



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

DGR/sw

18 January 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

Oxbridge and Ivy League

I am delighted to announce that of the 31 students interviewed for Oxbridge this year, we have **10** students who have received offers. Well done to them. This is no mean feat to receive an offer from a world class Oxbridge college when you are competing with an international field. The selection process for Oxbridge continues to be fiendishly difficult. Well done also to **Harry Ayto**, who has set a new standard and benchmark for the school in gaining a place at the prestigious Ivy League University of Princeton (while at the same time being turned down by Oxford).

Oxford:

Joel Smith: Engineering (College not yet allocated)

Cambridge:

Nina Adriano: Engineering (Selwyn)

Joseph Edwards: Maths (Emmanuel)

Zachary Farmer: Spanish & Arabic Studies (Pembroke)

Emily Hyde: History (Kings)

Leo Karski: Economics (Kings)

Josh Martin: English (Homerton)

Oliver Nash: Maths (Downing)

Neddy Tsoi: Maths (Robinson)

Harry West: History (Selwyn)

Ivy League:

Harry Ayto: Maths (Princeton)



Congratulations also to the students who took up the challenge of applying to Oxbridge, but didn't get an offer. Relish the experience and look forward to the next opportunity coming your way. We are very proud of you all.

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



Mayor Andy Street CBE and Andrew Mitchell MP

It has been wonderful to meet the Mayor and the MP for Sutton Coldfield today. We have discussed exciting plans for the future of the Midlands. Student contributions and questions were excellent and a special word of thanks must go to **Angus Carter** who did a brilliant job of chairing the seminar.

ARTiculation Regional Final at the Barber Institute



Elliott Brown (L6) was selected to represent Bishop Vesey Grammar School at the regional final of ARTiculation Prize 2019 at The Barber Institute of Fine Arts at The University of Birmingham, on Wednesday 16 January 2019. Elliott researched the work of Rene Magritte and explored ideas related to imagery and existence. His philosophical approach had the audience questioning their reality and in doing so, understanding some potentials of classification. Elliott was

praised for his knowledge, personal approach and thought-provoking presentation of Magritte's work and was awarded third place

Year 11 Arkwright Scholarship Applications

Well done to seven Year 11 boys who applied for a prestigious Arkwright Scholarship. Good luck with this rigorous process. A big thank you to **Mr Brown**, Head of DT, for encouraging this.



Year 7 at Symphony Hall

One of the key experiences which every BVGS student enjoys is a trip to Symphony Hall in Year 7. To see one of the world's best orchestras, the CBSO, in one of the world's best concert halls is a brilliant experience to put in the memory bank. Thank you to **Mr Buxton** and the staff for enabling this to happen.

Visit to Loughborough University

A-Level PE students visited Loughborough University on Wednesday 16 January, attending the Inspiring Minds conference, receiving excellent lectures in Sports Psychology, Sport and Exercise Science and Sports Technology. An excellent day and opportunity for Bishop Vesey's Grammar School students to look into the life of a university sports academic.

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

- **Comedy Night - Friday 8 February in Big School - Tickets now on sale - details [here](#)**
- **Annual Quiz - Friday 22 March in Big School**
- **Race Night - Friday 17 May**
- **Family summer party - Saturday 13 July**

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 to 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 close 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.

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.

Safety Message

We have been informed by the police of a one-off incident (see below). The police are following several lines of enquiry and as a result there will be an increased police presence in the area. The police are encouraging us all to be vigilant and report anything suspicious to the police on 101 or 999 in an emergency.

On Wednesday afternoon a car-jacking took place outside Bishop Walsh School on Wylde Green Road. The driver was forced out of their car, which was then stolen by two men who were wearing balaclavas and travelling in a white Corsa.

In more general terms we do encourage students to go straight home at the end of the day and keep valuables (such as expensive i-phones) hidden from view. Wherever possible, students should travel with their friends.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely



Dominic Robson
Headteacher

Quote of the Week

Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; Hate cannot drive out hate, only love can do that

Martin Luther King Jr

Letters sent this week

[World Book Day](#)

[SIMS Parent App for Year 12 Parents](#)

[Information from Year 9 Options Evening](#)

Dates for your Diary

Spring Term 2019

Friday 18 January	Year 7 and 8 disco at BVGS
Thursday 24 January	Year 11 Parents' Evening 16:00 - 19:00
Friday 1 February	Six Nations Rugby Event
Monday 4 February	BVGS Parents, Teachers and Friends Association 19:00 in The Hive
Thursday 7 February	Senior Soloists' Concert 19:00 - 21:00
Friday 8 February	Whole School Review Day and Careers Fair
Friday 8 February	PTFA Comedy Night
Friday 15 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
Friday 22 March	PTFA Annual Quiz
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
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	PTFA Race Night
Thursday 23 May	Students break up for half term
Friday 24 May	Staff training day

Summer Term 2019

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

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

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