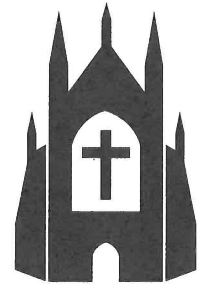


September 2023



Sapere Aude

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the Bishop for the academic year 2023-24. I hope that you had time to relax with family and loved ones over the summer. Following the achievements of last year - a wonderful Ofsted report and excellent examination results for our Year 11 and Year 13 students – we are confident that this will be another hugely successful year.

RAAC

No doubt you will have been following the story in the media about RAAC (Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete) that has been found in some schools. Our school has been surveyed in recent years and as far as we are aware we are RAAC free.

Being a 'Bishop Student'

Thank you to parents and carers for ensuring that students arrived at school in full school uniform with the right equipment on the first day of term. It is so important that students arrived well equipped for learning, and most importantly in the right frame of mind for learning. This year we have emphasised what it means to be a 'Bishop student' in all the welcome back assemblies. We recognise that proper preparation is essential for our students' success on any extensive expedition, such as their journey through school. With this in mind, students have been preparing for the new academic year in their ACWs and mentor group activities at the "Bishop Base Camp". In these sessions, we have been discussing the important qualities that Bishop Students are proud to have and should strive to keep: Awareness, Independence, Collaboration, Empathy, Creativity, and Resilience. Each group has reflected on the progress that they have already made in previous years of their education, and how to face the new challenges that lie ahead, helping students gain the soft skills, habits and mindset that will set them up to live life to the full.

School Chaplain

We were delighted that Bishop Debbie Sellin, Bishop of Southampton, joined us to conduct the licensing of our School Chaplain, Reverend Jenny Nightingale. As some of you may recall Rev Jen worked at Bishop a number of years ago and we are thrilled that she has returned as our School Chaplain and lead of the Wellbeing Team.

Bishop Debbie also welcomed our new Year 7 students during our 'Candle Assembly'. Each year we present our Year 7 students a welcome gift of a 'Bishop' candle. Our hope is that this will be kept as a keepsake and reminder of their school years at Bishop and of our prayer for them that they might know the light of Jesus in their lives and share their light in the world.

Prayer Meeting

Parents and carers are invited to join Rev Jen at our monthly prayer meeting to pray for the academy, our students, parents, staff and the wider community.

The prayer meeting is held on the first Friday of each month from 9.00-9.45am in the Chapel. Please join us when you can.



Examination Results

It is with great pride that I can share with parents that our examination results for both Year 11 and Year 13 surpassed our expectations.

All 6th Form students, who chose to, were able to go to a university of their choice including Exeter, Bristol, Southampton, Warwick, Aberystwyth, Reading, Winchester and Chichester and are now studying a range of exciting courses that include Law, History, Nursing, Engineering, Anthropology, Biochemistry, Teaching and Computer Science.

Our Year 11s are now studying a variety of A level and vocational courses at Bishop 6th Form or are attending a local college on courses that will support them in the next stage of their education. Many students achieved exceptional results. I am particularly proud of those students who achieved well despite having to overcome significant personal challenges - they are a real credit to their families and the academy.

10.10 Clubs

10:10 enrichment sessions start next week. As in previous years, we have a wide range of sport, academic, and arts and creative activities on offer. Full details of those running this term and details on how to sign up your child will be sent out to you via email. The website to for signing up can be found here <https://tbowa.schoolcloud.co.uk/>. Any enquiries, please email 1010@tbowa.org.

Homework Club

Homework Club is available for all students everyday after school from 3-4pm Monday-Thursday and 2-3pm on Friday in C004 and C103. Students will be able to have support from staff to complete their homework during this session.

The Sims Parent App – easy access to important school information

We have a convenient new way of sharing information with you about your child's school life. Soon you will be able to access our new parent app. The information that you receive through the app will help you to stay up-to-date with your child's daily school life as well as helping you to support your child's development and progress. You can access the system from a smartphone, tablet or PC, anytime, anywhere.

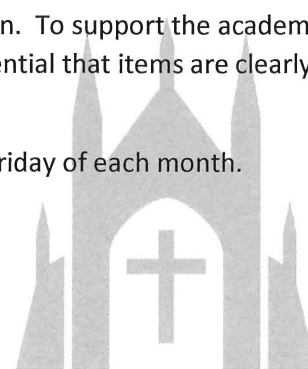
What will you find in the SIMS Parent App? You will find important information such as attendance, behaviour, achievement, your child's timetable and links to other platforms such as Squid and Schoolcloud. You will also be able to ensure your contact details and important information are kept up-to-date.

To access the Sims Parent App you will receive an invitation from the academy. We will inform you via the weekly Head of Year email when the invites have been sent.

Lost Property

Schools are busy places and misplacing items of equipment or uniform is not uncommon. To support the academy in ensuring that uniform and equipment is able to be reclaimed by its rightful owner it is essential that items are clearly named.

Items of unnamed lost property will be displayed in the Nave after school on the final Friday of each month.



Open Evening

We will be holding our Open Evening on Thursday 28 September, 5.00-7.30pm.

To support preparations for this evening event the academy will close at 1.30pm. The Hungry Bishop will be open at morning break (11.00am) and students who are entitled to Free School Meals will be able to use their entitlement at this time.

Students may be asked to support the event and the Head of Department or Head of Year will be in contact with parents to provide further information should your child be invited to take part.

Key dates for this term

Date	Time	Event	Year Group
Thursday 21 September	3.30-7.30pm	Mentor Settling In Evening	Year 7
Thursday 21 September	6.00-7.00pm	Information Evening	Year 11
Wednesday 27 September	2.00-3.00pm	Flamenco Show	Year 7 & 8
Thursday 28 September	5.00-7.30pm	Open Evening	
Thursday 12 October	5.30-7.30pm	6 th Form Open Evening	
Week beginning Monday 23 October		Half term	

As ever, all our success at Bishop is dependent upon the strong relations we have between home and the academy. This mutual trust and respect between home and the academy is at the heart of all that we do. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's mentor if you have any concerns.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

Best wishes,



Paul Mc

