

6 March 2020

### The Headmaster's Review of the Week

Dear Bedian Family,

I hope that as I write to you this week, you are all in good health and able to go about your daily lives with the minimum of disruption due to the current fears over the spread of the coronavirus. We are monitoring the situation very closely here at the College, whilst at the same time trying not to generate too much additional anxiety amongst our pupils, their families and my colleagues.

The theme of the week has been "Transfiguration" and as scripture says "There, in their presence he was transfigured: Jesus' face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light" (Matthew 17:2). For all of us to consider this week is has anything ever happened to you and you were lost for words? Jesus' disciples Peter, James and John were amazed - they saw Jesus in all His glory with Moses and Elijah. Jesus was building their faith, but was this enough to sustain them during the events which were to come soon? How are we preparing for Easter? Are we taking this time to build our faith? We should all try to take some time this week to look at the programme of events around us for Lent and choose at least one of the activities to take part in as part of our preparations for Easter.

At the end of our Ash Wednesday Mass last week I gave some of my personal reflections on the season of Lent and its relevance to all of us. I do feel that life is often a sequence of judgements and choices, and we all have the free will from God to choose what we do and when. I believe that Lent is a time for us to reflect upon how often we take the easier choices over the harder choices in life. We are all quite possibly guilty of taking the easier choices too frequently, which does sometimes lead to short term happiness, but it is in fact more important to take most often the more difficult choices which will more frequently lead to longer term happiness, contentment and fulfilment. Lent is possibly a reminder for us to be courageous in taking challenging decisions rather than more straightforward ones, and to feel the benefits of this different approach to life. As a hugely supportive parent highlighted to me earlier this week "The results we want the most are on the other side of the things we least like to do".

St Bede's College is always keen to further improve in every respect and I would like to kindly remind parents that the College utilises a triage system for the handling of concerns and complaints. This system allows concerns and complaints to be engaged with honestly and tenaciously by a wide range of different members of staff, depending upon their seriousness and nature (e.g. pastoral, academic, sport, cuisine, etc.), the most frequent starting point for this process being our Form Tutors. The College remains wholeheartedly committed to continuously improving in all areas of its provision, myself very much included, and if there are any matters which still remain unresolved as a result of the College's system being followed sequentially, do please feel free to make an appointment to meet with me (by contacting my PA Mrs McGoff in the first instance).

As I come to the conclusion of my review this week, I am very much looking forward to watching exciting and competitive College sport at Fortress Brantingham tomorrow morning, then heading to the Hexagon Room at The Lowry Theatre to support two of our pupils in the Living Edge magazine's school art exhibition and then later on in the evening to attending the 25th Young, Gifted and Green extravaganza here at the College with my wife.

I would like to wish all of you a most enjoyable and restorative weekend and I look forward to writing to you once again next week.

May God bless you all and we continue to keep everyone in our thoughts and prayers here at St Bede's.

Mr L d'Arcy Headmaster @LouisdArcy1



# St Bede's College The place to be sbcm.co.uk

## Senior College

#### Hannah Lewis MBE

Over the course of the last 18 months, the U4 CFA pupils have been involved in numerous projects relating to the Holocaust. These included the production of a video titled 'The Butterfly Project' and being members of the audience at this years' Holocaust Memorial Day event in Sale back in January. This year is the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and two of our pupils are currently on a visit there to honour those who perished.

On Thursday 27 February we welcomed Hannah Lewis MBE, Holocaust Survivor to St Bede's College. Hannah has been sharing her experiences in schools and universities for several years so that young people today can seek to understand the impact the Holocaust has had on the contemporary world. Her story is compelling;





Hannah was born on 1st June 1937 in Włodawa, Poland. She was an only child and the much loved daughter of Adam and Haya. She came from a large prosperous family and her grandparents owned the main shop in the town as well as the saw and flour mill and various properties. Hannah had a happy and uneventful childhood until war broke out and the Nazis occupied Poland.

In 1943 Hannah and her family were rounded up and forcibly marched to a labour camp in Adampol a few miles from Włodawa. Over time most of her family disappeared. Her father and his cousin managed to escape and joined the partisans. Only Hannah and her mother remained in Adampol.

In the last winter of the occupation, Hannah's father snuck into the camp to warn her mother of an impending attack by the German police. Hannah was very ill with suspected typhoid so her mother would not leave. The next morning her mother, along with other people, were taken and lined up by the by the village well where she was shot. Hannah witnessed the atrocity from the door of the hut she was hiding in a short distance away yet managed to find the strength to keep quiet. She remained in the camp and survived as best she could. She was finally liberated by a Soviet soldier who picked her out of a trench dirty and very hungry.

After the war Hannah and her father were reunited but in 1949 she was sent on her own to Britain to live with her great aunt and uncle in London. She remained in London, married in 1961 and had four children and eight grandchildren.

Hannah endured the worst that human beings can do to each other, and all before the age of ten. But as she explains the presentations she gives are not about sympathy; they are about growing awareness of the reality of another's suffering. The outcome is to enable us, particular young people, to gain respect for each other, as human beings, despite all our differences and as survivors of persecution, or exclusion.

It was a privilege to be in her company, for what was a truly authentic encounter both staff and students will not forget easily. The truth of life is irrefutable.

#### Miss Whitney



#### No Rest For The Wicked!

Do YOU have a passion for singing, acting or dancing? Maybe all three?

Join us this Easter holiday (14-17 April) for our 4 day course based at St Bede's College.

The course led by a team of professionals will consist of acting workshops, voice coaching and choreography whilst learning hit songs from one of Broadway and The West Ends most iconic musicals.

You will become part of a cast and team to bring this musical to life. At the end of our 4 day course you will perform the showcase to family and friends.

Do not miss out on this exciting opportunity and chance to experience the thrill of the stage and spotlight.

The total cost of the 4 day course is £95.

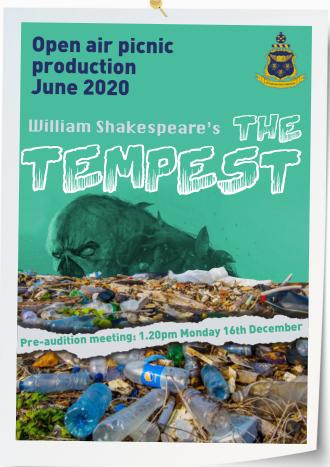
Open to ages 8-18.

To register and book your place, and receive further information please email: avs1arts@gmail.com

All staff fully DBS checked and certified Miss Smith









#### **Enterprising Tycoons**

Business Students in L4th and U4th have secured funding from the Peter Jones Foundation to start up their own businesses. Almost £1000 has been secured in loans split between the 5 budding business teams, following a rigorous business development phase which saw the teams developing their own business ideas and creating a business plan to submit for funding consideration.

The businesses officially launched at U4th Parents Evening 5 March in the Academic Corridor where business ideas were on show and the aim was to generate interest in the team's products with advanced advertising. The teams are now learning about ordering raw materials, planning production and sales and marketing during the trading phase of the project which will continue until the Easter Holidays.

As part of our Catholic Business Ethos each team has decided to donate 25% of all profits made to a charity of their choice and 25% back to the Peter Jones Foundation to support future rounds of funding which students in other years may apply for in the future and to show our appreciation of the support and recognition our students have already been given.

The teams are

- MLS Who will be assembling beautiful Easter
   Chocolate Hampers a lovely treat to look forward to at the end of Lent.
- **Printy Mc-Printface** who are printing bespoke tshirts, hoodies and posters.
- **Dog-El-Leado** who have sourced ethical dog leads and collars made from recycled plastics harvested from the ocean. Generating demand for Ocean clean up that will help protect our world for future generations.
- Puppy Packs a beautiful puppy-shower style giftwrapped basket of treats for a loved one's newborn puppy.
- Smoothie-Does-It who are creating new recipes of healthy fruit smoothie for sale at break as a healthy and refreshing alternative to regular drinks.

Smoothie Does it will be available to purchase in school during break times on selected days. All other businesses are soon to be available in school and via parent pay. WATCH THIS SPACE

Tycoons in Schools is funded by the Peter Jones Foundation.

Mrs Bolton







#### World Book Day 2020

We celebrated World Book Day with our traditional team quiz. The Library was packed as ten teams of pupils and staff battled to be crowned this year's book experts. The Bookaneers won the contest for the best name and, in an impressive display of book knowledge, the Prep team, Be Prepared, scored the most points. They were closely followed in second place by The Bookworm Beasts. Well done to the winners and to all the teams who took part.

All pupils received a £1 book voucher which can be redeemed against books in participating bookshops or can exchanged for a special World Book Day book from the Library. They will also be valid when buying books in our Book Fair later in the month.

Happy Reading!

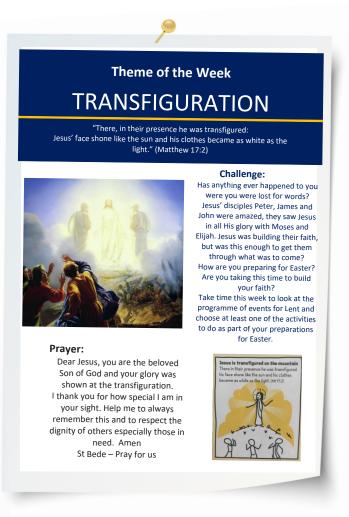
#### Mrs Poolton











#### **Teams Of The Week**

The 1st Team netballers had two good wins against Ashville College and Rishworth School. The Ashville game was the Quarter Final of the Sisters in Sport Plate competition and was a keenly contested affair, which the girls won 28-24.

The U12 hockey team beat Bradford Grammar School. The A team won 5-3 and the B team won 3-1. Scarlett & Carey have been thriving playing up for the older age groups, which really challenges their hockey skills, playing against bigger, faster and more experienced players.

Mr Park





#### **CFA Talented Pupils**

Congratulations to Timi, Daniel, Oliver, Lakyle, Daymeon and Stephen who are our CFA Students of the Week. Keep up the good work boys!

#### **Lenten Journey**



As we start the Lenten journey the pupils of both the College and Prep have been getting involved with the programme of events that we have been arranged for pupils to support their preparation for Easter. Pupils visited the Chapel during lunch to light a candle before the Blessed Sacrament for 'Light Fever'. It was beautiful to see their reverence and respect as they prayed for a short moment enjoying the peaceful and quiet atmosphere of the Chapel.









# The Big Questions



We have had a varied and interesting week in the Sixth Form. On Wednesday our Lower Sixth were treated to a talk by representatives from Queen's University Belfast. Students told us afterwards that the presentation really opened their eyes to the many and varied options they have after they leave St. Bede's. Later that day the entire Lower Sixth decamped to Manchester and attended the UCAS Convention which broadened their horizons still further. Thank you again to Mrs Lockett who always goes above and beyond.

Also this week, our Upper Sixth attended a frank and informative talk on the dangers posed by knife crime delivered by a representative of the Greater Manchester Police. Given high profile events of the recent past, it has become even more important that we have these conversations with our young people. Education is always going to be our best inoculation against tragedy. The prospect of any of our young people feeling the need or desire to carry knives is potentially one of the most terrible sets of circumstances imaginable to any teacher or parent and so it is vital such events are held and these conversations happen.

On a more uplifting note, one of the most heart-warming sights in the Common Room is when students have a birthday and their friends all rally round with decorations and gifts to make them feel special. This happened twice this week and it always makes my spirits soar, realising what gracious and kind young people we have in our Sixth Form. The gift of friendship is one which lasts a lifetime.

Congratulations are in order for Sabrina and Inzinga who have successfully applied to appear on The Big Questions this Sunday. Their trip to Media City will be hugely memorable and I hope you will all try to catch them on BBC One at 10.30 a.m. this Sunday. This a reminder to all our young people that you can have great experiences in life but you have to put yourself forward and make them happen!

https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000g735

Mr Power

# Prep School

#### **Podcast**

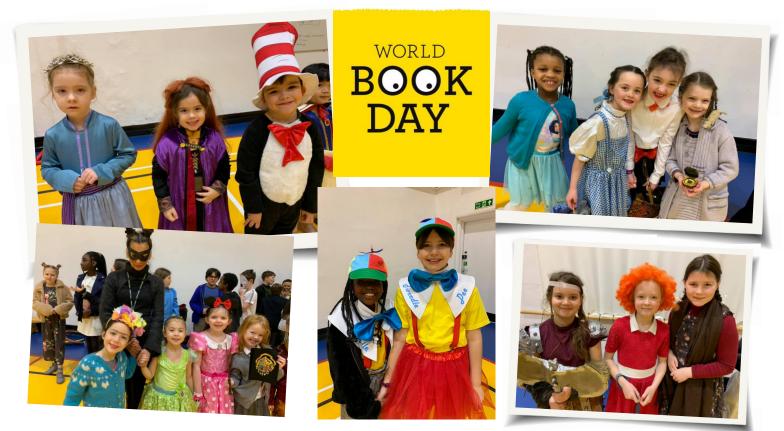
Following the centenary of the Suffragette movement, we were interested to see how the lives of women had changed in the last 100 years. Our reporters wanted to investigate modern-day female role models in Manchester and the Northwest ranging from women in business, academia, sports and performing arts. Their aim was to find out how to be a successful woman whilst balancing the other commitments in their busy lives. They decided to find out by making a podcast.

Our fifth podcast is with actor Sally Carman. Sally is currently walking the cobbled streets of Weatherfield where she is playing the role of Abi Franklin in Coronation Street. In the show she is the mother of Seb Franklin, played by former

student of St Bede's Harry Visinoni. Sally is also well known for her role as Kelly Maguire in cult show Shameless.

Sally talked openly with our reporters Amelie and Harper about how difficult it can be for women in TV, about the barriers and obstacles she faced in her career and about how one should believe in themselves and follow their dreams. The interview is fantastic and Sally is an inspiration to all our children. We would like to thank her for taking time out of her very busy filming schedule to talk to our girls. Here is the Sound Cloud link to the interview: <a href="https://soundcloud.com/user-130632280/st-bedes-prep-podcast-with-sally-carman">https://soundcloud.com/user-130632280/st-bedes-prep-podcast-with-sally-carman</a>







#### **Rossall Rugby Sevens**

The St. Bede's U11's rugby players embarked on their first 7 a side tournament of the season on Wednesday, making the long trip to the Fylde Coast to play at the Rossall School Junior Invitational Rugby Festival. Mr Whalley has been working hard with the boys to work on their attacking skills and the boys were full of excitement on arrival. The first game against Merchant Taylor's was evenly matched, with both teams taking a short while to come to terms with the different tactical requirements of 7 a side rugby. As St. Bede's started to grow in confidence, they passed the ball a little more and scored two excellent tries to win the game two tries to nil.

The next two games were against AKS and Altrincham, who were much more experienced opposition and this allowed the boys to work on their tackling skills a little more and they were unlucky to lose both games by one try. The final group game was against St Mary's who had won all of their previous games convincingly. The St Bede's boys excelled in this game and played some excellent rugby. Despite being two tries down within the first few minutes, the boys did not give up and started to play some fantastic rugby. They tackled with real commitment and enthusiasm and when in possession of the ball, looked capable of scoring at any point. Just before half time, a try was scored, which raised spirits even further. The second half saw St. Bede's score a further three tries to St Mary's two for a final score of four tries each. This was really exciting game!

Their final game saw them face The Buchan School from the Isle of Man, who had finished third in their group, the same position as St. Bede's did in theirs. Buoyed by the improvements made against St. Mary's, the boys started very well and scored two quick tries. At times scoring opportunities were limited due to not releasing the ball enough, but they remained in control throughout the game, scoring a further three tries, to win five tries to one. It was fantastic to see the boys grow in confidence and experience throughout the tournament. Our player of the tournament was Donell who demonstrated some excellent skills in both attack and defence.









# AVERY HAPPY AVERY BIRTHDAY



PREP 1 TAMI

PREP 3 ZACHARY

PREP 5 JACOB

PREP 6 KENAWA



9 & 10 March Prep LAMDA Exams

26 March
Prep Parents Evening
System closes for appointments
Friday 13 March at 8am
https://stbedesprep.
parentseveningsystem.co.uk

# House Point Winners



Team of the Week - Prep Quiz Team



Stars of the Week





# Prep School

#### **Dancing Queens**

Move over Oti Mabuse and Jeanette Manrara! We have got two wonderfully talented dancers in Prep 4 who can give these stars of 'Strictly' a quick-step for their money. Imogen and Orla recently competed in an Under-12 dancing competition in Manchester. They took part in two sections; the Ballroom which is made up of dances in the Waltz and Quick-Step and the Latin section in which they danced a Jive and Cha-cha-cha. Imogen and Orla reached the semi-finals in both the Ballroom and Latin sections.



This is an amazing achievement for two girls who are just eight years old yet competing in an Under-12 competition. Well done Imogen and Orla. We will be looking forward to seeing you both chassé your way to the stars.



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