

STUART BATHURST CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

23 November 2020

#37



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our newsletter.

This week in our Churches, we should have been celebrating Christ the King Sunday. This is usually one of my favourite Sundays in normal times, as what we see are our smallest children parading back from their liturgy wearing crowns that they have created themselves.

The excerpt, below right, comes from the Gospel reading. The message we should take from it is as clear as day and links to the values and ethos of our school beautifully. Love one another; be kind to one another; help one another; serve one another. If we do this then no one should be left wanting, and in these difficult times this is not necessarily always about the material things in life.

As we wait to hear what tier we will be in when released from lockdown, I ask you to think of someone who may be less fortunate than yourselves, lonelier than yourselves and reach out to them. Even if it's just a phone call to check on them. The smallest things can mean a lot.

Once again, I have had to be in contact with you on a number of occasions this week clarifying timetables and plans to keep as many of your children in school for as long as possible. This week has been particularly difficult as the number of staff identified as close contacts of positive cases has escalated rapidly - reflecting the increased number of cases in the local area. We look forward to welcoming our colleagues back and hopefully we will have a full school on Thursday and Friday.

This week, teachers have delivered live lessons on Teams wherever possible. We hope that this has meant that our students have not been disadvantaged by being at home.

We will continue to evaluate and improve this provision, filling any gaps in students learning whilst they are in school.

We received a visit from Josie Leese who is our School Improvement Partner in Sandwell LA. We discussed the provision we offer not only in delivering these lessons but also our support to you as parents in letting you know when your children are not attending online lessons. I am pleased to say that Josie was extremely impressed and told us that we are very much advanced in what we offer. In fact, so much so that they have asked for us to advise other schools in the planning and delivery of remote learning in Sandwell. Congratulations to Miss Raindi, Mrs Bates and all staff involved in putting the school at the forefront in Sandwell in this crucial area. Also, many thanks to you for supporting us in this.

I promised you a newsletter this week focussing on how you can support remote learning and I must apologise that this hasn't been the case. This one is pretty special though (thank you Mr Pepper)! I think I was a little ambitious given the current levels of staffing in my promise, we are working as hard as we can on it and will get it out as soon as we can.

This week we will launch our Virtual Open Day for Sixth Form. We are looking forward to receiving applications from our current Year 11 but will also welcome applications from external students. Please spread the word about our school and the special place it is. We have come such a long way and so quickly. Reading and listening to the student testimonials about our school and the support they received and are receiving was a fantastic boost.

Have a safe and healthy week.

God bless,
Mrs Morris

Truly I tell you, whatever you did
for one of the least of these...



...you did for me.

Matthew 25:40

YEAR 11

Mr M Connolly m.connolly@stuart-bathurst.org.uk
Miss J Meacham julie.meacham@stuart-bathurst.org.uk

This week's message is all about online lessons that took place between 9th and 16th November.

Well done to Year 11 who made the transition to our virtual school without any major issues. It is reassuring that in these challenging times, students can still access their learning and make progress. The Virtual School saw many outstanding lessons with the vast majority of the Year group dialing in from home. It was pleasing to see the level of interaction between students and teachers. Thank you to all parents and carers for your support.

Finally, on Wednesday 18th November, Year 11 sat their GCSE Statistics exam. Following the unfortunate circumstances that resulted in students being unable to sit the first paper on the 12th

November, the exam's importance was heightened and I am pleased to report that student's conduct was exemplary. We await the results eagerly.

Following the success of the Virtual Parents' Evening we have decided to offer a bi-weekly 'Parental Support session' during which you can book a slot to discuss any concerns/ gain an update on your child's progress.

The first of these sessions will be Monday 23rd November 7-8pm. Invites have been sent out via text messages.

As always please do not hesitate to contact myself or Miss Meacham on the addresses above.

Y11 PARENTAL SUPPORT SESSION

23 NOV, 7-8pm
On Schoolcomms



CURRICULUM EVENING

10 DEC



WELCOME TO SIXTH FORM

Virtual Open Day

DO YOU WANT TO JOIN OUR SIXTH FORM?

On Monday, we launch our Virtual Open Day for prospective Sixth Form students. There will be lots of information available on a special page of our website. Check it out **[HERE](#)**

YEAR 10

Mr T Smith t.smith@stuart-bathurst.org.uk
Miss J Meacham julie.meacham@stuart-bathurst.org.uk

It has been a difficult week this week, with bubble closures and disruption to the “new normal” that the year group have gotten used to. However, they have really stepped and been fantastic during their online lessons.

I see lots of emails that the students send to teachers so that they can check their knowledge and understanding. I am fully aware that this happens across the year group, but a special mention is well deserved for Mr Holder’s maths class, who show an excellent work ethic!

I often speak of how inspiring I find the year group and this has been reaffirmed this week. The Christmas Hamper donations have started flooding in, with Ava Clark and Sarah Perry walking in to school struggling to carry their bags, due to the number of items that they have brought in. As a school we are extremely grateful, and we thank all of the students and parents who have, and will continue to donate.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the support that

you give Miss Meacham and myself. Following on from the last newsletter, I am delighted that piercings across the year group are now sorted and students are following the correct school rules. Some students have questioned why we enforce this, but our job as a pastoral team is to ensure that the children can follow basic rules as they progress towards adulthood.

Keep up the good work Year 10 and continue to Do and Be of Your Best.

YEAR 9

Mr P Begley p.begley@stuart-bathurst.org.uk
Mrs W Booker wendy.booker@stuart-bathurst.org.uk

Year 9 have had a really positive start to the new half-term and have got back into the routines of school life which is so good to see. For a lot of this half-term, we have been the only full year group in school, which has placed some pressure on us to deliver on a daily basis and to do and be of our best. It has been excellent to see the majority of the year group show us off in a positive light and embody the spirit which we want to promote to ‘Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.’

Year 9 were very privileged to be the only Year group in school on Friday and thus receive a chocolate bar from Mrs. Morris which went down a treat for a Friday! One of the benefits of moving to online

learning, is being able to see many of the fantastic lessons that are going on within the year group at the moment. Over the last week, I have seen some excellent work in Mathematics with students working really hard on ratio, some mind-blowing conversations in Science to do with plants and cells and the introduction to Shakespeare in English.

It really astounds me how you can move seamlessly from one subject to the next and still attend with the same dedication and enthusiasm.

90 delivered a brilliant assembly to the year group last week, and this week we have 9W and Mr. Glover delivering an Anti-Bullying assembly. Anti-Bullying gives us an opportunity to reflect on the way that we interact with each other and to develop our sense of empathy towards each other. The theme of the week is ‘United Against Bullying’ and the theme resonates with us as a year group.

As we move into the Winter months it is important that we are dressed appropriately for school. You should wear a coat to school but will not be allowed to wear hoodies when in school. Likewise, you should wear tracksuit bottoms when you are coming to school for P.E.

YEAR 8

Miss E Adams e.adams@stuart-bathurst.org.uk
Mrs W Booker wendy.booker@stuart-bathurst.org.uk

Throughout the self-isolation period, some of the Year 8 team have had the pleasure of attending online lessons. Even through these unprecedented times, it has been brilliant to see so many Year 8s attending and engaging in their lessons. Please ensure that this effort continues and that all students ensure that they are in their lessons on time and ready to learn.

If there are any issues with accessing online lessons, please do contact a member of the Year 8 team for support. During our assembly slot, we have discussed the importance of accessing

GCSE Pod and creating accounts. Many subject areas will be using this platform to support student learning. House points and competitions will be in place to recognise those who are accessing the most pods; even more reason to be logging on soon. Any issues with this, please ensure that you contact a member of the Year 8 team to support.

Two other platforms that have been discussed in our Year 8 assembly slot is Lexia and Hegarty Maths. Both platforms have been scheduled to be accessed during the self-isolation period and again this is to support

student learning away from the classroom setting. Please ensure that all students follow the timetable:

Wednesday – Lexia

Thursday – Hegarty Maths

Friday – Lexia

On behalf of all of the Year 8 team, we would like to again congratulate those students who have been working so hard on their online lessons.

Stay safe, and we all look forward to seeing you soon.

YEAR 7

Mrs C Pepper
Mrs J Bayley

cath.pepper@stuart-bathurst.org.uk
jane.bayley@stuart-bathurst.org.uk

Year 7 have made us very proud this week with their engagement in online learning. We have had the opportunity to watch the students' engagement in many lessons and shared some very special times together in prayer.

Last week, in our form time, we created prayers of remembrance and when we return together, these will be made into displays for our classrooms. Mrs Bayley, Mr Harper and I have enjoyed being in lessons and seeing the wonderful answers and contribution of our Year 7s. I was particularly pleased with the performances of a number of students in their Drama assessment. Aaron, Victor and Summer, to name but a few.

Our focus this week has been Anti Bullying. We are united as a year group to stamp out bullying, and to stand together. We shared some time listening to the lyrics of a song from the musical, Dear Evan Hansen by Ben Platt, Laura Dreyfuss.

"Even when the dark comes
crashing through
When you need a friend to carry you
And when you're broken on the ground
You will be found
So let the sun come streaming in
'Cause you'll reach up and
you'll rise again
Lift your head and look around
You will be found".

Things to remember for next week:

Please ensure the students have a warm winter coat with them and they have a face mask and water bottle with them everyday.

The nasal Flu Vaccination will be taking place for Year 7 next week on Tuesday 24th November 2020. It is essential that all pupils bring back their permission forms on Monday 23rd November 2020.

CLASS CHARTS

TOP 3 LISTS



	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11
THIS WEEK	HAMZAH ISLAM SUMMER POWELL ROHAIL ANTAO	MACKENZIE-LEIGH ADAMS MARY LOVE RIMSHA YAQUB	ARAFAT SULTAN VENUS KWARTENG TAKIRA KELDO	JONATHAN NALUTAMIO KAREENA DEO TYLER RICKARDS	LIBBY MCCART JODIE SMITH SIMRANJEET SINGH
SINCE SEPT	NATALIE SATIMBURWA ROHAIL ANTAO SKYE ELLIS CALCOTT	SASHA DAVIES CONNOR HUNTER FRANCES DOHERTY	ARAFAT SULTAN VENUS KWARTENG OLIVIA MOORE	GURSEWAK SINGH KAREENA DEO LIBBY VIPOND	KIERA BULL ALYANA FERNANDEZ LEAH DAWKINS

Mental Health and Well-being

A lot of people are finding things tricky at the moment, and recognising that these are difficult times for everyone can ease anxieties surrounding this situation. You can help yourself by trying to:

Connect - physically to someone, not just a text, talk with family, see friends
Be active - try something new, walk, run around and keep well

Learn - learn a new skill or hobby, teach yourself something new or rediscover old interests
Take notice - be curious, look around you, listen rest and be aware of what you eat
Give - do something nice for a friend or family member. Thank someone and look out for others.

If you feel you need some greater help, below are some helpful websites:

Headspace
<https://www.headspace.com/covid-19>
Kooth
<https://www.kooth.com/>

Pause
<https://www.forwardthinkingbirmingham.org.uk/services/13-pause>
Silvercloud
(online 24/7 support)
<https://ftb.silvercloudhealth.com/signup/>
Childline
<https://www.childline.org.uk>
Doodle a day
<https://aw153572.aweberpages.com/p/216b1eb0-32a4-4a39-8731-ad6b81eced8b?fbclid=IwAR2zQpwxmKggOgBdKxvJl4mPiJWHOCV1LtG5MM7kqKwr9M2eSpnHM7Smu5k>
RSVP
https://rsvporg.co.uk/resource/s/?fbclid=IwAR3xl6d_8wzTi-9-fTBMCavns2OdYMvotfVM8JAVmctG_

UCAS Applications

Our Year 13 students are all busy writing their UCAS applications at the moment and uploading them onto Unifrog.

Those students wishing to attend Oxbridge Universities (Oxford and Cambridge) have already been sent off as have those who are looking to study medicine and dentistry.

Any students who have still not entered a draft to Mrs Jordan or Mr Barrett, need to make sure you do so by the end of the week as time is quickly running out.

We wish all of our students the best of luck with this process.

Pathways Success

I am pleased to let you know that Megan Preece, Bethany Bateman and Aadam Motara have all gained a place on Reading Scholars Programme. This is an exceptional opportunity and we wish our students all the best of luck in this and all of their endeavours.

We work to ensure that our students are presented with the best opportunities available to them. Year 11 students should ensure that they keep a track of what opportunities are available, ready for them to take advantage of these opportunities next year. Year 12 and 13, see Mr Barrett's weekly updates for more information or speak to Mr Barrett or Mrs Jordan.

GENERAL SIXTH FORM NOTICES

Study Time

Can I remind our Sixth Formers that when they are not in lessons they should be using their free time wisely, ensuring they are engaging with their studies.

REMEMBER: You should be completing the same amount of study at school and at home for each subject you take!

Code of Dress

Could students please remind themselves of our Sixth Form dress code. It is part of the Sixth Form Handbook and also appears below.

Mr J Barrett

Head of Sixth Form

SIXTH FORM VIRTUAL OPEN DAY

LAUNCHING ON MON 23 NOV - DETAILS ON OUR WEBSITE

DRESS CODE

The dress code is about appearance and attitude. You are expected to dress in accord with a place of work. All Sixth Form students are required to wear a suit and adhere to the following:

Unsuitable Clothing

- Jeans or denim style clothing or tracksuits/ leggings or leggings type wear.
- Shorts / ¾ length trousers for male students or shorts above the knee for female students.
- T-shirts, sports tops or writing on tops (a small sized logo is acceptable but not preferred).
- Trainers or hybrid trainers/ canvas shoes/ casual shoes/ flip flops.
- Outdoor hats, hoods or jackets should not be worn inside the building.
- Skirts MUST be close to knee length. Short skirts are not allowed.

Suitable Clothing

- Fully buttoned shirts for males and plain tops for females.
- Sixth Form Tie (gentlemen).
- Black, or dark coloured, trousers, suits, skirts.
- Shoes, sandals, boots.
- Dance/Sports students must bring kit with them, not to be worn all day around school.

Mobile Phones

Sixth Form may use mobile phones only in the sixth form area, outside of scheduled lessons. They must not be used whilst walking around the school building or grounds. In order to set an example to younger students, it is vital that this is adhered to. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary consequences.



SIXTH FORM SUCCESS

Enjoy the challenges, be positive and make a commitment to your study. The rewards will be great!

Success requires you do take an active part in your own learning. Tutors and subject tutors will support you and give you feedback on the progress you are making. Remember to talk through ideas and plan your time effectively.

Organise Your Time

Naturally, you want to make the most of your opportunities whilst in the Sixth Form. Using your time effectively will help you concentrate on your goals and realise your expectations.

Personal Action Plan

You need to translate long-term goals and expectations into everyday activities, and so produce your personal action plan. Use schedules to map out your action plan.

Annual Schedule:

An annual schedule will provide an overall framework in which to work.

Weekly Schedule:

A weekly schedule will identify your regular commitments and the time left to undertake remaining activities.

Daily Schedule:

A daily schedule will help you to plan and re-plan effectively.

Consider the length of time available; the priorities of work to be done; the type of work to be undertaken; and the amount of consecutive time each task requires.

Planning & Preparation

- Draw up a weekly schedule of fixed activities.
- Try to complete at least one major task each day.
- Concentrate on the most important work.
- Undertake important and difficult tasks when you are at your best.
- Set time limits for tasks and stick to them.
- Begin as early as possible.
- Split work into small units so you can see your progress.
- Prepare for work by having all you need at hand.
- Work in an environment in which you feel comfortable.
- Do things well.
- Avoid interrupting yourself.
- Jot down a suddenly remembered job or idea for later attention.

"AM I MAKING THE BEST USE OF MY TIME?"

Celebrating Our Catholic Pupil Profile

As a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Birmingham, we have welcomed the pupil profile and in doing so we aim to embrace and celebrate the pairs of virtues which we endeavour to embed within our character and in all that we do as we strive to 'do and be of our best'.

These virtues allow us to grow and develop in character and will help us become the people God has made us to be. Each half term we focus on a pair of virtues and aim to reflect them in our daily lives.

Pupil Profile

Pupils in our Catholic school are growing to be . . .

Grateful for their own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for the blessings of each day; and **generous** with their gifts, becoming men and women for others.

Attentive to their experience and to their vocation; and **discerning** about the choices they make and the effects of those choices.

Compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and **loving** by their just actions and forgiving words.

Faith-filled in their beliefs and **hopeful** for the future.

Eloquent and **truthful** in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the world.

Learned, finding God in all things; and **wise** in the ways they use their learning for the common good.

Curious about everything; and **active** in their engagement with the world, changing what they can for the better.

Intentional in the way they live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience; and **prophetic** in the example they set to others.



This half term we are focusing on being Intentional and Prophetic.

An intentional person is someone who lives deliberately; someone who builds up their own worldview and then tries to live by it. To live intentionally is to march to the beat of a different drummer.

The busyness of life can sometimes feel overwhelming. It is no different for young people: demands made by schoolwork and examinations, the many activities to which their parents ferry them, peer pressure and social media, and just growing up and finding their place in an increasingly complex and fractured world. Of course, there is excitement and often fulfilment in all this. But the pressure to conform and go along with what everyone else thinks and says and does is immense. The effect is to lose control – a feeling that this whirl of activity is not allowing 'me to be me'.

Living intentionally is not about stepping away from the world but is rather about trying to achieve a balance where you know what is important for you and what you want to spend your time and energies doing. Living intentionally can only happen if one is attentive to one's experience, noticing the influences which drive us along and discerning which are good and which not so good, guided by conscience. It means living ethically, with a set of values.

Jesus Christ was a person who lived intentionally and is a model of a good human life. His words, actions and example reflect his values. Intentional living is about the choices I make and the ethical code I live by.

But this can have a positive impact on others if I share it. Being prophetic is about being seen to do good and about speaking out for what is right. Good news is only good news if it is announced. Being prophetic isn't about telling the future; it is about living out God's future for me today.

However much the values of the world, the assumptions and prejudices of those around us, seem to be unassailable, Christ calls us in a different direction to a life characterized by compassion, faith, hope and, above all, love.

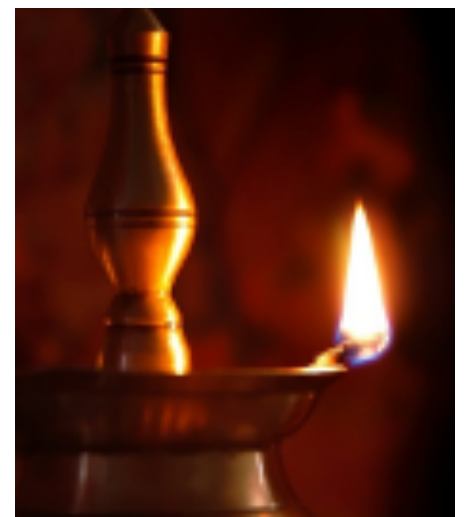
Trying to live in an intentional and prophetic way is what ultimately makes us human.

Try to spend the next four weeks thinking about how you can live out these virtues and be Intentional and Prophetic in all you do – at school and at home. Jesus' message about being a light for others is a good reminder of how we can do this.

Light on the Lampstand

Matthew 5:1-2, 14a-16

Jesus saw the crowds and went up a hill, where he sat down. His disciples gathered around him, and he began to teach them: "You are like light for the whole world. No one lights a lamp and puts it under a bowl; instead it is put on the lampstand, where it gives light for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven."



REMEMBRANCE DAY ACTIVITIES

On Remembrance day our students observed a 2 minutes' silence at 11am. All students took part - even if they were studying online from home. Form time allowed the opportunity to reflect further and investigate the traditions of remembrance.



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2020

UNITED AGAINST BULLYING

During this week we have championed anti-bullying in all year groups.

The form-time quiz was based on bullying and cyber-bullying.

Form time British Values debate:

"Should we always speak up if someone is being bullied?"

PSHE focused lesson: Cyber-bullying

Anti-bullying assemblies across all year groups.



12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS - HAMPER APPEAL

Please give your items to your form tutor, Head of Year, or Student Welfare Officer at line-up

DAY 1:
Mince Pies

DAY 2:
Christmas Pudding

DAY 3:
Christmas Crackers

DAY 4:
Selection Boxes

DAY 5:
Chocolate/Sweets

DAY 6:
Rice/Pasta

DAY 7:
Savoury Biscuits/Crackers

DAY 8:
Soft Drinks

DAY 9:
Tinned Fruit/Veg

DAY 10:
Crisps

DAY 11:
Long-Life Milk

DAY 12:
Cakes

CHILD AND YOUNG PEOPLE ONLINE SAFETY AWARENESS FOR PARENTS

People are using technology and online spaces more than ever before – especially since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. The internet is a fantastic source of information and a great way to keep in touch with others, but it also comes with risks – especially for children and young people.

To book, please go to <https://www.sandwell.gov.uk/OnlineSafetyEvent>. Please feel free to email Mr Willett for further information: mark.willett@stuart-bathurst.org.uk

The 30-minute session will cover:

- Concerns to look out for
- Online issues for children (from the NSPCC) and statistics
- Key information on popular apps and social media platforms (including age limits)
- Useful tips, advice and links to keep your child safe online
- Information and support
- Additional resources

FREE 45 - minute Child Online Safety for Parents & Prevent Webinar

Wednesday 25 November 5.30 - 6.15pm

Thursday 26 November 9.30 - 10.15am

Thursday 26 November 6.00 - 6.45pm



"THE LIMIT OF MY LANGUAGE IS THE LIMIT OF MY WORLD"
— LUDWIG WITTGENSTEIN



VOCABULARY FOCUS Authoritarian

Adjective – a system that favours strict obedience to rules and authority at the expense of freedom

SYNONYMS

Totalitarian
Dictatorial
Oppressive
Draconian
Autocratic



ANTONYMS

Democratic
Liberal
Lenient
Free
Flexible



MORPHOLOGY (WORD PARTS) ETYMOLOGY (WORD ROOTS)

Word origin: The word *author* comes from an ancient Latin word meaning "master," "teacher," or "leader."

-ian (suffix)
Related to or like e.g.
related to authority

WORD FAMILIES: SIMILAR WORDS TO HELP WITH MEANING

Authority
Noun – the power or right to give orders, make decisions and set rules.

Authoritative
Adjective – to be commanding and self confident.

		ANSWER	CODE
A	484	12 + 9	
B	9 924	47 + 128	
C	60		
D	4	89 - 45	
E	32	573 - 89	
F	44	One million in numbers	
G	96	8 x 23	
H	1 000	12 x 15	
I	2171	Degrees in a full turn	
J	6	167 x 13	
K	9 024	450 ÷ 5	
L	16	128 ÷ 4	
M	21		
N	10 000	10 ²	
O	184	720 ÷ 4	
P	8	10,000 - 76	
Q	41	¼ of 24	
R	360	2 ³	
S	100	50% of 120	
T	90	Degrees in a right angle	
U	180		
V	1 000 000		
W	1	220 ÷ 5	
X	20	11 ² x 4	
Y	175	75% of 80	
Z	30	2 x 5 x 3 x 3	

MATHS CIPHER CHALLENGE

As some of us are undertaking the national cipher challenge at the moment, I wanted to give you all the chance to have a go at some codebreaking.

Use the code to complete the sentence, "Maths is..."

If you manage to crack this, email me at numeracy@stuart-bathurst.org.uk –

All correct submissions by Friday 27th November at 9am will be entered into a hat to win a copy of the Bletchley Park Brainteasers book.

Mr Glover
Numeracy
Coordinator



ATTENDANCE PRIZE DRAW

If you achieve 100% attendance for the last week of term (starting Monday 14 December) and, have achieved 100% for the whole term, you will be automatically entered to win vouchers and other Christmas treats!



Pope Francis
@Pontifex

Every child needs to be welcomed and defended, helped and protected, from the moment of their conception.

[#WorldChildrensDay](#)

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