



# Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School



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## Message from our Headteacher

*"You are my shelter and my shield; I put my hope in your word."*

Psalm 119:114

What an incredibly challenging year this has been for our whole school community. After the optimism of our return in September, it quickly became apparent that national COVID cases would continue to have a significant impact on education for the rest of the year. Sadly, this has been borne out with a further lockdown and ongoing restrictions. What has remained consistent throughout has been the incredible resilience and good nature of our young people. Through incredible adversity, they have proven to be a credit to your love and guidance at home. We have all learned to take on different responsibilities this year. None more so than our children who have been buffeted wildly between being a student, ICT technician, nurse, test subject and acrobat. I am incredibly proud of all of them.

As I am writing this, updated guidance has been published that tells us September will start to look and feel a lot more like 'normal'. I hope and pray that this is the case. However, no matter what the future may bring it is of great comfort to know that our one consistent throughout this tumultuous eighteen months has been our faith in the love and word of Christ. Our young people are beacons of His hope and love every day.

I wish you a happy and peaceful Summer. My wish for all of our families is that you are able to get some rest and respite before returning to us safe and well in September.

God bless

**Chris Billings**



**We thank you Lord, for this term. For our challenges, our successes, and the lessons we have learnt.**

**Be with us as we spend our time with family and friends. Help us to be a practical Christian these holidays, to appreciate what others do for us and to give time and effort to help others.**

**We make this prayer through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen**

**Bishop Ullathorne, pray for us.**

# Good news

## Stamp design

In May, students entered the Royal Mail 'Heroes' Stamp Design Competition, where they were challenged to design a stamp to honour our heroes from the coronavirus pandemic. After considering who we consider to be our heroes, students worked out how to make their designs work in miniature as the final stamps produced will be 3.7cm wide x 3.5cm high.

Eight winning designs will be selected from across the UK and will be approved by Her Majesty the Queen. Good luck to all of our students!



## Coombe Abbey

Year 13 students were able to finally carry out some fieldwork to nicely bring an end to their A Level Biology course.

They spent a pleasant day at Coome Abbey sampling the different ecosystems and managed to spot several Muntjac deer, herons and a fancy bug hotel where they stopped for a photo opportunity.

Best wishes to all of them as they move on to university next year.



## Mathematics challenge

**Hegarty champions** for most learning hours during May and June were:

- Year 7 - Dawid Zielinski
- Year 8 - Roderick Kabuye
- Year 9 - Meda Kapinga
- Year 10 - Eleanor Gordon

## PALs together

We were pleased to resume our PALs extra-curricular club this half term. Students from Year 7 enjoyed making chocolate rice crispy cakes to take home to share with their families.



## Rounders

Year 8 girls took part in a rounders tournament at Bablake school last month. They won one game against President Kennedy and lost to Finham Park and Bablake schools.

An excellent batting display from Caitlin Ward gained her batter of the match in two games! Some good bowling from Leane Habte, Emilia Latkowska and Caitlin Ward and fielder of the tournament went to Mya Tucker at second base. She was awarded fielder of the match in all three games!

Well done to all of the girls involved.

# Good news

## Eco poetry

Some of our amazing Year 11 students were inspired by one of Coventry's urban parks to write and record beautiful poetry last month. Part of BBC Contains Strong Language and Coventry UK City of Culture 2021 plans, they were chosen to take part in a collaborative ecologically-focused writing experience at Lake View Park. Many thanks to our Lay Chaplain, Lauren Stundon, Charlotte Ridpath from the Warwickshire Wildlife Trust (WWT), local poet, Andrea Mbarushimana, and Mollie Davidson from BBC CWR. Images and recordings of the event are currently being edited. Watch this space for more information. @RiverSherbourneValleyLL

## Teaching Staff Leavers

This year we say goodbye to some much-loved teaching staff as they begin new journeys.

**Mrs Bannigan** joined the school in 1977 and has taken on an incredible array of roles in her time at the school. She will retire this year from her post as Sixth Form Liaison officer. Needless to say, the school will feel a very different place without her humour and kindness. **Mrs Brazil** will be her replacement from September.

**Mr Davis** is leaving the Mathematics department to take up a post at our sister school, Cardinal Newman.

**Ms Dhillon** will be leaving our cover team to lend her considerable talents to a local hospital school. **Miss Moloney** will be joining as her replacement.

**Mrs Dines**, Head of Science, retires after 15 years leading the Science department. **Mr Ballard** will be taking over her reins.

**Ms Stonehouse**, Deputy Headteacher, retires this year. Ms Stonehouse joined us 13 years ago and has been an invaluable member of our school community.

We are sad to say goodbye to our Learning Mentors **Mr Salter** and **Miss Whibley**.

We also have some new teachers joining our school family in September: **Mr Green** will join the Mathematics department; **Mrs Coughlan** will join us as maternity cover for Mrs McBride in English. **Mrs Parker** is our new HTLA and **Miss Howe** is our new PSM.

## Support Staff Leavers

We also have support staff retiring at the end of the year. **Mr Garratt**, our reprographics engineer, is making plans for more travelling and **Mr Warner** will be stepping into his shoes. **Mrs Spencer** from our admin team will be spending more time with family and friends and **Ms Morran** from our data team will be exploring new adventures.

## Royal singer

One of our Year 9 students, who is part of the Coventry Cathedral Choristers, performed for HRH



Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall when they visited Coventry as part of the City of Culture celebrations and to commemorate the consecration of the new cathedral after the destruction of the old cathedral in 1940.

## We've got talent

Luke Smith in Year 10 and Maame McSam in Year 8 recorded and uploaded their CSW Got Talent competition entries in June. The theme this year was Community, Friendship, Togetherness and Reconnecting. Although Luke and Maame were not in the winning selection this time, the judging panel found choosing winners a very close call. More information can be found here: <https://youtu.be/9jZFN8wLqQ>

# Good news

## Coventry Schools Athletics Championships

A number of Year 7 and 8 students qualified for the Coventry Schools Athletics Championships. All performed exceptionally well and we were lucky enough to have some first placed champions.

Year 7 girls		
Student	Event	Place
Ophelia Kwofie	100m	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Marie Edie	100m	4 <sup>th</sup>
Niamh Duggan	150m	1 <sup>st</sup>
Chelsea Iyoha	600m	7 <sup>th</sup>
Erin Naylor	1000m	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Bridget Ward	1000m	8 <sup>th</sup>
Ophelia Kwofie	Shot put	6 <sup>th</sup>
	Relay	4 <sup>th</sup>
Year 8 girls		
Bracha Fakehinde	100m	6 <sup>th</sup>
Mollie Griffin	200m	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Ella Wilkinson	800m	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Evannie Fleming	800m	5 <sup>th</sup>
Bracha Fakehinde	Discus	6 <sup>th</sup>
Ella Wilkinson	Javelin	4 <sup>th</sup>
Maisie Sharman	Javelin	6 <sup>th</sup>
	Relay	5 <sup>th</sup>
Year 8 Boys		
Peter Udeh	75m Hurdles	1 <sup>st</sup>
Clifford Adotey	75m Hurdles	6 <sup>th</sup>
Siem Tesfagabr	100m	1 <sup>st</sup>
Hilary Djeukam	100m	4 <sup>th</sup>
Pierce Gallen	200m	1 <sup>st</sup>
Liam Shaughnessy	200m	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Siem Tesfagabr	800m	1 <sup>st</sup>
Joe Abercrombie	800m	6 <sup>th</sup>
Lorcan Walsh	1500m	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Joe Abercrombie	Long Jump	5 <sup>th</sup>
Peter Udeh	Shot	3 <sup>rd</sup>
	Relay	2 <sup>nd</sup>



Year 7 Athletes



Year 8 Athletes



Peter Udeh



Siem Tesfagabr



Pierce Gallen and Liam Shaughnessy

# Year 7 Update

## Ms Maxwell, Head of Year 7

As the end of this year is fast approaching, it is an opportune moment to pause and look back over the Year 7 students' first year at secondary school. We are very proud of them. Our students have settled in incredibly well and have proved themselves to be a most resilient group of young people. Not only did they settle in quickly to the new demands and routines at secondary school back in the Autumn term, but they coped with all of the unpredictable COVID-enforced changes. Since returning from the Spring term lockdown it has been so heartening to see our students enjoying more of a normal school experience this term with a wide range of clubs being available for them to enjoy in break times and after school. These have brought a much needed boost to everyone. In addition, the recently extended play area has provided a wonderful place for students to picnic, chat, play games or run around in, especially in the long awaited Summer sunshine!

Students going for the Character Passport Gold Award have been able to choose their own projects this term and work collaboratively with others. The Award asked students to do something to benefit our school community or undertake an environmental research project. They have really thrown themselves into this and have come up with a wide variety of ideas. Congratulations to all of the students who look set to gain their Gold Award very shortly!

I end by congratulating all Year 7 students on completing their first year with us. My thanks go to our wonderful tutor team for supporting the students so well throughout this important first year of their secondary school journey. I know the students will continue to flourish in Year 8 with Mrs Jeremiah as their Head of Year. I wish all our Year 7 students, their families and staff a lovely Summer break.



## Year 7 key dates

July 2021

Progress reports posted home

<b>Alfie Baker</b>	<b>Mateusz Kaplon</b>
<b>Simeon Bedjabeng</b>	<b>Linsey Kokobe</b>
<b>Exoucia Bioko</b>	<b>Jubilee Kuku-Ogunfeibo</b>
<b>Antonio Boddison</b>	<b>Jeslyn Kumar</b>
<b>Niamh Brennan</b>	<b>Carmel Lihundi</b>
<b>Jack Brown</b>	<b>Jack Littlewood</b>
<b>Sophia Campanella</b>	<b>Tony Luong</b>
<b>Isabella Carey</b>	<b>Ruby-Violet Morrison</b>
<b>Emily Carter</b>	<b>Anne Muya</b>
<b>Niamh Cassidy</b>	<b>Erin Naylor</b>
<b>Rebecca Chatland</b>	<b>Caitlin Noonan</b>
<b>Evie Davies</b>	<b>Kosisochukwu Onubogu</b>
<b>Joseph Dore</b>	<b>Vaiga Peter</b>
<b>Tyrrell Fernandez</b>	<b>Grace Porter</b>
<b>Edie Graham</b>	<b>Assumpta Rabvukwa</b>
<b>Roisin Gregory</b>	<b>Corran Rushfirth</b>
<b>Cedric Jerald</b>	<b>Anne-Marie Saiju</b>
<b>Ashlyn Johnston</b>	<b>Seanna Saju</b>
<b>Dimitra Fotou</b>	<b>Jessica Slater</b>
<b>Oliver Grayson</b>	<b>Olajumoke Taiwo</b>
<b>Logan Beckett</b>	<b>Bridget Ward</b>
<b>James Brown</b>	<b>Josie Ward</b>
<b>William Groves</b>	<b>Elana Williams</b>
<b>Terry Kasongo</b>	<b>Dawid Zielinski</b>

# Year 8 and 9 Update

## Mrs Jeremiah, Head of Year 8 and 9

Well done to **Year 8** on a successful Summer term.

Thirty one students have shown hard work and commitment to achieve the Character Passport Gold Award. They carried out many wonderful activities from cake sales, to sports tournaments. Students have presented their project in a celebration event this week which was recorded for parents to see. My thanks go to Mrs Brown for organising this and to our Year 8 Form Tutors for supporting the students to meet the criteria.

Moving into Year 9 in September, students should remember our high standards regarding uniform. The new school skirt will be introduced and if students choose to wear trousers, they must be tailored and full length.

I hope everyone has a lovely Summer break. I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September, ready to set an example to younger students in Key Stage 3.

I want to take this opportunity to wish our **Year 9** students a happy and safe Summer holiday. When they return they will be in Year 10 with a new Pastoral Support Manager, Mrs Marston, and a new Head of Year, Ms Durkan. They are very fortunate to have these two members of staff looking after them for the next two years.

We are aware that for some of our students, returning to school has been difficult and we are very proud that so many of them have overcome the obstacles that have been in their way. Those who have found this more difficult can take time over the Summer to re set.

Year 9 students have received their GCSE options now and overall this went very smoothly which again is a credit to them all. They will start these in September along with all of their GCSE courses. I wish them all the very best of luck in the next two years of their learning journey.

Finally, I would like to thank our parents for their continued support.

Have a pleasant, peaceful and relaxing Summer break. May the sun shine on us all!  
God Bless.



## Year 8 key dates

July 2021

Progress reports posted home

## Year 9 key dates

July 2021

Progress reports posted home

<b>Joseph Abercrombie</b>	<b>Iyla Kelsey</b>
<b>Avelino Binoy</b>	<b>Laura McCoy</b>
<b>Kate Bradford</b>	<b>Eve McDonald</b>
<b>Gracie Mae Bunn</b>	<b>Noah McFall</b>
<b>Holly Carter</b>	<b>Maame McSam</b>
<b>Amber Cooper</b>	<b>Shanice Misiti</b>
<b>Hillary Damesi</b>	<b>Jacob Moreton</b>
<b>Kelsey Devlin</b>	<b>Ava Mullaly</b>
<b>Nkemjika Egbuchulem</b>	<b>Emily Murphy</b>
<b>Evannie Flemming</b>	<b>Alisha Naylor</b>
<b>Keryane Fojana</b>	<b>Marie Bernadett Njeiman</b>
<b>Tianna Gahungu</b>	<b>Poppie Payton</b>
<b>Freddie Hill</b>	<b>Tess Shaughnessy</b>
<b>Nathan Hinton</b>	<b>Tianna Van Gaby</b>
<b>Paul Hinton</b>	<b>James Ward</b>
<b>Joseph Honey</b>	<b>Harry Wilson</b>
<b>Favour Jibunoh</b>	<b>Agata Zygowska</b>
<b>Zofia Kelser</b>	

## Year 10 key dates

July 2021

Progress reports posted home

## Year 11 key dates

12 August 2021

GCSE results collection in A Block gym and Sixth Form enrolment in A Block Hall

*Time to set off...*

*And here we are, 2021, 27th of May.  
Finished our exams on our very last day.*

*Waiting restlessly on our familiar red chairs,  
Before erupting wildly down the stairs.*

*Annoying teachers for the very last time,  
Right to the bells begin to chime,  
Announcing that it's time to go....  
Yes, dear teachers...You can finally have a blow...*

*Taking goofy pictures. Holding on tight,  
You know, it was perhaps, worth the fight.  
Because here we are, 5 years later,  
Stronger from all the challenges,  
possibly greater.*

*Even though situations made it tough...  
And the roads we walked on became a bit rough,  
We all found a way to come together,  
Still attending school in this ambiguous British weather.*

*Memories flowing, both sweet and sad.  
Making you either happy or silently mad.  
But let's not forget the times of hysteric laughter.  
And of course, the questionable but amusing banter.*

*Time to set off. Time to have fun...  
Time to travel the world and get things done.  
It's your chance. Take it or lose it...  
I wish for the best and dare you not to quit.*

# Year 10 and 11 Update

## Miss Durkan, Head of Year 10 and 11

After a tumultuous year, **Year 10** students have proven themselves to be a brilliant cohort. They have approached their learning with effort and have demonstrated independence, resilience and strength. This has been particularly evident in the way they approached their end of year examinations; they have been a credit as parents/carers and to the school. What we have seen in recent weeks really does bode well for next year.

Year 10 had an important assembly with Mrs Bellingham, our Careers Adviser. Mrs Bellingham gave the year group an overview of Post-16 options which has given our students a lot to think about. Over the coming year, this will be supported with individual appointments to ensure that all of our students are fully informed about their future options and supported in their choices and applications.

It was brilliant to engage with parents and students in our Year 10 Teams Parents' Evening and I thank all students and parents for committing their time to attending their meeting slots. Virtual meetings have been a God-send; however, it is my hope that come September, we will be able to invite students and parents into an after school meeting to outline the very important year that lies ahead.

We celebrated our **Year 11** students' last day in school with shirt signing at breaktime accompanied with pizza, burgers, and drinks, followed by a two-hour long celebration assembly. It was wonderful to see them relax into their celebrations; a huge thank you to all the students for their contributions in making the assembly a success; from voting for the awards, to the singing and hosting - they ensured that they had a lovely goodbye. Unfortunately, like last year, we were unable to celebrate the end of Year 11 with our usual Leavers' Ball due to COVID restrictions. However, their leavers assembly will hopefully stay in their memories for a very long time to come.

An important date for Year 11 this Summer is Thursday 12 August, this will be the date for them to collect their GCSE grades; we look forward to seeing them and we hope that they will be able to pursue their future with the grades they receive.

One of our talented Year 11's, Anne Adegbenle wrote the poem printed on this page for the end of their year.

# Sixth Form Update

## Mrs Casey, Head of Sixth Form

Our Year 12 students sat their end of year examinations which was an opportunity to demonstrate their commitment and progress within their A Level studies.

During this half term, our focus has been on Higher Education including students registering themselves on the UCAS website. All students attended a UCAS presentation with particular attention to the writing of personal statements. The process highlighted its relevance for apprenticeship applications and future work-related learning.

A reminder that students may attend university Open Days; many of which are still virtual. Students are able to attend two face-to-face open days during school time if they are available.

During the week commencing Monday 5 July, Mrs Bellingham, our Careers Adviser, organised for each student to access her workshops on CV writing.

As always, the A Level VESPA Mindset programme is intrinsic in motivating students to achieve at the highest level.

Students should visit the Higher Education area of our Sixth Form webpage to research their options.

## Year 12 key dates

July 2021

Progress reports posted home

## Year 13 key dates

10 August 2021

A Level results collection at 9am in A Block Hall



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# Term dates 2021-2022

## Autumn

**Friday 3 September 2021: Year 7 and 12 return**

**Monday 6 September 2021: Year 8 and 9 return**

**Tuesday 7 September 2021: Year 10, 11 and 13 return**

to Friday 22 October 2021

## Half Term

Tuesday 2 November to Friday 17 December 2021

## Spring

Tuesday 4 January to Friday 18 February 2022

## Half Term

Monday 28 February to Friday 8 April 2022

## Summer

Monday 25 April to Friday 27 May 2022

## Half Term

Monday 6 June to Thursday 21 July 2022

## Entrance and Exit

Students must now enter our school site via Gate 2 (the gate by the Drama Studio) and leave school via Gate 1 (the Gatehouse). No student should enter school via Gate 1 and no student should leave school via Gate 2. Staff will be on duty to help students to remember this new system. These changes were made to support the safety of our students.

## Uniform

### Blazer and jumper

A plain black blazer with Bishop Ullathorne badge and a jumper with red V neck.

### Shirt

White, worn with the school clip-on tie.

### Trousers

Tailored black, not skinny or tight fitting.

### Skirt

Tartan knee length.

### Shoes

Smart, sensible and conventional, plain black outdoor shoes. **NO TRAINERS.**

## Teacher Training Days 2021/2022

Thursday 2 September 2021

Friday 1 October 2021

Monday 1 November 2021

Monday 21 March 2022

Friday 24 June 2022

Friday 22 July 2022 - in lieu Bank Holiday

## Whole school event

**Wednesday 21 July 2021**

Last day of term, 12.30pm finish

## Year 6 information

### Summer School

26 to 30 July 2021

23 to 27 August 2021

## New school skirt

From September 2021, we are introducing a new school skirt. The skirt was chosen by staff and students in a poll and looks extremely smart.

All students in Year 7 to 10 who wish to wear a skirt to school must wear the new skirt from September 2021.

Year 11 students are able to keep wearing the current black pleated skirt or wear our new style skirt.

