



ST. BEDE'S
COLLEGE

DECEMBER BEDE'S NEWS



Mrs M Kemp
Headteacher

Dear parents,

It is with nothing but joy and gratitude that I write to you on the last day of term in 2023.

We have had many occasions this month to come together as a community to celebrate the coming of Our Saviour.

Sharing our time in the spirit of service is the best way to remind ourselves of the true meaning of Christmas. The mystery of God's unconditional love for us is a constant light in our soul which will help guide us to always be alert to opportunities to make others happy. I wanted to say a special thank you firstly to our staff and teachers for their unwavering determination to give our pupils the best support for them to thrive; secondly, to our pupils for their hard work and for filling our corridors with their energy and joy; and most importantly, to our parents, for your trust, sharing the privilege of seeing your children flourish with us.

Thank you to our PFA team of parents and staff who provided us with the Christmas Fair, a fantastic morning for the whole family. It raised £5,000 which is a tremendous achievement: super well done everyone!

It is my pleasure to announce that Dr Anne McMonagle has been appointed Head of Sixth Form - I look forward to working with her on the Senior Leadership Team and seeing the Sixth Form continue to develop and thrive

I hope you and your families have a very happy and holy Christmas.

Mrs M Kemp, Headteacher



Inspired · Committed · Grateful

Dear parents,

I hope our December Bede's News finds you well. As we approach the festive season, it has been wonderful to see so many of our families at our Christmas events.

Our Prep 3 Advent Assembly, our EYFS & Key Stage 1 Nativity, 'Everyone loves a baby!' and our Key Stage 2 Carols by Candlelight have all been truly lovely occasions. These events are a highlight of the school calendar and a joyous celebration of the Christmas story. We have also greatly enjoyed reflecting at each station on 'The Journey to Bethlehem', so beautifully organised by Mrs Whipp, with a recording also presented in the chapel for our families.

Throughout December, our virtue of focus has been Generosity, and Mrs. Hibbert and the Cornerstone charity are immensely grateful for the generosity shown through the toiletry donations made by our school community. Your support has made a significant impact, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to all families involved.

To culminate the term's celebrations, on Thursday we had our end of term Mass, which was celebrated by Father Alvaro. The service offered us a moment of reflection as we came together to mark the close of the term and the beginning of the festive holidays.

On behalf of all our staff, I wish you a peaceful Christmas with your families, and health and happiness in the New Year.

We look forward to welcoming our pupils back to school on Monday 8 January.

Mrs C Hunt, Head of Prep



Mrs C Hunt
Head of Prep





Dr A McMonagle
Head of Sixth Form



Dear parents,

I am delighted to have been appointed Head of Sixth Form

and grateful to have the opportunity to continue to make the experience of our Sixth Formers a deeply rewarding one. This month, our focus is on Generosity, and encouraging our Sixth Formers to wholeheartedly invest in their futures and consider how they can generously contribute to the world around them. I take immense pride in witnessing the growth of these young adults, knowing they serve as sources of inspiration for our younger students. My aim is to foster responsible and compassionate individuals who can achieve their personal and collective goals.

It has been a busy term for our Sixth Form students, with all Upper Sixth sitting November mock examinations, many completing their UCAS applications, and some preparing for interviews; meanwhile, the Lower Sixth have found their feet and have made the significant adjustments in mindset that A level study requires. I hope that, during the Christmas holidays, they will find a balance between catching up on academic work and spending quality time with loved ones. Wishing you all a very peaceful and happy Christmas.

Dr A McMonagle, Head of Sixth Form

Virtue of the Month:

Generosity

The Virtue of December has been Generosity, and pupils have really embraced the virtue this month. From wearing Christmas jumpers for CAFOD World Gifts to donating items for the Christmas Fair and Lynx sets for Caritas, pupils have really got into the Christmas spirit. Fr Alvaro, at weekly year group masses, has focused on the virtue in his sermons and reminded pupils that generosity is not just about giving material things or money, but also our time and trying to be generous of heart. When we give to others freely and without obligation it helps us to live in charity as we imitate how God loves us, giving not because of merit but because He wants to. In small ways pupils have put generosity into action by letting others go in front of them into the Dining Room, helping out at home by doing extra chores to allow parents a moment to themselves, giving time to help at Christmas events in school and even being a good listener to others, even if we would rather be doing something else, in order to make them happy. Hopefully the pupils will continue with this virtue at home over the festive season.

Virtue winners for 'Generosity'



November Virtue Winners - *Respect*



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SAFEGUARDING

Using Tools within our reach for Good

Sometimes our safeguarding articles focus on preventing our children from danger, but Christmas is a great opportunity to think about how we can use the internet in a positive manner. Rather than solely guarding against potential dangers, let's harness the power of the online world to strengthen family bonds by spending quality time together. You could take advantage of the holiday break by using the internet to explore inspirational movies, family-friendly shows, or local events online. Or create cherished memories by organising movie nights or engaging in games that promote togetherness. This Christmas, rather than being attached to our screens in solitude, let's use the tools within our reach to foster memories of belonging and create lasting family moments.

Mrs C Boylan, Assistant Head (Safeguarding & Ethos)



Stars of the week





House Point Winners





Class of the week



Class of the Week:
Reception



Sports Stars



Girls' futsal silver medalists



Maths Challenge Awards



Bronze maths challenge awards



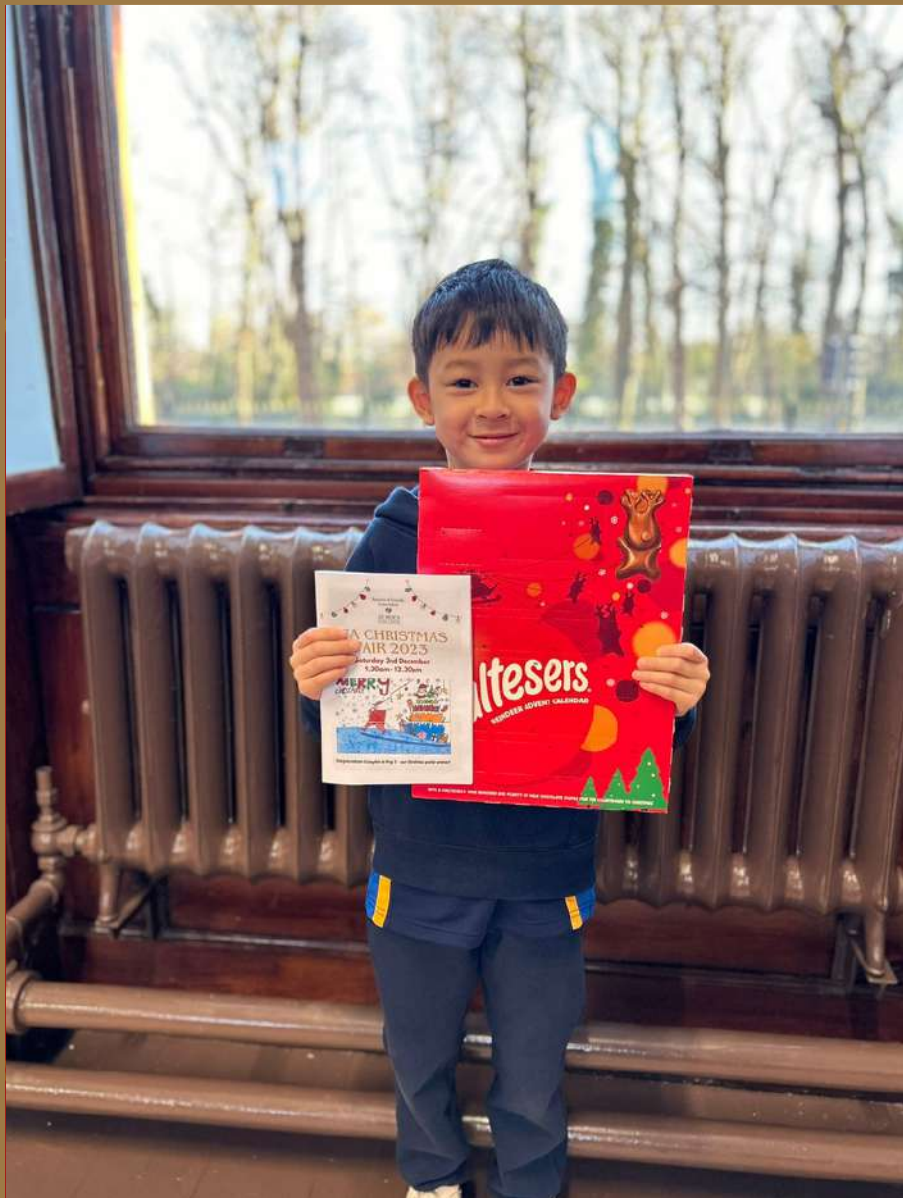
Silver maths challenge awards



Gold maths challenge awards



Christmas Art Competition



Christmas Art Competition
Winner



Headteacher's Award



Headteacher's awards for singing a song
written by Amanee in Mass

Bedian Ambassador

Virtue of the Month: November - Respect



U3

Max H
Katelynn H
Phoebe K
Harriet N
Ade O
Conway S

L4

Madeline H
Lucy H
Batista I
Joan B-S
Charlie C

U4

Jibrail J
Evangeline G
Ruth G
Carey S
Karen Z
Finley D-G
Cass M
Eli B

L5

Zaccai E
Victoria
C-M
Floyd S
Josh O
Kitty M
Harper J
Sophie L
Ricky R

U5

Daymeon A
Jack I
Shriya N
Jasmine N
Brandon P-S
Yoshi Y
Michael B

L6

Jacob M G
Lyndon M
Rafal S

U6

Lucia L
Patience M

Happy Birthday!

Nursery
Javier

Prep 2
Arinze

Prep 4
William

Prep 5
Eden
Walton
Annaliese

Prep 6
Carmen
Lucy
Amelia
Holly
Dean
Anna L.

Reception
Joseph
Francis

Prep 3
Evie
Henrietta
Sofia



CHRISTMAS TIME

EYFS KS1 Nativity 'Everyone Loves a Baby'

On Thursday 7th December KS1 and EYFS performed their Christmas Nativity. 'Everyone Loves A Baby' tells the story of three children who go on a journey to discover the story of the birth of Christ. All of the children were amazing and made their parents and teachers very proud

Mrs Emily Kennerk, Teacher of Prep



[Click here to check out our video](#)



[Click here to check out our photos](#)



CHRISTMAS TIME



Merry Munchies: a Prep Christmas Dinner Delight

The Prep children and staff enjoyed a wonderful Christmas lunch. Everyone wore their best Christmas jumpers and had traditional crackers and party hats! Festive music added to the special atmosphere.

Mrs Emily Kennerk, Teacher of Prep



[Click here to check out our photos](#)



CHRISTMAS TIME

A Magical Night of Melodies

There was not a dry eye in the house when the Prep's Key Stage 2 pupils performed their 'Carols by Candlelight' concert to a packed Academic Hall on Wednesday afternoon.

The Nativity story, recalling the true meaning of Christmas, was beautifully told through a selection of meaningful readings, poems and heartwarming contemporary Christmas carols that poignantly described Mary's journey to Bethlehem.

The singing and behaviour from all pupils was outstanding and the performance was a fitting conclusion to our series of Christmas events that have taken place in the Prep during Advent.

The staff and pupils of the Prep wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Mrs C Harrison, Deputy Head of Prep



[Click here to check out our photos](#)



[Click here to check out our video](#)



End of Term Mass and Celebration Assembly

The whole College community came together in our traditional way to end the term with Mass and Celebration Assembly, allowing us to give thanks and recognise all the achievements of the Autumn Term.

Fr Alvaro spoke about how welcome he has felt this term at St Bede's and how we should continue this example of welcoming Jesus into our hearts this Christmas.



Celebration Assembly began with the Lower Sixth pupils receiving their GCSE Result Certificates and celebrating their academic successes of the past two years; they serve as an inspiration to the current Upper Fifth to continue working hard.

Department prizes included Artist of the Term: a new initiative of the Art and Design Technology Department. At the end of each term, the most accomplished work from each year group will be selected, framed and displayed on the art corridor in the Regis building. The Headteacher's Choice Award went to Ailish in the Upper Fourth. Also presented were Associated Board Music certificates, Maths Senior Maths Challenge certificates, Library prizes and PE awards for impressive work over the term.

CHRISTMAS TIME

Next the pupils who have achieved their Bronze Awards for Housepoints were commended - there were too many to mention individually as over 220 pupils have earned their bronze badge. There are a few pupils who are not far off the Silver Award (250 points) which is no mean feat. Form groups have been busy making cribs for their form rooms. Mrs Lavorini's form took 3rd place, Mr Morgan's 2nd place and Dr Shipley's 1st place due to the personal touch of all in the form.

We congratulated Archie, Zachary, Joshua, Julia, Bosco, Rafal and Bink for winning the Headteacher's Commendation Award for best embodying the Bedian Spirit this term. They will join Mrs Kemp and Mrs Boylan for a celebratory lunch in the new year.

Dr McMonagle, Head of Sixth Form, invited the new senior prefect team forward to introduce them to the school. She thanked the outgoing team for their commitment to the College and welcomed in the new team. With Jeanne and Oliver as Deputy Head Girl and Boy, and Maciej and Tara as Head Boy and Girl, we are sure they will serve as an inspiration to the younger pupils.

Finally Mrs Kemp reminded the pupils of the virtue of generosity and that in sacrificing our needs for those of others we are truly generous.

We wish all our families a very happy and holy Christmas and look forward to welcoming pupils back on 8 January.

Mrs C Boylan, Assistant Head (Safeguarding & Ethos)



St. Bede's College Excels as Google Reference School:

In our journey as a Google Reference School, our dedicated teaching staff has seamlessly integrated Google tools into their educational activities and pedagogical planning. Moreover, we take pride in implementing a tested program that educates students in the conscious and responsible use of technology.

On November 30th, 2023, St. Bede's College hosted, in collaboration with Google Workspace for Education, an exclusive professional development event: "Transform your school with Chromebooks and Google Workspace for Education – St. Bede's College experience." This event showcased the best practices in digital education and featured live classroom demonstrations. Attendees had the opportunity to gain insights from our Google Reference School staff, witness digital education in action, and participate in inspiring sessions led by our Google Certified Educators and students.

As a Google Reference School, our commitment does not end with the certificate. We are dedicated to supporting the development and implementation of future technologies in schools. We aim to continue providing training and collaboration opportunities to colleagues, ensuring the dissemination of knowledge and best practices in the educational technology landscape.

We are proud to be a Google Reference School, and this recognition reflects our dedication to fostering a technologically enriched learning environment. We look forward to the continued journey of transforming education through innovative technologies and sharing our experiences with the global educational community.

Mr F Calmaestra, Assistant Head - Strategy and Innovation



SCIENCE

NHS event: Exploring Medical Pathways

On Wednesday 29th November, 15 pupils attended an NHS Event for young people, aimed at broadening their understanding of careers in the medical profession. They learned about the latest AI technology and virtual reality simulators used for training and found out how clean their hands really were using a UV scanner. The event was incredibly informative as well as great fun for the pupils who came away inspired by the many careers on offer in the NHS.

Mrs Rachael Prince, Head of Science, Chemistry Department



MATHS

Maths in Action

On Friday the 24th of November the Lower Sixth A level Maths and Further Maths students, accompanied by Mrs Collard and Mr Segura Renau, embarked on a study trip to King's Conference Centre Manchester for the Maths in Action live event. There they were able to engage with an entire day of interactive and thought-provoking talks.

Dr Yolanda Ohene, a neuroimaging scientist, highlighted the crucial role maths plays in developing imaging techniques. Her talk resonated with budding Bedian biologists, showcasing the integral role of maths in their beloved science.

Dr Simon Singh, a familiar name from the A-Level Maths wider reading list, discussed Fermat's Last Theorem. Sharing insights into Andrew Wiles' proof, he brought maths to life, leaving a lasting impact on students, as expressed by Maciej W.: "His talk brought maths to life and helped me realise Maths is so much more than just some mundane numbers on a page."

Dr. Colin Wright's memorable talk, 'Maths with a twist', introduced topology, showcasing the study of shapes and surfaces. Sophie Maclean presented 'Mathemusic', an interactive session prompting student participation. Alison Kiddle's talk on risk and reward aligned perfectly with the statistics side of the A level Maths course.

Guest speakers provided valuable tips for A level Maths exams, unanimously appreciated by students. The trip not only offered insights into pursuing maths as a career but also showcased the interconnected role of maths in our lives.

The students were keen to take part in the talks, even volunteering to go up on stage and get hands-on. The trip provided students with the opportunity to get an indication of what it would be like to pursue maths as a future career and the plethora of opportunities that securing a solid grade in A-Level Maths brings. The live event allowed students to envision maths as part of a bigger picture, as a multifaceted subject which plays an interconnected role in each aspect of our lives. Overall the trip was an incredible success.

Mrs A Collard. Head of Department Mathematics



MODERN LANGUAGES

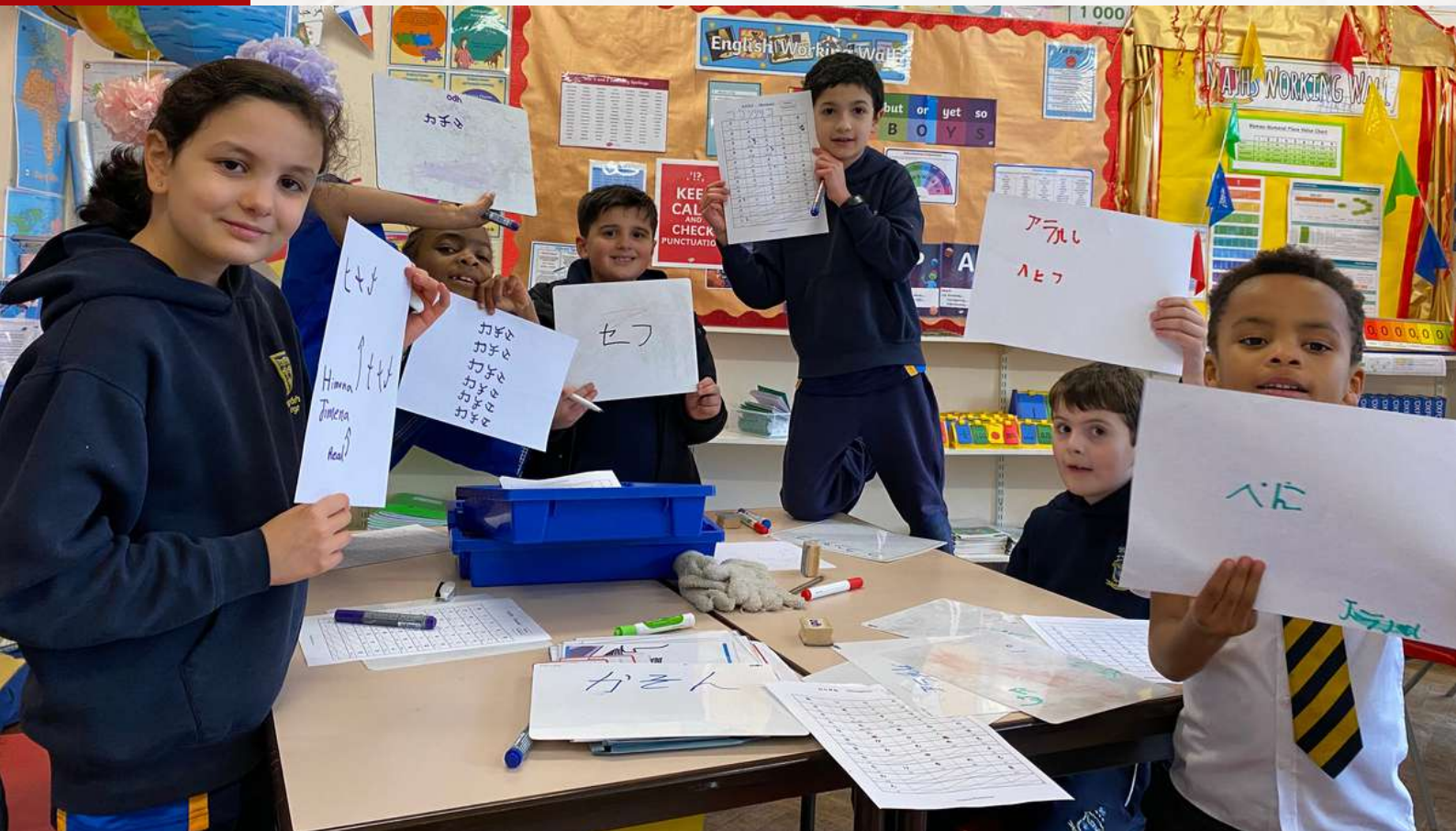
Japanese Club

This week at the Japanese Club, the children enjoyed looking at one of the Japanese alphabets - Katakana - and working out how to write their names.

We are very inspired by the children's creativity!

Mrs C Casson. Prep 5C Class Teacher

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Poetry in Translation Competition

The MFL department is delighted to announce that two Prep pupils (Carmen and Tudor) and six College pupils (Bosco, Ethan, Elliott, Katelynne, Miguel and Juul), recently entered a prestigious poetry translation competition called The Stephen Spender Prize.

They entered their English translations of poems in Spanish, Afrikaans, Romanian, Chinese and Cantonese and we were very impressed by their efforts.

The Stephen Spender Prize is the leading annual prize for poetry in translation, with categories for pupils, teachers and individual young people in the UK and Ireland, as well as an open category for adults from all over the world. The Prize received entries in over 90 languages this year.

The rules are simple: translate into English any poem from any language, along with a short commentary on the translation process. Special congratulations go to Bosco C (Upper Fifth) and Ethan W (Upper Third) who were awarded a Commendation in the Schools Laureate Prize and received personalised certificates.

Speak another language at home? Translation entries can be a joint effort with a parent or relative. Please contact Mrs Reid for information on how to enter next year's competition.

Mrs M Reid, Head of Modern Languages



ENGLISH

The Joy Luck Club

Bosco's Illuminating Lecture Aids Peers' Studies.

Ms Brown and Miss Moore's classes recently began their study of *The Joy Luck Club* for their English Literature GCSE. A 1989 novel by Amy Tan, it focuses on four Chinese immigrant families in San Francisco who start a club known as The Joy Luck Club, playing the Chinese game of mahjong for money while feasting on a variety of foods.

To complement our study of the novel and its context, Bosco C (U5) volunteered to share his exceptional knowledge of Chinese history through a scholarly lecture in the Maher Library. Bosco answered an array of questions with skill and flair, before the students consolidated their notes on the context of the novel in independent study.

Praise for Bosco!

We look forward to more English Literature lectures in the near future.

Ms K Brown, Teacher of English



ARTS

L4 Photography Taster Day

During a fun-filled Taster Day, our students unleashed their creativity, experimenting with light and the challenge to draw an angel through light painting. They became top models for the day, adding a touch of glamour to their artistic exploration. The day showcased the facilities of our Photography department, leaving everyone eager for more. Starting from September, U4 students can dive into Photography early, gaining skills and knowledge for their GCSE studies. Join us in September for a creative journey where the joy of photography comes to life!

Miss D Bennett, Art & Photography Teacher



MUSIC

A Symphony of Delight

Bede's Music Enthusiasts thrilled by Hallé Orchestra at Bridgewater Hall

Recently, I had the pleasure of taking fifty musicians and teachers to Manchester's Bridgewater Hall for a performance by the prestigious Halle Orchestra. The concert featured spellbinding pieces by Emmanuel Chabrier, Camille Saint-Saëns, and Sergei Rachmaninov.

The Halle Orchestra, renowned since 1858, showcased its musical prowess, delivering a dynamic performance that left our students in awe. Emmanuel Chabrier's lively compositions set the stage, leading seamlessly into the elegant and complex works of Camille Saint-Saëns.

Zain, one of our students, described the concert as "a magical journey through the heart of music." He marvelled at the orchestra's ability to shift effortlessly between "really loud and powerful moments to sensitive and quiet." Zain's sentiment captures the essence of the afternoon perfectly.

The Bridgewater Hall provided an exquisite backdrop, enhancing the overall experience. As Director of Music, it was heartening to witness our students immersed in the world of classical music. Such cultural outings contribute significantly to their artistic education, fostering a deeper appreciation for the arts. Here's to more harmonious journeys at St Bede's College!

Mr A Davies, Director of Music



Carol Concert at The Hidden Gem

Senior Choir were thrilled to be invited to perform a carol concert after the lunchtime mass at the Hidden Gem on Monday. The choir sang some classic carols like Once in Royal David's City, Hark the Herald and O Come All Ye Faithful, along with In Dulci Jubilo, an impressive four part harmony a cappella style. Solomon gave a beautiful rendition of O Holy Night on acoustic guitar which gave a moment to pause and reflect on the season of advent and the coming of Our Lord at Christmas. Fr Anthony welcomed us and commented that he wished there had been such an impressive choir in his time at the College.

Mr A Stillburn, Teacher of Drama & Music



[Click here to check out our video](#)

Carols by Candlelight

The College's Carols by Candlelight was a wonderful way to finish the term and continue the Christmas season. Stanislav opened proceedings with a pitch perfect solo of the first verse of Once in Royal David's City. Interspersed with Gospel readings, the congregation were treated to our talented soloists Amara and Solomon singing and playing Ave Maria and O Holy Night respectively. The Upper Third choir sang sweetly about the Colours of Christmas and were joined by the Senior choir for Baby in A Manger. Impressive readings in a multitude of languages showed how diverse our community is. The congregation joined in the festive fun singing carols such as Ding Dong Merrily on High and O Come All Ye Faithful. Mrs Kemp set the pupils the task of remembering our virtue of the month Generosity, especially over the Christmas period, and that the secret of being generous is to be patient. She thanked the students and teachers for giving us the opportunity to have such a joyous celebration and wished everyone a happy and holy Christmas. The orchestra finished with a rousing rendition of Tchaikovsky's Trepak from the Nutcracker Suite.

Mr A Stillburn, Teacher of Drama & Music



International Theatre Company 'Gecko'

Gecko is an award-winning and internationally acclaimed physical theatre company, led by Artistic Director Amit Lahav. Their work is made by and for people from a multitude of cultures in an attempt to represent everyone, regardless of age, gender and background. They tell universal stories through movement and emotion, sound, lighting and set design, and they explore and reflect issues relevant to a modern diverse society. Gecko are working with our Upper Fifth, Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth students to assist them in devising theatre components of their Theatre and Drama courses.

Mr J Dickson, Director of Performing Arts

Aspiring Actors Vie for BBC Roles

Last week we held auditions for the new TV adaptation of *The Lord Of The Flies*. Nina Gold Casting (*The Crown*, *Paddington*, *Lord of the Rings* and many many more), are auditioning boys between the ages of 10-13 for four BBC roles. This was only the first round and our boys impressed with their smart appearance and professional attitude in preparing an audition. They all did a brilliant job and we were very proud of them for being part of the process. Our fingers are crossed for a successful outcome for them. What an experience!

Mr J Dickson, Director of Performing Arts

The Life Of Pi

Upper Fourth and Lower Fifth GCSE Drama students enjoyed a magical performance at The Lowry Theatre of 'The Life Of Pi'.

After a shipwreck in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, a sixteen-year-old boy named Pi survives on a lifeboat with four companions – a hyena, a zebra, an orangutan and a Royal Bengal tiger. A truly remarkable story of hope, faith, and perseverance unfolded, which really captivated the students' imaginations.

We are looking forward to exploring more theatre in 2024 as part of the Performing Arts theatre programme.

Mr J Dickson, Director of Performing Arts



Hollywood comes to St Bede's

The Lower Fifth Drama GCSE group had the honour of having a thirty minute zoom call with Hollywood actor Andy Serkis. Famous for immortalising the role of Gollum in Lord of The Rings, his other movies include Black Panther, Star Wars, and Planet of the Apes.

Our students were able to ask in depth questions about the industry and Andy's journey through it. How does he tackle character development? What was it like to work with Chadwick Boseman? How does he find the voice and physicality of characters?

Andy was so gracious and kind for offering up his time and we are extremely grateful and inspired by our time with him. We extend a huge thank you to Andy and the Ashbourne family for this truly remarkable and one of a kind opportunity.

Mr J Dickson, Director of Performing Arts



SPORTS

BE BEDIAN



Hamilton's Stellar Premiere

Micah Hamilton, the talented young winger from Manchester City, made a dazzling debut by scoring a crucial goal that played a key role in the victory against Red Star Belgrade. This not only secured a spot in the Champions League round of 16 but also added to his impressive track record.

At just 20 years old, Hamilton, a homegrown talent with ties to Manchester City since age nine, celebrated the triumph alongside another Bedian, Rico Lewis. The photo captures the emotional connection between these players, both educated at St. Bede's.

Mr C Woan, Assistant Head (MCFC)



SIXTH FORM

Morocco Charity Work

One of our Sixth Form students travelled to Morocco in October to assist family friends suffering in the aftermath of the earthquake that hit the country. Here is his account of his experience:

On the 8th of September 2023, Morocco was hit by an earthquake of a magnitude 6.8, 11.5 miles deep, with the epicentre 44 miles southwest of Marrakesh. This devastated many families and homes, killing 3000 and leaving thousands injured whilst affecting 6,600,000 and isolating some regions up in the Atlas mountains. I went to Morocco a month later to help out in a small village where I have some family and friends. They were left with the long term effects of the earthquake, including demolished homes and destroyed farmland. As the inhabitants of the village produce their own food through farming crops and animals, this hit them really hard. Another important thing that was damaged was schools, so as part of my work, I got over 30 sets of school supplies and handed them out to the children. We bought pencil cases, pens, rubbers, pencils, rulers, lined books, gridded paper books, and plain books, which the children were so happy to receive. All in all I really enjoyed being there and helping out. It was an eye opener to see what had actually happened and the effects after the earthquake, and good to be able to help those in need.

Dr A McMonagle, Head of Sixth Form



Machinal

When diving into the world of directing with 'Machinal', nothing could have prepared me for the ups and downs of the process.

After being an actor in every production available to me at St Bede's for 11 years, I thought the process would be relatively similar but it was not. . . in the best way possible. It has been the most rewarding experience to be able to direct the most experienced actors available in the college and I have learned so much, not only as a director, but as a performer as well.

This show is a product of the combined creativity of, not only myself, but my technical directors, Lewis Ashton and Mr Mason, and of the actors themselves who performed with a level of professionalism that I could not have imagined possible for a group of U5 to L6 students.

This experience has been immensely rewarding for me and I hope that next year another student can lead their own production and have an amazing experience like I did.

Kathryn K.

"It has been the most rewarding experience to be able to direct the most experienced actors available in the college"



SIXTH FORM



Nine Lessons and Carols

The Chapel was bathed in candlelight for the inaugural Sixth Form Nine Lessons and Carols. A new event this year, it treated the congregation to a mixture of readings from Genesis to John's Gospel and traditional carols, interspersed with reflections by Fr Alvaro. Highlights were the a cappella In Dulci Jubilo in four part harmony, Lyndon's solo of We Three Kings, Robyn and Lily's duet of While Shepherds Watched and Mr Stillburn's solo of In the Bleak Midwinter. All the readers delivered the lessons with panache and a sense of the occasion. Fr Alvaro's reflection focused on the saying 'there's more than meets the eye' which fitted perfectly when considering the nativity and Jesus' birth. The congregation was able to participate in some classic Christmas carols and commented on how beautiful the Chapel looked. It was a fitting way to start the festivities along with a mulled wine and mince pie.

Mr A Stillburn, Teacher of Drama & Music



[Click here to check out our video](#)



Oxbridge Life

Cambridge Mathematics alumnus, Tim Langley, recently generously gave his time to provide Lower Sixth students with a fascinating insight into Oxbridge. He shared his own experiences and outlined a typical day in the life of a Cambridge student.

The discussions about the unique cultures within colleges, and the methods for choosing the ideal one to apply to, particularly piqued the students' interest. To any other parents interested in sharing their perspectives on careers or academic journeys, your contributions would be greatly appreciated—please feel free to contact me or our Careers Coordinator, Simon Hepburn (shepburn@sbcm.co.uk).

By Dr Anne McMonagle, Head of Sixth Form



LIBRARY

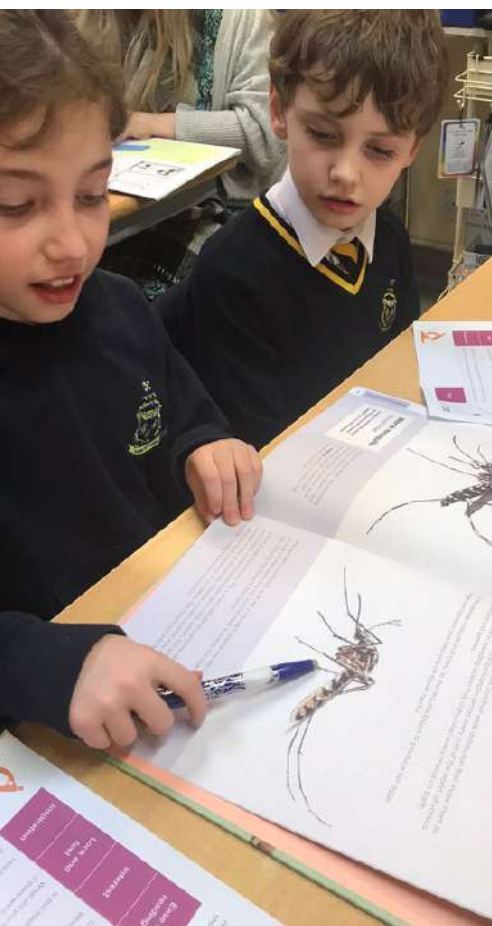


The Royal Society Young People's Book Prize

We are the official judges of a prestigious Science Book Award this year. The Royal Society Young People's Book Prize brings science and literacy together. It inspires young people from across the country to read about science and promotes the writing of exciting books for under-14s.

The prize is special because young people in schools choose the winner. Alongside college students, Prep 4 pupils and book club members have worked hard to compare and judge the shortlisted titles. The enthusiastic readers have completed detailed written responses to feed back their thoughtful responses to the titles. We can't wait to hear what others thought of the books when the winners are announced!

Mrs, Leyden Prep Librarian



Christmas Book

It has been a very busy start to December in the Prep Library. We have been awarding certificates to pupils for their reading and library usage. Meanwhile, Prep 5's Alexis has been sharing her love of books by creating a Christmas Story Star competition which involves pupils choosing a mystery gift-wrapped Christmas book to borrow for the holidays and return in January with their responses to the story on a star. We can't wait to see the Story Stars in January! Thanks so much to Alexis for epitomising her Reading Ambassador role by sharing her passion for reading!

Mrs, Leyden Prep Librarian



St. Bede's Reading Group

St. Bede's Reading Group, for U3rd and L4th students, meets on Thursday break times to talk about their current reading book. In addition, St. Bede's College has been honoured to be selected as an official judging panel for the young people's book prize 2023.

Each judge in the reading group takes turns to read the six beautiful shortlisted books and reviews each one against the criteria given. The reading group's chair, Joan (L4) ensures everyone has their say, keeps up the momentum during the meeting, and summarises what everyone says. The books are for a range of age groups, which the panel have to bear in mind when judging. In February, in the format of a video which the judges will make, the panel will return their decision as to which shortlisted book should win. Watch this space to find out which book our panel thinks should be the 2023 winner!

For more information, check out their website: [Young People's Book Prize - Children's Science Books](#) | [Royal Society](#)

Miss M Pocas, College Librarian

Library Assistants' Christmas Party

Every Wednesday breaktime, the Maher Library is exclusively the Library's Assistants as we meet over a drink & biscuit, find out what is going on, and do jobs together for the Library. These students also come at least one break or lunchtime to mainly help their peers issue or return books, put books back on the shelves prepare, new books and do any other necessary jobs in the Library. Their help is crucial for the smooth running of the College Library! The most recent main task was to set up the Book Advent Calendar by choosing a recommended book, wrapping it up, decorating the number that went on the book present and the stand of the calendar.

To thank the Library Assistants for their time and effort this term, we had a Christmas party with Christmas crackers, some snacks and a game of Bingo! We all had a great time especially as this was a big surprise, and we certainly started to feel Christmassy after it!

Library Assistants in U3rd are: **Darren O, Stanislav K, Kayden N, Leonardo P,** and in L4: **Madeline H, Joan S-B, Alannah-Skye W, Suki C, Jacob L, Nevaeh M-Y, Sky Y, Zac C, Iria C, Sophia N.**

Miss M Pocas, College Librarian



CHAPLAINCY



'Walk to Bethlehem'

The prep children undertook a 'Walk to Bethlehem' travelling around the school and meeting characters from the Nativity story along the way. There were six prayer stations where the children met the characters and carried out a reflective activity and prayer at each one.

Mrs H Whipp & Mrs C Hibbert



#BeeThere for Caritas

We are supporting the work of Caritas Salford who provide a practical response to those in crisis, suffering hardship or at risk. #BeeThere works alongside people to rebuild their lives for the long-term, enabling people to live in a safe, healthy and secure environment. The pupil chaplains led an assembly to launch our Advent Appeal #BeeThere for @Caritassalford

Prep Parents please see your emails for further details.

Mrs C Hibbert

Click the link below to donate!

https://www.justgiving.com/page/st-bedes-college-1701111919479?utm_term=2jKQmmzZW





ST. BEDE'S
COLLEGE

Open Day

Tuesday 16th January
9:15 am - 10:45 am

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Friday, 5 January 2024
INSET

Monday, 8 January 2024
Easter Term Starts
9:00am
Start of Term Mass

Wednesday, 8 November
7:00pm
Maths Foundation Examination

Saturday, 13 January 2024
9:00am
Prep 2 Staircase House - Great Fire of London

Tuesday, 16 January 2024
9:15am
Maths Foundation Examination

Thursday, 18 January 2024
16:30pm
U5&U6 Parents' Revision Evening

Monday, 22 January 2024
2:00pm
Performing Arts and Music Scholarship

Tuesday, 23 January 2024
9:00am
Prep 5 Tatton Park

Wednesday, 24 January 2024
7:00pm
Legally Blonde

FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Thursday, 25 January 2024

7:00pm

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Friday, 26 January 2024

Holocaust Memorial Day

7:00pm

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Saturday, 27 January 2024

6:30pm

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ST. BEDE'S COLLEGE




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