Bishop Douglass Catholic School Parent Newsletter

22nd May 2026

Introduction

As we approach the final stretch of the academic year, our Year 11 and Sixth Form students continue to demonstrate admirable commitment and determination in preparation for their examinations. We look forward to welcoming many of them back during the half-term break for revision sessions, timetables have been emailed to parents.

This is a pivotal period for all students undertaking GCSEs, BTECs, A Levels and internal assessments. Success at this stage is built not only on academic ability but also on resilience, consistency, perseverance and self-belief. By working together, school and home, we can provide the encouragement, structure and reassurance our young people need to thrive.

Examination season can understandably bring moments of pressure and anxiety. Your continued support at home, whether through establishing routines, offering encouragement or simply recognising the effort and progress your child is making, plays an invaluable role in helping them remain focused and confident.

We are also delighted to share that we greatly enjoyed attending Martin's Primary School Spanish Day on Tuesday, which was a wonderful celebration of language, culture and collaboration within our community.

Thank you, as always, for your continued partnership and support in helping us nurture ambitious, resilient, and successful young people. We wish all families a restful and enjoyable half-term break and look forward to welcoming students back at the normal time on Monday 1st June.

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

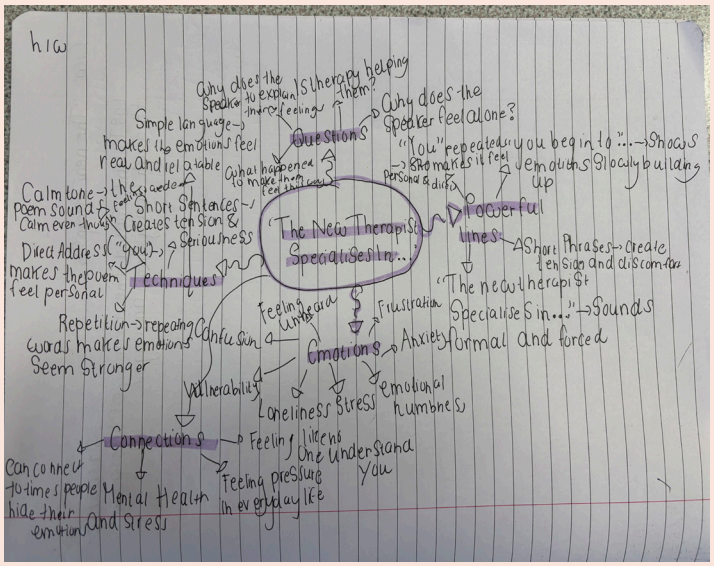
Our school safeguarding team is Ms Price, our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mrs Henderson our Headteacher. Our Child protection Officers are, Miss Lowdell, Mr Onwumere, Mrs Wilkhu and our Deputy Designated Safeguarding lead is Ms Motisi.
You can contact them via:

schooladmin@bishopdouglass.barnet.sch.uk

Announcements....

Poetry Maps

Some year 9's have been making poetry maps where they visually explore and explain what's happening in a poem. We've been looking at a poem based on Mental Health - really relevant in light of Mental Health Week earlier this month. Their map branches focus on powerful lines, emotions, techniques, questions and wider connections.



Hospitality Workshop

Year 9 and 10 students with an interest in Hospitality and Catering recently took part in an exciting plating workshop. During the session, students made smoky bean burritos completely from scratch, using a variety of spices and sauces to develop flavour.

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.

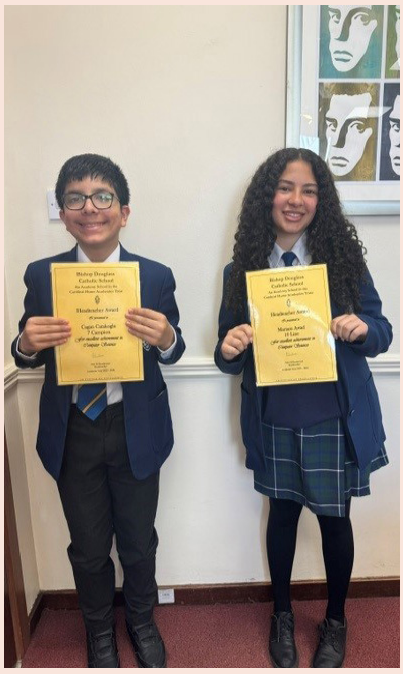
Your child might be able to receive Free School Meals if you get any of the following.

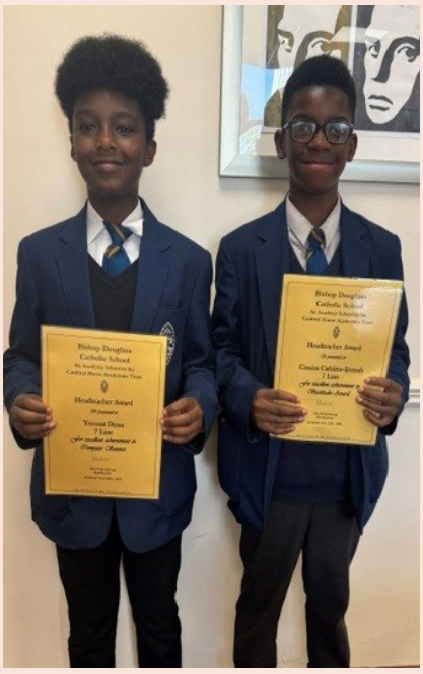
Income Support
Income-Based Jobseeker's Allowance
Universal Credit
Child Tax Credit
Working Tax Credit Run-On
Support under Part VI of the immigration and Asylum Act 1999

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 students Yerosat in 7L, Cagan in 7L, Mariam in 10L were awarded the Headteachers Award for excellent achievement in Computer Science. And a mention for Cassius in 7L for a Beatitudes award. They all received a certificate and a box of chocolates.





Career of the Week

Armed Forces

Information

If you'd like an exhilarating career, consider joining the Army, Royal Air Force or Royal Navy - a range of graduates are welcomed, including engineers, nurses and musicians.
If you're a graduate you're most likely to enter the Army as an officer. This is the equivalent of a leadership or managerial position, although you can still sign up as a regular soldier if you prefer. However, a degree isn't essential - see what's available for your level of education by checking your entry options. Whether or not you're a graduate, to join as an officer you'll need to apply online and attend an interview with a local recruiter.
Following an offer of employment you'll go on a pre-commissioning course before starting a 44-week course at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst (RMAS). Once you've joined the Army there are lots of opportunities for professional development and career progression through the clearly defined ranking structure.

Starting Salary: £18,000
Expected Salary:
Up to £55,000

More information
Speak to Ms Temel

This week...

WORD OF THE DAY

Monday
Drudgery - (Noun) – Hard, boring work.

Tuesday
Scowl - (Verb and Noun) – To look at someone or something with a very annoyed expression.

Wednesday
Polemical - (Adjective) – (of a piece of writing or a speech) strongly attacking or defending a particular opinion, person, idea or set of beliefs.

Thursday
nonchalant - (Adjective) – Behaving in a calm manner, often in a way that suggests you are not interested or do not care.

Friday
Drape - (Verb) – Drape something across, on, over something. Or, the way in which cloth folds or hangs as it covers something.

Virtue of the Week: Ambition

This week's Gospel is focused on the value of ambition. Jesus shows that true ambition is about fulfilling our purpose and using our gifts to serve others. He is determined to complete the mission God gave Him, reminding us to work hard, strive to be our best, and support those around us. As a Catholic community, ambition is not just about personal success, but about growing in faith, respect, and unity with others.

Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus Christ
May I be inspired to spread your Gospel message through my words and actions. May I do so joyfully, with your help, your guidance, and your grace! And, in remembering this glorious event, help me to seek what is above, Heaven, where you are seated at the right hand of God the Father! 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 Creative Club. Thank you for Madam Santos for running this wonderful club.