Dear Parents/Carers

Christmas Concerts, Monday 17 and Tuesday 18 December

We are looking forward to these. Please note that there will be no Mandarin Excellence Programme for Year 7 after school on Monday.

Congratulations to Harry Ayto (U6)

We are delighted to announce that Harry Ayto has been offered a place to study Mathematics at one of the top American 'Ivy League' universities, Princeton.

Good luck to all Upper Sixth students applying to university! We hope you get the offers you desire.

Year 11 Mock Examination Results

Congratulations to Year 11. We have seen great progress in student performance since the start of this term. There is still a long way to go and none of us are complacent. Keep up the good work boys! Let's focus on learning from the advice!

Year 7 and Year 8 Writing Competition

Congratulations to Aditya Verma (7G) who won this half-term’s writing competition. Thank you to Aditya Muthukumar (8G) for organising. Look out for the next half-term's poster.

Year 8 World Challenge Fundraiser

Adam Hurley, Ben White, Harry Howes, Jamie Coley, Oscar Lugg, Alex Heirbaut Kitteridge, Charlie Ward, James Whittaker, Jay Kennedy and Viraj Gupta hosted a Christmas Concert on 9 December at Erdington URC in order to raise funds for their Norway World Challenge. In all they raised a fantastic £415.

Christmas Mandarin

Saturday 15 December sees our second intensive Mandarin Day at Queen Mary's Grammar School, Walsall. Our 31 MEP students will be engaged in a range of activities, along with students from Queen Mary's High School for Girls and QMGS.
Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 21 December is Christmas Jumper Day. Pay £1 to wear a Christmas jumper with your uniform - all money will go to Save the Children.

Santa Hats

Buy a Santa Hat from the library for £1 and your money will go towards the Birmingham Salvation Army Christmas Appeal.

Christmas Hamper Extravaganza

There has been a tremendous response for donations to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital hamper appeal. If you would like to donate, please send items (listed below) to Miss Field in Room 10 or the Head of Year Office

- Toys
- Books/Magazines/DVDs
- Clothing items (scarves, gloves, blankets, socks)
- Board games
- Card games
- Computer games
- Biscuits
- Chocolates
- Mince pies
- Fudge
- Sweets

Charity Work by 9R

Thank you to all who have donated to 9R's charity appeal for the Trussell Trust. Miss Slater and all the staff are very proud of you.

Parents Teachers Friends Association

The PTFA remind you of ways in which you can help raise money for the school.

- Easy Fundraising - see the link here showing how
- 50/50 Club - details here

Congratulations to November's winner of the 50/50 Club - number 16 'E A Stretton'

Don’t forget to get your tickets for the Comedy Night on 8 February 2019. More information here.

The Penny Drive will end on 21 December. Winners will be confirmed during the first week of the new term in January. Years 7, 8 and 9 please bring in as much small change as possible in the race for the finish line!

Forthcoming Events

- BVGS Disco - Friday 18 January 2019. Tickets will go on sale in the New Year.
- Comedy Night - Friday 8 February in Big School - Tickets now on sale - details here

The PTFA have committed to raise funds to help BVGS, so without your support for events organised by them, there may be a need to cancel. Money raised will go towards purchasing MAC equipment for the BVGS Music Department.
Mobile Phones

As we know, mobile phones can be a source of so much good, but also so much bad in modern life. A few issues have come to us about inappropriate use of phones outside of school. Please continue to monitor the content of your son/daughter’s phone whilst under the age of 18 to ensure they are using their devices appropriately.

JCQ Examination Contingency Date - Wednesday 26 June 2019

Year 11 and Year 13 parents please be aware of this date before booking your holiday.

I would like to flag up something for next year’s GCSE and A level candidates. The Joint Council for Qualifications have announced a contingency date.

A contingency date is a day specifically set aside, should sustained national or local disruption arise during the June 2019 examination series. If disruption happens, the GCSE and/or GCE (A Level) examinations would be taken either for the first time or again on that day. The contingency date for 2019 is 26 June.

From the archive ...

We would be delighted to receive copies of old photographs you have of BVGS.

Lunch at Tiffany’s - 6 March 2019 at Moor Hall Hotel and Spa

In response the overwhelming success of last year’s inaugural Spring Lunch, we have scheduled Lunch at Tiffany’s on Wednesday 6 March at Moor Hall Hotel and Spa. The event begins at 10:30 am with a drinks reception on arrival; two course lunch and coffee; fashion show by Obsessions, Streetly Village; goodie bag; premium shopping; and musical entertainment throughout the day until the events closes at 4:00pm. Tickets are £40 per person, or as tables of ten, and can be booked through Claire Bolton in the Development Office c.bolton@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk. Payments can be made either via the School Club office; Heidi Middleton (Obsessions, Streetly Village) 0121 353 8825; or Julie Gray (Event Organiser, Amici) 07979 075877. We would be happy to group parents together on ‘Year’ tables, so please make this request known when booking tickets.

Sports Report

On Thursday 6 December, the U13 B rugby side beat Leicester Grammar School 12-0 in an impressive game. In seven matches, two days later, against the same opponents there were six wins and one draw with the 1st XV ending a close match 17-17. The 2nd XV managed an
impressive score line 24-12, before both the U15 A and U14 A scored 50 points past Leicester, winning 50-0 and 50-7 respectively. Another team to score 50 points was the U13 A, who didn’t concede a point 50-0. At Under 12 level, the A team won 35-15 however the most emphatic win of the day was the B team’s 75-0 victory. On Wednesday 12 December. The U16 continued the unbeaten streak across all teams, winning 24-14 over King Edward VI Five Ways School to end the week with an impressive seven wins and 1 draw across two teams.

In Hockey, the U12 A drew 2-2 with Solihull School and the U12 B followed up the result with a 3-0 win on Friday 7 December. On Monday of the following week, the U15 B drew 2-2 against King Edward VI School, Stratford before the next day the U14 B were unfortunate to draw 0-0 against the same opponents. On Wednesday, three senior teams were in action as the 1st XI won 11-0 against Queen Mary’s Grammar School in their most clinical performance yet. Unfortunately, the 2nd XI registered one of only three losses and the first of the week so far, against King Edward VI School, Stratford, 1-4. The 3rd XI drew 2-2 with the same opponent. The following day saw three hockey sides in action, with the only loss being from the U14 Bs against an impressive Solihull School, 6-2. The U13 A won 5-0 against King Edward VI Five Ways School and the U13 B team followed this up by coming out victors over Stratford, 2-0.

Two netball games this week. The 1st VII extended their unbeaten start to the season with a 17-14 victory over KES Stratford, before the 2nd VII, who are yet to register a victory since their first match of the season, lost 34-4.

Good luck to all playing in rugby matches against Solihull School for all ages and in the hockey fixture against KES, Birmingham.

**Six Nations Rugby Event**

We are pleased to announce that we have confirmed former England International and British Lion Nigel Redman as our Guest Speaker for the Six Nations Rugby Event on Friday 1 February at Bishop Vesey's Grammar School. Individual tickets are £55, or £500 for a table of ten. Price includes a three course meal (including wine). Please contact Development Director Brian Davies b.davies@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk.

**Staff Vacancy**

We are seeking to appoint a lunchtime supervisory assistant. Please see [here](#) for details.

**Merit Winners**

## Extra-Curricular Activities

### Before School Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sports Hall</strong></td>
<td>Senior Rowing Weights 07:30 - 08:30</td>
<td>Rowing Fitness 07:30 - 08:30</td>
<td>Y8 Badminton 08:30</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Music Centre</strong></td>
<td>Brass Band 08:15</td>
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### Break-time Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Music Centre</strong></td>
<td>Guitar Ensemble</td>
<td>Keyboard Club</td>
<td>Saxophone Ensemble</td>
<td>Guitar Club</td>
<td>Clarinet Ensemble Flute Ensemble</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Lunch-time Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Monday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Music Centre</strong></td>
<td>Wind Band</td>
<td>Vesey Corps - Drumline</td>
<td>Lower school Choir (Y7-10)</td>
<td>Funky Bishops Percussion Ensemble</td>
<td>String Ensemble Lest We Forget - Boys Chamber Choir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Old Big School</strong></td>
<td>Y7 Drama 13:30 - 14:00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Hive</strong></td>
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<td>MedSoc in the Hive</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>B4</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Christian Union</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Room 7</strong></td>
<td>Debating 13:15-13:50 (all years)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Room 8</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DofE Y10 13:45</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Room 11</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DofE Y9 13:45</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FF9</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chess all years 13:15-14:00</td>
<td>Robotics Club</td>
<td></td>
<td>Code Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Room 20</strong></td>
<td>German 13:25 - 13:45</td>
<td></td>
<td>Polish Club Room 20</td>
<td></td>
<td>Spanish Charla y Chacharea Y13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Room 19</strong></td>
<td>Spanish Charla y Chacharea Y11</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Room 26</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Clay Club</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Room 28</strong></td>
<td>KS3 Batik Art Club</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Room 48</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Y7 Science Club</td>
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<td>BP Stem Challenge</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
After School Activities 15:30 - 16:30

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<th>Monday</th>
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<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Music Centre</strong></td>
<td>KS3 Music Tech</td>
<td>Orchestra</td>
<td>Keyboard Ensemble</td>
<td>Senior Choir (Y10-13) (M2)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Big School</strong></td>
<td>Y9/10/11 Drama until 16:45</td>
<td>Y8 Drama until 16:45</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Room 19</strong></td>
<td>Spanish Y11 Boot</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Room 24</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Strategy Board Games</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FF9</strong></td>
<td>Mandarin 15:30 - 16:30</td>
<td>Mandarin 15:30 - 16:30</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Astroturf</strong></td>
<td>Senior Hockey</td>
<td>Year 8 Hockey</td>
<td>Year 8 Hockey</td>
<td>Year 9 and 10 Hockey and Rugby</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Powell’s Pool</strong></td>
<td>Senior and Y10 Rowing</td>
<td>Y8 and 9 Rowing 16:00 - 17:30</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pavilion</strong></td>
<td>Y8 Rugby 15:30 - 17:00</td>
<td>Senior Rugby 15:30 - 17:00</td>
<td>Y7 Rugby 15:30 - 17:00</td>
<td>Y9 &amp; 10 Rugby 15:30 - 17:00</td>
<td>Girls Rugby 15:30 - 17:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sports Hall</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Y7 Table Tennis</td>
<td>Y7 Table Tennis - Sixth Form Leaders</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Astro</strong></td>
<td>Senior Hockey</td>
<td>Y7 Hockey</td>
<td>Y8 Hockey</td>
<td>Y9&amp;10 Hockey</td>
<td>Y8 Badminton 15:30</td>
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</tbody>
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Astro Turf Activities

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sports Hall</strong></td>
<td>Basketball</td>
<td>Y8/9 Table Tennis</td>
<td>Y10/11 Table Tennis Running Club Y7-10 (Meet @ the Pavilion 13:15)</td>
<td>Y7 Table Tennis - Sixth Form Leaders</td>
<td>Basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indoor Rowing Room</strong></td>
<td>Y9 Indoor Rowing - Y11 Leaders</td>
<td>Y8 Indoor Rowing - Y10 Leaders</td>
<td>Indoor Rowing - Y10 Leaders</td>
<td>Y7 Indoor Rowing - Y10 Leaders</td>
<td>Y10 Indoor Rowing - Sixth Form Leaders</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely

Dominic Robson
Headteacher
Book of the Week

Charlie Richards 11B. This piece is entitled *The Human Form*. We all see the surface, however Charlie is really interested in the layers of a person. The surreal element of the hand inside depicts how each of us is unique, fragile and complex.

Art Star of the Week

*Charlie Richards 11B.*

Quote of the Week

*Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more.*

Dr Seuss
An advert from one of our corporate partners programme:

Auditel

Working with businesses from all sectors across the UK, Auditel has a unique procurement model that delivers new perspectives and insights used to drive change and increase profitability, competitiveness and growth. With experience of helping businesses of all sizes, the company leverages the power of its longstanding supplier relationships, providing clients with an unrivalled network of knowledge, skills and expertise. Find out more details on www.auditel.co.uk.

Letters sent this week

- Behaviour Policy update
- Six Nations/Lunch at Tiffany’s
- Lost Property December 2018
- Year 7 Music Concerts and Symphony Hall trip

Dates for your Diary

**Autumn Term 2018**

- 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

**Spring Term 2019**

- **Monday 7 January**
- Monday 14 January
- Thursday 17 January
- Friday 18 January
- Thursday 24 January
- Friday 1 February
- Monday 4 February
- Thursday 7 February
- **Friday 8 February**
- Friday 8 February
- **Friday 15 February**
- **Monday 25 February**
- Wednesday 6 March
- Thursday 14 March
- Friday 22 March
- Thursday 28 March
- Friday 5 April

- Christmas Concert 19:00
- BVGS Parents, Teachers and Friends Association 19:00 in The Hive
- Year 9 Options Evening 16:30 - 18:30
- Year 7 and 8 disco at BVGS
- Year 11 Parents’ Evening 16:00 - 19:00
- Six Nations Rugby Event
- BVGS Parents, Teachers and Friends Association 19:00 in The Hive
- Senior Soloists’ Concert 19:00 - 21:00
- **Whole School Review Day and Careers Fair**
- PA Comedy Night
- **Break up for half term**
- Term recommences
- Ladies’ Lunch at Moor Hall
- Year 10 Parents’ Evening 16:00 - 19:00
- PA Annual Quiz
- Year 8 Parents’ Evening 16:00 - 19:00
- Year 7 and 8 PA Disco at SCGSG
### Summer Term 2019

- **Tuesday 9 April**: Spring Concert 19:00 - 21:00
- **Thursday 11 April**: Students break up for Easter
- **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
- **Friday 17 May**: PA Race Night
- **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
- **Friday 21 June**: Year 7 and 8 Disco at BVGS (tbc)
- **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
- **Saturday 13 July**: PA Family summer party
- **Monday 15 July**: KS3 Main School Presentation Evening 19:00 - 21:00
- **Friday 24 July**: Break up for summer holiday

### Parents' Evenings 2018-19:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 24 January</td>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>16:00 - 19:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 14 March</td>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>16:00 - 19:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 28 March</td>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>16:00 - 19:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 2 May</td>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>16:00 - 19:00</td>
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