



# Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

'Inspiration and Excellence'

Headteacher: Dominic Robson BA (Hons) NPQH

DGR/sw

01 July 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

We have had a busy fortnight. Students from Year 7-10 have been getting feedback on their examination performances and teachers are busy writing reports, as well as offering our usual breath-taking range of extra-curricular opportunities.

The last fortnight has seen Vesey on the move with an excellent trip to Rhineland (thank you to **Mr Gotschel** and the team of staff supporting him), a German exchange and a reconnaissance tour of China by **Mr Bowen** and **Miss Green**, readying ourselves for China 2017.



It has also been a time of debate. On Tuesday 21 June we held an excellent European Referendum debate. Well done to all our speakers **Angalea, Isaac, Hannah** and **Jack**. It was a high quality debate, and our mock vote on referendum day proved to be very much out of kilter with the national picture with a huge win for 'Remain'. There has also been some impressive debating by Year 10 at a big Solihull School hosted competition. BVGS (**Shoaib Sheraz, Ali Lakanpal, Harry West** and **Angus Carter**) came in 5th out of 28 behind Camp Hill Girls and Solihull School. Well done boys.



This time of year is also very important for the Lower Sixth in planning their futures. On 23 June for example, **Mr Goodwin** and our friends from Durham University, led an excellent HE Evening. Also a big thank you to all young OV's who returned to support the Oxbridge alumni afternoon, as well as **Anna Robson** who talked eloquently about her gap year experiences in Peru and Tanzania.

We have enjoyed two superb performance evenings this week, showcasing the work of KS3 students in the Arts : creative writing, singing, brass playing, art and DT work, as well as dramatic performances of Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes, Ayckbourn's Ernie's Incredible Illucinations and a devised piece on World War I marking the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme entitled 'The Game'. The quality and enthusiasm shown at the Performance Evenings was very encouraging, and I would like to thank all staff and students for making it happen. I am looking forward to seeing the World War I Group and the choir performing in

Lichfield Cathedral on Monday. We gather at 08:30 in Big School, so boys need to be prompt ready to catch the train to Lichfield. Tickets are still available from the Lichfield Festival website.

I must note the excellent work the school is doing in respect of mental health. **Miss Steadman** gave an outstanding presentation at the national SSAT conference in London on this theme. Well done Miss.

Last weekend 42 Year 10 students and 10 Year 11 students participated in their Duke of Edinburgh qualifying expedition in the Malvern Hills. Despite battling tiredness and the weather, all students passed the expedition section. They must now add evidence for their remaining sections to their eDofE account, otherwise they will not gain their certificate. Thanks go to **Tom Greenwood, Cara Lawson, Helen Perera, Nick Yates** and **Rosie Stevens** for giving up their weekend and to our training providers at Big Strides, especially their director **Dave Ellis**. DofE co-ordinator **Tom Greenwood** was proud to hear the external staff comment that the scheme at BVGS is 'one of the best, if not the best' in the Birmingham area.

It is always good to hear about students doing their bit for charity. Well done to 9B who have raised £456.04 for Cancer Research UK

Well done to our top achievers who will be invited for hot chocolate and cookies next week: **Kenny Byrne 10G, Jai Chauhan 10G, Ali Lakhanpal 10G, Aman Hussain 10G, Archie Sansome 10W, Kai Molly 10W, Cole Hancox 7P, George Parkes 8B, Oliver Curwen 8B, Samuel Redgate 7P, Harry James 9B, Moonis Haider 7P, Harry Guest 9R, Dexter Conner 7R, Harpreet Dosanjh 7R, Sam Harkin 9B, Bruno Prestridge 8B, Jack Woodham 7R, Jaden Lo-Watson 9B**

In other news well done to Year 11 who marked the end of their examinations with a paint-balling trip, which they found very enjoyable. A big thank you to **Mrs Hodgkinson** and **Mr Brocklebank** and their team for organising and supporting this event.

It is always good to hear of the successes of students. Congratulations to **Lucy Parize** who has been selected for the England Netball Tour to Jamaica this summer and a big well done to **Upraaj Bains** Y8 who won Gold and Silver at the European Karate Championships in Frankfurt.



It has been a busy week in Vesey sport from tennis at The Priory to cricket against Indian touring sides. For a full round up please visit: [www.bvgssport.co.uk](http://www.bvgssport.co.uk).

It has been a pleasure to welcome our new Year 7 today for their induction day. A big thank you to all the students and staff who gave them a warm welcome and support.

Tuesday 5 July will be a half day for the students (providing they have the signed parental permission slip to leave at 12:10) due to us holding our Open Day for prospective students in Years 3, 4 and 5. If you know someone who would benefit from a grammar school education, please encourage them to visit our school on Tuesday from 4:00pm - 7:00pm. We hope that we will have lots of support from students on the night to help by acting as guides and helpers. Please encourage your sons and daughters to do their bit on Tuesday.

I hope all those going to the PAC Ball tonight have a great time. Unfortunately I won't be there as I will be in Cambridge supporting **Harkirpa Takhar** and **Dylan Lindford** from Year 7 at the National German Spelling Bee Finals.

Talking of Balls, the U6 rounded off their Vesey career with the Annual Ball at Aston Villa on Wednesday. Well done to the outgoing student leadership team led by **John Clarke** for organising an excellent event, ably supported by **Pam Maskell, Dave Goodwin, Kate Steadman** and a large staff team. Good luck to the Upper Sixth - well will miss you.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dominic Robson".

**Dominic Robson**  
Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Craggs".

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

### Quote of the Week

'Show class, have pride, and display character. If you do, winning takes care of itself'  
**Coach Paul 'Bear' Bryant**

### Word of the Week

'susurrus' . a soft murmuring or rustling sound; whisper



### ART, D&T EXHIBITION 2016 CELEBRATING CREATIVITY Bishop Vesey's Grammar School



Thursday 14th July 5-6:30pm, Big School (main hall). Welcoming friends of the school and parents/carers of all students.



### Book of the Week

SERIES OF THE WEEK

"They're really exciting and interesting to read, keeping you hooked all the way through"  
**Matthew Goring 10W**

### Dates for your diary:

Friday 1 July	Spelling Bee MFL National Finals, Cambridge
Friday 1 July	Vesey Ball at Aston Wood Golf Club
Monday 4 July	Poppies Concert in Lichfield Cathedral
Monday 4 July	Governing Body Full Board Meeting
Tuesday 5 July	Primary School Debating Competition at BVGS
Tuesday 5 July	Open Evening for prospective Y7 16:00 - 19:00
Thursday 7 July	House Music Festival
Friday 8 July	L6 Induction Day
Saturday 9 July	Lads and Dads Singing Workshop culminating with a performance at

	the Sutton Games at Wyndley
w/c Monday 11 July	Y10 Work Experience Fortnight begins
Wednesday 13-15 July	Year 7 Residential to Whitemoor Lakes
Wednesday 13 July	Shaggy Dogs Afternoon Tea Party
Thursday 14 July	Art Exhibition
Friday 15-22 July	World Challenge Expedition to Croatia Group 1
Friday 15 July	L6 begin their Enrichment Week
Friday 15 July	World Challenge Expedition
Saturday 16 July	Class of 1991 Reunion
Sunday 17-24 July	World Challenge Expedition to Croatia Group 2
w/c Monday 18 July	Activity Week for Years 7-9
Monday 18 July	Presentation Evening Y7-10
Friday 22 July	Break up for summer