



"Although alone, Wisdom can do all; herself unchanging, she makes all things new. In each generation she passes into holy souls, she makes them friends of God and prophets."

Perhaps this quotation reminds us that in Christian education we are engaged in far more than simply passing exams. Working with parents, we are trying to help Wisdom pass into the souls of each new generation. Lent is a good time to ponder such things, to take stock of the vocation of our lives as Christians, to put things back into their proper perspective.

Our students have been as busy as ever this half term, with sporting success notably to the fore. Our Year 11's are on the final run-in to the GCSEs and I hope they will be mixing up some hard work with their relaxation over the half term holiday. Our teachers and support colleagues have been working as hard as ever over the last few weeks on their behalf and I would like to thank them for all that they have been doing to support our students.

Charities

The response to the Haiti appeal has been tremendous. So far we've contributed £848! We have three more fundraising events coming up. In mid-March we will be joining the rest of the country in supporting Sports Relief. Students will be able to complete their mile during PE lessons and contribute towards the cause when they take part.

On Wednesday, March 31st we will be having an "Own Clothes" day, when we invite students to wear their own clothes in return for a donation to the chosen charities. This time we will be supporting two charities: The Myasthenia Gravis Society (who earlier donated the Narcissus bulbs we're all looking forward to seeing in flower), and Arthritis Care. This is the charity supported by Sarah Outen, who recently rowed across the Indian Ocean and who will be spending the day with us in June.

Charities Day has a new date, Friday 25th June. Fundraising activities will take place during the morning and money will be sent to local charities chosen by the students: Romsey Mill, Camread, MAGPAS and St Martin's Day Care Centre. Each form will run a stall or game and all students will have the chance to visit these during the morning. We are grateful for all your continued support with our fundraising activities.

Transport System Payment

Thank you to parents who have paid for the Spring Term transport via Wisepay. Please pay for the Summer Term after 1 April - this will help with our accounts for the end of the financial year.

Trips and Visits Payments

We encourage you to pay for any trips and visits electronically via Wisepay. If you have lost your username / password, then please contact us at office@stbedes.cambs.sch.uk

Cashless Catering

Please remember to top up accounts ready for the next half term. Daily limits can be changed by contacting the Finance Office.

School Uniform

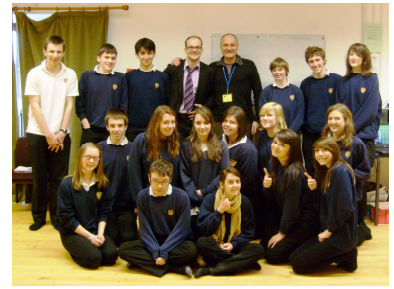
School uniform can be purchased on line - see school website for links in the Parents' area. School only keeps a small stock of uniform. Total Promotions login is uniform@stbedes.cambs.sch.uk and the password is 'parents'.

GCSE Poetry Live

On the 27th January, a large number of students from Year 11 met in Cambridge City Centre to attend GCSE Poetry Live, a poetry conference for English GCSE students. The day included talks from various poets, including the current Poet Laureate, Carol Ann Duffy, about their poems, as well as hints and tips from examiners on how to achieve the maximum marks possible. The poets talked to us about the process of writing a poem, the stories behind some of their poems, and how a poem can be interpreted in thousands of different ways, and still be right – that no one interpretation is better than the other. Highlights of the day for me were Simon Armitage and John Agard, who both delivered amusing and entertaining performances. Katherine Brightwell, 11DB

Expressive Arts

The Expressive Arts department had its very own brush with Hollywood this term, with a visit from the BAFTA-nominated director and screenwriter, Tony Grisoni (*TV's The Red Riding Trilogy, Fear & Loathing in Las Vegas - starring Johnny Depp! - to name but two*). Timed to coincide with our Year 11 Drama sets beginning to write their own Final Performance tales, Tony spent an entire morning giving our pupils a wonderful insight into the art of story-writing, as well as numerous tips and anecdotes about the movie business as a whole. In all, the experience was an incredibly inspiring one and we look forward to seeing the work it results in just before Easter.



As if Hollywood wasn't enough, this was then swiftly followed up by the Expressive Arts department's first-ever collaboration between an outside theatre company and our very own students. 'An Evening with ' was the result of an intensive two-day workshop involving over 120 students. Members of the GCSE Art, Drama, Music and Graphics



sets in Years 10 & 11 took on the daunting project of generating an entire hour-long show from nothing in only two days. Coached by experts from the Junction's resident theatre company, Gomito, the performance pushed boundaries way beyond anything St Bede's had ever seen the like of before, combining artistry, performance and puppetry with a live musical accompaniment. The show which resulted was also unique in that it was staged in various locations around the new Arts block site, meaning that the emotional 'journey' the play took its characters through was also reflected in a physical one for the audience. We are delighted at the success of the project, and for the way in which our students and

audience responded to Gomito's innovative approaches and ideas. To stage such a creatively challenging and bold performance as the one we have seen here tonight requires two things : firstly, you need a group of young people who are utterly willing to work together and throw themselves into something so radically abstract and outside their usual norm, that they will put aside all self-consciousness in the blink of an eye; Secondly, you need an audience whose support and encouragement for their friends and family is so strong that they too will happily embrace the madness and oddities in the spirit in which they were intended. I am very proud to say that we have both here at St Bede's, and in great abundance. With luck, it is hoped that this project will encourage many more students to consider the Arts in their future career pursuits.



Mr A Watts, Head of Faculty of Expressive Arts

Elsewhere, the Faculty continued its on-going outreach programme, with a recent trip to Barnabas Oley Primary school being the highlight. There, members of the Youth Choir under the direction of Miss Bell performed a variety of songs as part of that school's collective worship.

Book Week is coming!

Our already thriving reading culture is about to be celebrated during Book Week, Monday 1 March – Friday 5 March.

Years 7, 8 and 9 students are encouraged to join our Readathon (www.readathon.org), a national sponsored read which aims to raise a million pounds every year for seriously ill children. It works just like a sponsored walk or swim, except that the students read books in exchange for pledges of money. Students wishing to take part will be issued with an official Readathon Sponsor Card during the week after half-term and they are encouraged to find sponsors ready for the event which will run during the five days of Book Week. Keen readers may want to pledge to read a book a day; others may decide to set their goal at a chapter a day. The students will be asked to collect sponsor money after Book Week, to be handed in to the school finance office by **Friday 19 March**.

Last year students raised £603.50 which, through Readathon, was donated to Sargent Cancer Care for Children and The Roald Dahl Foundation.

World Book Day is celebrated on Thursday 4 March. As in previous years, students will receive a £1 WBD token redeemable against a book worth £2.99 or more in participating bookshops or exchanged for one of the specially produced £1 books.

Also on World Book Day prizes will be on offer for students matching up staff members and book titles.

Sport

Basketball Cluster Fixtures

U16 Boys:

Since the Christmas holidays, the boys have had two more fixtures. Their first was against the Parkside and Coleridge Federation. This was a well-fought and close match, with the lead changing hands in each quarter. In the end the boys held their nerve and they won by 2 points. It was a very similar story in their next match against Netherhall, with both teams sharing the lead. However, by the end of the third quarter, St Bede's were 7 points down. The boys rallied and fought back in the fourth quarter and levelled the match with a minute to go. Baskets were missed at either end until Netherhall went in front by 2 points with seconds remaining. The boys managed to work a shot, but unfortunately it came off the hoop just as the buzzer sounded.

U14 Boys:

The first fixture of the New Year was against the Parkside and Coleridge Federation but the boys showed little evidence of the recent break by thrashing them 82 - 23 with Cranz De La Cruz on fine shooting form. After narrowly losing out to Netherhall before Christmas, the boys were out for revenge and beat them in brilliant style in a convincing 62 - 28 score line. We wish them all the luck in the final tournament next week.

District Basketball Tournaments

U14 Boys:

Up next was the preliminary round for this year's U14 tournament where the team drew Swavesey and another rematch with Netherhall. Both oppositions were swept aside by a team full of confidence and playing well as a unit.

U16 Boys:

We were in a group with Melbourn and Parkside and Coleridge. It all came down to the deciding match between us and Parkside and Coleridge. The winner would top the group and make the finals. The boys were ready for another close game. They started brilliantly and played the best basketball they have played all season. All their hard work in training and fixtures, over the last few months, had paid off. In the end they were far too good and won 34-11. We wish them well in the District finals on Thursday, 11th February.

Training was very well attended by students in the lower school and all the girls were committed to improving their basketball skills both at the club and in their lessons.

U14 Girls:

The girls played an outstanding level of basketball in the group stage of the tournament. They beat Linton V.C 14 - 8, Chesterton C.C 14-0 and Cottenham 32-0.

U16 Girls:

The team played competitively in their group round against some good opposition. They lost their first match against Linton, but were able to find their form and won convincingly against Bottisham. They needed to win the last match in order to get through to the finals. The girls took an early lead against Impington VC in the first half and looked like they were going to win. Unfortunately Impington managed to score two vital baskets in the last minutes of the match. Final score Impington 10 St Bede's 8.



District basketball finals at Long Road

U14 Girls Monday 8th February:

The girls were very confident and excited before their semi-final match against Cottenham. They played the match brilliantly and won 28-0 and securing their place in the final.

The final between St Bede's and Meridian was very tense with St Bede's taking an early lead in the first half. Meridian came back strongly in the second half and at the end of the match the score was tied 10 -10. Two minutes of extra time was played and St Bede's managed to score the first basket. They then proceeded to

defend brilliantly and prevented Meridian from equalising.

The final result was St Bede's 12 Meridian 10.

Congratulations to the whole squad who are now U14 District Champions!

Sophie Nottage
Jessica Brightwell
Sardonna Leung

Anna Goggin
Samantha Calvey
Imogen Sewell

Catherine Owen
Catherine Henderson
Deane Dizon

Olivia Turner
Joanna Chukualim
Maru Lopez

U14 Boys Tuesday 9th February

The boys were up against Bottisham in the semi-final. They began quickly and soon established a lead. They continued to play some excellent free flowing Basketball with Bottisham putting up a brave fight. We comfortably won 22-6.

In the final we faced a strong Melbourn side. Melbourn settled more quickly and established an early lead. The boys showed their strong character and dug deep to lead 10-8 by half time. Melbourn came out the second half on the offensive. Our defence held firm and our attacking basketball proved too much for them. As the buzzer went St Bede's had won the District Final 20-12.



Congratulations to the whole squad who are now U14 District Champions!

Michael Pangratiou (Capt)
Ian Donald

Cranz De La Cruz
Connor Campbell

Chris Cordero
Tom Knight

Sam Somers-Heslam
Josh Wilson

U16 Boys Thursday 11th February

We wish the boys well in the finals.

U13 Girls Football County Cup 1st Round

The girls' football season for the U13's got underway this term. The first round game was against Manor Community College. With the recent bad weather we were unsure if the game would go ahead but the clouds parted to enable us to enjoy a good game. This was the first time the girls had played a full 11 a side game but they stuck to their formation strongly throughout and as such went on to win the game 11-0. Needless to say Miss Le Scelle was very happy. They move onto the next round where they will play either Parkside or Netherhall. Congratulations go to:

Gatherine Owen
Bella Spilsbury
Zoe Higgins
Sofia Capetti
Jo Cooper

Shannon Dennehy-Brand
Ciara Collins
Holly Phipps
Sarah Sanderson

Ayesha Ping
Amelia Norton
Danielle Hollis
Frankie Ashby

County Cross Country

Five St Bede's students were selected to represent the County on the 21st January at Royston Heath: Charis Taylor, Patrick Collins, Josh Wilson and James Freeman (all Year 7's) and Will Taylor (in Year 9). They did tremendously well and finished in the following positions.

Charis Taylor 16th
Patrick Collins 15th
Josh Wilson 27th
James Freeman 28th
Will Taylor 7th

Special Congratulations go to Charis, Patrick and Will who have been selected to represent the County at the Anglian Cross Country Championships on Saturday 6th Feb.

Sporting Achievements and Representational Honours

Hockey:

Well done to Scott Perry and Nick Beattie who have worked extremely hard this season and have been selected to play County Hockey. We wish them well in future matches.

Rugby Honours:

Congratulations go to Callum Pratt and Ian Donald who have been selected to train with the Northampton Saints. Callum, Year 9, played for the Saints Colts team who recently beat the Leicester Tigers Colts team 32-7.

Table Tennis:

Congratulations go to Tom Hands who has been selected to play for the U14 County Team. We look forward to hearing how he and the rest of the boys are getting on.

Football:

Recently the Cambridgeshire U15 Schoolboys team made it through to the quarter-finals of the National Knockout Cup. A tremendous achievement! We are very pleased and proud to have three of our Year 10's part of that team:

TERM DATES

St Bede's Inter-Church School
with Humanities Status



'Cum Deo - With God'

Spring Term 2010

Half Term: 15th February – 19th February 2010
Spring Term Closes: 31st March 2010
Easter Holiday: 1st April – 18th April 2010

Summer Term 2010

Summer Term Opens: 19th April 2010
May Day Bank Holiday: 3rd May 2010
Half Term: 31st May – 4th June 2010
Summer Term Closes: 22nd July 2010
Summer Holiday: 23rd July – 31st August 2010

Autumn Term 2010

Teacher Training Day: 1st September 2010
Autumn Term Opens: 2nd September 2010
Teacher Training Day: 22nd October 2010
Half Term: 25th – 29th October 2010
Autumn Term Closes: 16th December 2010
Christmas Holiday: 18th December 2010 – 3rd January 2011

Spring Term 2011

Teacher Training Day: 4th January 2011
Spring Term Opens: 5th January 2011
Half Term: 21st – 25th February 2011
Spring Term Closes: 8th April 2011
Easter Holiday: 9th April – 25th April 2010

Summer Term 2011

Summer Term Opens: 26th April 2011
May Day Bank Holiday: 2nd May 2011
Half Term: 30th May – 3rd June 2011
Summer Term Closes: 22nd July 2011
Summer Holiday: 23rd July – 31st August 2011