

Spring/Summer Edition
2018

Dayspring
Multi Academy Trust

The Venerable Bede News



Welcome from the Headteacher

Welcome to this preview of our Spring/Summer newspaper! It has certainly been a busy period with lots of Mock examinations and parents' evenings taking place. I would like to thank all of our pupils for their hard work and determination to do well. We are in the process of collating parents' feedback from these events and will share the outcomes of this as soon as practicable.

Our trip to Lesotho was a great success. Our pupils and staff have shared their experiences of a different country and culture. They have all said that they have made new friends and new memories

which I am sure they will remember for a long time.

I would like to say a special well done to the Y7 winners of our annual Christmas card competition. We sent a copy of our VB Christmas card to Buckingham Palace and we have had a personal reply from the Queen! What a fantastic accolade. Thank you to all of our Y7 pupils who competed in the "Values" poster competition. The value which our Y7 have been looking at this year has been "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. I think that this is a good value to focus on at Easter. All of the entries were fantastic, but after some tough decisions Luke Middleton came out on top as the overall winner.

I am sure that you will find the other articles in this edition of our newsletter of interest, and that they will give you a flavour of all the extra things which happen in school.

Best Wishes

David Airey

Headteacher



Dayspring Trust Update

The Directors of the Dayspring Trust are delighted to welcome two new Directors, Mrs. Beth Miller and Mrs. Chris Rayner, to the board, who bring with them a wealth of skills in both the education and social sector. We also say a fond farewell to Canon David Brooke who had been a governor at Ian Ramsey for over 12 years and a director of the Dayspring Trust since we began. We wish him well in his new ventures.

Due to developments within the trust and potential expansion, Mr. Airey's title has changed to Head Teacher of Venerable Bede CE Academy. My role continues to be the same across both academies.

Best regards

G. Booth

Executive Headteacher

WORLD NUMBER ONE PARA-FENCING CHAMPION! VB PUPIL, JOSH, SETS SIGHTS ON OLYMPICS 2022

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 for 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 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 taking 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".



LOOK OUT FOR MORE GREAT STORIES LIKE THIS IN OUR UPCOMING NEWSPAPER!

INFORMATION

Email your community story to: news@venerablebede.co.uk
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Event	School Closes	School Opens
Easter Holiday	Thurs 29 March	Mon 16 April
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
Event	Begins	Ends
Y9 Exams Weeks	Monday 16 April	Friday 27 April