

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

I cannot believe that December has now started and it is only 3 weeks until Father Christmas visits. Last week we celebrated the feast of Christ the King. This signalled the end of the liturgical year for us as Catholics and so Mass this weekend heralded the start of Advent, our "mini Lent". The first candle was lit and every song I heard on the radio today was a Christmas one! The commercialism attached to Christmas and the focus on the materialistic rather than the spiritual sometimes clouds what is in fact one of the most beautiful stories surrounding the birth of Christ.

As I drove back this evening from visiting family I was struck by the beauty of the sky as the sun set; golden, pink, red and blue in colour, with the moon and stars appearing even though it was only 4.30pm. I reflected on how lucky I was to be able to enjoy this fantastic natural beauty and saddened to think of the two talented, brilliant and promising young people, murdered on Friday in London, who will never see the sunset or the sunrise again. I ask you to keep them and their families in your prayers.

This week in school, I was privileged to be one of the interview panel for the Year 11 prefect positions. They were amazing and

I was so pleased to see and hear our young people being so confident in their own abilities to represent and serve our school community. I am also pleased to announce that we have recruited a new Leader of Humanities and a new science teacher. There will be more details of them in future newsletters. The school is attracting very high-quality candidates who will ensure that the quality of education your child receives is of the highest standard.

On Friday, we held a fire drill. The children were extremely well-behaved and from the first ring to registers being completed was 6 minutes. I understand that this is a record, so well done Stuart Bathurst Catholic High School. On Thursday we held a results evening and parents evening for our Year 11 students where they collected their mock results, then saw teachers to receive feedback on their performance and receive guidance on next steps. I am pleased to say that their results are already considerably better than last year's first mock results and the exams have been held 3 months earlier. It is wonderful to have such supportive parents; over 80% attended on the evening and it was great to hear that so many of you are delighted with the support your children are receiving from our staff. A special word of thanks must go to the Year 11 tutors, teachers and specifically Mr Connolly and Mrs Booker.

A huge thank you to those parents and children who have given so generously to our 12 Days of Christmas charity event. The hampers look truly wonderful but also useful and I am sure will be very welcome in some households this year.

Just one last plea from me, regarding attendance. I realise that this has been a long term and that our children will be feeling tired and a little worn out but can you please make sure they attend school if at all possible. In the world of work they will have to go in if they have a cold or are a little out of sorts, we have all had days where we would have liked to have stayed in bed but go in anyway. You, as adults, need to be able to go to work too so send your children in whenever possible. We will phone you if we feel that they need to come home. Staying at home should be the last option. Every 5% lost in school equates to 1 grade lower in their GCSEs. In order to encourage good attendance the attendance team is devising a series of rewards. If you feel they need to stay at home, then please call in and let us know.

Another great week ahead, more excellent teaching and learning with a fantastic group of young people and a superb staff, I think Christmas has already come for me

God Bless,
Mrs Morris.



YEAR 11

It was a pleasure to see so many of you at the first Year 11 Parents' Evening on Thursday night. It was pleasing to hear so many constructive conversations between students, teachers and parents that will help boost our young people's grades. I would like to congratulate Year 11 on their Mock Results; there is clear progress from the last set of exams at the end of Year 10. Well done Year 11. Given your support and 'quality-first teaching' I know that Year 11 will continue to excel.

I would also like to thank you for your constructive feedback via the Parental Surveys. The winners of the raffle are:

1st place: £20 Amazon Voucher

Parent(s) of Khadeejah Kara

2nd place: £15 Amazon Voucher

Parent(s) of Jordan Evans

3rd Place: £10 Amazon Voucher

Parent(s) of Sean Chirapa

**HARD WORK PAYS OFF
NEW 2 WEEK TIMETABLE**

SEE PAGE 5



Again this week I had the pleasure of interviewing Prefect candidates, I have to say I was taken aback at the quality of answers given. The Prefect Golden Ties have arrived and, after we complete interviews, I will be writing to the successful Prefect applicants before we have a service to swear them in!

I would also like to congratulate Suhana Khanum in 11W who who is the Deputy Youth Parliament representative for Sandwell and delivered a speech on Friday at the SHAPE Conference. During her speech, she pitched her social action idea that she wishes to establish; the focus of this is on raising awareness around Mental Health. Suhana will be talking to the younger years in the coming weeks about Mental Health. A fabulous achievement.

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

m.connolly@stuart-bathurst.org.uk

wendy.booker@stuart-bathurst.org.uk

Mr Connolly

Mrs Booker

PROM PASSPORT

Top 3:

BENEDETTA BASSAN - 975 miles

AISHA JEEWA - 975 miles

RAYYAN Yaqub - 950 miles

CLASS CHARTS

Top 3 this week:

HARRY YOUNG

KISHANA LINDO-STEWART

LEAH HARRISON

Top 3 this half-term:

VIVEK BAINS

AMBER PREECE

RAYYAN Yaqub

Top 3 since September:

KHADEEJAH KARA

AMANPREET KAUR SABJOT SINGH

KEY DATES

Friday 20th December

Christmas break

Monday 6th January INSET day

~ Tuesday 7th -Friday 10th January

French Speaking Exams

YEAR 10

During our assembly slot this week, all Year 10 students were informed of the event concerning the lockdown that happened on Thursday 21st November.

After a reflection upon Year 10 behaviour and conduct during the lockdown, students were then instructed regarding all procedures that must be fully abided if there were to be a lockdown activated again.

On Tuesday 21st January, SIPS will be taking the Year 10 assembly. The aim of the assembly is to provide guidance and support prior to the year group starting the work experience programme. If you have any questions or concerns, please use this opportunity to have them answered.

This is another call for all the remaining work experience paperwork. It is vitally important that this paperwork is handed in, so that all relevant checks can be submitted. All students to whom this applies have been spoken to.

Miss Adams

Mrs Newell

CLASS CHARTS

Top 3 this week:

JULIA CHOJNICKA

PAULINA JONKISZ

HAJRAH MEHMOOD

Top 3 this half-term:

ANISA GATER

JULIA CHOJNICKA

ZAID MOLVI

Top 3 since September:

SENNA GANGER

ANISA GATER

ZAID MOLVI

KEY DATES

03 February 2020

Next Assessment Week

10 February 2020

Work Experience begins

15 June 2020

Year 10 GCSE Mock Examinations



YEAR 9

The weeks seem to be flying by as we head towards Christmas. This week marks the start of Advent, which 9M will be discussing in this week's assembly.

As a Catholic school, it is vital that this time is recognised and reminds us of the sacred meaning of Christmas.

This week has been a very positive week for Year 9 and it feels like the majority of the year group are beginning to mature and understand the importance of this year. Our Internal Inclusion numbers were much more healthy this week, meaning that more students were in each and every lesson, which is key for the students to progress.

It also highlights that less lessons are being disrupted, so our children have the opportunity to fulfil their potential.

This year, Ms Borrett is organising the OAP Christmas Afternoon Tea and some Year 9 students will be helping out with the catering. This is an excellent opportunity to help within the wider community. If any students are interested and have not put their names forward, please speak to your form tutors.

Mr Smith
Miss Newell

CLASS CHARTS

Top 3 this week:

STEFAN GAYLE
BRADLEYCLEWS
ELEANOR MEADES

Top 3 this half-term:

JONATHAN NALUTAMIO
CRYSTAL STYLES
BRANDON SHAUGHNESSY

Top 3 since September:

DESTINI DAVIS-MITCHELL
CRYSTAL STYLES
RALPH CASTRO

YEAR 8

Could I please ask that student's check they have all of the required equipment and replenish anything that is missing. Their basic equipment should consist of; at least two blue or black pens, a purple pen, a pencil, coloured pencils, a pencil sharpener, an eraser, a ruler, a maths set and a scientific calculator.

Also, a reminder that all students should be checking class charts daily to ensure that homework is completed and handed in on time. Please encourage your child

to complete homework in a quiet, well-lit space and on time. Please remember that there are quiet areas in school that are available to complete homework at lunchtime, including the newly refurbished library. As a parent, you can also log in and monitor your child's behaviour during the school day. As always, we appreciate your ongoing support.

Mrs McCallum
Mrs Letford

CLASS CHARTS

Top 3 this week:

SAMIYA EBA
IMANI MURRAY
NYAH MARKS

Top 3 this half-term:

TAKIRA KELDO
GURSIMRAN BAJWA
SANIA BAINS

Top 3 since September:

TAKIRA KELDO
GURSIMRAN BAJWA
IMANI MURRAY

YEAR 7

Year 7 had a wonderful assembly this week from "this is NAMASTE" who performed three of her songs for us. She has been on tour with Rita Ora and has had a successful career as a backing singer. She shared with us her journey and career in the music industry and also her personal struggle with mental health. This was an important lesson to us as a year group; people should always be aware of others and check in with their friends and ask how they are doing.

In other news, Year 7 have been working hard in lessons and I have been pleased to see a hive of activity in French, RE, Drama and Maths lessons this week.

Can I remind parents that 30 minutes homework in the self-quizzing books should be completed each evening, as per the timetable.

If you have lost your knowledge organiser, please bring in £1 and Mrs Finch in the Learning Resource Centre will provide you with another one. Please ensure your equipment is up to date and that you have a reading book with you.

Thank you to the families that have brought in donations for the 12 days of Christmas. There is still time if you wish to contribute.

I would like to draw your attention to the film night that is going to be held for Year 7 on Thursday 5th December 2019 from 4pm till 6pm. Tickets cost £2 and students will be able to buy sweets and drinks at the event.

Mrs Pepper
Mrs Bayley

CLASS CHARTS

Top 3 this week:

CHARLIE EDWARDS
PALIMA SINGH
OSKAR SKONIECZNY

Top 3 this half-term:

MIA PROBERT-RICHARDSON
HANNAH MAINWARING
NYASHA BANZA

Top 3 since September:

MACIE DALE
MIA PROBERT-RICHARDSON
NYASHA BANZA



SIXTH FORM CHAPLAINCY LEADERS ATTEND DIOCESAN TRAINING

This week a group of our sixth form students enrolled in a new diocesan initiative to train our future leaders in chaplaincy.

The Timothy Project is an initiative that aims to identify and train young people in chaplaincy teams (aged 11 to 17) to lead projects in their schools, parishes and local communities. Exploring what leadership is, uncovering their own strengths and developing key skills, the Timothy Project invited these young leaders on a noble adventure to become the future leaders of our communities. The program is led, and delivered by, the Kenelm Youth Trust. Over the course of a year, participants will attend 3 training days and deliver one key project in their local context.

To complete the certificate, the participants must also demonstrate that they have successfully shared their learning with their peers and implemented what they have learned. With careful support and monitoring from the Lay Chaplaincy Co-ordinator, as well as their own Lay Chaplain or PICCL, each participant will have the opportunity to delve into the depths of the Catholic Tradition and explore how to enrich the Catholic Life of their school. The year will culminate with a celebration mass, where successful participants will be presented with their certificates!

Chaplaincy Team Training: The Student Experience

On Wednesday, we attended a chaplaincy training course at Cardinal Wiseman. Wednesday was the introduction to what it means to be a Chaplain and also about identifying our God-given gifts.

The day was packed with fun games that introduced us to our fellow chaplaincy members across the diocese. It helped us to understand how we, as individuals, make up the body of Christ. We did a short personality quiz where we found out whether we were the brain, eyes, ears, heart, hands, feet, kidneys, stomach or voice of God. This was helpful in understanding what our team needs and the amazing people we already have!

So... what is our next step?

The next steps are to identify the strengths that we have in our team; what parts of the body we are missing; and to carry on teaching people how privileged we are to be part of a Catholic school.

We are a family, we are caring and compassionate, and we are the deciders of our own destiny.

Paige Weston
Year 12





Y11 - HARD WORK PAYS OFF

NEW 2 WEEK TIMETABLE

AUTUMN TERM 2	
WEEK 1	18 NOVEMBER
WEEK 2	25 NOVEMBER
WEEK 1	02 DECEMBER
WEEK 2	09 DECEMBER
WEEK 1	16 DECEMBER
SPRING TERM 1	
WEEK 2	06 JANUARY
WEEK 1	13 JANUARY
MOCK EXAMS	20 JANUARY
MOCK EXAMS	27 JANUARY
WEEK 2	03 FEBRUARY
WEEK 1	10 FEBRUARY
SPRING TERM 2	
WEEK 2	24 FEBRAURY
WEEK 1	02 MARCH
WEEK 2	09 MARCH
WEEK 1	16 MARCH
WEEK 2	23 MARCH
WEEK 1	30 MARCH
SUMMER TERM 1	
WEEK 2	20 APRIL
WEEK 1	27 APRIL
WEEK 2	04 MAY
GCSE EXAMS	11 MAY
GCSE EXAMS	18 MAY

WEEK 1		
DAY	LUNCH 1:45-2:15pm	AFTER SCHOOL 3:20-4:20pm
MON		
TUES		Art - DT1 , Interactive Media - CIE
WED		Business - CIE, PE coursework - PE1, RE - RE2
THUR	Food - HC1	Netball - Playground English - EN1-EN7 Geography - HUM2
FRI		French - MFL2

WEEK 2		
DAY	LUNCH 1:45-2:15pm	AFTER SCHOOL 3:20-4:20pm
MON		
TUES		History - RE4 Art - DT1 Interactive Media - CIE
WED		Psychology - HUM1 PE coursework - PE1 Maths - MA1-MA7 Drama - Studio
THUR	Food - HC1	Netball - Playground Science - SC4 & SC2 French - MFL1
FRI		French - MFL2 RE - RE2

**EACH 'HWPO' SESSION
YOU ATTEND EARNS YOU
25 MILES TOWARDS YOUR
PROM PASSPORT**



ADVENT BEGINS

Advent is a Latin word that actually means “coming.” In the Christian church, Advent is time of preparation and waiting for the birth of Jesus. Advent officially begins four Sundays before Christmas, which means it often begins on the Sunday after Thanksgiving.

So how can you celebrate Advent?

One way is to buy or make an Advent wreath to lay on your table. An Advent wreath typically consists of greenery with four candles, three purple and one pink.

Each candle on the Advent Wreath has a specific meaning:

Candle 1 (purple) represents **hope**. It is often called the prophets’ candle.

Candle 2 (purple) represents **peace**. It is often called the angels’ candle.

Candle 3 (pink) represents **joy**. It is often called the shepherds’ candle.

Candle 4 (purple) represents **love**. It is often called the Bethlehem candle. Many advent wreaths also include a Christ candle in the middle of the wreath.

To celebrate with an Advent wreath, you light a candle on each Sunday of Advent. The first Sunday, you light candle one; the second Sunday you light candles one and two, etc.

You can often find readings to go along with the candle lightings on the internet or at Christian bookstores. Or find a Christmas book that represents the theme of the week and read it as a family.



WEEKLY VIRTUES AWARDS

Certificates recognising students’ words and actions.

YEAR 7	SASHA DAVIES DAISY DOWNES	CURIOUS & ACTIVE CURIOUS & ACTIVE
YEAR 8	LILY ANN MELIA OLIVIA MCGUIGAN	GRATEFUL & GENEROUS GRATEFUL & GENEROUS
YEAR 9	GURSEWAK SINGH KAREENA DEO	COMPASSIONATE & LOVING COMPASSIONATE & LOVING
YEAR 10	SHYANNE ALMEIDA OLIWIA KAMIENIAK	COMPASSIONATE & LOVING COMPASSIONATE & LOVING
YEAR 11	BENEDETTA BASSAN AISHA JEEWA	LEARNED & WISE LEARNED & WISE
YEAR 12/13	MUKTI RANA PREETI VIRK	CURIOUS & ACTIVE CURIOUS & ACTIVE

AN ADVENT PRAYER

In this Advent of expectation draw us together in unity,
that our praise and worship might echo in these walls and also through our lives.

In this Advent of expectation draw us together in mission,
that the hope within might be the song we sing, and the melody of our lives.

In this Advent of expectation draw us together in service, that the path we follow might lead us from a stable to a glimpse of eternity.

AMEN



ANY OTHER BUSINESS

WORD OF THE WEEK

Fickle

Changing frequently and seemingly without reason.

Can you:

Think of a synonym ?

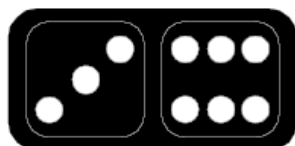
Use this word in a sentence?

Test friends on the spelling of the word?

NUMERACY CHALLENGE

Dominoes have two parts, each can have from 0 to 6 spots. How many different dominoes are there in a set?

If you roll 2 dice and **add the spots are you more likely to get an even or an **odd** number? What if you **multiply** instead?**



Pope Francis ✓
@Pontifex

In the [#GospelOfTheDay](#), Jesus exhorts us to be ready for His coming: "Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming" (Mt 24:42). To watch means to have your heart ready to give and to serve, to be attentive to our neighbour in difficulty.

11:30 AM · Dec 1, 2019 · [TweetDeck](#)

2.8K Retweets **14.1K** Likes

CHRISTMAS CHOIR

ALL ARE WELCOME FOR A FESTIVE SINGALONG!

Thursdays
3:15 - 4:15
in MU4

KS3 MUSIC CLUB

OPEN TO ALL Y7, Y8, Y9
WHO WANT TO SPEND
MORE TIME MAKING MUSIC

Wednesdays
3:15 - 4:15
in MU4

