



Newsletter



St Bede's and
St Joseph's
Catholic College

Issue 1

www.sbsj.co.uk



Welcome from the Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carer,

I do hope that you all managed a super break with your families over the summer and we look forward to working with you all this academic year as we seek to build on the successes of 2016/17.

We welcome onto the Ignis site our fourth co-educational year group into Year 7. Again we had over 1000 applications for the 300 places in this year group which we view as a definite sign that the College continues to grow in popularity.

This year also sees our first ever co-educational group onto the Ardor site to begin their GCSE studies in Year 10.

We know that prospective parents value our distinctive Catholic ethos, our wide range of extra-curricular activities, fantastic teacher/student relationships, good behaviour and academic success and we will continue to deliver on those important elements of College life this year.

Our provisional examination results look excellent: Over 90% of our 6th form students accepted places at university (compared to the average of 61% across other Bradford institutions). At GCSE, 58% of our students achieved the standard grade 4 pass or above in English and mathematics (52% being the Bradford average). More importantly the new government accountability measure 'Progress 8' which measures the value that we add to a student's academic achievement over an 8 subject range revealed a score of 0.2 which would place us 5th in a league table of 29 schools.

I would like to thank the students and staff for the hard work that has clearly gone into achieving such good examination results. Our thanks are particularly directed to staff who have made such a positive contribution to the school, some over many years, and who have left us in the summer either through ill health, retirement, relocation or promotion: Anna French, Sid Warburton, Katie Lewis-Ward, Helen Naylor, Leon Rice, Amanda Grundy, Shanna Barbar, Mike Coady, Charlotte Dickenson, Beckie Creswell, Carmel Davison-Culmer, Helen Corrigan, Jasmin Waldron, Kabir Zafar, Christopher Murtland, Petra Fantom, Marie Frazer and Emma Lyons. We say goodbye to them with our very best wishes.

We also congratulate Jim Taylor our Deputy Headteacher and Head of Site at Ardor who has been asked by the diocese to act as temporary Headteacher at St John Fisher, Dewsbury until Christmas.

We have also been busy recruiting new staff to our team including Kasia Hoyle and Michelle Fong who both teach English.





Headteachers message continued

Listed below are the Progress Leaders and their deputies that have been allocated to each year group for 2017/2018.

	Ardor	Ignis
Year 7		Mr J Walsh/Miss L Rollings
Year 8		Mr P Rhodes/ Mrs M Hymas
Year 9		Mr J Murray/Miss C Devanney
Year 10	Mrs J Khan/Mr S Boatwright	
Year 11	Mr A Hannan/Miss C Procter	Mr C Oldcorn/Mrs T Petrozzi
Year 12	Mr L Ashdown	
Year 13	Mr J Tomlinson	

We have a busy term ahead of us with baseline testing happening in all subject areas for all year groups in order to set realistic but challenging academic targets for the year ahead. Achievement Information Evenings are being held for parents of students in all year groups to alert them to key dates in the College year and to provide them with ways in which they can support their children with their studies this year.

By the time this newsletter is circulated the Year 7 will have experienced a Fresher's day at Leeds Trinity University while Year 7 students also have retreat camps beginning this term. These are fantastic opportunities for students to bond, and reflect on the challenges and opportunities that lay ahead.

A number of students (the biggest gathering in the diocese) are departing for the annual pilgrimage to Walsingham this week, rehearsals continue for what promises to be a spectacular College production of School of Rock in November and the popular theatre trip to London departs imminently. Year 11's geographers will be out of school on field trips this term and our historians will be embarking on a World War 1 commemoration trip. Just before half term the first consultation evening is planned for parents of our Year 13 students.

Welcome Masses for all year groups have/or will have been celebrated by the time this newsletter reaches you providing an opportunity for students to reflect upon the responsibility of all members of our community to live out the values of the College in our daily lives.

Finally, it is with great sadness that I report the untimely deaths of two colleagues who between them gave many years of dedicated service to Catholic education in Bradford; Maureen Williams our Examinations officer and Wajid Ali a former maths teacher. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families at this distressing time. May they rest in peace.

Please keep an eye on this newsletter for further news and information as the year progresses and of course on our Web site and Facebook page.

Here's to another successful year.

Mr L A Bentley
Headteacher



St Bede's and
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Open Evening

on

Wednesday 27th September

5.30–8.00pm

Headteacher address at

5:45pm and 6:45pm

All Welcome

IGNIS Site
Cunliffe Road
BD8 7AP

