

St Bede's Catholic Academy

Parents' Newsletter

Monday 3rd March 2025
Issue 50



We hope you had a restful and refreshing half-term break, filled with quality time with family and loved ones. As we return to school, we have already had a productive and engaging first week back, with students settling into their routines and immersing themselves in their learning. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and dedication as they embark on another exciting term.

As we journey through the Catholic calendar, we are currently in the season of Lent—a significant and sacred time of reflection, prayer, and preparation for Easter. Lent offers us an opportunity to deepen our faith, embrace acts of kindness, and practice self-discipline. Throughout this period, students have been engaging in a variety of meaningful activities, including prayer services, discussions on the importance of sacrifice and gratitude, and charitable initiatives to support those in need. These experiences serve as an important reminder of the values of compassion, generosity, and community spirit.

This week, we are looking forward to celebrating **World Book Day on Thursday, 6th March!** This annual event is a fantastic opportunity to ignite a love for reading and literature among our students. To mark the occasion, children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character or, if they prefer, wear a t-shirt they have creatively designed, inspired by a book of their choice. This is a wonderful way for students to express their passion for storytelling and the joy of reading. We kindly ask for a £1 donation, which is payable via Arbor under 'Trips'.

For our older students, the countdown to the GCSE exams is well underway. With only a few months to go, we encourage Year 11 students to make the most of all available revision sessions, additional resources, and teacher support to ensure they feel confident and prepared. This is a crucial time for them, and we appreciate the role that parents and carers play in providing encouragement, structure, and support at home. Establishing good study habits, maintaining a healthy balance between work and rest, and staying motivated will be key to their success.

Thank you for your ongoing support and engagement with our school community. Your involvement makes a significant impact on the learning and development of our students, and we truly value your partnership.

Diary Dates

2025

W/C Monday 3rd March
Year 11 English & Maths
Mock Exams

Wednesday 5th March
GCSE Live Event Yr10

Thursday 6th March
World Book Day

Friday 7th March
Girls biggest football session -
Bottesford Town football club

Wednesday 12th March
Inspector Calls

Friday 14th March
Yr 7 - 11 Reports

Tuesday 18th March
Yr 11 Photo
Primary Netball Tournament

Tuesday 25th March
GCSE Food Exam

Thursday 27th March
Year 7 - 11 Tutor
Parents Evening

Friday 4th April 3.05pm
School closes for half term

Tuesday 22nd April
Students return to school

Wednesday 23rd April
HPV Vaccinations

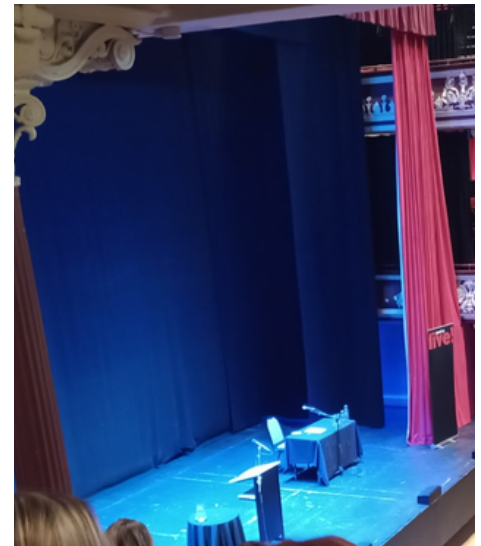


GCSE Poetry Live!

A group of year 9 students were lucky enough to attend GCSE Poetry Live at the beautiful St George's Hall in Bradford.

This event included live readings from the legendary Carol Ann Duffy, and the Poet Laureate Simon Armitage, among others.

The Poets responded to student questions and discussed how poems connect to and influence other poems. These sessions have proved invaluable to students' thinking, whether they are in Year 10 or Year 11, and are an outstandingly successful aspect of GCSE Poetry Live!



Words for Life

Struggle to fit reading in at home.

Turn on your subtitles when watching TV together. Congratulations! You are now reading without realising it!

Turning on the subtitles when you are watching TV or films can help to improve your reading.

It can help improve your reading speed, your vocabulary and your reading comprehension.

You can also record the new words that you hear or read to help you to remember them.

Safeguarding

The internet is an amazing tool and offers children the opportunity to learn, research, play games, have fun and connect with family and friends. It is, however, vital to educate children and provide guidance on how to use it safely and positively.

Many parents and carers feel the generation gap with their children when it comes to online = behaviour; they may feel out of their depth when discussing the internet and social media. Remember that you have lots of life experiences and responsibility, and can understand consequences of behaviour. As a parent it is important to talk about 'digital resilience'.

Talking to your child about what they do online, what they must do to keep themselves as safe as possible and what to do if they are upset by something they see online is as important as talking to them about other aspects of their safety such as road safety, safe sex or drinking.

"Digital resilience is the ability to understand when you are at risk online, knowing what to do if anything goes wrong, and being able to recover from difficulties or upsets." UK Council for Child Internet Safety (UKCCIS)

For further advice and guidance please visit the following link

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/media/nkvbqk20/online-safety-updated-feb->