

STUART BATHURST

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

NEWS



He is
Risen!

Headteacher's Welcome

It is with great hope that I write to you at what is for us as Catholics the most holy season in our Liturgical Calendar. As a child I was always treated to a brand new outfit for Easter Sunday Mass, usually a summer dress which was worn whether it was snowing or the sun was shining. The newness of the clothes and the symbolism of Easter that we see everywhere in the form of Easter Eggs, lambs and chicks signify newness, rebirth and for us the start of a journey rather than the end. It is with this in mind that I reflect back on my first six weeks at Stuart Bathurst.

The first thing I must remark on is the strength of welcome I have felt, from pupils, parents and staff. We have as a community started the work to move us back towards being a "Good School". There is so much to be celebrated in our school but there is a lot to be done in order to achieve the very best education and outcomes for your child. The changes need to be rapid, far reaching and have quick impact to ensure this.

I have met with Governors and have agreed an initial plan to start moving the school forward. I will share these plans with you in detail as parents on a weekly basis through a weekly newsletter. There will be changes to the uniform, the school day, the curriculum and the way that we as a school deal with behaviour that doesn't meet our standards and also how we will reward behaviour which does, we will celebrate success!

We have embarked on a recruitment programme to secure good teachers for your children and lessen the number of cover lessons and I am pleased to say that this has been very successful to date. In addition there is a scheme of work being drawn up to improve the learning environment across the school over the coming Easter holiday and throughout the summer holidays.

In conclusion I would like to say that I have always felt that being a teacher is a privilege. You as parents hand your children to us to look after and nurture. As Headteacher I take my role very seriously and I will work tirelessly to make sure that our pupils are given every opportunity "to do and be of their best"

Wishing you and your families a very happy and Holy Easter.

God Bless,

Mrs Morris



**CONTACT US
OR FOLLOW US
ONLINE FOR MORE
INFORMATION**



0121 556 1488



admin@stuart-bathurst.org.uk



www.stuart-bathurst.org.uk



[stuartbathurst](https://twitter.com/stuartbathurst)

Easter Liturgy - Born For This

Catholic Life—Born For This 2019

This Easter sees our young people work in collaboration to create a fresh interpretation of the much loved and acclaimed production Born For This – a performance which tells the story of the Passion through the beauty of song and dance. Mrs Pepper and our student Chaplaincy Team, are working with students across the school community to produce a reflective and thought provoking piece of drama which will be shared with the whole community as part of our Easter liturgies in preparation for the holiest time of our Church Year.

Jesus Has Risen.

May you and your family be blessed as you celebrate the true meaning of Easter, from the reflection of Good Friday to the joy of Easter Sunday and the promise of eternal life.

Best wishes to you this Easter.

May your life be blessed with joy and prosperity.

Happy Easter!

Flame Congress 2019

Here at Stuart Bathurst we have much to celebrate and this term we are extremely proud to share with you news that students from our school were chosen to perform at the FLAME Congress on the 2nd March 2019 at Wembley

Arena. Flame Congress 2019 is run by the Catholic Youth Ministry Federation (CYMFed) and seeks to help shape and support Catholic Youth Ministry in England & Wales. The theme for our day is 'Significance'. Significance is defined as "worthy of attention," "with meaning," "important."

In terms of Scripture, it is a word which resonates deeply with God's words from heaven at the Baptism of Jesus, and the Transfiguration, "You are my Beloved".

Flame2019 offered a fresh depth of perspective for young people, centred in their creation in the image and likeness of God. The performance was a mime based on the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. We are immensely proud of our students who have given of their time and commitment to participate in this event.



The Catholic School's Pupil Profile...

is a simple but challenging statement of the Virtues we seek to develop in our students. The profile uses key words which unfold in living and learning for the greater glory of God and the common good.



Our commitment to developing our young people to display and embody virtues in all that they do continues and this term our focus for values is to become 'learned and wise'. Please do take time to share this prayer at home and celebrate how these values can become part of our every day life.

*O God,
the true father of all,
together may we follow
the example of Stuart Bathurst:
to LEARN to find God in all things;
and be WISE in using our knowledge
for the common good;
so that we may employ
our knowledge and our learning
to benefit others and recognise
the whole of the human race as one.
Amen.*



“

The new room has been very helpful as it's warm and spacious

Davina, Year 13.

The nice quiet environment encourages us to study which is really helpful

Rayhaan, Year 12.

The new room is a really nice environment to work in and allows me to actually get work done

Megan Hill, Year 13.

”



Theatre Refurbishment and New Dining Room

This half term has seen the tired-looking theatre have a new lease of life. It has been fully redecorated and now looks modern and fresh. The walls have been brightened up with inspirational quotes from famous saints, most notably Catherine of Sienna who reminds our students to “Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire”. A new dining space has been created to allow the students somewhere warm to eat and is used by the sixth form as an additional study space. This new area is equipped with televisions broadcasting BBC news and sport and the project has been well received by students and staff.

Over the Easter break, the original school canteen will have new flooring and further improvement works will continue into the summer term. We hope this will have a positive impact on all and look forward to showing off the school's new look.

Safeguarding Update

Stuart Bathurst is pleased to be working in conjunction with West Midlands Police to promote the safety and welfare of our students.

New banners have been placed outside the school to encourage appropriate behaviour from members of the community passing by.



GCSEPOD

School-wide success with online revision resources.



The latter part of the Spring Term has seen the explosive launch of GCSEPod at Stuart Bathurst Catholic High School with Key Stage 4 students storming the regional league tables and taking us to 2nd place out of over 100 schools through their 'podding.' For those unfamiliar with the software, GCSEPod is an online programme that provides access to short video clips or 'pods' linked to their learning in a range of subjects. Students can watch the pods to support with their revision of in-class work, help them complete their homework and complete booster questions to consolidate their work too. The software has proved to be a great success with a phenomenal 12,000 pods streamed in less than a month!

A competitive streak amongst our students and staff has also been unravelled as subject areas compete to be top 'podding' departments. Currently, the superb Science team hold the title of the highest podding department, with English coming a close second.

Tutor groups are also competing to be the best forms and the table below highlights the current ranking of KS4 tutor groups.

| | | | | | |
|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| 9I | 138 | 10I | 452 | 11M | 1565 |
| 9D | 130 | 10W | 308 | 11I | 1396 |
| 9W | 94 | 10O | 223 | 11D | 1133 |
| 9M | 92 | 10S | 222 | 1W | 787 |
| 9O | 90 | 10M | 184 | 11O | 675 |
| 9S | 78 | 10D | 159 | 11S | 669 |

As we approach the Easter break, we will be launching the software with our KS3 students in Year 7 and Year 8 to encourage challenge and independent learning. We strongly recommend that your son/daughter utilises GCSEPod to support with their revision and holiday work. Please encourage them to stream pods every day and boost their chances of success at GCSE.

Miss G Raindi
Assistant Headteacher-Teaching and Learning / GCSEPod Lead

Autism Awareness Week

1st – 7th April

A group of our students presented assemblies to all year groups last week to raise awareness and acceptance of Autism. The students talked about what kinds of difficulties people with Autism face in their daily lives and how people can support them around school and in the community. The assemblies have been the subject of many discussions between students and staff about Autism. The main message from the assembly is to Be Kind and Understanding. The assemblies are being followed up in tutor time with pledges from students to support Autism Awareness, as well as an Easter Egg raffle to raise money for the National Autistic Society. I would like to thank all students who delivered a fantastic presentation!

Mrs Cattell, SENCO.

SEN Coffee Morning

Friday 5th April

A group of students worked with Mrs McCallum and Miss Newell to organise and host another of the SEN Coffee Mornings. There was a beautiful choice of cakes baked by the Year 8 Nurture Group available for parents, students and staff to try and guests were welcomed in to the new canteen. It was a lovely opportunity for staff and parents to talk together. I would like to thank all staff who supported the Coffee Morning, in particular Mrs McCallum and Miss Newell for the organisation and baking, Miss Causer for making and donating the beautiful cake bouquet raffle prize and also Mrs Hawkins and Mrs Bayliss for their support. We look forward to seeing parents at the next SEN event in the Summer term. More details to follow!

Mrs Cattell, SENCO

Year Group News

Year 7

GCSE Pod has launched for Year 7. This award winning piece of software allows students to access over 1000 podcasts linked to their learning. The race is on to see who can be the best form in year 7!

Well done to 7S for an outstanding week on Classcharts.

7S- 690 positives
7M- 544
7I-495
7W- 434
7D-397
7O-254

Sporting Success! Y7 Netball Team

On Thursday 11th April our Year 7 netball team took part in the Sandwell Year 7 Netball Tournament at Oldbury Academy. The girls played against tough opponents during the group stages and finished in second place, which gave us a place in the semi finals where we played against George Salter. During this game is where our girls stepped it up a gear with a victory of 2-0, which took us to the final where we were up against Wood Green.

The girls battled hard throughout and at the full time whistle the game finished at 0-0, crowning our girls joint year 7 netball champions out of all the schools in Sandwell. Amazing achievement by all the girls and now we look forward to representing Sandwell in the school games.

Year 8

I just wanted to say a massive well done to the year group and thank you for making Mr Dawes and myself so comfortable in our new roles. We are proud to lead this year group forward and we are excited to watch you progress throughout the rest of the school year and into year 9!
Mr Smith.

Pupil of the half term:

Prabsimran Siran – Prabsimran has managed to amass 278 positive points on Class Charts, with 0 negatives! She always has all of her equipment, her uniform is always perfect and homework is always completed to a high standard. She is a role model to other students in the school and consistently works hard in every single subject. Prabsimran completes extension tasks in lessons independently and enjoys succeeding in every subject. She really is following the Year 8 motto: “Work Hard, Dream Big!”

Form group of the half term:

Congratulations to 8O on being the form group of the half term! They have managed to gain 5044 positive points between them, with a positive ratio of 94%. This is a fantastic achievement and you have set a very high standard for the year group. Keep up the good work!

A massive well done to:

- Ben Easterlow – 308 positive points
- Prabsimran Siran – 278 positive points
- Amie Atkins – 261 positive points
- Samuel Young – 255 positive points
- Zaynah Elbakkali – 255 positive points

Year 9

What a great term it has been for year 9! With GCSE studies now in full swing it has been brilliant to see so many of our students working hard.

On the 13th February, all of year 9 students were involved in a Catholic Values Day exploring ‘Democracy’. Students were involved in sessions which involved them gaining understanding of what democracy is and having talks from local MP’s where they represented the school impeccably. Later in that day, each form created their own manifesto based on ‘school life’ which they presented with all 6 forms and then all students voted for their favourite. A huge well done to 9W who won the Year 9 overall vote and another huge well done to all the amazing efforts from each form, excellent day.

On Monday 9th April, we had a number of students involved in our whole school Easter Liturgy. All students involved were a credit to our year group and the school, fantastic job. Special mentions to Alesha Pinnock and Anna Mullins who sang during the liturgy, amazing performance.

Throughout Year 9 so far the year group have gained an outstanding amount of positives, showing their brilliant efforts as they have moved into their GCSE studies, huge well done year 9. Special mentions must go to Chrissie Martin who is currently leading the way on with 1092 positives, Amelia Clark in second place on 941 positives and in third place Trevor McLaughlin on 924.

From the Year 9 team we wish you all a restful break and we look forward to the term ahead. Happy Easter.

Miss Adams & Mrs Newell
Year 9

Year 10

Year 10 have once again proven their kindness and charity. During the month of March they have been fundraising for Birmingham Children's Hospital. By selling pancakes, holding a cake sale and raffling prizes, they raised a total of £149. During the month of May they will be organising a whole range of other events to raise money for the Edwards Trust, a charity that supports bereaved families.

Attendance

Being in school every day is the first step to success. Well done to this week's top attenders!

| | | |
|-----|-----------|-------|
| 1st | 71 | 97.3% |
| 2nd | 80 | 96.7% |
| 3rd | 70 and 7D | 96.6% |
| 4th | 9I | 96.4% |
| 5th | 11M | 96.2% |

Year 11

Congratulations to our Year 11 students on their superb behaviour during the recent mock examinations. They will shortly receive their results from their core subject teachers.

Prom Money

A reminder to all Year 11 students that payment for the Prom should be bought into school as soon as possible.

Easter Revision Sessions

Please see the timetable below for the days and times that school will be open over the holidays for students to attend Easter Revision sessions:

| | Monday 15 th April | Tuesday 16 th April | Wednesday 17 th April | Thursday 18 th April | Friday 19 th April |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Leadership | YJ | | STh | STh/GR | |
| Doors Open | 8:55am – 9:15am | 8:55am – 9:15am | 8:55am – 9:15am | 8:55am – 9:15am | 8:55am – 9:15am |
| 9am – 12pm | RE (YJ, AV, MM) | | Option A Geography (HTI) | Maths (PS, RP, SHa, QM, STh) | |
| 12:30pm – 2:30pm | Option B Art (FW) DT (VH) Geography (HTI) Music (AP) | | | Option A History (SWa, GK) Computer Science (JBr) | |

| | | Tuesday 23 rd April | Wednesday 24 th April | Thursday 25 th April | Friday 26 th April |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Leadership | Bank holiday Monday | BM | | TW | |
| Doors Open | | 8:55am – 9:15am | 8:55am – 9:15am | 8:55am – 9:15am | 8:55am – 9:15am |
| 9am – 12pm | | English Literature (JBa, CK) | | Science (JBa, FH, HP) | |
| 12:30pm – 2:30pm | | English Language (JBa, CK) | | French (DA) Business (JBr) | |

6th Form

This term has seen much to celebrate with our Year 13s getting their final offers in from Universities, with students accepting offers to study courses from Medicine, Dentistry and nursing right through to Business, History and Theology.

Our year 12s have been equally busy and determined to secure exciting futures for themselves and we are glad to share that Rashida Akalwaya has spent this last week of term at a residential Mathematics course at Oxford University and our medical

students have been busy at Aston medical School working with their academic and professional mentors on voluntary work.

Stephanie Bradley and Leah Paterson were selected to join a young scholars programme at Reading University where they have enjoyed various days of mentoring and academic study.

Securing voluntary work is integral to the development of all students in Sixth Form and Hamnah Akmal and Umaymah Akhtar have given up

much time to work at a Soup Kitchen. Similarly, Rachel Patel and Samantha Colcol have been volunteering at Sandwell Hospital and charity shops to support the vulnerable and Sana Patel has spent time securing her understanding of what it means to be a dentist on placement at a dentist surgery.

We are very proud of the achievements, generosity and good will of our students and we look forward to the bright futures that lie ahead of them.
Mrs Jordan