

The Headmaster's Review of the Week

Dear Bedian Family,

As I write to you with my review of the week, I hope that all members of our community are keeping safe and well during these difficult times. On behalf of everyone at St Bede's College I would like to thank all of those within our Bedian Family who are key workers, working at the frontline in the battle against this invisible enemy. A great many parents, colleagues, alumni, current and former Governors, and many others connected to the College are working tirelessly to protect and improve the lives of others. We are incredibly proud of you and so grateful for your heroic endeavours in keeping all of us safe.

You may have been expecting to receive my latest COVID-19 (coronavirus) update letter on Monday, but given that you had received a beginning of term letter from me and my Bede's News review on consecutive days last week I felt that you had probably heard enough from me! You will be receiving my next update letter on Monday, as normal service resumes.

The beginning of this term, though unusual, has so far been a very positive one and I would like to thank all of our pupils and their families, and of course my extremely hardworking and committed colleagues, for the exceptional manner in which they have all embraced these huge changes to our lives in such an optimistic and Bedian manner. I also very much appreciate your ongoing messages of support for the College and the regular invaluable feedback which we are receiving regarding our systems for remote learning. We continue to modify our practice daily and listen keenly to the essential advice received regarding the areas in which we can further improve.

When life feels challenging, uncertain and very different, it is only natural to long for a sense of control. Our souls seek calm amidst the storm; peace among the chaos. And yet, with each new day, we turn on the news and see another upsetting story unfolding halfway across the world – or right in our own backyards. The human need to somehow make sense of it all runs deep, even when the things that worry us are much bigger than ourselves, and our ability to control them feels non-existent. But the power of prayer can be strong, whether we are facing inner turmoil or anxiety about the state of the world around us. For that reason, prayers for peace can bring us comfort in times when nothing else will, and centre our spirits by reminding us that paving a path towards a peaceful world starts within ourselves.

During this continued period of unprecedented uncertainty and change, it is so important that we continue to spend some valuable time each day in spiritual

reflection. I have included a prayer for peace and comfort below from St Teresa of Avila for us to say in private or with our loved ones:

May today there be peace within.

May you trust your highest power that you are exactly where you are meant to be.

May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith.

May you use those gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you.

May you be content knowing you are a child of God.

Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance.

It is there for each and every one of you.

Amen.

St Bede – pray for us.

As I come to the conclusion of my review, I would like to thank you all again for your outstanding support for myself and the wider College in recent times and I very much look forward to seeing you all again very soon. My wife and I continue to wait with great excitement, anticipation and a little trepidation for the arrival of our new baby and we very much appreciate the messages of kindness and support which we receive almost daily from members of our Bedian Family.

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.

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



College Production 2020 Grease

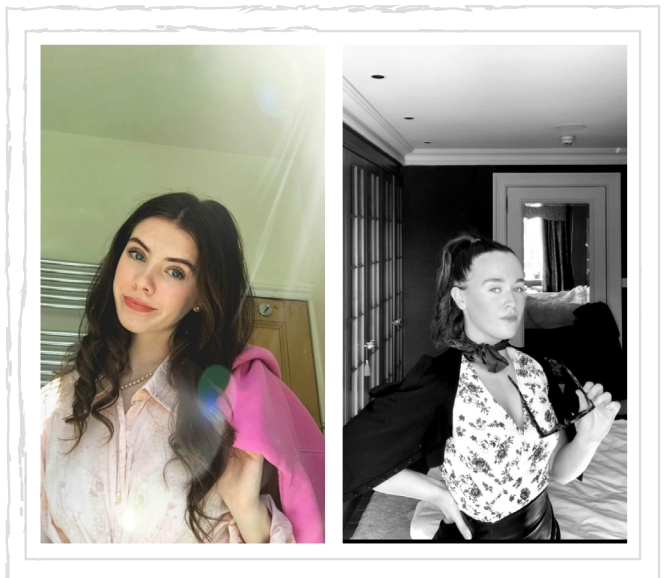
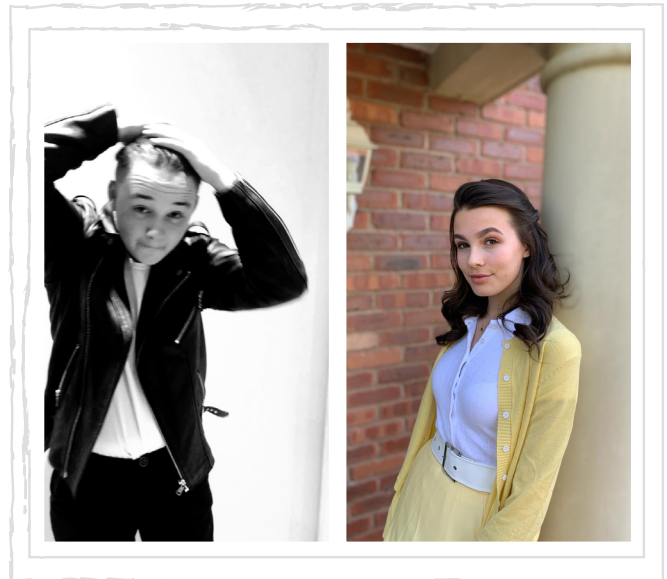
Over the course of this time we have not let things halt in Performing Arts. Before Easter we carried out our annual production auditions in a very different way. This year our students submitted their auditions via video. I was inundated with fantastic performances and before Easter our cast for our Autumn production of Grease was announced.

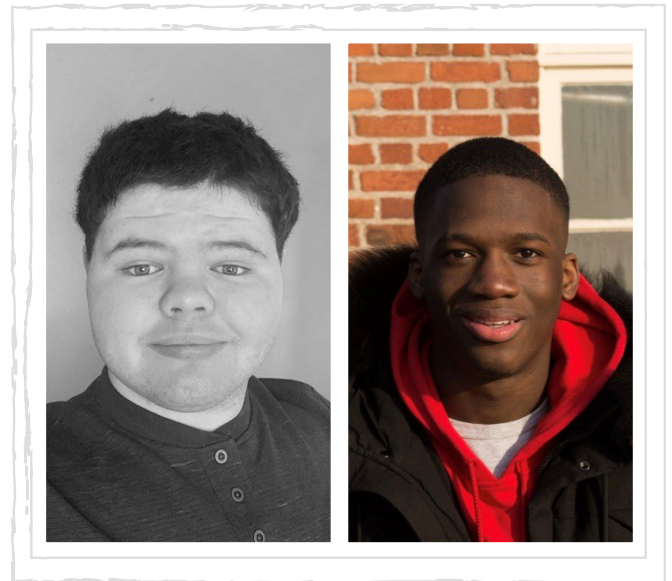
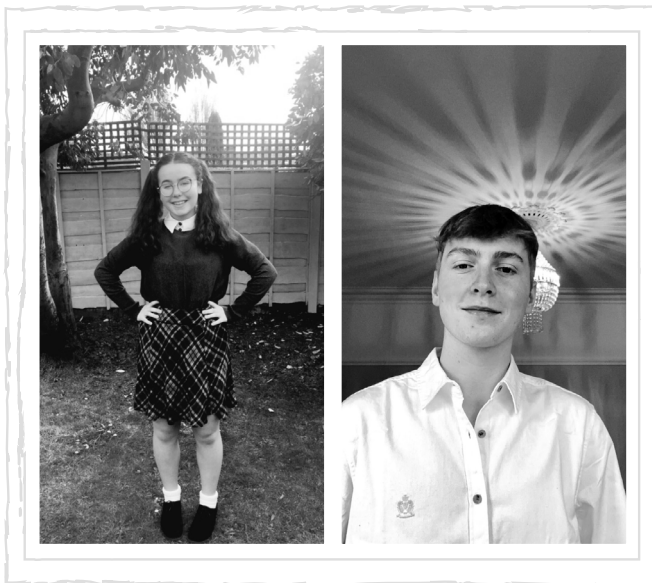
With a cast of over 50 students, they have been working hard preparing photo headshots and vocal performances which can be seen on our Twitter @SBCMPerfArts. Keep following our twitter for regular updates and sneak previews. You will also be able to see a sneak preview at the College Annual Open Evening in the Autumn.

Congratulations to ALL our cast members and we cannot wait to begin rehearsals. Congratulations also to the following students for landing these iconic roles.

- Seamus U5 Danny Zuko
- Niamh U4 Sandy
- Theo L6 Kenicke
- Naomi L6 Rizzo
- Olive U5 Frenchy
- Alanna L5 Marty
- Katy L5 Jan
- Paul L6 Roger
- Stephen U5 Doody
- Max L6 Sonny
- Tom L6 Teen Angel/Johnny Casino
- Tom L5 Eugene
- Audrey L5 Cha Cha
- Sophia L5 Patty

Miss Smith and the Performing Arts Faculty





Grease 2020

Seamus U5 Danny Zuko
 Niamh U4 Sandy
 Theo L6 Kenicke
 Naomi L6 Rizzo
 Olive U5 Frenchy
 Alanna L5 Marty
 Katy L5 Jan

Paul L6 Roger
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Celebrating Shakespeare

Upper Third pupils were challenged with the task of dressing up as Shakespeare or one of his characters in honour of the Bard's birthday last week.

Congratulations to Kipp for his winning entry as Prospero from The Tempest, which the class had been studying with Mr Hughes in English. A very creative interpretation in lockdown. Well done!

Mrs Boylan



Rehearse and perform a full scale musical in one week with a performance on the Friday.

WORK WITH INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS
All of our workshops are led by directors, actors, musical directors and choreographers

ONLY £22 PER DAY FOR EXCEPTIONAL SUMMER HOLIDAY FUN.
Our course only costs £110 per person.

WHY GET INVOLVED?
The workshops are a great way of building confidence, fundamental communication skills and of course - performing skills!

Page-2-stage Productions

Open to all children aged 6-18 years.

13-17 JULY 2020

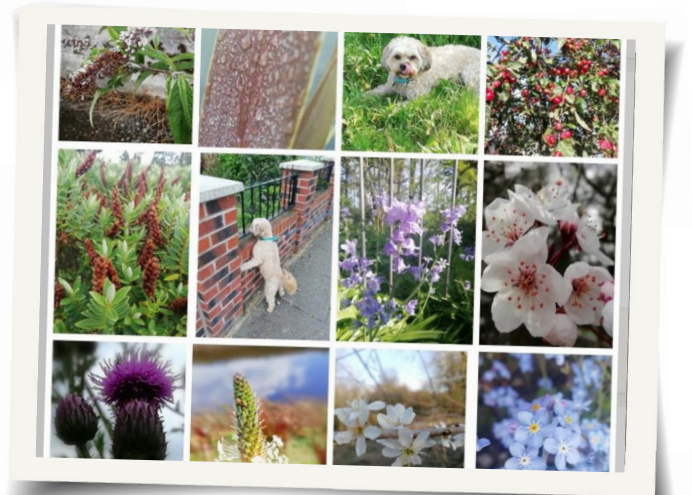
Speak to Mr Langford or e-mail info@page-2-stageproductions.co.uk for full details.



Lower Seniors - Spark Joy Challenge

We're all in need of something to smile about at the moment, and we thought that Lower Seniors might be able to help. We came up with the Spark Joy Challenge and asked our Lower Seniors students to come up with art, music, jokes, images, videos and anything which might spark joy. Needless to say, they rose to the challenge brilliantly and a few teachers joined in too! This week's theme was nature and here are a selection of the entires which made us smile, from paintings and poems to puppies and plants! This week's winners were Isobel and Anya, who will be rewarded with a chocolatey prize when we return to College. Next week's theme is... ENERGY!

Mrs Vyce



Challenges

Many of the children are enjoying the Jo Wicks morning workouts but we would like to add some variety to the children's physical activities. By now you will all have been sent the Vimeo link to Mr Fogel's 'Dance Challenge'. Each week Mr Fogel will be creating other activity challenge videos for the children to do. In connection with these challenges, the children may also enjoy some of the 'Daily Mile' activities. These can be done at home during 'lockdown'. There is also a range of health-related activities the children can take part in on 'The Big Colour Challenge'. The links for both can be found below.

<https://thedailymile.co.uk/at-home/>

<https://www.thebigcolourchallenge.co.uk/>

Please encourage your children to try them out and send in a couple of photos of them taking part in these challenges.



William in '2.6 Challenge'

Reception Class pupil William has been busy; last weekend he took part in one of the activities in the '2.6 Challenge' which has been created as the London Marathon was cancelled this year. William is raising money with his mum to fund a research project run by Breathing Matters in memory of his Grandad Dave and a family friend Alastair. The fundraising was started in September by William's mum, however on Sunday William joined with his mum and dad and his aunties, uncles and cousins to raise more money for this great cause.

William cycled an amazing twenty-six laps around a Hulme Hall, which was a whopping 400 metres each lap. He cycled 10.5KM. William even came off his bike after four laps but got up dusted himself down and carried on, his Grandad would have been very proud of him.

William raised £823.40 in one day for Breathing Matters, an absolutely fantastic achievement. Well done William. We are all so proud of you. You are a wonderful person.

Here is the link to the just giving page. Any donations will be greatly appreciated.

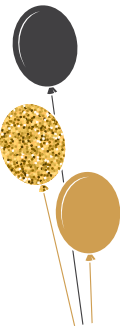
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/steph-fisher12in12>

WISH YOU
A VERY
HAPPY
BIRTHDAY



PREP 5 **JEANO**

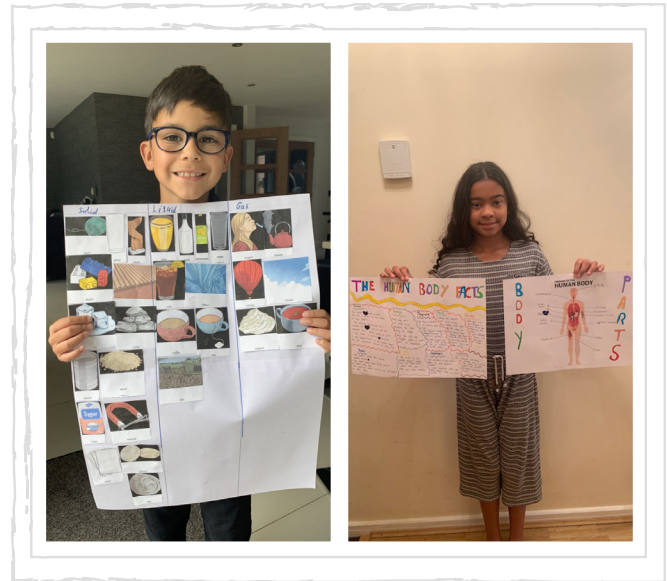
PREP 6 **JOSHUA**



Another Busy Week For Our Talented Pupils

Here is a selection of some of the fabulous work the children have been taking part in.

Look at our Facebook page for even more images over the weekend.



The Sixth Form View - 'Making the Difference'

One of the least pleasant aspects of the lockdown is how all our worlds have physically shrunk. It is not unlike being under house arrest; I never thought I would live to see the day when a trip to the Asda Click and Collect is an exciting excursion. However, the enforced separation from the normal rhythms of my life has had one major benefit. It has made me appreciate how the simplest parts of my life are in fact the most beautiful and treasured. The company of family and friends in particular is something that I am unlikely to take for granted again.

Speaking directly to the Upper Sixth, I think one of the ways in which you may best cope with the enforced contraction of your material reality, is to prepare for the time, very soon, when your life will expand enormously. Soon, very soon, comes the moment when you fly the nest and meet the world. Tantalising as this sounds, especially given our present predicament, it is worth remembering that many young people struggle to cope with their hard won freedom. Dropout rates have never been higher, whilst more and more students each year report troubles with their mental health. Many years ago, when I was at university, I volunteered to work on a student run helpline and our busiest time was in those first few weeks of term as those poor innocent Freshers struggled to come to terms with life outside of parental supervision. Independence is exciting but, for many, it can also be daunting.

Bearing all this in mind, we thought it would be a pretty worthwhile use of your time to begin to prepare for life after St Bede's. To that end, we have come up with our 'Making the Difference' programme which aims to offer practical and worthwhile activities which prepare you for various aspects of real life. This week we have been

asking you to complete activities aimed at making you employable. Next week, we will be offering you advice and assistance in finance and budgeting. Each week will have a different theme and your tutors will give you the theme and list of activities each week during your normal PSMEE period. This will also be your opportunity to share your progress with your tutor and seek feedback and advice. There will also be a weekly introductory video from yours truly – just in case you've missed me!

In the fullness of time you will go to a job interview. During that interview you are likely to be asked about a tough situation you faced and how well you dealt with it. I would strongly suggest that this is the tough situation and I hope your response will be that you made the best use of your time by preparing positively for the future.

God bless you and all your family. Keep safe. Keep well. See you soon.

Mr Power

