



# 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

11 January 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

## Welcome back!

We came to the end of a very positive and productive week to begin life at BVGS in 2019! I have been delighted to welcome students and staff back to school. Our top attenders this week have been the Upper Sixth, who are on mock examinations, with a figure of 98.4%. Best attending from lower school this week were Year 8, with an attendance of 95%. These figures are down on the statistics for the academic year (2018-19) so far: Year 7 (97.1%), Year 8 (97.0%), Year 9 (96.4%), Year 10 (95.7%), Year 11 (94.6%), L6 (96.2%), U6 (96.1%). Our target for the whole school in 2018-19 is 98%, so there is plenty of room for improvement. We all need to continue encouraging our students to live healthy and well-balanced lives in 2019.

In terms of behaviour, 2028 achievement points have been awarded this week. Top performing classes were: 8W, 7B, 7R, 7G and 8P. That's 22 positive points for every negative. A good ratio to start 2019. Well done. Let's see if we can do even better next week.

I have conducted a number of learning walks this week. I have been delighted to see our broad curriculum (and enrichment), building knowledge, leadership, character, independence and resilience, in action.

This new term we welcome Mr Panagiotidis (Physics Department) and Mrs Harper (Biology Department).

Don't forget if you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch:

Miss R Hearn (Deputy Head i/c KS3)  
[r.hearn@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk](mailto:r.hearn@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk)

Mrs M Bousfield (Head of Year 8)  
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Mr R Bowen (Deputy Head i/c KS4)  
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Mr I Bousfield (Head of Year 9)  
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Mr D Goodwin (Asst Head i/c 6th Form)  
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Miss N Field (Head of Year 10)  
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Miss K Steadman (Asst Head i/c Safeguarding)  
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Mr T Williams (Head of Year 11)  
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Mr G Swindells (School Business Manager)  
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Mr A Davis (Head of Year 12)  
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Mr K Doughty (Head of Year 7)  
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Dr A Reilly (Head of Year 13)  
[a.reilly@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk](mailto:a.reilly@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk)

Our **Mission** and **Vision** for the coming year are unchanged. We want inspiration and excellence for all our students. We want the very best progress by all, developing a lifelong deep knowledge of all subject areas. We want to continue to be a thriving school and a national leader.

*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)*



### Christmas Hamper - A winter's tale

Students from Bishop Vesey's Grammar School in Sutton Coldfield took part in a huge operation where they donated over 100 Christmas presents to Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham Charity to distribute to patients and staff who will be in hospital or working over the Christmas period.

The Christmas appeal was launched across the whole school with a big driving force coming from the Year 10 charity team, and they were guided by the Head of Year 10 at Bishop Vesey's Grammar School, Naima Field.

Naima, also Head of Psychology at the school, said: "It has been lovely to see students contribute towards this appeal over the last few weeks.

"The thought and generosity that has gone into this appeal is wonderful to see, and I am happy that as a school we have been able to do our bit, and support those who work so incredibly hard to ensure that we are all looked after in our times of poor health."

The inspiration for creating such a huge Christmas appeal stemmed from the school's previous Easter Egg appeal where they worked closely with QEHB Charity. After an amazing response from the Easter



eggs, they chose to support the Charity yet again!

Students and parents were all notified of the appeal and began taking part immediately. The whole school got involved and they soon started collecting festive presents for babies who might be on Special Care Baby Units or Children's A&E, all the way through to elderly patients who might have been in hospital a long time and will also be spending Christmas on the ward. Sophie Carroll, Senior Fundraiser at Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham Charity, said: "It has been so incredible and uplifting to work with the Naima and the students from Bishop Vesey's Grammar School. The effort they have put in to making sure all patients and staff have a festive Christmas at the hospitals is just amazing.

"With so many hampers, we have been able to ensure that babies and children have got a present on Christmas Day at Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham, as well as young people being treated for cancer, and elderly patients across both hospitals.

"Thank you so much to Naima for starting it all up and getting the students involved, and also to every single student, and their parents, who took part in this appeal. The response from wards has been amazing!"

### Christmas Jumper Day

£420.30 for Save the Children (Christmas jumper day 21.12.18). Thank you to all who supported this.

## Penny Drive Results for the Music Department

£343.58 was raised in total. The top three forms were:-

- 7W £71.22
- 7P £66.18
- 7G £41.98

## 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](#)

Don't forget to get your tickets for the Comedy Night on 8 February 2019. More information [here](#).

## Forthcoming Events

- **BVGS Disco - Friday 18 January 2019. Tickets will be on sale on Wednesday 16 January at break-time in Room 30.**
- **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.**

## 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](mailto: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.

## 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](mailto:b.davies@bishopveseys.bham.sch.uk).

## Support for children and families

PAUSE in Digbeth are running a number of workshops relating to mental health over the coming months for young people who live in Birmingham.

### For over 16s:

**Cool Down**- workshops for anger management on Saturday 2 February, 2 March, 30 March and 27 April 1.30pm-2.30pm.

**Stress**- workshops on Saturday 19 January, 16 February, 16 March and 13 April 1.30pm-2.30pm.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely



**Dominic Robson**  
Headteacher

### For Over 14s:

**Boys Do Talk**- 6 week course starting Monday 21 January at 2.30-3.30pm

**Anxiety**- places need to be reserved through Pause start Saturday 19 January, 9 February, 9 March and 6 April.

**Oh so Blue**-workshops about low mood and depression and what can be done to tackle them on Saturday 26 January, 2 February, 23 March and 20 April 1.30pm to 2.30pm.

Please go the Forward Thinking Birmingham website and search Pause for further details.

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## Quote of the Week

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The object of a New Year is not that we should have a new year. It is that we should have a new soul and a new nose; new feet, a new backbone, new ears and new eyes.

**G K Chesterton**

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## Letters sent this week

[Review Day and Careers Day 2019](#)

[Comedy Night 2019](#)

[Whole school photo](#)

## Dates for your Diary

### Spring Term 2019

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  
Tuesday 9 April  
**Thursday 11 April**  
**Friday 12 April**  
**Monday 29 April**  
**Monday 6 May**  
Thursday 9 May  
Thursday 16 May  
Friday 17 May  
**Thursday 23 May**  
**Friday 24 May**  
**Monday 3 June**  
Friday 7 June  
Friday 21 June  
Saturday 22 June  
**Thursday 27 June**  
  
**Friday 28 June**  
Saturday 13 July  
Monday 15 July  
**Friday 19 July**

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**  
PTFA Comedy Night  
**Break up for half term**  
**Term recommences**  
Ladies' Lunch at Moor Hall  
Year 10 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00  
PTFA Annual Quiz  
Year 8 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00  
Year 7 and 8 PA Disco at SCGSG  
Spring Concert 19:00 - 21:00  
**Students break up for Easter**  
**Staff Training Day**  
**Summer term commences**  
**May Day Bank Holiday**  
New Year 7 Induction Evening 18:00 - 20:30  
Junior Sports Dinner at Veseyans  
PTFA Race Night  
**Students break up for half term**  
**Staff training day**  
**Term recommences**  
Golf Day  
Year 7 and 8 Disco at BVGS (tbc)  
OVA Sports Reunion  
**School closes at 12:15**  
**Open Day 16:00 - 19:00**  
**Staff Training Day**  
PTFA Family summer party  
KS3 Main School Presentation Evening 19:00 - 21:00  
**Break up for summer holiday**

### Summer Term 2019

**Parents' Evenings 2018-19:**

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