



Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

'Inspiration and Excellence'

Headteacher: Dominic Robson BA (Hons) NPQH

DGR/sw

15 January 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Winter now seems to have arrived, and I would encourage your sons and daughters to wrap up warm. Please note our emergency closure procedures in the event of bad weather. If we decide to close the school, we will put a message on the front page of our website, through the @BVGS1527 Twitter feed and via Radio WM, Heart FM and Free Radio by 06:45am. If we decide to close the school during the school day, all parents will be texted.

There has been plenty of great news to warm our hearts this week. Well done to the eight students who have received offers to study at Oxbridge from September 2016:

Cambridge University: **Tom Breakwell**, Theology - Selwyn College; **Niall Keating**, Engineering - Gonville and Caius; **Sneha Lala**, English - Murray Edwards; **Tamsin Sandiford**, French and Italian - Homerton.

Oxford University: **Jodie Green**, Chemistry - St Hugh's; **Lewis Terry**, Economics and Management - Pembroke, **Brendan Sorohan** Maths – Jesus and **Connor Walton**, French and German – Lincoln.

Well done to our top ten merit winners across the school last week: **Luke Nuttall**, **Alistair Kitchin**, **Anton Spencer**, **Danish Khan**, **Jordan Knight**, **Yuan Sagala**, **Cameron Bailey**, **Daniel Wilkes**, **Matthew Hurley**, and **Jacob Harding-George**.

I was also pleased to hear about the enthusiasm of the students from Years 8 and 9 who were trained on Tuesday by **Miss Steadman** and **Mr Baugh** on to how to observe lessons, as part of what we call our SALP (Students As Learning Partners) scheme. For a number of years, teachers have been able to volunteer to be observed by students. Our staff find it a very useful experience as students can provide such intelligent and mature insights into the learning experience, about what works well, and how it could be even better. I look forward to hearing about the work of our new SALP team:

Ben Mehaffy, **Segert Jensema**, **Pierce O'Reilly-Spears**, **Daniel Bagshaw**, **Matthew McLaughlan**, **Gabriel Plume**, **Nathan Perry**, **Finlay Sly**, **Haider Iqbal**, **Thomas Sherriff**, **Sam Gill**, **Omar Syed**, **Paavan Sehmar**, **Joseph Durrant**, **Dileep Sohal**, **Raul Athwall**, **Eesa Gharda**, **Elliott Brown**, **David Howe**, **Israr Khan**, **Harry James**, **Finlay Port**, **Alex Bailey** and **Ethan Alexander**.

Also on Tuesday we are very grateful to one of our Governors **Mrs Jo Davis** for conducting a thorough learning walk. Together we saw plenty of excellent learning and teaching. Year 10 were particularly impressive in English and Design and there were some very thoughtful and mature discussion with 8R about poverty in Geography. On the previous day I was very impressed with Year 10 in their French class. Well done - a very purposeful start to term.

Thank you to the 90+ Year 9 parents, who have now returned their permission slips to the IT Team via their son's form tutors, thus enabling them online access to their son's Year 9 report when it is published on Tuesday. Can we get all the remaining slips in on Monday please? Thank you for your co-operation with this matter.

We are currently planning a stimulating and varied programme here at school for National Careers Week beginning on 7 March. Calling all parents! Would you be able to spare some time in National Careers Week to come into school and talk to students? You wouldn't have to be allocated with your son/daughter's year group if you did not want to be. If interested, please contact Mr Dave Goodwin via j.ettets@bishopeseys.bham.sch.uk who is our SLT lead for this exciting week.

The PAC run a number of excellent social events. Tickets are now available for 'Night at the Races' on Friday 5 February. Tickets are available by emailing MIHLGreen@aol.com. The evening should be great fun. Have a look at <http://www.bvgs.co.uk/pac-race-night-2016> for further details. Hope to see you there.



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I am delighted that we have had such an excellent response to the Centrestage School of Speech and Drama Workshop on Tuesday 19 January. All participants will receive a confirmation letter on Monday.

Also on Tuesday, Year 7 will be going to Symphony Hall to a concert performed by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. To get them in the mood, please encourage them to listen to some of the BBC Ten Pieces this weekend. Here is the link:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/3l2p7df6Yhg8dRp20Hp85VG/ten-pieces-secondary>.

We have had a number of visitors this week to share good practice existing at our school. For example the Birmingham Education Partnership visited us to learn about the excellent work we do as a school in the area of Mental Health. Well done to our very eloquent Mental Health Ambassadors who impressed our visitor **Louise Bauer: Eleni Panayiotou, Tom Breakwell and Sneha Lala.**

This coming Wednesday we hold our House Meetings organised by the student leadership team. Please note the roomings: Blue House: OBS, Gold House: BS, Red House: Sports Hall, White House: Canteen all at 08:55. Please note that Purple House Remain in form for activities organised by the Officers.

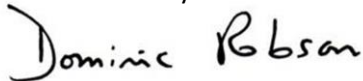
On Thursday 21 January, please note that we have our Sports photographs. All students need to be in full school uniform. See schedule attached to this newsletter.

Just heard some fantastic news about superb Year 7 rugby performances at KES today. Well done boys. For all information about sport at BVGS this week see: <http://www.bvgs.co.uk/diary/sports-results>.

Good luck also to the teams playing against KES tomorrow. Hopefully the pitches won't be frozen!

Looking forward to seeing Year 11 parents at the consultation evening on Wednesday.

Yours sincerely



Dominic Robson
Headteacher



John Craggs DL BSc PhD HonDUniv FCMA
Chairman of Governors

Quote of the Week

'Never let your memories be greater than your dreams'
Doug Ivester


Word of the Week

'impertinent' adj: intrusive or presumptuous, as persons or their actions

Book of the Week

BOOK OF THE WEEK

- ❖ "It is exciting and you never know what will happen."
Luke Butcher 7W
- ❖ "It creates suspense right until the end and is a really mysterious book."
Bilal Qasim 7W



Art Stars of the Week



This week I have 2 pieces completed by Year 11 for the mock exam. The theme is eyes: **Christopher Mason** has completed a realistic drawing using a wide range of pencil tones (left). The composition is intense demonstrating his excellent commitment and ability. **Jack O'Hara** has completed a very different response to the theme of eyes. He has produced an abstract mix media piece, developing images of time within the eye (right). Again his creative work is excellent. Well done to both!

Dates for your diary:

JANUARY 2016

Wednesday 20 Year 11 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Monday 25 Full Board Meeting

FEBRUARY 2016

w/c 1 Busking Week
Monday 1 Whole School Review Day (please read the letter Mr Bowen will be sending on this topic to all parents)
Thursday 4 Year 10 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 17:00
Thursday 4 Intermediate Maths Challenge
Friday 5 Harry Potter Book Night (tbc)
Friday 5 PAC Night at the Races 19:30
Monday 8 Learning and Teaching Committee
Friday 12 Break up for half-term
Friday 12 Year 10 - 13 Iceland Trip
Monday 22 Term re-commences
Monday 22 Finance and Estates Committee meeting

MARCH 2016

Tuesday 1	Targeted Review Day Year 7
Wednesday 2	Swimming Gala
Thursday 3	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Thursday 3	World Book Day
Monday 7	AS/A2 Geology field Trip
Monday 7	Full Board Meeting
Thursday 10	Year 7 and 8 Hockey Tour
Thursday 10	Intermediate Olympiad Maths Challenge
Friday 11	German Exchange visitors arrive
Monday 14	Admissions Committee meeting
Wednesday 16	Year 8 Parents' Evening
Thursday 17	Spring Concert 19:00
Thursday 17	Intermediate Kangaroo Maths Challenge
Tuesday 22	L6 Geography Field Trip
Thursday 24	Half Training Day
Thursday 24	Break up for Easter
23-27	Barcelona Trip



Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

TEAM	REPORT TO BIG SCHOOL	STAND BY At	PHOTO at
NETBALL 1st	9.00	9.15	9.20
NETBALL 2nd	9.05	9.20	9.25
X-COUNTRY Senior squad	9.10	9.25	9.30
HOCKEY 1st XI	9.15	9.30	9.35
HOCKEY 2nd XI	9.20	9.35	9.40
HOCKEY 3rd XI	9.25	9.40	9.45
HOCKEY U15A	9.30	9.45	9.50
HOCKEY U15B	9.35	9.50	9.55
HOCKEY U14A	9.40	9.55	10.00
HOCKEY U14B	9.45	10.00	10.05
HOCKEY U13A	9.50	10.05	10.10
HOCKEY U13B	9.55	10.10	10.15
HOCKEY U12	10.00	10.15	10.20
HOCKEY U12B	10.05	10.20	10.25
CRICKET 1st XI	10.10	10.25	10.30
CRICKET U15	10.15	10.30	10.35
CRICKET U14	10.20	10.35	10.40
BADMINTON U14	10.25	10.40	10.45
CRICKET U12	10.30	10.45	10.50
RUGBY U12A	10.35	10.50	10.55
RUGBY U12B	10.40	10.55	11.00
BADMINTON U16	10.45	11.00	11.05
TABLE TENNIS	10.50	11.05	11.10
RUGBY U14A	10.55	11.10	11.15
RUGBY U14B	11.00	11.15	11.20
RUGBY U15A	11.45	12.00	12.05
RUGBY U15B	11.50	12.05	12.10
RUGBY U16	11.55	12.10	12.15
RUGBY 1st XV	12.00	12.15	12.20
RUGBY 2nd XV	12.05	12.20	12.25
ROWING Yrs 8-9	12.10	12.25	12.30
ROWING Yrs 10-13	12.15	12.30	12.35
CRICKET U13	12.20	12.35	12.40
RUGBY U13A	12.25	12.40	12.45
RUGBY U13B	12.30	12.45	12.50
BASKETBALL U12	12.35	12.50	12.55
BASKETBALL U16	12.40	12.55	1.00