



# Bishop Douglass Catholic School Parent Newsletter

*In Pursuit of Excellence*

13th July 2018

## *INTRODUCTION*

It has been another busy week for our pupils this week, although the school has been much quieter than usual with many students out on excursions relating to their Wider Horizons learning. Thankfully the sun has shone, although it has perhaps been a little hot at times for walking around parts of London. A restful weekend has been earned by all ready for Sports day on Tuesday.

As this is the last Parent Newsletter of the year, we wish you all a wonderful, safe and happy summer and look forward to seeing all pupils back in school in September. Start dates in September are opposite.

## *WORK EXPERIENCE—YEAR 10*

Congratulations to our Year 10s who have completed a successful week of work experience this week. We have received very positive reports from employers.

## *YEAR 12 WIDER HORIZONS WEEK*

Year 12's Wider Horizons experience has been an in-depth look at life after BD with presentations and workshops on UCAS applications, a visit to Reading University, mock interviews and practical guides on writing personal statements. This practical work should stand our students in good stead for next year when applications will need to be prepared for the next stage of their learning experience.



The final day of the week brought a chance to relax (if that is the word) with a trip to the London Dungeons. A fright-filled time was had by all.

Thanks go to all Sixth form staff for organising this very useful week.

## *FORTHCOMING EVENTS*

Tuesday 17th July: School sports day

Friday 20th July: Last Day of Term—Non-Uniform Day (CAFOD)

Tuesday 4th September: INSET day

Wednesday 5th September: Year 7 start & 6th form enrolment

Thursday 6th September: Year 7 lessons; 6th form induction

Friday 7th September: Year 7-11 in school

## *WIDER HORIZONS WEEK: YEARS 7-9*

There were nine school-based Wider Horizons groups to choose from for Years 8-10: BD bake-off, Be a Palaeontologist, Bee Project, Creative Writing, Hidden Treasures of London, History Re-enacted, Summer Sensory Map, The Natural World, and World Foods, which involved acting, researching, baking, planting, as well as visiting interesting sites in and around London.

We have had a very successful and enjoyable week of activities and excursions, as well as adventures to Greece, Málaga and PGL.

Today each group gave a presentation in the hall to other students, highlighting their learning and achievements for the week and it was great to see the range of opportunities which were available to the pupils during this week.

Year 7 were exploring London and enjoyed trips to the Science Museum, the London Eye—after which they had a river boat cruise, Hampstead Health and London zoo. The week ended with a trip to the local Phoenix cinema in East Finchley.

Behaviour throughout the week was excellent. Our thanks go to all staff for their hard work in ensuring this week was a wonderful learning experience for everyone.



## JACK PETCHEY AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the final Jack Petchey award winners for the year:

**Winner:** Esjena Hasmuja, 7 Owen

**Reason for Award:** Esjena works consistently hard at developing her academic skills and goes above and beyond for her fellow peers. This includes helping others with their homework, mediating conflict within friendship circles, and motivating others to succeed in class. The award was spent on salsa lessons.

**Winner:** Paul Cusack, 9 Campion

**Reason for Award:** Paul has overflowing enthusiasm and is extremely committed to the Duke of Edinburgh award. He is always supportive of other participants on the award. In a recent expedition he was trying to assist carrying bags for 3 people. The award was spent on Duke of Edinburgh equipment.

**Winner:** Genta Malaj, 11 Fisher

**Reason for Award:** Genta, a Year 11 herself, supported many students in her year group in their exam preparation, offering her help and guidance, especially in D&T. She is a true example of someone who is willing to give her time to others. The award was spent on buying Year Books and Prom tickets for her classmates.

**Winner:** Habib Njie, 13 Southwell

**Reason for Award:** Habib has been a fantastic Head Boy and has helped organise many good events such as the Christmas Party. His behaviour is exemplary. One of his nominees has received helpful advice about university choices. Award not yet spent.

**Winner:** Amber Rayner, 10 Fisher

**Reason for Award:** Amber is true silent hero. She will always be the one who gives to charity, support class and school events. She may appear shy, but she really has great input as a Student Council representative. She is a model student and due to her humble nature, she does not need to be praised and will continue to support the school and other pupils. The award was spent on a reward trip.

**Winner:** James Musa, 10 More

**Reason for Award:** James has offered to start his own track & field athletics club at break and lunchtimes. He consistently shows good leadership skills and exemplifies the high standards of effort and behaviour at the school. He is very polite and courteous & helps many younger pupils in school. The award was spent on athletics equipment.

## WORDS OF THE WEEK

**Monday – Genial – Adjective:** Friendly and cheerful; pleasantly mild and warm (especially of air or climate):

- She was a **genial** character; nothing seemed to upset her.
- It was a **genial** working environment; the staff were happy, content and felt valued. They loved coming to work.

**Tuesday – Deplorable – Adjective:** Deserving strong condemnation; completely unacceptable:

- The children were living in **deplorable** conditions and nobody was prepared to help them.
- Maisie's spelling was **deplorable**.

**Wednesday – Benevolent – Adjective:** Well-meaning and kindly; serving a charitable rather than a profit-making purpose:

- The Christmas hamper was a gift from a **benevolent** donor.
- The wealthy businesswoman belonged to several **benevolent** societies and charitable organisations. She was happy to share her good fortune.

**Thursday – Bullion – Noun:** Gold or silver in bulk before coining or valued by weight:

- The gold **bullion** was of such value that it was transported under armed police escort.
- Certainly gold, as **bullion**, is a practical means of storing wealth.

**Friday - Exhilaration – Noun:** A feeling of excitement, happiness, or elation:

- She enjoyed the **exhilaration** of jet-skiing.
- There is a definite feeling of **exhilaration** around the school today. Could it be because it's the last day of term?

