Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you to all parents not driving down Boswell Road. Your support is much appreciated.

**Entrance Test**

Thank you for the professionalism of invigilators and staff who helped with the entrance test last weekend.

In particular the following students provided invaluable support with calmness, good humour and efficiency, enabling us to provide an excellent experience for the 700+ young people who took the test over Saturday and Sunday.


A big well done to **Heather Hodkinson** and **Kallyann Williams** for masterminding the event.

**Road Safety**

Please could you highlight to your sons and daughters the following points in respect of road safety:

**Be visible:**

Make sure you're visible to drivers at all times and make eye contact with them whenever possible. This is especially important early morning/late evening, in low-light conditions such as dusk or dawn or in inclement weather.

- Wear lightly coloured or reflective clothing at night and brightly coloured clothing during the day.
- Stay in well-lit areas, especially when crossing the road.
- If possible/necessary, make eye contact with drivers in stopped vehicles to ensure they see you before you cross in front of them.
Stay alert - avoid distractions

Distractions are everywhere today and becoming more and more difficult to avoid. Remember that, as a pedestrian, your eyes and ears are your best tools for keeping safe. Stay alert and watch out.

- **Put down your phone.** Smartphones and handheld electronic devices are a daily part of life, but they take your eyes off the road and distract your attention.
- **Don't wear headphones.** Your ears will tell you a lot about what is happening around you - be sure to use them.

Follow the rules

- Know and follow all traffic rules, signs and signals. Your need to be aware of the rules vehicles around you must follow to properly anticipate what drivers will do. This will help increase your safety. This will be addressed in assemblies/tutor time in more details.
- **Never assume a driver will give you the right of way.** Make every effort to make eye contact with the driver of a stopped or approaching vehicle before entering the roadway.

Walk in safe places

- Use crossings when crossing the road. If a crossing is unavailable, be sure to find the most well-lit spot on the road to cross and wait for a long enough gap in traffic to make it safely across. The traffic lights at the top of Tamworth Road are causing issues due to the no green man/crossing. We advise students coming from Mere Green/Four Oaks to walk down the Tamworth Hill until it is quieter and use the primary school lollypop person, accessing the school via the pedestrian alleyway. If coming from the Anchorage Road side, then please cross further back from the traffic lights to avoid the cars that are going in different directions.
- Stay on pavements whenever possible. If a pavement is not available, be sure to walk on the far side of the road facing traffic. This will help increase your visibility to drivers.
- Avoid walking along highways or other roadways where pedestrians are prohibited.

Year 11 Celebration and Welcome Evening

It was lovely to have such a great attendance at our Celebration and Welcome Evening. Thanks to parents for your support.

I enjoyed seeing the students receiving their awards (thank you Mrs Davis, Chair of Governors, for your support for our Year 11 and for your thoughtful reflections) and listening to some great piano playing from Freddie and Tom. It was also good to listen to the wisdom of Messrs Bowen and Williams about how Year 11 can thrive on their GCSE journey. A big thank you to them and Matt Kemp (from Lower Sixth), who gave a honest and mature speech about his time as a Year 11.

Key messages:

- Fill in any gaps in your notes.
• Start revising for your mock examinations (w/b 12 November) NOW
• You can still do some extra-curricular opportunities in Year 11. It’s all about balance between work and play.

Open Evening

We look forward to welcoming parents of boys in Year 4 and 5 at our Opening Evening on Tuesday 25 September.

Please come along and see what our inspirational and excellent school can offer.

For your convenience we would advise you to park in Sutton Coldfield or around the Town Hall area, as we are unable to offer parking on site.

Open Mornings:
Tuesday 16 October 09:00 – 10:30
Wednesday 22 October 09:00 – 10:30
Thursday 18 October 09:00 – 10:30

Headteacher’s talks at 5:00pm and 6:00pm

See our ‘Admissions’ page (Year 7) on the website for details of how to make an application.

Academic Enrichment

Thank you to two of our Old Veseyans, who have been in school this week generously giving their time to the next generation:

Niall Keating (reading Engineering at Cambridge) spoke to aspiring engineers and Ella Sykes (reading Medicine at Cardiff) spoke to MedSoc.

Don’t forget MedSoc is open every Thursday 1.15pm in the Hive to students from Years 10-13 interested in all things to with the medical professions.

Merit Winners

Parents' Association

The first Parents Association meeting for the 2018/9 year will be held on Monday 17 September at 7pm in the Hive.

Colour Newsletter, Summer 2018

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/newsletters/termly_newsletters/summer_newsletter_2018.pdf

Corporate Partners Programme

Our Corporate Partnership Programme was established in January 2017, and gives companies exposure across our community of students, parents, alumni and suppliers. There are currently over 30 businesses supporting the school, their details can be found at http://bvgs.co.uk/partner-with-bishop-veseys/. If you wish to use one of these companies for a product, or service that they provide, then please mention your relationship with the school. Supporting our Corporate Partners provides long lasting benefits for our students, and by becoming a Corporate Partner you will have a designated page on the school website (attracting approximately 15,000 hits per month) and two marketing banners at the school’s sporting venues. Partners are invited to half-termly networking events, receive complimentary places at our Ladies Lunch, Six Nations Rugby Evening and Golf Day and have a stall at our annual Jobs and Careers Fair alongside some of the nation’s biggest employers. Our Development Office will also arrange personal introductions to other parents, alumni and local businesses. If you would like any further information about the Corporate Partnerships programme, please e-mail our Development Director Brian Davies at b.davies@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk

A summer to remember

We were delighted by our A Level and GCSE results achieved during a time of considerable national upheaval in education. Read all about it in our two press releases below:

http://bvgs.co.uk/2018-level-results/  http://bvgs.co.uk/outstanding-gcse-results/

Have a great weekend.

Yours sincerely

Dominic Robson
Headteacher
Quote of the Week

Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all

Aristotle

Letters issued this week:
- Year 10 Welcome Evening
- MidYis Tests for Year 7
- Sixth Form Academic Societies Invite
- Letter to parents about Rugby

Dates for your Diary

Autumn Term 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 11 September</td>
<td>Year 11 Welcome Evening 18:00 - 19:15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 20 September</td>
<td>Year 10 Welcome Evening 18:00 - 19:15</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday 25 September</strong></td>
<td><strong>Open Evening 16:00</strong></td>
<td><strong>School finishes 12:15</strong></td>
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<td>Tuesday 2 October</td>
<td>U6 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 18:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 4 October</td>
<td>Year 8 Welcome Evening 18:00 - 19:15</td>
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Monday 8 October  Year 7 Welcome Evening 18:00 - 19:15
Saturday 13 October  OVA Dinner
Monday 15 October  Y10 English Support Evening 18:00 - 19:30
Tuesday 16 October  Open Morning 09:00 - 10:30
Tuesday 16 October  L6 Welcome Evening 18:00 - 19:25
Wednesday 17 October  Open Morning 09:00 10:30
Thursday 18 October  Open Morning 09:00 - 10:30
Tuesday 23 October  Junior Soloists' Concert 19:00 - 21:00
Friday 26 October  Founder's Day
Break up for half term
Wednesday 31 October  Oxbridge Admissions Tests
Monday 5 November  Autumn Term recommences
Wednesday 7 November  School closes 12:15
Friday 9 November  Sixth Form Open Evening 16:00
Friday 9 November  Remembrance Day Services in School
Friday 9 November  Oxbridge and early entry interview afternoon 13:00
Friday 9 November  Y7&8 Disco at SCGSG
Wednesday 21 November  Year 9 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Friday 30 November  School Closes 12:15
Thursday 13 December  Speech Day at Sutton Coldfield Town Hall
Monday 17 December  Christmas Concert 19:00
Tuesday 18 December  Christmas Concert 19:00
Friday 21 December  Christmas jumper day
School closes at 12:15
School breaks up for Christmas
Friday 21 December  Spring Term 2019
Monday 7 January  Spring term commences
Thursday 17 January  Year 9 Options Evening 16:30 - 18:30
Thursday 24 January  Year 11 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Friday 1 February  Six Nations Rugby Event
Thursday 7 February  Senior Soloists' Concert 19:00 - 21:00
Friday 8 February  Whole School Review Day and Careers Fair
Friday 8 February  Comedy Night
Friday 8 February  Break up for half term
Monday 25 February  Term recommences
Wednesday 6 March  Ladies' Lunch at Moor Hall
Thursday 14 March  Year 10 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Thursday 28 March  Year 8 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Friday 5 April  Year 7 and 8 PA Disco at SCGSG
Tuesday 9 April  Spring Concert 19:00 - 21:00
Thursday 11 April  Students break up for Easter
### Summer Term 2019

- **Friday 12 April**: Staff Training Day
- **Monday 29 April**: Summer term commences
- **Monday 6 May**: May Day Bank Holiday
- **Thursday 9 May**: New Year 7 Induction Evening 18:00 - 20:30
- **Thursday 16 May**: Junior Sports Dinner at Veseyans
- **Thursday 23 May**: Students break up for half term
- **Friday 24 May**: Staff training day
- **Monday 3 June**: Term recommences
- **Friday 7 June**: Golf Day
- **Saturday 22 June**: OVA Sports Reunion
- **Thursday 27 June**: School closes at 12:15
  - Open Day 16:00 - 19:00
- **Friday 28 June**: Staff Training Day
- **Monday 15 July**: KS3 Main School Presentation Evening 19:00 - 21:00
- **Friday 19 July**: Break up for summer holiday

### Parents' Evenings 2018-19:

- **Wednesday 21 November**: Year 9 16:00 - 19:00
- **Thursday 24 January**: Year 11 16:00 - 19:00
- **Thursday 14 March**: Year 10 16:00 - 19:00
- **Thursday 28 March**: Year 8 16:00 - 19:00
- **Thursday 2 May**: Year 7 16:00 - 19:00