

# BC14

Holy Spirit,  
Guide our choices,  
Particular guide those students in our school who  
are facing choices of what to do next year.  
Help them to make the right and best choice.  
Amen

Friday 18th January 2019

## Message from Mr McGurran, Senior Vice Principal

Last Tuesday evening MPs voted on whether to accept or reject the Prime Minister's Brexit deal. MPs on both sides of the argument claimed their view to be the most prudent one. By prudent they meant their view was the "shrewdest" or "most sensible" one: like carrying your umbrella when it looks like rain, taking vitamins or exercising and eating healthily. But to Catholics, the virtue of prudence means much more than this and is one we wish to build in our students. The example of St Thomas More gives us a deeper insight into the meaning of prudence.

In 1534 Thomas More was imprisoned in the Tower of London for refusing to approve King Henry VIII's divorce of Catherine of Aragon and remarriage to Anne Boleyn, and for not recognizing Henry as the head of the Church in England. His eldest daughter, Margaret, begged him to accept the marriage to save his own life. More's response was simple: "... if it were possible in this matter for me to do the thing that might please the King without God being offended, there is no man would more gladly than I would do it than I".

That is the voice of prudence. People who want to understand prudence will do well to study St. Thomas More, a man who didn't wish to be a martyr but became one anyway because he was convinced he had no other acceptable choice. He wasn't foolhardy, and he had no wish to die. When his trial finally took place, he used all his sophisticated skill as a lawyer to avoid saying anything that would either cost him his head or be in conflict with his faith.

Prudence is widely misunderstood today. In everyday speech it's a synonym for caution and "playing it safe." St. Thomas Aquinas, however, reminds us that prudence is as much about courage as about caution. Prudence isn't a worldly calculation — figuring out how to get the best price, the best deal, the best of whatever it is that we want. Pope Benedict XVI reminded us it is about being "... humble, disciplined and not being dazzled by prejudices... about seeking the truth — even uncomfortable truth." This, he claims, gives us "a faithful discernment of the gifts and talents given by God."

It is precisely the gift of discernment to use our God given skills and talents that define the mission of our Catholic school. This term we were delighted to discover one of our Sixth Form Students has been offered a scholarship to the distinguished North West University in the United States and two have been offered places at University of Cambridge. Two of our students are now representing the West Midland Under 14 girls football team and our Years 7 and 8 girls athletics team have won the regional competitions and are now looking to represent Birmingham.

The talents of our students will be further developed in our charity work for the British Heart Foundation and our continued commitment to the Year of Health and Well Being. These achievements are exceptional and we are proud of our students but they come from a conviction that we have the courage and commitment to practice and develop our talents and in doing so we give glory to God. This is the essence of prudence.

## MFL Updates

### Year 7 Day Trip to France

We have just launched our year 7 day trip to France which will be taking place on Friday 14th June 2019. It is open to all year 7 students. If you are interested, please pick up a letter from Miss Mazabraud. You will be able to sign up on SchoolComms from Friday 1st February.

The group will be leaving on the Thursday night, arriving in Calais first thing on the Friday morning.

We will be having a typical French breakfast at a café, going to the beach to play pétanque, visiting a snail farm, visiting the old town of Boulogne and finally going to a hypermarket for souvenirs before returning to Kings Heath.

### Year 8 T1 Assessments

Year 8 will be sitting their French T1 assessments w/c 28th January. They will be tested in all 4 skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking. Please visit [www.frenchbc.weebly.com](http://www.frenchbc.weebly.com) for help and information.

## Year 11 Penfriend Project

Mr Paillette's Year 11 group has started a penfriend project with a school in Switzerland. We are hoping to create a strong link with this school which we can use for future KS4 classes.

## French Music/films

If you are quite curious and want to know more about French culture please check out our 'French Touch' page on [www.frenchbc.weebly.com](http://www.frenchbc.weebly.com) under information générale.

## Science Revision Guides for Y7 & 8

Science revision guides can now be bought from the science department.

Revision guides: £2.50

Workbook with answers: £5.00

These would be very useful for year 8s getting ready for their T1 assessments.

Just ask your science teacher.

# Sixth Form

## UCAS

The very last of our university applications have been sent off this week. We are very proud of the efforts the students have made with these; some having to sit additional exams and attend interviews as part of the application process. We are also grateful to the staff who have supported them, both with their applications and by writing their references. Some very positive responses are being received from the universities, including TWO offers from Cambridge.

We will be holding a special assembly in the coming weeks to advise students of the next steps: accepting Firm and Insurance places and applying for Student Finance.

## Successful US applicant

The year 13 student who has applied to a US university has been awarded a very prestigious scholarship to Northwestern University. More details to follow about the exciting path that lies ahead for this exceptional student.

## Christmas Fair

The pennies have been counted (thank you colleagues in the finance office) and the Sixth Form Christmas Fair raised just short of £450- A huge achievement! £250 will go to the Teenage Cancer Trust, which is a charity very close to our hearts, and the rest to the whole school charity, which this year is the British Heart Foundation.

## Year 12 Work Experience 1st -12th July

Well done to all those students who, with the support of their families and other contacts, or through their own determination, have already secured work experience placements for July. If this is not already on hand, it requires prompt action. The Sixth Form team can offer support and have a limited number of placements that we can suggest but the onus is very much on students taking responsibility for this. It is also a requirement for enrolment into year 13.

## Mock and Interim examinations.

Year 13 have already received revision booklet and will be revising in earnest for their mock examinations this half term. Year 12 will have their booklets sent home this week with the Spring Update letter. Year 12 have interim assessments before half term and should also be revising regularly.

# Sports Updates

## Extra-curricular clubs

As a New Year and new term has started, we have and updated PE extra- curricular timetable. Check out the extra-curricular timetable and choose a new club to come along to! As an extra edition, you will see on a Wednesday after school, our fitness suite (newly named the Dominick Cunningham Fitness Suite) is now fully refurbished and ready for use. We have two personal trainers coming in to deliver a fitness club open to all students.

## Fixtures

With it being the first full week back at school, fixtures are continuing strong into the New Year. Year 8 boys played against Smiths Wood academy and won 17-1. Well done to all the boys involved as they now progress onto the quarter finals of the cup. A huge congratulations to the Year 7 and 8 girls who represented BCFC in the girls cup. The girls played extremely well and finished 4th! Well done to all involved! The Year 10 boys football team are always progressing well in the West Midlands cup and the Birmingham cup. They are now into the semi-finals of both cups! We wish the boys the best of luck!

## What is coming up?

### Condover Hall

Just a reminder the Condover Hall residential dates are Wednesday 20th February to Friday 22nd 2019. All medical forms must be returned and completed by Friday 18th January to Mr Moreira/Miss Crump in the PE office/reception. There will be a 'parents/carers information evening' early February (date to be confirmed) to give you a full update on the residential and answer any questions / queries you may have.

## Intra School competition

The next intra school competition is on Wednesday 30th January. The sport which students will be battling against each other this time is basketball! If you wish to enter please collect a sign-up sheet from Miss Hunter from Monday 21st January!



Yubo, formerly Yellow, is a social media app encouraging teens to find new friends by allowing them to swipe left or right to connect and live stream. It's gained popularity among school-age teens who use it to chat with friends one-on-one or in groups and connect with other users through live video streaming. There is a minimum age limit of 13 on Yubo and anyone under 17 who sets up a profile has to confirm they have the permission of a parent or guardian. 13 to 17-year-olds have their own community that is separate from adults who use the app – this however can be circumnavigated through lying about age.

Like other social networking apps, the ability to communicate with others via both

instant message and live video is where the potential pitfalls lie. Furthermore, the swipe left and right feature is identical to that seen in a prolific dating app and turns the friend making process into a first glance opinion; someone could easily use a different picture to gain 'likes and trick people.

We are advising parents and carers to communicate with their child regarding this app.

More information can be found at: <https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/news-blogs/yubo-formerly-yellow-social-media-app-parents-need-know/>

# Year 10 Food Bank Collection



## Teaching School Update

New Year - New Career? As you know, here at Bishop Challoner we have a long history of training teachers for Primary and Secondary subjects. If you are keen to find out more about how to apply for a trainee teacher position, and what bursaries are available, why not come along to our free information evening on Thursday 24th January at 6 pm? You can book a place at [www.bctsa.org](http://www.bctsa.org) and bring all your questions on this rewarding and exciting career.

### Attendance

Year 7- 97%  
Year 8- 96%  
Year 9- 95%  
Year 10- 95%  
Year 11- 95%  
Whole School- 96%

## Upcoming Events

**BGT Auditions**  
Tuesday 22nd January

**Canteen-Caribbean Day**  
Tuesday 29th January

**KS3/4 Student Voice**  
Thursday 31st January

## Maths Problem

### Sums, products & quotients

Can you find a pair of numbers  $a$  and  $b$ , such that their sum  $a+b$ , their product  $ab$ , and the quotient  $a/b$  are all equal?

For the solution to the last problem, follow us  
[@BCMathsDept](https://twitter.com/BCMathsDept)

## Advertising with Bishop Challoner

No need to pay the High Street prices for billboard advertising. You could advertise to 2000 people a day through Bishop Challoner for a fraction of the price.

We are delighted to offer advertising space in our community areas, including our sports hall, function room and gym.

This opportunity is available for £30 per month. Please contact G.Noone on 0121 4444161 or email: [g.noone@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:g.noone@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk)

## Facilities Hire for Parties and Events

For more info call Laura on 0121 441 6103



## Easyfundraising

Thank you to all that supported school during Christmas. We now have over 150 Bishop Challoner Easyfundraisers! To become a member and help Bishop Challoner go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bishopchallonercatholiccollege/>

## Newsletter sponsorship

Would you like to sponsor our Easter Newsletter. For £50 you can promote your business to all our school contacts. All you have to do is drop us an email for more details. Please contact [g.noone@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk](mailto:g.noone@bishopchalloner.bham.sch.uk) if you wish to advertise.

## Match and School Fund

Please visit the school website for more information on School Fund contributions and Match Fund through your employer. Thank you to everyone that has already contributed.



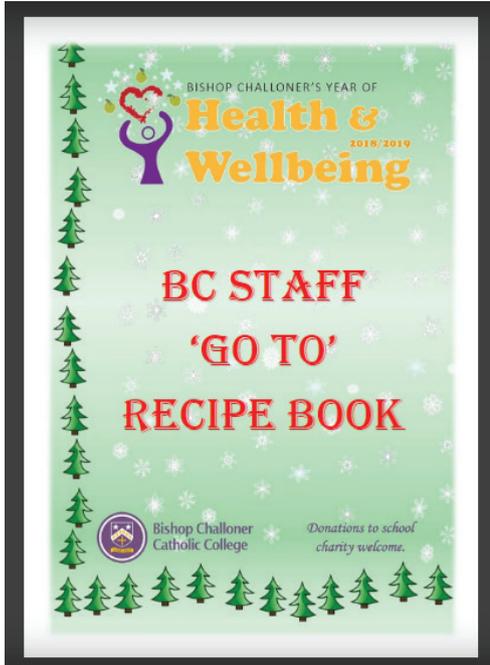
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## Year of Health and Wellbeing Tip

Miss Mazabraud's Year of Health & Wellbeing tip is to get cooking. She finds that trying a new recipe or spending time making an old favourite helps her to relax and gain a sense of accomplishment. She is not the only one to value cooking, Psychology Today reports that mindless rushed cooking is commonplace in Britain today but scheduling time to think about what you eat and mindfully preparing it is not only good for our waistlines but also good for our mental health.

For recipe ideas why not check out the 2018 Bishop Challoner Cookbook available on our website.

<https://www.bishopchalloner.org.uk/documents/view/8604>

## Whole-school Charity

Every year Bishop Challoner selects one charity to focus their fundraising on between the months of January and July. Last year we raised over £6400 for St Basils homeless charity based in Birmingham.

Before Christmas, our students were tasked with suggesting names of charities they would like to support in school. Two charities were selected as the most popular; British Heart Foundation and Mind (mental health charity). Information and advertisements for both charities were shared across the school during Personal Tutor time and a school-wide vote of tutor groups was held. The winner was British Heart Foundation. Students are now creating their plans for how they fundraise for this charity and learn from the incredible work they do.

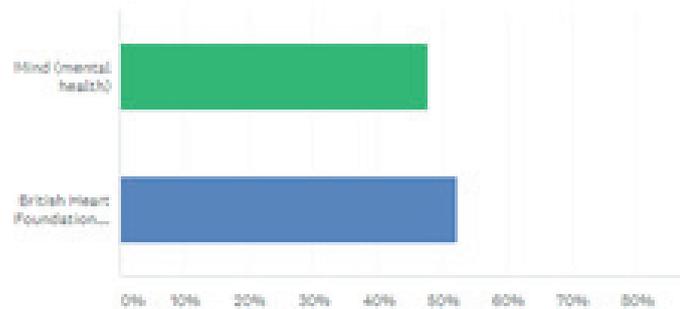


**Education and lifestyle modifications may prevent 80% of heart disease and stroke events.**

Q1

Which charity did your tutor group vote for?

Answered: 67 Skipped: 0



**Cardiovascular disease causes over a quarter of all deaths in the UK**



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