



# St. Bede's Catholic School and Byron Sixth Form College

*'Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world ablaze'*

## Newsletter: 16 May 2025

### Faith

In this Sunday's Gospel (John 13:31-35) we listen to the words of Jesus at the Last Supper.

Jesus gives his disciples a new commandment – that they love one another as Jesus loves them with whole-hearted and unlimited generosity.

The Gospel reminds us that Jesus wants us to share his love in the world and his life is a lesson in how we are to love others.

### Excellence

#### Headteacher's Award

Congratulations to **Joshua Johnson** 9C3 who has been awarded our Headteacher's Award this week! Joshua is the forth pupil from 9C3 to earn this accolade! We are incredibly proud of his achievements. Keep up the excellent work, Joshua — you are an inspiration to your peers and a shining example of what it means to be a leader in our school community.

#### Tutor Group of the Week

This week's winners are the students of 10H1. Congratulations to each of you - keep striving to become the people God intends you to be. Your collective efforts and dedication have not gone unnoticed. The camaraderie and support you show towards one another exemplify the spirit of our school, and your hard work is truly commendable.

#### House Students of the Week

Columba: **Olly-James Wood** 9C3

Hilda: Oswald: **Jake Laidler** 9O1

Hilda: **Robyn Stephenson** 7H2



## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Fundraiser

We are currently fundraising to help to send some of our students as volunteers to Lourdes and for extra-curricular resources for our music department. We would like to host a fundraiser event at the forthcoming Year 7 welcome evening/Summer Music Concert. If you have any items that could be used on a tombola stall could you please send them into school. All donations can be taken to Mrs Ball.

### Feast of St. Bede - Special Lunch

A reminder that we will be offering a special lunch to celebrate our School Saint on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May. If your child does not usually have a school lunch they are welcome to take part. Please email [oballs@st-bedes.org](mailto:oballs@st-bedes.org) for catering purposes.

### Diocesan Competition



**YEAR OF JUBILEE  
COMPETITION**

*Signs of hope!*

Whatever your sign of hope is - simply take a picture and share it with us using [edu.entries@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:edu.entries@diocesehn.org.uk)

Include your name, year group, school name and postcode.

Deadline: Friday 23 May 2025

Winners announced: Thursday 5 June 2025

There is one simply rule:  
**No people are allowed in your picture!**

**ONE DIOCESAN FAMILY**  
**WELCOMING + WORSHIPING + SHARING + GROWING**



## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### This Week's Maths Legends

Congratulations to the following pupils this week who have consistently exceeded expectations in the Maths Department - we are so proud to have such talent in our school!

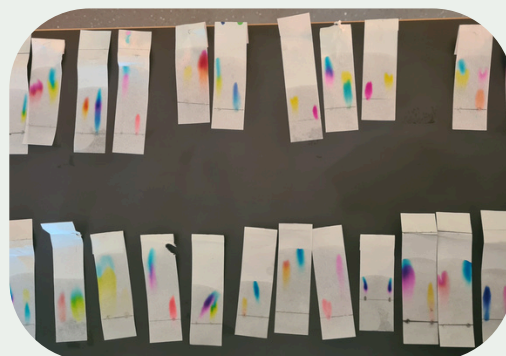
- Miss Houghton - **Bobby Sefton** 10C1
- Mr Taylor - **William Coghlan** 10O3
- Mr Fowler - **Robyn Stephenson** 7H2
- Mr Marrs - **Freya Coughlan** 10C1
- Dr Treanor - **Lucy Crinson** 11O2
- Mrs Keniry - **Evan Vickers** 7O1



Mathematics is a subject that requires focus and dedication, improving our work and correcting errors allows us to improve and progress. Our best pupil work doesn't always mean an absence of mistakes, but it does mean noting them and working to address them! We're looking forward to recognising our most dedicated and focused pupils next week again.

### Year 7 Science

Year 7 are currently looking at how to separate mixtures. This week, 7Y1 have been practising chromatography and learning how to separate two or more soluble solids from a solution. They produced some amazing chromatograms. Well done everyone!



### Mental Health Awareness Week

At St. Bede's, we believe that mental health is just as important as physical health. That's why we're proud to have celebrated Mental Health Awareness Week in PSHE lessons this week. This year's theme, "community" highlighted the powerful connection between being part of a positive community and good mental health. Throughout the week, students explored ways to get involved with their community—whether through joining clubs, serving their local communities, welcoming others, or connecting with people of similar interests online. Mental Health Awareness Week is not just about one week of activities—it's about equipping students with the tools to take care of their mental well-being.

#### How Families Can Support at Home

- Check in regularly with your child about how they're feeling.
- Encourage your child to join a club centred around their interest.
- Encourage your child to safely spend time outdoors.
- Encourage open, judgment-free conversations about emotions.
- Model healthy coping strategies like taking exercise, deep breathing, or talking things through.
- Stay informed and know where to turn if your child needs additional support.



## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Linoesses in the Making!

Both **Anna Rowntree** (Y10) and Katie **Bewick** (Y9) have been invited down to St George's Park on June 7th to participate in an England Talent Pathway Camp which could lead to both being called up to represent U15s and U16s England Lionesses National Squad. Both girls have had excellent seasons for their Academy teams: Anna for Durham and Katie for Sunderland. Good Luck girls and enjoy the experience.

Good luck to both **Katie Bewick** and **Lydia Turns** who are playing for Durham County in the Cup final against Lancashire on Sunday. The game is at Maiden Castle, Durham Women's first team pitch at 1pm, if anyone would like to go and support. Good luck girls.



### Female Sanitary Products

We have lots of free female sanitary products at school. They can be accessed by any student who needs them. We believe in supporting our students by ensuring that no one has to worry about these essential needs while focusing on their education and personal growth. Remember, taking care of your health and well-being is important, and we are here to help make that as easy as possible. Please encourage your daughters to speak to us when they need support.

### St. Bede's Netballers

What better way to end the year with our Year 11 netball team winning their last ever netball match last week against St Bede's Lanchester?

The girls have been fantastic role models for the sport across the years; the team, as a whole, has been very successful. We hope you continue your netball journey in the future #teambede

Our Year 7 and 10 teams also played last week against St Bede's Lanchester, with a win for our Year 10 and a very close 9-7 defeat for our Year 7 team. They all displayed excellent teamwork and determination. Well done everyone!



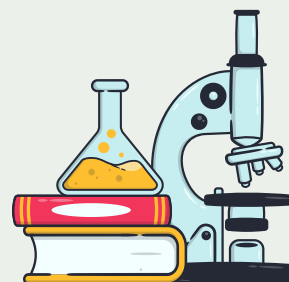


## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Lab Coat Legends

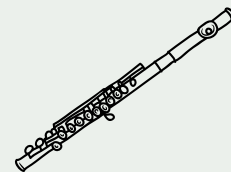
In science we want to award and celebrate the excellent effort put in by our different students. Working hard in science lessons builds problem-solving skills, encourages curiosity, and helps students understand the world around them. It shows determination by often involving analysing complex problems, predicting outcomes and conducting experiments.

- Mrs Hayward – **John-James Francis** 9Y3
- Mr Moss – **Rita Csuri** 10X3
- Mr Griffiths – **Owen Charlton** 10X4
- Mrs Armstrong – **Shamah Mawonde** 9X3
- Miss Roberts – **Evie Lennox** 11Y1
- Mr Balls – **Lauren Balls** 12C/Bio
- Mr Bowyer – **Kruz Herron** 10Y3
- Mrs Lord – **Georgia Watson** 8X1



### Musicians of the Week

**Zara L** (Y11) and **Isabel W** (Y7) for all their hard work and preparation for Flute exams and most especially to Zara who is managing this extra workload on top of preparation for her GCSE exams.



### Rugby Club

Rugby club has been focusing on embedding the T1 Rugby rules this week. Previously we have been playing 15s but we have switched things up a bit for the summer.

The pupils have shown excellent communication, working together as a team and supporting each other to learn the rules.

Mr Bowyer and Miss Armstrong have been really impressed by their camaraderie and skills. Rugby Club is on Wednesday after school. It is open to all years for boys and girls. See Mr Bowyer for more information.





## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### ICT Club

Students have been experimenting with various software.

For the last three weeks, Eddy has been programming the microbit. He identified what he wanted to create, broke the problem down and then methodically programmed each element to a working whole.

Maddox has been working on a scratch project, again extending his knowledge and looking at how his program can be developed.

Benjamin has experimented with Tinkercad, a design software, where he has designed a home for living.

The ICT department are proud at the sheer determination that is being shown after school in order to strive for excellence.

#Faith #Excellence #Determination

You will set the world ablaze



### D-Day Comic Strip Competition

Design a comic strip on the D-Day Landing of 6 June 1944:

- You should focus on the visuals and facts of what unfolded during the landings.
- There will be 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes for the best comic strips.
- The deadline to submit your strip is Thursday 5 June. Winners will be announced the week after!

If you have any questions, come and see the History Department!



### School Entrance Safety

Please be mindful when driving onto site. We have a zebra crossing immediately before our gates. Please ensure you slow down and give way to pedestrians, especially during busy school hours. Our students' safety is our top priority, so we kindly ask all drivers to remain vigilant and adhere to the speed limits. Additionally, please refrain from parking in unauthorized areas, as this can obstruct visibility and create hazards for both pedestrians and other drivers. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school environment safe for everyone.



## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### Geographer's Go Places!

#### Year 10 Iceland Trip

A reminder to Year 10 students that the 2nd deposit for the Iceland trip was due on 14 May. This was a payment of £110 that can be made in cash or via parent pay. We are looking forward to experiencing this amazing tectonic landscape with our GCSE students.

#### Year 8 Hamsterley Forest Trip

Year 8 students have been given the opportunity to attend a Geography Field trip to Hamsterley Forest on Tuesday 15 July. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to visit a natural landscape and see some of the features we discuss in lesson. You child will have been given a letter this week about this trip, if they are interested in going please hand in the interest slip to Mrs Martin. Please note we do not want any payment at this time, we will be in touch once payment is being collected. This trip will be non-school uniform. We hope to see lots of you there.

#### Year 7 Tynemouth Trip

Year 7 students have been given the opportunity to attend a Geography Field trip to Tynemouth Beach on Wednesday 16 July. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to visit a natural landscape and see some of the coastal features we discuss in lesson. You child will have been given a letter this week about this trip, if they are interested in going please hand in the interest slip to Mrs Martin. Please note we do not want any payment at this time, we will be in touch once payment is being collected. This trip will be non-school uniform. We look forward to spending a day on the beach.





## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### St. Bede's Visit Number 10!

In the (very) early hour of 4am last Friday, a class of Year 9 pupils set off for what became a truly special and most memorable day.

Organised through the Maths Department, the trip was open to every Year 9 pupil, with those who have been appointed "Maths Legends" offered a guaranteed space.

After a 6 hour coach ride, culminating in a great drive past some of central London's most iconic landmarks, we arrived at Whitehall - which had held VE Day celebrations just 24 hours before our visit.

After a security search and handing over all our electronic devices, we were greeted by a surprise VIP, Member of Parliament for Easington, Graeme Morris who spoke with his younger constituents and answered their questions.

Then, we entered Downing Street, seeing the famous door for the first time before getting pictures and stepping through it to what we realised was a "tardis" of a building. We were particularly thrilled to see Larry, the official Mouser to the Prime Minister" leave No 10 for a morning explore!

Initially, we were guided through the building to the State Dining Room where we were offered the most generous selection of biscuits, drinks and snacks. As it turns out, some of the chairs offered to us were worth over £200,000!

After getting through the initial excitement, our tour began - we saw the palatial splendour of the Pillared Room and the State Drawing Room, which had hosted WW2 veterans and the Prime Minister the previous evening. In the White Room (often seen on TV with a visiting Head of State and the Prime Minister in front of a fireplace and union flags), we sat in the chair where Presidents Obama, Biden, Zelenskyy and Von Der Leyen have all sat recently! We got to see two Turner paintings up close, worth a combined value of over £31 million.

We got the opportunity to touch the first ever moon rock from the 1969 moon landing of Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin, as well as the personal note from 33 miners who were trapped in Chile over a decade ago that confirmed they were still alive.

Then, we descended the "Prime Minister's Staircase" adorned with a portrait of every Prime Minister since the very first, Sir Robert Warpole - and, no, there was no dancing Prime Minister this time!

The Cabinet Room awaited us, the famous long table where Churchill once sat, where we were told different features of the room and got to sit where some of our Secretaries of State sit to make decisions affecting all of us.





## RESPONSIBILITY – DETERMINATION – CITIZENSHIP – RESPECT

### St. Bede's Visit Number 10! (continued)

As we returned to the (wood panelled) State Dining Room, we tucked into our packed lunch in the room that has hosted Presidents, Prime Ministers, Kings and Queens for hundreds of years - as well as hosting the 2020 Covid Briefings from PM Boris Johnson and Sir Chris Whitty.

Our guides could not have been more gracious - insisting this was the "British people's" house and encouraging the pupils to touch and get close to as many artefacts and historical objects as possible.

Leaving Downing Street, we then walked down Horse Guard's Parade, seeing the Churchill War Rooms, proceeding to walk up The Mall, before a mandatory picture in front of Buckingham Palace. Returning back down The Mall, we walked through St James' Park and Whitehall, seeing the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, The National Cenotaph, the Houses of Parliament and the Elizabeth Tower. Crossing over a very busy Westminster Bridge, we saw our next stop; the London Eye.

Getting into two pods and making the most of perfect weather, our 30 minute rotation allowed us to see some of London's landmarks from above - Wembley, The Ministry of Defence, Waterloo Station, Kensington Palace to name a few. Some pupils even reckon they spotted the Eiffel and Blackpool Towers...!

After alighting our pods, we had a quick scout of a gift shop, got some ice cream and relaxed on a green for 20 minutes before getting on our coach to take us back to St Bede's. A jam-packed 5 hours in London where we managed to see over a dozen of London's most famous landmarks!

Our pupils behaved immaculately, with multiple members of the public and Downing Street staff complimenting them - they were a true credit to St Bede's and their families - exemplifying our values in everything they did. We were incredibly proud of them. We would like to thank Miss Tilston, Mr Wilson, Miss Jones and Mr Taylor for facilitating the trip and a day that was as equally as memorable for them as it was for the pupils!







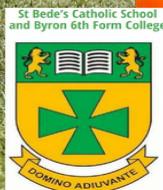
The perfect way  
for girls aged 5-11  
to get involved  
with football



# Play Football



**FAST FEET**  
**FOOTBALL ACADEMY**  
STUDY • DEVELOP • COMPETE



#LET  
GIRLS  
PLAY



## TIME AND DATE

Monday 2nd June onwards. 5pm - 6pm



## LOCATION

St. Bede's Catholic School & 6th Form - Peterlee

## WHO WE ARE

Fast Feet Football Academy / Horden Community Welfare / St. Bede's Catholic School



## NEXT STEPS

head to [www.Englandfootball.com/wildcats](http://www.Englandfootball.com/wildcats) or scan the QR  
code on the right to book your first session, or contact us  
to find out more [jessica.fox@fastfeetfa.com](mailto:jessica.fox@fastfeetfa.com)

## SCAN ME:



## £ COST

£4 per session



## Sixth Form

# BYRON

SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

### Pelican Success!

Another fantastic success for Grace and Eve in Year 12 who have been invited to attend a residential in Cambridge based on their success in the Pelican Access Programme. Both students have been working with academics from Corpus Christi college in Cambridge. The Pelican scheme is divided into subject strands: Eve has been exploring the world of architecture and Grace has been inspired by new and exciting areas of history. The programme represents a significant time commitment. Well done!

### Durham beckons for Y12 students:

Students have also been accepted to Durham University's Supported Progression programme. This week-long residential prepares students for life as an undergraduate with subject-focused sessions and a focus on the transition to university. Congratulations to Kalym (Law), Dalraj (Natural Science), Grace (History) and Kayla (Psychology).

### Harry's island adventure:

Harry McDonagh has secured an incredible volunteering opportunity in Kefalonia this summer. Harry will be working on a conversation project. Well done, Harry, what an amazing opportunity!

# Join us!



[Apply Now!](#)

To view our latest Sixth Form Prospectus [click here.](#)





## Key Dates

- Friday 23 May: End of Half Term 5
- Friday 23 May: Year 11/13 Leavers Celebration of the Word
- Friday 25 May: Feast of St. Bede (we will provide a special lunch to celebrate our school patron on Thursday 22 May)
- Monday 2 June: Return to school (Week A)
- Monday 9 June: Feast of St. Columba

## Safeguarding

### Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

#### Designated safeguarding leads:



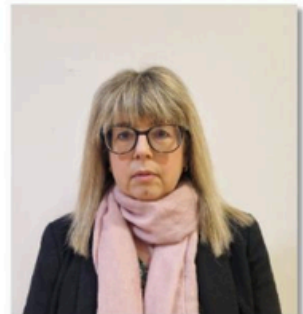
**Mr Logan**  
Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Mrs Cessford**  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Mrs Robinson**  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Mrs Ord**  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead

## Home and School Links

**Address:** St. Bede's Catholic School & Byron Sixth Form  
Westway, Peterlee, Co. Durham, SR8 1DE

**Email:** [enquiries@st-bedes.org](mailto:enquiries@st-bedes.org)

**Phone:** 0191 5876220

**Website:** [www.st-bedes.org](http://www.st-bedes.org)

**Facebook:** [StBedesandByron](https://www.facebook.com/StBedesandByron)

**Class Charts:** [www.classcharts.com](http://www.classcharts.com)

**Our Parish:** Our Lady of the Rosary in Peterlee and Horden

**Our Diocese:** Hexham & Newcastle

