

ST BEDE'S NEWSLETTER

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Yr 10 Parents' Evening**
Thursday 13th November
- **Year 9 London West End Trip**
Tuesday 18th - Wednesday
19th November
- **Yr 11 Mock Exams begin**
w/c 17th November
- **Christ the King Mass - St
Bernadettes**
Friday 21st November
- **North Lincs Cross Country**
Wednesday 3rd December
- **School Closed - Inset Day**
Monday 8th December
- **Year 11 Photo**
Tuesday 9th December
- **Carols by Candlelight**
Monday 15th December

Message from the Headteacher

It was a pleasure to welcome students back to school on Monday. I hope you and your families enjoyed a restful and refreshing half term break.

As we begin this new half term, I'd like to share some key dates and events taking place in the coming weeks:

- Year 11 Mock Examinations begin next week, starting with practical subjects such as Art, ICT, and Food. Written exams will follow the week after. We recognise that this can be a challenging time for students, and we've put a range of support and guidance in place to help them prepare. Full timetables and subject-specific information can be found on our website: Exam Information.
- Christmas Celebrations are already on the horizon. On 21st November, students will have the opportunity to attend Christ the King Mass. Year 8 will visit church on 5th December for their Carol Service, and our much-loved Carols by Candlelight concert will take place on 16th December.
- On Tuesday 11th November, the school community will gather for a Remembrance Service to honour those who gave their lives for the freedom and dignity of others. We encourage all students to wear a poppy. The service will include a short reflection in the quad followed by a two-minute silence.

We have many more events planned this half term, and we'll continue to share updates through the parent newsletter in the coming weeks.

Finally, a reminder for families of students who cycle to school: as the evenings grow darker, please ensure your child's bike is fitted with working lights and that they wear visible, weather-appropriate clothing. Sadly, just before the break, an unsecured bike was stolen from the area beside the bike sheds. Please ensure all bikes are locked securely with a high-quality lock and stored in the designated bike shed.

Thank you for your continued support.

Parent governor

Ms Jo Rosie has been elected as parent governor after the recent election. Thank you to all parents who cast a vote. It is our intention to profile our governors through the newsletter so you can learn a little more about them. We wish Ms Rosie well in term of office



Survey

Childhood vaccinations

North Lincolnshire Council Health Protection team are working to develop their understanding of our community members beliefs, opinions and thoughts towards childhood vaccinations.

Therefore if you could complete the following survey it would assist the council in their planning: [Attitudes to childhood vaccinations for parents of children up to 18 years of age – Fill in form](#)

Safeguarding

Prevent and the Power of Critical Thinking

The Prevent strategy aims to protect individuals from being drawn into extremism or radicalisation. This isn't about limiting belief or discussion—it's about ensuring young people are guided by truth, compassion, and reason. Catholic education encourages us to seek wisdom, to question respectfully, and to build peace rather than division. Be alert to online influences and help your child think critically about the information they encounter. Discuss world events openly and through the lens of Catholic social teaching—focusing on justice, human dignity, and care for one another. Faith and critical thought together are powerful safeguards.

Year 11 Leavers' Hoodies – Now Available to Order!

We're excited to announce that Year 11 Leavers' Hoodies are now available to order! This much-loved tradition is a wonderful way for our students to celebrate their final year and remember their time at school.

All Year 11 students have been sent an email containing a link to the online shop, where they can choose their size, colour, and personalisation options.



Please note that orders must be placed by Friday, 26th December 2025. Unfortunately, late orders cannot be accepted, so we encourage students and parents to order as soon as possible.

Homework Club

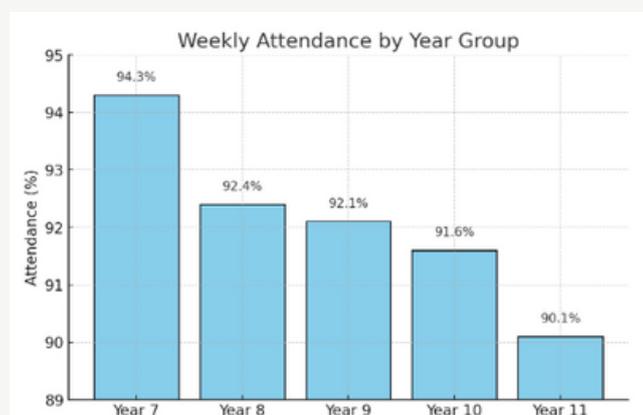
Our Homework Club is open to all students on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays after school from 3:05–4:00pm in LS. Staff are on hand to offer support, and laptops are available for students to use. The library is also open after school, providing a quiet space for study, reading, or completing homework.

SCHOOL CHOIR



MONDAYS & THURSDAYS
AFTER SCHOOL UNTIL 4PM
IN THE MUSIC ROOM WITH
MRS. BEUZELIN

W/E24/10/2025



Breakfast

Breakfast Club



Our Breakfast Club runs every morning from 08:15–08:30 in the Food Tech room, serving delicious warm bagels to help students start the day right!

There's no charge, and all students are welcome – it's a lovely way to begin the morning with good food and good company.

National Year of Reading 2026



Why Parents Matter

The UK Government has declared 2026 as the National Year of Reading, aiming to reverse the decline in reading for pleasure among children and young people. This initiative is backed by research showing that reading enjoyment is at a 20-year low, especially among boys and disadvantaged pupils.

Why Reading Matters

- Reading is described as the “passport to the rest of their lives”, essential for academic success, well-being, and future opportunities.
- Children who enjoy reading are twice as likely to have above-average reading skills.
- Reading fluency and comprehension are foundational for engaging with all aspects of education.

Government Actions

- A statutory reading test will be introduced for all Year 8 pupils to assess progress and identify those needing support.
- £1 million will be invested in reading programmes for schools with the greatest need.
- Expansion of the English Hubs programme and early years support through Best Start Family Hubs.

The Role of Parents

Education Secretary Bridget Phillipson emphasized:

“When parents take the time to read with their children early on, they lay the foundations for strong literacy skills.”

Parents are encouraged to:

- Model reading habits by reading themselves.
- Read regularly with their children, especially in the early years.
- Make reading a daily habit, helping children associate it with enjoyment and curiosity.

The Bigger Picture

The campaign will involve schools, libraries, businesses, and literacy experts, aiming to make reading feel relevant, exciting, and rewarding. It’s not just about academic achievement—it’s about enriching childhood and building a lifelong love of learning.

English Homework

The English Department are trialling a new approach to setting homework rather than the Wider Reading booklets that have previously been used. They will be trialling an online programme called Educake. Educake is an online homework and revision system for secondary schools. Students can use it on a PC, tablet or smartphone by going to www.educake.co.uk. Students will shortly be sent login details via their school email.

Christmas Dinner



Tuesday 17th December

It's nearly time for our annual Christmas Dinner, and we can't wait to celebrate the festive season together!

Please place your order by Thursday 21st November via Arbor.

You'll find both the Meat and Vegetarian options listed in the School Shop.

If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, please still place an order in the School Shop – there will be no charge.

Please note: the canteen will only be serving Christmas Dinner on this day.

If your child does not wish to have Christmas Dinner, please send them with a packed lunch instead.

Let's make it a joyful and tasty celebration to end the term!

Our Lady of Lourdes

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust consultation on admission arrangements for OLoL Catholic Primary Schools and The Trinity School 6th Form is now open. Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi-Academy Trust, as 'own admission authority' for its 36 schools, is required by the School Admissions Code to determine admission arrangements annually; with certain changes requiring consultation prior to determination.

This year, the consultation for the admission arrangements for academic year 2027-2028 for OLoL Catholic Primary Schools and The Trinity School 6th Form Aspley Nottingham will be open between Mon 3rd November 2025 and Sun 14th December 2025. Could I please ask that you consider this year's consultation carefully and we invite stakeholders to make comments should they wish.

If you would like to see the changes and make comment please go to the admissions page on the school website.



Barbican Centre York

Year 9 Students: – Poetry Live! Event.

Coming soon: February 26th

gcse poetry
live!



John Agard



Simon Armitage



Gillian Clarke



Carol Ann Duffy

Hear the poems from the poet's lips



Imtiaz Dharker



Owen Sheers



Dajit Nagra

Simon Armitage, Carol Ann Duffy – both are studied at GCSE, John Agarde, Imtiaz Dharker, Owen Sheers – you have already studied some of their poems in Yr 7/8.



Anti – Bullying Week - 10-14th November

Theme: Power for Good

This year's theme encourages everyone to use their "powers" – like kindness, courage, and speaking up – to make a positive difference and create a safer, more inclusive environment for all.

Activities at lunchtime in the library:

- Monday 10th: **Odd Socks Day** for staff and children; Anonymous Appreciation Notes; Design Anti-Bullying Posters.
- Tuesday 11th: Act of Kindness Tree & Compliment Chain making.
- Wednesday 12th: Graffiti Wall (Anti-Bullying pledge display).
- Thursday 13th: Kindness Rock Painting (to go in the Peace Garden); Anti-Bullying activity worksheets.
- Friday 14th: Friendship Friday – Bracelet making & friendship poems (prize for best poem).

Other highlights:

- Kindness challenges in the Student Bulletin all week.
- Assemblies focusing on Anti-Bullying Week.
- Pop-up Prayer in the Chapel on Monday 10th during both breaks.



I would like to ask that we all take a moment to reiterate the messages with our children about the impacts of bullying. Sometimes bullying is not always clear to the bully or the victim and there can be misconceptions around what bullying is. Bullying is any form of treatment that we would not find acceptable and is either discriminatory or intended to cause harm both physically and mentally.

There are many varied reasons why a child may feel the need to bully another. Whilst this does not excuse the behaviour it shows a dire need for the impact of bullying to be taught to the children for them to fully understand the cause and effect of their actions. However, I must stress that this does not justify any form of bullying, and it will be dealt with swiftly in school.

Sometimes we are not made aware that there is an issue until we get a call from a parent worried because their child is not wanting to come to school or feeling worried or anxious. Please remind your children that they **MUST** come and speak to us and inform us if they have any issues at the earliest moment for us to be able to deal with it. As a school we have enrolled some pupils on a peer mentor course and these students will play a huge part in supporting others when needed, they will be identified to all students so that they know who they can go to if they need to talk about bullying concerns.

Most bullying issues occur outside of school on social platforms, this is considered as Cyber bullying. Again, this will not be tolerated. We ask that parents support with this by being aware of their child's social media usage. If you have any concerns please contact us in school to make us aware of any situation. Please also look at the two links below for further support.

ADVISORY the youtube video attached has references to self harm and suicide.

<https://youtu.be/kkxFXDUUPT0?list=TLPQMDYwOTIwMjZcAHIVQQkg>

Many thanks

Miss Begum (Anti Bullying Lead)





Romans

Over the past two weeks, our Year 7 students have been fully immersed in the fascinating world of the Romans. As part of their history learning, they took on the exciting challenge of designing and creating their very own Roman shields. This project allowed them to combine creativity with historical understanding, exploring the symbols, patterns, and colors used by Roman soldiers in battle.

The results have been nothing short of spectacular! Each shield is unique, showcasing not only the students' artistic flair but also their attention to historical detail. Some shields feature intricate geometric designs, while others reflect personal interpretations of Roman themes, bringing history to life in a fun and hands-on way.

The project has also encouraged teamwork, as students shared ideas, discussed historical accuracy, and supported each other in crafting their shields. Teachers have been amazed at the dedication, imagination, and pride the students have shown in their work.

We are thrilled to display these incredible shields around the school and share them with the wider school community. They are a brilliant reminder of how history can be both educational and incredibly creative!

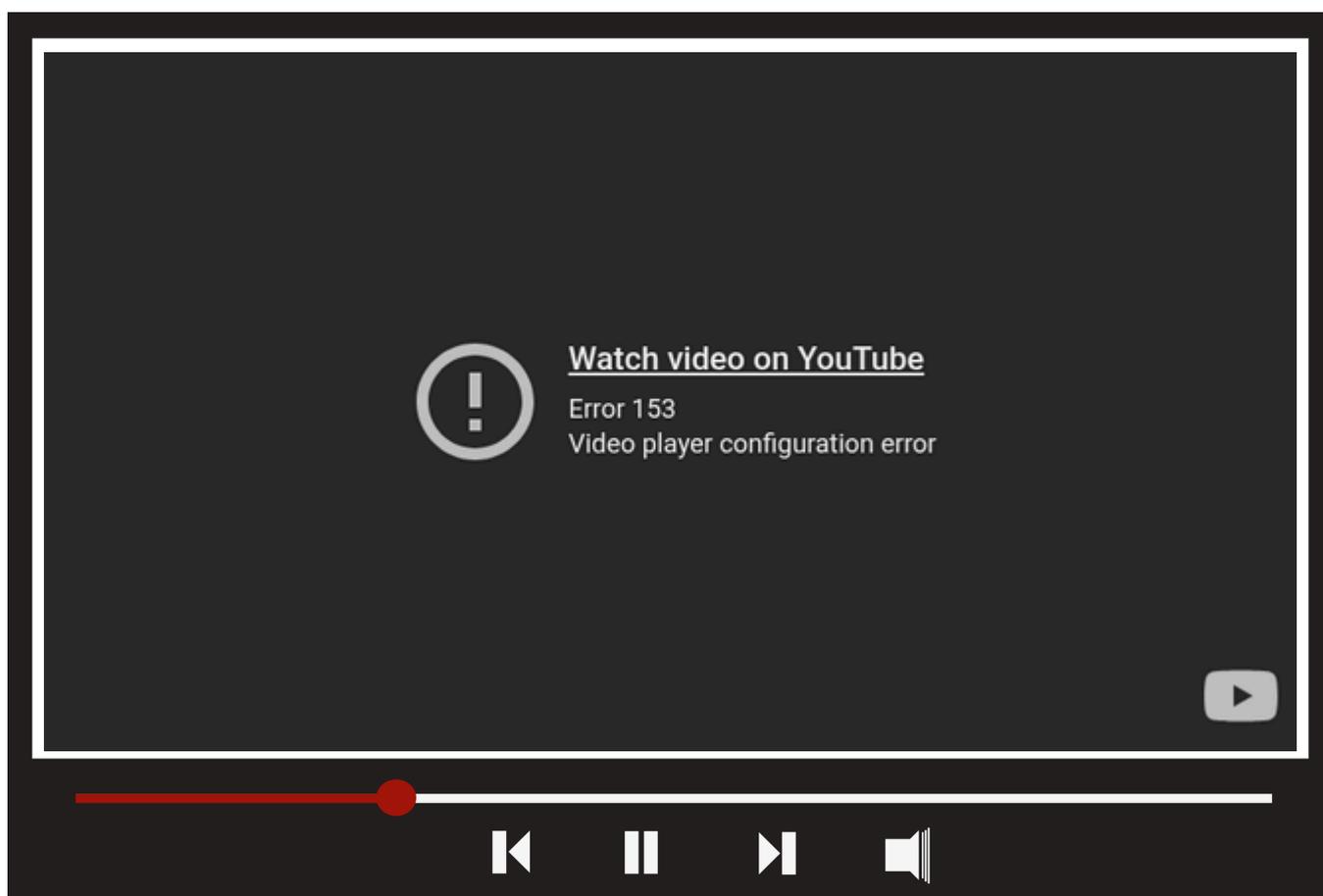


CAREERS

CORNER

Job of the Week...

Wind Turbine Technician



Spotlight career

Ever wondered who keeps those giant wind turbines turning? Wind Turbine Technicians climb high to install, inspect, and repair the machines that generate clean, renewable energy for our homes.

It's a hands-on, outdoorsy job for people who enjoy problem-solving and adventure! With the UK leading in wind power, it's a fast-growing career – and a great way to help protect the planet.

Pathway: Many start through a college course or apprenticeship in engineering or renewable energy, leading to exciting opportunities across the UK and beyond.

Green Careers Week

During PSHCE this week, our Year 7 students have been exploring the exciting world of Green Careers – jobs that help protect the environment and build a more sustainable future. They've been finding out how their skills and interests could lead to careers in areas such as renewable energy, conservation, and sustainable design. There's also been a fun Green Careers competition running in the library, alongside some relaxing eco-themed colouring activities for students to enjoy at lunchtime.

We encourage families to take a look at the Parent's Guide to Green Careers to discover more about the wide range of opportunities available in this growing and inspiring sector

<https://greencareersweek.com/resources-2025/>