



# Newsletter



St Bede's and  
St Joseph's  
Catholic College

Issue 3

www.sbsj.co.uk

## Open Evening Success

Last Wednesday saw the first big date in

the St Bede's and St Joseph's School Calendar – **The Open Evening**.

In the region of 900 people attended a hugely successful evening where everybody in the school community played their part in showing what a fantastic school we have. The passion that staff have for their subjects shone through. The students, as ever, were our strongest advocates – their pride in their school, along with their confidence and enthusiasm, gave the whole site a real “buzz”. Our support staff worked so hard in the preparation and smooth running of the event.

There was an abundance of glowing praise and so many positive comments – a selection of which are below;

*“My son loved the school and the atmosphere, he is so excited now”*

*“We were all really impressed with the staff and the pupils”*

*“It was an absolute delight to attend”*

*“Huge thanks to everybody for demonstrating what a great school you have”*

*The students who spoke at the headmasters talk and those who were guides were a credit to the school”*

A great evening, with a fantastic atmosphere and a sign of excellent things to come.

## Prayer Theme for the week School Prayer

*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth*

**Genesis 1:1**

## Y9 KS4 Evening New Date

Due to events on the school calendar the KS4 Information Evening for Year 9 has been rearranged for **Tuesday 21st November**.

Further details will follow in a letter before half term.

## Walsingham Pilgrimage

On Friday 29 September, a group of seventeen students and staff went to Walsingham in East Anglia to take part in this year's Diocese of Leeds Walsingham Pilgrimage.

Once we had our tents up we went for a visit round Walsingham village and the National Catholic Shrine of Our Lady. It was then on to the Anglican Shrine where we joined in Evening Prayer.

It was lights out after a tasty fish and chip supper and a Camp Fire' sing-song. A long cold night was followed by a sunny Saturday morning – all were breakfasted, packed lunches made and all tents down and packed away by 10am.

After Morning Prayer, we departed for Walsingham where we prepared for the Pilgrimage Mass with Bishop Marcus. At the Mass, our school group was fully represented, taking the following roles: We had one Altar Server, six Bidding Prayer readers, three presenting the gifts at the Offertory and six of our group taking the Collection.

After Mass we then took part in the Pilgrimage Processional walk. Our students had the honour of carrying the Processional Cross and also taking their turn to carrying the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham in this procession. Once the procession came to an end in Walsingham Abbey grounds, there was a service of Benediction, during which we received our pilgrimage blessing.

The pilgrimage was over and all that was left to do now was to return home.

We had experiences an excellent pilgrimage with some excellent students and staff who 'did our school proud'!



## Young Writers Festival

Friday 29th September saw a group of year 11 students visit the University of Hull to be part of the Young Writers' Festival. This prestigious event was a follow up from the Bradford Literature Festival that the boys had taken part in just before the summer holidays. The day was full of inspirational writers reading their poems and answering questions from the audience.

The festival was a unique opportunity for our students to focus upon their creative expression. The main stage was host to acclaimed poets and performers such as Simon Armitage, Joelle Taylor, Kate Fox, Helen Mort and Michael Symmons Roberts



Students had the chance to participate in prose and poetry workshops in the morning and afternoon with First Story writers. They heard from headline writers and, at the end of the day, Mohammed Habib from SBSJ took to the stage to perform his own work, in the students' showcase. We hope that one day that these students can be inspired to write their own poems and be at centre stage and become an acclaimed poet.

## St Bede's Old Boy gets his first publishing deal

Former student Joe Heap, now 31, left St Bede's in 2005 to study English and Philosophy at Stirling University. He then went onto Glasgow University where he got a MA in creative writing. Joe has been writing since he was 12 and now has landed a massive deal with HarperFiction. The publisher said: "Nuanced and full of emotion, *The Rules of Seeing* explores realities and tensions of domestic violence through a quirky and endearing love story that will make you see the world in a completely new way." "This is a book that is going to be read, talked about, pressed into friends' hands, with each person I'm sure taking something away that is unique to them. There's nothing quite like it, and I am so proud and delighted to be publishing such an exciting new voice in fiction." Joe said he was "bowled over" by the passion and enthusiasm from the HarperFiction team.

HARPER



*The Rules of Seeing* is currently scheduled to be published in Summer 2018.

## October Half Term

St Bede's and St Joseph's Catholic College

### Sports Camp

Multi Sports Holiday Camp

£10 Only Per Day

5 - 14 Years Old  
9.00am - 3.00pm each day  
Mon 23rd, Tue 24th Oct 2017  
SBSJ Ardor Site

STUDENTS MUST BRING THEIR OWN SNACKS AND DRINKS

To book your place or further information contact Mr Hussain  
Email [shussain@sbsj.co.uk](mailto:shussain@sbsj.co.uk)

Ardor (Upper School Site): Highgate, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD9 4BQ

Once again we will be running our Half Term Multi Sports Holiday Camp on Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th October. See our website for full details on how to book your child a place or contact Mr Hussain email: [shussain@sbsj.co.uk](mailto:shussain@sbsj.co.uk)

## Diary Dates

12th Oct, Y7 Expectations Evening  
19th Oct, Y13 Parents Evening  
20th Oct, College Closes Half Term  
30th Oct, College Re-opens  
30th Oct, Shine Day

## Contact Information

### Ignis Student Services/Radiate:

Tel: 01274 941943

E: [ignisradiate@sbsj.co.uk](mailto:ignisradiate@sbsj.co.uk)

### Ardor Student Services/Radiate:

Tel: 01274 941944

E: [ardorradiate@sbsj.co.uk](mailto:ardorradiate@sbsj.co.uk)

### 6th Form

Tel: 01274 941945

E: [stbenedicts@sbsj.co.uk](mailto:stbenedicts@sbsj.co.uk)

### Student Absence

ALL - Text: 07624 881343

Tel: 01274 941900

Y7-11 Email [absence@sbsj.co.uk](mailto:absence@sbsj.co.uk)

6th Form Email [16+absence@sbsj.co.uk](mailto:16+absence@sbsj.co.uk)