

3 April 2020

### The Headmaster's Review of the Week

Dear Bedian Family,

As I write to you for the final time this term, we are all beginning to turn our thoughts to the conclusion of the season of Lent and the celebration of Easter.

My final Team of the Week for the Easter Term is the entire Bedian Family for their fellowship, patience and support over recent times. The past few weeks have been incredibly challenging for a great many members of our community and it has been truly wonderful and inspiring to see our family come together and ensure that our lives continue as positively as possible. Our Bedian Family is like no other school community that I have experienced or am aware of, and gives me great comfort that we will eventually emerge from these turbulent times with the ability to look forward with optimism.

The theme of the week is "Hosanna" and as scripture says "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!' and when he entered Jerusalem, all the city stirred saying, 'Who is this?' and the crowds said, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee" (Matthew 21: 9-11). This Sunday (5th April) is Palm Sunday and we will be hearing Matthew's Gospel (verse 21), at the beginning of Mass describing how Jesus was welcomed into Jerusalem as a king. The crowd shouted "Hosanna", they laid their cloaks down and waved palm branches in the air. In contrast we then listen to the Passion of Jesus Christ, the betrayal of Judas, the Last Supper, the agony in the Garden of Gethsemane, Our Lord's arrest, His trial, His brutal scourging and finally His death upon the cross. This week it is as important as ever to make sure that we proudly sing "Hosanna" and welcome Jesus into our families once again, before we prepare for our Holy Week obligations.

I would encourage all of us to keep praying ("storming heaven" as my much-missed Mum used to say) for those who are ill, anxious, grieving or displaced at this difficult time and I have included another prayer below for us to say with our loved ones, to reflect upon and to also draw strength and consolation from:

Lord Jesus

You gave up everything for me. Help me to make this Easter like no other, help us to value the time we have together as a family and use this time to get closer to each other and to you.

Amen

St Bede - Pray for us.

As I come to the conclusion of my review, I would like to wish all of you a happy, holy, safe and healthy Easter break and I look forward to seeing you all again very soon.

Do please continue to stay in touch with my colleagues and me, and do not hesitate to contact us at any stage if you need our assistance or advice.

As we proceed through the season of Lent and look forward to Easter and the hopeful celebration of the resurrection of Our Lord, may God bless you all and we continue to keep all of the Bedian Family in our thoughts and prayers.

Mr L d'Arcy Headmaster @LouisdArcy1





## Senior College

### Senior Leadership Updates

#### Pastoral - Mrs Pike Academic - Mrs Davie - Sixth Form - Mr Power

#### Safeguarding Update

The College Policy is on the website. There is an appendix to cover the coronavirus outbreak. If you have any concerns about a child, please report it.

Our Pastoral Team are happy to be supporting your child during this period of remote learning. If you have any concerns, please contact your child's tutor in the first instance. Information is shared on a daily basis. Until we welcome everyone back into the College keep safe and enjoy time with your families.

https://www.sbcm.co.uk/parent-information/guidance-for-pupils-and-parents-guardians/

Pupils need to be thoughtful when they are communicating with their peers. Please ensure that your child does not take any risks when sharing photos and videos, even if they think they are deleted on the app they are using.

If you have any concerns about online safety please contact spike@stbedescollege.co.uk or any member of the pastoral team. Working together we can ensure that our young people are empowered with the knowledge they need to use technology to their advantage. The College online safety policy is on our website.

#### Useful links - www.thinkuknow.co.

"Thinkuknow" has published guidance for parents and carers to support children who may be spending more time online at home while they do their school work and socialise with friends. Suggestions to help parents keep children safe online include: chatting to find out how they use online technology and what it means to them; reminding children to report anything worrying, and how they can do this; and setting up or reviewing parental controls.

#### Knife Crime

On Wednesday 4 March pupils heard a presentation from a Police Officer about Knife Crime. Information was shared about why young people may carry knives, peer pressure, the law and impact on daily life. This presentation was part of our PSMME provision. The College had agreed to be part of this initiative since we think it is very important that our pupils are equipped with the appropriate knowledge and have an understanding of challenges that are presented to our society today. We hope your child had an opportunity to share their thoughts with you about this presentation.

#### Wellbeing

There is a considerable amount of information in the news at present about wellbeing. Pupils have been discussing this in PSMEE over the last few weeks. Well-being has always been important at St Bede's and we are fortunate enough to have been working with KOOTH for several years. Our well-being booklet has been discussed in PSMEE. If your child does not have a copy please contact their Form Tutor.

The following PowerPoint for children created by the children's commissioner is fantastic. I think this would be a useful resource for all families.

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#### Academic

We have come to the end of two weeks of remote teaching and learning where, in true Bedian style, pupils, parents and staff have risen to the occasion. There have been challenges and steep learning curves, but I am proud to have led such a dynamic team of teachers at a time of uncertainty. Over the Easter holidays we would like pupils to just catch up with any unfinished work, have a break and come back after Easter focused and ready to work. We will be constantly evaluating our provision and will issue revision packs in due course.

#### MCFC Academy

Today is my last day as Assistant Head (CFA). What a strange way to finish?! I can relate to the U5 Academy boys who felt confused and at a loss on the last day of term. But, I have had the privilege to have worked with superbly talented young men who have great futures ahead in the world of sport. The Academy programme is a successful and well respected part of the College and we delight in the successes of each and everyone of the Academy boys both on the pitch and in the classroom. Mr Charlie Woan will be in post after Easter and I am very confident that the programme will go from strength to strength, but never forget that they are Mrs Davie's boys!

#### Sixth Form

It seems like such a long time now since we bade our wonderful Sixth Formers farewell. I still feel uplifted and moved when I recall how, although there were some sad and worried faces, I never heard a single complaint or any hint of bitterness. I did see many smile and heard a great deal of laughter. I was so proud of them: what an end product we produce. Young men and women who are able to shoulder the burden of collective responsibility and make a great personal sacrifice, all the while showing grace under pressure and a profound concern for the wellbeing of others.

My time as Acting Head of Sixth Form was always destined to be short, but little did any of us realise just how curtailed that relationship would be. However, when I look back the shortness of the time will certainly make my memories of that time all the sweeter. I would like to thank all of our Leavers for all your hard work, good humour and for all the kindness you have shown to us and to each other. As I said to you all when we first knew we would be closing, although I can not see the immediate future, I can see that all of you have bright lives and careers ahead of you. You will all do so much good in the world. I have absolute faith in that.



## Senior College

# The Historians' Club Search for Local History

The St Bede's College Historians' Club has continued to try and satisfy its loyal members' thirst for historical knowledge and enrichment, despite the government enforced lockdown. Mr Power, Mr Wilson and Mr Lee Rodriguez have been encouraging pupils and staff to get involved in their Local History Project, by uploading a video of them discussing a piece of history they have uncovered in their local area. Thus far our members have learned about aspects of local history in Denton, Cheadle, Wilmslow and Woodford, but we are always looking to expand our knowledge of the history which is all around us.



Similarly, we have managed to continue our tradition of hosting a weekly talk by moving them to the comfort of our living rooms! Last Friday, Mr Lee Rodriguez delivered a talk on Killing Fidel Castro and the History Department plan to continue to deliver weekly talks as long as the government policy continues. Our love and passion for History does not abate, whether we are at school or at home. Should anyone wish to be added to the Historians' Club online group or submit an entry to the Local History Project, we invite them to do so by emailing any member of the History Department. All are welcome within the Historians' Club and of course, we could all do with a distraction during these testing and peculiar times. On behalf of the Historians' Club, stay safe.

#### Mr Lee Rodriguez



### Keeeeeeep Dancing!

As ever, our Bedian dance troupe have been keeping busy. This week's activities have included workshops with amazing choreographers and dancers, learning repertoire from 'Everybody's talking about Jamie', 'In the Heights' and 'Six' (one for any Historians' club members). We have also been running our weekly challenges, with our photos being inspired by the many rainbows that people have drawn to lift spirits. Congratulations to our three winners for this week: Francesca, Jacinta and Kuziva. Our combo challenge was a lyrical piece to 'She Used to be Mine' - a firm favourite with our dancers! Our joint winners are Audrey and Marie for their beautiful interpretation of the piece. Well done!

Mrs Barber.



## Senior College

### College turned Blue in #Clap4Keyworkers

On the evening of Thursday 2 April St Bede's College was floodlit with blue lights as the College shows its support for the NHS and all those who work in hospitals, GP surgeries, clinics and care homes. The NHS and its incredible professionals are at the heart of British life just now.

The beautiful Italianate style building has a history of changing colours to both celebrate and commemorate events. In March of this year it turned green to celebrate St Patrick's Day and the Young Gifted and Green Concert which raised over £30,000 for The Christie Hospital. In November 2015 the College was bathed in the school colours of gold and blue to celebrate its 140th Anniversary.

Many thanks to Mr Mason and our friends at DBN Audible for helping us turn our iconic St Bedes College blue by providing the gels for the lights. Also thanks to Mr Davies who took the photographs.





### Remote Working - Geography

The Geography Department is overwhelmed with the fantastic response by their key stage three students to their remote learning experience. Our Upper Third are completing their Tropical Rainforest topic with investigations on Deforestation - Mrs Smith is very impressed with the quality of their submitted work and their quick response to feedback. We are especially impressed with the start Lower Fourth have made to their Made in China projects.

Keep it up Team Geography!

Mrs Smith









### Reading Round Up

Here are some more ideas about what to read and how to access books.

We subscribe to The Day, an easy to understand, informative and unbiased online daily newspaper which is aimed at teenagers. You can access the newspaper through Office 365 – All Apps and also sign up to get it emailed straight to you.



There are lots of authors reading their own work online at the moment. I would recommend Neil Gaiman reading The Graveyard Book which can be found at <a href="https://www.mousecircus.com">www.mousecircus.com</a>. This is a quirky book which manages to combine horror and suspense with warmth and humour and to hear the author reading it is something special.

Alex Rider fans will probably know about the publication of the latest book in the series about the teenage spy, Nightshade. You can see author, Anthony Horowitz, reading an extract at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G9mAcqHfAN4">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G9mAcqHfAN4</a>







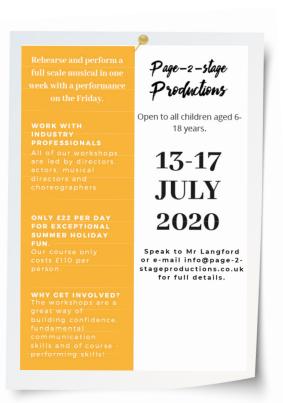
As you can't borrow printed books from the Maher Library at the moment we have an Ebook platform which enables pupils to read library books online. Called VLeBooks this is available through Office 365 – All Apps. After clicking on the link, pupils will be asked to sign in using Office 365 and then they should go to My Library to see the books we have available. Mrs Poolton has some instructions which can be emailed to anyone who wants them. Contact her on kpoolton@stbedescollege.co.uk to request a copy.

Mrs Poolton's recommendation this week is Crater Lake by Jennifer Killick. This is available in ebook format from the VLeBook link on Office 365. An impressive 999 readers could be reading this at once so it should always be available.

Lance and his friends arrive at an outdoor activity centre where their teachers and most of their classmates are soon turned into bug-eyed zombies by an alien race intending to take over the world. This is an exciting, funny horror story which should appeal to pupils who have enjoyed the Goosebumps series.









## Senior College

### **Gospel Music**

As part of the GCSE course, our Upper Fifth pupils had to produce two performances which make up 30% of their total mark at GCSE. It was clear from early on in the course that Dorinda and Ashara had a love of Gospel music and worship music in general.



Mr Davies organised for Tosin Akindele, an outstanding performer and composer to perform a workshop with Ashara and Dorinda. Tosin is currently the Choral Director for Manchester University Harmony Gospel Choir; two time award winner of University gospel choir of the year (2012 &2013) and 1st runners up for 2014. She also arranges and composes her own songs for the choir.

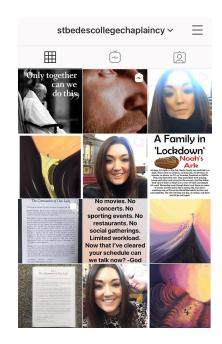
She is a true talent and has inspired Ashara and Dorinda to develop their talents in the future. She was extremely impressed by our two pupils and said that she was amazed at their energy and talent and commented that it was so refreshing for her, as a Gospel singer, to see that worship music is so strong and prevalent at St Bede's College.

Well done Ashara and Dorinda.

#### Mr Davies

#### Lent - Mrs Hibbert

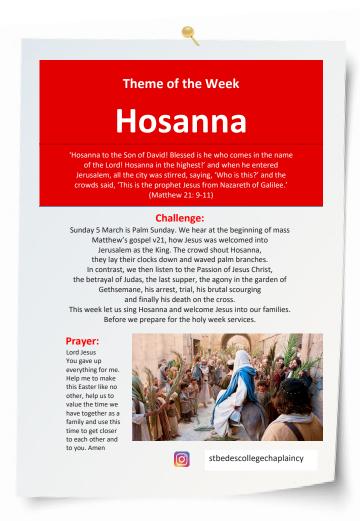
I thought giving up chocolate was going to be the struggle this Lent but I didn't realise the plan was going to change, instead we all have to give up going out, seeing people, family and friends face to face, going to mass, school or work, chocolate almost seems like a pitiful effort. I heard someone say this is the lentiest Lent ever!



We may be starting to hear of people, close to us, that have been struck by the virus, maybe someone has died that you know. We continue to pray and call on God's blessing upon us at this time. We are not alone God promises us in Romans 8:28 that he will turn all our struggles to good.

Pupils can reach out to our Chaplaincy via social media as Mrs Hibbert gives a message via Instagram each day to bring us to Easter. During holy week there will be the triduum services streamed from parishes.

Check out <a href="https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/covid-19-online-resources/">https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/covid-19-online-resources/</a> for links to events this Holy week.



#### **Development Update**

It has been another week of lockdown in the UK, while the whole nation is trying to work together to control the spread of the pandemic, and here at the St Bede's Development Department we hope that you are all safe and well - this has been a very challenging period for so many families.

Here at the Development Department, it is our responsibility to work with the community to ensure that well-deserving children from deprived backgrounds who would otherwise not have access to a Bedian education are accommodated by having access to our essential Bursary Fund.

We are looking to engage more donors to come on board to support the cause. As you are all aware, some families may at times regrettably experience a reduction in their financial income and these circumstances also impact upon our pupil recruitment. With your monetary gifts contributing to the College's Bursary Fund, life-changing opportunities will become much more likely for the families facing difficulties finding the funds for a Bedian education.

For those of you who would like to register to be donors towards our Bursary Fund, please send an email to development@stbedescollege.co.uk.

I would like to thank you so much for your continued support towards making St Bede's College more accessible to all members of the community.

Ms Rumbi Shava Development Manager

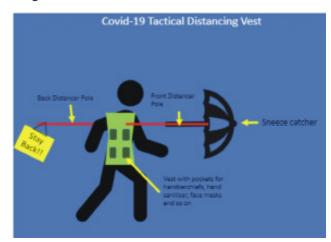
# Headmaster Commendation for Anti-Covid 19 Design

U3 Technology student Maksymilian received a Headmaster's Commendation after he produced a design for a 'Self Distancing Tactical Aid Vest' to combat the effects of Covid-19.

The brief was set by the Technology Department as part of an assignment. Maksymilian produced a computer aided drawing of his design and made a working full size prototype using products he found in his house, he managed to field test the product at home and had it photographed to document his design in action.

Mr Hennigan the Head of Technology commented "We received a great response to the Design Brief, all the students had been given the Easter break to work on their prototype but Maksymilian finished his assignment during the on-line lesson and uploaded the results straight away. We have tweeted the design on our @stbedestec twitter account and it has already received a great response from around the globe."

#### Mr Hennigan









### A Message from Mrs Hunt

Dear children,

I am so proud of how hard you have been working at home with your families. Your photographs and work are amazing and have really made us smile.

facebook.com/StBede's Prep

Your teachers have been working really hard to keep in touch and make sure you have lots to do at home but now it is time to enjoy your Easter holidays. Focus on the Easter story, a story of the love and power of God and His Son for people who are suffering, God yearns to give each one of us true happiness and peace. It is a story of hope and we need that now more than ever don't we?

We are missing you all so very much and we will be in touch again when we start the summer term on 23 April. Keeping you and your families in our thoughts and prayers and hoping you all stay safe and well.

Love from Mrs Hunt x





**NURSERY JAYDEN** 

**NURSERY THEO** 

PREP 1 EVELYN

PRFP 1 SHAE

PREP 2 GEORGE

PREP 3 RISHAAN

PREP 3 ADRIANA

PREP 3 LUCIAN

PREP 4 IMOGEN

PRFP 4 HEIDI

PREP 5 CAREY

PREP 5 GAOXING

PREP 6 HOLLY

PREP 6 LULU







### Move Over Mary!

Prep 4 have been learning about volcanoes in their literacy work so we set them a project on volcanoes – research, diagrams, models, stories, experiments, eruptions....Prep 4 have gone volcano crazy! One family have taken it to the next level and have created an incredible volcano cake! Orla and her Mummy have worked so hard to create an amazing creation. Orla has a natural presenting style to go with her talent for baking, move over Mary Berry, Orla is taking over.

Follow this link for the video: <a href="https://vimeo.com/402876364">https://vimeo.com/402876364</a>









# Another Busy Week For Our Talented Pupils

As we prepare to finish for the Easter holidays here are some photos of the fantastic work children have been doing at home. They have been very creative and have been working very hard. All the teachers in the Prep are impressed with the fantastic work that has been going on.





### The Sixth Form View

Eaostre was the goddess of the dawn for the ancient tribes of Scandinavia and they brought her with them in those long ships as they came to seek a new life in a new land. Her name comes from the Anglo Saxon for 'east' the direction from which the life giving sun appeared each day. Her special festival was celebrated at the time of the Spring Equinox - the dawn of the sun's reign in the northern hemisphere. Pagan tradition told of the Year King, the human victim who was chosen for sacrifice as winter gave away to spring. His remains were scattered in the fields and his body would come to life again as the rising grain. From its earliest time in these islands, the Christian festival of Easter embraced these pre-Christian traditions of death and rebirth. St Bede would later calculate that the date of Easter ought to be the first Sunday following the first full moon of the spring Equinox. The newly converted Anglo-Saxons would not touch iron tools or nails on Good Friday out of respect for Christ's Passion and it was one of the rare feast days upon which the laity were allowed to consume the bread and wine of the Eucharist themselves whereas, during the rest of the year, the priest ate them on behalf of his congregation. This was more a question of availability than doctrine, one feels. Easter has always been a time of sacrifice, signifying re-birth. Early humans must have discovered the virtue of saving supplies against an uncertain future and the idea of making sacrifices in the present so that our species may have a future is deeply ingrained in all of us and this spirit is enshrined in our most sacred time of year.

This Easter season, our Sixth Form have been asked to make a personal and collective sacrifice for the future wellbeing of our society and others. They are being asked to deprive themselves of society and most activity. They are being asked to give up on the reassuring rhythms of their lives and of the rites of passage which punctuate it. This is why I have nothing but the highest admiration for all those students who are, uncomplainingly and appreciatively carrying on with their learning through the

superb Teams system which Mrs Davie has put together. I also have nothing but pride in the way in which they are stoically seeing this difficult time through. The result of their sacrifice is that many more of their fellow countrymen and women who would otherwise have suffered and perished will now survive. When this darkness lifts, as it surely shall, I hope they will reflect that it was their sacrifice that will have made the difference for many. I also know that our fine young men and women who are leaving the College for university will play their part in making sure that their communities and country recover and flourish.

I wish you all a wonderful Easter.

Mr Power

