

Spring/Summer Edition
2018

Dayspring
Multi Academy Trust

The Venerable Bede News



Welcome from the Headteacher

Welcome to our summer edition of Venerable Bede News. As you will read from the articles inside, it has certainly been a busy time in school.

Our Year 11 pupils are working hard in preparation for their forthcoming GCSE exams this summer. I would like to wish each of them good luck. Hopefully, all of their hard work will have paid off when they receive their GCSE results on Thursday 23rd August. I would also like to say good luck to our Year 10 pupils who are sitting their GCSE

English Literature this summer. I am confident that the determination and perseverance which they have shown will be rewarded.

As we enter our summer term, it is hard to believe that our Year 7 pupils have only been with us since September. They have settled in really well and are now part of the fabric of the Academy. I know that we can rely on them to be outstanding ambassadors and work with the Year 6 pupils who will be joining our Venerable Bede family in September. Together, we can make the transition to

secondary school a positive experience for all.

Finally I would like to give my support to Josh Waddell, our Year 10 budding Olympian. I am sure that you will find the article below really interesting. I hope that you all have a good summer term and a restful summer holiday, which for us begins on Friday 20 July.

Best wishes

David Rivey

Headteacher



Dayspring Trust Update

As Executive Headteacher of Dayspring Trust, welcome to the 2018 Summer edition.

Our vision as a trust focuses on developing the whole child so they can achieve their full potential and resource our young people for wise and generous living. I hope you enjoy reading about the amazing achievements of our young people and have a glimpse of life in secondary school.

Wishing you all a wonderful summer.

Best regards

G.A. Booth

Executive Headteacher

WORLD NUMBER ONE PARA-FENCING CHAMPION! VB PUPIL, JOSH, SETS SIGHTS ON OLYMPICS 2020

Venerable Bede C of E Academy pupil Josh Waddell (Y10) recently returned from an international wheelchair fencing competition in Hungary. At the competition he competed in both the foil and epee, often fencing against adults. Josh performed well in the events despite competing against older and more experienced fencers – he is the youngest competitor in the Senior events - with his performance in epee proving to be his better event.

At the competition, he received official confirmation of his world ranking for 2017 and was presented with a trophy naming him as the **U17 Men's Epee World Number One**. This is a fantastic achievement and one that Josh, his family and friends, and all at Venerable Bede are, rightly, proud of.

Despite his already considerable and impressive achievements, Josh is not one to rest on his laurels. He is working towards a new goal – to compete in the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games! However, as with many sports, wheelchair fencing is expensive: there is equipment to purchase, entry fees to competitions and travel costs to meet. Whilst Josh can access the training and coaching provided by Team GB, many of the other costs are met by family – an average

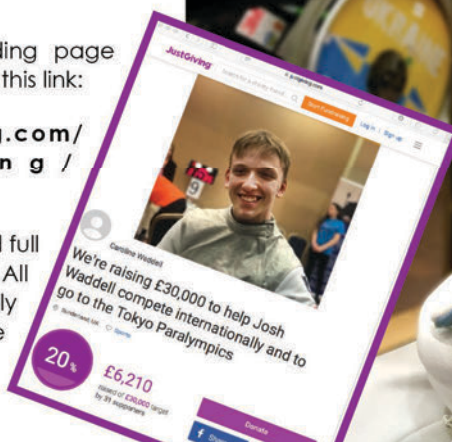
competition can cost around £2,500. To help Josh realise his Tokyo ambitions, the family have set up a 'Justgiving' crowd funding page to try and raise the money to meet the cost of attending future competitions which is essential to maintain world ranking as well as for qualification for Tokyo.

Over the next several months, Venerable Bede will be working on a number of projects to try to raise additional funds as well as continuing to support him through his education – Josh is also a hard-working student who hopes to work in the field of sports psychology in the future. Josh embodies our core values of joy and perseverance and we hope that with our support, and that of others, he will be able to live out our school motto, 'Soar to the heights together'.

Details of the crowdfunding page can be found by following this link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/joshwaddellfencing>

On this page you can read full details of Josh's story. All donations will be gratefully received and all of the money raised will go to support Josh in achieving his goals.





AN UPDATE FROM OUR SENIOR PREFECTS

As we start the final phase of our time at Venerable Bede, we continue to enjoy being involved with the day-to-day life of our academy. We enjoy working with all year groups, drawing on our experiences to learn how to balance our time between the role of Senior Prefect, subject lessons, revision, and intervention sessions as we prepare for our upcoming GCSE exams.

The in-school intervention sessions, that we and our peers in Year 11 are currently taking advantage of, are running smoothly, with everyone we've spoken to mentioning how useful they have been. Many went on to explain

that these sessions are proving particularly helpful for subjects that some pupils find more challenging than others, stating that they feel this will have a positive impact on their results for this summer's GCSE exams. We wish them good luck!

Earlier this year, a group of Year 10 pupils visited Lesotho as part of our annual expedition. They took part in education workshops, experienced church services and learned from the community.

As we have in previous years, our school community is working to develop the ways we are supporting our neighbours in Lesotho. We look forward as the Senior Prefect team to continue to take a lead role in these efforts!

ANTI-BULLYING GROUP RECOGNISED BY THE CITY!

VISIT TO THE MAYOR'S CHAMBERS FOR VB BULLY BUDDIES!

On Friday the 16th of March, 8 of our Year 8 'Bully Buddies' (our club for pupils eager to take on training and develop strategies) were invited to visit the Mayor's Chambers (also known as the Civic Centre) to receive an award. This award recognised the fact that Venerable Bede has proven to be the most effective school in the region at decreasing instances of cyber-bullying!

The event began with a presentation outlining some of the suggested strategies to help to prevent bullying in school followed by the presentation of the award.

The pupils took advantage of this trip as an opportunity to meet with and share ideas with their peers from

similar groups organised by other local schools, such as Southmoor Academy, St.Aiden's Catholic Academy and Thornhill Academy.

For our Year 8 'Bully Buddies'; this was a truly remarkable day as they had the chance to meet the mayor herself, Councillor Doris MacKnight. This wonderful opportunity was enjoyed by all who attended, with one pupil commenting, "This has been a very special day, one I will remember for a long time! I was really interested to talk with the other anti-bullying groups along with Mayor MacKnight, swapping ideas for how we can keep moving forward, fighting bullying".

**SUNDERLAND
ANTI BULLYING
CHARTER MARK**



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TEAM OF BULLY BUDDIES!

INFORMATION

Email your community story to:
news@venerablebede.co.uk

Venerable Bede CE Academy

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KEY DATES

Event	School Closes	School Opens
May Bank Holiday	Friday 4 May	Tuesday 8 May
Summer Half Term	Friday 25 May	Monday 4 June
Summer Holiday	Friday 20 July - 1.30pm	Wednesday 5 September



Pupil Page Editor - Jamie Bestford Y11



Venerable Bede CE Academy
Christian Values

YEAR 7 PUPILS BRING JOY TO VB

During the year pupils and staff spend time reflecting on several different themes during Worship, themes based on our core Christian values.

Each Year Group is assigned one of five central themes to focus on. Year 7's chosen theme is **JOY**!

As part of their studies Year 7 pupils took part in a project to write a prayer about 'JOY' that would be used in their year group Worships, as well as to design a poster. The poster will be displayed in tutor classrooms and on the year group notice board.

The author of the winning prayer was **Joel Carty**, (you can read his prayer on the right) and the winning poster was designed by **Chloe Robe**. Work has begun on the final version of the poster with Chloe working closely with our creative team to fashion a professional poster that reflects her outstanding design!

Joy

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13

Hope

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord...plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

Forgiveness

Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.

Colossians 3:13



The Venerable Bede
c.673 - 735

Soar to the Heights Together

JOEL'S WINNING PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father

Please bring us Joy, every day, every hour, every minute and every second of the day.

Through the hard times and the good times.

Give us Hope in tests and all lessons in school.

Bring Peace to all around the world.

Please guide us through life with Hope and Joy in our souls.

Help us to Bring Joy to others, not anger or hate.

Always remember those who helped us and cared for us when going down a rocky road.

We pray for those less fortunate than our self; those who don't have a home or a family to support them.

We should try our best to bring Joy to them when nobody else has.

In the name of the Father, The Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen



Venerable Bede CE Academy
Christian Values

Wisdom

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

James 1:5

Perseverance

And let us work with perseverance... fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

Hebrews 12:1-2



The Venerable Bede
c.673 - 735

Soar to the Heights Together

CHLOE'S WINNING DESIGN (work in progress)



YEAR 7

Year 7 took part in our 'Prayer Spaces' event during Holy week.

'Prayer Spaces' at Venerable Bede includes 10 'stations' installed in our library, each of which feature a theme such as Remembrance or Thankfulness along with an introduction to some non-traditional methods of prayer.

The station called 'Remember' focused on reflecting on Jesus' experiences during Holy Week, however visitors were also encouraged to remember someone important in their life. Whilst experiencing this station, Year 7 pupils made figures out of pipe cleaners to

keep in their blazer pocket to symbolise that both Jesus and their loved ones are always with them.

Another station called 'Sweet Things' drew a connection between the 'sweet things' the pupils are thankful for in life and the sweets that they were able to consume and share.

Many Year 7's have said that this experience has helped them to appreciate what is positive in their lives such as the food they eat and access to education. Many also enjoyed the peace and quiet, taking the opportunity to reflect.



YEAR 8



Year 8 have had a brilliant, productive term since Christmas. They have completed their first exams held in the school hall and comported themselves with distinction.

In addition, their attitude to learning scores have been outstanding, leading to 150 pupils receiving ATL awards and 6 pupils receiving invitations to attend a afternoon tea with the Headteacher, Mr Airey,

The pupils have done exceptionally well this term with 130 pupils receiving bronze stars, 90 pupils receiving silver

stars and 40 pupils receiving gold stars for their learning.

Year 8 attendance remains excellent, with our termly attendance prize challenge competition proving to be an exciting way for pupils to track their individual successes.

We have also had a group of performers visit the school on February 5th to perform a play centred around anti-bullying which the pupils found very interesting and entertaining. A group of Year 8 pupils have also won an award for anti-bullying (see page 2).

YEAR 9

Year 9 pupils began the academic year with a focus on building a solid foundation for the skills required for GCSE.

We visited the Science Department to find out what fascinating areas of study the Year 9 pupils are currently undertaking.

One recent experiment found pupils extracting DNA from peas! Utilising experimental methodology, pupils leveraged dish washing detergent and ethanol to extract and view the string like molecules appear as the DNA clumps together.

They have also tested household chemicals to determine if they're strong or weak acids or alkalis and even tested 'How effective is soap?' by growing microbes on agar plates and testing soaps' effectiveness in sterilising them!

The pupils look forward to their Science lessons with some commenting that they have been encouraged to pursue a possible career in the Sciences.



YEAR 10



Year 10 are now well into their GCSE courses and are preparing for their exams and the life choices that will follow.

A visitor came into the academy during the Spring term to speak with pupils about apprenticeship opportunities, which are becoming increasingly popular with school leavers as an alternate route to attending college.

An apprenticeship allows post 16 students to gain experience, to attain a nationally recognised qualification at the same time as earning a modest income.

Over 90% of apprentices continue on into the workplace or further training following their apprenticeship and 92% of people who have experienced an apprenticeship say it has had a positive impact on their career.

We, as an academy recognise that pupils learn in many ways and that providing as many different pathways to learning and as broad a spectrum of post 16 opportunities to our pupils is very important! Some Year 10 pupils who attended said that the talk increased their awareness of the opportunities available to them.



YEAR 11

Year 11 pupils have been continuing to work hard in both their regular classes as well as after school revision sessions to optimise their chances of achieving the best GCSE results possible.

A number of our Year 11's have also been contributing their time to fundraising work for their Leavers' Ball in June, taking part in events such as: selling confectionery and healthy snacks every day during break and running raffles, raising £93 from the Mother's Day raffle and £67 from the Valentines Raffle.

Some of the Year 11's have given their weekend to raise even more money by doing a 'bag pack' in a

local supermarket, raising £638. They have planned another bag pack at B&M in Washington to be held soon and we wish them the best of luck.

Academically, Year 11 have really come into their own. Attendance remains excellent with several pupils commenting on the effectiveness of the out of hours revision sessions with one saying:

"I really appreciate the out of hours revision sessions! It gives me a structured quiet environment to get my work done and it really helps to have my teacher there if I get stuck..."

I was especially grateful for the sessions held during the half term and Easter holidays, seeing the

teachers enthusiastically give their free time to come in and support us was really inspiring!

The sessions in the holidays are really useful, we can focus on one subject [at a time] and really take the time to make sure that we will know what to do when we're in our exams..."

Exams begin on 14 May and the Leavers' Ball will be held on 29 June.

Year 11 pupils have also been considering life after their GCSEs, attending college open days and taking part in our annual 'Careers Fair' eagerly taking the opportunity to talk to representatives from local colleges and employers.



PRINCE'S TRUST UPDATE



**YOUTH
CAN
DO IT**

ENTERPRISE PROJECT



Before the Christmas holidays last year the year 11 Prince's Trust Group raised £200 by selling Santa hats and badges to pupils and staff.

Josh, Cailan, Kieron and Hannah put a great deal of work into organising the sale and decided that any profit they made would be donated to the local Salvation Army.

Julie, a member of the Salvation Army, came into

school to deliver a presentation about the work they do locally and was delighted to receive the cheque from the pupils.

BEAMISH 'GO WILD'



During March, our year 9, 10 and 11 Princes Trust pupils had the privilege of attending the Prince's Trust's Achieve day at Beamish Wild. This day was organised and funded by the Prince's Trust as a way of recognising the achievement of pupils from

across the North East who are working towards the PDE (Personal Development and Employability skills) Achieve qualification.

The Venerable Bede pupils very much enjoyed taking part in Archery, Den Building and Create Stack activities. Through these activities pupils developed their communication and team building skills as well as putting into practice endurance and resilience.

"I really enjoyed the activities. I also enjoyed working together in a team" Ben.

"...I loved the stacking, it was very scary but it was the most fun I have ever had!" Marshall.

MIND SHARPENERS

SUDOKU

2		5				7		
		4			6		3	2
			1				5	8
4	3		2		5		7	9
		8	6		9	5		
5	1		7		3		2	6
8	9				7			
3	5		9			6		
		1				2		7

WORDSEARCH

V	P	A	E	Q	I	T	U	W
B	E	D	C	S	R	J	V	I
G	R	N	B	F	W	O	Y	S
F	S	H	E	O	C	Y	B	D
J	E	K	D	R	D	S	V	O
M	V	O	E	G	A	P	F	M
P	E	N	L	I	T	B	Q	A
X	R	Y	K	V	A	M	L	W
W	E	Z	N	E	H	O	P	E



LESOTHO 2018

Entering Lesotho through the border with South Africa is always exciting. The roads are dustier and bumpier, the pace of life is slower and more laid back, and the people are very friendly.

One of the great pleasures in all of this is seeing the pupils' reaction to entering the country; it's a long journey, they are tired and yet, as soon as we cross the border their energy levels rise, the excitement is evident and all you can hear is the discussion of what

they can see through the windows.

This adventure is a significant life event for these Year 10 pupils. They absorb the sounds, sights and smells. They witness the poverty of the lives of their Basotho peers, they come to terms with living together in a group for

two weeks. They also have the dubious pleasure of living out of a suitcase.

On their return the pupils are exploding with stories and tales to tell of their trip away and many often say that it dramatically changes their outlook on life.



PUPIL VOICE

"When I arrived in Lesotho, I realised that I need not have worried about the language barrier as their English was very good and the people were very welcoming."

Charlotte

"The child headed household weekend was really good as it gave us the chance to connect with the children."

Aaron

"It was a life changing experience, that reminded me to appreciate all the opportunities available to me."

Louise



LESOTHO 2018

PUPIL VOICE

"St James' High School was really interesting because I got to experience how other pupils our age learn."

Jack

"I really enjoyed the orphanage because it was fun playing with the children and seeing the differences in our lifestyles."

Katie

"The whole experience was really enlightening with both fun and touching memories that I will keep in my heart."

Noah



Loving the hats! 🤩 Enjoyed the abseiling and canoeing this morning, lunchtime now! From Harry S



10:14 AM - 10 Feb 2018

3 Retweets 13 Likes



Wobbly legs but a great experience! From Charlotte



4:15 PM - 11 Feb 2018

3 Retweets 12 Likes



I hope our new mascot brings us some luck! From Harry T



4:17 PM - 11 Feb 2018

4 Retweets 26 Likes



I enjoyed giving gifts today. From Hannah



4:20 PM - 11 Feb 2018

3 Retweets 12 Likes

LESOTHO 2019

Despite only being back from Lesotho for less than a month, the planning and fundraising for Lesotho 2019 is already well underway. The application process has already begun with pupils who are keen to take part having written a letter of application, outlining their reasons for wanting to participate. As usual we are going to hold a range of events to support the project. These include 'bag packs', band nights, car washes, raffles, cake sales and many more fun and exciting activities.

Part of our Lesotho programme is to host a child-headed household

weekend which includes lots of enjoyable tasks for the Basotho children to take part in. We also visit St James' Primary School so we hope to raise enough funds to enable us to complete some decorating whilst we are there. "God's Love Orphanage" also benefits from our project. This year we donated some of our funds to help with the upkeep of the building and support some of the older children through their education.

We thank you in advance for your support and encouragement during our fundraising.





Picture by: Keith Blundy



Picture by: Keith Blundy



Picture by: Keith Blundy

AN UPDATE FROM OUR LRC & PUPIL LIBRARIANS

ACCELERATED READER

Accelerated Reader is a computer programme used in our literacy lessons to help teachers manage and monitor pupils's independent reading practice.

The pupils pick a book at their own reading level and reads it at his/her own pace. When finished, they take a short quiz on a computer – passing the quiz is an indication that the pupil has understood what has been read.

At Venerable Bede, students take an online reading test two or three times a year, and are then timetabled to have a weekly literacy lesson, when they can read and take their quizzes. They are also encouraged to read at home and at other points during the school day.

Below we have identified the top five readers by word count... It's

wonderful to see pupils engage with literature at this level, well done!

Amelia Maginn: 633,318 words

Mary Ellis: 567,557 words

Evie Morton: 522,556 words

Beth Jones: 508,457 words

Mia Brown: 505,415 words

TOP FIVE!

Quizzes taken by VB pupils have identified the below as our the top five favourite authors:

Jeff Kinney

David Walliams

Roald Dahl

Liz Pichon

Jane West

TOP TEN!

Quizzes taken by VB pupils have identified below the top ten books currently available to be found in our library:

'The Twits'
Roald Dahl

'Diary of a Wimpy Kid - The Long Haul'
Jeff Kinney

'Diary of a Wimpy Kid - The Third Wheel'
Jeff Kinney

'The Riddle of the Hidden Treasure'
Enid Blyton

'Alien Eggs'
Danny Pearson

'Magic Mates and the Moody Monday'
Jane West

'Tom Gates Everything's Amazing'
Liz Pichon

'Tom Gates Excellent Excuses'
Liz Pichon

'Ratburger'
David Walliams

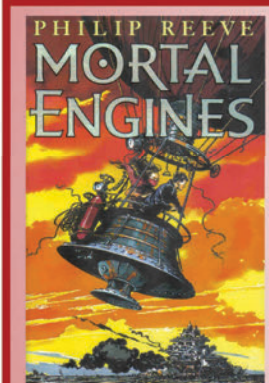
'The Brilliant World of Tom Gates'
Liz Pichon



Title:	Author	Genre	Suggested Year Group
'The Hunger Games'	Suzanne Collins	Dystopian	Year 9+
Review: <p>"In a dark vision of the near future, twelve boys and twelve girls are forced to appear in a live TV show called the Hunger Games. When sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen steps forward to take her sister's place in the games, she sees it as a death sentence."</p> <p>This book (the first in the trilogy) is tense, action packed and a terrifying look into a world of oppression and social construct as people in the capital live the perfect life, people in the districts live in poverty.</p> <p>English Literature pupils found this as a fascinating look into a dystopian world and that Collins' writing style is captivating, keeping the reader on edge while illustrating to them how to utilise the tropes of compelling narrative to construct a novel. If you like this book then you may like '1984' and 'Divergent'. One Year 9 pupil said, "A gripping story that has a unique view into a possible future".</p>			



Title:	Author	Genre	Suggested Year Group
'Mortal Instruments : City of Bones'	Cassandra Clare	Teen Fantasy	Year 9+
Review: <p>"Clary Fray is seeing things: vampires in Brooklyn and werewolves in Manhattan. Irresistibly drawn to the Shadowhunters, a secret cadre of warriors dedicated to ridding the world of demons, Clary encounters the dark side of New York City."</p> <p>This is the first book in the Mortal Instruments series, a gripping magical world with mystical creatures and compelling characters.</p> <p>English Literature pupils found that this novel balances a world with both magic and 'real world' issues. They feel that the novel successfully holds the reader's interest and works well as the first book of a series. With plenty of books in the series to read, you will be entertained for a long time. If you like this you may also like 'The Raven Boys' and 'The Chaos Walking Series'. A year nine pupil said, "A unique series with magic and mythical creatures, the story is amazing and well written".</p>			



Title:	Author	Genre	Suggested Year Group
'Mortal Engines'	Philip Reeve	Dystopian/Steampunk	Year 8+
Review: <p>"London is on the move again. The city has been lying low, skulking in the hills to avoid the bigger, faster, hungrier cities loose in the Great Hunting Ground. The great town moves off after its quarry as events within the walls begin to take a sinister turn..."</p> <p>In this dystopian novel all towns are on wheels, they fend off smaller towns to avoid being eaten for scrap and fight for the few resources that are still available.</p> <p>Pupils taking interest in STEAM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) found that this book "get your gears turning" as it delves into the construction of both towns and social constructs. If you like this you may like 'Clockwork Angel' and 'A Series of Unfortunate Events'. One Year 11 pupil said, "It's a good book with twists and turns that keep you guessing, I really enjoyed it".</p>			

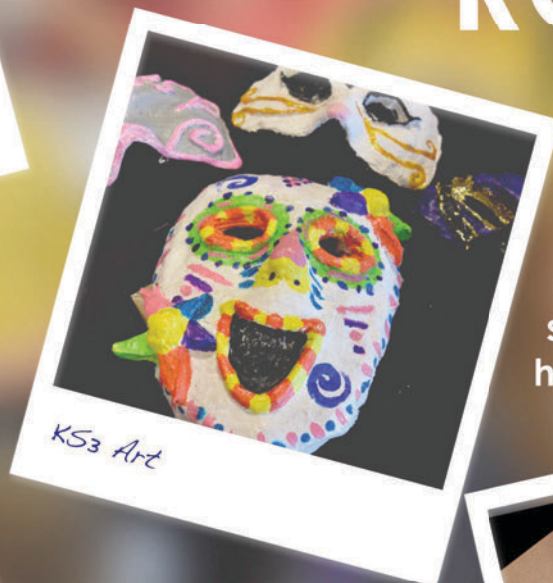


ARTS ROUNDUP

As a valued part of our Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) provision, in this edition of our newspaper we present a snapshot of activities taking part in our Arts specialisms both in the classroom and out of hours...



GCSE Fashion



KS3 Art



KS3 Art



GCSE Art



Allysa Pentolfe solo!



GCSE Art



Our 2017 production



GCSE Art



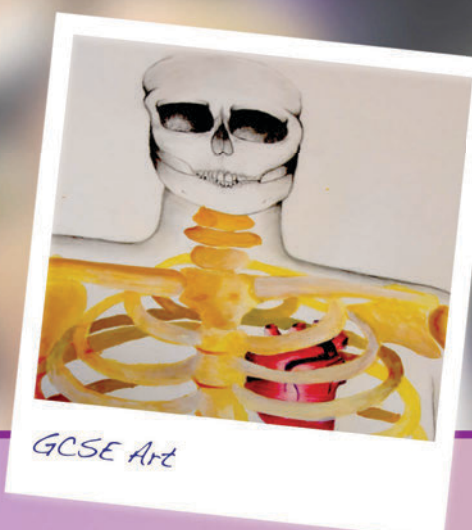
GCSE Art



GCSE Art



Our Choir



GCSE Art



ATTENDANCE CELEBRATIONS

Each term here at Venerable Bede we hold a competition celebrating those individuals, tutor groups and year groups who have maintained exemplary attendance.

Prizes range from: a certificate awarded during a special awards ceremony to early access to the dinner queue, gift certificates and more!

Pupils are presented with a record card so that they can track their own attendance. Creating this record helps them to see at a glance how much they are achieving.

Pupils understand that the rewards on offer are secondary to the positive outcomes full attendance helps to ensure, though they are an added incentive!



WHY GOOD ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT

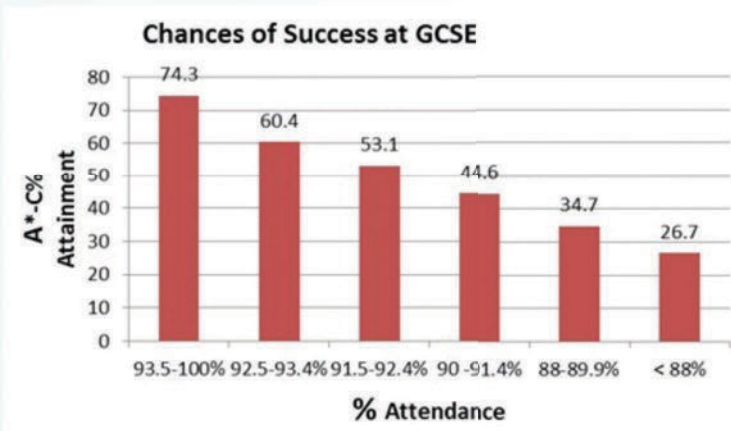
ATTENDANCE STATISTICS

0 days lost	10 days lost	19 days lost	29 days lost equal to a whole half term
100% Every opportunity to achieve 5A* - C grades including Maths and English	95% GCSE results could reduce by 1 grade	90% At risk of underachieving	85% Persistent absentee - risk of being subject to parenting contracts, penalty notices and prosecution
190 school days each year	180 days of education	171 days of education	161 days of education
EXCELLENT	GOOD	WORRYING	SERIOUS CONCERN

PUNCTUALITY STATISTICS

Time missed	that equals....	which is....	and over 13 years of schooling that's
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks per year	Nearly half a year
20 minutes late per day	1 hour 40 minutes per week	Over 2.5 weeks per year	Nearly 1 year
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1 and a half years
1 hour per day	1 day per week	8 weeks per year	Over 2 and a half years

NATIONAL EFFECTS ON ATTAINMENT



Everyone at Venerable Bede CE Academy understands the importance of attendance.

Regular school attendance is essential if pupils are to achieve their full potential.

Dayspring Trust believes that regular school attendance is the key to enabling pupils to maximise the educational opportunities available to them and become resilient, confident and competent young adults.

Our Attendance Policy is available on the academy website (venerablebede.co.uk) however it should not be viewed in isolation; attendance is a strand that runs through all aspects of school improvement, supported by our policies on safeguarding, anti- bullying, behaviour and SEN.



OUT OF HOURS CLUBS

Venerable Bede CE Academy is proud to offer pupils a wide range of opportunities outside of the day to day curriculum.

These clubs and groups, held during lunch times as well as after school hours, offer access to activities which promote the acquisition of life skills, whole person development as well as

providing an opportunity for pupils to develop their own personal interests...

In this issue of our newspaper we would like to shine a spotlight on four such groups...

ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Staff: Mr Roddy & Mrs Pallas

Frequency: Weekly

Mission: To build a complex understanding of our environment ranging from our academy to our local community and then onto the global effects our actions have. Then to build on this learning through action to help us become environmentally conscious adults.

Quote from attendee: "We hope to be a positive influence both in and outside of Venerable Bede. We plan to hold events such as a group 'litter pick' in the near future" **Jack Campbell**



CHESS CLUB

Staff: Mr Parker

Frequency: Weekly

Mission: To provide an introduction to the centuries old strategy game as well as provide support and guidance for those who wish to hone their skills. Players from all year groups and abilities are welcome to take part.

Quote from attendee: "I really enjoy chess club! It's fun and competitive but friendly... You know that you will get support and training if you need it" **Carlie Harrison**



Picture by: Keith Blundy

YOUTH ALMIGHTY

Staff: Youth Almighty Staff

Frequency: Weekly - Different year groups on different days

Mission: To provide an environment within which pupils can socialise and build friendships. To identify, support and value the needs and voices of young people through high quality, inspirational opportunities that engage, educate and empower.

Quote from attendee: "It's great fun, I really enjoy it. I especially enjoyed it when we got to have a go on the Go-Karts during lunch time. It was a great experience!" **Cameron Hirst**

STEAM CLUB

Staff: Mr Rutherford

Frequency: Weekly

Mission: To build an understanding of the interplay between Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. We undertake different projects based within one or more of the specialisms and in most cases build to an outcome or product pupils build themselves and can take home.

Quote from attendee: "So far we have focused on electronics, learning to solder and created small projects such as a light sensor that turns on an LED if covered" **Elijah Dowsett**



YOUTH ALMIGHTY PROJECT
For fun, games and activities

Look forward to future editions of our newspaper where we will feature other groups and clubs as well as bringing you updates on those featured here...



UNDER 14 GIRLS FOOTBALL

Venerable Bede's Under 14 girls football team (Olivia Callaghan, Ellie Smith, Sophie Winlow, Rachael Robson, Mollie Christie, Bethany Enguita, Abby Towers) won the Sunderland Schools' 5-a-side competition held at Houghton Kepier Academy.

They were outstanding on the night and remained unbeaten after all their games against tough competition in the form of Castle View and Kepier.

The girls were also successful in the 'We can play' event held at Sunderland College, which aimed to raise the profile of girls football. The girls certainly proved that they could play, progressing from the group stages unbeaten and beating Biddick Academy in the semi final. In a hard fought final game they narrowly lost 2-1 to Oxclose Academy but it was a great achievement from the girls.



SUNDERLAND SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY SUCCESSES!



Pupils from Year 7-10 recently attended the Sunderland Schools' cross country championships which were held at Farrington Academy. All pupils who attended performed extremely well and there were some significant performances from those who ran.

In the Year 7 competition, our girls' team (above) were outstanding with all six team members finishing in the top 22

runners; with 4 of the 6 finishing in the top 10. The stand out performances were Mary Ellis 3rd, Megan Neal 5th, Charlotte Milburn 8th and Lucy Taylor 9th.

There was also success in the Year 7 boys competition.

Luke Bell won the race and is the Sunderland Schools champion for 2017.

The Girls' Year 8 and 9 event saw Olivia Callaghan (year 8) finishing second overall, which is a great achievement as she

was running against girls who are a school year older. Abby Towers and Evie Morton also made the top 10 finishing 5th and 7th respectively. In the boys competition, Aaron Bird (Year 8) and Liam Chrystal (Year 9) were notable performers.

Our second Sunderland Schools' Champion came in the Year 10 & 11 Boys' race where Josh Davis led from start to finish winning by some distance.

John Oliver finished a very impressive 3rd on a tough course.

The pupils who finished in the top 10 in their races have been selected to represent Sunderland at the Inter-Counties Championships at Brandon later in the year.

Head of PE, Mr Atherton said, 'The pupils have performed extremely well and there have been some fantastic achievements. Cross country has been on the curriculum this half term and this has really benefitted the performance of our pupils.'

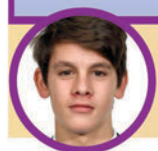


SUNDERLAND SCHOOLS' TRAMPOLINING FOLLOW UP

A group of 14 pupils represented Venerable Bede at the School Games Trampoline Competition in October. All the pupils performed well on the day, competing in either the beginner, intermediate, novice or elite category.

Our girls novice team, Megan Neal, Annie Thompson, Caitlin

Hair and Mary Ellis won their category as a team. There was individual success for Megan, Annie, and Caitlin along with Nathan Hedley and Kayden Thornton who all qualified for the next round as individuals. They all achieved top 10 places in the final, including a bronze medal for Annie, silver for Megan and a gold medal for Kayden.



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