



Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

'Inspiration and Excellence'

Headteacher: Dominic Robson BA (Hons) NPQH

DGR/sw

20 January 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Today, as part of the Grammar School Heads' Steering Group, I met with Tom Goldman from the Department for Education regarding plans for school funding from 2019. Currently government plans for a national funding formula penalise Midlands' grammar schools, including Bishop Vesey's Grammar School, with a 2.9% cut in funding. This is in addition to other considerable challenges facing all schools, but particularly grammar schools. I am keen to ensure that government is well informed regarding the negative impact of current proposals for national funding formula. If any parents would be happy to respond to the consultation document on funding, please visit <https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula2>. If you are interested in responding, please let me know and I can update you about this in greater detail. Thank you for your support.

Thanks to our parent body we continue to have an excellent array of MedSoc speakers. This week it was the turn of Dr Alex Conner, Senior Lecturer in Medical Sciences at the University of Birmingham. MedSoc were inspired by the experience.

Well done to this week's top merit winners. I look forward to seeing them for hot chocolate and cookies on Thursday: **Lewis ALLISON 7B, Shailan SRIKANTHAN 7G, Ethan CHAN SMITH 7P, Reinart JENSEMA 7R, Zain KHAN 7R, Ben FODEN 7W, Danish KHAN 8B, Matthew ROBERTS 8P, Benjamin FROST 8W, Joe ROGERS 8W, Vraj SHAH 9B, SEHMAR 9W, Joao CARIATA 11B, Roan FARLEY 11G, Diran SURAJ 11G, Jamie TUNSTALL 11R, Ramandeep MAHAL 11R and Archie SANSOME 11W**

We have had an excellent week in sport. I met the new Chief Master from KES Edgbaston this week, Dr Fenton. He and his team were very complimentary about the standard of rugby played at Bishop Vesey's Grammar School. Meanwhile, in hockey we got to the semi-final of the Warwickshire Tournament at U13 and U16 level with some very fine victories against tough opposition like Oakham School. The U14s went one step further and are looking forward to the Warwickshire final at Princethorpe. For more information about all things BVGS Sport please visit : <http://www.bvgssport.co.uk/>

All parents should have received a letter reminding you that our whole school Academic Review Day is scheduled on Monday 13 February. Normal lessons are suspended on that day and all students are invited into school for an Academic Review Meeting. Please could you make sure that you return your permission slips as soon as possible. This is a great opportunity for students to take stock of their current progress and to set themselves targets for improvement. Parents are encouraged to attend where possible. Please also note that this is a normal school day from an attendance point of view, so if your son or daughter is ill on that day, you still need to call or email the school.

The Atrium in the STEM Block continues to be available for prayer at lunchtimes. All welcome. Could students not praying, please use the back staircase during lunchtime.

As we start the new calendar year, it is also a good time to remind ourselves about the on-line behaviour of our sons and daughters and the high expectations of consideration and courtesy that we should all have in this area. Please remind your sons and daughters that if they witness any unacceptable behaviour or posting on-line, they should report it to [CEOP](#).



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As a school, we believe that all our students should have high standards of courtesy and consideration to each other at all times. If students have any concerns, they can raise these anonymously to our DSL **Miss Steadman** through the [SHARP System](#).

As is customary at this time of year **Mr Belcher** photographed our students receiving Oxbridge offers. The final total was seven as per the details published last week, and you can see five of the students (right) in Old Big School.



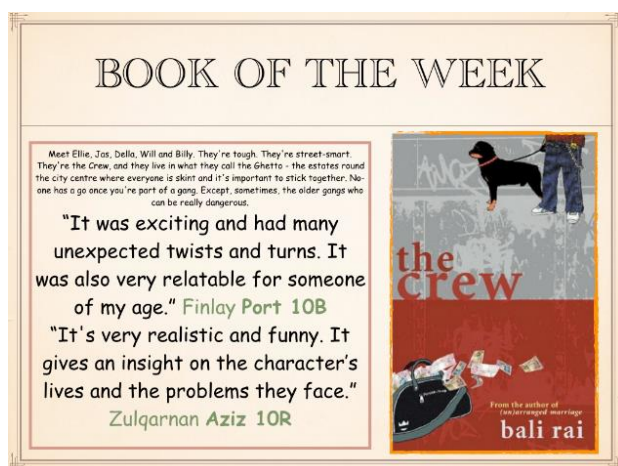
Wishing you all a lovely weekend. Good luck to all the chess players and sportsmen this weekend and to our public speakers on Tuesday.

Yours sincerely

Dominic Robson
Headteacher

John Craggs DL BSc PhD HonDUniv FCMA
Chairman of Governors

Book of the Week



Art Stars of the Week



Evanne Hughes L6CW. Evanne is a talented artist, she is creative with her ideas, tones and realistic drawing skills. Her theme was transformation and Evanne has come up with, wonderfully beautiful portraits which merge with elements of nature.

Quote of the Week: If you're walking down the right path and you're willing to keep walking, eventually you'll make progress.
Barack Obama

Letters issued this week:

[NCS Letter](#)

[Review Day 2017](#)

[Sixth Form Identification Card Letter](#)

Dates for your Diary

Spring Term 2017

Tuesday 24 January	Youth Speaks Rotary Competition
Wednesday 25 January	BLH Parents' Forum 19:00 - 20:00
Sunday 29 January	Cambridge University Debating Competition at Solihull Sch
Monday 30 January	Year 7 at the CBSO Concert, Symphony Hall
Monday 30 January	Y8 Art trip to Pitt Rivers Museum
Thursday 2 February	Intermediate Maths Challenge
Thursday 2 February	Harry Potter Book Night
Thursday 2 February	Year 10 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Monday 6 February	Year 10/11 Art Trip to Coventry
Thursday 9 February	AS Geography Field Trip
Monday 13 February	Review Day
Friday 17-24 February	Ski Trip
Friday 17 February	Break up for Half Term
Monday 27 February	Spring Term recommences
Monday 27 February	Y13 Articulation Prize Regional Heat at Ikon Gallery
Tuesday 28 February	Elevate Y10 Parents' Evening 18:00 - 19:15
Thursday 2 March	Non-uniform Day for 'Book Aid'
Thursday 2 March	Y9 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Tuesday 7 March	Higher Education Evening 19:00 - 20:00
Wednesday 8 March	Swimming Gala 13:00 Wyndley
Thursday 9 March	New Year 7 Open Morning
Monday 13 - 15 March	Geology Trip
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
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