



Weekly Bulletin – 28 June 2024

This week we have been exploring the theme of determination. It is very easy to say: “Fear not and be courageous”. But, when you are going through a storm or have to face the trials of life, it is not easy to remain calm, and take courage. In spite of this, God tells us over and over again to be strong and not to be afraid. Scripture also points out that the doors to God’s throne of grace are wide open. This week we have prayed for courage and determination. We asked God for strength and grit to face whatever comes our way.

Newark Civil War Centre

The Year 12 History trip to Newark was a huge success. All 13 students enjoyed a guided historical tour of the town in glorious sunshine followed by sessions with the Newark Civil War Centre’s archive in which students investigated a variety of sources including swords, cannon balls, pamphlets and coins. They explored the Centre’s different galleries and provided a lot of entertainment in the dressing up section. The final session involved reliving the trial of Charles I with many of the students getting involved in the different roles as well as considering the different historians’ perspectives of the event. Our day ended with Pizza Express and some disappointment for the more dedicated football fans among the students. It was a really enjoyable day and the students were a credit to the school throughout.

School Site – Vehicle Access

The construction work on our school sixth form project has started this week and the construction site entrance is at the main entrance to the school. To allow deliveries for the construction site to be made safely, we are not able to allow parent/carer vehicles on to the school site. We already have extremely limited visitor parking, and this will be reduced even further during the construction work. If you have an appointment at the school, please park offsite and use pedestrian routes to access reception. (Blue Badge holders please contact reception). Thank you for your support with this, I am aware that restrictions will cause some inconvenience in the short term, but the overall benefit to our students will be great for years to come.

PHSE

On Tuesday during Core Studies students learned about the general election. They learned about the main UK political parties, why people vote for them, the trends over the last two general elections, voting trends amongst different sections of society and the possible outlook for the next election. Students reflected on who they would vote for and why.

Attendance

Thank you for your continued support with your child’s attendance, and as always, please ensure we are aware of any issues so we can work together to support good attendance. We would like to make you aware of some government changes that come into effect in August 2024.

These included parent fines for unauthorised absences being brought under a national framework to help tackle inconsistencies in their use. A fine for parents must be considered if a child misses five days of school for an unauthorised absence. For more details of these changes, please read:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/02/29/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>



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Showcase Fortnight – Monday 1st July – Friday 12th July

Over the next two weeks teaching staff will be taking place in 'Showcase Fortnight', where they formally invite other teachers into their classrooms to watch them teach for a short section of a lesson. The purpose of this is to foster collaboration around teaching and learning best practice and to learn from one another. This year's teacher professional development has been underpinned by our curriculum values of supporting students to 'know more, remember more, go the extra mile and do more' and teachers will be showcasing teaching techniques they have been working on this year. Over 50 teachers are taking part in this; the feedback will be shared in a future bulletin.

Year 11 Leavers' Prom

On Thursday 27th June, Y11 celebrated their much-anticipated leavers' prom. It was a night celebrating everything they've achieved over their five years at St Benet Biscop. After months of lessons, revision and exams, Y11 came out in style for an unforgettable night at St James's Park. Our prom took place in the Magpie Suite, with fantastic views across the pitch which made for an excellent backdrop to the many photos students took to commemorate the evening.

Students made the most of the 'evening-wear' dress code, showing off their individual style with flair, from sophisticated suits to elegant dresses. Anya Kelly and Harveer Ladhar delivered heartfelt speeches to the year group, thanking their teachers and peers for the memories shared over their time at our school and joint efforts throughout the exam period this year. It was lovely to see our students speak with such confidence and maturity, embracing the vibrant community they've built as a year group over the years.

Staff and students enjoyed the night immensely, making the most of the photobooth to take home photos from the night as keepsakes for years to come. Thank you to all the students and staff in attendance for contributing to a night we won't forget!

School Uniform Donations – Hope Church, Bedlington

If your children have grown out of their school uniforms, please consider donating them to the Clothes Bank at Hope Church who will pass them on to next years children. Alternatively, if you are in need of any school uniform for September, then pop into their shop to see what they have, helping you save money and save the environment by reusing and recycling.

The shop is situated at the top of Front Street, Bedlington (next to the chemist) and will be open every Thursday 1pm - 4pm throughout the Summer Holidays. There are blue wheelie bins at the rear of the property for any donations dropped off when the clothes bank is closed.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.



Mr K Shepherd
Headteacher