

December 2018

Winter Newsletter



# Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School



## Headteacher's message

*The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. John 1:9*

The Autumn term is always the longest term of the year: the engine house of so much that we achieve. Looking through this term's newsletter brings home what an incredibly rich and active few months we have had as a community. Most recently our young people have been interviewed for prefect positions. Pictured decorating our tree are three of the successful candidates: Surya, Brian and Jack.

We have been working hard to celebrate what makes our school so special through our work on the Ullathorne Way. This term, our students and staff have been focusing on the virtues of compassion and being faith filled and prophetic. Our aim is always to be an active Christian community of love and service so the real test was to put these virtues in to action. The next few pages exemplify our community's dedication to this and the inspirational way in which our students and staff have embraced the challenge.

As we approach the end of the year, we thank God for our blessings as a school. I would especially like to extend my thanks to the parents and carers of our young people for all of their support this year. From all of the staff, young people and Governors of the school, I wish everyone a happy and holy Christmas.

*Chris Billings*

Students return to school on Monday 7 January at 8.40am



BISHOP ULLATHORNE CAROL SERVICE 2018.

TUESDAY 18 DECEMBER.

6 P M.

# Advent

The coming of our Saviour.

ALL WELCOME.

A BLOCK HALL



## Literary launch

The spectacular refurbishment and re-organisation of our library was celebrated with an equally inspirational launch week in September. Throughout the week, five guest speakers delivered a range of assemblies and workshops to students from years 7 to 10. Ranging from a former student explaining the amount of reading and research required for her role as a radio presenter to a prolific writer of fiction, based in and around Coventry, the speakers provided a suitable insight into the benefits of reading and writing.

### Monday

#### Letitia George

Former Bishop Ullathorne student, The Voice contestant and BBC Coventry and Warwickshire radio presenter.



### Tuesday

#### Gary Toward

Former headteacher and author whose latest book *The Magpie* is a work of fiction based on the realities of World War 1.



### Wednesday

#### Sychelle Yanda

Coventry University journalism student who has self-published three books and whose latest film was screened at the British Film Institute in London.



### Thursday

#### Melody Starkey

A primary school teacher for nearly 40 years who has published several books for younger children including *Extraordinary Shorts* and *Kids in Shorts*.

### Friday

#### Lauren Price

Student who released her first young adult novel *A Bad Boy Stole My Bra* through Ink Road books and has posted her writing on Wattpad.



## Spotlight on ...

**Ruth Greenhalgh:** A secondary school teacher for 14 years, our new librarian has extensive experience of working with students. As a specialist Science teacher, she previously worked as far afield as Madrid and also closer to home in the city. During another 18 years as Education Officer for the Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service, she developed and co-ordinated road safety programmes for all primary schools in the county and some targeted secondary schools. Having worked with over 18,000 students during this time, she is now glad to provide advice and guidance on a one-to-one basis.



Speaking about the library launch, she said: "The exciting week encouraged our students to consider the wide range of practical applications of literacy in life. Our functional and inviting library space now provides an appropriate space for learning at the centre of school life."

**Malika Dixon** (Year 11), talking about Letitia George, said: "It was amazing to meet a former student with such an incredible story to tell in her short life. Her determination was inspirational."



## Reading for pleasure

Staff continue to share their love of reading. The staffroom book swap, a regular offering from The Book People and our 'currently reading' notices on classroom and office doors are encouraging all staff to talk on a regular basis about their current choices.

## Conduct competition

To coincide with the launch, students were invited to design a 'code of conduct' poster. The best entries were displayed in the library and competition winners (pictured) received a book token for their efforts.



**Jessica Carpenter, Libby Foley, Sebastian Loveitt** (absent from image), **Logan Pyburn, Simaran Sidhu, Olivia Tancula.**

## Moving forward

Now that the entire library stock has been re-catalogued, with help from the School Library Service, work is continuing to update the range of books available. Over 1000 fiction and non-fiction books have been added to our collection over the last few weeks. Also, subject leaders have been able to request book boxes linked specifically to students' lessons.

Year 7 students have been given a comprehensive induction through their English lessons and this will be rolled out to other years. Plans are in place for homework club, run by Year 10 students, and some of our Year 12 students have provided excellent support to library visitors.

## Advice available

Our independent careers adviser, **Wendy Bellingham**, is now available to provide advice to all students in the library. On Wednesdays, at first break, she is running drop-in sessions and a small display of information is accessible all week.





## Introducing our new Lay Chaplain

Our new Lay Chaplain, **Lauren Stundon**, has made a huge impact this term. Here, she tells us about herself.

"I am still excited and feel absolutely privileged to have been appointed Lay Chaplain.

"Born in Coventry, I attended primary school at St John Fisher then moved to Cardinal Wiseman. After completing my A levels, I spent two years working at Alton Castle retreat centre in Staffordshire. I left there to become Lay Chaplain at St Mary's Catholic High School in Hereford. Four wonderful years there were followed by another four years as Lay Chaplain at my old secondary school, back in Coventry.

"The time came for a new challenge and that was clearly part of God's plan for my life too because here I am at Bishop Ullathorne. I am blessed to be continuing my journey at this outstanding school.

"My faith and my roles within schools have taken me on many adventures and missions. Working to improve living conditions, I have been to Malawi, Brazil and Tanzania. I have also supported students on pilgrimages to Lourdes, as well as World Youth Day in Madrid.

"Residential retreats in this country have also been a highlight. Through my role, I have led social action projects, fundraising and outreach. The different ways in which we can introduce young people to Christ and encourage their faith to grow are endless. I am encouraged by the prospect of bringing all of these opportunities and more to the students and staff at Bishop Ullathorne."

## Christmas retreat

Twelve of our Year 7 students joined a Christmas residential retreat at Alton Castle in Staffordshire.



## Spring bulbs

Bulbs bought by staff and students, to remember loved ones who have passed away, will be planted before Christmas. It is hoped that shoots will appear in Spring.



## CAFOD collection

Over £600 was donated to CAFOD this term.

During harvest time, students and staff gave up a treat or meal to show compassion to those in need of support.

## Chaplaincy team

Our new chaplaincy team, with representatives from years 7 to 11, has been appointed to support the spiritual life of our school.



## Poppy appeal

Poppies sold by our students raised a total of £110 for the appeal.

## Lest we forget

In November, our whole school community gathered together to mark Remembrance Day. The first service of its kind was respectful and prayerful.





## Year 11 retreat

The plight of refugees and asylum seekers was the focus of a Year 11 retreat this term.

Students were encouraged to donate hoodies and coats and engage with the wide range of activities and reflections. The students said:

"This retreat made me more aware of the world around me and realise how much people sacrifice in order to get their families to safety."

"It put us in the shoes of a refugee and helped us to empathise."

"The prayer stations were very important and the scroll with the names of people who died made me very emotional."

"It was good to think about real life problems and learn how we can help with these issues."

"Maybe we could continue our work by volunteering in a soup kitchen."



## Employability skills

During a full programme of activities, staff from the Job Centre delivered a CV and interview skills workshop for our Year 11 students. All students then had a one-to-one mock interview to practise what was learnt during the session. The Apprenticeship Service delivered a session on applying for apprenticeship opportunities and the day ended with a careers' fayre to find out more about what is available after Year 11.

## Calendar comfort

Almost 300 Advent calendars were collected in November. They were donated to Coventry Comfort Carers, which works with Coventry's most vulnerable families, and Carriers of Hope, which supports refugee families in Coventry.



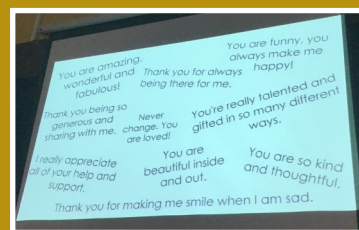
## World Family Day

Ryan Sutton (Year 11), and his family, represented the Archdiocese and the Coventry Deanery at the World Meeting of Families, which the Pope attended. They are pictured below with Archbishop Bernard Longley in Dublin.



## Year 8 Retreat

Through spending time together as a community, our Year 8 students discovered what makes them truly special.



## Smooth transition

**O**ur Year 7 students have nearly finished their first term with us. Here is what some have to say about the transition.

### Ela Kirkwood 7RG – St John Vianney

At Bishop Ullathorne, the opportunities are amazing. Since the start of the year, I have been involved in reading at the Year 7 Welcome Mass and been chosen to be part of the chaplaincy team. There are many ways to represent your form and year group. If you like charity events or public speaking, you will find something which you enjoy.



### Midese Bechinze – St Mary and St Benedict

Starting at Bishop Ullathorne, I felt more mature and grown up. I was also excited to learn new things and make new friends. Although I was anxious at first, I have had so much fun playing with new people and studying new lessons, like Drama. I also love playing in the school football team.



### Zach Thwaites 7IC – All Souls

I really like Bishop Ullathorne and the responsibility that lies within it. I joined the chaplaincy team and soon realised that we do a lot of work for charity, like selling poppies. It is a huge privilege. So, overall, I am enjoying my time at my new school.



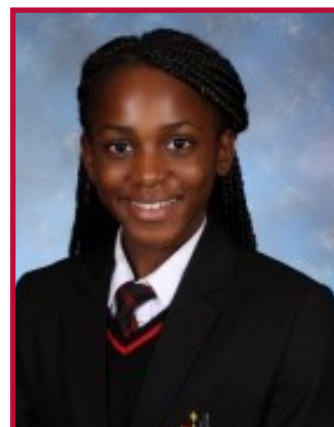
### Lacey McMillan 7IC – St Thomas More

Starting Bishop Ullathorne was very different to primary school. I felt nervous on the first day but now I am thoroughly enjoying it. I really love getting involved in PE and different teams after school, such as netball and football. There is a lot of competition so I am proud to be representing the school and I hope to continue doing so throughout my time here.



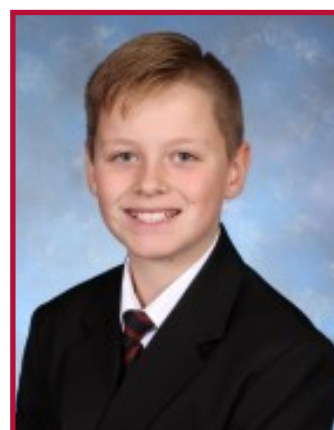
### Azaelle Ngakam 7SW – St Anne's

The teachers are very welcoming. If you have any problems you can ask anyone for help or advice. Year 10 buddies also guide you and help you to find your way to lessons for the first few weeks. There was also a freshers' fayre with lots of different clubs to join. It was great fun. There are different subjects that I did not take at primary school, like Drama, Art, Catering and Product Design. I am really happy that I chose this school.



### Ciaran Richards 7FH – Our Lady of the Assumption

At first I was quite scared that I would get lost. However, once I had been here for a week or so, I realised that it was not that bad after all. I can not say that I have not been lost but it is just part of the fun of moving to secondary school. I know that there will always be a teacher to go to.





## Freshers' Fayre

Year 7 students were able to sign up to some of the large number of extra curricular clubs on offer, during an event in September.



## Bake off

Our Bishop Ullathorne Bake Off was incredibly difficult to judge this year. Delicious Christmas themed entries were created by students in all year groups. **Elizabeth McErlean** (Year 8) was the overall winner with her orange and Christmas spice flavoured cake and **Thomas Wilkinson** (Year 8) produced the best savoury entry. **Annie Brown** and **Niamh Walsh's** (Year 8) snowmen were judged to be the best looking entries.



## Community building

Our Year 7 students enjoyed team games and challenges, led by their form tutor, during this term's Community Building Day. Working with students from different primary schools, they soon gelled as a school community.



## Year 7 Mass

In September, we welcomed parents, staff and students to our Year 7 Welcome Mass. Through fantastic reading and incredible singing, our Year 7 students began their journey with us.





## Science specialism

Our scientists have enjoyed a wide range of enrichment activities this term. Our Year 13 Biology students visited Canley Ford to investigate local biodiversity projects and carry out fieldwork on trees in the area.



Year 12 students took part in a Synthetic Biology Day at the University of Warwick and Year 8 students were able to make rechargeable batteries for rocket cars during a visit from Tomorrow's Engineers.

Key stage 3 students also visited a Light and Laser workshop at the planetarium in Bristol for seasonal stargazing in 3D.



In addition, a team of students entered the Royal Society of Chemistry's Top of the Bench competition. **Harry Davies** and **Mia-Jane Hallinan** (Year 9), **Lorcan Lenehan** (Year 10) and **Isabella Monsanto** (Year 11) were placed 8th out of the twenty schools which entered.



## Drama developments

The term has got off to a blistering start for the Drama department. Year 8 students have been solving the murder of Simon Peters in their murder mystery work and are proving to be excellent problem solvers through their detective role play. Stagecraft and Naturalism is being studied in Year 7 and key stage 4 students have embarked on their GCSE journey. **Rosie McAlpine** (Year 12) and **Harry Davies** (Year 9) have been leading our extra curricular Drama Club, which already has 68 members, and auditions for our school production have been held. *Hoods* will be staged in March.

Head of Drama, **Jacinta Nordone**, said: "Rosie and Harry are incredibly talented. It is a real pleasure to see them inspiring other students with their enthusiasm."



## What's my line?

A version of *What's my line?* was enjoyed by Year 8 students this term. They were challenged to guess the job of our visitors using only 20 questions. Sectors represented were Civil Engineering, IT, Science, Social Work and the Prisoners Rehabilitation Service.

**Wendy Bellingham** said: "We are very grateful to our visitors. Our students began to appreciate the range of career opportunities which are open to them and were curious to find out more. Most recognised the range of skills, abilities and personal qualities which they already possess and will need to develop as they move through education."



**Kelly Moore**, Operations Manager at Dudley Lodge Safeguarding Children Services, said: "I really enjoyed it. The students were really engaged and I was very impressed by the questions and guesses!"



## Auschwitz

History experts, **Denise Durkan** and **Jonathan Griffiths**, took 21 year 11 students to Krakow, Poland. Here is their review of the experience.

"When you hear the word Auschwitz, you might think of films such as *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* or *Schindler's List*. In the classroom too, we talk about the gradual dehumanisation of the Jews and their subsequent destruction at the hand of the Nazis. We try to evoke the emotions of the Jewish people in the camps, their pain and suffering and their spirit to survive. However, nothing can bring it home more than visiting a camp and listening to a survivor.

"We were given a guided tour of the Jewish quarter, of Auschwitz-Birkenau, Schindler's museum and finally, and possibly most powerfully, met with an Auschwitz survivor called Lydia. She proudly told her story, showed us her tattoo and explained the experiments that Mengele performed on her and other children in the camp."



**Lewis McCann** said: "You can read about it in textbooks and watch films but nothing can prepare you for walking through the very place where 1.1 million people were held captive, tortured, killed and thrown away like paper. The hardest part of the tour for me was standing in the gas chamber and seeing first-hand the panic and hell etched into the walls from the prisoners trying to dig their way out with their bare hands, despite knowing that it was never going to work."

**Aisleen Nelan** said: "It can be difficult to empathise with people when all you are shown is a number. However, visiting Auschwitz made the terrors of the holocaust come to life. Although this is a melancholy thing to witness, it is important to learn about what has happened in the past so that our generation can stop history from repeating itself. I am extremely privileged to have heard Lydia's story; a story that I will never forget."

**Maggie Keane** said "We were able to immerse ourselves in another country's culture, history and architecture and also pay our respects to those lost in the Holocaust. Seeing the remains of Auschwitz and picturing the agony that so many people endured was truly unimaginable. The trip was brilliant. It was also difficult and tough at several times. Seeing, with my own eyes, the consequences of human evil was staggering."

Next year, a trip to the trenches is planned. This will span the English and History curriculum and cover life in the trenches, medicine during World War 1 and war poetry.



## Finham Derby

This year's Finham Derby was a close call, with Bishop Ullathorne narrowly beating their rivals across ten thrilling games.

In netball, Bishop Ullathorne's five teams won two games and drew one.

Year	Score	Player of the match
Year 7	won 16-6	<b>Lacey McMillan</b>
Year 8	won 9-7	<b>Leonna Osei Yeboah</b>
Year 9	lost	<b>Vivienne Egbuchulem</b>
Year 10	lost	<b>Fina Ochieng</b>
Year 11	drew 11-11	<b>Niamh Cosgrove</b>



In football, the two wins and two draws meant that Bishop Ullathorne won overall by five and a half games to four and a half and was able to retain the trophy.

Year	Score	Player of the match
Year 7	won 3-1	<b>Dylan Aphanou</b>
Year 8	drew 4-4	<b>Samuel Mulbah</b>
Year 9	drew 3-3	<b>Amaani Dixon</b>
Year 10	lost 4-1	<b>Jack Turley</b>
Year 11	won 3-1	<b>Archie Ascroft</b>



## Clean sweep

All four netball teams playing against Blue Coat won their games this term.

Year	Score	Player of the match
Year 7	won 18-2	<b>Mia Ochieng</b>
Year 8	won 12-10	<b>Beth Pritchett</b>
Year 10	won 11-9	<b>Caitlin Winterton</b>
Year 11	won 11-8	<b>Ella Wilding</b>

Our Year 9 team also won their second game of the season against Whitley Abbey (13-2) and **Vivienne Egbuchulem** was again the star player.

## Football focus

All of our boys' teams are still in the West Midlands Schools Cup and our Year 10/11 team has the first round of the Coventry Telegraph Cup to look forward to against Finham after Christmas. The Coventry Schools Cup will also commence after Christmas.

Year	School	Score	Player of the match
7	President Kennedy	lost 3-0	<b>Quinn King</b>
8	Cardinal Wiseman	won 7-1	<b>Samuel Merry</b>
8	Finham 2	won 13-2	<b>Dennis Djeukam Tchaha</b>
8	Aldridge School	won 4-2 WMC	<b>Thomas Carter</b>
9	Streetly	won 4-0 WMC	<b>Noel Angafor</b>
10	Caludon Castle	won 5-0 WMC	<b>Ben Carpenter</b>
10	President Kennedy	drew 1-1 won 5-3 pen	<b>Ellis McCallum</b>
11	WMG	won 3-1 WMC	<b>Robert Dixon</b>

Our Year 10 team has now qualified for the West Midlands Schools Cup semi final and the Year 8 team has also qualified for the third round of the West Midlands Cup (pictured below).





## Wasps buzz

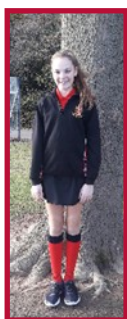
**D**uring the Wasps Netball Community Day, our Year 10 team met Wasps players, received coaching and skills sessions and even played on the show court.

Students involved: **Grace Brennan, Peace Ejimkonye, Hunette Gomez, Millie Hackett, Orla John, Kelsey Lee, Keira McGurk, Aoife Mulchinock, Niamh Noone, Katie Normoyle, Fina Ochieng, Aleigha Stephenson, Caitlin Winterton, Aymee Zengeya.**



## Cross country

**O**ur Year 7, 8 and 9 runners have performed very well this year, often against older students. **Niamh Walsh** (Year 8) consistently finished in the top 10 throughout the season with a best position of fifth in the race held at Bishop Ullathorne. Three of our Year 7 students have also shone during competitive races. **Chloe Zengeya** finished seventh in the race at Finham and **Afonso Mvula** and **Samuel Bradley-White** finished fourth and sixth in the race at Blue Coat.



## Boxing forward

**J**ack Forward (Year 8) is a match for anyone in the boxing ring. He is, in fact, so proficient that he has a medal and a clutch of trophies on his windowsill at home to recognise his achievements. Having taken the sport up two years ago, he is now less nervous stepping in to the ring and says that he actually looks forward to sparring. He trains three or four times a week in Bedworth and takes part in fights arranged by his coach on a regular basis.



He said: "It is great fun and it also teaches you respect. Respecting your opponent and your coach is really important."

## Martial artist

**C**onscientious and reflective in lessons and around school, **Mantaj Sidhu** (Year 9) has been studying the martial art of Tang Soo Do since he was only eight-years-old. The karate-based martial art is known for its kicking artistry and also involves hand strikes and blocks for defence. It emphasises breathing and only light contact. He currently sports the blue belt and is working towards the black belt. Twice a week, he trains in Ryton at the Sports Connexion and has already competed on the national stage. In his last competition, in Wales, he won a trophy for his second placing.

He said: "It gives you something to think about. It is strategic and controlled."

## Form champions

**G**irls and boys competed in their form groups this term to be crowned Year 7 Inter Form Champions. Playing netball and football, winners of each group progressed to the final last month. Worthy winners for netball were 7IC winning 5-4 against 7RG. Player of the match was **Lacey McMillan**.

## Perfect ambassadors

Following a rigorous selection process, 36 of our Year 10 students were selected to represent our school community in the role of prefect. Application forms, which included references, were scrutinised during interview. The students will now receive training on leadership skills, working as a team and how to work with the younger members of our school in a supportive way.

Here is a full list of our prefects for 2018 to 2019:

**Carlotta Edua Antwi Nuamah, Viana Asgari, Hanny Barry, Ben Carpenter, Oliver Doherty, Laycee Dutton, Peace Ejimkonye, Brian Essel, Christina Fotou, Oluwafemi Fowosire, Roisin Gaffney, Gosia Gmitter, Hunette Gomez, Millie Hackett, Jack Hicks, Vittoria Launchbury, Miriam Makaripe, Talitha Mitchell, Aoife Mulchinock, Fina Ochieng, Eniola Olatunde, Karen Oliver, Maticia Onyuta, Marlyn Osei-Hyiaman, Orla O'Shea, Himani Patel, Bethany Quayle, Erin Rodgers, Mara-Jade Rushfirth, Surya Suree, Alex Tekle, Katie Troccoli, Jack Turley, Harry Williams, Caitlin Winterton, Jacson Zafiri.**

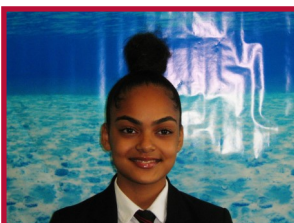
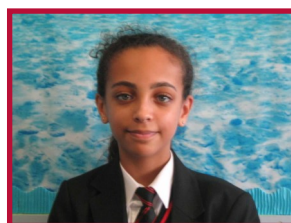
**Sarah Boyle**, Deputy Headteacher, said: "Each student showed what wonderful ambassadors they will be for our school. They were confident and eloquent in their interviews and clearly able to show compassion for others."

## Leadership Council

Our 12 student leaders for this year are also now ready for action. At the start of the year, students from years 7 to 10 completed an application form which included two references – one from a member of staff and another from a peer. They were then interviewed by our Head Boy and Head Girl in Year 13 who made the final difficult decision about which 12 students to select.

Performing many roles as ambassadors of our school, they will also provide support and a voice for all of our students. The Student Leadership Council (SLC) consists of a chair person and vice chair and positions will be changed each term to make the most use of everyone's unique skills and talents.

**Nicky Hayes**, CPSHE co-ordinator, said: "We are very proud of our students' involvement in the continued development of our school community. The final group of 12 students are pillars of our school community and were chosen to uphold our gospel values and whole school ethos."



Anne Adegbenle	Dylan Aphanou
Louis Davenport	Connie Graham
Melody Leeson	Lorcan Lenehan
Grace McDonagh	Daniel Munodawafa
Fina Ochieng	Bethany Quayle
Shawnia Senior-Evans	Carla Yossa Tchangou



## Into University

**A** national charity, which supports students' aspirations, has agreed to deliver workshops throughout the year. Into University will work with 30 targeted students from each year group. The charity will provide structured workshops to provide information, advice and guidance, support development of key skills and inspire students to achieve their potential. Also, six students have signed up to receive Academic Mentoring twice a week at the Into University centre in Coventry. Help with homework, coursework, literacy and numeracy is provided by trained tutors.

## Music results

**I**n addition to enjoying our school provision, students are encouraged to take externally assessed qualifications. The latest results are seen below.

<b>Emma Babinski</b>	Grade 2	Theory	Distinction
<b>Tallula Bahra</b>	Grade 4	Theory	Distinction
<b>Annie Brown</b>	Grade 1	Theory	Distinction
<b>Lucy Crilly</b>	Grade 4	Theory	Merit
<b>Diarmuid Gaffney</b>	Grade 5	Theory	Distinction
<b>Niamh Hatfield</b>	Grade 3	Theory	Distinction
<b>Aisleen Nelan</b>	Grade 4	Theory	Distinction
<b>Aisleen Nelan</b>	Grade 4	Flute	Distinction
<b>Martha O'Shea</b>	Grade 1	Theory	Distinction

## Attendance awards

**F**or 100 per cent attendance in the two weeks before half term, key stage 3 students' names were placed in a hat. In Year 7, 150 students qualified. One student in each year group received an Echo Dot as their prize. The winners were:

Year 7: **Terrell Mkandla**

Year 8: **Arjun Cheema**

Year 9: **Mia Lilly Marsdon**

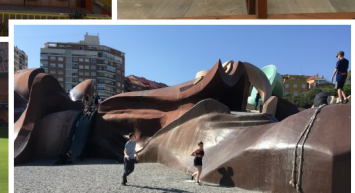
Year 10: **Hunette Gomez**

Year 11: **Lewis McCann**



## Spanish adventure

**O**ur Spanish trip to Altea was thoroughly enjoyed by the 45 students who travelled during October half term. The Year 9s took part in dance lessons, visited Valencia's football stadium and explored the Terra Mitica theme park. They collected several compliments during the trip and were a credit to our school. They also enjoyed the opportunity to use their language skills and play in a football match with local young people outside the beautiful local council building.



## Duke of Edinburgh

**H**aving re-launched the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme (DofE) this year, 44 enthusiastic Year 10 students have signed up for the Bronze Award. A team of eight staff will be mentoring students through the volunteering, skills and physical sections of the award.

## Sixth form update

The sixth form block and common room received a Summer makeover thanks to one of our Governors, **Maureen Perry**, and members of the sixth form leadership team.

## HE+ Programme

This year's cohort of 11 students is participating with 100 sixth formers from across the city and attending workshops at President Kennedy School. **David Atherley** said: "It is a fantastic opportunity for our aspirational students to experience the student life of a Russell Group University."

## Scientific research

During the Summer holiday, five students participated in the Nuffield Foundation Programme. Each student undertook a 4-week placement and worked alongside postgraduates and professors on a scientific research project at the University of Warwick and Coventry University.

## UCAS applications

Some of our Summer leavers returned to school for afternoon tea and to collect their certificates. We are delighted that all have embarked on apprenticeships or are in Higher Education.

Current Year 13 students have been busy submitting their university applications and researching higher apprenticeship opportunities. Already offers and feedback has been received from Royal Holloway University: "Because of your outstanding application, should you decide to make Royal Holloway your firm choice, we would be delighted to offer you an unconditional place."

## CV skills

A CV skills workshop helped our Year 12 students to develop their skills and knowledge of the world of work. During the session, they were introduced to the skills which are becoming increasingly important to employers. They were able to reflect on how they could develop these skills and were encouraged to use networking to source opportunities for jobs and work experience.

## Enrichment

All sixth form students continue to broaden their experiences by contributing to service in the community. They can be seen supporting younger ones in class as well as in the early morning reading scheme. They have volunteered in hospitals and care homes and organised a Christmas party for the elderly. Some have visited law courts and taken bespoke dentistry and law placements during half term. Several students have formed a sixth form band and others have supported an art workshop at St Thomas More.

## Inform debate

A tour of the Palace of Westminster and a workshop on representation and voting were enjoyed by 29 sixth form students this term. During the visit, students also took part in a survey following a request by Steve Double MP. They took part in an anonymous poll. This later informed a debate being held at Parliament by the Petitions Committee.

During the debate, the MP referenced the poll. He said: "I am greatly encouraged by the awareness and understanding of this issue among our young people. I thank all the students and schools who engaged in that process and helped us to gather those views. We appreciate their input."

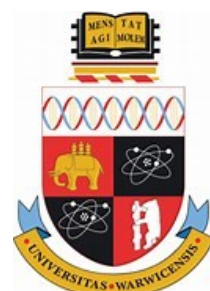
## Macmillan morning

Members of the sixth form leadership team organised a Macmillan coffee morning and raised £122.

**WE ARE  
MACMILLAN.  
CANCER SUPPORT**

## Library visits

All of our Year 12 students visited both university libraries in Coventry. They received a guided tour of the facilities and access to the library for research and revision.





## Great British dance off

**I**mogen Forrest (Year 13) attended the Great Britain Irish Dancing competition in Brighton. Following three gruelling rounds, she was placed 26th overall out of over 100 dancers. She has now qualified for the World Championships in North Carolina in April next year.



## Special sunflowers

**A**rt students in Year 12 and 13 were able to observe contemporary and famous art work during a visit to London this term. During the combined visit to Tate Modern and the National Gallery, students were especially drawn to Vincent van Gogh's Sunflowers. The students kept a journal during the visit which documented key information, images and drawings.



## World championships

**Y**asmin Javadian (Year 13) represented the Under 21 Great Britain judo team in the World Championships this term. Fifth place in the European Championships in September gained her the unexpected call up. The youngest in her age group, she sensed the extremely passionate nature of some of the other competitors. However, it was not all serious and nerve wracking. With the competition taking place in the Bahamas, she was able to combine intensive training sessions with a small amount of sightseeing and relaxing on the island's beautiful



beaches. Yasmin is planning a break from competitions next year to focus on her final A level examinations.

## Argentinian adventure

**I**mogen Jones, who left Bishop Ullathorne having completed her A levels in the Summer, volunteered in Argentina this year. In order to make the dream happen, she sold a great deal of cakes!

She said: "I would like to extend my greatest thanks for supporting me to get there. I can honestly say it was so worth it and really did give me a brilliant experience that I will always remember and one that impacted on me personally."



# Holiday dates

We close for the holidays on

**Thursday 20 December 2018 at 1.30pm**

The new term starts on

**Monday 7 January 2019 at 8.40am**

Bishop Ullathorne Catholic School  
Leasowes Avenue, Coventry, CV3 6BH  
024 7641 4515

[admin@bishopullathorne.co.uk](mailto:admin@bishopullathorne.co.uk)

[www.bishopullathorne.co.uk](http://www.bishopullathorne.co.uk)

@B\_Ullathorne

Written and edited by Lea Evans Bent, Assistant Headteacher

Designed and produced by Claire Carding, School Administrator

## Calling all parents

We are looking for someone to:

- lead our enthusiastic Gospel choir
- support a Duke of Edinburgh expedition

Have you got the skills for either of these interesting roles? If you think you that have, please contact Marina Smith, Assistant Headteacher.

## Social conscience

Members of our social justice group dropped in on MP Jim Cunningham to deliver letters and a petition asking for refugees to be treated with humanity and kindness.



## Going for gold

The following Year 8 students join the 27 others who gained the Gold Character Passport Award at the end of Year 7. We are very proud of their achievements.

**Megan Honey, Caroline Kuate, Ryan Musewu.**

## Dates for your diary

Year 8	Thursday 4 April 2019 – Parents' Evening
Year 9	Thursday 7 March 2019 – Options' Evening Thursday 9 May 2019 – Parents' Evening
Year 10	Thursday 14 February 2019 – Parents' Evening Thursday 21 March 2019 – Careers' Evening
Year 11	Thursday 17 January 2019 – English and Mathematics, identified students only Monday 8 July 2019 – Year 11 into Year 12 Induction begins (three days)
Sixth Form	Thursday 28 February 2019 – Parents' Evening Monday 8 July 2019 – Year 12 Work Experience
General	Wednesday 3 April 2019 – Fashion Show Wednesday 27 and Thursday 28 March 2019 – School Production Wednesday 3 July 2019 – Transition Day Friday 12 July 2019 – Sports Day Thursday 18 July 2019 – Trips Day

