



# Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

'Inspiration and Excellence'

Headteacher: Dominic Robson BA (Hons) NPQH

DGR/sw

08 September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

This is the first of my Friday weekly letters for the academic year. What an exciting year it promises to be. This week I have had the pleasure of greeting our new Year 7 and Lower Sixth as they start their Vesey journey. The students have been eager to get stuck into their learning and have enjoyed their new challenges.

## Welcome back to our new Upper Sixth

It was also good to welcome back our Upper Sixth. Though most of the AS qualifications sat this summer were revised 'stand-alone' examinations, not counting to the final exam A Level, there were still many very good performances. Fifty-three students (an improvement on last year) attained three As or better and the performance at the Extended Project Qualification was excellent with 81% of the entries scoring A\*-B. No-one is complacent however, and the Upper Sixth have an awful lot of work to do over the coming year to do themselves justice at A Level.

## Columba Trophy 2017

On Friday 22 September, we have been invited to an Award Ceremony at the Council House in Birmingham. We have been told that the cast of 'Find Me' will be getting some recognition. A letter about this will go to all cast members on Monday.

## Lunchtime Live



A big thank you to **Mr Ashley Buxton**, our new Director of Music, our peripatetic teachers et al for putting on a short concert at lunchtime today. As you can see I wasn't quite in my natural comfort zone as a maraca player!

## Alumni

Whole school photographs from circa 1897 - 2004 have now been added to the 'Gallery' on the Alumni Webpage. Old Veseyans can now have fun trying to find themselves.

<https://alumni.bvgs.co.uk/galleries/view>

## Entrance Test

Good luck to all members of the Vesey community and beyond taking the entrance test for grammar schools on Saturday. Traffic will be highly congested in Sutton Coldfield on Saturday morning. If you are dropping boys at Bishop Vesey's Grammar School for the test, please park away from the school site and please be respectful of our neighbours.

## Open Evening

We will be holding our Open Evening on Tuesday 19 September 16:00 - 19:00. This is aimed at families who have boys in Years 3-6. If you know a family who would benefit from a grammar school education, please encourage them to attend. It is customary that our Year 8 -13 students assist brilliantly on this evening. Therefore, please encourage your sons and daughters to help us out. In the light of this, and in order to enable proper preparation for our visitors, we will be having a half-day on Thursday with school closing at 12:15. **Mr Bowen, Deputy Head** will be emailing you a letter on this matter. Please can all years 7-11 return reply slips to their Form Tutors regarding this.

## Library

# Library Opening Hours

Mon	7.30am - 4pm
Tue	7.30am - 4.30pm
Wed	7.30am - 3.40pm
Thur	8.45am - 4.30pm
Fri	7.30am - 4pm



Summer Term 2017

## Colour Newsletter, Summer 2017

The link is live to our colour newsletter for the end of year which pays tribute to our leavers and the many achievements of our students last term. Hope you enjoy it. <http://bvgs.co.uk/colour-newsletter-summer-2017/>

## Parking

Please respect our neighbours by not parking or collecting your sons from Boswell Road or the surrounding estate. Please note that traffic cameras are regularly in operation on Boswell Road. **It is essential that we avoid traffic congestion on Boswell Road - traffic problems are a nuisance to our neighbours and pose a health and safety risk to our children.** Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

## Year 11 Achieve Conference

Thirty Year 11 students are at Birmingham University on Friday 15 September.

## Pavilion Re-Vamp

Many thanks to **Maxine Hanley** and the band of parents assisting with the re-vamp of The Pavilion. We appreciate the support being given by one of our corporate partners, and Old Veseyan, **Doug Hunt** from Honeybourne. However, as the saying goes 'many hands make light work'. If you are interested in helping, please email [maxinehanley@icloud.com](mailto:maxinehanley@icloud.com). We would welcome donations of black gloss Cuprinol, white masonry paint and white exterior wood paint. We will especially need some painters.

We have also found several tyres at the back of The Pavilion, seemingly doing nothing as they were hidden under the undergrowth cut back last week. Has anyone got any good ideas about how we could use the tyres for decorative purpose at The Pavilion. If so, please let Mr Robson know on [d.robson@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk](mailto:d.robson@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk).

## Sporting Fixtures Begin

Good luck to everyone playing tomorrow. We have fixtures against Trent College and our Argentinian Host School, Cardinal Newman. For more details please visit [www.bvgssport.co.uk](http://www.bvgssport.co.uk).

## Argentea Gallery

There was a fantastic art exhibition at Argentea Gallery in St Paul's Square, Birmingham yesterday showcasing the fabulously talented students and staff and alumni. Over £600 worth of sales were generated and two commissions ordered from one of our pupils, **Alex Hemming** (pictured). Lots of great pieces still available between 6.30-8.30pm this evening and 10am-2pm tomorrow so feel free to pop in and take a look. Many thanks to parent, Corporate Partner and owner of Argentea **Jennie Anderson** for providing us with professional gallery space for this period to host the exhibition.



## Exam Grid Updates

Following a number of re-marks the exam grids for Year 11 and Upper Sixth will be updated and published with next week's newsletter.

## Extra-Curricular Opportunities

We are currently compiling our extra-curricular programme and will be publishing this to the whole school and parents next Friday.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely

**Dominic Robson**  
Headteacher

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

AUTHOR OF THE WEEK  
STEVE COLE - 13TH SEPT IN SCHOOL



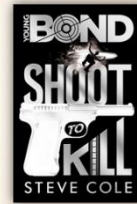
### Young Bond

#### Shoot to Kill

Young James Bond is back in his most action-packed, explosive adventure yet. Expelled from Eton and determined never to trust again, James Bond's plans for a solitary summer are dashed by the discovery of a gruesome film reel – a reel someone is willing to kill for.

Travelling from the English countryside to Los Angeles, James finds himself caught up in a sinister plot of blackmail, murder and revenge that goes way beyond any Hollywood gangster movie.

His friends in danger, his life on the line, James must find a way out. Or die trying. [Goodreads.com](http://Goodreads.com)



### Also Z-Rex

Adam Adler 13 helps Dad test ultimate video game in Santa Fe desert. Fired employee Sam Josephs 30s is a corporate spy, steals regeneration data, kidnaps Dad. A last text says take evidence to old pal Jeff Hayden in Edinburgh Scotland. Is the brain-fried Zenith (beyond Tyrannosaurus) Rex talking dinosaur who calls himself Zed enemy or friend? [Goodreads.com](http://Goodreads.com)

**Quote of the Week: The beginning is always today**

Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

#### Letters issued this week:

#### Behaviour Policy

#### Dates for your Diary

#### Autumn Term 2017

Saturday 9 September	Entrance Test
Tuesday 12 September	Year 11 Welcome Evening 18:00 - 19:15
Wednesday 13 September	Author Steve Cole visit (Y7 and Y8)
Wednesday 13 September	Year 9 Welcome Evening 18:00 - 19:15
Tuesday 19 September	Open Evening 16:00 School finishes 12:15
Friday 22 September	Non-uniform day and whole school Walk for Africa
Tuesday 26 September	Junior Soloists Concert 19:00 - 21:00
Thursday 28 September	Year 10 Welcome Evening 18:00 - 19:15
Saturday 30 September	Philip Bates Trust Concert @BVGS 18:30
Tuesday 3 October	U6 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Thursday 5 October	Year 8 Welcome Evening 18:00
Tuesday 10 October	Vesey 2027 launch at Reform Club, Pall Mall
Thursday 12 October	Year 7 Welcome Evening 18:00 - 19:15
Tuesday 17 October	Open Morning 09:00 10:30 Lower Sixth Welcome Evening 18:00-19:15
Wednesday 18 October	Open Morning 09:00 - 10:30
Thursday 19 October	Open Morning 09:00 - 10:30
Friday 20 October	Founder's Day with Bishop of Birmingham Break up for half term
Tuesday 31 October	Autumn Term recommences
Friday 3 November	Oxbridge and early entry interview afternoon 13:00
Tuesday 7 November	School closes 12:15 Sixth Form Open Evening 16:00
Saturday 11 November	Old Veseyan Dinner
Friday 24 November	School closes 13:15

Speech Day - Sutton Coldfield Town Hall 18:30 -21:00  
with Sir Julian King KCVO CMG (OV)  
Wednesday 29 November Year 9 Options Evening 16:30-18:30  
Thursday 14 December Lower Sixth Parents' Evening 16:00-18:30  
Tuesday 19 December Christmas Concert 19:00  
Wednesday 20 December Swimming Gala at Wyndley  
Friday 22 December Christmas jumper day  
School closes at 12:15  
School breaks up for Christmas

**Parents' Evenings 2018:**

Thursday 18 January - Year 11 16:00 - 19:00

Wednesday 7 March - Year 9 16:00 - 19:00

Thursday 15 March - Year 10 6:00 - 19:00

Tuesday 27 March - Year 8 16:00 - 19:00

Thursday 19 April - Year 7 16:00 - 19:00

**Term Dates can be found [here](#) on our website**