



# 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

15 December 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

## To close or not to close, that is the question ...

This week has been dominated by the weather. Heavy snowfall across the Midlands on Sunday made conditions on side roads very difficult. On Monday, our closure was a relatively easy decision to make. However, during Monday morning a group of five snow shovellers, including **Mr Wamsley, Mr Boyle, Mr Tomlinson, Mr Bowen** and myself sought to clear the site. However, one has to be very aware of how well the public transport system is functioning and the news arrived on Monday afternoon of public transport cancellations for Tuesday, as well as the promise of stark sub-zero temperatures. That is why, in the interests of student and staff safety, we closed the school on Tuesday. Thank you for your understanding and support.

## Notification of revised finish time next Friday

Please note a slight change to end of term arrangements. School will close at 11:45 am, not 12:15 pm as previously published. Thank you for your understanding.

## Year 9 Trip to see The Lion King



Thank you to **Miss Field, Mr Davis** and **Mrs Arrandale** for taking Year 9 on a reward trip to see the Lion King at the Lyceum Theatre in London this week. The boys were a credit to the school and their families.

## Swimming Gala

We are hosting our annual Swimming Gala at Wyndley on Wednesday 20 December. The event runs from 1.30-3.15pm and parents are most welcome to come and watch in the seating area, but please do not take any photographs. All parents should have now received an e-mail in regard to their son/daughters participation. Can those parents who haven't returned consent please do so by Monday 18 December at the latest to [b.davies@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk](mailto:b.davies@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk).

*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)*



## L6 Parents Evening

Thank you to all attending the Lower Sixth Parents' Evening. We hope you found it a useful opportunity to talk to your son or daughter's teachers.

## Y10 Spelling Bee

I was pleased to see a very well-managed Year 10 Spelling Bee on Wednesday. Well done to all the contestants and the Officers for organising.

## Absences

If your son/daughter is unable to attend school, we would be grateful if you could let us know before 09:00 am. Please leave a message on the student absence line at any time. In order to ensure the safety of all our students, we need to know where they are, particularly on mornings such as today when travelling was difficult and students were understandably late.

## Year 9 Options

A reminder to all Year 9 students that the deadline for option forms to be returned is **Friday 22 December 2017**.

## Top Merit Winners

Dominic HIGGINBOTHAM 7B, Charlie WARD 7B, Aditya MUTHUKUMAR 7G, Zakir RAFIQUE 7P, Viraj GUPTA 7R, Fraser PRATT 7W, Jamie SANDERSON 8B, Oli CHUDLEIGH 8G, James PADLEY 8P, Theo KEARNS 8R, Tighe CROOK 8R, Harry DOWEN 8R, Noah SOUTHGATE 8W, Krishan PATEL 9B, Ruben VORSTER 9G, Moonis HAIDER 9P, Alex DIXON 9R, Dexter CONNER 9R, William NEWTON 9R, Joe ROGERS 9W, James PAN 10B, Elis MORGAN 10G, William JACKSON 10R, Mateen PARKAR 10W, Israr KHAN 11B, Joshua NORRIS 11G, Zain ASIF 11G, Henry GUEST 11R, Ciaran WEIR 11W. **All will be invited to Mr Robson's office on Thursday 21 December.**

## Easy Fundraising

Did you know you can raise money for BVGS simply by doing your Christmas shopping? When you shop with any of over 3,300 well-known retailers via the Easyfundraising website, a percentage of what you spend is passed to BVGS at no additional cost to you. Retailers include Amazon, M&S, Sainsbury's, eBay, Tesco, John Lewis, Argos and many more so whoever you are shopping with this Christmas, please use Easyfundraising and support BVGS -

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/bishopveseysgrammar/>

If you're already using Easyfundraising to raise funds for us (thank you!) did you know that until midnight Christmas Eve, you can raise up to a £4 bonus donation for every friend you invite who registers and raises a donation through Easyfundraising? If just 20 parents invited 5 people to raise money for BVGS through Easyfundraising, together they'd raise £280 for us - easy!

Share our unique link to invite other parents and help us raise more:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/45UA7M/2133H6/>

## Christmas Charity

Year 10 will be holding a cake sale in Room 30 on Tuesday 19 December at break and lunchtime in order to raise money for The Salvation Army.

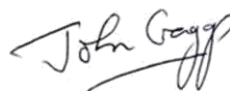
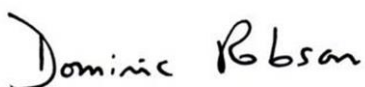
Christmas Jumper Day will be on Friday 22 December. Please pay £1 to wear a Christmas jumper (underneath your blazer). Santa hats will be available to purchase for £1. All proceeds to go to the Aspire to Africa Project.

### Christmas Concerts - Friday 15 and Tuesday 19 December - 7:00pm start

This year we are putting on two Christmas concerts and I am very much looking forward to it. There have been a couple of changes to what you are used to:

- This is the first Christmas Concert with **Mr Buxton** at the helm as Director of Music
- All performers will be within Big School throughout the concert. We want to inspire the next generation of excellent musicians by them seeing our older music leaders in action
- At the front of the far side of the hall we will be seating a very much enlarged choir.
- All refreshments will be in the Dining Hall at the interval. Please buy lots of raffle tickets (proceeds going to the Music Tour in July).
- Please park responsibly. Please be respectful to our neighbours by not parking on Boswell Road or any of the side roads.

Yours sincerely




**Dominic Robson**  
Headteacher

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

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## AUTHOR OF THE WEEK

### JOHN GREEN



#### An Abundance of Katherines

When it comes to relationships, Colin Singleton's type happens to be girls named Katherine. And when it comes to girls named Katherine, Colin is always getting dumped. Nineteen times, to be exact. On a road trip miles from home, this anagram-happy, washed-up child prodigy has ten thousand dollars in his pocket, a bloodthirsty feral hog on his trail, and an overweight, Judge Judy-loving best friend riding shotgun—but no Katherines. Colin is on a mission to prove The Theorem of Underlying Katherine Predictability, which he hopes will predict the future of any relationship, avenge dumppees everywhere, and finally win him the girl... [goodreads.com](http://goodreads.com)

#### Paper Towns

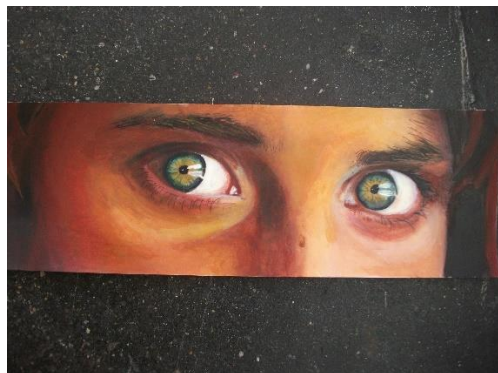
After Quentin Jacobson has always loved Margo Roth Spiegelman, for Margo (and her adventures) are the stuff of legend at their high school. So when she one day climbs through his window and summons him on an all-night road trip of revenge he cannot help but follow. But the next day Margo doesn't come to school and a week later she is still missing. Q soon learns that there are clues in her disappearance...and they are for him. But as he gets deeper into the mystery - culminating in another awesome road trip across America - he becomes less sure of who and what he is looking for. [goodreads.com](http://goodreads.com)

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### Art Star of the Week

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**Phoebe Benson** L6, CW. Phoebe is exploring portraits and cultures, in the start of her AS Art portfolio. She has developed exceptional work here, a worthy 'Star of the Week'.

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**Quote of the Week:** **'So that they may more happily live'**

John Vesey from the original foundation of Bishop Vesey's Grammar School 14 May 1527 outlining his purpose in providing money for the education of people in Sutton Coldfield.

#### Dates for your Diary

##### Autumn Term 2017

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

##### Spring Term 2018

Monday 08 January	Spring Term Commences
Monday 15 January	PA Meeting - The Hive
Friday 19 January	PA Year 7/8 Disco at BVGS
Monday 5 February	PA 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	PA Meeting - The Hive
Friday 9 March	PA Annual Quiz
Friday 16 March	PA Quiz Night - Big School
Thursday 29 March	Training Day

Thursday 29 March	Break up for Easter
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**