

AUTUMN 2021
Dayspring Trust

The Venerable Bede News



A WELCOME FROM OUR NEW SENIOR PREFECTS

As our journey as senior prefects begins, we would like to give you a warm welcome to this new academic year. After recently being appointed as senior prefects, we are excited to work with both our peers and staff to make school life enjoyable and a safe place for everyone. So far we have assisted with the transition process for year 7's, and we are

excited to get started on many new projects in the coming terms. Although the application process was not easy, we are very glad to be able to represent the school in this way. We hope to become a group of approachable individuals in our school community and act as a key link between staff and pupils.

MOVING FORWARD

The move from primary school to secondary school brings a rich mix of emotions for pupils.

At Venerable Bede Academy, we recognise this can be a challenging time for our new pupils and their families. Our transition programme is designed to offer a personalised approach to the needs of each of our pupils.

Staff visit each primary school to meet with pupils and discuss their next steps in joining us here at

Venerable Bede CE Academy.

Pupils are given the opportunity to share which friends they would like to have in their class and ask any questions they might have about their new school.

Our summer school programme, helped pupils "break the ice" with their class mates and their tutors.

We are starting the new academic year with **our annual open evening, on September 28th.**

We look forward to sharing with you what makes Venerable Bede CE Academy such a great place to study.

Open Evening 2021

Tuesday 28 September
5.00 pm to 7.00 pm

(0191) 523 9745



<https://venerablebede.co.uk>

Missed us? Scan here -



IDIOMAS EXTRANJEROS MODERNOS EN VENERABLE BEDE CE ACADEMY

Have you ever experienced that amazing feeling when you managed to say a couple of words in Spanish or French during your holidays? Being able to communicate in a foreign language is fascinating, but why is it important to learn languages nowadays?

We live in a world that is becoming increasingly globalised. Therefore, having the ability to speak in a different language is now one of the most useful real-world skills to ever exist.

Research studies have demonstrated that learning a foreign language has several advantages and cognitive benefits. Here are some of them:

A much better experience when you are on holidays.

You can explore less touristic places, visit the best restaurants and understand the culture as you can communicate and mix with the locals, who do really appreciate when tourists speak their language. As Nelson Mandela said, "If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart."

It opens up a world of job opportunities.

UK is currently establishing new businesses with more countries than ever before. According to the British Council, companies are suffering a shortage of professionals with language skills.

This means that being able to communicate in a foreign language will set you apart from other applicants and will make you much more valuable to an employer.

It is good for your brain.

Studies show that those who speak foreign languages have better memories and are more creative and better at problem-solving and multi-tasking. Besides, those who can speak a second language improve their understanding of their own language. Therefore,



they have better communication skills than monolinguals.

It makes you more open-minded and it helps to make meaningful friendships.

When you learn a foreign language, you are also learning a different culture. Being aware of other environments and seeing the world from a different perspective is an eye-opening experience, which makes you more tolerant towards others. Plus, the friendship that flourishes from people you meet whilst abroad lasts a lifetime.

At Venerable Bede, we understand the importance of learning a foreign language and every year we celebrate the European Day of Languages where students engage in cultural activities and competitions.

AN UPDATE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Welcome to the latest edition of our newspaper!

The last year has been a year like no other – but we have all aimed to continue “Soaring to the Heights Together.” We have encouraged our pupils to continue to learn, adapt to new technology and to develop lifelong skills. And, although we have not always been able to come into school, our curriculum has continued in much the same way. Technology can have its dangers, but it also

brings us great opportunities to overcome some of the obstacles that Covid 19 has put in our way.

In this paper, you will be able to read about how teachers taught live lessons during the second lockdown so that all pupils could continue to follow their daily timetable. We ensured that all pupils had access to technology, and supported our most vulnerable and the children of key workers to continue to come into school. Just as importantly, we have continued to focus on Careers' Guidance as

well as how to look after your own Mental Health.

Our pupils and families have done us proud! We are continually amazed by the resilience, kindness and compassion of our young people. We have conducted regular surveys and the findings show just how far we have all come – **TOGETHER!** Thank you!

We hope you enjoy reading all about Venerable Bede CE Academy and look forward to welcoming all Year 5 and Year 6 pupils at our Open Evening on

Tuesday 28 September. Remember that there will also be a virtual link for anyone who is unable to attend – see our advert for more details.

Best wishes



David Airey.

Mr. Airey
Headteacher



J.A. Booth.

Mrs. Booth
Executive Headteacher

VENERABLE BEDE, MOST THANKED SCHOOL

Pupils and Parents/Carers have sent 'thank-you' cards to teachers at The Venerable Bede Church of England Academy, making it the **most thanked school in the North East**.

The Venerable Bede Church of England Academy in Sunderland has been recognised as one of the schools receiving the most thank-you cards, expressing thanks for the work of teachers and staff during the pandemic.

This has been done through the 'Thank a Teacher Campaign', which is run by the Teaching Awards Trust. Cards were sent via the online portal from children

and/or parents/carers to their teachers, in a collective effort to praise and acknowledge the individuals going the extra mile. With the high number of thank you cards sent through Thank a Teacher, The Venerable Bede Church of England Academy was the most thanked school in the North East.

PEARSON
NATIONAL
TEACHING
AWARDS



Picture by: Keith Blundy

INFORMATION

Email your community story to:

news@venerablebede.co.uk

Venerable Bede CE Academy

Tunstall Bank - Ryhope - Sunderland
SR2 0SX

Tel: 0191 523 9745 **Fax:** 0191 523 9775

Email:

venerable.bede@venerablebede.co.uk

website: www.venerablebede.co.uk

KEY DATES

More information and updates available on our website

<http://venerablebede.co.uk>



Event	Information	
Year 6 Open Evening	Tuesday 28 September - 5.00pm to 7.00pm	
Year 7 Virtual Settling In Evening	Thursday 7 October - 3.30pm to 6.00pm	
Year 8 Virtual Parents Evening	Thursday 21 October - 3.30pm to 6.30pm	
October Half Term	Friday 22 October	Monday 1 November
Year 10 Virtual Parents Evening	Thursday 11 November - 3.30pm to 6.30pm	



Venerable Bede CE Academy
Christian Values



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

YEAR 9 PRACTISE FORGIVENESS

Pupils at Venerable Bede focus on the study each of our five key Christian Values (See right and left) as they progress through school.

For example our Year 9 pupils focus on the theme of Forgiveness throughout every aspect of school life. They consider what it takes to forgive, why it is important and how forgiveness can bring peace to those who grant it.

These studies mostly take place during tutor time, Worship and Personal Development lessons where pupils complete activities, including writing poems and prayers.

Across, you will find an excellent example written

beautifully by Year 9 pupil Trinity.

A Poem about Forgiveness

Heart heavy with sadness,
The pain of what they had done.
Spiralling, tumbling into madness,
The trust has been undone.
As the scars begin to heal,
I started to turn the other cheek.
The hatred I used to feel,
Starting to diminish over the week.
I do not feel there is need to worry,
My feelings are driven.
My mind no longer in a



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

OUTGOING SENIOR PREFECTS REPRESENT VENERABLE BEDE AT THE MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR HRH PRINCE PHILIP

Following the death of His Royal Highness Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh, myself, the other Senior Prefects and Executive Headteacher, Mrs Booth, were asked to represent the secondary education sector at a memorial service on 16 April 2021 at Sunderland Minster.



There were a few things we had to do together in order for the night to run smoothly. Firstly, we greeted the invited guests as they entered. As we did this, we politely asked if they could sanitise their hands to ensure the safety of themselves and others during this delicate time.

After this, myself, or one of the senior prefects, ushered the guests to their allocated seat within the church. Progressing through the evening, we had everyone in their correct seats. Therefore, it was time for us to pay our respects too and take part in the well-deserved service for His Royal Highness, Prince Philip.

Drawing to a close, the other senior prefects and I were thanked for our contribution to the night by all guests. It was an honour as Head Boy to

represent the school and to show my respects to His Royal Highness Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh. Rest in peace.

FAREWELL FROM US

School is a very important and valuable chapter in everyone's life. Completing our tenure here at Venerable Bede CE Academy has been incredibly special and memorable.

During our time at school, the world was subjected to the Coronavirus. This meant we had to spend out time indoors under national lockdowns. Schools were closed to most and we were left wondering what would happen.

In what felt like a very long few days, our academy adapted

and persevered through the situation by moving work to a virtual platform. This allowed us all to participate in online lessons held on Microsoft Teams.

With this in mind, we have to give credit and great thanks to all the teachers and staff who made online learning possible. It's a completely different style of learning that pupils and teachers alike had to adapt to.

We want to show our appreciation to all staff members who have guided us through; school from our very first day, to our very last. You have helped us to be prepared for the road ahead! Thank you!

Both stories contributed by Josh Head Boy - Class of 2021

VENERABLE BEDE WELCOMES BACK RESILIENT INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER

We spent the morning of 10th March reflecting on our wellbeing and the importance of building resilience in the wake of another lockdown.

A highlight of the morning was welcoming Gram Seed back to school to share his incredible story with all pupils in an online chat via TEAMS.

Gram has experienced his fair share of life's lows. Following a drug and alcohol induced coma in 1996, Gram became a reformed character. He began attending church services and realised that:

"God had a plan for me, to do something different, and that was to help people."

Since his then, Gram has become an award winning author, public speaker, and charity worker. He works tirelessly to support others in need. Having worked with the prison service in criminal reform and helped countless young people in his work with schools, Gram was the ideal guest to communicate the power of faith and positive thought in the face of adversity.



- ▶ Well-being
- ▶ Resilience
- ▶ Personal Development

WHERE WE'VE BEEN AND WHERE WE'RE GOING : CAREERS AT VB

VB Careers

AUTUMN UPDATE

In June, we were lucky enough to have two remote guest speaker events. We had Richard Middleton from ONYX speak to our Year 10 pupils, and we had a range of Scientists from The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine speak to our Year 9 pupils.

Feedback from our Year 10 pupils;

'This was a great experience because it showed us what was available in the North East

and the career paths that are available to us. This has given me some possible options for my Post 16 choices.'

Feedback from our Year 9 pupils;

'It was informative as it taught me that careers in Science aren't just as straight forward as Biology, Chemistry and Physics. There are many paths that you can explore.'

ALUMNI UPDATE

We are currently in the process of building an alumni database to enable us to celebrate the successes of our former

pupils. At present, we have a number of members of staff who have completed the full circle of attending Venerable Bede CE Academy as a pupil and now they have returned as a member of staff!

Mrs Thompson – Teacher of PE

'I studied at Venerable Bede from 2004 to 2009. I then went on to Durham Gilesgate College and studied Sport, Psychology, English Language and Leisure Studies. After college, I went to Sunderland University and completed a degree in Sport and Exercise Science. I then moved to Durham University

to complete my PGCE in Secondary Education.'

Miss Winwood – Learning Support Assistant

'I went on to Sunderland College to study a BTEC Extended Diploma in Drama. This led on to my study of BA (Hons) Music at Sunderland University. I also completed a Post Compulsory Education and Training PGCE at Sunderland University, and I am currently completing a Master's in Education.'

If you require any information or support regarding careers, Mrs Tracey is available in school or via email.



CONNECT TO THE DEEP CURRICULUM

Our 'Connect Curriculum' has been designed to ensure we have a clear, well-sequenced curriculum across all subjects that supports all pupils, both in class and remotely, and particularly following periods of lockdown.

Teachers use every opportunity for individual and collective recognition and positive affirmation to rebuild the sense of place and purpose. Time is taken to

revisit agreed principles for effective learning and the routines that accompany them. Oracy is also a key focus - lessons promote lots of purposeful opportunities for talking and listening. Above all, we want all children to experience success in their learning as consistently as possible, building their confidence, regularly re-igniting motivation and providing rich challenge for them within the curriculum.



Mrs Burgess
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs Da Gama
Assistant Headteacher



SCIENCE DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

Science is concerned with discovering and describing the world around us by observing and experimenting. Those observations and experimental results allow us to understand natural phenomena and make predictions about how things behave, whether they're living things, chemical reactions or physical events.

In the Science department at Venerable Bede CE Academy, we aim to develop pupils' understanding by using engaging scientific concepts that are at large in the modern world. Our aim is to encourage an appreciation of the importance of science that opens doors for pupils. This is best done by showing how science is involved in everyone's lives.

Some great examples of this are:

Vaccines – Not only have scientists managed to develop vaccines that offer protection against Covid-19, but they've done it using a type of

vaccine that has never been used before. In the future, this new type of vaccination might be able to offer protection against diseases that at the moment are impossible to prevent.

Global Warming – Surely the biggest threat to our lives on this planet is that posed by climate change caused by global warming. Switching to cleaner methods of transport and energy production are the obvious immediate improvements we're making, and these couldn't happen without scientists and engineers.

Space – Never before have we been at as important a time for space exploration and discovery as we are now. Private companies are on the verge of developing reusable craft that could take people and materials into space. And how long will it be before we land astronauts on the Moon or Mars again? Will they stay there?

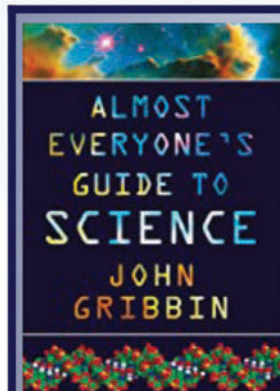


DEPARTMENT LEADERS:

Mr Burgess
Head of Department

Mrs Somers-Caush
Second in Department

Mr Caygill
Second in Department



Title:	Author	Genre	Suggested Year Group
'Almost Everyone's Guide to Science'	John Gribbin	Science/Non Fiction	All Year Groups
Review: This relatively small book has the lofty aims of covering the basics of the main sciences for anyone, even those starting from nothing. Broken into 12 chapters on different sections of the sciences and with an excellent introduction that encapsulates everything that makes science what it is ("If it disagrees with experiment, it is wrong" a quote from the famous scientist, Richard Feynman). An excellent introduction that can then be built upon.			



Title:	Author	Genre	Suggested Year Group
'A Really Short History of Nearly Everything'	Bill Bryson	Science	All Year Groups
Review: The renowned travel writer, Bill Bryson, turned his hand to writing about Science, producing this engaging book that is the highest selling Science book of the last 20 years. Like John Gribbin's book reviewed above, Bill Bryson aims to start from the very basics and end up with an understanding of as much science as you can squeeze into this fairly lengthy book. It's a bigger offering than Gribbin's book, but it's written in Bryson's easy to read style, so this is probably easier to pick up. Highly recommended.			

REMOTE LEARNING

Remote learning has been a challenge for everyone, but the resilience, perseverance, positivity, wisdom and hope demonstrated by our Venerable Bede Community has been outstanding.

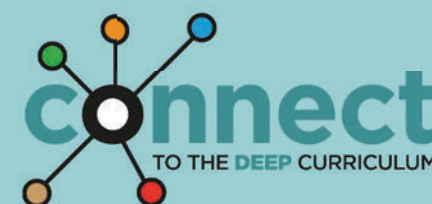
Whilst learning from home, pupils in all year groups

have continued to virtually pursue a broad, balanced and DEEP curriculum that Develops, Engages, Encourages and provides opportunity for Practice.

Pupils have followed their usual school timetable, accessed live lessons with their subject teachers, attended virtual Worships, met online with their tutors

and been able to access a wealth of resources to support them in terms of both their learning and their wellbeing.

We would like to thank everyone - parents, carers, pupils and staff - for their efforts and support in making remote learning such a huge success.



School could not have possibly done any more to ensure children have had the least disruption to their education.

Parent/Carer
(Year 10 Pupil)

I found remote learning to be similar to being at school. The best parts of this were how well teachers produced lessons and made it feel like being in a classroom

Lily
(Year 9)

We're really pleased with the live learning provision - thank you for your hard work in organising learning so effectively during this difficult time

Parent/Carer
(Year 7 Pupil)

I won't pretend it wasn't a daunting experience, but after 14 years spent in one school, the idea of starting afresh at Venerable Bede CE Academy was really exciting - I couldn't wait to meet my new classes and get stuck in to new texts!

As the Christmas holidays drew to an end, the reality of what I was about to do hit hard - everything was going to be so new and so different. There was so much I didn't know about our school yet! One thing is certain in teaching, though: there is nothing quite like throwing yourself in at the deep end for getting used to something quickly. The first morning I started, I put on a new dress and tall shoes and tried to walk into the building with the air of someone who has been here forever.

But where was everyone?

A WARM WELCOME...

The government had just announced that a new lockdown was to begin. That day, I met four students in person, on the second day I met three and by the third day I was at home again!

It was a strange way to meet my new classes but, looking back, I wouldn't change it. When we finally returned to school, I had the advantage of feeling like I knew my students already, even though I'd never seen them face to face - what teacher in a hundred has such a privileged start? I had to meet my new department virtually too - but lockdown learning had really knit the English department together in friendship and mutual support, so I had the advantage of chatting with colleagues far more frequently than we ever have time to do in school.

All the staff and students at Venerable Bede CE Academy were so kind and so welcoming. When I received thank you cards and emails from students following remote learning, I was really overwhelmed. Yes, it was a very unusual beginning to my career here, but it was filled with the overwhelming kindness that sets our school apart. Thank you for making my first two terms here very happy ones!

Mrs Stebbing
Second in English



REMOTE LEARNING

MATHS DEPARTMENT

A huge well done to all pupils who took part in both the Junior and Intermediate Maths challenges this academic year at Venerable Bede CE Academy. Whether it was virtually or in school, all pupils performed incredibly well. Both challenges involved 60-minute exam papers, with all questions multiple-choice.

The challenges promote and encourage mathematical

reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems.

Here are some of the top performers:

Year 9

Jack achieved a 'Silver Award'.

Lewis was awarded 'Best In School' for the Junior Challenge.

Year 10

Jude achieved a 'Bronze Award' and also the 'Best In Year' award.

Year 11

Charlie who achieved a Silver Award and 'Best In School' for the Intermediate Challenge.



Having to adapt and change lessons is such a challenge and this has been done in a way to keep the learning continuity to the high standards we know and expect from the school.

Parent/Carer
(Year 7 Pupil)

In live lessons, you get lots of guidance from teachers and you can still make really good progress. It is helpful to be able to ask teachers if you don't understand.

Leah
(Year 8)

Staff have had a challenging remit and they have gone above and beyond to ensure that my children are still learning in these difficult times. Nothing replaces face-to-face teaching but the learning offer has been second to none.

Parent/Carer
(Year 9 & Year 11 Pupil)

"We really appreciate how everyone has gone above and beyond. It is clear to see the amount of time and support that teachers have put in place to maintain education and stability for everyone."

Parent/Carer
(Year 10 Pupil)

STAYING SAFE LEARNING FROM HOME

Working together we evolved our provision quickly to ensure not only the efficient, uninterrupted and inclusive delivery of our DEEP curriculum, but also to safeguard the whole person, providing resources for enrichment, Worship & Prayer as well as mental health and well-being.

Those who required support to access learning were provided with the technology to do so, or printed resources to ensure that no one was left behind!

We found the 'National Online Safety' - Tips for Remote Education particularly useful...

- TREAT REMOTE EDUCATION THE SAME AS CLASSROOM LEARNING
- USE CLASSROOM LANGUAGE
- TAKE REGULAR SCREEN BREAKS
- ALWAYS CONDUCT VIDEO LEARNING IN AN OPEN SPACE AT HOME
- ONLY COMMUNICATE THROUGH APPROVED

SCHOOL PORTALS AND PLATFORMS

- STICK TO SCHOOL RULES ABOUT REMOTE EDUCATION
- DON'T SHARE PASSWORDS OR OTHER SENSITIVE INFORMATION
- DON'T USE SCHOOL PLATFORMS TO DISCUSS PERSONAL MATTERS
- LOOK AFTER YOUR MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

DaySpring Trust
Venerable Bede CE Academy



Live Teams Lesson
in progress

DO NOT ENTER

Soar to the Heights Together

RECIPROCAL READING

During this academic year, the school has been involved in a project run by FFT and Belfast University called One Reciprocal Reading Project.

Our Year 7 pupils have been taking part in morning intervention sessions run by our HLTA in English, Mrs Surtees. The pupils have been following the Reciprocal Reading strategy: reading a text; making predictions; clarifying vocabulary;

answering questions and summarising what they have read. This has been an exciting project to be involved in, as the research is being used to look at reading strategies for the DfE. This project will continue into the Academic Year 2021/2022 and hopefully we will see much improvement in outcomes.

As well as using the Reciprocal Reading strategy for morning intervention, we have also

implemented it into the Literacy lessons for Year 7 and Year 8. All pupils in these year groups have now had the chance to improve both reading and vocabulary skills using this strategy.

We have found this to have a greater impact than previous methods that we used in Literacy lessons. Our pupils have said the lessons are more enjoyable.

"I'm a much stronger and more confident reader now"



READING HUB & MENTAL HEALTH



Mental Health is something that has been talked about a lot more in recent years, and is more important than ever, bearing in mind the changes that the COVID pandemic has brought about.

Our Learning Resource Centre has just launched a new SHELF HELP COLLECTION (self help on a shelf). We now have a designated space for books dealing with aspects of mental health and wellbeing. You can find a mixture of fiction, non fiction and poetry, aiming to support and encourage pupils who are having a tough time,

but also helping all of us in the school community to empathise with what other people might be going through.

Some books have already been read and recommended by Mrs Holmes, and some by pupils. Others have been selected from the Reading Well and Empathy Lab projects.

All the information is displayed outside the LRC. If you'd like to borrow any of the books just email or speak to Mrs Holmes.

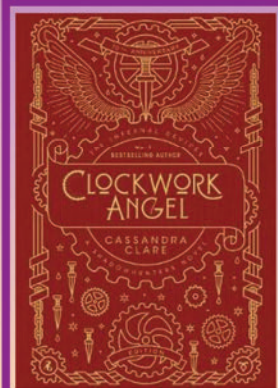
BEDE'S READS



Title:	Author	Genre	Suggested Year Group
The Boy Who Steals Houses	C.G. Drews	Heartwarming YA fiction	Y7/Y8

Review:

A powerful and dramatic read that will leave you wanting more! Sam, the narrator, is fifteen years old and both him and his autistic brother have been let down by many family members. It is up to Sam to build a life for them. They move around, breaking into empty houses, until one day when a family returns and things take an unexpected turn... Avid reader or reluctant reader - this is the book for you!



Title:	Author	Genre	Suggested Year Group
The Infernal Devices 1: Clockwork Angel	Cassandra Clare	YA Fantasy fiction	Y9 - Y11

Review:

Prepare to be mesmerised and captivated by the first book in Clare's prequel to the bestselling Mortal Instruments series. Set in Victorian London, Tessa Gray must navigate in a world of the Supernatural and something terrifying awaits her in the Downworld. She seeks refuge with the Shadowhunters, an organisation hell-bent on ridding the world of demons. If escaping into a world of fantasy is your thing, then give this book a try!

Y11 LEAVERS LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

During an emotional event held to celebrate and bid farewell to our Class of 2021, our Deputy Headteachers, Mrs Burgess and Mr Goodman, delivered a poem which perfectly encapsulated how we all feel about the end of another unprecedented academic year. Amid the shirt signing and posing for photographs it gave us all a moment to pause, reflect and giggle! We hope you enjoy it!

FAREWELL

Farewells before may have involved
Films, music or a speech
But in this unusual passage of time
A poem we shall unleash
As you cross the bridge and leave behind
The world you know so well
We intend to bring about a smile
So on the sadness you cannot dwell

You came here as little children
And you leave as young adults
The person you have become
Is as important as your results

You completed online learning
Stuck in quarantine
Came back to school then
Had to wipe the tables clean

In August we will recognise
All you have achieved
Five long years of school and
The grades you have received

For one potentially final time,
We stand in this Bistro hall,
You've been totally amazing
And we truly thank you all

So for our very final message
Without being too sentimental
Be always safe and very happy
But most of all exceptional



Key information for Year 11 can be found on our website:

<https://venerablebede.co.uk>

Careers advice activity

<https://bit.ly/VBCActivity>

Careers Hub

<https://bit.ly/VBCareersHub>

MIND SHARPENERS

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

ETHOS WORD SEARCH

WORDS CAN BE IN ALL DIRECTIONS!

WORDS TO SEARCH:
TOGETHER, SOAR, GROW,
SERVE, GENEROUS, STRENGTH

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

SPANISH WORD SEARCH

WORDS TO SEARCH:
ALEGRÍA, SUEÑO, PERDÓN,
SABIDURÍA, FORTALEZA, SIGUE

CAN YOU WORK OUT THE CONNECTION THESE WORDS HAVE WITH OUR ACADEMY?
HINT ON PAGE 3

SUDOKU & NUMBER PUZZLES

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

	+		=	8		-		=	1
+		+			+		+		
	-		=	6		-		=	-4
=		=			=		=		
13		8			7		10		

VB UPDATES

VOICES

COVID-19 CONSULTATION

Pupil Voice is extremely important at Venerable Bede Academy, particularly in light of the pandemic. We were asked by Children North East, a local charity working with Newcastle University, to be part of the Voices Project, a report into the impact of the National Lockdown on the lives of young people in our region. We jumped at the chance!

Initially, 85 pupils from Year 7 to Year 9 were asked to complete a brief survey about the positive and negative

aspects of the pandemic and what is the most important thing to them now.

Understandably, there were many comments that showed just how hard it has been for our young people, such as,

"Online learning wouldn't stick in my head"

and

"It's been a year of instability without seeing people. I worry I've forgotten how to talk to them. It's going to take some time getting used to it".

However, there were positive outcomes too!

"I've enjoyed focusing on myself, looking after myself and learning not to stress about the little things."

In the second stage, a selection of 30 pupils from Year 7 to Year 10 took part in online focus groups to establish a deeper understanding of their experiences and how Covid has affected their lives. Every pupil involved in the study demonstrated excellent manners and consideration of the impact beyond themselves when answering questions:

"I worry about bringing home covid to my nana who is on her own. I worry about her keeping safe."

and

"It's better being back at school where you can see people. I'm glad I'm back at school as I can see my friends and make sure they are alright because during lockdown it was hard to check up on others."

What is next? Several of our pupils have opted to take part in the next stage – to produce a comic strip or video about their experiences. Watch this space!

PLASTIC FREE ALTERNATIVES - SENIOR PREFECT REPORT

In response to City of Sunderland's e-update in June, we thought we would take the opportunity to share Venerable Bede's journey with plastics.

Our senior prefects raised their concerns about the amount of unrecycled plastic the school produced in the form of plastic drinks' bottles in the canteen.

This was taken to the Autumn term student council meeting and a poll of pupils found that they would like to see drinks bottles replaced with a recyclable alternative. The school council has worked with the kitchen suppliers to replace all drinks with recyclable alternatives, both cardboard cartons and aluminium cans.

Pupils are investigating recycling schemes in the North-east and collecting the waste



drink cans to recycle responsibly. In addition a group of pupils have suggested having reusable drinks bottles for all pupils and the school is sourcing this on their behalf. This will be supported further with drinks bottles available in the school's online rewards shop.

JOINT SCIENCE & RE PROJECT



The Church of England Foundation for Educational Leadership have created a series of research projects to improve learning and links between Science and Religious Education (RE) across the country.

At The Venerable Bede CE Academy, the R.E. and Science Departments are very pleased to be working on this prestigious project and are working in collaboration with

Canterbury University on the "Epistemic Insight Project". This encourages pupils to think deeply about topics that crossover between the two subjects, for example, 'The origins of the universe'.

We are just at the beginning of the project and are looking forward to seeing the project develop. We will update you with our findings.

Venerable Bede Anti-Bullying



We are delighted to have been recognised for the GOLD award for the young people's Anti-Bullying Charter Mark during lockdown by the City's "Together for Children" initiative.

The award is a celebration and testament to the continued hard work put in by the whole-school on anti-bullying. This year we have also launched the new "Anti-Bullying Hub" on the school website.

<https://www.venerablebede.co.uk/vbab-hub-about/>

Mental Health Tips

The Five Ways to Wellbeing are a set of mental health messages aimed at improving the mental health and wellbeing of the whole population.

Building small actions into your daily life can make you feel good, and feeling good is an important part of being healthy.

These five ways to wellbeing are proven to make a real difference to you, follow our notes to find real world examples from our community in the other stories in our newspaper!

Connect

Connect with the people around you. With family, friends, colleagues and neighbours. At home, work, school or in your local community. Think of these as the cornerstones of your life and invest time in developing them. Building these connections will support and enrich you every day.

In this Newspaper:

Page 10. Our new Year 7s will have the opportunity to meet with new people during Venerable Bede CE Academy Summer School.

Be Active

Go for a walk or run. Step outside. Cycle. Play a game. Garden. Dance. Exercising makes you feel good. Most importantly, discover a physical activity you enjoy and that suits your level of mobility and fitness.

In this Newspaper:

Page 12. You never know how good you might be at something until you try, just like our Venerable Bede pupils featured here.

Take Notice

Be curious. Catch sight of the beautiful. Remark on the unusual. Notice the changing seasons. Savour the moment, whether you are walking to work, eating lunch or talking to friends. Be aware of the world around you and what you are feeling. Reflecting on your experiences will help you appreciate what matters to you.

In this Newspaper:

Page 3. Our year 9 pupils focussed on the theme of Forgiveness, one of our Five Christian Values.

Keep Learning

Try something new. Rediscover an old interest. Sign up for that course. Take on a different responsibility at work. Fix a bike. Learn to play an instrument or how to cook your favourite food. Set a challenge you enjoy achieving. Learning new things will make you more confident as well as being fun.

In this Newspaper:

Page 5. There are some book recommendations to stimulate an interest in Science.

Give

Do something nice for a friend. Thank someone. Smile. Volunteer your time. Join a community group. Look out, as well as in. Seeing yourself, and your happiness, as linked to the wider community can be incredibly rewarding and creates connections with the people around you.

In this Newspaper:

Page 2. During the Thank a Teacher Campaign lots of our parents and pupils sent cards to show their appreciation.

On-going Well-being!



Outside of our academy and in the wider community, we hope you have the opportunity to connect with the world around you, get outside and be active, learn some new fun things, give to other people, and take notice of what is happening all around you... all really cool things to help you feel amazing.

SUMMER SCHOOL 2021

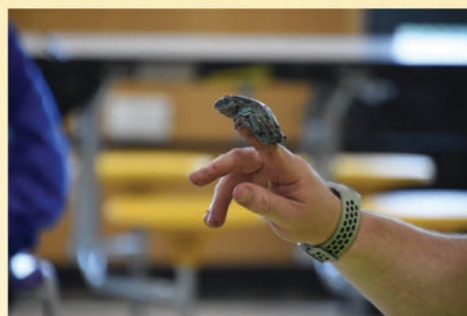


A highlight of Venerable Bede CE Academy's transition programme has always been our summer school

Our summer school traditionally offers an opportunity for pupils who might find the transition from primary to secondary school challenging. Places are limited and the summer school is often over subscribed.

This year we offered two separate weeks of summer school. Week one was aimed at all pupils in the year group and allowed them the opportunity to; visit school, meet key staff including their tutor and play games together.

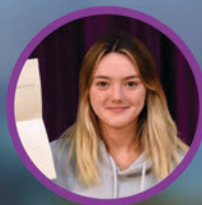
For week two, we invited a limited number of pupils to a more "academic programme" which included; forest school activities, Shakespeare drama workshops, VB Bake-off, and animal encounters with Zoolab. Pictures from this pupil favourite activity can be found on this page.



Open Evening 2021

Tuesday 28 September
5.00 pm to 7.00 pm

(0191) 523 9745



<https://venerablebede.co.uk>

Missed us? Scan here -

