



The Bernard



Our newsletter for parents, carers & friends of
St Bernadette Catholic Secondary School

Issue 6

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French Trip to a Brasserie

On the evening of Tuesday 6th February Year 10 & 11 French classes indulged in a meal in a French brasserie in Bristol City Centre.



This was an opportunity for our students to experience some authentic dishes from France. Eating out is an integral part of French life and their passion for good food is one of the reasons many language learners fall in love with the country.

Mr Leiblich and Mrs Whalley accompanied the group and were very impressed by how adventurous they were in their food choices, with most students trying something that they had never tried before. The delights to choose from included, Smoked Salmon Tartine, Venison Parmentier, Coq au vin & Pissaladière Camembert. In addition, they used their very best French accents when ordering from the menu. The students showed great maturity and it was a pleasure to be in their company. The evening was enjoyed by all and Mrs Whalley plans to make this an annual event.



U15 Girls Football Team

The U15 Girls football team won the Bristol City Futsal Tournament a few weeks back, and are being presented with their trophy on the pitch at half time during Saturday's fixture Bristol City against Sunderland.



Debate Mate

We took two teams to the Urban Debate League Round 1 at Fairfield. One team (Zulekha Mighty-Miller, Hamza Mhyn, Lily Albert and Mia Wade) won both of their debates and the other team (Nima Sunny, Joe Little, Jasmine Wiseman-Doyle and Poppy Barker) won one. The teams have been working really hard on their debating skills for the last two terms. They did incredibly well and faced some tough competition. We're looking forward to the second UDL round in March.

Language Leaders trip to St Brendan's

On Monday 5th February, ten students from Year 9 Language Leaders attended St Brendan's Mandarin Masterclass. Our Language leaders completed a module of Mandarin last year and were able to show off their knowledge of numbers and greetings to the visiting Mandarin teacher and to the sixth form students who were very impressed with their skills. This was a fantastic opportunity for the students to experience what is like to study at sixth form as well as to discover how important Mandarin will be in the business world in the future. The staff from St Brendan's commended our students and Mrs Esparza who accompanied them felt that they were excellent ambassadors for language learning and our school. Well done!

Mrs Whalley – Head of MFL

Lunch with the Mayor

Ebony Clark had lunch with the Lord Mayor to celebrate young people in Bristol and to talk about education for young people.



Welcome

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our new students who will be starting with us in the new term, Alhaji Jalloh who will be joining 7 Verity and Reece Sheehan who will be joining 7 Faith.

Attendance and Holidays

We are approaching the time when many of you may be considering booking a holiday over Easter or in the Summer break. We would like to remind you that you should not book holidays or family visits that will result in your child missing school.

If you are planning to take your child out of school we should be notified in writing. There is no longer a specific holiday form available. We ask that you write a letter or e-mail addressed to Mrs K Bennett (Attendance Officer) detailing your reasons for taking your child out of school and the dates they will be absent.

Mrs McLaughlin is only able to authorise an absence from school in exceptional circumstances. Mrs Bennett will reply to you in writing to advise if the absence will be recorded as 'authorised' or 'unauthorised'.

Bristol City Council recommends that Penalty Notices should be issued to parents if a child has eight or more sessions of 'unauthorised' absence in any ten week period. (A session is half a day – either morning or afternoon.) A Penalty Notice will comprise of a £60 fine for each child that is absent and will be issued to each parent.

Please be aware that if your child's absence is recorded as unauthorised and is four days or over, a Penalty Notice Fine will be issued.

Please help us avoid issuing Penalty Notice Fines by arranging your holiday or family visit during the school holidays.



Curriculum Enrichment Day - 6th February 2018

For CED our year 11's spent some time creating revision banners. These will be displayed around the school in order to help revision. Our maths and science teachers also combined to show how GCSE maths topics can be applied in GCSE Physics.



Changes to Social Time Arrangements

After the half term break and with, hopefully, some better weather approaching – we are making some changes to the outside areas pupils can access during break and lunchtimes.

This is intended to give the pupils a wider range of activities, more space for socialising with their friends and ease congestion in the building.

The new arrangements are on a trial basis for term 4 and we look forward to seeing our pupils enjoying the additional space they will now be able to access.

Area	Year groups	Activity
Tennis Courts.	All	Football
Under the canopy (seating).	All	Socialising
Main playground.	All	Football/outside basketball
Seating by the sports hall/ main playground.	All	Socialising
Field (open when the weather improves)	All	Football/socialising
Sports hall	All	Indoor basketball. (Up to a maximum of 40 pupils.)

Year 7 Football

The game started off with chances on both sides but solid defending and good keeping from Archie stopped the outfield players from converting. However, after a strong spell from St Bernadette, where many chances were created, a counter attack from Oasis led to a disappointing first goal of the game. The rest of the first half was controlled by us. Chances came flying by with some inspiring, flowing moves from Jaimie V, Ephraim Y and Leo F until finally a great low driven cross by Ephraim was met by James C who from close range curled it past the Oasis keeper. This was the goal we had been waiting for!



At half time our supportive coach, Mr Yandell, made a few tactical changes. Our captain Ephraim was moved into centre midfield where he constantly played passes to Jaimie and Tobi (who had come on for Leo) and the supply to James was great and many more goals could have been scored!

We also subbed our keeper and our left back. We dominated the second half and James C scored two more close range goals. We have some fabulous link-up play between Jaimie and Ephraim which resulted in Ephraim hitting the Bar from the half way line! Great play in the mid field led to the fourth goal with the ball ending up at Jaimies feet and whose shot was too much for the keeper and it bounced in.

Strong defending from Kyle B, Charlie A, Louis L and Allen V stopped Oasis on their few dangerous counter attacks but after some quick play from Oasis we conceded their second goal.

At the final whistle we had won the our first match and the Man of the Match went to Jaimie V after the team and coach agreed on his nice control and vision, starting lethal attacking moves with the rest of our outstanding team.

Written by Jaimie Vadhyanath

School Meals

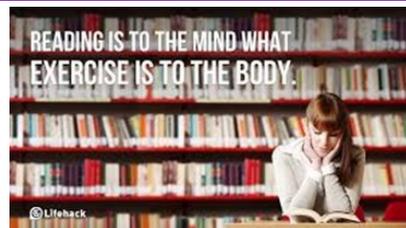
Our catering supplier is going to be changed from Eden to Chartwells with effect from 19th February.

A new menu will be published and the cost of a set meal is being reduced to £2.25.

Our kitchen staff will be staying the same.

Drop Everything and Read

Our first two weeks of the Drop Everything and Read initiative have been very successful. Our students have risen to the challenge and the vast majority of students are coming to school properly equipped with a reading book of their choice and their reading strategies bookmark each day. It has been lovely to see so many students absorbed in their reading when we have visited classrooms and many students have requested to continue reading, as they are so engrossed in their books.



We have seen increased numbers making use of the school library and the school book swap, which are both very positive outcomes. We are even seeing more children choosing to read during social times. Shortly, we will publish a list of 100 top books for young people to read, including classics and books from a variety of genres for your child to get some inspiration from. Mrs Osman, who manages the library, is also running a regular reader scheme so that our students can earn rewards for each eight books they read. All the children need to do is collect a reading record from Mrs Osman and get it signed by an adult when they finish reading a book. Drop Everything and Read continues every day for the rest of the year, so please support your child with regular reminders about having a book with them every day.

Mrs J Whalley

Diary Dates

February 2018

19th Start of Term 4

19th - 23rd Y11 Science Mock Exams

19th - 23rd Y8 Exam Week

21st Feast of St Bernadette (9.00am - 11.00am)

26th French Play (14.00pm - 15.15pm)

March 2018

1st Y11 Photo's

12th - 16th RE Reconciliation Week

12th Curriculum Enrichment Day

14th World PI Day

15th Y9 Parents Evening (16.00pm - 18.30pm)

16th Non Uniform Day

20th Full Governing Body Meeting (10.00am - 12.00pm)

23rd Holy Week Service (9.00am - 11.00am)

23rd END OF TERM 4

25th Palm Sunday

30th Good Friday