



Parent Newsletter

25th September 2026



As we reach the halfway point of this half term, it feels like a good moment to pause and reflect on what we mean when we say that at Bishop Douglass, we strive 'to be the best we can be.' Our motto is more than just words; it is something we see in the everyday choices our students make in their learning, their organisation, their relationships with one another and the pride they take in their achievements.

I would encourage you to take a few moments to look through your child's exercise books.

You will see not only the progress they are making, but also how our school values and high

expectations are woven into their learning. Their journal is another important part of helping them

develop the habits that will support them both in school and beyond. Please encourage your child to use it consistently, keep it organised and make sure their homework is recorded. We have a range of systems and support in place to help every student develop these routines but your encouragement at home makes a real difference.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who joined us for our PTA Coffee Morning. Your time, enthusiasm and continued support mean a great deal to our school community. Strong schools are built on strong partnerships and we are very grateful for the role our families play in making Bishop Douglass such a special place.

Looking ahead, we are delighted to invite you to our Curriculum Showcase on Thursday 15th October. If you have a child in Year 6, or know a family who does, we would love you to share this opportunity with them. It is a chance to experience a Bishop Douglass lesson first-hand and to see the energy, ambition and sense of purpose that characterise learning in our classrooms. Please do continue to spread the word.

Thank you, as always, for your continued partnership and for the encouragement you give your children each day. I hope you have a restful and enjoyable weekend and that you find time to celebrate the many small moments of progress and achievement that make such a difference.

Wishing you a restful and enjoyable weekend.

***Mrs Henderson,
Headteacher***



The Weekly Focus

Good Manners Focus

Focus of the week: Personal Responsibility

Why it matters:

- Builds Independence
Taking responsibility for your choices, behaviour and learning helps you become confident and independent.
- Builds Trust
When you take ownership of your actions and commitments, others know they can rely on you.

Challenge: "Own your actions"

This week, take responsibility for your choices, your learning and your belongings. If something goes wrong, avoid blaming others and think: "What could I have done differently"

Virtue of the Week

Virtue of the week: Generosity

The virtue of generosity calls us to give freely without always expecting something in return. It reminds us that our gifts, talents, time and opportunities are not simply for ourselves but can be used to serve others. The workers in the Gospel struggled because they compared what they had received with what others had been given. As a school community, generosity encourages us to look for opportunities to support one another. May we become a community where people are not competing against one another, but working together so that everyone has the opportunity to flourish.

Prayer: Generous Father,
We thank you for the many gifts and blessings you have given to each of us. Help us to recognise and appreciate what we have, rather than comparing ourselves with others. Give us grateful hearts that can celebrate the successes of those around us without jealousy or resentment. Help us to be generous with our time, our talents, our encouragement and our kindness. May we notice those who need support and be willing to offer a helping hand. Teach us to trust in your goodness and to remember that your ways are greater than our ways. Help us to build a school community where everyone feels valued, encouraged and able to flourish. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PSHE Focus of the Week

PSHE Theme of the week: Diversity, Prejudice and Stereotypes

This week we are continuing to look at Diversity and inclusion as the theme for PSHE. Prejudice is an unfair opinion about someone because of their background. Stereotypes are general beliefs about groups that may not be true. Diversity means accepting and respecting people from different backgrounds. This is important because it helps create a fair, respectful and inclusive society where everyone feels valued.

Thinking Question:

What are the benefits of living in an inclusive society?

Word of the Day

Monday: Visceral

Based on deep feeling and emotional reactions rather than on reason or thought.

Tuesday: Ominous

Suggesting that something unpleasant is likely to happen.

Wednesday: Parity

Equality, especially of pay or position.

Thursday: Jeopardy

Exposure to danger, harm or serious risk.

Friday: Furtive

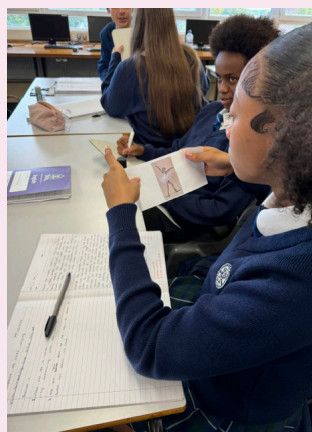
(of people) behaving secretly and often dishonestly or (of actions) done secretly and often dishonestly.

A reminder that these should be written down in the journal in the space provided this week.

Learning in Action

Developing 'show don't tell' Skills

This week, Year 11 did a timed writing task and seemed to struggle at using show not tell. To help with teaching them how to become more descriptive, in pairs they had an image that they needed to describe to their partner; their partner needed to then draw what was being described to them. However, they could not use any words that told their partner what was in the image; rather, they had to use their language devices and descriptive writing skills (gestures were also banned). This then led to writing descriptive paragraphs in their pairs with the skills they had learnt in the lesson.



Hospitality at the Royal Lancaster

We had a fantastic opportunity to take our Year 11 and Year 12 Hospitality students on a visit to the 5-star Royal Lancaster London Hotel. It was an amazing experience from start to finish, and the hotel staff were incredibly welcoming, friendly and generous with their time. The day began with pastries and talks from members of different departments, including Events Management and Human Resources, giving students an insight into the huge variety of roles involved in running a luxury hotel.

We were then taken on a behind-the-scenes tour of the hotel, where students explored the impressive event spaces, kitchens, staff canteen and a number of departments that guests would not normally see. This was a brilliant opportunity for students to understand just how many different teams work together to provide a five-star hospitality experience. One of the highlights of the day was a mocktail masterclass led by the hotel's bartenders. Students watched demonstrations of a passionfruit mocktail and a virgin mojito, before some had the opportunity to step behind the bar and make the drinks themselves!



Other News and Updates

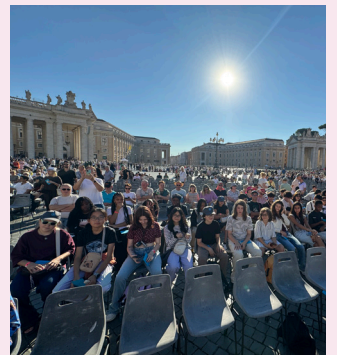
The Cardinal Hume Academies Trust Rome Trip

After an eventful and unforgettable pilgrimage, we are delighted to share some highlights from our recent Rome Trip with our Year 8–11 students, alongside students from St George's and St Thomas More. The trip provided an incredible opportunity for our students to experience the heart of the Catholic Church while discovering the rich history, culture and beauty of Rome. For our students and for the staff accompanying them it was truly a memorable journey.

There were so many highlights throughout the trip, including visits to the Vatican Museums and the Sistine Chapel, where students had the opportunity to admire some of the world's most renowned works of art. We were also incredibly fortunate to attend a Papal Address, where we found ourselves just metres away from the Pope — a very special moment for everyone.

Our journey continued with visits to the Pantheon, the Papal Tombs and the iconic Colosseum. A particular highlight was hearing Aryo (10F) share his wonderful knowledge of the Colosseum and its fascinating history with the group. Of course, no trip to Rome would be complete without visiting the Trevi Fountain and the Spanish Steps — and there was certainly no shortage of delicious Italian food along the way! Our students enjoyed plenty of pasta, pizza and, of course, gelato.

We are already looking forward to returning to Rome next year!



Other News and Updates

Please see additional attachment for Instrumental lesson timetable for the week beginning September 28th.

TOP 10 BD MERIT EARNERS THIS WEEK ARE:

Clarice L - 11 pts
Jasmine C - 10 pts
Cagan C - 8 pts
Setare H - 8 pts
Manuka M - 7 pts
Jamar H - 7 pts
Jeremiah S - 7 pts
Deborah A - 6 pts
Noa B - 6 pts
Niqon F - 6 pts

Keep up the superb effort!

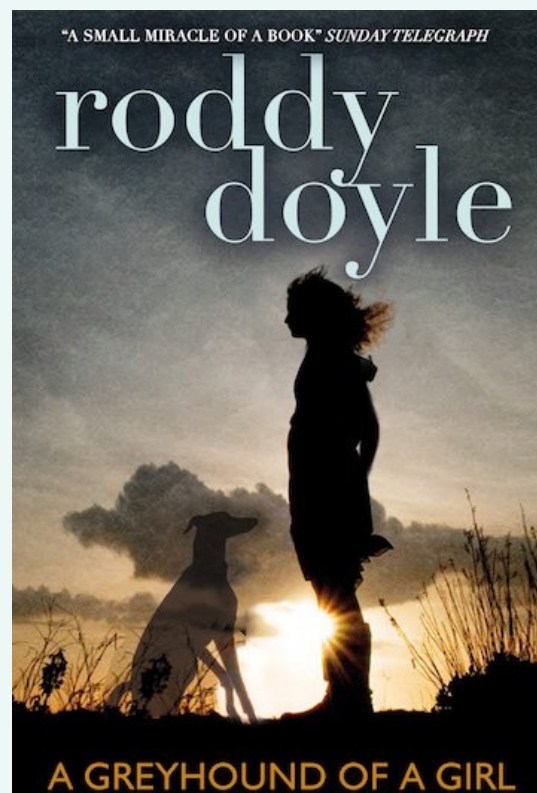
Club of the Week: ...

This week's 'club of the week' goes to...
UNO CLUB



Every Thurs lunchtime in C2.2. See you there!

Book of the Month:



Two-year-old Mary's beloved grandmother is near the end of her life. Letting go is hard—until Granny's longdead mammy appears. Her ghost has returned to help her dying daughter say goodbye to the ones she loves, but first they will embark on a road trip to the past.

Drop Everything and Read will be on the 30th of September during module 3.

Reminder that Y11 will be taking English and Maths Mock exams next week.
Good luck to all!



Club Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	Early Risers Indoor Football 07.15 – 8.00am (Mr. O'Brien)	Early Risers Indoor Football 07.15 – 8.00am (Mr. O'Brien)		Early Risers Indoor Football 07.15 – 8.00am (Mr. O'Brien)	Early Risers Indoor Football 07.15 – 8.00am (Mr. O'Brien)
Lunch	Maths Club Mr Manley A2.1	Maths Club Mr Manley A2.1	Maths Club Mr Manley A2.1	Maths Club Mr Manley A2.1	
	Well-Being Room Ms Motisi T0.12	Well-Being Room Ms Motisi T0.12	Well-Being Room Ms Motisi T0.12	Well-Being Room Ms Motisi T0.12	Well-Being Room Ms Motisi T0.12
	Moment for Jesus Mr Laroza D0.2	Moment for Jesus Mr Laroza D0.2	Moment for Jesus Mr Laroza D0.2	Moment for Jesus Mr Laroza D0.2	Moment for Jesus Mr Laroza D0.2
	Dodgeball Y7 Only	Solo Singing Club Ms Halberstam E0.6	Art Club Ms Santos T1.3	Philosophy Film Club Sixth form led D0.2	KS5 Multisports Y12 and 13 ONLY
	Geography Society Ms Ellenby B1.4	Fitness Suite Use Ms Green	Fitness Suite Use Ms Green	Book Club Ms Rusznyak D0.1	Fitness Suite Use Fitness Suite
	Anime Club Mr Asaro A.12	Computing Club Ms Sandhu C2.1	EAL Homework Club Ms McBean D0.5	KS3 Drama Club Ms Holland E0.4	F1 Club Mr Sawhney S0.9
	Persian Language Club Ms Hashemifakhr S0.2	Spanish Cinema Ms Navarette A3.3	Volleyball Sports Hall	Ukelele Club Ms Haswell E0.6	Pokemon Club Mr Bile C2.2
PM	KS5 Film Club Sixth form led D0.7	Badminton and Pickle Ball Sports Hall	Law Society Mr Harris B1.3	UNO Club Ms Hopwood C2.2	History Society Mr Harris B1.3
	STEM/Medicine Club Mr Marsden S0.9	Science Club S0.3	Chess Club Mr Laverty S0.3	KS3/4 GIRLS ONLY Multisports Ms Green Fitness Suite	Music Production Club Ms Halberstam E0.6
				GIRLS ONLY Cricket Club Ms Afzal Sports Hall	The Forum KS3 ONLY Sixth form led E0.5
					STEM/Medicine Club Y12 and 13 ONLY Mr Marsden S0.9
PM	KS3 Evening Study 3.15 – 5.45pm Library	KS3 Evening Study 3.15 – 5.45pm Library	KS3 Evening Study 3.15 – 5.45pm Library	KS3 Evening Study 3.15 – 5.45pm Library	
	Table Tennis Club Mr Osman Covered Area	KS3 Boys Football Field	Musical Theatre Club Ms Holland E0.4	Choir Ms Morrison E0.6	Chess Club Mr Croasdale & Mr Carter S0.3
	KS3 Mixed Basketball Mr Bile Sports Hall	Rock and Pop Band Club Ms Halberstam E0.4	KS3 Girls Netball Netball Courts	Cooking Club Ms Ringe T0.1	
	KS3 Girls Football Ms Green Field		Mixed Cricket Club Mr Harris Sports Hall	Chess Coaching 3:15 - 5pm Mr Garfield Mr Carter S0.3	
			Table Tennis Club Mr Osman Covered Area	Debate Mate Ms Ellenby B1.4	
				KS4 Boys Football Week B Only Field	
				KS4 Multisports Week B Only	
				KS4 Mixed Basketball Week B Only Mr Bile	