Bishop Douglass Catholic School Parent Newsletter

8th May 2026

Introduction

As the summer examination season is now fully underway, I would like to thank parents and carers for your continued partnership and support during this important time. Your encouragement at home makes a tremendous difference to our young people as they prepare for and sit their examinations.

Please help your child by ensuring they arrive at school punctually each day and are fully equipped for their exams. On mornings when examinations are scheduled, students should be in school by 8:00am to ensure a calm and focused start to the day.

For students not sitting exams this year, we ask for your support in reminding them to show consideration and respect for those who are. Around the school site, signs will indicate when examinations are taking place, and we encourage all pupils to contribute to the calm and purposeful atmosphere that supports success.

We also strongly encourage students to continue attending after-school and Saturday intervention sessions. These provide invaluable opportunities for revision, guidance and confidence-building. In addition, our library remains open until 6:00pm each evening, offering students a quiet and supportive space to study. A free hot meal is available at 5:45pm for pupils who choose to remain on site to revise.

As we continue our journey together at Bishop Douglass, we are reminded that education is about far more than academic achievement alone. We are committed to nurturing the character, faith, resilience and aspirations of every child within our community.

At the heart of our school is our vision: to be the best we can be. We believe that every child possesses unique gifts and talents, and it is our mission to help them grow in confidence, ambition and faith so they may flourish both within and beyond the classroom.

Through our shared values, our pupils develop the skills, attitudes and compassion needed to thrive in school and in life. We strive to ensure that every child feels a deep sense of belonging, is inspired to aim high and is given opportunities that will help shape a bright, fulfilling and successful future.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership. We wish all of our students the very best during the examination period and hope you enjoy a restful and relaxing 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.abrnet.sch.uk

Announcements....

Peer Mentoring

last week in Peer Mentoring we were testing the relationships built with mentors and mentees with a team-building game.

Using only string tied to rubber bands (no hands and not allowed to touch the cups), students had to build towers with their cups, testing their communicative skills and trust in one another. It was such a lovely activity and the students really enjoyed this.

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 Tamas in 10C and De'Ja in 12L were both awarded the Headteachers Award for excellent achievement in Design Technology. They both received a certificate and a box of chocolates.

Career of the Week

Anthropologist

Information

Only a tiny proportion of graduates become anthropologists, as academics or researchers. Some choose careers that build directly on anthropology, including social policy and teaching, development/overseas agencies and work for non-governmental organisations (NGOs).

A high proportion of anthropology graduates work in the public and not-for-profit sectors, all branches of the Civil Service, local government, charities, central government bodies, universities, international organisations, such as the United Nations (UN), museums and voluntary organisations.

Anthropology graduates also pursue roles in: advertising conservation health and social work heritage management museums sales and marketing.

Starting salary: £20,000
Expected salary: Up to £56,000
More information Speak to Miss Temel

This week...

WORD OF THE DAY

Tuesday
Insipid - (Adjective) – Not having a strong taste or character, or having no interest or energy.

Wednesday
Concerted - (Adjective) – Planned or done together for a shared purpose.

Thursday
Panoply - (Noun) – An impressive, comprehensive, or magnificent array, display, or collection of items.

Friday
Despondent - (Adjective) – Unhappy and with no hope or enthusiasm.

Virtue of the Week: Resilience

Jesus teaches us that resilience is rooted in trust, persevering through uncertainty and allowing room for growth. As one of our school values, resilience means facing setbacks – exams, failures, friendship struggles, stress, disappointment and not giving up. This Gospel reminds us that resilience is built when we trust Christ as our guide, keep moving forward in faith, and believe that every challenge can become part of our growth.

Prayer

Dear Lord, Teach me to trust in you so that when the unexpected fear of life comes, I will expect peace in the midst of those worries, knowing that you are near, you hear my cries, and you are with me and for me.
Lord, bring peace and calm to the fears I am facing or may face in the future. Remind us all that you are with us and that you're the Way the Truth and the Life. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Upcoming Events

11th May
As/A Level Exams begin

12th May
Year 7 Parents' Evening

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

PSHE theme: Healthy Lifestyles, achieving balance

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 Cooking club.
Thank you to Madam Ringue and Roberts for running this wonderful club.