Bishop Douglass Catholic School Parent Newsletter

15th May 2026

Introduction

As we continue through this important examination period, we keep our pupils in Years 11 and Sixth Form especially in our prayers as they undertake their GCSE and A-Level examinations next week. We are immensely proud of the dedication, resilience and maturity they have shown throughout this time. Their commitment to study, supported by the encouragement of staff and families, reflects the values of perseverance, service and excellence that lie at the heart of our Catholic community. We wish every pupil continued success and confidence in the weeks ahead.

Our commitment to supporting pupils remains unwavering. After-school and Saturday revision sessions will continue throughout the examination season, alongside pre-examination revision sessions before each paper. Morning revision sessions begin at 8:00am for all morning examinations. The library will also remain open until 6:00pm each evening to provide a calm and purposeful environment for independent study, with a free hot meal served at 5:45pm. Thank you for your continued partnership in encouraging your child to revise consistently, attend intervention sessions and arrive punctually each day, fully prepared to make the most of every opportunity.

Thank you to all Year 7 parents who attended this week's Parents' Evening. These occasions are invaluable opportunities to strengthen the partnership between home and school as we work together to support every child in fulfilling their God-given potential. We also had the pleasure of visiting St Joseph's Primary School this week to meet with Year 5 parents and speak about the exciting journey of secondary transfer. We are delighted to announce that our Open Evening will take place on Wednesday 16th September 2026, and bookings are now available via our website.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, encouragement and trust in our school community. We wish you a peaceful and restful weekend.

Mrs Henderson, Headteacher

Attendance

A reminder that if your child is unwell, late or has a medical appointment, please call 020 8444 5211 and PRESS OPTION 1 and leave a message.

Alternatively you can email our attendance team via:

attendance@bishopdouglass.barnet.sch.uk

Safeguarding

Our school safeguarding team is Ms Price, our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Henderson our Headteacher. Our Child protection Officers are, Miss Lowdell, Mr Onwumere, Mrs Wilkhu and our Deputy Designated Safeguarding lead is Ms Motisi.
You can contact them via:

schooladmin@bishopdouglass.barnet.sch.uk

Announcements....

Barnet Libraries

Looking for something to do this half term? Barnet Libraries are running a fantastic programme of free and low-cost family events throughout the May half term holiday.

Activities include:

- Puppet making workshops
- A theatre production of The Book Witch
- Sing, Story and Sign sessions
- Creative craft activities including collage, Star Wars-themed crafts and t-shirt decorating

Families are also warmly encouraged to visit their local library to borrow books, enjoy reading together and explore everything the library has to offer.
For more information and to view the full programme of events, visit https://www.barnet.gov.uk/libraries

Study Facilities

During the half term break, study spaces at Barnet Libraries are expected to be very popular with students preparing for exams and completing coursework.

Study spaces are available during both staffed and self-service opening hours. Students aged 14 and over can register for self-service access by completing a form at any Barnet Library during staffed opening times. Forms must be signed by a parent or guardian.

Students are reminded to:

- Treat staff and other library users with respect at all times
- Keep noise levels low and maintain a calm study environment
- Use study spaces responsibly and tidy away litter
- Keep belongings with them and not leave valuables unattended
- Avoid bringing hot food or takeaways into the library
- Respect designated library areas and other users' needs

Libraries offer, unlimited WiFi, Free computer use for up to 3 hours per day, Online research resources, dictionaries and encyclopaedias and printing and photocopying facilities for a small fee.

Congratulations to our Top BD Merit Achievers!

Announcements...

Free School Meals

Please be aware that the price of Free School Meals will be increasing to £2.96 from the 1st of May 2026 for a Main Course and Dessert. The school will be increasing the allowance, so for those Parents/Carers with students recieving Free School Meals, please do not worry, your students meals will be paid for.

Your child might be able to receive Free School Meals if you get any of the following.

Income Support
Income-Based Jobseeker's Allowance
Universal Credit
Child Tax Credit
Working Tax Credit Run-On
Support under Part VI of the immigration and Asylum Act 1999

If you believe your child should be receiving Free School Meals, please ask your child to collect a form from Student Services. or email - schooladmin@bishopdouglass.barnet.sch.uk

Headteachers Award

The following student Vivian in 10F, Zuzanna in 10F and Akeelea in 13M were both awarded the Headteachers Award for excellent achievement in Art. They both received a certificate and a box of chocolates.

Career of the Week

Police Officer

Information

Police officers protect the public from crime, as well as supporting victims and witnesses of crime, providing reassurance to local people in the community
As a police officer you'll work in partnership with the communities you serve to maintain law and order, protect members of the public and their property, prevent crime, reduce the fear of crime and improve the quality of life for all citizens.
You'll use a range of technology to protect individuals, identify the perpetrators of crime and ensure successful prosecutions against those who break the law. The key priorities for the 45 police forces in the UK include: maintaining public order through combating organised crime, countering the threat of terrorism, acting against antisocial behaviour.
Police officers work closely with members of the criminal justice system, social workers, schools, local businesses, health trusts, housing authorities, town planners and community groups to provide advice, education and assistance to those who want to reduce crime or have been affected by crime.

Starting Salary: £29,000

Expected Salary:
Up to £46,000
More information
Speak to Ms Temel

This week...

WORD OF THE DAY

Monday
Putative - (Adjective) – Generally thought to be or to exist, even if this may not really be true.

Tuesday
Squalor - (Noun) – The condition of being extremely dirty and unpleasant, often because of lack of money.

Wednesday
Vocation - (Noun) – Type of work that you feel you are suited to doing and to which you should give all your time and energy, or the feeling that a type of work suits you in this way.

Thursday
Bonhomie - (Noun) – Cheerful, easy-going friendliness, geniality, and a good-natured manner.

Friday
Converge - (Verb) – If lines, roads, or paths converge, they move towards the same point where they join or meet.

Virtue of the Week: Humility

Here, Jesus teaches us that His disciples that loving God means following His commandments and living with faith, kindness, and humility. This reminds us that humility is not weakness, but the willingness to listen, learn, and serve others with compassion. As teachers, we demonstrate humility when we guide our students with patience, admit when we make mistakes, and encourage every person to grow in confidence and faith. By following Jesus' example, the whole school community can create an environment built on love, understanding, and service to others.

Prayer

Loving God, We thank you for never leaving us alone. Thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit, who guides us when life is difficult and helps us choose what is right. Help us to show our love through our actions, to be generous, humble, and empathetic in our school and in our lives. Amen.

Upcoming Events

25th - 29th May
Half-Term - School closed to all pupils

9th June
Coding Workshop - Year 7

11th June
New Year 7 Team Building Event

19th June
Whole school End of Year assessment

22nd June
Year 12 Biology Trip to Suffolk

23rd June
Year 11 Prom

26th June
Year 7 Trip to Banqueting House

PSHE theme: Mental Health Awareness

Clubs & Societies

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	Early Risers Club Indoor Football	Early Risers Club Indoor Football		Early Risers Club Indoor Football	Early Risers Club Indoor Football
Lunch	Maths Club (A2.1) Well-Being All Years (T0.12) A Moment for Jesus (D0.2) Persian Language Club (S0.2) Minecraft Club (C2.2) Geography Society Club (B1.4) Book Club (6th Form Led D0.7) Year 11 Sports Sports Hall Fitness Club (Fitness Suite)	Maths Club (A2.1) Well-Being All Years (T0.12) A Moment for Jesus (D0.2) Spanish Cinema Club (A3.3) KS3 Reading Club (E0.4) Uno Club (B1.3) Anime Club (A1.2) Film Club (KS4-5) (D0.5) Art Club (T1.3) Year 10 Sports Fitness Club (Fitness Suite)	Maths Club (A2.1) Well-Being All Years (T0.12) A Moment for Jesus (D0.2) Band Club (E0.1) KS3 Drama Club (E0.4) Chess Club (S0.4) Girls only Cricket (Sports Hall) Girls only Fitness (Fitness Suite) Girls only Sports	Maths Club (A2.1) Well-Being All Years (T0.12) Christian Union (D0.2) Spanish Cinema Club (A3.1) Women's Society (D0.7) Live Lounge (E0.6) Year 7 - 9 Sports Fitness Club (Fitness Suite)	Well-Being All Years (T0.12) History Society (B1.3) Fitness Club (Fitness Suite) Year 7 Sports Band Club (E0.6) A Moment for Jesus (D0.2) Computing Club (D0 F1 Club (S0.9) Magistrates Club (D0.5)
PM	KS3 Evening Sudy - 3:15 - 5:45 pm (Library) Table Tennis Club (Dance Studio) Boys & Girls Basketball (Year 7 - 9) Trampoline Club Year 7-9 Dance Studio)	KS3 Evening Sudy - (Library) Table Tennis Club (Dance Studio) Girls Football (Years 7-9) BDYC - Youth Club (E0.5) Debate Mate (E0.4)	KS3 Evening Sudy (Library) Table Tennis Club (Dance Studio) Mixed Cricket Club (Sports Hall)	Gospel Choir (E0.6) KS3 Evening Sudy - (Library) Chess Coaching (S0.3) Cooking Club (T0.11) Girls Social Sports Sports Hall Table Tennis Club (Dance Studio)	Chess Club (All Years S0.3) Table Tennis Club (Dance Studio)

Club Announcements.....

Club of the week goes to A Moment for Jesus, led by the RE department.