



# Bishop Vesey's Grammar School

'Inspiration and Excellence'

Headteacher: Dominic Robson BA (Hons) NPQH

Lichfield Road, Sutton Coldfield, B74 2NH, 0121 250 5400, [www.bvgs.co.uk](http://www.bvgs.co.uk)

DGR/sw

03 November 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

## Welcome Back

Welcome back. I hope you all had a relaxing half term.

## Rugby Tour

The Rugby Tour to Ireland for Year 8 and 9 went very well. A big thank you to the team of staff ably led by **Mr Whiting**. We played some good rugby and the boys proved themselves to be impressive young gentlemen, both on, and off, the pitch. It was nice to see the email below about the boys' behaviour on the return ferry.

*Mr Robson*

*Yesterday afternoon my wife and I travelled on the ferry from Dublin to Holyhead, we took a quiet seat in front of a TV so that I could watch the football to while away the time. As the football started we were surprised to be joined and surrounded by up to 15 of your 14 year old students returning from a rugby trip to Ireland. They were to a man polite, well behaved and a delight to be sat amongst, there was no foul language or loutish behaviour, they enjoyed watching the football and were having good fun amongst themselves but were not loud and disruptive to their fellow passengers.*

*They are a credit to you and your school and brought a few laughs and smiles to us during our journey.*



## Music and Drama

We are very lucky to live in a city with world class arts provision. It really is very heartening to see our students making the most of it over half term. I went to see Macbeth at the Crescent over half term and I was pleased to see a good representation from BVGS in the audience. The email below also suggests that our students are making the most of the cultural opportunities that Birmingham affords.

*Bishop Vesey's Grammar School is Company Limited by Guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 7986921. The Registered Office is at Lichfield Road, Sutton Coldfield B74 2NH*

*The Governors of Bishop Vesey's Grammar School are a registered charity (No: 517907)*



*Dear Headteacher*

*My wife and I had the pleasure of attending the CBSO Classic FM Smooth Classics concert at the Birmingham Symphony Hall on Friday 20th October. It was made the better still as we witnessed the exemplary behaviour of a group of 4 of your students who were also attending.*

*These 4 young men were a credit to both the school and their parents. We have no idea of their names but if you know who they are please pass on this message.*

### **MacMillan**

We have a final total for the Macmillan coffee morning and I am pleased to say that we successfully raised £444.02. I just wanted to say thank you for everyone who donated and came along to the morning, and to all of those staff members who had a go on our sweepstake for the 'World's Tallest Coffee Morning'. The winner of the sweepstake guessing 75cm (closest guess) was **Julie Evetts**, with the size of the cake being 94cm. Well done Julie.

### **Duke of Edinburgh**

The Silver Duke of Edinburgh programme has been launched this week with 42 students taking part – a huge increase on last year. The boys in Y10 and Y11 have received their welcome packs and now need to upload their section details to their eDofE account before next Friday. They should also return their reply slip for the parent information evening ASAP. If there are any problems, they will need to see Mr Greenwood or Miss Langham.

### **New Parent Governor Appointed**

The governors received only one nomination for the parent governor vacancy that was recently advertised. The Governors are therefore pleased to announce that Richard Baizley has been duly appointed as the new parent governor.

### **PAC Disco at Sutton Girls**

Last chance for boys in Years 7 and 8 to purchase tickets for the disco at Sutton Girls next Friday. Please return signed parental consent forms in order to obtain tickets.

### **Parent Charter**

We are always grateful to our parents for their engagement with the school. We are so lucky in that respect. Please have a read on our protocol for parental communication. <http://bvgs.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Parents-Charter.pdf>.

### **Top Merit Winners**

Charan TIWANA 7B, Aditya MUTHUKUMAR 7G, Lasha ASATIANI-KALANDADZE 7P, George CHADHA 7R, William HUME 7W, Luke SPENCER 8B, Alexander CHAN 8G, Hugh WOODCOCK 8P, Harry TURTON 8R, Harry DOWEN 8R, Joshua FRANKS 8W, Ben FODEN 8W, Danish KHAN 9B, Huzaifa ALI 9G, Kamran PUREWAL 9P, Oliver WILLIAMS 9R, Joel DUBB 9W, Charlie RICHARDS 10B, James WHITEHOUSE 10G, William SEDGWICK 10R, Jack LEES 10W, Matthew MARTIN 11B, Matthew BATE 11G, Omar TAKRURI 11R, Luke BEVERIDGE 11W. All will be invited to the Headteacher's office on **Thursday 9 November**.

### **Parking and Road Safety**

Please remind your son and daughter to take great care crossing roads. Wherever possible they should use pedestrian crossings. Please reinforce this important health and safety message. One of our boys was almost knocked down this morning.

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.

### **PAC New Parents' Welcome Curry Night**

The PAC are holding their annual Year 7 and Lower Sixth new parents' Welcome Evening on **Thursday 9 November from 7pm**. This is a light hearted, friendly evening at the **Asian Grill, Sutton Coldfield**. Application forms have been made available via SchoolComms and places can be reserved with **Caroline Moore** via email at [carolinejmoore25@gmail.com](mailto:carolinejmoore25@gmail.com) or **07930 888272**. As can be seen from last year's photo, places are limited and this event always sells quickly.



*Please also note that the PAC AGM will now be held on Monday 13 November 6:45 pm to 7:30 pm*

### **PAC Chair Vacancy**

Could you be the new Chair of Bishop Vesey's Grammar School PAC? **John Beggan** is stepping down as the Chair of the PAC after a number of years of great service to the school. We are looking to find a new Chair from the parent body. We have a wonderfully supportive committee who will be very helpful in supporting any new Chair. If you would like a chat about what's involved, don't hesitate to contact me on [d.robson@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk](mailto:d.robson@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk) or John Beggan himself on [johnb@feltonconsult.co.uk](mailto:johnb@feltonconsult.co.uk).

### **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.

Some excellent ideas have been submitted about what to do with our tyres. Watch this space!

### Early Entry Interview Afternoon

Thank you to **Mr Goodwin, Mr Nowek** and **Mrs Evetts** for organising an outstanding Early Entry Interview Afternoon. We had a really good set of interviewers this year - thank you to all who helped. The students found the experience very useful though it has been an intensive week for them as yesterday saw them take their Oxbridge and medical school entrance exams. Next up will be our special Medical Interview Day.

### Year 11 Review Day

I had the privilege of interviewing Year 11 for the first review day this week. They were very organised and hungry to do well, two key attributes which will enable them to make the most of preparing for their mock examinations.

### Chair of School Council returns

Yesterday, I was delighted to welcome back our former Chair of the School Council **Martha Davis** (OV 2015) to BVGS. She kindly donated a gift for the Old Veseyan dinner auction (as well as a guitar for the Music Department).



Elsewhere in alumni news have a read of our story about the Computer Club of 1983.

<https://twitter.com/BVGS1527/status/925305116634288128>

### Vacancy for a Rugby First Aider

Please see this link <http://bvgs.co.uk/vacancies/> if you are interested.

### Christmas Concert

Get your Christmas Concert tickets now:

**Bishop Vesey's  
Grammar School**

**7:00pm - 19th December**

Join us for our Christmas Concert.  
Featuring Super 7s Choir, Funky Bishops,  
Wind Band, Orchestra and more.  
Big School, Bishop Vesey's Grammar School,  
Lichfield Rd, Sutton Coldfield B74 2NE

**For more info**  
Please email: [a.buxton@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk](mailto:a.buxton@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk)  
Tickets available from Mrs Foster

Adults £9  
Concessions £5

Twitter: @MusicBVGS

## Sixth Form Open Evening

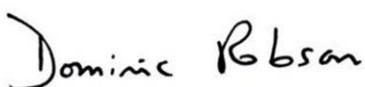
Reminder that school will close at 12:15 on Tuesday 7 November in readiness for our Sixth Form Open Evening

## Stop Press

Good news! The Richards-Randon STEM Block is among the nominations for the Sutton Coldfield Civic Society Design Awards 2017.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely



**Dominic Robson**  
Headteacher

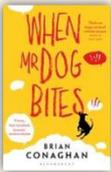
**John Craggs DL BSc PhD HonDUniv FCMA**  
Chairman of Governors

**AUTHOR OF THE WEEK**  
**BRIAN MONAGHAN**

**When Mr Dog Bites**

Dylan Mint has Tourette's. For Dylan, life is a constant battle to keep the bad stuff in – the swearing, the tics, the howling dog that escapes whenever he gets stressed. And, as a sixteen-year-old virgin and pupil at Drumhill Special School, getting stressed is something of an occupational hazard.

But then a routine visit to the hospital changes everything. Overhearing a hushed conversation between the doctor and his mother, Dylan discovers that he's going to die next March. A story about life, death, love, sex and swearing, *When Mr Dog Bites* will take you on one \*#@! of a journey. [gndreads.com](http://gndreads.com)


**Bombs that Brought Us Together**

Fourteen-year-old Hamish Law has lived in Little Town, on the border with Old Country, all his life. He knows the rules: no going out after dark; no drinking; no litter; no fighting. You don't want to get on the wrong side of the people who run Little Town. When he meets Pavel Duda, a refugee from Old Country, the rules start to get broken. Then the bombs come, and the soldiers from Old Country, and Little Town changes for ever. [gndreads.com](http://gndreads.com)



**Quote of the Week:** **You don't have to be somebody different to be important. You're important in your own right**  
Michelle Obama

## Dates for your Diary

### Autumn Term 2017

Tuesday 7 November

School closes 12:15 - Sixth Form Open Evening 16:00

Thursday 9 November	PAC Year 7 Parents' Welcome Event, Asian Grill 19:00 for 19:30 start.
Friday 10 November	PAC Year 7 and 8 Disco Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls
Saturday 11 November	Old Veseyan Dinner
Monday 6 November	PAC AGM and Meeting - The Hive
Friday 24 November	School closes 13:15 Speech Day - Sutton Coldfield Town Hall 18:30 -21:00 with Sir Julian King KCVO CMG (OV)
Saturday 18 November	09:00 - 17:00 Mini Medical Interviews OBS
Wednesday 29 November	Year 9 Options Evening 16:30-18:30
Friday 1 December	PAC Year 7/8 Disco at BVGS
Monday 4 December	PAC Meeting - The Hive
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
Monday 08 January	Spring Term Commences
Monday 15 January	PAC Meeting - The Hive
Monday 5 February	PAC Meeting - The Hive
Friday 9 February	Whole School Review and Careers Day
Friday 16 February	Break up for half term
Monday 26 February	Spring term recommences
Monday 5 March	PAC Meeting - The Hive
Friday 9 March	PAC Annual Quiz
Friday 16 March	PAC Quiz Night - Big School
Thursday 29 March	Training Day
Monday 16 April	Summer Term commences
Friday 27 April	Year 7 and 8 Disco BVGS
Monday 7 May	May Day Bank Holiday
Friday 25 May	Break up for half term
Monday 4 June	Summer term recommences
Friday 22 June	Year 7 and 8 Disco Sutton Coldfield Grammar School for Girls
Friday 13 July	BVGS PAC Ball at Moor Hall

#### **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	16:00 - 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**