

ST. BEDE'S CATHOLIC JUNIOR SCHOOL

celebrating life and learning

Autumn 1: Issue 2

October, 2026

HARVEST PRAYER

Father, as we celebrate
this season of
thanksgiving

We give thanks for the
blessings of food,
provision and
nourishment.

Please grow in us a
harvest for the world.

Come sow a seed of
hope within our souls
Lord, that we might
yield goodness,
patience and kindness
in abundance.

Sow a seed of peace in
our lives Lord, that we
might bear the fruits of
forgiveness,
compassion and
righteousness.

Come sow a seed of
love in our hearts
Lord, that others
would reap the
blessings of family,
friendship and
community.

May each seed of hope,
peace and love grow
within us into a
harvest that can be
feasted on by all.



OCTOBER HALF TERM DATES:

SCHOOL CLOSES ON
THURSDAY 22ND
OCTOBER AT 3.30 PM.

SCHOOL RETURNS
ON MONDAY 2ND
NOVEMBER AT 8.50
AM.

INSET: 23.10.26

WELCOME TO ST. BEDE'S NEW SCHOOL COUNCIL 2024-2025

The new School Council are now in place and are ready to really effect change in the St. Bede's school community.

The School Council is an identified group of pupils (one from each class) who act as representatives of their classmates in discussing school issues with the Headteacher, Assistant Headteacher and staff. Students are elected to represent the views of all pupils and also to improve their school. They help to make decisions about how the school is run and take on projects that support the children's learning and development, such as organising charity events, representing the school at outside events, or ensuring the school is environmentally friendly.

This year's school council are:

Class 1 Skyla-Rose Geraty	Class 6 Violet Duffy
Class 2 Reid Sparks	Class 7 Rosie Russell
Class 3 Jake Faulkner	Class 8 Connie Eyre
Class 4 Gabriella Antonopoulou	Class 9 Connor Farrish
Class 5 Iyla Davies	Class 10 Bonnie Mae Robinson

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – LIVING OUT OUR FAITH

On Friday 2nd October, our St. Bede's family came together to learn more about CAFOD Family Fast Day and to reflect on how we can put our faith into action by supporting people around the world who do not always have enough to eat.

Family Fast Day reminds us of the importance of prayer, generosity and solidarity. CAFOD encourages us to live a little more simply so that others may simply live, and this Harvest we have been thinking especially about how our support can help people develop new skills, build brighter futures and fulfil their God-given potential.

We are delighted to share that, thanks to the kindness and generosity of our children and families, we have already raised £49 for CAFOD. Thank you so much to everyone who has contributed.

If you would still like to make a donation, please do send it into school. We know how busy school mornings can be and that some families may simply have forgotten.

At St. Bede's, our mission calls us to show love, compassion and care for others. Days like this help our children to understand that even small acts of kindness can make a real difference and that, together, we can help bring hope to others.

"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done." Proverbs 19:17

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40

Thank you to our St. Bede's community for helping us live out our faith through prayer, generosity and action.

APPLETON VILLAGE, WIDNES, CHESHIRE, WA8 6EL

Telephone: 0151 424 3386 Email: head.stbedesjunior@haltonlearning.net



NUT ALLERGIES

At St. Bede's Catholic Junior School we strive to provide a safe environment for all pupils. It has come to our attention that some of our children have a severe allergic reaction to specific foods.

This allergic reaction (anaphylactic shock) can occur through ingestion of these products, cross contamination and breathing (nut) dust in the air. Some pupils may only need to touch an area that is 'contaminated' to have an allergic reaction.

Since this condition can be life threatening, we are asking all members of the school community for their help in minimising the risk to these children by:

Not giving children nuts or nut products in their packed lunches. This includes peanut butter sandwiches, other spreads containing nuts such as Nutella and snacks/bars containing nuts; asking children not to share their packed lunches; not sending cakes or food items containing nuts into school for birthday celebrations, sales or events.

Due to the severity of the problem, it is important that all parents/carers carry out the suggested measures and reduce the risk of allergic reaction to these children. All school meals provided by Mellor's Catering staff are nut-free and kitchen staff know which pupils have allergies.



As a school we endeavour to keep all of our children safe and well and ensure that pupils with allergies are kept away from the specific foods which can trigger anaphylaxis. We ask that parents/carers further support us with checking packed lunches.

We know it is not always clear on packaging, if something is completely nut free so...

IF IN DOUBT, LEAVE IT OUT!

LIVE SIMPLY OCTOBER CHALLENGE

Since September, we have invested in more recycling bins and we have learnt about how we can recycle, reduce and reuse.

In October, we will 'Live Simply' by supporting the Widnes Foodbank. Items needed include: tinned vegetables, tinned spaghetti, tea, UHT milk, microwaveable rice, tinned fruit and toothpaste. If each child donated just one item, we would have over 300 items to share with those in need in our community.



P.S. Every item donated = 2 dojos!

Live Simply

This monthly challenge encourages us to look at our personal responsibility for making choices that will enable us to

Live Simply, sustainably and in solidarity

with the poor. Each month we will be given a challenge to think globally and make a decision to take simple steps to bring about change for the better.

September I will Live Simply by Recycling. I promise to find out more about recycling in my local area and to encourage my family and school to recycle more.		October This month I will Live Simply by raising money. I promise to make a change for people living in poverty, giving some to the Widnes Foodbank.
November Raising awareness of Fair-trade. I promise to find out more about Fair-trade and encourage my family to buy Fair-trade products.	December Praying during Advent. I promise to pray for the people who do not have a safe place to sleep or enough food to eat this Christmas. I will give to the Sisters of Mercy Mission.	January This month I promise I will Live Simply by finding out about climate change and how we can reduce our carbon footprint.
February I will Live Simply by saving energy. I promise to turn the lights off when I leave a room and not leave things on standby.	March The Live Simply Challenge for March is 'Give it up' Challenge. I promise for the whole of Lent I will give up something that I do not need and donate so others can have what they do need (food, water, shelter).	April The Live Simply Challenge for April is Recycle, Reduce and Reuse. I promise to write to local businesses about how they can reduce plastics. I will share successful stories from larger companies on how they reduce, reuse and recycle.
May Walking or cycling more. I promise to walk to school more often than I go by car.	June This month our challenge is to Live Simply by not wasting water. I promise to help the environment by turning the tap off when I clean my teeth.	July The challenge for the month of July is to persevere. I promise to Live Simply from now on because I know that by making small changes to my own life, I can help make the world a better place for everyone.

MENTAL HEALTH DAY: TEA & TALK

Saturday 10th October, is World Mental Health Day. The school staff, and the Mental Health Support Team (MHST) will be available in the school hall on Friday 9th October from 2.30 pm for parents/carers and family members to drop in for tea (or coffee) and a chat. As a school we have an MHST who can provide direct, ongoing support to school families around mental health and wellbeing. This includes:

- Providing direct interventions to pupils with mild to moderate mental health conditions, such as anxiety, low mood or behavioural difficulties.
- Providing parent-led interventions for anxiety and challenging behaviour.

Mrs. Harrington and Mrs. Lloyd-Green are Mental Health First Aiders and are available for a chat and a coffee or tea and a talk!



AUTUMN TERM FUNDRAISING EVENTS

Reminders for diaries:

Friday 13 th November	Type Onesie Day	School Day £1 donation
Monday 23 rd November	Christmas Bingo	5.30 - 8.00 pm approx
Tuesday 1 st December 7.00 pm	School Production	Tickets only £2.00
Wednesday 2 nd December 1.30pm	School Production	Tickets only: £2.00
Thursday 3 rd December 7.00 pm	School Production	Tickets only: £2.00
Friday 11 th December	Christmas Jumper Day	School Day £1 donation
Friday 11 th December	Carols and Crumbs	Tickets only: £1.00
Monday, 14 th December	Christmas Film Night	3.30 - 5.30 pm Tickets: £2.00

TYPE ONESIE DAY – STANDING TOGETHER FOR TYPE 1 DIABETES

We are delighted to announce that St. Bede's will be taking part in Type Onesie Day – a fun and meaningful day which will help us raise both money and awareness for Type 1 diabetes.

On Friday 13th November, pupils are invited to come to school wearing their onesie or pyjamas in return for a £1 donation per pupil.

However, behind the fun of wearing our pyjamas to school is a very important message. Within our own St. Bede's family, we currently have two children who live with Type 1 diabetes every single day. Type 1 diabetes is a lifelong autoimmune condition. It is not caused by eating too much sugar or by anything a child or their family has done. Children with Type 1 diabetes need insulin to manage their condition and must regularly monitor their blood glucose levels. For our pupils living with Type 1 diabetes, this means that things many of us do without a second thought: eating lunch, having a snack, playing outside, taking part in PE, going on a school trip or simply getting through an ordinary school day can require additional thought, monitoring and planning.

That is why understanding and awareness amongst their friends and our wider school community matters so much. By taking part in Type Onesie Day, we are doing much more than simply raising money. Our fundraising will help support work to improve the lives of children and young people living with Type 1 diabetes, including research into better treatments and ultimately cures, as well as information, resources and support for children, families and schools.

Most importantly for us, the day will directly support the children within our own St. Bede's community through greater understanding and awareness. Monies raised will be donated to Breakthrough T1D which is a UK charity that funds vital research, provides support and works to improve life for children living with Type 1 diabetes.

For our two pupils living with Type 1, seeing their whole school community come together also sends a very powerful message: You are not managing this alone. We are standing alongside you. So, get your onesies ready!

DOODLEMATHS & DOODLETABLES

A huge welcome to all of our Year 3 'Doodlers' – each and every one of you now have login details to join our school DoodleMaths and DoodTables apps. It is fantastic to see that the vast majority of you are using the applications daily and are already steaming ahead in the 'Greenzone'! I will soon be launching our 'Doodle Podium' again and hope to see lots of our Year 3s and other year groups achieving the 'Greenzone' level and achieving 'streak' certificates in assembly. Please can all parents encourage their child to use DoodleMaths often – 5/10 minutes a day is the recommendation – little but often shows to create greater progress and confidence in maths. If your child has forgotten their login details, please encourage them to ask their teacher for these.



SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

On Wednesday, 18th November, Academy Photography will be visiting the school. There will be an individual photograph taken of every child. The photographs will be in school before Christmas, if you wish to purchase them as gifts.

Should your son/daughter have P.E. on this day (Classes 1, 2, 6 and 7), they are asked to attend school in their full school uniform and bring their PE Kit with them in a bag.

Venue	School Hall
8.30 - 8.50 a.m.	Family photographs including Pre-School and Infant School children.
8.50 - 9.10 a.m.	In-school families (brothers and sisters in the Junior School).
9.10 - 11.50 a.m.	Individual Photographs



CLASS ASSEMBLIES

Parents/Carers, family members and friends are most welcome to share the celebrations at 9.00 am.

The following assemblies have been arranged for this academic year, though they are subject to change.

DATE	TOPIC	CLASS
09.10.26	St. Francis of Assisi (4 th October): Stewardship	4CS
22.10.26	St. Carlo Acutis (12 th October): Participation	6MG
13.11.26	International Day for Tolerance (16 th November): Anti-Bullying	3MJH
27.11.26	International Day for the Abolition of Slavery (2 nd December)	6SS
04.12.26	Prophecy and Promise	5JW
18.12.26	The Nativity of the Lord: Christmas Meditation	5/6JM
15.01.27	St. Stephen (26 th December): Promoting Peace	4AH
29.01.27	Galilee to Jerusalem	3MFH
12.02.27	St. Catherine of Bologna (9 th March): Human Dignity	3/4VF
05.03.27	St. Joseph (19 th March): Dignity of Work	6SS
12.03.27	St. Oscar Romero (24 th March): Subsidiarity	5JW
25.03.27	Desert to Garden: Easter Meditation (Maundy Thursday)	5JJ
23.04.27	St. Bernadette (16 th April): Distributive Justice	3MJH
07.05.27	To the Ends of the Earth	4CS
21.05.27	St. Joan of Arc (30 th May): The Common Good	5/6JM
18.06.27	World Refugee Day (20 th June)	6MG
02.07.27	Dialogue and Encounter	4AH
16.07.26	St. Veronica (12 th July): Solidarity	3MFH