



Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

'Inspiration and Excellence'

Headteacher: Dominic Robson BA (Hons) NPQH

DGR/sw

11 September 2015

Dear Parents/Carers

Wow! What a week. It has been wonderful to have a full school again. BVGS has felt very purposeful indeed, and even the sun has shone!

In assemblies this week, we have been discussing what it takes to be a successful Veseyan. **Wendy Brown** our School Librarian, ably supported by our student librarian leaders has introduced the reading passport challenge to all Year 7 and 8 students. Please encourage your son to get involved and get reading!

Thank you to all parents who supported us last night at Year 10 Information Evening. I hope you found it useful. For those who missed it, the information pack will shortly be available on the website.

It has been great to start our lunch time activities this week. Middle Field has been very busy with football, rugby and hockey. Meanwhile, it has been good to see students using our rowing machines in the new indoor rowing room just off the Quad. Students have also been playing basketball and table tennis in the Sports Hall. Remember for all sporting activities at lunchtime, other than the playground, trainers are required.

The support from student sport leaders this week has been quite exceptional. A big thank you to **Marcus Fu, Luke O'Brien, Archie Harris, Charles Pottinger, James Cavendish, Malachi Searchwell-Snape, Jacob Higgins** and **George Hounslow** for their fantastic leadership of our Year 7 hockey session on Thursday evening, which was attended by 110 Year 7 students.

Our Year 11 too have been fantastic in supporting Year 7 at lunchtimes. We have an excellent Year 11 prefect team and the work of **Kieran Henderson, Harry Griffiths** and others on Middle Field has been quite exceptional.

On Wednesday we began Debating Club. I was very impressed with the students who got involved with discussing whether we should tax sugary drinks. Next week we will be changing tack altogether and looking at the complicated area of euthanasia. Debating begins at 1:15pm in Big School, lasts for 45 minutes, and is open to all. Don't forget that getting involved in lunchtime activities also earns you merits which are a very important part in Vesey life, especially when it comes to the highly competitive House competitions. Who will win in 2015-16? Will it be Red again?

Talking of competitions there is still time to enter in Mr Jones' RE Competition to produce a slogan to decorate the ceiling of Birmingham Cathedral. Look out for more details in RE lessons next week.

Next Tuesday, Chess Club begins in Room 11 at lunchtime with Mr Morgan. Come along and show your skills!

This week also saw Centrestage conducting auditions for our Senior School Play, 'Two' by Jim Cartwright. If you missed the auditions and are still interested in acting, go along and talk to the team after school on Tuesday.



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Tomorrow is entrance test day. Good luck to all Year 6s doing the test. We hope you do yourself justice. Thanks in advance to all students who are helping in the rain tomorrow!

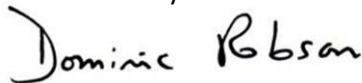
There have not been many sporting fixtures this week, though the Seniors did have four games against KES Birmingham on Wednesday. The first team saw two excellent debuts from **Harry Gwynne** and **Thomas Perraton**. They narrowly lost 2-1 against a team which is probably in the top five in the country. A defeat, but a fine achievement. Victory however came to the Thirds with a 3-1 win and a sterling effort from **Jon Jon Tian** in goal. Tomorrow we play Trent College with the 14AB and 15AB away, leaving at 12.15pm (it may still be busy on Boswell Road with the entrance test traffic so it might be a good idea to drop the boys on the Tamworth Road) and the 1st, 2nd and 16s teams playing at home at 2.30pm.

We are holding our Open Evening this coming Thursday, 17 September, from 4.00pm - 7.00pm. A huge thank you to all those students who have signed up to help so far. Fantastic. **But we need more helpers.** Please see Miss Hearn on Monday if you can help us out. She will be generous in her awarding of merits to those who can be of assistance. Please will Year 8 parents also encourage your sons to take part in the Open Evening Speech Competition. I need three outstanding student speeches to inspire our visitors on Thursday. Please encourage them to produce something for me over the weekend. Thank you, in anticipation of your help.

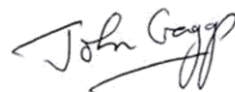
We would request that parents refrain from parking on the double yellow lines outside the school on Boswell Road when dropping off and picking up students. This has the potential to block the road, and could cause safety concerns for students as they leave the school grounds and cross the road. We would suggest that alternative parking is found away from this point of congestion to alleviate any health and safety issues.

Finally a big thank you to **Anas Fasih** who produced a very powerful reflection for forms on the 11 September attacks. We are very proud of his brilliant piece of work.

Yours sincerely



Dominic Robson
Headteacher



Dr John Craggs DL PhD FCMA
Chairman of Governors

Quote of the Week

'We must never allow 11 September to become a time for protest and division. Instead, this day must remain a time for promoting peace and mutual respect'

Timothy Dolan

Dates for your diary:

SEPTEMBER 2015	
Saturday 12	Entrance Test
Monday 14	Membership and Appointments Committee Meeting
Thursday 17	Open Evening for prospective Year 7 16:00 - 19:00. Students have a half-day and leave at 13:15.
Saturday 19	OVA Dinner
Monday 21	Ben Davies author visit
Monday 21	Full Board Meeting
Tuesday 22	Mental Health/E-Safety Parental Awareness 18:00
Wednesday 23	Natural High Presentation for Year 7
Wednesday 23	Michelle Magorian author visit
Thursday 24	Artsfest (tickets costs £20). All Welcome
OCTOBER 2015	
Friday 2	Geography Field Trip (Y11)
Monday 5	U6 Parents' Evening 16:00
Monday 5	Lichfield Literature Festival all day at BVGS
Monday 5	Admissions Committee
Tuesday 6	BLH Parents' Forum 19:00
Thursday 8	World Poetry Day
Thursday 8	Junior Soloists' Concert 19:00
Friday 9	Y11 PE Residential
Monday 12	HR Committee
Tuesday 13	Careers Fair 15:30 - 19:30 at Sutton Coldfield Town Hall
Thursday 15	Y7 Information Evening 18:30 - 19:30 and 19:30 - 20:15
Monday 19	Finance and Estates Committee Meeting (budget review)
Tuesday 20	Open Morning 09:10 - 10:30
Tuesday 20	L6 Information Evening 18:30 - 19:15 and 19:30 - 20:15
Wednesday 21	Open Morning 09:15 - 10:30
Thursday 22	Junior Hockey Tour

Friday 23	Founder's Day
Friday 23	Break up for half-term

NOVEMBER 2015

Monday 2	Training Day
Tuesday 3	Term re-commences
Monday 9	Learning and Teaching Committee
Wednesday 11	Remembrance Services
Thursday 12	Open Evening for prospective Sixth Form 16:00 - 19:00
w/c Monday 16	Busking Week
Monday 16	Finance and Estates
Thursday 19	Year 7 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
w/c Monday 23	Year 11 mock week
Friday 27	Speech Day 19:00 at Sutton Coldfield Town Hall
Friday 27	Senior King Maths Challenge
Monday 30	GCSE Presentation Evening 19:00 at BVGS

DECEMBER 2015

Thursday 3	Year 9 Options Evening 16:30 - 18:00
Sunday 6 - Wednesday 9	Dress and technical rehearsals for school play
Monday 7	Full Board Meeting
Monday 7	Y12 Parents' Evening
Thursday 10 and Friday 11	Performance of 'Two'
Tuesday 15	Christmas Concert
Thursday 17	Break up for Christmas