



# Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

'Inspiration and Excellence'

Headteacher: Dominic Robson BA (Hons) NPQH

DGR/sw

02 December 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Last week ended with our annual Speech Day. Our guest speaker was Bilal Ahmad (OV 2008-10) MEng and former Eddowes Prize winner who now works for BP in Norway. As well as celebrating our record-breaking A-Level year, we honoured two notable Veseyans who retired from service this year: our Clerk **Kerry Osbourne** and our Groundsman **Bob Brown**. A big thank you to all responsible for a successful evening including **Jemima Richardson-Jones**, who sang Fauré's 'Après un rêve' beautifully, **Reiss Chahal** who gave the vote of thanks and the large team of staff involved: **Mr Bowen, Mr Goodwin, Miss Gilbert, Mr Baugh, Mr Swindells, Miss Steadman, Mr Brocklebank, Miss Egan, Dr Reilly, Mrs Evetts, Mrs Maskell, Mrs Kite, Mrs Joyce, Mrs Dye, Mrs Heer, Mrs Rowlands, Mrs Gregory, Mrs Pryor, Mrs Jones and Miss Williams**. Above all it was a very well organised evening with a very pleasant atmosphere.

It was good to catch up with last year's 11B this week who collected their GCSE certificates over tea and cakes. Three more certificate events still to come:

11G	Monday 5th December	3.30 to 4.00pm
11R	Tuesday 6th December	3.30 to 4.00pm
11W	Tuesday 13th December	3.30 to 4.00pm

Looking ahead, Christmas Concert tickets for Tuesday 13 December are selling fast and are available from Mrs Foster in the School Club Office, £9 for adults, £5 for students and concessions.

On Thursday 8 and Friday 9 December, we will be putting on our school play, Find Me sponsored by Bassi Solicitors, Handsworth. Please support us. Again tickets are £9 for adults, £5 for students and concessions and are available from Mrs Foster.

Bishop Vesey's Grammar School in conjunction with **CENTRESTAGE** School of Speech and Drama Present ...

A play by **Olwen Wymark**

Thursday 8th and Friday 9th December 2016  
Doors open at 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start in Big School

We had some excellent news today that a number of our boys have been selected to be part of the England Hockey Performance Centre Squad for Birmingham. At U15 level, 5 out of the 24 boys : **Ben Ellis, Archie**



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**Harris, Aiden Hill, George Hounslow** and **Dan Porter** have all been selected at U15 level. At U17 level, a further 4 boys have been selected to be part of the 2017 squad: **James Davey, Luke O'Brien, Archie Sansome** and **Tom Thursfield**. This is a fantastic achievement and is testament to the outstanding Hockey coaching that our boys receive from **Mr Devey, Mr Howell** and the rest of the team. We are very grateful to all of them for their hard work and support for all the boys.

For more information on Vesey sport this week visit: <http://www.bvgssport.co.uk/>

We welcomed Andrew Mitchell MP to BVGS today for our Sixth Form assembly for a Q&A about Brexit, international aid and mental health. We are very grateful to Mr Mitchell for his ongoing support for the school.

We had a fun Boys v Girls charity netball game on Monday. The B Girls team lost 2-3 to the boys, but the A Girls team won 9-5. It is worth noticing that there were some interesting throwing tactics from the boys. A big thank you to **Mrs Clarke, Mrs Pereira, Mrs Lawson, Mrs Rowlands** and **Mrs Parize** for their help.



In total for Children in Need we have now raised a whopping £1,672.76. Our next project is our annual shoe box appeal. This year we will be supporting the Salvation Army in Birmingham with their work on homelessness. More details to follow next week from our Charity Team.

Well done to the Target 2.0 Team (right) of **Tommy Powell, Isabella Page, Rob Mills** and **Sofia Kaur** who did a superb presentation at the University of Birmingham this week. We were pipped to the top spot by Wolverhampton Grammar School for Girls.



This week's top merit winners who have been invited to Mr Robson's office at break-time on Wednesday 7 December are: **Mohammad HASHIM 11B, Daniel KHAN 11B, Shiloh NDIULOR 11G, Ali LAKHANPAL 11G, Simon UNDERWOOD 11R, Oliver TEDSTONE 11R, Arif MOHAMED 11W.**

Many thanks to all parents who are supporting our BVGS Inspiration and Excellence Fund. As I look forward there are big financial challenges ahead for our school, namely central government funding cuts and increased costs. Together these cuts and increased costs pose a very real risk to maintaining the momentum of progress at our School. Every year we invite all parents to make a regular financial contribution to our school Inspiration and Excellence Fund. This year, the money will be used to fund important, basic ICT equipment for our new STEM Block. In line with other grammar schools nationally, we recommend a suggested contribution of £360 per year (£30 per month), or £240 per year (£20 per month). If you would like any further clarification on how to donate please visit <http://www.bvgs.co.uk/support-us/why-support-bvgs>.

We are looking forward to our Grand Opening of the Richards-Randon STEM Block on Thursday 8 December.

Many of us are starting to turn our thoughts to Christmas shopping. Did you know that you can support BVGS while undertaking your Christmas shop online? Do sign up for Easyfundraising via <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bishopveseysgrammar/>

We have a number of students attending tonight's Y7 and 8 joint Christmas disco with Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls from 19:30 - 21:30. Please note tickets will not be sold on the door. Mobile phones should be switched off at all times, and only used with the permission of one of the organisers. Thank you to our parent helpers and **Mr Bowen** for their support for this event.

With our best wishes for a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

**Dominic Robson**  
Headteacher

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

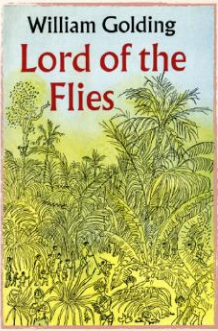
## Book of the Week

## Art Star of the Week

**BOOK OF THE WEEK**

This book is the story of a group of boys who, after a plane crash, set up a fragile community on a previously uninhabited island. As memories of home recede and the blood from frenzied pig-hunts arouses them, the boys' childish fear turns into something deeper and more primitive.

**William Golding**  
**Lord of the Flies**

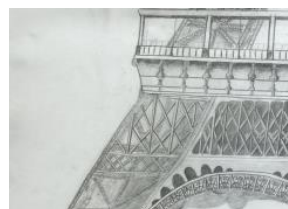


**"It shows us how we have changed and survival of the fittest. It is very enjoyable."**  
**Ben Kirman 9W**

**"It is interesting and set in an amazing world.."**  
**Tom Shephard 10G**

**Omar Ahmed 9W and Daniel Lee 9R.**

Both Omar and Daniel have been selected for their exceptional architectural drawings. Their ability to show tone and detail, reflects worthy stars of the week. Both boys have been identified, as Gifted and Talented in Art. All their work consistently enforces their amazing ability. Here Omar has produced a close up view of the Eiffel Tower, while Daniel has focused on the detail of the Petronas Towers



**Quote of the Week:** To raise new questions, new possibilities, to regard old problems from a new angle, requires creative imagination and marks real advance in science.  
**Albert Einstein**

### Dates for your Diary

#### Autumn Term 2016

Thursday 8 December	Grand Opening of The Richards-Randon STEM Block 13:00 - 14:00
8 and 9 December	School Production of 'Find Me'. 19:00
Monday 12 December	L6 Parents' Evening 16:30 - 18:30
Tuesday 13 December	Christmas Concert 19:30
Friday 16 December	Break up for Christmas at 12:15

#### Spring Term 2017

Wednesday 4 January	Spring Term commences
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Wednesday 4 January - Tuesday 10 January	Upper Sixth mock examinations
Wednesday 11 January - Monday 16 January	Lower Sixth mock examinations
Wednesday 18 January	Y11 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Tuesday 24 January	BLH Parents' Forum 19:00 - 20:00
Thursday 2 February	Year 10 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Monday 13 February	Review Day
Friday 17 February	Break up for Half Term
Monday 27 February	Spring Term recommences
Tuesday 28 February	Elevate Y10 Parents' Evening 18:00 - 19:15
Thursday 2 March	Y9 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Tuesday 7 March	Higher Education Evening 19:00 - 20:00
Wednesday 15 March	Year 8 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Thursday 23 March	Spring Concert
Thursday 6 April	Break up for Easter at 15:25
<b>Friday 7 April</b>	<b>Staff Training Day</b>
<b>Summer Term 2017</b> Monday 24 April	Summer Term commences
Tuesday 25 April	Y7 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Thursday 27 April	Senior Soloists' Concert 19:00
Monday 1 May	May Day Holiday
Thursday 18 May	Parents' SDP Forum 19:00
Friday 26 May	Break up for Half Term
Monday 5 June	Summer Term recommences
Tuesday 27 June	Open Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Tuesday 4 July	Performance Evening 19:00 - 20:30
Friday 21 July	Break up for Summer Holidays