



# Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

'Inspiration and Excellence'

Headteacher: Dominic Robson BA (Hons) NPQH

DGR/sw

22 April 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

This has been an historic week. We marked the Queen's 90th birthday in school with a special assembly for Year 9 and 10. In debating society, we discussed whether there was a place for the Queen in modern Britain. It was close but the votes stacked up in favour of retaining our monarch. I'm sure she will be relieved to hear that. We also have remembered the 400th anniversary of the death of arguably the greatest playwright to have ever lived, William Shakespeare. Today, we have held a Shakespeare quote competition and a number of staff and students have dressed up as Shakespearean characters! Please encourage your son to take part in the Shakespeare quote competition. There are prizes to be won and every student entering will gain a merit from the Headteacher. May I also take this opportunity to encourage the students to watch some of the excellent drama on television marking the Shakespeare anniversary over the coming weeks. I can also thoroughly recommend a visit to Stratford upon Avon, the home of the Bard, and the Library of Birmingham, which is currently running a Shakespeare exhibition.

We have had a number of visitors in school this week – Clare Considine from the Birmingham Education Partnership, Andrew Cooper from SFE and the Headmaster of Cranbrook School and his senior team from Kent. All have been impressed by the excellent behaviour and attitude of our students.

On Wednesday, we welcomed our new Lower Sixth candidates from other schools. It was an excellent afternoon outlining the expectations that BVGS has and including fine speeches by Dave Goodwin, Assistant Head, Jay Lal, Teacher i/c Enrichment, Ella McGrail from Centrestage School of Speech and Drama as well as student speeches from Megan Littlewood, Angalea Varma, Nyandah Foday and Jemima Richardson-Jones. We look forward to welcoming our new intake to Bishop Vesey's Grammar School.

This week has seen us testing our fire safety and evacuation systems thoroughly. I am pleased with the speed of evacuation from the School and the well-ordered and self-disciplined nature of this.

This has been an excellent week for sport. Our team of the week has to be the Year 7 hockey team, who won every game against very tough private school opposition to triumph at the regionals at Cannock Hockey Club. Their fine performance augurs well for the future. Well done too to Messrs Doughty, Devey and Howell. It has been great to see the tennis season starting with after-school sessions. We have a number of fixtures for lower years being organised for this term. At the same time, the cricket season is progressing well with some excellent wins and performances with bat and ball. For more information on Vesey sport, don't hesitate to visit.

How is the revision going? All students should now be revising hard for public and internal examinations. If you need any information regarding how you can support your son or daughter through this busy revision season, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

This morning, I toured the new STEM Block with Graham Swindells, School Business Manager, and our site manager, Dominic. I am hugely impressed with the progress made to date and am very excited about the space and quality of the new build.

We are keen to ensure that the new STEM Block is resourced with the best possible ICT facilities. The cost of kitting out the STEM Block is £110,000. We are raising money for this objective through the Vesey Ball on 1 July (It should be a great night. I hope you will be able to attend) and through supporting Easy Fundraising. Please sign up for this via the webpage [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk). Easy Fundraising enables you to support our school while shopping for the things you and your family need.



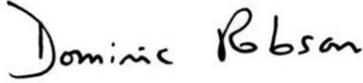
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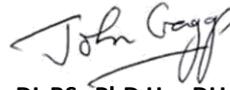
By the way, can you support the Vesey Ball through donating an auction prize? If so, please contact Dave Goodwin, Assistant Headteacher on d.goodwin@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk

Wishing you all a relaxing weekend.

Yours sincerely



**Dominic Robson**  
Headteacher



**John Craggs DL BSc PhD HonDUniv FCMA**  
Chairman of Governors

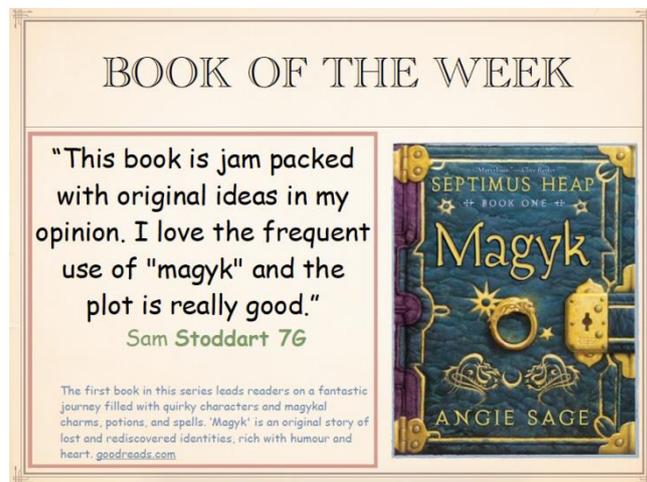
### Quote of the Week

'Pleasure in the job puts perfection in the work'  
**Aristotle**

### Word of the Week

'bellicose' adj. inclined or eager to fight

### Book of the Week



### Dates for your diary:

Wednesday 27 April	Sports Day
Thursday 28 April	Junior Maths Challenge
Monday 2 May	May Day Bank Holiday
Monday 2 May	DofE Expedition
Thursday 5 May	Induction Evening 18:00-20:15
Friday 6 May	Sports Dinner - Villa Park
Monday 9 May	Governing Body Full Board Meeting
Monday 16 May	Finance and Estates Committee meeting (budget review)
Monday 23 May	HR Committee meeting
Wednesday 25 May	Outreach afternoon
Thursday 26 May	Students and teaching staff break up for half-term
Friday 27 May	Other staff break up for half term
Monday 6 June	Term re-commences
w/c Monday 6 June	Exam Week
Monday 6 June	Learning and Teaching Committee meeting
Monday 13 June	Finance and Estates Committee meeting
Tuesday 14 June	Junior Maths Kangaroo and Olympiad

Thursday 16 June	SDP Parents' Forum
Thursday 16 June	Rhineland Trip
w/c Monday 20 June	Busking Week
Thursday 23 June	Higher Education Evening
Sunday 26 June	German Exchange
Monday 27 June	DofE Expedition
Tuesday 28 June	Year 7 Performance Evening 19:00
Wednesday 29 June	Year 7 Induction Day
Wednesday 29 June	Leavers' Ball
Monday 4 July	Governing Body Full Board Meeting
Tuesday 5 July	Open Evening for prospective Y7 16:00 - 19:00
Thursday 7 July	House Music Festival
Thursday 7 July	Art Exhibition
Friday 8 July	L6 Induction Day
w/c Monday 11 July	Y10 Work Experience Week
Friday 15 July	World Challenge Expedition
w/c Monday 18 July	Activity Week
Monday 18 July	Presentation Evening Y7-10
Monday 18 July	Netball tour
Friday 22 July	Break up for summer