

12 June 2020

The Headmaster's Review of the Week

Dear Bedian Family,

As I write to you with my latest review of the week, I hope that all members of our College community are keeping safe and well during these difficult times. The College has been alive with the uplifting sounds of Prep and keyworker children enjoying themselves, and it has also been fantastic to be able to reconnect with colleagues who have returned to physically working on site. We now look forward to Monday and to the phased return of our Lower Fifth pupils and Lower Sixth students – I have greatly missed all of our pupils and their families, as well as my wider colleagues of course, and I very much look forward to the time when it is safe for us to return in full.

At the College it remains essential that we continue to provide a truly holistic education for all of our pupils and that they are not shielded from critically important world events and issues, particularly the current ones around racial injustice. St Bede's is a very special school in so many different ways but one of its most important characteristics is the breadth of the cultural diversity with our community. It is important that we authentically reflect the multicultural city, country and world in which we live today, and that we always champion the important values of respect for each other, tolerance of other views and loudly celebrate our many differences. Myself and many members of our Bedian community have been deeply shocked by the terrible events which we have recently witnessed in the United States following the brutal and senseless killing of George Floyd, and St Bede's College remains fully committed to supporting and promoting equality, diversity and inclusion amongst all members of our Bedian Family.

We remain fully committed to providing a well-rounded curriculum, in which we confidently explore challenging topics with our pupils. Our approach is always investigative, encouraging our pupils to think laterally, to challenge current thinking and world views, and to form their own judgements based upon a range of perspectives and interpretations. It is vital that our pupils are immersed in an honest, balanced environment here at the College so that they develop a well-rounded view of the world in which we all live. As our Holy Father, Pope Francis, said recently: "My friends, we cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life. At the same time, we have to recognise that the violence of recent nights is self-destructive and self-defeating. Nothing is gained by violence and so much is lost".



On Friday of next week, I am meeting a group of alumni to listen to their experiences and to give them my assurance that we are continually developing our practice here at the College in order to provide the most authentic and balanced experience for our current and prospective pupils, and staff, and to support our families and wider alumni to the very best of our abilities. In order to continuously improve our practice we will, for example, continue to review our academic and pastoral curricula regularly to ensure that they remain current, inclusive and relevant, hold frequent pupil and parent voice meetings when we reopen the College fully (but only when it is safe to do so) and incorporate further staff awareness training into our annual programme of in-house CPD.

I have very much enjoyed congratulating our CFA students of the week and our pupils receiving Headmaster's commendations by writing to them personally via the chat function on Microsoft Teams, and so far the reaction from the boys and girls has been very positive. This is one of the ways in which I am remaining connected with our pupil body and to fill the void which exists following the College shutting to most of our children. The health and safety of our pupils, their families and my colleagues remains of course of the highest priority and I continue to be incredibly grateful to the outstanding ways in which we have supported each other as a Bedian Family through these very challenging times.





Senior College

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 below for us to say in private or with our loved ones:

Dear Heavenly Father,

You created us.

All of us

You sent your beloved Son to redeem us.

All of us

You sent the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to us.

To comfort all of us.

Please fill our hearts with love, so that there is no room for hate.
Fill our minds with understanding, so that there is no room for fear.

Fill our eyes with wonder so that we may see only uniqueness, and not strangeness.

So that we may love, understand and enjoy our fellow brothers and sisters to your glory.

St Bede - pray for us.

On a personal level, it has hard to believe that my daughter Claragh is already one month old and thank you again from my wife Roxanne and myself for the wonderfully kind cards, email messages and gifts which we have received. We are living through a very uncertain and at times upsetting period but it remains our collective responsibility to ensure that we do all we can to improve the world we live in, not only for our generation but for many generations to come.

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.

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.

Kind regards, Mr L d'Arcy Headmaster

Making the Difference

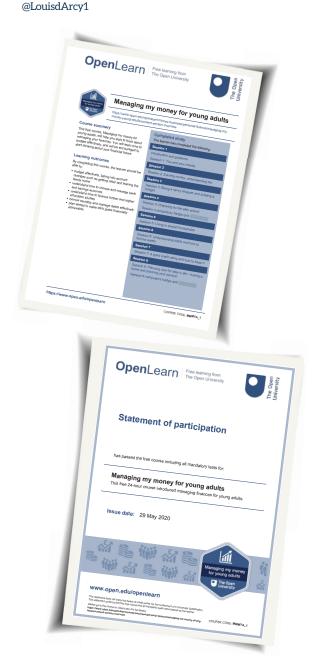
Our current Upper Fifth and Lower Sixth students have been studying the Making the Difference programme which is a bridging project from GCSE to A Level to University. Mr Woan has prepared a bespoke Making the Difference programme for our Upper Fifth CFA students who are embarking on their Apprenticeships as trainee footballers from 1 July.

Over the past seven weeks they have completed tasks ranging from writing letters of application and Curriculum Vitaes to Covid-19 Training and Food Diaries. They have researched into another career through the Life Beyond Football task in which the students research financial management, property development, teaching and even how to become a self-employed barber. They have also learned about one of Mr Woan's former Everton FC Academy students through a recent newspaper article highlighting how he overcame his mental health battles.

During half term, Mr Woan set the students up with guidance on how to access a free Open University course. They studied a 24-hour course entitled Managing My Money for Young Adults. This financial management course involved eight sessions and two tests providing successful candidates with a certificate of participation.

All the free courses are available by creating a login https://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/fullcatalogue

Mr Woan



Senior College

Frida Kahlo

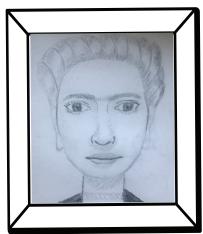
The Spanish department recently challenged Lower Sixth students to get creative during lockdown and follow instructions in Spanish to create a portrait of iconic Mexican artist Frida Kahlo.

They have been studying the life and work of the artist for the Cultural Heritage element of their AS course. Their entries were most impressive, with the winning prize of a book about the Frida going to Inzinga S-A. Enhorabuena!

Mrs Reid









Welcome Back

As we look forward to welcoming back our Lower Fifth, in their bubble groups and the Lower Sixth for pastoral meetings.

We would just like to reinforce the guidance for staying safe in College. Please be aware and act safely and sensibly to protect everyone.

Thank you.









Headmaster's Commendations





U4 MIC	Jahzara G	Chemistry
U4 KAN	Seb N	Chemistry
U4 COY	Lakyle	Chemistry
L5 HGN	Anna B	Chemistry
L5 COM	Tom J	Chemistry
L5 COM	Mayan L-B	Chemistry
L5 MCM	Mathilda M	Chemistry
U4 MIC	Beth H	Mathematics
U4 MIC	Alexia B	Mathematics
U4 SMT	Dan R	Mathematics
L4 LIV	Flynn H	Science
U4 KAN	Samson Te	Spanish
U3 LEE	Cain O	Latin
L5 THO	Rio H	Computer Science
L5 COR	Gabriel B	Computer Science



















U4 SMT	Mia A	Geography
U4 MIC	Alexia B	Geography
U4 SIN	Ezra C	Geography
U4 SIN	Isaiah D-M	Geography
U4 MIC	Jahzara G	Geography
U4 MIC	Beth H,	Geography
U4 KAN	Rebecca L	Geography
U4 MIC	Kuziva M	Geography
U4 KAN	Seb N	Geography
U4 MIC	Benoit N	Geography
U4 SMT	Lyanne C	Geography
U4 DUN	Charlie G	Geography
U4 COY	Jaden H	Geography
U4 SMT	Kathryn K	Geography
U4 SIN	Gia Han L	Geography
U4 COY	Lakyle S	Geography
U4 SIN	Ava W	Geography







VE Day Party

Prep 6 pupil Kitty wanted to ensure everyone on her street came together to commemorate the 75th anniversary VE day. She went from house to house and posted an invitation to all the neighbours a couple of days before 8 May. She asked them to dress their house up and join her on the street for a garden party. However, because it was such short notice she didn't think anyone would come out. But lots of her neighbours joined in and loved it.

Kitty was so happy and she thinks it made all the neighbours feel happy and part of a community feeling unity in lockdown. One of her neighbours is acclaimed Jazz Musician Victor Brox, who has played with Eric Clapton and Jimmy Hendrix, he serenaded the street with some wonderful music, which he did every Thursday when supporting the NHS workers. I

t is fantastic to see our pupils using their initiative to lift the spirits of her neighbours and giving her neighbours the chance to show solidarity and remember those who gave their lives for their country.







PREP 1 HUGO

PREP 2 IVAN

PREP 4 ETHAN

PREP 5 OLIVER

PREP 5 SEBASTIAN









Prep School

Another Busy Week For Our Talented Pupils

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























