



# Bishop Douglass Catholic School Parent Newsletter

*In Pursuit of Excellence*

6th March 2020

## INTRODUCTION

This week we have celebrated World Book Day. Staff, as always, relished the opportunity to dress up for the day. Year 7 students also had the opportunity to dress as their favourite book characters. Events took place throughout the day—please see the article in this week’s newsletter.

We are ever mindful of the potential threat posed by the coronavirus and we are following government advice closely. Please see below.

Please remember our Easter egg collection taking place over Lent. All students are being asked to donate an egg to be distributed by the RE department to local charities.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend.

## CORONAVIRUS: ADVICE FOR PARENTS

A UK wide campaign has been launched to provide clear advice on how to slow the spread of Coronavirus. Please help to support the campaign which promotes basic hygiene practices such as regularly washing hands with soap and water and always carrying and sneezing/coughing into a tissue (which can then be binned) to stem the spread of viruses. Using hand sanitiser gel is also recommended.

Public Health England advises that you should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus. The government is closely monitoring the spread of the virus and the NHS is well-prepared.

We will be telling children to follow the guidelines that have been issued and will update you as necessary.

Click here to read the latest government advice

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

Mrs M Henderson  
Head of School

## ALICE IN WONDERLAND

*We are delighted to announce that the school production will be on Thursday 26th March at 5:30pm!*

*It is Alice in Wonderland, so **you are invited to the tea party** for just £2. Tickets are available on parentpay. There will be fun, fantastic performances from pupils, and free cake!*

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**Week commencing 9th March:** Science Week.

Monday— Forensic Science Showcase

Tuesday—Dissection Masterclass

Wednesday—Year 7 STEM club and dissection masterclass

Thursday—Graphs Day

Psychology in the Modern World

**Wednesday 11th March:** Open morning tours for parents and pupils offered a place at the school for September 2020.

**Wednesday 25th March:** Year 10 Parents’ Evening.

**Thursday 26th March 5:30pm :** School production of Alice in Wonderland

**Friday 3rd April:** Last day of term.

**Monday 20th April:** Summer term begins

**Wednesday 22nd April:** Year 9 Parents’ Evening

**Wednesday 20th May:** Year 7 Parents’ Evening

**Monday 25th May—Friday 29th May:** Half Term

**Wednesday 10th June:** Year 8 Parents Evening

**Monday 6th July—Friday 10th July:** Wider Horizons Week

**Friday 17th July:** Last day of term



### THIS WEEK'S EPRAISE WINNERS

The students below have worked extremely hard this week and been awarded the most epraise points in the school.

Student	Form	Increase	Total
Kayann Bailey-Bowen	7W	40	500
Kiara Theys	10M	35	265
Yousaf Ahmed	9F	30	145
Salma Amri	11C	30	155
Niko Baez-Arranz	7C	30	335

Mr Reed

### YEAR 10 PREFECTS

I am delighted to introduce our Year 10 Prefect Team:

Name	Form
Rio H	10W
Louisa P	10M
Gabriella D	10O
Tara D	10A
Victoria K	10A
Eloise P	10F
Toni Rose	10A
Ilea D	10W
Mapalo C	10A

The students were selected based upon interview and will provide a valuable bridge between students across the whole school and staff. The team recently attended an external anti-bullying awareness course and will be leading on a number of new initiatives within the school over the forthcoming months.

Mr Reed

Head of Year 10

### WORDS OF THE WEEK

**Monday- Catalyst** - (Noun) - A substance that increases the rate of a chemical reaction without itself undergoing any permanent chemical change; a person, thing, or event that quickly causes change or action.

The enzyme was the **catalyst** that triggered the chemical reaction.

Fortunately for battery manufacturers, the ice storm was a **catalyst** for increased battery sales.

**Tuesday- Amalgam** - (Noun) – A mixture or blend.

The dentist used a silver coloured **amalgam** to fill my teeth.

The main component of dental **amalgam** is mercury, which is released from the filling into the body.

**Wednesday- Conjecture** - (Noun) – An opinion or idea formed without proof or sufficient evidence.

As the scientist had only **conjecture** to back up his untested theory, he doubted if the university would offer him any research funds.

After doing additional research, the scientist admitted his **conjecture** about the chemical reaction was incorrect.

**Thursday- Deciduous** - (Adjective) – Falling off or shed at a particular season because it is temporary.

Next month, the **deciduous** fruit trees will flower the countryside with ripe apples and pears.

The baby's **deciduous** teeth will start to fall out soon.

**Friday- Precipitate** - (Verb) - Cause (a substance) to be deposited in solid form from a solution.

If any organic salt is formed, it will **precipitate** immediately.

Clouds usually **precipitate** as rain and snow.

### NEWS FROM THE PTA

Dear Parent/Carers,

First of all, a massive thank you to all parents/carers who attended our last PTA meeting. We have discussed the improvement ideas for the Summer Fair. We discussed ideas on how to involve more students and their families in both, organising and attending.

The next PTA meeting is taking place on Tuesday, the 28<sup>th</sup> of April 2020 at 5:30pm. It is never too late to get involved. If you have ideas or want to help out, please come along.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed via ParentPay. We have received donations of £1,155! If you would like to contribute, please select the PTA target donation option on your ParentPay account.

**Mrs Wejknis**  
PTA Co-ordinator

## *WORLD BOOK DAY*

Our annual World Book Day celebrations were kept on Thursday 5th March. We have a huge push on literacy at Bishop Douglass believing that good literacy is the strongest currency throughout education and beyond.

The theme for 2020 was "Dystopian Fiction". Teachers donned their literary-themed outfits and as usual, made the day a huge success! There were handmaids (inspired by Margaret Atwood's seminal "Handmaid's Tale") many references to "The Hunger Games" and an incredible interpretation of "Lord of the Flies" from the Drama department (see picture). Year 7s also took part in the dressing up aspect of the day and it was wonderful to see such a rich array of fiction-themed outfits!

Organised by Ms Leen, the school's Literacy co-ordinator, the day's events included an author visit with creative writing workshops for Key Stage 3 students who all enthused about how positive and inspiring the sessions were. Key stage 4 students were treated to a highly over-subscribed series of workshops with performance poet (and ex student of Bishop Douglass!) Kai Larasi. At the end of these sessions, students produced pieces of their own writing (some of which will be showcased in the Easter edition of The Douglass) and many had their ardour for fiction and poetry re-ignited commenting that they felt "alive" and "liberated" by the wonderful, thought-provoking workshops.

A highly successful day all round!

**Ms Prina**  
Head of English



## *VISIT TO THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT*

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, Year 12 Humanities students studying Politics, History and Geography went on a trip to the home of British democracy, the Palace of Westminster; otherwise known as the Houses of Parliament. They received a tour which enabled the students to learn about the history of the building itself in addition to the everyday workings of the building and the people who work (and in some cases, live) within. Students were keen, and interested in the way that one building was able to bring to life so much of what they have learned in their A-Level subjects so far, especially the Politics students, and those studying Stuart History. The students had some good questions for their tour guide, and seemed in awe of the golden throne in the House of Lords. The looming Prime Ministers' Questions of the day meant they were unable to see the House of Commons on this occasion but still received great information about the difference between the houses. A quick tour of Parliament Square and a sneak peek at Whitehall, accompanied by the endlessly helpful historical and political factoids produced by Ms Chisholm meant that the students were able to maximise their cultural and democratic understanding of what it is to rule the country. I can only hope that this will encourage them to remain politically engaged and have their say in the way that the UK is run, especially as the students begin to approach voting age!

**Ms Lewinton**  
History Teacher



**EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS/ACTIVITIES AND STUDY SUPPORT**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Before School</b> <b>8.00-8.45am</b>	<b>Homework Support</b> A1.1 8am <b>Handwriting Club</b> Library 8.45am <b>Independent Study</b> Library <b>Maths Club</b> Library 8.50-9.10 <b>Breakfast Club</b> Hall – <i>free breakfast before 8.20am</i> <b>Laud’s morning prayer</b> 8:25am Chapel <b>Sports Breakfast Club</b> —7.15 - 8am	<b>Homework Support</b> A1.1 8am <b>Handwriting Club</b> Library 8.45am <b>Independent Study</b> Library <b>Maths Club</b> Library 8.50-9.10 <b>Sage Club</b> 8.30am DO.6 <b>Breakfast Club</b> Hall – <i>free breakfast before 8.20am</i> <b>Sports Breakfast Club</b> —7.15 - 8am	<b>Homework Support</b> A1.1 8am <b>Handwriting Club</b> Library 8.45am <b>Independent Study</b> —Library <b>Maths Club</b> Library 8.50—9.10 <b>Breakfast Club</b> Hall – <i>free breakfast before 8.20am</i> <b>Sports Breakfast club</b> —7.15 —8am	<b>Homework Support</b> A1.1 8am <b>Social skills Y7</b> A1.2 8.45am-9.10 <b>Independent Study</b> —Library <b>Maths Club</b> Library 8.50—9.10 <b>Breakfast Club</b> Hall – <i>free breakfast before 8.20am</i>	<b>Homework Support</b> A1.1 8am <b>Social Skills Y8</b> SO.5 8.45am <b>Independent Study</b> —Library <b>Maths Club</b> Library 8.50—9.10 <b>Breakfast Club</b> Hall – <i>free breakfast before 8.20am</i> <b>Sports Breakfast club</b> —7.15 —8am
<b>Lunchtime</b> <b>1.30-2pm</b>	<b>Homework Support</b> A1.1 <b>Fitness Club</b> Gym	<b>Homework Support</b> A1.1 <b>Maths Club</b> A1.2 <b>Geography Society</b> B1.4 <b>Fitness Club</b> Gym <b>Spanish Cine Club</b> A3.1 <b>Moment for Jesus</b> Chapel <b>Basketball</b>	<b>Homework Support</b> A1.1 <b>KS3 Art Club</b> T1.2 <b>Science Club Y7:</b> SO3 <b>Fitness Club</b> Gym <b>Bible Club</b> DO.6 <b>Basketball Club</b> Basketball courts	<b>Homework Support</b> A1.1 <b>Spanish Cine Club</b> A3.1 <b>Geography Club</b> B15 <b>Fitness Club</b> Gym <b>Basketball Club</b> Basketball courts <b>Model</b> UN B14 <b>Moment for Jesus</b> Chapel	<b>Homework Support</b> A1.1 <b>Fitness Club</b> Gym <b>Basketball Club</b> Basketball courts
<b>After School</b> <b>3.10-6pm</b>	<b>Homework Support</b> A1.1 (until 4:10) <b>Evening Study Library</b> *Hot meal served at 5.45pm <b>Drama Club</b> Drama Studio (until 4.30) <b>Girls Basketball training (Y7, 8 9 &amp;10)</b> Basketball Court <b>Boys Football Training</b>	<b>Homework Support</b> A1.1 (until 4:10) <b>Evening Study Library</b> *Hot meal served at 5.45pm <b>Drama Club</b> Drama Studio (until 4.30) <b>Sixth Form sports</b> 2.10-4.30pm	<b>Homework Support</b> A1.1 (until 4:10) <b>Evening Study Library</b> *Hot meal served at 5.45pm <b>Football</b> <b>Fitness</b> <b>Trampoline Club</b>	<b>Homework Support</b> A1.1 (until 4:10) <b>Evening Study Library</b> *Hot meal served at 5.45pm <b>Dance Club</b> Dance Studio ( until 4.30pm)	<b>Homework Support</b> A1.1 (until 4.10) <b>Chess Club</b> —S0.1 (until 4.30)