



Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

'Inspiration and Excellence'

Headteacher: Dominic Robson BA (Hons) NPQH

DGR/sw

10 March 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Our New Year 7

I was delighted to welcome our new Year 7 and their parents in school this morning. A big thank you to 7B, P and W who organised tours. This is the first year of our new fairer admissions policy and I am delighted that we have filled 31 out of 32 allocated places for Pupil Premium students. It was a very positive atmosphere this morning and it was so nice to have the sun shining as well!

Please write to your MP ...

The government is planning a new National Funding Formula for schools. This will penalise BVGS and all other Midlands grammar schools with a 2.9% cut in funding. Please write to your MP and make the case for funding grammar schools at sustainable levels. The new funding proposal for BVGS is below the recommended level of £4,800 per student.

... and fill in the consultation on school funding

You as grammar school parents are an articulate and talented body. Please lend your voice to our concerns over school funding by filling in the consultation document on the National Funding Formula. <https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula2>. Your voice can make a difference.

Lord Mayor's visit

We welcomed the Lord Mayor of Birmingham, **Councillor Carl Rice**, to school on Tuesday along with **Martin Burton MBE** and **Nazir Awan**, who presented a cheque for £600 to BVGS for winning the Lord Mayor's Sixth Form Mega Quiz in November. Well done once again to our quiz champions **Courtney Szanto, Kate Horton, Daniel Patrick, Isaac Stevens, Ben Clay** and **Juliette Thomas**.



Lichfield Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B74 2NH
Tel: 0121 250 5400 Fax: 0121 250 5420
head@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk
www.bvgs.co.uk



UKMT Maths Quiz

Mr Beasley enjoyed taking our Junior Maths Challenge Team to Camp Hill on Tuesday. Well done **Matthew Roberts 8P**, **Moonis Haider 8P**, **Jack Lees 9W** and **James Keeling 9R** who were narrowly pipped to first place by Camp Hill Boys.

SSAT Leadership Fellow

Congratulations to **Miss Langham**, English Department, who has been one of 120 teachers chosen nationally from a huge number of applicants for their exceptional leadership potential to be an SSAT Leadership Fellow. This means that the SSAT will be investing considerably in Miss Langham's professional development over the coming year. This is fantastic news for BVGS.

Spring Concert - 23 March. Get your tickets!

Our Spring Concert is coming up fast on Thursday 23 March. We are on the hunt for raffle prizes. Donations please to the Main School Office. Tickets go on sale at £9 for adults, £5 for concessions and students from the School Club Office.

Pride Youth Network

We have had our first successful meeting of the Pride Youth Network with 36 students attending. Year 10 and the Sixth Form were particularly well represented. **Lauren Newbould** and **Nyandavoh Foday** (both U6) were outstanding in the way they ran the meeting.

Bilal Ahmad Visit



Bilal Ahmad (OV 08-10) came into school on Monday to have lunch and talk to future engineers about his career path with BP. He also led an assembly for Year 11 and was presented a gift from the Governing Body as a thank you for his three-year service.

HE Evening

Thank you to the Sixth Form team for organising an excellent HE Evening for the Lower Sixth on Tuesday. We had an excellent speaker from Birmingham University.

Careers Opportunities

We are pleased to announce that we will be holding a **Careers Fair** on **Friday 31 March** and **Saturday 1 April**. The afternoon of 31 March will take the form of a careers seminar for students from Yr10-13. Each student will be able to book a session through **Mrs Evetts** in the Sixth Form, once timetables have been finalised. The inaugural Jobs Fair will be held on Saturday 1 April. In attendance will be a variety of local, and national companies, offering work experience, internships, casual, part-time and full-time positions. This event is open to students in Year 11-13, and recent school leavers. There will be a number of 45-minute seminars from Old Veseyans, focusing on the industries that were highlighted as the most popular in our recent careers audit. A selection of food and drinks will be available to purchase. **Beverley Nielsen**, the Liberal Democrat candidate for the West Midlands mayoral election will also be there, talking about the exciting times that are coming to the West Midlands over the next few years!

Looking for an apprenticeship? Use this link and sign up for up to the minute vacancies: <https://www.ratemyapprenticeship.co.uk/register>. Currently Severn Trent, ATOS, Delottie, Laing O'Rourke, EY, PwC. IBM and Capgemini are recruiting.

Merit Winners

Congratulations to **Jamal Rahman 7B, Luke Spencer 7B, Lewis Allison 7B, Alexander Mole-Williams 7B, Cian Burke 7B, Aban Hashmi 7B, Jayen Rugani 7G, Hugh Woodcock 7P, Matthew Lakin 8G, Jack Glover 9G, Nethmin Seneviratne 9R, Will Mellor 9W** and **Ciaran Weir 10W**. I look forward to seeing you on at break time on **Thursday 16 March**.

Youth Speaks



Well done to our Year 7 team who performed brilliantly at the regional final of Youth Speaks at Bablake School on Saturday. **Harry, Charlie** and **Shailan** argued that 'footballers are overpaid'.

Quiz Night, Friday 10 March

Tonight's Parents' Association Quiz Night is a sell-out! I hope you enjoy it. It is always great fun and is hosted by our very own quizmeister **Mr Goodwin**.

Can you help Herr Götschel?

Herr Götschel needs your help. We have two German exchange students who we need lovely families for to look after them on their visit to England. If you would like to brush up your German, or help with this cause, please email r.gotschel@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk.

ARTiculation National Final - University of Cambridge

Good luck to **Evie Shipp** who will be performing at Clare College this afternoon, and a big thank you to the Sixth Form artists and **Mrs Heer** who will be supporting Evie.

Chess Champions

Our Junior Team continued their unbeaten streak, smashing Wolverhampton Grammar School 10-2 on Friday. Well done **Chirag, Ruben, Hei To, Hugo, Nayan, Robert** and **Ethan**.

Junior Hockey Tour

Thirty-four Year 7s and 8s are on tour this week with games scheduled against top Hockey sides such as RGS, Sir William Borlase and Whitgift School. Good luck to the boys and the accompanying staff: **Mr Howell, Mr Devey, Mr Davis, Mr Gray** and **Mr Lintern**.

Sports Dinner, Friday 5 May with Guest Speaker Kristian Thomas

Have you got your tickets yet from **Mrs Foster**?

Swimming Gala

White House won for the second year running. Eight records were set, the results having been expertly compiled by **James Horn 11G**. For your information, the record breakers were: -

Leo Karski 11G set two new records. Individual Medley (1.01.06) and Butterfly (26.60) previously held by B Lynch (2012) and D Rickards (2009). Year 7 White House set records in both relays. Freestyle (1.03.19) and Medley (1.09.76) held by White (2015) and Blue (2011) respectively. **Leighton Palmer-Whyte 11B** added the Yr11 Breaststroke record to Yr7-10 records he already holds! Time of 34.12 replaces S Davis from 2014. **David Thomas** of 10W set a new Backstroke record of 34.62, previously held by Harry Bailey

(2013). **Rachel Wilson** of White House broke her own girls Butterfly record with a new record of 14.46. Finally, White House broke the Cannon record with a new time of 1.38.77.

Thank you to **Mr Davies** for organising an excellent event and to all those who supported the students.

Rugby 7s Success

What an amazing achievement by our Seniors at KES Stratford 7s. We got to the semi-final along with such renowned opposition as Magdalen College, Oxford, Warwick School and Solihull School. However, there have also been great performances this week by the U13s and the U15s at Solihull 7s.

Inspirational Coaching by Tamsin Greenway

BVGS Netball 1st team were lucky enough to benefit from a coaching session led by Wasps Director of Netball and former England International, Tamsin Greenway this week. Tamsin took time out of her busy schedule to help prepare the Vesey team ahead of them representing the West Midlands as Regional Champions at the National Schools Netball Finals which will be held in London on 18 March 18. BVGS netball coach **Zylpha Clarke** said 'When the girls heard that Tamsin was coming to run a coaching session they were really excited. Her knowledge and experience is exceptional and she has really inspired the team ahead of Nationals. We will now go to London with increased confidence in our ability to do well.' Assistant Coach **Emma Rowlands** added 'We are especially grateful to Tamsin as we know how busy she is now the Netball Superleague season has started. BVGS netball team were at the Wasps netball opening home game at the Ricoh Arena on the 5 March and the atmosphere was electric. Most of our girls have only been playing together a few months and Tamsin was very quick to point out key areas for us to focus on ahead of Nationals.'

A full list of Wasps Superleague home fixtures at the Ricoh Arena can be found at waspsnetball.co.uk with tickets starting at just £10 for adults and U10's going free. Concessions available.



Player Safety



On Sunday 26 February **Julian Whiting**, Head of Rugby and **Pam Maskell**, Post 16 Student Support attended an 'Injury Surveillance and Player Safety Conference at RFU Headquarters, Twickenham. After a morning discussing player safety and injury prevention, they watched the England v Italy game. We are continuing to work with this research project in order to develop a safer player environment.

For further information on BVGS sport this week please visit: <http://www.bvgssport.co.uk/>

Sixth Form Parliamentary Debating Competition

We are pleased to announce that **Sophie Lloyd** and **Nickeal Sidhu** (both L6) were successful last night at the Sixth Form Parliamentary Debating Competition held at Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls. Sophie and Nickeal won the trophy for BVGS by opposing the motion that 'Voting should be made compulsory'.



Courteous and Considerate Parking

We would request that parents refrain from parking on the double yellow lines outside the school on Boswell Road when dropping off and picking up students, or parking in the Residents Only Parking Zone. These actions both have the potential to block the road, and could cause safety concerns for students as they leave the school grounds and cross the road. We would suggest that alternative parking is found away from this point of congestion to alleviate any health and safety issues.

Wishing you all a lovely week.

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

Book of the Week



Art Star of the Week



Nayan Bhatia 10W. Nayan has commenced his GCSE coursework, with great commitment and effort. His ability has improved vastly and he is confidently gaining grades 7-9 for all of his work. His tone work is exceptional, as demonstrated above.

Quote of the Week: The key to everything is patience. You get the chicken by hatching the egg, not by smashing it.
Arnold H Glasgow

Letters issued this week:

[Jobs Fair Letter](#)

[Acceptable Skirt Length](#)

[Year 8 Parents' Evening](#)

Dates for your Diary

Spring Term 2017

Friday 10 March	PAC Quiz Night
Wednesday 15 March	Year 8 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Tuesday 21 March	World Poetry Day
Thursday 23 March	Spring Concert
Friday 24 March	Non-uniform Day for 'Red Nose Day'
Friday 31 March	Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Weekend
Thursday 6 April	Break up for Easter at 15:25
Friday 7 April	Staff Training Day

Summer Term 2017

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
Friday 5 May	Annual Sports Dinner
Thursday 18 May	Parents' SDP Forum 19:00
Friday 26 May	Break up for Half Term
Monday 5 June	Summer Term recommences
Friday 9 June	Golf Day
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