



Pastoral Newsletter



Autumn 1

Welcome back!

We have been happy to welcome back all of our students for their first half term of the new school year after such a long period of home education. We have had a brilliant first 8 weeks back with everyone returning settled and focused in their lessons.

Supporting your Child during Covid-19

We have recognised that during these times, most will have found living under these challenging circumstances extremely difficult and may be experiencing a higher level of anxiety than they have felt previously. As a school, we have worked hard to ensure that everybody feels safe and supported at all times. All students have completed an online questionnaire to gauge their current emotional state and their opinions on their return to school. As a pastoral team, we will be working closely with any children who have been identified as needing extra support.

Should you feel that your child is currently struggling with the return to school, please make sure you contact their Form Tutor in the first instance to discuss further support.

Young Carer's

During these unprecedented times, most young people will experience some level of emotion. This may be heightened for our young carers. As a school, we will be implementing weekly meetings for our young carers with our pastoral staff to allow them to have a chance to express their worries and feel supported throughout their school journey.

If your child is a young carer and has not yet been identified to school, please email rdelo@stb.lourdesmac.org.uk to discuss further how we can support them and your family.

Internet Safety

You will be aware that students' presence online is becoming more and more frequent. We have identified that a large percentage of young people are unaware of the dangers online and are therefore finding themselves in dangerous situations.

As a school, we will continue to teach everyone the importance of online safety and ask that as parents and carers, you are able to support this at home too. You can find some useful websites that may help you support your child, at the end of this newsletter.

Curious

By leading pupils to be curious about the Universe and all human activity, and to take increasing responsibility for their own learning. By providing opportunities for them to be active in the life of the school, the Church, and the wider community.

Active

To be active in your engagement with the world and your surroundings, changing what you can for the better.

Half Term Epraise Stars

Year 5 - Felicity T 87 points BCu

Year 6 - Ola E-F 103 points RJa

Year 7 - Isabella V 75 points SEv

Year 8 - Royston M 96 points AGa

Attendance Data

Whole School Attendance

96%

epraise

At St Bede's, communication with parents and carers is vitally important to ensure that all children are getting the best education available. epraise is the online portal we use to communicate with our pupils, parents and carers. As a parent or carer, you will have your own individual epraise log-in (your username is the email address you have registered in school) to keep up to date with your child's progress and information on this system will include attendance, points, demerits and Interventions which include any communication a member of staff has had with your child. We also would like to make you aware that the messaging service within epraise, is a quick and easy way to get hold of your child's teachers with any queries or updates you may have.

If you are unfamiliar with epraise or require more assistance, please contact our school reception where someone will be able to assist you further.

SMSVC

During this half term, the whole school have taken part in two SMSVC days where all have been taught fundamental life lessons to support their development and Mental Health. Over these two separate days, everyone has worked through a range of activities based on their mental wellbeing, healthy relationships and healthy bodies.

Termly Activities

During a busy first half term, our students have also had the opportunity to partake in and support many worthwhile causes.

World Mental Health Day – On Friday 9th October the mental health charity Young Minds, launched an initiative called 'Hello Yellow Day'. As a whole school, we supported this day by allowing all students to attend school on Monday 12th October in non-uniform whilst also wearing something yellow. During this day, resources were shared with students to support them with their mental health as well as a way to widen their knowledge on the subject.

Junior Apprenticeship Program 'JAP' is an intervention to develop students in a range of areas. Within these sessions, students are given the tools to improve skills such as; team building, leadership, attitude to learning as well as their growth mindset. This half term has seen a group of 15 year 8 pupils build a wellbeing garden as a thank you to all key workers. The majority of students selected were that of parents whom are key workers themselves. The students have also worked with different trades to also develop new skills in carpentry and woodwork.

THRIVE Monitors Every Friday afternoon, students will spend their reflection period completing a range of THRIVE activities. Throughout these activities, students will get the opportunity to share their thoughts and ideas on certain topics as well as having times to think about the wellbeing of themselves and the people around them to further enhance their holistic development.

Upcoming Activities

After the half term break. We will be launching more interventions and activities for students to become involved in:

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors Next term, Anti Bullying ambassadors will start to meet to discuss more ways we can continue to develop knowledge on bullying and how as a school we are able to contribute in fighting against it.

Outdoor Forest Learning Each year group will start to have selected students take part in a new Forest Outdoor Learning program within school. The aim being to promote the holistic development of all involved, fostering resilient, confident, independent and creative learners.

Student Council At the end of this half term, Mr Evans launched this year's Student Council group. After half term, students will be meeting to be a voice of the pupils within their year group as well

as coming up with ideas on how we can continue to improve as a school to make it a welcoming place for all.

Useful Website Links

- <https://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/>
- <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>
- <https://youngminds.org.uk/>
- <https://www.st-bedes.worcs.sch.uk/parents-information/mental-health-and-wellbeing/>
- <https://www.kooth.com/>