

The Return of the Prodigal
by Grace Bomer
Christian abstract expressionist
mixed-media artist.

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our newsletter.

This week's Gospel reading contains the parable of the Prodigal Son. This a story which could well be translated into today's world and indeed into some of our own families.

The story tells of a father who welcomes back a son even though he has broken the rules; leaving home, taking his inheritance with him apparently never to return. However, once he has spent all the money the son returns home, sorry for what he has done. When he returns the father celebrates, much to the annoyance of his other son who has stayed and helped his father to tend to their flock and keep the family business running. The son who has remained cannot understand why the father is celebrating but the father responds "your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found".

We must take from this a very clear message that our own Father, will forgive us and welcome us back too if we become lost.

This week has been an exciting one. We have had a number of visitors to school. On Thursday our Year 7s had a retreat which was led by One Life Music. Year 11 pupils were also put to the test this week. As part of their GCSE English Language exam they have been asked to prepare for an interview for their chosen job. We have been lucky to secure a number of professionals to come in and assist their English teachers and a member of SLT in the interviews. I personally have been involved in a number of these and I must say that each one of them has been a privilege.

Our young people are amazing and I want to share with you the words of one of the professionals who wrote to me after his visit, "It was clear that your students have an honest, polite and genuine core to their character and you can be very proud of them - a testament to the hard work of your team".

Added to this we had the Head of another school come in to look at our behaviour systems and take back some ideas to his school.

I have had a number of enquiries from other schools who would also like to come and visit.

100% Compliance continues to improve our learning environment and also enables us to identify children who may need extra guidance or help with their behaviour. Many thanks to you for your continued support.

This week the school community is going to be putting some time into preparing for our Open Evening on the 24th September, commencing at 6pm.

We are looking forward to showing off our wonderful school to new and existing parents.

Please do let anyone who has a child in Years 5 or 6 know the date and that they will be more than welcome.

I'm going to sign off now and wish you a happy week.

God bless
Mrs Morris

YEAR 7

Year 7 have made an excellent start to their journey at Stuart Bathurst. Mrs Bayley and I are delighted to lead an excellent team of tutors to support Year 7. I would like to thank this team for helping Year 7 settle into their new environment.

I have been overwhelmed by the kindness and support Year 7 have shown to each other and I have witnessed many students being resilient, making new friends, and building relationships with new teachers. We had a wonderful Year 7 Welcome Mass to finish our induction and our school Chaplain, Fr Roger commented on how reverent and prayerful our celebration was. I was delighted to hear the beautiful singing

voices of our students as we shared a Retreat Day with Dan Callow and Emily Jordan from One Life Music.

The theme of our retreat was "I Belong" and working together this year we will remember that we are Children of God. We have people who care about us and we were born to live a significant life.

Mrs Pepper
Mrs Bayley

CLASS CHARTS

Top 3 students:

1. IZABELLE McGUIGAN
2. SASHA DAVIES
3. GERARD COMAHIG

YEAR 8

Welcome back! I hope that you had restful summer. The children have had lots of exciting stories to share about their adventures over the summer. Year 8 should be extremely proud of the start they have made to the new school year. The standards of uniform are high. They all look very smart in their new school ties, and the girls in their white shirts.

Punctuality to school has also improved immensely. Pupils have demonstrated a more mature and focused approach to their studies when settling down and applying themselves in lessons. Last week, 98% of the ClassChart points awarded to the year group were positive. All pupils have been given new login details for ClassCharts. It is important that pupils use this system as this is where homework will be recorded.

Pupils will shortly be issued with knowledge organisers. These will form the basis of the homework that pupils will be expected to complete. This week Miss Raindi delivered an assembly explaining to pupils how to use these to assist with their learning. Please ask your child to explain and share with you this information.

Looking ahead, Year 8 will be participating in a retreat day. I will share more information with you nearer the time. This will take place in school and is an opportunity for pupils to temporarily leave behind the usual distractions faced in a day and to allow pupils to examine and deepen their faith.

Mrs McCallum
Mrs Letford

CLASS CHARTS

Top 3 students:

1. TAKIRA KELDO
2. JAHEIM PHIPPS
3. KERWIN NKUSU

YEAR 9

It has been an excellent start back this academic year, with the year group moving seamlessly into Year 9. The standards of the year group have been very high, which I hope to see continuing throughout the academic year. The uniform of the year group has been a particular delight, with the new house ties looking extremely smart on the students. I have noticed a great improvement in the maturity levels across the vast majority of the year group and I am seeing students showing great enthusiasm towards their subjects. We have a number of new form tutors in the year group and the students have embraced the changes, acting respectfully and maturely.

I would also like to mention Sam Bromley for reading during the whole school Mass. It was something that he was nervous about beforehand but he read excellently.

As we now get into the swing of things, it is vital that this strong start to the year is maintained. This is a very important year, as students will be choosing their GCSE subjects, which will have a great impact on their education moving forwards. They need to soak up as much information as they can to help make these choices easier.

Well done on the start and keep it up Year 9!

Mr Smith
Miss Newell

CLASS CHARTS

Top 3 students:

1. DESTINI DAVIS-MITCHELL
2. IMAAD JEEWA
3. JACK JOYCE

YEAR 10

A huge welcome back to all year 10 students, we hope that you have all had a fantastic summer break. Year 10 provides another important and challenging year for you all and the staff at Stuart Bathurst are excited to support you on your personal and academic journeys. We hope that you are feeling refreshed and readily equipped for the rigors of GCSE provision.

Year 10 continue to set exemplary standards. Your uniform, equipment and attitude to learning have been outstanding so far this academic year. However, can I please remind you that students must be wearing leather school shoes, trainers and boots must not be worn. For any further information regarding the schools uniform policy please visit the school website.

Work experience (WEX) is an integral part of your development and will offer you the opportunity to gain valuable experience of a work environment. WEX will start on the week commencing 10/02/2020. Despite the fact this is several months away it is vital that applications for the work experience week are completed and returned to the pastoral office as soon as possible. All students should have received a work experience application this week.

Mock exams for year 10 will start week commencing 15/06/2020. This is an extremely important date for the diary and all students need to be fully prepared for the pressures of the exam season.

Miss Adams & Mrs Newell

CLASS CHARTS

Top 3 students:

1. LUKE OLIVER
2. ZAID MOLVI
3. RAHEEMA MOTARA

YEAR 11

Well done to Year 11 on their mature attitude and level of focus. I am very pleased with how the vast majority of students have begun this, the pinnacle year of their education! This diligent attitude was evident last Friday 6th September during which students received top tips from local employers on 'What Makes a Great Interview'. As I write, Year 11 are busily preparing for these mock interviews on jobs as varied as Museum Curator of Japanese Culture to Graphic Designer!

Thank you for your support with the changes to uniform, Year 11 look exceptionally smart and I am thrilled to see students wearing their new House ties with

pride.

All year 11 students have now received their login details for the ClassCharts system and will be using this in conjunction with their Knowledge Organiser folders to complete revision activities each evening. I will be writing to all Year 11 parents/carers next week about the after school support on offer this half term for all students.

As always if you have any questions or require support please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Mrs Booker.

Mr Connolly & Mrs Booker
m.connolly@stuart-bathurst.org.uk
wendy.booker@stuart-bathurst.org.uk

CLASS CHARTS

Top 3 students:

1. SHOROB AHMED
2. ZARA ALI
3. LEAH ARCHER

SIXTH FORM

Success! Success! Success! This Summer the Sixth Form achieved its best ever results and we wished our Year 13 2019 Leavers cohort a fond farewell and good luck as 80% of the year group continued on to university, taking up places at prestigious universities such as University of Birmingham and Warwick.

This September we were pleased to welcome a new Year 12 cohort into our community and with great energy and enthusiasm they enrolled in their Level 3 studies and began their year with a bang!

All of Year 12 attended an 'away' day at Blackwell Adventure where they took part in challenges including tower building and thrilling zip wire rides!

Returning with great ambition and focus, our new Year 13 cohort are ready to complete their A2 studies and have begun the process of applying to University. We were very proud of many of students who took up places on the NCS Challenge. Sophie Wain enrolled and enjoyed the opportunity to serve her community and use her gifts and talents helping those in need.

During the Summer holidays, Rashida Akalwaya was selected to spend a week in London on a residential course at PWC followed by a residential at Imperial University. Such opportunities are hard to come by and Rashida seized the chance to learn about the world of finance.



Year 12 flying high at Blackwell Adventure

KNOWLEDGE ORGANISERS AND HOMEWORK

We wrote to you in July about the change from 'Show My Homework' to 'ClassCharts' as our online platform for sharing and monitoring Homework.

Your son/daughter will receive their online activation code to access ClassCharts from their Head of Year and Year Co-Ordinator over the next week if they have not already received it.

At Stuart Bathurst Catholic High School we have also changed the way we will set and monitor homework. This is based on research and evidence as to what makes effective learning and will support your child in preparing for examinations through their school career.

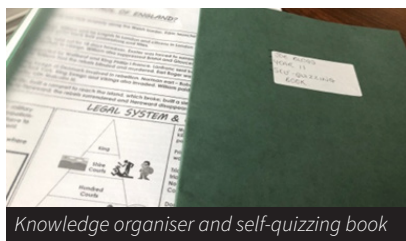
Our staff have done an incredible amount of work before the summer to prepare Knowledge Organisers for every student in every subject they study for the Autumn Term. A Knowledge Organiser summarises all the key information, keywords and facts

that your child needs for the unit. Please see the pictures on the right as an example.

All Knowledge Organisers have been placed into folders for every student as below. Your child is expected to bring the folders to school every day. They have also been issued with a self-quizzing book which accompanies the folder.



An example knowledge organiser



Knowledge organiser and self-quizzing book

This is where they will be expected to evidence that they are learning and testing themselves on the information on the knowledge organiser every night according to the timetable.

A video is available on the school website that shows both you and your child how self-quizzing works and what the expectations are. Their books will be checked by form tutors. Once a week in every lesson, your child will do a quiz at the start of a lesson that will test their recall of the information on the Knowledge Organiser.

The school has provided Knowledge Organisers and folders for every student free of charge. Should these be lost or misplaced, there will be a charge in order for them to be replaced. It is a school expectation to bring them everyday as part of basic equipment.

Miss G Raindi and Mr S Holder
Assistant Headteacher - Quality of Education
and Assistant Headteacher - Pastoral Care

HOMEWORK SET BY KEYSTAGE

KEYSTAGE 3

Daily self-quizzing using Knowledge Organisers depending on the subjects on the Homework timetable (30mins per subject) + additional Maths work online

KEYSTAGE 4

Daily self-quizzing using Knowledge Organisers depending on the subjects on the Homework timetable (30mins per subject) + 60 mins of additional homework per subject once a week to practice exam style questions.

KEYSTAGE 5

A minimum of 3 hours extra study per subject per week as directed by the class teacher

N.B. Before your child has an assessment week (three times a year), they will also be issued with supplementary homework questions to help them prepare for this.

HOMEWORK TIMETABLE

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
MON	English + PE	English + PE	English + PE	Maths + Option A+B	Maths + Option A+B
TUES	Maths + French	Maths + French	Maths, French	Science + Option C+A	Science + Option C+A
WED	Science + Geography	Science + Geography	Science + Geography	English + Option B+C	English + Option B+C
THUR	RE + ICT + ART/DT/Food	RE + ICT + ART/DT/Food	RE + ICT + ART/DT/Food	RE + Option A + B	RE + Option A + B
FRI	History, ICT, Music	History, ICT, Music	History, ICT, Music	Any 3 subjects + Opt. C	Any 3 subjects + Opt. C

CATHOLIC LIFE

New Beginnings

Starting the school year with a Mass of Welcome for our new Year 7 cohort, our community were proud to share this time in friendship and faith. Our students took the opportunity to celebrate this important time of transition with each other and prepared for their very first whole school Mass the following week.

On Sunday 8th September, led by Mrs Morris, staff and students signed up for the annual 'Run For Joel' event, where friends and family took part in a 5K and 3K fun run in aid of the much loved charity. Remembering Joel, Ade and Pat is important to us as a community and they are very much part of the family of Stuart Bathurst and very much missed by all who knew them.

Y7 Retreat

Year 7 were blessed on Thursday to spend the day with Dan Callow and Emily Jordan from OneLife Music. The focus of their retreat day was "I Belong".

The day started with the whole year group in the Theatre for Morning Prayer and Music. Dan and Emily both commented on how wonderfully the year group participated; in particular the quality of their singing was excellent.

After break students returned to their form groups to take part in a carousel of small group workshops. Some students remained in the Theatre to learn new songs with Dan and Emily. We look forward to using some of these songs in our future liturgies.

Students also had the opportunity to have some quieter reflection time, focusing on their calling from God.

This time focused on the scriptural verse, "Do not be afraid, I have called you by name, you are mine".

Students then reflected on important questions such as, "What does it mean to be precious?" and, "What are your unique qualities?" In response to this reflection, students wrote their own prayers, which were turned into stars and presented at the offertory during Mass.



Virtues Awards

Each week we commend students who have demonstrated one of the Catholic Virtues, either in their studies or their actions.

This week's Virtues Awards go to:



Year 7	Filip Gallewicz	Compassionate & Loving
Year 7	Esha Awaan	Compassionate & Loving
Year 8	Jaheim Phipps	Learned & Wise
Year 8	Takira Keldo	Learned & Wise
Year 9	Lloyd Skeldon	Compassionate & Loving
Year 9	Daisy-Mae McCoee	Learned & Wise
Year 10	Raheema Motara	Learned & Wise
Year 10	Keira Bull	Learned & Wise
Year 11	Corey Mallard	Learned & Wise
Year 11	Alice Young	Learned & Wise
Year 12	Danielle Whitehouse	Grateful & Generous
Year 12	Thomas Bradnick	Grateful & Generous

Fundraising

At the end of the school year we were able to make a number of donations to important charities. Thank you everyone who took part in fundraising activities.

£501.99
Smile for Joel



£107.22
Edwards Trust



Edward's Trust commented, "We loved the creative way the money spelt out 'Edward's Trust' – we usually get change in a bucket!"

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

PE & SPORTS CLUBS

Now pupils have settled back into school life and are becoming familiar with their timetables it is time to add in some extra curricular clubs to their busy schedules. I am pleased to say our opening club night on Thursday was fabulous! With over 60 students attending football and netball club it was fair to say the staff enjoyed the evening as much as the pupils.



All pupils are welcome to our clubs but it is essential you attend all sessions if you would like to be part of the school teams.

TUESDAY: Badminton or Dance

THURSDAY: Netball or Football

Clubs run from 3.15pm to 4.15pm

Pupils meet at the changing rooms to get changed into their PE kits. Which club will you participate in?

INSTRUMENT LESSONS Launching Soon!

We will shortly be writing to parents who responded to the online survey about instrument lessons. Over 80 students have expressed an interest in learning an instrument with one of the specialist teachers from Sandwell Music Service. This is an amazing number! The future at Stuart Bathurst could be VERY musical indeed!

MUSIC CLUBS

WEDNESDAY

KS3 Music Technology Club

3:15 - 4:15pm

MU4 with Mr Pepper

The KS3 music club is an opportunity for our younger students to discover all sorts of music technology including keyboards, GarageBand, Music apps, and DJ decks.

THURSDAY 3:15 - 4:15pm

KS4 Rehearsal Rooms

3:15 - 4:15pm

MU4 with Mr Pepper

KS4 students often want time to rehearse and practice the skills and songs that they have been working on in lessons. This is that time!

NUMERACY CHALLENGE

	4	9	7	7	4	⇒ Finish
	8	9	4	5	7	
	6	6	4	9	9	
	7	8	8	8	6	
Start ⇒	5	5	6	5	5	

Add the numbers up as you move to each square.
What is the smallest score possible moving from start to finish?
What is the largest? Can you make a score of exactly 53?

WORD OF THE WEEK

imperial

adjective:

Refers to an object or person connected to an empire.

OR

A unit of measurement.

Can you:

Think of a synonym for this word?

Use this word in a sentence?

Test your friend on the spelling of the word?

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