a practicing medic.

Mrs Poolton





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IF YOU WERE AN ENGINEER WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

Huge congratulations to all the students who entered the Secondary Engineer Leaders Award competition. There were some very impressive entries, and all of the College entries have now been forwarded to the national competition.

The College competition winner was Raphael with his water saving concept and the House winners were:
Sienna: Maciej (Upper Third)
Campion: Maria (Upper Third)
Magdalene: Audrey (Upper Fourth)
Bosco: Jessica (Upper Fourth)



Thank you also goes to Mrs Poolton, the Science Faculty, in particular Mrs Ball and Mrs Prince, together with the Technology Department, especially Mrs Manning, for championing and supporting the students in the development of their concepts. Opportunities to learn more about Engineering do not end there. We have more Engineers lined up to come in from a variety of organisations and we are already excited about next year's competition which will be even bigger and better! Watch this space for more details.

Mrs Corbett

Brief Encounters At The Railway

Last Thursday evening saw the first Bedian Alumni Manchester informal reunion to be held outside the city centre. As numbers grew in The Railway, Hale it soon became clear that the decision to go to the suburbs had been vindicated. Over sixty Bedians, young and old joined with current and former members of staff to reminisce, connect and reconnect across the years.

It was particularly pleasing that a member of the new starters from 1946 was able to make the journey over from Southport, together with his wife. He gave us to understand that they had played table tennis that morning in preparation for the event!

We now look forward to our London Reunion which will be held at HMS President on the Thames on the evening of Friday 11 October 2019. Tickets are available on the College website.





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What A Difference A Day Makes

The U12 football team put the disappointment of a cup final defeat behind them, to win a prestigious tournament at MGS.

Twenty-four teams competed and the draw for the U12s saw them up against Wright Robinson, Barlow, Cheadle Hulme HS, Kings Chester and Crompton House in the group stage. Here the boys won every game without even conceding a goal. The first match against Cheadle Hulme HS brought a 2-0 win with goals from Benat and Harry O. The second game produced an even more impressive victory with a 3-0 win over Kings Chester, with goals from Kwame, Justin and Benat. Wins against Barlow (1-0 Kwame), Crompton House (2-0 Benat, Harry O) and Wright Robinson (1-0 Benat) meant the U12s won their group and headed into the knockout stages full of confidence.

The quarter finals saw them paired with Stockport Grammar and a tight game ensued, which finished 0-0. St Bede's progressed in a penalty shoot out. Another 0-0 draw in the semi against Lymm HS resulted in another shootout, with goalkeeper Dominic both scoring and saving.

Almost inevitably St Bede's would meet their old rivals MGS in another final in the space of two days. The boys played superbly in the final showing composure on the ball, aggression and great communication to restrict MGS to only one meaningful chance where Dominic pulled off a great save. The MGS keeper was in fine form and thwarted both Benat and Padraig to ensure the game finished goalless. Penalties it was, Benat, Dominic, William and Harry O scored and a superb save from Dominic meant St Bede's would defeat MGS and bring the trophy back to the College. With the final of the ESFA competition to come in May we hope to continue our successful season.



Young Guns

The much anticipated Sixth Form Leavers vs Staff football match takes place on Thursday 4 April with a 4:30pm kick off at the sports ground at Brantingham Road.

This annual event has over the years produced many memorable moments as students take the opportunity to demonstrate the prowess they have developed over their years at the College. Staff both look forward to and dread this occasion with equal measure as their young charges skip around their desperate challenges. Let's face it - the staff are not as young as they used to be!

Please join us for what is always a fun and lively event, as we begin the process of saying farewell to the Bedian Class of 2019.

A leavers vs staff netball match is planned for next week.

Football Update

On Saturday, eight teams took to the field against Kings Chester, both home and away.

The U12 A and B teams recorded superb victories. The B team won 4-2, with two goals from vice-captain Michael Q and two further goals from Patrick and Oliver. The A team won 4-0 with two goals from Patrick and one from Joy, on their debuts. Tyreek added the fourth with a superb run and finish.

Over in Chester, the U13 A and B teams also recorded victories. The U13A team won 3-1 with goals from Benat, Callum and Michael. The B team won 4-1 with two goals from James, one from Oliver and an own goal. The U14A team avenged their 3-2 defeat away in November with a resounding 5-2 win. Patrick got a hat-trick with Markel and Ty adding further goals.

The U14B team were defeated 3-2 and the U15 team beaten 2-1. Both games could have gone either way and our boys should be proud of the improvements they have made in recent months.

The 1st XI recorded a 2-2 draw after being 2-0 up in the first half. Captain Jake doubled the lead after Jack scored. Kings battled back in the second half, scoring two goals to tie the game. Unfortunately a last minute header by Theo, cannoned off the crossbar to ensure the game remained level.



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Save The Children Fundraising



The Prep Children came together in support of the victims of Cyclone Eldai. When the images of what had happened to the people living in Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe everyone thought there must be some way we can help them.

One thing for sure is the children all love an 'Own Clothes Day'. So it was decided that we would have one from Nursery to Prep 6.



The children arrived with a donation for 'Save The Children', raising in total £605.89 a fabulous amount.

A tweet was sent out highlighting how much had been collected and 'Save The Children' replied thanking them for their wonderful donation.



Caught The Bug For Engineering.



Four budding engineers from Prep 5 have been entered into a national design and engineering competition in the 'BLOODHOUND Aluminium Desert Wheels Challenge'. This competition gives young people an opportunity to take on the role of engineers by designing their own wheels using recycled aluminium, and solving the challenges involved in a running a World Land Speed Record car across the desert. This 5-hour project was run as an activity across several sessions in the Design Technology Classroom with Mrs Manning. All the children really enjoyed taking part in the competition whilst Anthony, Jack, Gabi and Joe excelled with their design and have progressed to be entered into the national competition. Well done!



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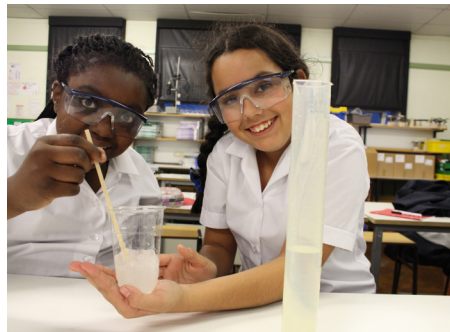
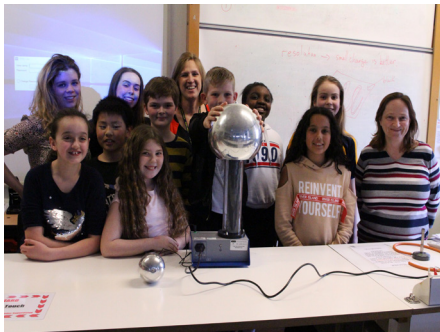
The Final STEM Club



The final STEM Club of the year took place this week and it was a hair raising experience. Mrs Gregory brought in a Van Der Graaf Generator. The Prep children learned about how the static electric current passes through their body and makes their hair stand on end. It was very enjoyable and they all found it very amusing as one of Mr Joyce-O'Keeffe's curls tried its best to straighten out but just bobbed up and down as the current flowed through him.

The children have had a fantastic time in STEM Club this year. Marcus in Prep 5 said "STEM Club is one of the best experiences in my school life. I especially enjoyed investigating hydrogels and using the bunsen burners." Elsie in Prep 6 said "I have really enjoyed working in the College laboratories, carrying out investigations and learning from Jess and Martha our Sixth Form STEM Ambassadors. I am really looking forward to Year 7 next year."

We would like to thank Mrs Michael, Mrs Prince and Mrs Gregory for supporting our Prep children's learning in STEM Club and especially Jess and Martha our outstanding STEM Ambassadors for enthusing our children throughout the year.



Hi-Five All round



The Prep Netball Team took part in the latest round of the Hi-Five Championships on Tuesday evening. Since taking part in this city wide competition St Bede's have always performed well. This crop of talented sportswomen have followed in the footsteps of their predecessors by toppling all before them.

Their performances were absolutely amazing. The girls scored 50 goals without conceding one. This is a record for St Bede's in Hi-Five Netball. The results were as follows:

St Bede's V The Willows -13 - 0

St Bede's V St Anthony's - 12 - 0

St Bede's V St Elizabeth's - 12 - 0

In the play-off for the next round: St Bede's V Broadoak-13-0

The girls have emphatically qualified for the next round in May.



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Prep 3 - Abigail

Prep 5 - Vikash

STARS OF WEEK



HOUSE POINT WINNERS



CLASS OF THE WEEK - Nursery



Notices

2 April
Prep 4 Easter Assembly
Chapel 2.30pm

4 April
Prep 6 Play
Academic hall 7.00pm

5 April
End of term - normal school day
Finish 3.40pm

BEDE'S SIXTH FORM NEWS

 @sbcsixthform

The Sixth Form View Fliss & Anna

Theodore House Visit



On Wednesday, a handful of sixth form students got the opportunity to visit Theodore House, a newly opened retreat centre at Stonyhurst College.

As we decanted from the minibus there was some scepticism. However upon entering the atrium we were blown away by the beauty of the place; modern design expertly intertwined with the traditional exterior of the renovated mill house.

We enjoyed opening prayers before continuing with the ALPHA course videos and were lucky to have Daniella, a recent theology graduate and Catholic speaker, joining us. She and Mrs Hibbert demonstrated the gift of 'speaking in tongues' - a phenomenon that some were wary of at first but were all grateful to experience in the end.



That evening we met with Miss Hanley, the Chaplain at Stonyhurst College, who kindly gave up her time to show us around the school. We were amazed by the grandeur of the building, including several stunning chapels, and hearing of their intense school day made us suddenly grateful for ours - the compulsory daily sport did not appeal!

'a worthwhile experience, one which benefited all in faith and education, as well as personal growth and bonding'

With architecture to rival the Vaughan, and stunning museums and paintings, it was undoubtedly impressive, however the mummified remains within their collection raised some questions; the lack of lighting in that room did not help!

The following morning we continued our reflection, including exploration of the grounds and rather muddy trainers, giving everyone some much needed serenity and time to ponder their experience. After personally studying passages from the New Testament, we projected their importance to us on ceramic eggs to hang at Easter, a beautiful reminder of our time together.

Overall it was definitely a worthwhile experience, one which benefited all in faith and education, as well as personal growth and bonding.

We'd like to thank Mrs Hibbert for making such a special effort to ensure we had the best time and to the staff at Stonyhurst for making us so welcome.



We thoroughly enjoyed the experience and would encourage anyone to visit the outstanding facilities at Theodore House - we're certainly hoping for future trips there ourselves!

Jess Evans L6

