

Easter Newsletter 2026

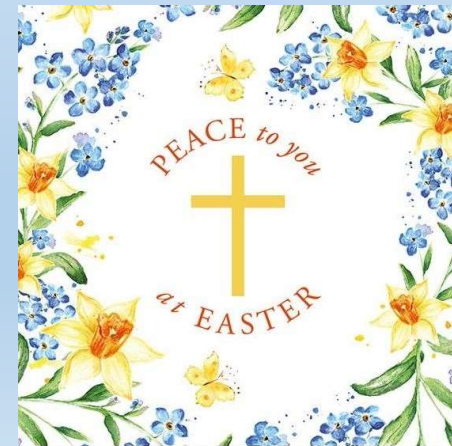
Welcome to the latest edition of St Bede's Inter-Church School's Newsletter – we hope you enjoy reading about some of the many activities our students have taken part in this term.

As we approach the summer, our Year 11 students focus upon their final preparations for their GCSE examinations before progressing to the next stage in their education and training. Staff and students will this week vote for students from Year 10 to be elected to serve as the next senior student team. Senior Students and House Captains play a vital role in the life of the school, maintaining communications, suggesting school improvements and establishing very positive role models for younger students. I am very impressed by the many students from St Bede's who volunteer to serve the school in leadership roles and my thanks to Neema, James, Courtney and Theo for all their commitment and dedication as Senior Students throughout the last year.

Easter is a season of hope, of new beginnings, and the promise of life in all its fullness. As days lengthen and spring returns following a long dark winter, reminders of the beauty of God's creation abound.

I wish you and your families joy and peace this Easter.

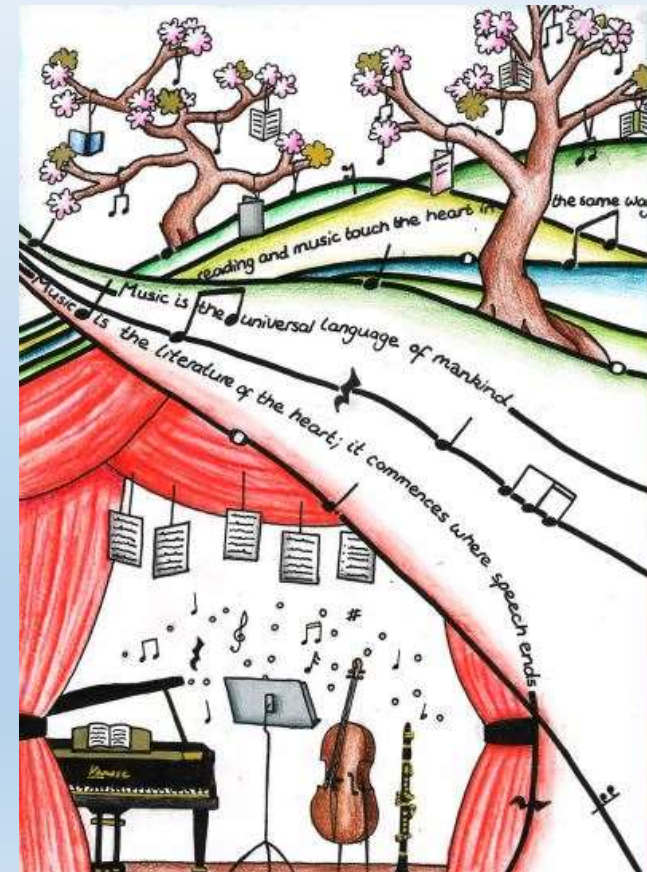
Alistair Day - Headteacher



Library News Easter 2026

It's been a busy term in St. Bede's library:

- 2364 books have been loaned
- Around 150 free books have been given out for World Book Day
- Around 100 new titles have been added to our library catalogue
- 5 new student librarians have been recruited to help in our busy library; welcome Ismay, Hugo, Joseph, Lorna and Noa!
- 50 students in years 8, 9 & 10 have signed up to take part in [Carnegie](#) shadowing over the next few months
- Congratulations to Georgie Van Overbeke who won the Library Challenge competition to design a poster promoting reading, inspired by the National Year of Reading campaign [Go All In](#)
- Comments from our judge, Miss Joy: 'A beautiful piece of work that clearly shows a deep love of both reading and music. The quotes you selected are thoughtful and profound, perfectly highlighting the powerful connection between the two. Your artwork is equally impressive, with stunning detail and rich artistic tones that bring the message to life. This piece has truly made me rethink reading and has inspired me to Go All In. Well done!'



History Newsletter 2026

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Diana Gill for her insightful Year 9 talk on life in East Germany during the Cold War period.

Drawing on her personal experiences and work, Diana brought history to life through powerful stories and photographs, offering a unique perspective on everyday realities behind the politics. Her discussion explored key themes such as the challenges of economic shortage, the impact of surveillance and restricted travel, and the complexities of work and social structures within state-run systems.

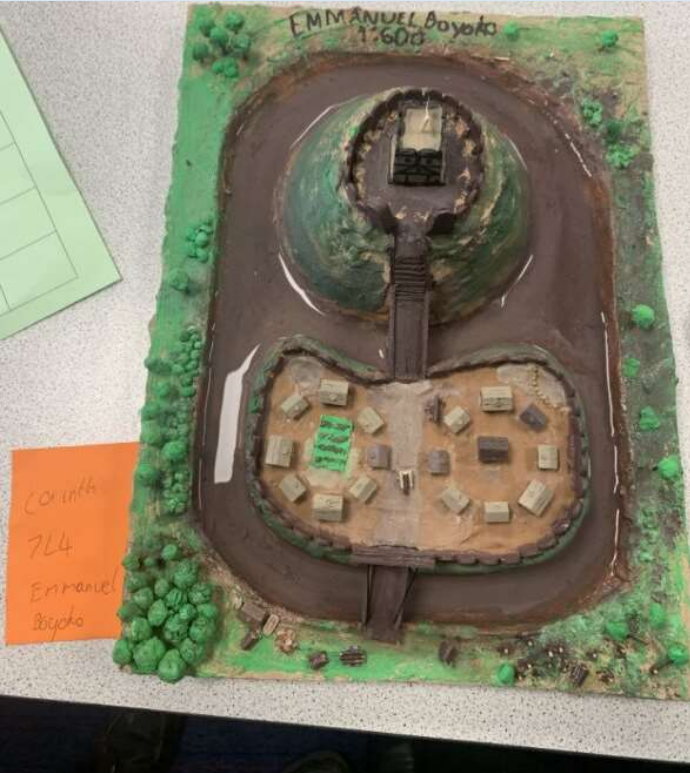
The talk provided a balanced view, highlighting not only the limitations of living in a totalitarian state, but also examining areas such as education, healthcare, community cooperation, and women's opportunities. This nuanced approach encouraged students to think critically about how political systems shape lived experience.

The session concluded with a rich and engaging discussion, where students reflected on concepts such as freedom, security, equality, and the ways governments present themselves to their citizens.

We are very grateful to Diana for sharing her experiences and expertise and for inspiring such meaningful reflection and discussion among our Year 9 students. Thank you to Year 9 for their interesting questions.

Ms Lloyd and the History Department

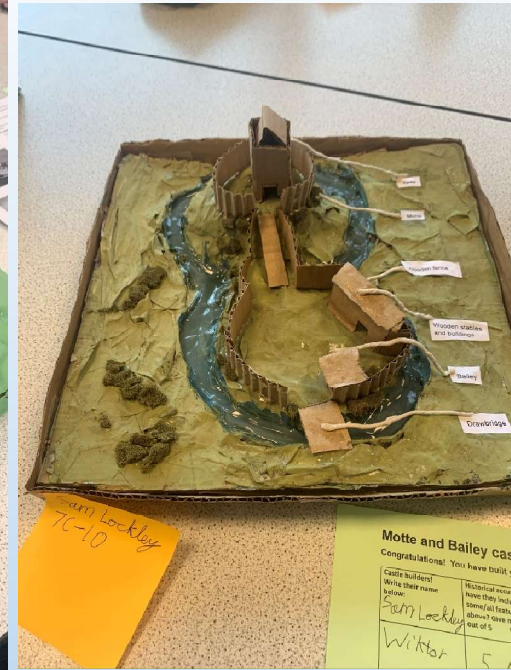
History Year 7 House Castle Competition



History Year 7 House Castle Competition

House points and certificates have been awarded for students in the following areas:

- Innovation and creativity
- Historical accuracy
- Use of recycled materials
- Use of technology
- Creative cake designs
- Special commendation



The standard of castles was outstanding and well done to all Year 7 students for creating such fantastic designs.

Points have been awarded to houses:

- Corinth - 100 house points
- Colossae - 110 house points
- Rome - 50 house points
- Philippi - 70 house points
- Galatia - 60 house points
- Ephesus - 60 house points

It was brilliant to see so much innovation and creativity!

Y9 Ghost Story Competition

Congratulations to Alice Jaques Giddens on her prize-winning ghost story, 'Reflections' (pictured).

Judge Alison Denton said, *"Alice's story stood out for its unusual narrative perspective and the subtle way it slowly leads us to realise the truth about the main character's identity. It's a clever story where things are not openly stated but subtly implied."*

Congratulations to the runners up:

Maddie Morris for 'An Eye for an Eye'

Lena Andrews for 'The Ballerina's Secret'



Food Technology Department

On 11th March, the Food department was visited by members of the Royal Navy Catering branch. They gave a presentation to year 10 Food students on careers in the Royal Navy and then hosted a 'Ready Steady Cook' Competition. Students had 90 mins working in small teams to produce Chicken Kiev's served with Fondant potatoes, followed by Sticky Toffee Pudding with a Toffee Sauce.

Well done to all and to the winning team of Klara Stepien, Maya Amuna and Lucy Taylor who were complimented on their teamwork and great flavours.



Drama

- On February 26th Theatre Centre performed "My Brother is A Genius" by Debris Stevenson to all the year 9 10 and 11 students . The actors and director then lead a workshop with the year 9's and year 10's.
- On March 24th Year 11 drama students had their drama practical examinations where they performed two extracts from a published play. The students performed a wide range of plays and successfully demonstrated their theatrical skills.

ST BEDE'S PRESENTS
"The Secret Garden"
By Frances Hogson Burnett
Adapted by Sylvia Ashby



Mon 15th & Tues 16th June
Pilgrim Theatre 7.00pm

St Bede's Beanies

Available online from
Total Clothing
only £8





PLEASE HELP

Crocheters and knitters required to make more flowers and leaves for the scenery for 'The Secret Garden' Drama performances which are on June 15th & 16th.

A variety of colours, sizes and styles required, please use up your left-over yarn.

After the performances, the flowers and leaves will be made into wreaths or brooches and sold, proceeds going to charity (choice of charity TBC).

Thank you very much to all the creative people who have already contributed their time and wool, their work is shown on these photos.

**Deadline Friday 8th May.
Please deliver to Ms.Pell in the D&T classroom.**



PTFA Spring News



The PTFA has had a busy Spring Term:

Thank you to all parents/carers, volunteers and to everyone who has supported us this term.

We always welcome more – please join us!

The Spring Term calendar brought us the AGM Meeting, in which we welcomed Rowena Winn to the PTFA Secretary role, and said *thank you* to Florence for all the effort put into secretary role jobs.

The Chair role vacancy was not filled in that meeting and it is still vacant.

Then **Disco event followed**, which this year reached its *10th anniversary year*. With the exception of the pandemic period, students at St Bede's have been enjoying the Nutella pancakes and mocktails for some time:)

The Spring Term ended with the Ceili, three days after St Patrick's Day - this event's starting date has been lost in time... possibly it has been going for 20 years !!!

The 2026 Ceili was different from recent years ... The students' Irish dancers group who usually delight the audience with their typical energetic beautiful dances were greatly missed from the Ceili programme this year. However, even with its differences it was a wonderful event for our school community!

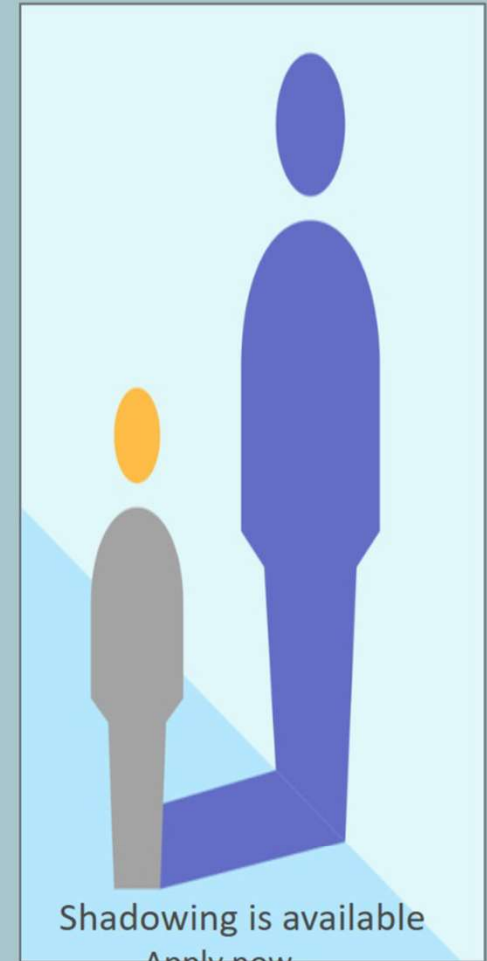
Families, students and staff who gathered together had much fun dancing with Julie's band's rhythm and Bernie's instructions! A group of Year 11 students carried on dancing between dances. It was certainly a good opportunity to bring some balance to the intensity of GCSE preparations. The Ceili this year brought us a "street food menu" with a 'hint' of typical Irish food. **Ben's Gourmando Catering** was up to the Challenge - and judging by the happy customers' feedback comments, the food was *Very Good*. Our appreciation to all who contributed to the Raffle draw, from the school garden club, volunteers' donations, to Nandos, Everyman cinema, Tenpin bowling and Norfolk Street Bakery - a varied selection who brought happy smiles to many. Thank you !

Advertisement

Would you like to join the PTFA Committee?
Please, register your interest by emailing:
ptfa@stbedes.cambs.sch.uk

The PTFA team is appealing for your participation ...

- Do you consider *'Giving back the good received'* a motivating goal in life?
- Would you consider investing your time and effort, ultimately in benefit of the students in our school community?
- PTFA continuity relies on each one of the St Bede's school families !
- Email ptfa@stbedes.cambs.sch.uk for enquiries or even to discuss informally what is involved!



PTFA Officer Holders:
Chair / Treasurer / Secretary

PTFA Events next term:

- **Next meeting of PTFA online** Teams Summer meeting on Tuesday 22nd April 2026
- Come along and join us deciding on events to do and where to focus our fundraising efforts.
- Y11 Leavers' ice cream & staff thank you brunch on Friday 2nd May.
- Refreshments at the School Plays on 15th & 16th June and the Expressive Arts Evening on Thursday 21st May.



PTFA Fundraising:

Please join Easyfundraising to help raise FREE funds while you do your online shopping or make donations directly to the PTFA using the QR codes below.



Use this QR code to make donations to St Bede's PTFA towards refreshments or ongoing activities

For more details of what we do and to join us please email: ptfa@stbedes.cambs.sch.uk

use this QR code to sign up to Easyfundraising for St Bede's PTFA



Annual SEND Panathlon Event

In January, eight of our students proudly represented the school at this year's SEND Panathlon event. We have been entering these events for over 10 years now to provide an inclusive opportunity for all students to thrive in sport.

They took part in a range of activities including Boccia, Skittles, and Basketball, competing with enthusiasm and teamwork throughout the day. Our team faced strong competition from Coleridge, Sancton Wood, NCA, and Trumpington schools. Although we didn't make it through to the county finals, every student gave their best and showed fantastic sportsmanship. A special mention goes to Flannery, who demonstrated excellent leadership and encouragement, keeping team morale high and setting a great example for others. The students represented the school brilliantly. Well done to all involved!



Girls Cricket

Girls' cricket continues to thrive this season, with growing participation and impressive performances across competitions. A key driving force behind this success has been the dedication of parent coach Steve Farrukh, who has volunteered his time every week since January to support and develop the squad.

This year, the team expanded its competitive opportunities by entering both the county tournaments and a new development competition, ensuring more players could gain valuable match experience. The impact of this commitment has been clear, particularly in the squad's performances and the number of girls attending coaching.

Steve will be returning in the summer to help prepare the girls for the outdoor competitions. There will also be the opportunity for the U15 team to try out their first hardball competition which they are excited for.



U15 Cricket Team

The U15 team delivered an outstanding showing in their preliminary tournament, securing victories against Comberton (80–74) and NCA (94–48). Strong, consistent bowling proved to be a decisive factor throughout these matches, underpinning their success and demonstrating the team's growing confidence and discipline.

Progressing to the county finals, the team faced tough opposition in The Leys and Wisbech Grammar School. Despite a determined effort, they were ultimately outplayed by two sides with very strong batting line-ups.

While the finals did not bring the result hoped for, the journey there highlights the continued development, resilience, and enthusiasm within the team.

Well done to all the girls!



U13 Cricket Teams

The U13 cricket teams have continued to benefit from the introduction of the new development competition, which has provided valuable opportunities for more games and match experience throughout the season.

In a recent friendly tournament to prepare for the county finals, the team faced Bassingbourn and Comberton, producing some encouraging performances.

The team carried their strong form into the county finals at the Cambridge University Sports Centre, arriving with confidence and determination.

Facing tough opposition from private schools St Mary's and Wisbech Grammar School in the opening round, the team delivered outstanding performances. Excellent communication in the field and disciplined bowling helped secure an impressive win over St Mary's, restricting them to 53 all out with 3.5 overs remaining in a 90–53 victory. This momentum continued against Wisbech Grammar, where another controlled display saw them win 90–59.

These results earned the team a place in the final against The Perse. Despite a spirited effort, The Perse proved too strong with the bat, and the U13s were unable to contain their scoring. Nevertheless, finishing as county runners-up represents an excellent achievement. Congratulations to the whole squad.



Netball

Netball Club has continued to flourish, remaining extremely popular with students across the school. Each session has been filled with enthusiasm, energy, and a strong sense of teamwork, and it has been wonderful to see the students' confidence and skill levels grow week by week. Their game play has developed noticeably, with improved passing, movement, and tactical awareness contributing to an increasingly strong standard of netball.

We have played three games against The Perse this half term. These fixtures provided valuable competitive experience, allowing our players to put their developing skills into practice and further strengthen their understanding of the game. Congratulations to all the students that played.

Year 9 A Team vs The Perse 22 – 14 Win

Year 9 B Team vs The Perse 22-20 Win

Year 10 A Team vs The Perse 14- 18 Win

We are incredibly proud of the progress our students have made and look forward to building on this success next season.



Year 10 Netball Team

U14 & U16 Boys County Football Cup

Our U14 and U16 Boys Football teams both represented the school proudly in this year's County Cup, showing determination, resilience, and moments of real quality in two hard-fought matches.

U14 Boys – Hampton College (Away)

The U14s travelled to Hampton College for what proved to be a closely contested tie. Despite a strong start, the boys found themselves 1–0 down to let the setback affect them, the team responded superbly, with **Jim McCaughan** producing an outstanding equaliser—striking the ball from the **halfway line** to level the match in spectacular fashion.

With the scores tied at full time, the game was decided by a penalty shootout. The boys held their nerve well, but a narrow miss saw Hampton progress. Although the result didn't go their way, the U14s displayed excellent teamwork, spirit, and discipline throughout.

The U16 Boys travelled to St Peter's for their County Cup fixture, where an early setback ultimately shaped a hard-fought contest. A slow start saw the team concede three goals in the opening 15 minutes, with difficulties defending corners proving costly.

Despite the early deficit, the boys showed excellent resilience and gradually settled into their rhythm. As the match progressed, they began to dominate possession and create a number of clear chances. However, St Peter's goalkeeper produced an outstanding performance—ultimately the opposition's standout player—as he repeatedly denied what looked like certain goals.

Our persistence eventually paid off when **Kostas Olefir** pulled one back, sparking renewed belief. With only minutes remaining, **Sahvan Patel** added a second to make it 3–2 and set up a tense finish. Unfortunately, time and fading daylight worked against the team, and the match concluded with a narrow **3–2 loss**.

Although the result didn't go their way, the U16s showed excellent character, spirit, and determination—qualities that will serve them well for the rest of the season.

U14 Boys District Football Cup

The U14 Boys have shown determination and discipline throughout their District Cup campaign in what proved to be two tightly contested matches.

Round 1 – vs Cottenham

The team opened their cup run against a strong Cottenham side. In a match where both teams defended brilliantly and chances were limited, it was **Alex Robin** who provided the decisive moment. His well-taken goal secured a hard-fought **1–0 victory**, sending St Bede's through to the quarter finals.

Quarter Final – vs Bassingbourn

The U14s then faced Bassingbourn—the same opponents who narrowly defeated them **1–0 in last year's final**. Determined to put things right, St Bede's battled well in another close encounter. However, Bassingbourn took an early lead, forcing the boys to chase the game.

Pushing for an equaliser, St Bede's applied sustained pressure and created several promising opportunities. Unfortunately, committing players forward left space at the back, and with just five minutes remaining, Bassingbourn capitalised to score a second. The match finished **2–0**, bringing the U14s' cup journey to an end.



U16 District Football Cup

The U16 Boys have made an excellent start to this year's District Cup campaign, building on the momentum of last season when they were crowned District Champions.

The team opened their cup journey with a tough home fixture against Parkside. Showing confidence and control from the start, the boys went 2–0 up through well-taken goals from **Denis Ancil** and **Jedi Groves**.

Despite Parkside pulling one back late on, the team defended with determination to secure a deserved **2–1 victory**.

Their quarter-final match against Swavesey proved to be a dominant display, even in cold and heavy rain. The boys produced an outstanding all-round performance, coming away with a commanding **6–0 win**. Goals came from **Kostas Olefir**, a brace from **Le Roi**, and further strikes from **Denis Ancil**, Oliver Di Pietro, and **Jedi Groves**, whose spectacular long-range effort capped off the scoring.

Linton were the semi final opponents but the game had to be played 36 hours before the final due to postponement due adverse weather conditions, not ideal for either team. The game started well for us as we took an early lead but Linton equalized. We took the lead again but just before half time sloppy play from us lead to another equalizer. However, the boys came out in the second half determined not to let things slide and played some great football and convincingly winning the match 8-3 and booking a place in the final against Netherhall 36 hours later at Newmarket Town Football club

U16 District Football Final

The U16 Boys played against Netherhall, held at Newmarket Town Football Club, the District Football Final . Despite a determined effort, the team were defeated 4–1.

Having played their semi-final just 36 hours earlier, fatigue was clearly a factor. Nevertheless, the boys showed great commitment and resilience throughout the match, working hard and continuing to compete against strong opposition.

While the performance did not quite reach their usual high standards, there were still many positives to take from the game. Reaching the final itself is a significant achievement, and the team should be proud of their efforts and progress this season.



St Bedes Boys Dominate the District Basketball Finals

U14 Boys Basketball

The U14 Basketball Team delivered an outstanding performance throughout the District competition, demonstrating a fantastic attitude and an excellent work ethic from start to finish.

In the preliminary tournament, the team showcased their skill and teamwork with convincing victories over Bottisham (44–8) and Stephen Perse (38–16), securing their place in the District Finals at Long Road. At the finals, they continued their impressive form, overcoming Parkside 34–17 in the semi-final to set up a challenging final against a very strong Chesterton side. The game was closely contested, with the team trailing by just two points at half time.

They came out with real determination in the second half and managed to build a five-point lead with just 1 minute 40 seconds remaining. However, in a frantic spell of play, Chesterton capitalised on a few mistakes to score six quick points, leaving our team one point behind with 35 seconds to go. In the closing moments, Sohan Patel drove strongly to the basket but was denied by Chesterton's tight zone defence. The ball was then passed out to Jonathan Serban on the three-point line, who, with just one second remaining, calmly sank a three-pointer to secure a dramatic 25–23 victory. It was a superb team performance, full of resilience, skill, and determination, and a thoroughly deserved District title.



U16 Boys Basketball – Prelim Tournament

The U16 Boys Basketball team delivered an outstanding performance in this year's District Tournament, showcasing resilience, teamwork, and skill throughout.

In the preliminary round, the team faced Stephen Perse and secured a confident 32–16 victory, setting a strong tone for the competition. This was followed by a tense and closely fought match against Bottisham, where the boys held their nerve to edge a dramatic 27–26 win, earning their place in the District Finals.

At Long Road, the challenge intensified. In the semi-final, they came up against The Perse, whose tight and aggressive zone defence made scoring difficult. Despite this, the team remained composed and disciplined, grinding out a hard-fought 12–10 victory to reach the District final.

U16 Boys Basketball – District Final

The final saw them face a determined and physical NCA side who battled relentlessly from start to finish. However, the team's superior skills, teamwork, and determination ultimately prevailed, as they secured a well-deserved 24–14 win to become District Champions.

A special mention goes to Jared Cendana, who was named MVP for his exceptional performances and consistency throughout the tournament.

Congratulations to the entire squad on a fantastic achievement



U14 Girls Basketball

This term, students in Years 8 and 9 have thoroughly enjoyed developing their basketball skills as part of the PE curriculum. Their enthusiasm on the court has been evident throughout the term, with students showing great commitment to improving their technical ability, teamwork, and understanding of the game.

Many students chose to extend their learning by joining the after-school Basketball Club, where they were able to further refine their skills and experience the excitement of full-court basketball. These sessions provided valuable opportunities for players to practise game strategies and build confidence in competitive situations,

It has been fantastic to see the group grow in both skill and enthusiasm, and their progress this term lays strong foundations for continued development in the sport.

U14 District Basketball Tournament

We entered two teams into the U14 Prelim District Basketball Tournament. Both teams represented the school brilliantly, demonstrating determination, team work, and impressive skill throughout their matches. St Bede's A finished in **2nd place**, while St Bede's B secured a strong **3rd place**, reflecting the depth of talent within the group.

St Bede's A qualified for the District Basketball Tournament, which was hosted here at school. In the semi-final, they faced Chesterton and delivered a confident performance, winning **16–12**. The final saw them matched against Impington V.C. It was a closely contested game, with both teams having a similar number of scoring opportunities. However, Impington proved more clinical with their finishing, and the game ended **St Bede's 10 – Chesterton 21**.

Congratulations to St Bede's A on achieving 2nd place in the District Basketball Tournament—a fantastic accomplishment for the players and a testament to their hard work this term.



U16 Basketball Tournament

This term, St. Bede's entered two teams into the U16 District Basketball Preliminary Tournament one representing Year 11 and one representing Year 10. This dual entry reflects the depth of basketball talent developing across both year groups and the strength of our school's sporting programme.

The tournament was hosted at St. Bede's, with three sides competing:

The Perse School

St. Bede's Year 11

St. Bede's Year 10

The competition opened with a St. Bede's derby, where the Year 10 and Year 11 squads produced a thrilling, hard-fought encounter that ended **14-14** a testament to the evenly matched quality within our teams.

Next, the Year 11s faced The Perse and secured a controlled **14-10 victory**, demonstrating excellent defensive organisation and confident scoring under pressure. The Year 10s followed with a standout performance of their own, defeating The Perse **20-9** with dynamic attacking play and impressive teamwork.

These results meant that **both St. Bede's teams** progressed to the District Final, joining **Chesterton Community College** in what promised to be a superb conclusion to the tournament.

The final did not disappoint. Played in a fantastic atmosphere, both St. Bede's sides showed resilience, skill, and determination. After a series of highly competitive games, our teams finished **2nd and 3rd overall**, a brilliant achievement and a reflection of the commitment shown by all players.

Congratulations to both squads for representing St. Bede's with such quality and pride.

Year 7 Tag Rugby Fixture

The Year 7 tag rugby fixture against Bottisham was a great success, and the students should be proud of their efforts. Despite difficult conditions, they showed excellent determination and resilience throughout, never giving up and continuing to work hard throughout the game. It was particularly pleasing to see their willingness to learn, as they listened to feedback, tried to apply new skills, and supported each other well as a team. The team worked incredibly hard to defend Bottisham and managed to score a few excellent tries which involved everyone in the team. They were rewarded for their hard work by beating Bottisham, which was a fantastic achievement. Each student involved should be proud of representing the school and performing admirably. Overall, it was a very positive experience and a great display of both attitude and teamwork.

Girls Football Cup Competitions

County Cup

Both the U14 and U16 girl's teams were involved in an impressive cup run, reaching the quarter-finals of the County Cup. Both teams narrowly lost out on a place in the semi finals with the U14's losing to Soham and the U16's to Abbey College.

Reaching the quarter-finals is a significant achievement, and the players can be proud of their cup journey, which showcased both their talent and team spirit.

District Cup

The U16 girls put in a fantastic performance in the semi-final of the District Cup. For the Year 11 players involved, it was their final competitive football fixture representing the school. Despite a determined display, they were ultimately beaten by a strong Chesterton side however should be proud of their commitment and efforts this year.

Year 7 & 8 girls' football

The Year 8 A and B teams enjoyed a highly successful afternoon against Trumpington Community College this half term, winning both fixtures. The matches began with a 7-a-side games and then players then stepped up to an 11-a-side format, providing a fantastic opportunity for many to play the full game for the first time. The transition was handled brilliantly, with the teams continuing their strong performances.

A few weeks later, St Bede's returned to face Trumpington, this time bringing a Year 7 squad alongside the Year 8 B team and once again produced dominant performances. The Year 7's impressed with a confident display to secure a 2-0 victory, while the Year 8 B team continued their excellent form with a fantastic 5-1 win.

Well done to all students involved!