



Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

'Inspiration and Excellence'

Headteacher: Dominic Robson BA (Hons) NPQH

DGR/sw

23 October 2015

Dear Parents/Carers

We are coming to the end of a busy half-term. There has been a lot of hard work from everyone and some excellent academic progress has been made, as well as there being a lot of outstanding opportunities on offer in terms of Music, Sport, Trips, House Competitions and Extra-Curricular Clubs. My thanks go to the staff for their commitment and of course your support as parents and carers. I do hope everyone has a happy and re-generating half-term.

In assemblies this week we have been getting the Year 11 and Sixth Form prepared for our multi-faith and inclusive Founder's Day Service on the theme of 'Refugees'. Our Guest Speaker at Holy Trinity Church will be the **Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell MP**, formerly Minister for International Development. In advance I would like to thank all those making the service possible, **Eric Swindells**, Organist at St Peter's, Maney, **Maryann Dye**, Director of Music, **Reverend John Routh**, Rector at Holy Trinity, our readers, **Tom Breakwell**, **Arun Ladhar**, **Umar Khan**, **Usamah Khan**, **Ben Heppenstall**, **Joshua Russell**, **Ann O'Rourke** (representing St Chad's Sanctuary, a voluntary project supported by St. Chad's Cathedral and The Salvation Army. It's a place of welcome and hospitality for Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Immigrants.), **Sneha Lala**, **John Clarke**, **Philip Barker**, **Ben Roberts**, **Ellie Jennings** and **Hannah Richards** and all our fantastic musicians including our soloist **Jemima Richardson-Jones** (singing L'âme évaporée by Debussy), our Dhol Drummers **Balamrit Sokhal** and **Amarpal Johal**, Vesey Voices conducted by **Mr Richard Jeffries** and **Joe Keenan**, Chair of the School Council and the whole Officer Team.

Elsewhere this week we have talked to year groups regarding some of the history of the school and **Mr Baugh** has been leading assemblies on manners.

Well done to our top merit winners of the week. **Arjan Shoker 7G**, **Oliver Gray-Nimmo 7G**, **Sam Harkin 9B**, **Benjamin Ellis 9W**, **Benjamin Wall 9B**, **Erik Brown 9R**, **Harry James 9B**, **Sam Maynard 9W**, **Hamzah Mahmood 10W**, **Daniel Leyva 11G**.

Good luck to our Junior Rugby Tour team who are currently in Dublin playing the High School. Tomorrow they play Presentation College, Bray. Thank you to Messrs **Whiting**, **Greenwood**, **Graham** and **Joy** for arranging this excellent opportunity. To find out how the boys are getting on and for all Vesey-related news, do follow us on Twitter @BVGS1527 along with the other 1,175+ followers. For more information on all things sporting this week please visit: www.bvgssport.co.uk.

Finally a quick heads-up on three forthcoming events:

Sixth Form Open Evening takes place on 12 November from 16:00 - 19:00. This is essential for all Year 11 to attend.

Our Senior School Production of 'Two' on Thursday 10 and Friday 11 December. Tickets go on sale after half term.

The PE Department tell me there are still sponsorship opportunities available for our Inaugural BVGS Golf Day. Due to the excellent deal that Walmley Golf Club have been able to offer us, we have now been able to reduce the original price to £65 per person for all those who pay before 1 January 2016 (£75 thereafter!)



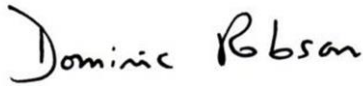
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Good luck to all those who are travelling over half-term including **Sophia Thorn** who is on the ISSET (International Space School Educational Trust) Programme in Moscow

My best wishes for a relaxing weekend and half-term week.

Yours sincerely



Dominic Robson
Headteacher



Dr John Cragg DL PhD FCMA
Chairman of Governors

Quote of the Week

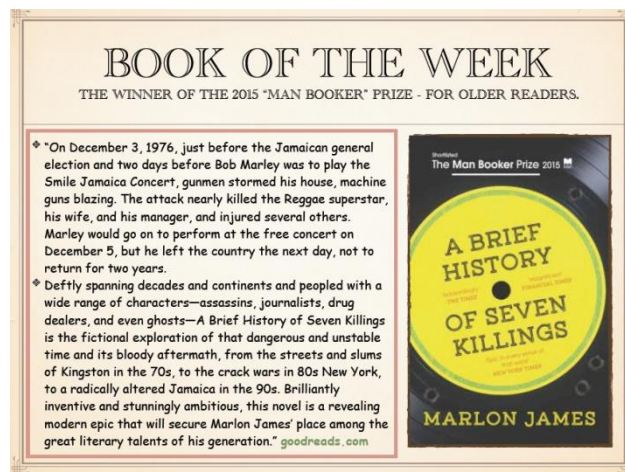
'One who smiles rather than angers is always stronger'

Chinese Wisdom

Word of the Week

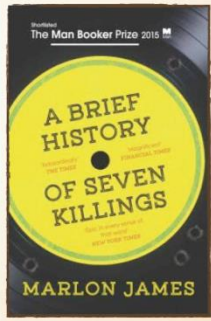
'virulent' adj: actively poisonous

Book of the Week



BOOK OF THE WEEK
THE WINNER OF THE 2015 'MAN BOOKER' PRIZE - FOR OLDER READERS.

- ♦ "On December 3, 1976, just before the Jamaican general election and two days before Bob Marley was to play the Smile Jamaica Concert, gunmen stormed his house, machine guns blazing. The attack nearly killed the Reggae superstar, his wife, and his manager, and injured several others. Marley would go on to perform at the free concert on December 5, but he left the country the next day, not to return for two years.
- ♦ Deftly spanning decades and continents and peopled with a wide range of characters—assassins, journalists, drug dealers, and even ghosts—A Brief History of Seven Killings is the fictional exploration of that dangerous and unstable time and its bloody aftermath, from the streets and slums of Kingston in the 70s, to the crack wars in 80s New York, to a radically altered Jamaica in the 90s. Brilliantly inventive and stunningly ambitious, this novel is a revealing modern epic that will secure Marlon James' place among the great literary talents of his generation." goodreads.com



Art and Design Star of the Week



Ali Lakhanpal, 10G. An excellent transcription, based on a still life painting, by Severin Roesen. Ali is completing excellent work in his 'natural forms' project

Dates for your diary:

| OCTOBER 2015 | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Friday 23 | Founder's Day on the theme of 'Refugees' |
| Friday 23 | Break up for half-term |
| NOVEMBER 2015 | |
| Monday 2 | Training Day |
| Tuesday 3 | Term re-commences |
| Friday 6 | PAC Year 7 and 8 Disco at BVGS |
| Monday 9 | Learning and Teaching Committee Meeting |
| Monday 9 | PAC meeting |
| 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 Committee Meeting |
| 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 with Guest Speaker Lord Keith Bradley (OV) |
| 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 | Governing Body Full Board Meeting |
| Monday 7 | Y12 Parents' Evening |
| Monday 7 | PAC meeting |
| Thursday 10 and Friday 11 | Performance of 'Two' |
| Tuesday 15 | Christmas Concert |
| Thursday 17 | Break up for Christmas |