



“The endless cycle of idea and action,
Endless invention, endless experiment,
Brings knowledge of motion, but not of stillness;
Knowledge of speech, but not of silence;
Knowledge of words, and ignorance of the Word.
T.S. Eliot

From the Headteacher

Teachers live in an endlessly cyclical world of terms, holidays, exams, and classes. The passing of the seasons marks the next phase in our students' lives, completely new to them but very familiar to us. Our Year 11's file their applications for next year, take their mocks, retake modules and ultimately move on to new challenges. The Christmas holiday of Year 11 always marks for me the shift into top gear. There is a realisation that the home straight inevitably approaches and must be taken at full speed. Parents who have gone through this before with older children will be very familiar with the routine, but you also know that for every child, even siblings, the experience is their own and not identical to anyone else's. I look forward to seeing this year's exam students make their preparations in the coming months and strive to achieve even more highly than those that have gone before. For those young enough not to have to worry about public exams just yet, I hope you have a wonderfully restful Christmas holiday in which you truly celebrate the coming of The Word among us; this Newsletter captures only some of your many achievements this term. Well done.

Gifted and Talented

Our top Year 11 students recently spent a day at Pembroke College looking at higher education. It was an inspirational day and the students were given the chance to talk to current undergraduates about University life and received different presentations and workshops on the admission procedures, A-Level choices etc.

“On Wednesday, 21st November, myself and a number of other gifted and talented students in Year 11 participated in a University Taster Day at Pembroke College, Cambridge. The day consisted of a number of different activities based upon the life of a Cambridge student. We planned a day in the life of a typical student, took part in a tour of the other Cambridge colleges, listened to a talk on picking A level subjects, and learnt more about the university process. The day was very helpful for all involved, especially for future Oxbridge candidates!

We all enjoyed talking to students about their lives, but I was particularly surprised at the costs and how much work is genuinely involved. The day was conducted by the Schools Liaison for Cambridge University. She told us about different A level choices that would be recommended for certain degrees. I found this particularly useful, and it gave me an insight to what I want to do in the future. This also helped because we are currently choosing A levels and Sixth Form Colleges.

This opportunity allowed us to broaden our perspectives on universities and our future beyond St Bede's. It was a positive experience that made me realise how much I'm going to miss St Bede's, but how much I'm looking forward to my future in higher education.”
S Nottage

Charities Update

The Samaritans' Purse shoe-box appeal is going well. We were able to send off 150 completed boxes. It was wonderful to smash last year's total of 103! Many thanks to all who have already donated a box.



Extra to our planned events was a cake stall for Children in Need. This proved very popular with everyone and was totally student-led, which is very encouraging.

We have started to collect material for a St Bede's recipe book on the theme of celebrating cultures since so many are represented at St Bede's. If you have a favourite recipe you could donate, please send it to Mrs Richardson in E3. Profits from sales will go towards our link schools.

Don't forget that we will be supporting the Starlight Foundation at our school Carol concert this year through the offering taken.

The Charities group are busy designing a logo and creating a motto for our new site on the school VLE. All ideas would be gratefully received.



PTFA 100 Club

There are still some available spaces for those who wish to join our 100 Club. Further information and a form are attached.

Congratulations!

Congratulations go to Hannah Scott, Year 7, who is studying with the DanceEast Academy after being identified as having "exceptional talent or potential" in dance. The scheme allows young dancers like Hannah to access high level training whilst completing mainstream schooling, before progressing to full time professional dance training and careers in dance. Keep up the good work, Hannah!

Humanities

On Wednesday 2nd November 70 Year 11 Geographers went to Queen Ediths, Romsey and Cherry Hinton in Cambridge to complete fieldwork based on Quality of Life and Standard of Living in preparation for their second Controlled Assessment. They will complete their Controlled Assessment in lessons this half term.



On Wednesday 9th November, we took 61 Year 11 Historians to London to the Old Operating Theatre, Museum and Garret, Southwark. As part of their GCSE History course, students study Medicine Through Time. The theatre is the only surviving 19th century operating theatre which was used between 1821 and 1862. As well as exploring the museum, students were able to see a Victorian surgery demonstration, reconstructing the atmosphere of an operation in the time before the discovery of anaesthetics and antiseptics. Students were then taken on a Public Health Walk of the surrounding area, to learn more about the health, social and working conditions suffered by the Victorian poor.

Year 7 pupils had a Specialisms Day organised by Humanities and ICT. During the day students took part in a number of workshops including a web quest on Uganda, a session producing some work entitled 'My Life' that will be sent out to our partner school, Kabango Primary School, in Uganda, African crafts such as weaving and beaded keyrings, a session on life and conflict in Uganda and a traditional Ngoma Drumming workshop.



We have recently received a package of work and photos from our partner school, Kabango Primary School, in Uganda. Year 7 students will be using these and work from the Uganda Day to put a display together. We will be posting some photos and work from Uganda Day to Kabango Primary School.



Year 8 will be having a Specialisms Day based on the theme of 'the media' early in January.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Suzanne and Julian Owen, who were confirmed at Ely Cathedral on Saturday 19th November. We wish them well as they embark on their lives as adult Christians equipped with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Emmaus Recruitment

St Bede's has joined up to Emmaus Recruitment online, a Christian recruitment service to help all Church Schools recruit both permanent and interim teachers and support staff. Should you or your friends be interested in applying for any vacancies at St Bede's, or for any in any other Christian school nationwide, then please visit the website www.emmausrecruitment.com

Science ECO Conference at Netherhall

On the 5th November, six representatives from St Bede's School went to the Cambridge Secondary Schools' Eco Conference at Netherhall. The aim of the conference was to inform schools and generate ideas about how to make schools more eco friendly. There were three main workshops about food, alternative energy, and recycling and reusing. The first workshop, food, talked about how far away food comes from, and its carbon footprint. We learnt that less packaging is better than lots of packaging.

In the Alternative Energy workshop, we looked at less expensive and eco friendly things. We played Energy Top Trumps and found out what is sustainable and what is not. In the Recycling Workshop, we looked at how and what to recycle, and how to reuse things. We wrote lists of things we could recycle, like a milk bottle, and how long things take to be recycled. Finally, we went back to the hall and talked about what, as a whole, we could do to be green, and have already started to act on this.

P Lewis and I Williams

Year 10 Visit to Berlin

On Tuesday October 16th 55 Year 10 students, accompanied by 5 members of staff, left St Bede's to spend 5 days in Berlin. This was a joint History/RE enrichment activity. Our focus was on looking at how life in Berlin has changed between 1930 and today, with a special focus on the reasons for and the effects of the Holocaust.

In some very busy days (and evenings) students took a walking tour of Berlin, visited the Holocaust Memorial, the Topography of Terror, Jewish and DDR Museums, went up to the Panoramapoint viewing platform (25 floors up) and visited the East Side Gallery. They completed guided tours of the Reichstag, the Berlin Wall and the Olympic Stadium. They also had the opportunity to experience the Berlin Festival of lights and go shopping in KaDaWe – Berlin's equivalent to Harrods.



However, the most moving day was on the Thursday with a visit to three sites that between them told the story of the Holocaust. Students started by visiting the House of the Wannsee Conference, where Nazi administrators planned the 'Final Solution'. They then went to Grunewald Station and the Platform 17 memorial, which marks one of the 4 places in Berlin where Jewish prisoners were loaded on trains for deportation (see photo). Finally they visited the Memorial that was Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp where those who the Nazi regime imprisoned were forced to work, were tortured and eventually killed. Whilst, at times, overwhelming, this gave everyone a greater understanding of how such things can happen. It brought home the truth of Edmund Burke's saying – **'All that is necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing'** - and the need for each generation to remain vigilant.

We were delighted by the responses of students who took part in the visit and the contribution it has made to their understanding of the issues that are studied at GCSE RE and History. Plans are already in place to repeat the visit in October 2012.

RE News

This autumn, Year 7 have been creative architects of their own 'inter-church' communities. This has been the culmination of the 'Island Community' project that introduces our new cohort of students to RE at St Bede's. Back in September students spent their first few lessons helping create a fantasy journey on a cruise ship; which resulted in a shipwreck and with the class marooned on a desert island! Students were challenged with building a new society, which facilitated much discussion about the nature of 'community' and our shared values. Amongst their discussions, students identified a need to address the spiritual and emotional needs of their new Island community. Students were then asked to design and create a single church that would serve both the Roman Catholic and Anglican traditions of the ship-wrecked Islanders.



Students first had to research the beliefs, buildings and rituals of both traditions; before imaginatively creating an 'inter-church'. The results were amazing! As I write this article I am surrounded by churches of every conceivable shape; whether they are made of dried palm leaves, carved out of wood, modelled in clay or constructed in Lego bricks! Students created innovative places of worship that embodied ecumenism at its best; and yet preserved the integrity of both Christian traditions. Each group of students presented their 'inter-church' to the class and justified the decisions they had made, not only in terms of the building construction, but also how the community would worship authentically. Through the project students not only developed a deeper knowledge of both the Roman Catholic and Anglican traditions, but also a real appreciation of what binds us together, and an understanding of what it means to be part of St Bede's Inter-Church School.



Chaplaincy

As we gallop towards our Christmas celebrations, we can look back on a packed term for the Chaplaincy. The autumn term is renowned for being busy, as we settle back into the rhythm of a new school year; we welcome new students and staff, return to familiar schemes of work and activities, and implement the new ideas that always seem such a good idea at the time!

The Chaplaincy is, as ever, busy and something that has to be focused on relationships, it has not been surprising that once more the numbers who come along are on the increase. This is most encouraging as it feels like the Chaplaincy and, myself as Chaplain, are not regarded as distant or to be avoided. There will inevitably be a significant group who need and find a safe place here and for others the Chaplaincy will always seem out of bounds for them. But those who fall in between these groups are now appearing more regularly. And as the work of the Chaplaincy cuts across the lives of the students in more and varied ways, we are seeing a noticeable change in perception of what the Chaplaincy is and does.

Collective Worship

As ever, a busy schedule of visitors continues to allow us to offer the students a diverse range of assemblies. Our local clergy are taking on more and varied activities for us, which is great for the students, and our visitors like it too. There are plenty more plans in the pipeline to develop these relationships further. Their presence in school is vital as it not only enriches our lives, but also provides a physical reminder that we're here to serve each other, with God at the centre.

We have also enjoyed a significant increase in the participation of students in assemblies. The Head Boy, Head Girl and Deputies have led a couple of assemblies, as well as the Year 11 tutor groups speaking to our younger students. Students are becoming less nervous about volunteering 'up front' in assemblies and are becoming more prepared to participate. There is always more to be done here.

The new Year 7's have been very responsive to singing with the Worship Band when they have their assembly. Our hope and prayer is that this will continue and sung worship becomes the norm.

Tutor time worship continues to be busy for tutors as they have much to cover in the short time in the morning. The prayers and readings booklet is now more helpful and student friendly, allowing for greater participation by students. The Chaplaincy Reps are central to this.

The half-termly additional Eucharists continue. Mgr Peter Leeming thoroughly enjoys these times, as do the students, and Revd Barry Linney is to lead a High Anglican Eucharist mid-November. The chaplaincy is packed for these and they are indeed special times in our school life. We are fortunate that we can be flexible and allow students to miss a lesson in order to give us time to come together in this way.

We are delighted to have welcomed Fr Sean Connelly from Newmarket to join the many visitors here. He came to lead a Harvest Mass with the Year 8 students, working alongside the RE department. The students really liked him and with his RE teaching experience, we are looking forward to him spending lots more time with us.

Reflection Days

Year 7 spent a day at Ely Cathedral, working with the enthusiastic volunteers there. The theme was 'Journey' and the students took part in five different workshops, taking a different aspect of that theme in each. We finished the day with a wonderful Eucharist led by Revd Barry Linney, and the Worship Band did a fantastic job in leading us in worship. Many Year 7's took part in singing, reading, leading intercessions and performing a drama. Bob Chappell and Suzanne Barton worked very hard to organise much of the day and the Eucharist.

Worship Band

It has been such an answer to prayer to see so many students packed into the chaplaincy for practice. Some of our regulars have moved on but have been replaced with lots of Year 7 students, as well as some from higher up the school. There are some very talented musicians now playing alongside Mr Chappell, and Miss Bell (from the music department) has also helped with some singing training. This group have certainly encouraged a greater participation in sung worship across the whole Year 7, as mentioned before. The Band work hard and are called upon to take part in a wide range of activities, which they do with great enthusiasm.

Wednesday assemblies are now a slot given to the Year 7's, where the Worship Band take the whole time. Year 11 students will lead, speaking to the whole year and will involve younger students in prayers and presentations. The Chaplain might occasionally help out with some guidance in readings or help in writing prayers, but this opportunity to grow young leaders is great!

Christian Union

Dan Jacobs and Josh Drury, both from C3, have continued to run CU during lunch time. On the last day before half term, Christian Union was physically taken out the Chaplaincy and moved to the gym for 'The Event'. Food was available but also an open prayer / reflection space for students to engage with. It was a great success, many came and took part quite happily, not really realising that they were actually part of the Christian Union. A slightly 'creative' and clever way to spread the Gospel!

Chaplaincy Representatives.

This initiative now seems firmly embedded into the culture of the school. Regular monthly meetings bring them together to discuss, share ideas and pray. It was a great privilege to watch them sit and pray, not just for the school, but for each other. The Reps now have the prayer and readings booklet which is changing and developing with each half term, now containing a wider range of accessible activities which can be delivered by students and / or staff. They are also just about to embark upon their first ever assembly. There is so much enthusiasm and good will to tap into, that at the moment it feels like the sky's the limit.

Other activities

The business this term has partly been due to all the other 'stuff' that gets fitted in between the regular work of the Chaplaincy:

- A Year 7 Welcome Service was a lovely way to start the year, with a huge turnout of parents and students. Once more the Year 7s willingly took part in prayers and drama as well as those in the Worship Band. The atmosphere of the evening was warm, welcoming and parents seemed reluctant to leave!
- Working with Mrs Catherine Nancekievill on a bid to the Schools' Trust for creative prayer resources, has been really exciting. It's always good when an idea that has grown out of a number of conversations comes to fruition. The good news is that we have been given a generous sum to purchase prayer resources, and working with the Trust and GenR8, St Bede's will be the hub for other schools, churches and youth workers to book and use these diverse yet creative ideas. There is more to plan and put into place before the project 'goes live' next year
- The Chaplain was delighted to be able to take four students to the Westminster Abbey celebrations of the 200th Anniversary of the National Society. They had a great day along with hundreds of others and enjoyed the whole experience

Transport Payments

Payments for Spring Term 2012 Transport can be made from 7th December 2011. Termly charges are £118 per family for the levy and £62 per student for the school transport charge. Once payment has been received, a new Spring Term bus pass will be issued and posted home. Families who have paid for the year in advance, or sent in January 2012 dated cheques, should receive their new passes before the end of term.

Red House Reading Group



The Red House Reading Group for students in Year 7 has begun. 25 students have committed themselves to reading the six shortlisted books for younger and older readers by the middle of January. The books are; 'Grace' by Morris Gleitzman, 'A Monster Calls' by Patrick Ness, 'My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece' by Annabel Pitcher, 'One Dog and His Boy' by Eva Ibbotson, 'Sky Hawk' by Gill Lewis, 'Brilliant World of Tom Gates' by Liz Pichon.

The Red House Childrens Book Award is the only national book award voted for entirely by children.
<http://www.redhousechildrensbookaward.co.uk>

School Uniform

Total Promotions are launching a new ordering website www.yourclothingshop.com/stbedeschool just for St Bede's uniform and PE kit. The link will be available via our website from 12th December. Online orders are delivered to home addresses - usually within 3 to 4 days. We only keep a limited emergency stock in school - so do try the new website for your next order.

Free School Meals - did you know?

- A child at Secondary School age can spend up to £2.15 per day
- Your child doesn't have to have it – but it's there if they would like it
- Your school receives extra money for each child who is entitled to Free School Meals

Is your child eligible for Free School Meals? Your child is eligible if you receive one of these benefits:

- Income support
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit but not Working Tax Credit and with a household income of less than £16,190
- Guarantee element of State Pension
- Support under part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999

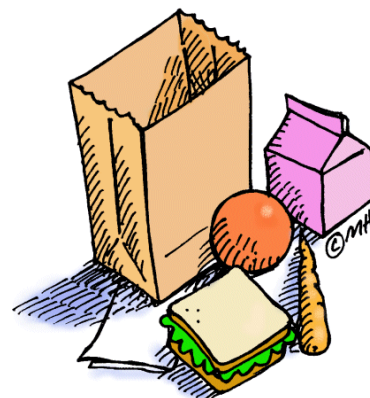
How to apply:

Parents do not need to complete a paper form. Applying for free school meals online is quick and easy, and no proof of entitlement is needed. On receipt of the on-line application, Cambridgeshire County Council will check for entitlement through a secure Electronic Checking System. All that is needed is the claimant's name, National Insurance number, their children's details and details of their children's schools.

Complete an online application form:

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/education/parents/help/lunches/>

For more information call the Education Welfare Benefits Service on 01480 72307/8



Progress on the VLE (Virtual Learning Environment)

This term we have been trialling and developing our VLE with all departments. This has shown us areas where the VLE will be most useful and most effective, and highlighted various problems, mostly with use from home.

Progress

Within school this has proved to be an effective tool for students using our own ICT resources and completing work in our own ICT suites. The Science Department has been using the system for the new GCSE controlled assessments (coursework), and Modern Foreign Languages has set up a bank of resources including a media library and past exam papers for revision. The ICT Department is carrying out much of the course teaching via the VLE.

Problems

Many of the problems have either arisen from students trying to log in from home, and entering their user-name incorrectly, or from software incompatibility. If students experience difficulties they should come and see Mr Chappell or a member of the ICT staff and we will endeavour to find the solution with them.

Development

In the last few weeks we have worked hard on making the layout and interface more user-friendly and logical. In addition there is now a section for extra-curricular activities, such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, so that students can access information and resources at all times.

Our VLE is very much "work-in-progress" and under constant development. Although we encounter problems which need solutions, we also discover many new opportunities for the future.



Sports Report

Rugby District Tournaments

Year 7 and 8 have been training extremely hard this season and the commitment and attendance at club sessions have been fantastic. After winning their warm up games, the team embarked upon the annual District Rugby Tournament held at Cambridge Rugby Club.

Year 7 A Team Rugby

The team were enthused to be playing local rivals Netherhall first, who had twice pulled out of the cluster fixture, and the boys were eager for some revenge. A compelling 40-0 victory followed, with some brilliant running rugby from the backs, who picked holes at will in the opposition's defence. The other group games also finished 40-0 against Manor and Melbourn, and St Bede's comfortably went through as group winners and into the semi-finals. Some of the moves by the backs were scintillating, setting up some great tries by Ollie Sewell, Oliver Maynard, Michael Witherspoon and Toby Darroch.



Up next was a big Swavesey team with a very effective pack that dominated the breakdown, and whose overall play suited the wet conditions. Unfortunately, in the first half, St Bede's struggled to gain or recycle possession resulting in 10-0 down at the break. In the second half, the team rejuvenated, and produced some much more effective rugby. Trailing 10-5, the boys pushed to pull level, but a strong Swavesey defence prevented them getting over the line and a late breakaway try secured victory for the opposition, finishing 15-5. On another day, when dry conditions would have suited the ball in hand, it could be a different story, but this talented crop of players will be out looking to progress further next year. An excellent 3rd place finish overall in the District.

Year 7A Squad

Raven Chumacera
Marcus Gaiser-Porter
Oliver Maynard
Max Cummings

Joseph De'Ath
Thomas Holmes-Chatfield
Michael Witherspoon
Harry Charlesworth

Alejandro Freeman
Daniel Cockhead
Toby Darroch

Dan Beattie
Oliver Sewell
Jack Niland

Year 7B Team

The B Team were in a group with Linton, Sawston and Impington. First up were Impington Village College. The boys tackled really well and enjoyed good possession. They deservedly scored a well-worked try early in the second half, which was enough to seal the win, but could have scored more. Linton were the next opponents in another tight encounter. We started to get into our stride and Ben Casey ran with the ball extremely well from the set piece, supported by some fine forward play from Ed Phoenix at the breakdown. We managed to cross Linton's line and score the only try in the game to secure the win. Last up were Sawston. Matthew Lines led and organised the backs well, with Sean Judge always a willing receiver. In another tight game, we managed to score and get our noses in front. Our defence once again held up to the challenge to produce the third clean sheet in a row, ensuring a third straight win which put us into the final to play Bottisham Village College.

In the final, both teams played an extremely good standard of Rugby, with Bottisham scoring the only try in the first half. In the second half both teams battled well. Well done to the boys who should be proud of their runners-up achievement.

Year 7B Squad

Oliver Cruickshank	Ed Phoenix	Ronn Erum	Ben Casey
Vinil Joseph	Harry Hennessy	George Wells	William Holmes-Chatfield
Matthew Lines	Sean Judge	Aaron Horrocks	Joseph Summerell
Joel Bowden-Pickstock	Chris Philip	Harry Robinson	Jack Kennedy

8A Team

The Year 8 boys finished their season with the District Rugby Tournament at Cambridge Rugby Club. The boys were drawn a very tough group against Linton VC and Bottisham VC, who are both always strong and physical opponents. Linton started and kicked off deep into our 22. The boys collected, and drove and recycled the ball 15 times all the way to the Linton try line, made the most of the pressure and scored the first try with an excellent finish from Dan Maund. We dominated the first half possession and scored a further two tries, one each from Finn Steemers and Deren Charlette. In the second half, Linton had spells of possession and had some big powerful runners but our defence was equal to them and kept knocking them down. To wrap the match up, Larry Moore scored a try that was well-deserved after all his relentless forward play. Dan Maund kicked all the conversions and St Bede's won 28-0.



Bottisham were up next straight away without time for the boys to catch their breath. A tight first half finished 0-0 where we had good possession but couldn't finish them off. Early in the second half, George Hollis, who had an excellent tournament at scrum half, saw an opportunity and raced for the line to score a try. We continued to play well and sealed the match with a scintillating backs move which culminated in Rob Huckle crossing the line in the corner. We won 14-0 thanks to two more conversions from Dan Maund.

The semi-final was up against Chesterton. We started slowly, making a number of uncharacteristic handling errors, giving Chesterton good possession near our line. Chesterton scored first and led 5-0 at half time. In the second half, we dominated possession and came close to equalising. Unfortunately, Chesterton gained possession and scored a break away try. The boys picked themselves up and kept going, and Deren Charlette struck back with a well-deserved try. They kept putting Chesterton under pressure and scored the equaliser, but unfortunately ran out of time and lost 10-5. The boys ended up finishing third overall in the district, out of 15 schools. Overall an excellent season.

A Team squad

Michael Cowdrey	Leandro Jumilla	Luca Romano	Larry Moore
Oliver Mitham	Oliver Tooth	George Hollis	Sean Calvey
Dan Maund	Robert Huckle	Finn Steemers	Deren Charlette
Jack Robinson	Darragh Leneghan		

Year 8 B Team

The Year 8 boys started off the tournament with a tough game against a strong Comberton team that tested their defence and resilience. At half time, they were losing 15-0 and struggled to have any possession at all as Comberton were controlling the breakdown. After the interval, St Bede's came out a different team and threw extra numbers into the rucks, which secured possession and allowed our dangerous backs to attack the opposition. St Bede's finally broke through and scored an all-important, moral boosting try and restricted the final score to 20-5. The next group game was against Chesterton and a tense encounter ensued. Both teams' defences were irrepressible and the game ended scoreless.

St Bede's went through to the semi-final of the plate competition and came up against Bottisham Village College. The boys seemed to have saved their best rugby for the end of the tournament and everything came together to produce a fantastic display against a good opponent. Twice going behind and twice drawing back level, the boys showed great character, and the rugby on display by both sides was impressive. Unfortunately, with the last play of the game, Bottisham scored to knock St Bede's out. The boys should be proud of the way they performed and how they grew as a team as the tournament progressed.

Year 8 B Squad

Mathieu Lapaz-Wade	Iyra Williams	Matthew Wright	Daren Charlette
Matthew Bain	Randall Wisson	Calum Taylor	Josh Cunningham
Ben Phipps	Jack Wood	Charlie Worboys	Sam Wilson
Matthew Bradnam			

Year 9 Rugby

The tournament kicked off against Parkside and Coleridge, and the boys got off to a flying start, winning in convincing fashion 61-0. Next up was a tight encounter against Chesterton, where both teams played some good rugby. Chesterton scored first and led at half time. St Bede's soon hit back after the break scoring a break away try, and then converted to take the lead 7-5. A tense last 5 minutes followed, but St Bede's defended well and held off the opposition attack with some great tackling and organisation. However, Chesterton scored in the last play of the game, which was a cruel blow to the boys who felt aggrieved at some key decisions leading up to the try that didn't go their way. Into the plate competition, St Bede's played Sawston in the semi-finals and swept them away with ease before psychology got the better of them against a robust Netherhall outfit, who out-muscled their way to victory.

U14 Squad

Patrick Collins (Captain)	Matteo D'Ambrosio	Jordan Brown	Vineeth Joseph
Josh Vaughan	Jamie Webb	Stephan Gaiser-Porter	John Taylor
Reuben Tooth	CJ Lewis	Nathan Monck	Harry Taylor
Niall Durning	Daniel Vasquez	Tommy Mila	Will Sewell
Roberto Ruggiero	Thomas Fulger	Larry Moore	Dan Maund

Hockey

The Year 7 and 8 girls have been training hard since the beginning of term and have made considerable progress, winning the majority of their matches against other schools. Their determination and team spirit have made it a pleasure to coach them, and contributed to their successes.

Year 7 Hockey Tournament

The girls were very excited to take part in their District Tournament at Bottisham Village College. The A Team played great hockey against tough opposition, and came 3rd in their group. The B Team, after a nervous start, managed to come second in their group, with outstanding play from Bridie Meakin and Jo Sterecki. Overall, the B Team came 4th place in the District B Team Tournament.



A Team Squad

Olivia Darler	Esther Tun	Annabel Bullock	Maggie Lindsay
Sian Psaila	Aiofe Campbell	Sylvia Chukualim	

B Team Squad

Joanna Sterecki	Alice Nottage	Bridie Meakin	Rachel Brightwell
Martha Duxon	Bridget Cafferkey	Emma Bluff	Catriona Leedham

Year 8 Hockey Tournament

The Year 8 A Team played superbly well in the group stage of the tournament. The girls lost only one match, and came top of their group. In the quarter-finals the girls once again showed excellent skill but, even though they had the majority of play, the team just couldn't score. The opposition however made the most of their one attack and scored a great goal. The team came 5th overall.

Year 8 B Team

The B Team showed a great deal of determination in their matches and worked hard as a team. They came 3rd overall in their group and were an absolute pleasure to coach. Congratulations to all the girls who took part.



Basketball

Under 14's Boys' Basketball

With many of them making their debut in the basketball team this year, it was always going to be interesting to see how they fared in a competitive match. The first fixture on the calendar was against Linton Village College. Once past the first 5 minutes, the game settled and St Bede's found their stride. Defensively they were well organised, and good rebounding by Stephan Gaiser-Porter enabled the team to hit Linton on the fast break, where Stephen Chukualim racked up the points. Solid contributions by Josh Wilson and Patrick Collins also helped steer the home side to a convincing victory and a performance which they can build on.

The second game of the season was against Chesterton and, with a few key players absent, a tough game was forecast. St Bede's narrowly edged out the first quarter, taking a 8-6 lead after leading points scorers Stephen Chukualim and Patrick Collins shot some great baskets. The team then really took the game away from the opposition, creating and finishing some excellent baskets, whilst defending with discipline and good organisation, finally winning 38-12. The team is really starting to take shape and are looking forward to a successful season ahead.

U14 Squad

Stephen Chukualim	Stephan Gaiser-Porter	Patrick Collins	Jordan Brown
John Taylor	Josh Wilcock	Josh Wilson	Josh Vaughan
Will Sewell	Michael Munnely	Vinny Joseph	

The U16's have been training extremely hard all term with Mr Pangratiou, which has already begun to pay off. In both their games Michael Pangratiou led the team superbly with some terrific scores, well supported with some excellent defensive and offensive rebounding from Sam Somers-Heslam and Connor Campbell. Cranz de la Cruz continues to show his fantastic 'driving to the hoop', with Chris Cordero's outside shooting a joy to behold. It has, however, been a real team effort, with every player chipping in with baskets to keep the scoreboard ticking over, most notably from Tom Hands, Michael Torode, Lorenzo Jumilla, Jack Williams and Charlie Gladman. We beat Linton 72-24 and Chesterton 54-27. With two wins out of two, the season has started well and promises much.

U16 Squad

Michael Pangratiou	Cranz De la Cruz	Chris Cordero	Sam Somers-Heslam
Tom Knight	Connor Campbell	Tom Hands	Lorenzo Jumilla
Jack Williams	Charlie Gladman	Michael Torode	Dom Gowland
Will Taylor			

U13 Girls' Football Grand Prix

The girls' football season is upon us once again. An overwhelming number of students from Year 7 and 8 came along to lunchtime training and showed a lot of commitment and enthusiasm for the sport. Fifteen students were chosen to represent the school at the first round of the Cambridge FA Grand Prix, which involves schools playing a number of games over the year, in a league format, with the finals being held in April. Teams can be a mixture of Year 7 and 8, or single years.



The event was held at Comberton Village College with ten teams entered from various schools around the district. The A Team played some very convincing football, with a win against league winners, Swavesey. A superb corner from Saskia Capetti saw Esther Tun knock the ball in the back of the net. The girls narrowly missed out on a couple of points by going 1-0 down to Comberton and 2-0 down to Parkside, which included three young Arsenal players amongst their team.

The B Team also played some great football, with Isobel Parker nearly getting a hat trick against Witchford. They beat Witchford 2-0 but unfortunately lost out to Comberton and Impington. The next round will see St Bede's host the tournament in March, and we wish the girls luck. Congratulations go to the following and also to Will Pheonix for his coaching:

A Team

Sian Psaila
Esther Tun
Maggie Lindsay
Caroline McKenzie
Saskia Capetti
Alice Nottage
Sophie Beattie

B Team

Rebecca Sutton
Samantha Rice
Samantha Buttercase
Aisling Munnely
Laura Munnely
Isobel Parker
Catriona Leedham
Serenna Wade

District Schoolboys Football

On Saturday 26th November, Cambridge District played St Alban's in the National knock-out cup. We are very pleased and proud to announce that three boys from St Bede's played in the 3-1 victory, which put us into the last 16. A big well done to Deren Charlette (Goalkeeper), Rob Huckle (Defender / Midfield), and particularly to Dan Maund (Midfield) who captained the side. We wish them every success in the next round.

Aegon National Schools Team Tennis Championships

On 18th November, our team went to Gosling Park and were matched up against the number one seeds Reeds School, an independent school from Surrey, in the National Quarter-Finals. The standard of tennis played was of the highest order, and some of the winning shots were jaw dropping. In the singles, Josh Wilson won 7-6, but unfortunately John Taylor, Matt Daines and Patrick Collins all lost close matches. The match hinged on us winning both the doubles matches to force a super tie-break for the match. Unfortunately Josh and Patrick lost 6-4 and John and Matt lost 7-6. After a valiant and long run in the competition, the boys were narrowly beaten. However, it was an amazing effort to reach the Quarter Finals of a National Tournament for the second year running.



Rotary Youth Speaks

In November Rachel Crook, Anna McNally and Abigail Crook were winners of 'Rotary Youth Speaks', a public speaking competition for Key Stage 3 pupils. They spoke passionately on the topic of 'Uniformity or Individuality' where they argued for the benefits of school uniform. Their presentation was eloquent and convincing, beating strong competition from other local schools including Netherhall, The Perse and Bassingbourn. They now go on to

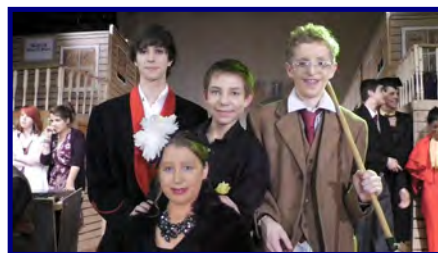
the district final of the competition in Kings Lynn in February.

Issy Ashby, Lily Matthews and Emily Roper also spoke on the topic of Social Networking: Social Saviour or Social Scoundrel. On another day their presentation might have presented them with the trophy but luck wasn't on their side.



Expressive Arts Faculty News

The Expressive Arts Faculty has enjoyed another busy term of events, which included the Upper School Production of Friedrich Durrenmatt's 'The Visit'. Featuring over 40 members of cast and crew from Years 9 - 11, the play told the story of an impoverished town in Germany whose sole ray of hope lay in the return of one of its former inhabitants, now a multi-millionairess. However, her terms of bargain caused the townsfolk to consider just what lengths they might be prepared to go to in order to secure their financial future.





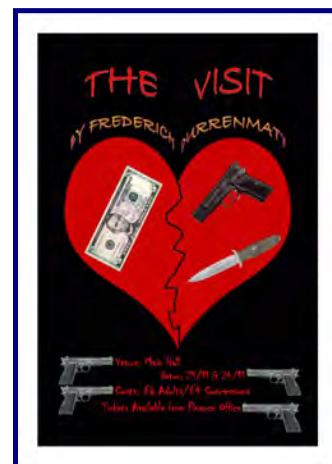
"Thanks for a brilliant couple of evenings' entertainment. The acting was great, sets evocative, and the overall sense of 'team' came across really strongly. Education brought to life." A Parent.



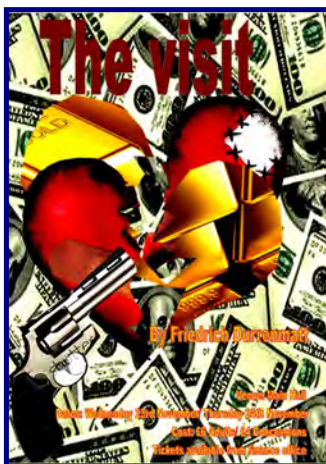
Told over two nights, the play featured some tour-de-force performances, most notably from Dominic Gowland, (as the 'hero', Anton Schill), and Bethany Wetherfield (as the 'villain' of the piece, Claire Zachanassian). There was sterling support work from Steven Atkins, Naphthali Fernando and Matthew Banks, (as ultimately treacherous townsfolk).



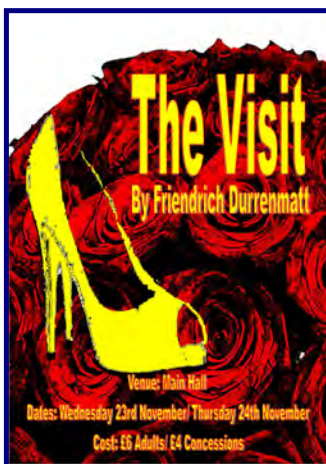
Although primarily an extra-curricular Drama venture, the project also extended into the taught curriculum, with the Year 9 Art & Design and Graphics options also contributing towards it. Mr Gardner and Ms Woodard used their schemes of work to cover some of the many facets which go into a production, meaning that the project became accessible to a much wider audience. Tasks ranged from constructing poster art and advertising imagery, through to designing the set and the various accompanying 'mood' images, which augmented the performances as they played out. In the end, the poster campaign competition was won by Abigail Crook, whose work echoed the legendary 1950's movie poster artist Saul Bass. The fantastic set, inspired by the work of Italian artist Boccioni, was realised through the efforts of Mr Killen and Mr Gardner.



Elsewhere, the beginning of October saw eight students from Year 10 take part in a Public Speaking workshop, held at St Mary's School in Cambridge. Arranged as a prelude to the English Speaking Union's annual competition, the workshop enabled students to get to grips with the style and format of a proper debate, and, although only a 'practice exercise', it was a delight to see our students hold their own so ably against their counterparts from other local schools, such as The Perse and St Mary's. Congratulations to Joanna Cooper, Eliza Asare Parbi and Patrick Brighty in particular for laying down strong markers for when the competition begins in earnest in January. Our thanks go to Miss Kahwati and Mr Watts for organising and accompanying the trip.



October also saw the commencement of auditions for the annual Talent Show, which this year will take place over two nights in January. Miss Bell, Miss Patten and Miss Byrom sifted down over 80 different acts, ranging from magicians to solo instrumentalists, vocal groups to body-popping dance troupes. A total of just over 25 acts will ensure a jam-packed programme.



Finally, November also saw a number of trips out into the local theatre world, with Year 11 Drama and Music students witnessing 'The Difference Engine' at the Junction, and Year 10 Drama, Music and History students taking in Joan Littlewood's acclaimed World War 1 satire 'Oh What a Lovely War'. Once again, our thanks to all involved.



Wishing you all a peaceful holiday.

Mr R Wilkin
Headteacher

If there is a matter you would like to bring to the attention of the Senior Management Team, please use the reply slip overleaf:

For the attention of the **Senior Management Team**

Year Group of Student.....

Parental feedback:

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Please return to the school reception



TERM DATES 2011 – 2012

Autumn Term 2011

Autumn Term Closes: 16th December 2011

Christmas Holidays (SCHOOL CLOSED): 17th December – 2nd January 2012

Spring Term 2012

Teacher Training Day: 3rd January 2012

Spring Term Opens: 4th January 2012

Half Term (SCHOOL CLOSED): 13th – 17th February 2012

Spring Term Closes: 30th March 2012

Easter Holidays (SCHOOL CLOSED): 31st March – 15th April 2012

Summer Term 2012

Summer Term Opens: 16th April 2012

May Bank Holiday: 7th May 2012

Spring Bank Holiday (SCHOOL CLOSED): 4th June 2012

Diamond Jubilee Bank Holiday (SCHOOL CLOSED): 5th June 2012

Half Term (SCHOOL CLOSED): 4th – 8th June 2012

Summer Term Closes: 19th July 2012