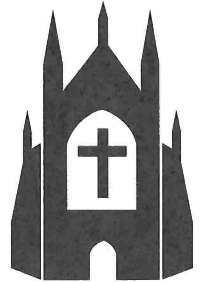


December 2022



Sapere Aude

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Dear Parents,

It is with great pleasure that I write to you as we all prepare for a well-deserved Christmas break. This term has seen Bishop return to many of our traditions which have been on-hold for the past couple of years due to the pandemic.

It has been an absolute delight to re-launch Bishop traditions like the whole year group Christmas meal – with party hats, Christmas jumpers, and turkey, cranberry and stuffing rolls with, due to student demand, chips (of course!). Christmas jumper day is always a colourful occasion, as well as an opportunity to raise money for the work the Salvation Army are doing in supporting people over the Christmas period. We have enjoyed the full range of Christmas festivities. Year 7 and 8 attended a traditional carol service at St Francis of Assisi Church led by our students and Reverend Mike Smith. Students also had a fabulous evening at the 2 Snow Balls held in the main hall.

Perhaps the most important event was the resuming of our 'Welcome Candle Services'. This has been a Bishop tradition since I started at the school 16 years ago. All new students are welcomed with a candle bearing the school crest and motto - Sapere Aude - Have the Courage to be Wise. We have been unable to do this for the past couple of years. It was very emotional for students and staff to take part in this service, to reflect on the Academy prayer and to really think about 'sharing their light in the world' as the candles are lit. Students were reminded that they are the future, they have a God-given right to achieve greatness and can be real ambassadors for positive change. I am very grateful to the Christian youth workers from the PACE Team supporting us in this.

I am pleased to report that we have recently held elections for representatives of the students across all year groups. These students will have regular meetings with the Principal to share thinking about ways in which we can make the Academy the best it can possibly be.

We look forward to 2023 with each group planning a number of school trips. Further details will be available in the New Year.

I am pleased to share with you that long serving member of the Academy Leadership Team, Fay Kirby, has been appointed to the post of Vice Principal.

All information that you need to know about the Academy is on the school website. Any important communications will be sent to you directly by email and through Weduc. There is also a regular sharing of events and activities via the Academy Instagram account. Both the website and Instagram are very helpful platforms for seeing all that is happening at Bishop.

We are really pleased to have re-established the Academy prayer group for parents. We will be meeting on the first Friday of each month in the Academy Chapel at 9.15am. Prayer will be followed by coffee and a chance for a chat.

The Academy will re-open to students on 4<sup>th</sup> January at 8.25 am.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers and may I take this opportunity to wish you a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Best wishes,

Paul Mc



Wednesday	4 <sup>th</sup> January	Academy re-opens to students – 8.25am
Thursday	5 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 8 Hardspell competition
Friday	6 <sup>th</sup> January	Parent Prayer Meeting
Thursday	12 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 7 Hardspell competition
Thursday	19 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 11 Parent Information Evening
Wednesday	1 <sup>st</sup> February	Holocaust Survivor talk to Yr 9
Thursday	2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Options and Choices Performance for Year 8
Thursday	2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Year 10 Parents Evening
Friday	3 <sup>rd</sup> February	Parent Prayer Meeting
Friday	10 <sup>th</sup> February	Inset Day
Week Beg	13 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term
Thursday	23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Year 7 Parents Evening
Week Beg	27 <sup>th</sup> February	Read for Good Week (02/03/22 World Book Day)
Wednesday	1 <sup>st</sup> March	HPV Vaccinations – Year 8 First Dose; Year 9, 10 & 11 Second Dose and Catch-up
Friday	3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Parent Prayer Meeting
Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 8 Parents Evening
Thursday	16 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 13 Parents Evening
Tuesday	21 <sup>st</sup> March	Matilda Jr Performance
Wednesday	22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Matilda Jr Performance
Thursday	23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Matilda Jr Performance
Friday	24 <sup>th</sup> March	Matilda Jr Performance
Week Beg	27 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 10 Work Experience