

St Bede's Catholic Academy

Parents' Newsletter

Monday 16th January 2023

Issue 16



Head of Year 7

I would like to thank Mr Harris for all his work as Head of Year 7, he now has a different role in school. As a result Mr Iggleden will be the new Head of Year 7. Congratulations to him and I know he is looking forward to working with those young people. Mr Hibbard

Y11 parents evening

There will be a Y11 parents evening on Thursday 26th January, further information will be given out next week.

Parent Mental Health Day 2023

Friday 27th January 2023 is Parent Mental Health Day and this year's theme is #BuildFamilyResilience, focusing on how parents and carers can successfully adapt to challenging life situations. Stem4.org.uk has lots of useful information on their website including advice on building digital resilience in an increasingly online world. They are also offering a free webinar on building resilience in parents and carers at 7pm on Thursday 26th January. If you wish to sign up for this please go to https://stem4-org-uk.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_tqKrG8-VST2y-nrgx7UvQ

Diary Dates

Thursday 19th January
Yr 9 Etihad Stadium

Friday 20th January
Y9 National Justice Museum

Tuesday 24th January
Yr11 Mock Interview Day

Thursday 26th January
Yr 11 Consultation

Tuesday 31st January
County Cross Country
@ Central Park

Online behavior

As you will be aware, social media is a really useful tool when used maturely and responsibly by people. The world we live in requires people to be skilled at communicating online and proactively using the internet and social media platforms in a range of situations.

At St Bede's, we have a comprehensive online safety curriculum which educates young people about online safety and how to keep themselves safe. We actively teach students how to report concerns, how to be upstanders online, how to protect themselves from grooming as well as a range of other online educational messages. Where we are concerned about young people's safety online, we work closely with parents and carers to support individual students to ensure home-school are working collectively to support and safeguard our young people.

At present, there is much concern across the country about students making negative, defamatory snapchat and tiktok accounts about schools. There is also concern across the country that students are making fake accounts about staff or acting as staff on fake accounts.

Unfortunately, we are experiencing some issues too. It is disappointing to write that some students are creating fake accounts and their online behaviour does not reflect our high standards nor our mission to 'love, respect and serve one another'. These accounts are unacceptable and will not be tolerated. On a positive note, many students have been upstanding citizens who have reported accounts and helped the school to identify some of those responsible. We are pleased that we have so many positive, moral, upstanding students who recognise that these accounts are unacceptable. Thus, we have been able to take action against those responsible.

As a school, we work tirelessly to support our young people and their families. At present, we need the support of parents and carers in helping us to tackle the misuse of social media in relation to the school and staff. We urge parents to monitor their child's social media presence. We ask you to speak to your child about the importance of not following fake accounts including those about the school. It is important that they keep themselves safe as well as not engaging in negative content online. We need you to speak to your child about the fact that they will be consequenced for any negative comments about the school posted online and this may possibly involve the police. The school knows that many parents have mobile devices synched in order to monitor online behaviour and safeguard their children. This is a great way to monitor what is happening and alert us to anything of concern. Please be aware of fake accounts and negative accounts and ensure your child knows not to follow them nor comment. By working together, we can create a generation of students who are aptly equipped with the skills to navigate the online world safely as well as responsibly.

Drinks Machine

The new drinks machine in the canteen is now fully operational, students can purchase the drink as part of the meal deal or on its own. For students to use this they will need to bring a water bottle so they can fill it up, as we are trying to reduce the number of plastics/cardboard containers around school. There is a choice of 4 flavoured drinks and as they get 330ml it is far better value for money than purchasing a drink from a carton.

Supporting your child's reading and vocabulary development.



The academy has recently paid for access to The Day; an online daily news site with up-to-date articles on current news topics. Reading helps to develop vocabulary and increases general knowledge and understanding of the world. To access The Day, please go to the homepage of the St Bede's website, click the Reading tab and enter the following password: Readingcounts@stbedes then click on the logo to go to the homepage where you will find a range of articles which are updated daily. By clicking on the Resources tab on the site, you can select a reading level, read the article in another language and find links to topics and themes. We hope that you will find it interesting and a useful way to encourage your child to read. You may wish to read the articles together and discuss some of the news items. Reading is such an important life skill and regular reading leads to increased academic success. Thank you for your support. Ms. Graham.

Breakfast club

Breakfast Club is open for a free breakfast every morning 8am- 8:30am in the Food Tech Room.

Health Bus

Here are the following dates for the health bus at a weekend for children that have missed the flu vaccination in school.

Sun Jan 22nd 2023 BRIGG Tesco superstore Barnard Avenue Brigg North Linc DN20 8AT 0930-1130.

Sun Jan 22nd 2023 Scunthorpe Tesco Extra Gallagher Retail Park. Doncaster Road Scunthorpe DN15 8GR 1300-1500.

Attendance:

We continue to encourage good attendance from our pupils and the aim is above 95% attendance. It is crucial that students attend regularly and on time, unless the reason for absence is unavoidable, so that students have the best possible chance of success at school. If your child is absent from school, please contact the school by telephone only to explain the absence. The school office will ask for an explanation of the absence and will engage in dialogue to ascertain if the absence can be avoided. The Heads of Year work closely with the Attendance Officer to identify patterns of absence and those who fall below the threshold may be subject to an attendance plan and invited into school for a meeting.