

July 2019

Summer Newsletter



# Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School



Holy Cross Catholic Multi Academy Company



## Headteacher's message

*I can do all things through him who strengthens me. **Philippians 4:13***

**T**his year, we have been shaping our Ullathorne Way values and focusing on a set of virtues which we feel define us as a community. Our virtue has been Gratitude this half term. I feel extremely lucky as there is so much for me to be grateful for as we near the end of this busy academic year. This term's newsletter is the largest to date: a special bumper Summer issue! This reflects the sheer volume of experiences and opportunities open to our children and community.

Pictured above are Connor and Georgia, our new Head Boy and Head Girl. They have the pleasure of working alongside our school prefects, student leadership council and peer mentors to enrich and support our children's school lives over the coming year. If you see them at a school event next term please do say hello.

It has been an incredibly busy year with visits from Ofsted, trips to Lourdes and the formation of the Holy Cross Catholic Academy. As always, we have gained huge strength and encouragement from our Catholic faith, our wonderful children and the support from parents and carers. May I take this opportunity to wish you a blessed and safe Summer holiday. We look forward to seeing everyone back in September.

*Chris Billings*

Year 7 students start school on Tuesday 3 September 2019 at 8.40am  
All other students return to school on Wednesday 4 September 2019 at 8.40am



## Magic moments

**A** Northumberland beachscape, which won Bishop Ullathorne's Earth Photo Competition, has now been entered in a national photography competition run by the Royal Geographical Society.



Taken by **Benjamin Cooper** in Year 9, the image captures the essence of the national competition: to reveal the story behind the pictures and encourage conversations about their subjects.

Benjamin takes all of his photographs on his phone using an App which allows him to use a shutter for exposure and also to edit the photographs. Even if he wins the £1000 national prize, he will continue to use this method to capture images. Instead, he is gradually saving money to buy parts to build his own computer which he says will be incredibly satisfying and useful. In the long term, however, he would like to be a professional videographer or photographer and continue to encourage people to talk about his work.

He said: "I love photography as it tells a story and captures a moment in time. The rustic wood was really appealing in this scene and I was able to edit the clouds to make them seem smoother. I am always taking photographs wherever I go. I will be in Cornwall in the Summer so will do some detailed research before I get there."

**Laurel McIntosh**, Teacher of Geography, said: "Everyone who entered made a fantastic effort and should be praised for taking part. I am already looking forward to running this competition again next year."

Other images by: **Leah Evans** (Year 11), **Aruna Redgrave** (Year 9), and **Jacson Zafiri** (Year 10).





## Exhibitionists on show

A combination of creative work was displayed in this term's Art Exhibition in the Old Chapel.

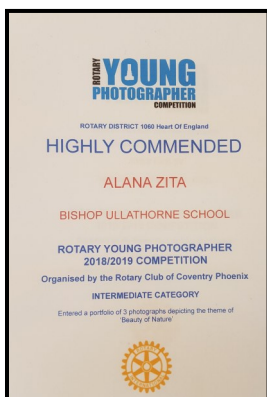
GCSE Art, GCSE Art Textiles, A Level and AS Photography and A Level Fine Art work was shown.



## Beauty of nature

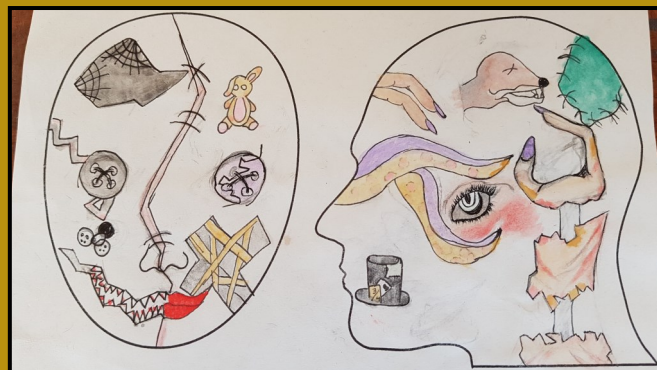
Four of our A Level students participated in the prestigious Young Photography Competition run by the Rotary Club of Coventry Phoenix. Work from students studying A Level Photography in Year 12 contributed to the Beauty of Nature theme. **Harrison Ray, Ryan Ridley, Amy Senechal and Alana Zita** all received certificates.

**Alana Zita** was Highly Commended and her work was displayed at Earlsdon Library.



## Art therapy

Year 7 and 8 students have benefitted from our Art Therapy Club. It was set up to support our young and aspiring artists to use art strategies to alleviate stress and anxiety. Students meet weekly on Mondays during second break and are enjoying the peaceful time to reflect.



## Drawing the short straw

Famous architectural monuments were spectacularly created out of straw and cardboard during a recent STEM Challenge. The Year 7 students involved were given only two hours to build a free-standing structure to a minimum height of 50 cms. The Eiffel Tower was constructed by the winning team with the Big Ben Tower a runner-up. Unfortunately, the team building a model of the Pyramids did not finish in time.



### Winning team (Eiffel Tower)

Zuzanna Rataj  
Oliwia Tancula

### Runner-up team (Big Ben Tower)

Lewis Drake  
Julia Jakabovicova  
Sevvy Korczynski

### Final team (Pyramids)

Megan Beech  
Sophia Dore  
Blessing Mkhwananzi  
Abby Middleton  
Alexander Quayle  
Filip Jurczak





## In the Hoods

Our school production about the division caused by gangs ironically brought members of our whole community even closer together.

The 20-strong cast and support team behind *Hoods* worked tirelessly to bring the story to life. Based on the plot of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, the key themes of violence and segregation were brought up-to-date in a modern setting. Some of our actors, despite becoming firm friends, were at war on the stage.

**Kiera Burke**, Year 9, played Rosie the character modelled on Juliet. She said: "We were a small cast from all year groups and we became very close. Drama is an excellent way to build confidence but also to make everyone feel that they belong. Our teachers were determined for us to achieve our best and treated us like professional actors."



**Harry Davies**, Year 9, played Blaze, a gang leader. He said: "He is so different to me. It was great fun to be someone else entirely. He is more aggressive, more physically intimidating and much more mean than me. I liked changing that about myself. Even my mum was surprised when she saw me!"



**Alvin Kityo**, Year 9, played Josh, the Romeo-like character. He said: "The plot is entirely relevant for today's audience. We hear stories all of the time about knife crime. It is important to think about the consequences. On stage, though, I fell in love with a member of an opposing gang. Anything can happen."



Behind the scenes, some of our Year 11 students were able to provide support in between studying: **Thomas Burke, Conor McPherson, Gabriel Okafor** and **Finlay Swift-Dutton**. Our teachers, set designer, musicians and technical support team also ensured that this was a memorable team effort.



## Sister Act

Four of our students have been cast in the Summer production of *Sister Act* at the Albany Theatre. **Connie Graham** (Year 7) and **Millie Hackett** (Year 10) will be playing nuns. **Roisin Gaffney** (Year 10) will be a principal nun and **Niamh Hackett** (Year 9) a principal dancer.

Presented by Wing-It Theatre, the show will run from Thursday 15 August until Saturday 17 August. *Sister Act* tells the hilarious story of Deloris Van Cartier, a disco diva whose life takes a surprising turn when she witnesses a murder. Under protective custody she is hidden in the one place she won't be found – a Convent!





## Poem for peace

To mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, one of our Year 8 students was invited to tell his story at a formal commemoration. At London's City Hall, in front of the Mayor of London and other guests, **Denzel Kira** shared a poem which he had written. As a child of a survivor, he spoke about the personal impact of such a tragedy. His poem was written for his Sogokuru, his Grandpa, who was brutally killed amongst millions of others. Denzel has kindly allowed us to print his poem.



Denzel's mum was only 12 and at boarding school in Uganda when she heard about the genocide. She is now a trustee of the The Ishami Foundation which uses the power of sport and storytelling to build equality, tolerance and lasting peace in Rwanda and the UK. It works with survivors, young people and vulnerable communities to foster respect, team spirit, critical thinking and resilience. Ishami is a Kinyarwanda word meaning branch, which symbolises resilience, recovery and connection.



The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, said: "The genocide in Rwanda was one of the most horrific periods in modern history. To prevent a repeat of the genocide it's vital that the world learns from survivors' stories and remembers its harrowing legacy."

**Denzel** said: "Over one million Tutsi people were killed in 100 days. It is important to learn from this and to think about the consequences. We should remember what happened and not sweep it under the carpet. Rwanda is a small and beautiful country. It has grown so well. I was there last Summer and I always feel welcome but I was never able to meet my grandad. He sacrificed himself to save others.

"I have always liked words and written poems and songs. When I put pen to paper, it just happens. Writing helps me to feel like I am heard and to remember how far we have come. I write to share love and to raise awareness."

## Poem for Sogokuru (Grandpa)

*My family has lost a funny, kind-hearted, caring man,  
We lost a dad, son, uncle, husband,  
I, my brother and cousins didn't even get to meet him,  
we lost our Sogokuru,  
I know if we had met we would have instantly become close but unfortunately we will never get that chance.*

*How I long to have had the chance, just to say,  
Sogokuru, Sogokuru, Sogokuru,  
But we were robbed of that just because he was a Tutsi,  
It's just not fair, it's just not right,  
In a blink of an eye you were taken from me, from us,  
from Rwanda forever.*

*The pain, sadness and upset is unbearable,  
I could never imagine a situation worse,  
Many hearts have been broken, people's lives turned upside down,  
A sense of loss and loneliness took over but then I remembered we have each other.*

*I stand with everyone here today,  
Sogokuru, as you watch over me I want you to know that I am not going to mourn your death but celebrate your life and a million others,  
The million that were brutally killed within 100 days,  
Your memories will be cherished by each and every one of us, forever.*

*The Rwanda you once knew during the genocide is now gone,  
Rwanda is now a great country, one you would love to live in, one I am proud of,  
Sogokuru, after everything I still look forward to going back because it is home, and it always will be,  
Just as you would have wished for, we are all united as one, as Rwandese!*

*We miss you,  
We love you,  
And we stand together saying,  
Never again, never again, never again.*



## Lourdes

Our Lay Chaplain, **Lauren Stundon**, Key Stage Leader, **Denise Durkan** and four sixth form students travelled to Lourdes during half term. An important part of the pilgrimage was visiting the Grotto and placing petitions. These were placed at the Grotto where Our Lady appeared to Bernadette.

**Savannah Goggins** said:

"Lourdes was an emotional experience physically and also spiritually. I felt that in a short time we made a huge impact. Something as simple as helping a pilgrim to cross a road could make their day. It made me feel a better person.

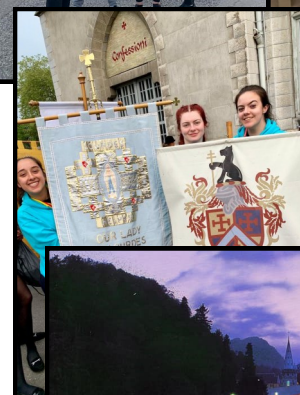
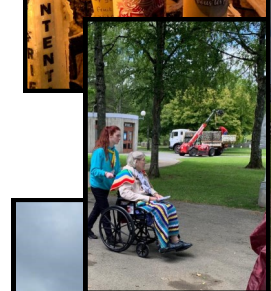


The two major highlights of the trip for me were: talking to pilgrims about their life and lighting our school candle. The feeling of being part of something so special is something which will never leave me."

**Ania Mokrani** said: "Lourdes is an experience which no-one can describe easily. Through many events, I was able to help many different people like wheelchair users and people with learning difficulties. This opened my eyes to how thankful we all should be. One moment I will never forget is the view of the torchlight procession, which reflected community spirit, peace and harmony. Lighting the candles at night was magical."



**Ciara Lee** said: "Our trip to Lourdes was an enriching experience. One of the memories which will always stay with me is taking part in a scavenger hunt. This enabled us to meet various people on the way and create the nativity with other pilgrims from our diocese. I would definitely go on another pilgrimage to Lourdes. It encourages you to be your true self."





## Columban missionaries

One of our teachers spent their Easter break in the Philippines representing the school as part of a response to mission group.

**Marina Smith**, Assistant Headteacher, said: "It was an incredible experience with the Columban Missionaries which will take me a long time to process. I spent a few nights immersed with a family in a shanty town type dwelling, went to amazing liturgies and met inspiring people every day."



## Call to mission

Two of our Year 9 students have been answering their call to mission with inspirational ecology work. **Vivienne Egbuchulem** and **Temi Lawal** spent a day at Birmingham City Hospital's greenhouse.

**Vivienne** said: "It was fascinating to think about the links between gardening and happiness. We learned that soil helps you to release a good feeling and that there are more organisms in a handful of soil than there are people in the whole world. Everything grown in our world is part of one big garden. We should choose to share our gifts equally."

**Temi** said: "Pope Francis has called us to look after the earth. We want to make a difference and prevent future generations from living in a damaged earth. It was an educational day and quite shocking to realise that we throw away so much which could be useful. It really opened our eyes. What we do can impact others. It is a domino effect."



## Climate Change

Some of our students attended a lobby in London this term to show how much they care about the environment. Our Year 10 Eco team, comprising **Vittoria Launchbury**, **Talitha Mitchell**, **Erin Rodgers**, and **Aoife Walsh**, was part of the group. They supported the *The Time is Now* lobby to make a clear point about climate change.

The team has been sharing their views during form time activities and collecting a petition of signatures in support of reducing the effects of climate change.

**Vittoria** said: "We believe that it is vital to protect the environment and leave a cleaner, more secure, world for the children of the future."



## Hair today

When her auntie was diagnosed with breast cancer, **Jennifer Webster** (Year 9) decided that she wanted to support cancer charities.

She researched the options and decided to gain sponsorship for a charity hair cut. With thick hair, in good condition, she discovered that her natural hair would also make a good wig. Over a two-year period, she grew her hair ready for the big chop. Through the JustGiving site and sponsorship, she managed to raise over £2000 for charity. In addition, her hair was sent to The Little Princess Trust, which makes wigs for children with cancer.

She said: "Since beginning to grow my hair, my auntie was given the all clear. However, I knew how it felt for our family to receive the diagnosis and wanted to make things better for others. I had great support and it was a small sacrifice to make."

Jennifer is no stranger to charity fundraising. At primary school, she raised over £1000 for Red Nose Day. She swam a mile in only 45 minutes. Her next target is to raise money for Parkinson's disease.



Speech and Drama

Our inaugural Speech and Drama Group Verse Competition was a resounding success. Two performances each were given by Bishop Ullathorne and Cardinal Newman secondary schools. Students from St Elizabeth’s, St John Vianney, Christ the King and St Mary and St Benedict primary schools also presented their excellent interpretations of comic or serious verse. The winning key stage 3 performance was from Bishop Ullathorne students with their powerful interpretation of Tennyson’s *Charge of the Light Brigade*. Christ the King’s *Mafia Cats* scooped the key stage 2 prize. External adjudicator, Liz Jasper, was delighted with the standard and provided each group with positive feedback. **Sreoshi Ahmed** (Year 7) played the piano beautifully as the audience entered and **Denzel Kira** (Year 8) spoke eloquently before delivering his poem.



Debate Club

Four Year 9 students have been running our Debate Club every Thursday during second break. **Benjamin Cooper**, **Harry Davies**, **Amba McKenna** and **Bartosz Zygowski** have been encouraging students to discuss their opinions. Topics covered have involved a second Brexit referendum, social media and the possibility of life beyond Earth. New students are always welcome.



Physical theatre

As part of a four-day physical theatre festival, over 30 Year 9 students recently performed at the Belgrade Theatre. Their short performance, based on the plight of Syrian refugees, formed part of a project to give young people a voice. The original piece of theatre was devised entirely by the group.

In preparation for the performance, the students attended a series of workshops at the theatre and two full days in school with an artist from Highly Sprung. The theatre-based workshops were delivered by four professional companies: Frantic Assembly, Theatre de Complicite, Gecko and also Highly Sprung.

Since being inspired by the first physical theatre workshop one of our students has joined Sprungsters. **Harry Davies** (Year 9) also performed in *Seen But Never Heard* each night during the festival.

Kiera Burke	Lisa Lutumba
Lucy Clarke	Phoebe Marriott
Benjamin Cooper	Amba McKenna
Harry Davies	Michael Okafor
Ellie Doust	Harrison Olanrewaju
Niamh Hackett	Aruna Redgrave
Keavy Ireland	Keira Rock
Daisy Kelly	Faith Stables
Grace Kendall	Grace Thompson
Ebony Kennedy	Aimee Timms
Reme Liddle	Charlotte Smith
Jessica Lilley	Molly Waters

A member of the audience said: “The performance from Bishop Ullathorne was outstanding. I will admit to shedding a tear or two, along with my wife and members of the audience, due to the powerful portrayal of a problem in our times.”





## Get Caught Reading!

Images of celebrities, staff and students who have all been 'caught reading' are on display around school. A prize is available for the student who finds them.

**Melanie Caldicott**, School Librarian, said: "Last year's refurbishment of the school library was a striking demonstration of how much the school values books and reading. We hope to encourage even more students to enjoy the feeling of being totally immersed in a story."



## Supporting students

Our new cover supervisor, **Jas Dhillon**, has extensive experience of supporting students. She has worked for many years in Coventry schools as an Assistant Headteacher, Vice Principal and Local Authority Adviser. She is now looking forward to using her experience to support all of our students.



## Music results

<b>Annie Brown</b>	Musical Theatre	Grade 1	Pass
<b>Cerys Crowe</b>	Musical Theatre	Grade 6	Distinction
<b>Niamh Hatfield</b>	Piano	Grade 3	Merit
<b>Martha O'Shea</b>	Flute	Grade 1	Merit

## Spelling Bee

**Anima Rahman** (Year 8) was this year's key stage 3 Spelling Bee champion with **Aimee Timms** (Year 9) and **Phoebe Montemayor** (Year 7) winning their year group competition. Words such as thesaurus, camouflage, aquarium, discipline and jovial were among those used to test the students.

**Anima**, the modest former St Thomas More pupil, said: "Reading a lot helps with spelling. It also puts you in another world and helps you to see things from other perspectives. I also like to convey ideas accurately through spelling well. I

am never really centre of attention so being on stage was a little nerve wracking for me and my friends had high expectations. The competition element is purely luck, though. I feel that my words were easier than some."

**Aimee**, formerly of St Peter and St Pauls, added: "I love practising spellings with my mum. We do that quite a lot. I was not worried about being on the stage really as I dance for roughly four hours a week and perform in competitions. Dancing gives you confidence and is a great combination with spelling!"





## Prevent agenda

**F**our of our Year 10 students who attended a counter-terrorism conference in October have been praised for their efforts to raise awareness in school.

The initial *Prevent and Beyond; Building Resilience in Our Young People Conference* was organised by **Balbir Sohal**, the Prevent Education Officer at Coventry City Council. **Lorcan Lenehan**, **Fina Ochieng**, **Bethany Quayle** and **Carla Yossa Tchangou** attended the conference at Sidney Stringer Academy. They were able to attend workshops delivered by national and international experts about identity, building resilience and how to have difficult conversations on topics which are perceived to be controversial. Since then, they have been disseminating what was learned.

**Fina Ochieng** said: "Bishop Ullathorne is a safe space where we can understand and discuss sensitive topics, including terrorism and the extremist ideas."

**Lorcan Lenehan** added: "It is important for us to learn from each other. We live in a brilliantly multicultural society. We should be respectful and aware. Our own Catholic faith centres on acceptance and we are living by that."



## Memorial Cup

**T**his year's winner and runners-up of the **Roman Matuszak Cup** were fittingly announced at the Year 11 Mass of Celebration this term. Awarded in memory of a former colleague, the cup also allows staff to recognise the positive qualities of our Year 11 students.

**Thomas Burke**, the overall winner, said: "It is a great privilege to be awarded this and to feel that consistently trying to follow the Ullathorne Way values is being acknowledged. I was actually overwhelmed and quite surprised to win. However, I always try to be the best person that I can and try to be a good role model for others."

**Finlay Swift-Dutton** and **Maggie Keane** were runners-up. **Finlay Swift-Dutton** said: "I am very proud to belong to Bishop Ullathorne. It is a welcoming place with a real sense of community and I feel a lot of love for my school and peers. This cup rewards people for simply being positive, polite and happy."



## Good Shepherd Mass

**M**embers of our school community attended the Good Shepherd Mass at Holy Family church. The beautiful service involved several schools.





## Dyslexia training

The tables were turned in a recent staff training session when some of our students were able to teach the teacher. Dyslexia training, developed by staff, students and a representative from Coventry's SEND IASS (Information, Advice and Support Service) was delivered in a special session after school.



The students involved, from Years 7 to 10, were: **Millie Hackett, Niamh Hackett, Emerode Lukelo, Scarlett O'Hara, Maya Swales** and **Jennifer Webster**.

Since the training, students have seen immediate changes in lessons. Some were nervous before giving their presentations but were very grateful for the opportunity to share their experiences. **Millie Hackett**, Year 10, said: "Things have improved straight away. Teachers have started to adapt their practice and definitely consider the way that they present information."

**Maya Swales**, Year 7, added: "When teachers began to ask how they could help us, we all began to feel a lot more relaxed about what we were doing."

**Scarlett O'Hara**, Year 7, is taking her involvement a step further. She will be creating a video about dyslexia for next year's Year 7 students. She hopes that this will raise further awareness and provide support for new members of the school."

**Emerode Lukelo**, Year 9, added: "It is important for teachers, and even our peers, to know what it is like when we face a page of words. Our brains just work differently. Some of my good friends push and motivate me. I have no problems when it comes to confidence and sharing my ideas but sometimes that hides how much I have to work."

**Rory Whelan**, Teacher of Science, said: "As articulate and determined students, they realised that they were speaking up for their peers who might feel less able to voice their ideas and worries. They worked incredibly hard on their presentations and truly embodied the Ullathorne Way with the eloquence which we wish to develop in all of our students."

## Young leaders

Fifteen Year 9 students attended a three-day training programme run by IntoUniversity. The Leadership in Focus sessions were delivered at the Charles Street centre. Attendees were: **Persis Adotey, Dilane Cheumengacha, Michael Dalton, Michael Foley, Olivia Green, Corey Jones, Bonchrist Makonga, Mia Lilly Marsdon, Loraine Nduka, Harrison Olanrewaju, Amber Rashid, Harley-Mae Rickhuss, Shanaye Smith, Rilee Thomson, Plamedie Yompela**.

## Peer mentoring

Over 70 students who had achieved the Silver Character Passport Award in Year 8 took their first steps towards Gold by taking part in a Peer Mentoring training session. Students worked as a team on some challenging ice breaker activities before considering the challenges which Year 7 students could face when they move to secondary school. Following the training, students were able to apply for the role of Peer Mentor.





## Duke of Edinburgh

**A**lmost 30 Year 10 students have been working towards the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award this year. The assessment expedition took place at Hulme End in the Peak District.

Following a pre-set route, they navigated their way to their campsite to set up camp, cook a meal and camp for the night. The following morning, after cooking their breakfast and breaking camp, they walked to a designated point, 12 kilometres away, carrying all of their kit. In order to take part in the final expedition, the students completed several online processes, practical training on Thursdays after school and a practice camp at Folly Farm in the Cotswolds.

**Himani Patel** said: "The whole process has been unforgettable. By stepping out of my comfort zone, I have been able to improve a range of skills. Being in a team, forces you to communicate effectively; walking up hill and down valleys has taught me to be more determined and cooking my own food and setting up my tent has increased my independence. I am really glad that I took part."



## Maths challenge

**T**he Junior Maths Challenge was tackled by 90 Year 7 and 90 Year 8 students. During the multiple choice quiz students used their logic, reasoning and problem solving skills to solve up to 25 problems. Over 300,000 pupils take part each year and the top scorers are awarded gold, silver and bronze certificates.

A sample question:

*On the island of Erewhon, all numbers are written with the digits in reverse order. For example, twelve is written 21. Su Erasmus, an inhabitant of Erewhon, was shown the subtraction  $729-45729-45$ .*

*If no mistake was made, what answer did Su write down?*

Winners of this year's Junior Maths Challenge are listed below.

### Year 7 Bronze certificates:

Sophia Dore, Alfie Harrison, Julia Jakabovicova, Filip Jurczak, Ela Kirkwood, Lacey McMillan, Zuzanna Rataj, Victor Wappa, Stacey William and Demi Williams-Toney

### Year 7 Silver certificates:

Daniel Munodawafa (joint best in year), Lewis Drake (joint best in year), Daniel Hiatt, Lemuel Sakyi-Dadzie, and Marcel Zelichowski

### Year 8 Bronze certificates:

David Akinsanya, Jessica Carpenter, Darcy Mills, Julia Musialik, Martha O'Shea, Casey Parkes, Isabella Ward and Thomas Wilkinson

### Year 8 Silver certificates:

Maria Cosgriff, Regina Crame, Lara Edwards, Martyna Lada and Maya Swales

### Year 8 Gold certificates:

Eleanor Gordon (Best in year and best in school), Angela Mathimannarajah and Anima Rahman





## Spanish themes

For six weeks, St Mary and St Benedict students have been enjoying interactive Spanish lessons delivered by members of the Bishop Ullathorne community.

**Rebecca Oldfield**, Teacher of MfL, and two groups of five Year 8 students have been delivering sessions on the theme of 'en la cafetería'. Supporting their work on the Gold Character Passport Award, they have worked closely with Year 3 and 4 students.



## Taekwondo medal winner

Despite only taking up the sport two years ago, one of our Year 8 students has won a bronze medal in Taekwondo sparring.

**Aniela Kesler** (Year 8), a former St John Vianney pupil, decided to try the sport when she was at primary school. She now trains for roughly two hours a week at TSTUK Traditional Style Taekwondo UK in Coventry. Her younger brother and sister have also taken up the sport and enjoy the physical but warm atmosphere.



She said: "I personally like sparring as I know how to use blocks, punches and kicks without even thinking now. After you have fought with someone there is a positive gesture to show that it was a friendly contest and not meant to hurt. Initially, I started to learn self-defence but there is more to it than that."

## Journalism competition

**Erin Rodgers**, in Year 10, came second in the Columban British Regional Journalism competition. Her climate change documentary can be seen via our Twitter page.

She said: "I really enjoyed putting it together and writing the script to go with the edited images. However, it is strange to record your own voice."

## Feeding Britain's future

Professionals from the food and grocery industry brought the world of work to life for 30 Year 9 students. Organised by our careers adviser and facilitated by IGD (Institute of Grocery Distribution), the session encouraged students to develop their employability skills. Employers included Sainsbury's, the National Farmers Union, Tulip and Pudology.

## Pet therapy

Our SENDCo, **Jackie Salter**, has employed her dog to support some of our students in the Learning Support Unit on a part-time basis.

She said: "Rosie is a calm and quiet dog. Pet therapy is a powerful aid. Studies have shown that the presence of companion animals can improve the well-being of children and lower the rate of anxiety, simply by making the environment happier, more enjoyable and less forbidding."



## Kenelm Youth Trust

In April we were visited by a team from the Kenelm Youth Trust. They shared insight from *Christus Vivit*, a communication from Pope Francis.





## Boys' football

All of our boys' football teams have played brilliantly this year and enjoyed a great deal of success. Our Year 7 team, combined Year 7 and 8 team, Year 10 team, Year 11 team and combined Year 10 and 11 team all reached the finals of cup competitions. **Ian Cox**, Head of PE, said: "I am really proud of the boys. They showed excellent team work and commitment throughout the year as well as resilience when decisions did not always go their way."

Details of each cup final and semi-final for the three competitions entered are shown below.

West Midlands' Cup			
Year	Opposition	Score	Player of the match
7	Sandwell (semi) President Kennedy (final)	Draw 4-4 Lost 2-1	Marcel Zelichowski Marcel Zelichowski
7 & 8	Dormston (semi) Wordsley (final)	Won 5-0 TBC	Samuel Mulbah TBC
10	Sandwell (semi) Cardinal Newman (final)	Won 3-2 Lost 2-1	Temitayo Oke Jack Hicks
11	President Kennedy (semi) Caludon Castle (final)	Won 5-1 Lost 3-0	William Bapaga Daniel Lole

Our Year 7 team went into their final having beaten the English National Champions, Sandwell. However, despite taking an early lead, they narrowly lost the game in gruelling temperatures. **Michael Anstee**, Teacher of PE, said: "To reach a final in their first year together was an impressive feat. We are all looking forward to seeing what they can produce next year."



The combined Year 7 and 8 team controlled their semi-final from start to finish and is hoping to show the same level of skill in the final. **Afonso Mvula** and **Dylan Aphanou** (both Year 7) made excellent contributions to the win over Dormston.



Against Cardinal Newman in the final, our Year 10 team was left heartbroken as it conceded in the last minute of the game. Both sides had chances to score. In the semi-final, the team faced West Bromwich Albion and England players. However, no-one was overshadowed. Having taken a three-goal lead, the boys did well to absorb the pressure placed on them in the second half. As well as from the player of the match, outstanding performances came from **Noel Angafor** and **Jake Downing**.

In awful conditions, our Year 11 team battled hard against a Caludon Castle team which they had never beaten. The worthy winners kept pushing until the very end.



Coventry Schools' Cup			
Year	Opposition	Score	Player of the match
11	President Kennedy (semi) Caludon Castle (final)	Won 5-1 Lost 2-1	Sean Burke Jamie Farrell

Coventry Telegraph Cup			
Year	School	Score	Player of the match
10 & 11	Stratford (semi)	Lost 4-0	Robert Dixon



Athletics

**A**lexandra Abell (Year 7) came second in the long jump at the Year 7 Athletics Qualifiers competition and her distance qualified her for the West Midlands Schools' Championships. **Oliver Blackwell** and **Eloghosa (Ozzy) Osaigbovo** (Year 8) were also selected to represent Coventry schools at the championships: **Oliver** in the 200m and **Ozzy** in the shot.



Other Year 7 and Year 8 winners of their events at the Coventry Athletics Qualifiers this year were:

Student	Event	Time/distance
Year 7		
Michel Nya-Njiemen	150m	18.48sec
Mia Ochieng	Javelin	15.69m
Year 8		
Oliver Blackwell	Long jump	4.92m
Samuel Mulbah	100m	12.2sec
Ryan Musewu	400m	63.92sec
Ozzy Osaigbovo	Shot	10.6m
	Relay	49.65sec

Our Year 8 boys' team finished second overall—only losing to Bablake.



Netball

**O**ur Year 7 netball team finished second in the Coventry Schools' A League, this year, in their first season together. Unfortunately, the team lost to President Kennedy, by just one goal (losing 6-5) in a very close final. All of our other netball teams have continued to develop through the year. The player of the season and the final league position for each team is shown below.



Year	Place	Player of the match
7	Second	Lacey McMillan
8	Third	Kacey Evans
9	Third	Vivienne Egbuchulem
10	Second	Grace Brennan
11	First	Lucy Gee





## Year 11 moving forward

Our prospective sixth form students have attended a two-day induction programme. During this time, they experienced A Level taster sessions and visited De Montfort University.

## Work experience

All of our Year 12 students secured work experience for this term. One of our A Level linguists, **Ethan Ward**, arranged to work for a charity in Peru. Unfortunately, due to a recent earthquake, his trip has been delayed until next year.

## HE+ final presentations

Our HE+ students have now completed their year-long programme with Cambridge University. Through the national project, they were able to attend academic extension classes, subject masterclasses, information and guidance sessions and a visit to the university. The group presented their research project to all participants from across the city at President Kennedy School.

## Skills for life

All of our Year 12 students participated in a Life Skills workshop with a number of employers. Organised by **Wendy Bellingham**, our Careers Adviser, employers demonstrated the importance of a high quality CV. Each student was also interviewed and received personal feedback.

Mrs Hewson-Scott (Draxlmaier) said: "The students were well prepared and were good ambassadors for the school. Not every school is doing this, so well done Bishop Ullathorne for offering this support."

Mr O'Shea (parent) said: "It is a good springboard for students to start bridging the gap between school and the real world."

Mrs Sargeant (HSBC) said: "A great morning spent meeting some lovely students. They are a credit to themselves and to their school. I really enjoyed being involved."



## Public speaking

**Francis Hernandez Owens** (Year 12) competed in the Midlands final of the Catenians Association Sixth Form Public Speaking competition. This year, the event was hosted by Bishop Milner Catholic School in Dudley and the Archbishop of Birmingham was one of the judges. Francis spoke eloquently on the theme: '*Are terrorists freedom fighters?*'. He was praised for his confident and passionate delivery.



## Dovedale trip

Our Year 10 Geography students took part in a field trip to the Peak District last month. The second group braved the elements, in sensible footwear and waterproof clothing, to collect data about the impact of humans on the specialised environment. The first group was much more lucky with the weather.





## Faraday Challenge

Six of our Year 8 students took part in a STEM Faraday Challenge at Coventry University. This year's challenge was based on space travel and students were fortunate enough to meet the British astronaut, Tim Peake.



## Engineering the future

Future engineers from Year 9 attended a three-day residential course at Coventry University.

**Anyhah Harrison** said: "We had three amazing days working with people from Aston Martin and Jaguar Land Rover. We made prototype cars and did many collaborative tasks. Overall the experience was eye opening and an inspirational opportunity."

**Bartosz Zygowski** said: "The course was amazing. We designed a seat made out of balloons. It forced us to work as a team to get it working in the five minutes which we had. Next, we made an off-road vehicle with professional engineers. Somehow, my team was able to win! On the next day, we designed a racing vehicle. Sadly, we did not win this event but it was extremely fun. If I could go again, I would."



## Application process

This term, all Year 12 students have been supported to understand the UCAS application process and how to research Higher Apprenticeship pathways. The pastoral programme has provided an in-depth approach to writing personal statements where students combine their academic and enrichment experiences. Two of our students, **Aron Alagaraj** and **Ciara Lee**, have secured a place on the Sutton Trust residential Summer School at Edinburgh and Nottingham University, respectively.



## History heard

A history presentation at St Mary and St Benedict primary school was observed by our Head of History, **Jonathan Griffiths**.





## Year 11 Leavers' Ball images...



## Head above the rest

Our new Head Boy and Head Girl are determined to take an inclusive approach to their leadership roles. **Connor Duffy** and **Georgia Hogg** were elected following a difficult application process. They are both proud members of the school community and keen to work collaboratively as part of our new sixth form student leadership team.

**Connor** said: "This is a prestigious role. However, I want others in the school community to feel that they can approach me at any time. I am a good listener. The first thing which I did when I became Head Boy was to gain an understanding of how we can work together to move the school forward."



As player manager of the newly formed Alvis Under 17 football team, Connor is no stranger to encouraging others to do their best. From the centre back position, he is able to lead on and off the pitch. The team is comprised of 16 former and present Bishop Ullathorne students. Playing on Sunday mornings and training on Wednesdays, as well as keeping fit, the main aim is to ensure that the boys keep in touch.

The former St Anne's student is currently studying for A levels in History, Psychology and Mathematics. He would like to study Law at university or to gain a related apprenticeship. He has always been interested in Law and would eventually like to be a barrister. In Year 10, he took part in the University of Warwick's Sutton Scholars programme. Having created a political party and a manifesto, he presented to an impressive audience of around 250 people at the university.

Connor has continued to gain experience in his chosen field by joining the Pathways to Law two-year course which shows routes in to Law. At Easter, he gained work experience with Eversheds Sutherland, a global law practice. During this time, he was able to liaise with solicitors from Deutsche Bank and deliver a presentation to 18 partners and solicitors about overcoming technological barriers in the future. Other work experience has been continued in Birmingham.

He said: "I enjoy analysing a situation and looking at evidence to get a judgement. This is a great school as you never feel that you are alone. We have a strong foundation to build on."



**Georgia**, our new Head Girl, is also a good listener. She has continually supported the school since she joined from Our Lady's almost six years ago. Never missing an Open Evening, she has also taken part in our Showcase, been on the Student Leadership Council and supported Year 7 students as a form buddy.



She said: "I have strong morals and hold the school's values in high esteem. I firmly believe in the Ullathorne Way and how we can work together to make positive changes to everyone's day. School opens up a lot of opportunities in a supportive way."

A confident public speaker, she is used to delivering bidding prayers and readings during school Masses. She also loves musical theatre and, before concentrating on her GCSE studies, performed all over the country in plays and shows. She admits that performing in *Jack in the Beanstalk* was one of her favourite experiences.

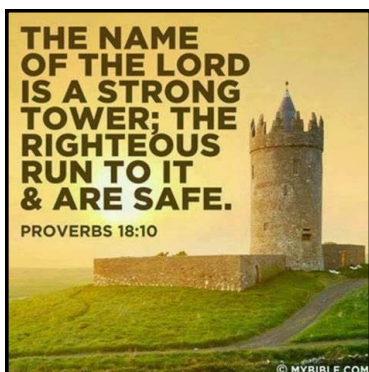
She is currently studying for A levels in English and Philosophy and Ethics at Bishop Ullathorne. As she would like to build a career as a midwife, she is also studying Health and Social Care at Cardinal Newman. She has gained work experience on the general wards at University Hospital and also completed a taster session in midwifery.

She added: "Being a midwife means that you would be part of someone's memories forever. There would also be new challenges to face every day. I work well in a team, am professional and care about other people's needs."

Georgia plans to show her support for midwives and new mothers in a dramatic event next year. She is currently fundraising to take part in a charity skydive for the Coventry charity, Baby Lifeline.

### Strong towers

Collective worship with form groups and during our morning staff briefing was led by Year 9 students. Having spent time at Soli House, they focused on the theme of strong towers and the support which can be given and received from others.



### Year 13 Leavers' Mass

Father Stephen celebrated a special Mass for our Year 13 students and staff prior to their examination leave. Our sixth form leadership team organised an evening event at Coombe Abbey.





# Holiday dates

We close for the holidays on

**Friday 19 June 2019 at 1.00pm**

The new term starts on

**Wednesday 4 September 2019 at 8.40am**

Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School  
Leasowes Avenue, Coventry, CV3 6BH  
024 7641 4515  
admin@bishoppullathorne.co.uk  
www.bishoppullathorne.co.uk  
@B\_Ullathorne  
@BishopUllathorneSchool

Written and edited by Lea Evans Bent, Assistant Headteacher

Designed and produced by Claire Carding, Headteacher's PA

## Uniform reminder

### Boys' uniform

Blazer and jumper	A plain black blazer with Bishop Ullathorne badge and a Bishop Ullathorne jumper with red V neck.
Trousers	Black.
Shirt	White, worn with the school clip-on tie.
Shoes	Plain, conventional, black outdoor shoes - no trainers.

### Girls' uniform

Blazer and jumper	A plain black blazer with Bishop Ullathorne badge and a Bishop Ullathorne jumper with red V neck.
Skirt	Black knee length, pleated. No tight, stretchy material skirts.
Trousers	Tailored black, not skinny or tight fitting.
Shirt	White, worn with the school clip-on tie.
Shoes	Sensible, plain, conventional, flat, black outdoor shoes - no trainers.

### Additional information

#### Jewellery—optional

One stud earring in each ear. No nose or tongue piercing.

#### Hairstyles

No extreme hairstyles.

#### Make up

No make up or nail varnish.

#### Electronic devices

Students are advised not to bring mobile phones, MP3 players, ipods or other electronic devices to school. If they are seen or heard, they will be confiscated for 24 hours.

## Term Dates 2019 to 2020

### Teacher Training Days are:

- Monday 2 September 2019
- Friday 4 October 2019
- Friday 26 June 2020

### Autumn Term 2019

**Year 7 students ONLY** Tuesday 3 September 2019  
Wednesday 4 September to Friday 18 October 2019  
*Half term: Monday 21 October to Friday 25 October 2019*

Monday 28 October to Friday 20 December 2019

### Spring Term 2020

Monday 6 January to Friday 21 February 2020  
*Half term: Monday 24 February to Friday 28 February 2020*

Monday 2 March to Thursday 9 April 2020

### Summer Term 2020

Monday 27 April to Friday 22 May 2020  
*Half term: Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May 2020*  
Monday 1 June to Friday 17 July 2020

## Collecting results

### A level results — Sixth Form Block

**Thursday 15 August 2018**

*Year 12 and 13 arrive at 9am*

### GCSE results — B Block Hall

**Thursday 22 August 2018**

*Year 11 arrive at 9am*

*Sixth form enrolment follows*



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