



A weekly newsletter for Parents, Carers, Students, Governors and Staff

26 January 2024

Dear Students, Parents, Carers and Governors

The week began with us exploring why the Holocaust - or Shoah - is vitally important to remember as an event which altered the lives of so many and to understand the atrocities of genocide in Germany, Poland and many other places across the globe. The theme this year is the fragility of freedom and we reflected on how fragile freedom can be for many people and communities where hatred and violence mark their lives. We heard from Jewish survivors first-hand how their lives were impacted by genocide and prejudice; we prayed together for peace, unity, tolerance and love so that the horrors are not repeated again. Our students do not underestimate the preciousness of freedom; our display board in reception is full of student reflections about what they would not want to lose if their freedom was taken from them. Resoundingly, the fear of losing their education, their ability to move around freely, their personal identities and their freedom of speech were key themes. We must never take these things for granted and it is clear that our students do not!

In more joyous news, the absolute highlight of our week was our stand-out production of 'Beauty and The Beast'. It was a triumph of colour, emotion and wit - months of hard work and dedication ensured that it was a production to rival those of the West End and we delighted in witnessing some stand-out performances and moments of magic on stage. There are so many people to thank but special thanks to our incredible Performing Arts team and all of the talented students who performed on stage or in the orchestra, were backstage or worked as technicians - congratulations to all.

In further joyous news, congratulations to the following Year 13 students for securing places at some of the most prestigious universities in the world: Bea (Law, Cambridge), Edgar (Linguistics, Cambridge) Beth (Veterinary Medicine, Cambridge), Elena (Chemistry, Oxford), Eldho (Aerospace Engineering, University of Bristol), Eleanor (Veterinary Science, University of Bristol) and Harrison (Geography, University of Exeter). All of our Year 13s are working so hard and I know there will be more amazing stories of next steps coming in

Dates for Your Diary

Thu 1 Feb	Y11 Parents Evening 4-7pm Y9 MEP Afterschool club - cancelled
Tue 6 Feb	Parent Prayer 8am in the Chapel
Fri 9 Feb	End of Term 3
Mon 19 Feb	Term 4 begins

Next week: A

soon. I spent an insightful day following Year 12 around some of their lessons today and saw a range of inspirational lessons where students were engaged in their learning and prompted to consider higher-order thinking and some 'big ideas'. The Year 12 chemists conducted a complex experiment and our Politics students enjoyed debating Thatcher's controversial premiership as Prime Minister, to pick just a few of the moments of learning from the day.

Enjoy a restful weekend; if you are coming to see 'Beauty and The Beast' on Friday or Saturday evening, I look forward to seeing you there.

Mrs Melissa George (BA Hons, MA, PGCE)
 Headteacher



Coffee and Cake With the Head Teacher

Topic: Literacy & Oracy

When: Thursday, February 8th

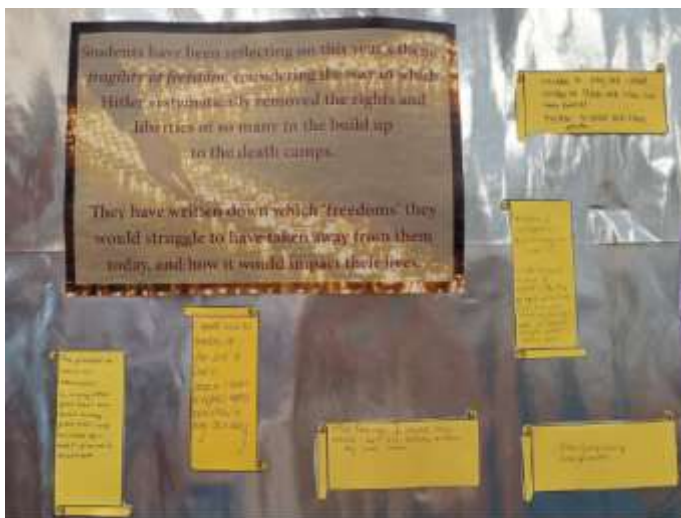
Time: 9:15 - 9:45

Where: Reading Room

Please join us on Thursday, February 8th for coffee and cake with our Head Teacher, Mrs. George.

Shoah Memorial 'Fragility of Freedom'

Holocaust Memorial Day falls on Saturday 27 January this year. In St Gregory's we have been using this year's theme from the Holocaust Memorial Trust and exploring the concept of *freedom* in Chaplaincy, tutor time and lessons this week. Mrs Sarbatta reminded students of the ten stages of genocide in assemblies, which begin with classification, symbolisation and discrimination. The discriminatory measures put in place by the Nazi party which stripped millions of basic freedoms, must have caused immense emotional pain in the years building up to the point of death camps.



We asked many students to reflect on this and the freedoms we enjoy today, considering that it was such everyday essentials as relationships, recreation, shopping, speech and religion that were taken from Jews. They were invited to share which *freedoms* they

Tue	Break – Lectio P3 – Class Mass Lunch – Arts and Crafts
Wed	Break – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Lunch - Meditation
Thu	All Day – Year 10 Young Volunteer Programme (Offsite)
Fri	Break – Shared Prayer Lunch – Games

would struggle with having taken from them and why. The thoughts and responses have formed the basis for a display in reception surrounding the purple memorial flame. Below are a few pictures and examples of student thoughts:

"The freedom of self-identity. What I do and what I am are linked but hiding that would be almost impossible to me. I am who I am, no one can take that away from me. Knowing that for many their identity was hidden or destroyed is heart-breaking."

"The freedom to pray and worship. Freedom to laugh and have fun with friends who I choose. The freedom to speak and have my own opinions."

"The freedom to have an education. So many girls have this taken away from them and the hope of a better future is destroyed."

Mr Robinson, Lay Chaplain





Doodle Maths / Doodle Tables Champion of the Week

<u>Year 7:</u>	Ben H (136 stars)	Keziah M (91 stars)	Christo S (75 stars)
<u>Year 8:</u>	Eddie W (210 stars)	Zac C (163 stars)	Jay B (101 stars)
<u>Year 9:</u>	Ece G (95 stars)	Jacob G (82 stars)	Oakley F (71 stars)

Congratulations to these students for completing so many doodle stars this week. Well done!

APPRENTICESHIPS & CAREERS FAIR

Meet over 100 national and local employers offering jobs and apprenticeships

THURSDAY 14TH MARCH 10AM-2PM

APEX HOTEL
— James St W, Bath BA1 2DA —

SIGN UP NOW
bathcollege.ac.uk/apprenticeships

SCAN ME

Recommended Reads

This week's recommended book is provided by Mrs Auburn from the DT and Food Tech department. It is called 'Adventures in Architecture for Kids'. This and all of the other departmental recommended books can be found on the school website, under 'School Life' and then 'Academic Life'.



Adventures in Architecture for Kids by Vicky Clan

An introduction to the design challenges faced by architects today, including choosing materials, designing for diverse users, and considering the environment.

Offering a world of possibilities for learning math, engineering, history, social studies, planning, geography, art, and design, this rich educational resource includes hands-on projects that allow young people to build their own architectural projects.

Benefit Related Free School Meals All School Years

Is your household earned income/take home pay below £616.67 per month?

Is your child missing out on Benefit Related Free School Meals?

- If your household earned income/take home pay is below £616.67 per month, (which is equivalent to £7,400 per year) and your child attends a Bath & North East Somerset academy or maintained school then you could be entitled to Benefit Related Free School Meals?
- Your household income is the figure that Universal Credit use to work out how much Universal Credit to pay you, **not** your actual Universal Credit payment.
- If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year two and receives Universal Infant Free School Meals, **you can still apply for the Benefit Related Free School Meals.**

Please do not reapply if your child is already in receipt of Benefit Related Free School Meals.

Ways to apply:

Online via the following link: <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

You can ask your child's school for an application form or you can make a telephone application by calling 01225 394317. If you reach our answerphone, please leave a message and we will call you back.

For more details, please visit our website at: <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Qualifying benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods)
- Income Support
- Income-Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (WITHOUT Working Tax Credit) and have an annual household income (as assessed by HMRC) below £16,190
- Working Tax Credit **Run-on** which is **only paid for four weeks** after you STOP qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- The Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under PartV1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Reporting Absences

Feature on the Class Charts (parent) App

Please use the Class Charts app to notify the school if your child is going to be absent. The absence telephone line is still available, however we would prefer you to use this app if possible. This should not only be easier for you, but will allow the school to be more efficient when recording student absences. Once we have acknowledged the absence, you will receive a confirmation email to the account that is registered in the app.

You can also report planned absences such as medical appointments.

Absences

If your school has decided to allow parents to report absences, you will see the **Absences** tab when viewing pupils from that school.

Selecting this tab will display a list of **absences that you have reported**, once you have reported them. This includes **when the absence took place**, the **reason for the absence** and who **acknowledged your absence report**.

To report an absence, click on the **Report new absence** button.

Next, enter the details of the reported absence into the **form** provided.

You can also include up to 5 **files** in your absence report as **supporting evidence**. To do this, click on the **Attach supporting evidence** button and select the files of your choice.

Click on the **Submit** button to send your pupil's absence report to their school. The absence can be **edited** and **deleted** until it has been **acknowledged** by a teacher.



Date of absence: 26/01/2021

Reason for absence: Terry missed the bus today.

Please report your child's absences as soon as possible

Attachments

ATTACH SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

You can upload a maximum of 5 attachments, each up to 250mb in size.

SUBMIT CANCEL

Chinese New Year

Tuesday 6 February 2024



The Year of the Dragon

Sodexo will be celebrating Chinese New Year on Tuesday 6 February with a selection of Chinese food at lunchtime. Do come along to the Canteen and sample the range of delicious food they have on offer.

Year 8 Thoulstone Park Trip

Reminder - final deadline to book a place for your child on the Year 8 visit to Thoulstone Park is Friday 23 February 2024. If you have any questions please feel free to email me at mchalec@st-gregorys.org.uk.



The Google Form link is on ClassCharts and [Here](#).

Mrs McHale, Head of PE

Performing Arts Enrichment Timetable

Term 3 - 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Tutor Time 8.30am-9am				
Contemporary Vocal Group (Band) Ensemble Pod with Mrs Sterlini	Year 7 Singing DRST with Mrs Sterlini	Contemporary Vocal Group DRST with Mrs Green	Senior Choir DRST with Mrs Sterlini	Lower School Voices (Y7-8) DRST with Mrs Sterlini
			String Sinfonia MUS with Mrs Smith	
Break Time 11.10-11.25am				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Flute Salad Ensemble Pod with Mrs Holden			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch time 1.30-2.05pm				
Guitar Ensemble Ensemble Pod with (Guitar Teacher)	Beauty & The Beast DRST with Miss Tate & Mrs Richards	Brass Band MUS with Mrs Avison	Junior Dance company DAST with Susannah	Beauty & The Beast MUS with Mrs Richards & Mrs Sterlini
Beauty & The Beast Dance Team DAST with Mrs Pearson	Symphony Orchestra DAST with Mrs Sterlini	GCSE Dance Practical support DAST with Mrs Pearson	GCSE Dance Written support DAST with Mrs Pearson	GCSE & A level Drama Practical support DRST with Mr Psirides
Tech Club DRST with Mr Psirides & Austin	GCSE Music Composition MUS with Edgar	GCSE Drama Written support DRST with Mrs Richards & Miss Tate	Year 7 Drama Club DRST with Maddie & Sammy	
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
After school 3.10-4.30pm				
	Beauty & The Beast Band DAST with Mrs Sterlini	Beauty & The Beast HALL with Mrs Pearson, Miss Tate, Mrs Sterlini & Mrs Richards	Beauty & The Beast HALL with Mrs Pearson, Miss Tate, Mrs Sterlini & Mrs Richards	GCSE & A level Drama support DRST/DAST with Mr Psirides & Mrs Richards
	GCSE & A level Drama Practical support DRST with Mrs Richards & Miss Tate			



This week in Science Clubs we looked at fossils and how they are made, we made some of our own using Plaster of Paris but you can use other things. The two methods below use coffee grinds or salt dough. Try them out and feel free to send us pictures of what you make.

The article explains how fossils were actually made millions of years ago.

I am also going to add another feature to our Slice of Science and this is the local event. It will suggest a science themed event that is occurring locally that might interest some of you. The first one I want to recommend is an event at Bath University which is aimed at Girls in STEM. This workshop is called Project V Code,. It will teach the girls how to code and how it is used in the STEM and STEM subjects. The event is free and will happen on 10 February. To find out more go to the following link:

<https://www.mightygirls.co.uk/shop/p/vcode>



Article of the week – <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z9bbkqt/articles/z2ym2p3#:~:text=After%20an%20animal%20dies%2C%20the,compact%20and%20turn%20to%20rock.>



Practical of the Week – <https://www.osc.org/diy-fossils/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EMdN5nNMtCo>



The Science Team

B&NES Libraries Events & Activities

Lego Lab

Get creative with Lego

Monday - Saturday

Bath Central Library

Art in the Library

Care Leavers Lens - photography by young people who have been in the care of B&NES Council

Monday - Saturday

Bath Central Library

Sensory Space

For young adults with sensory needs. *Book online.

Monday - Saturday

Bath, Keynsham & Midsomer Norton Libraries

Board Game Saturdays

Drop in and play with our great selection of games

Monday - Saturday

Bath, Keynsham & Midsomer Norton Libraries

Bath & North East Somerset Council
Improving People's Lives



Language Corner

French:

The verb to KNOW (someone) = CONNAITRE and to KNOW (something) = SAVOIR

Je **sais** faire de la planche a voile et je te **connais** depuis dix ans.

I know how to windsurf and I have been knowing you for ten years

Spanish:

Echar agua al mar – to do something pointless (literally, to throw water at the sea)

Mandarin:

万事开头难。(Wànshì kāitóu nán. 'everything start difficult') — **All things are difficult at the start.**



Term 3 PE Enrichment Clubs start on Monday 8 January



Day	Club	Where	Year Group	Girls or Boys
Monday	Fish Trampolining	Gym	Y7 – Y13	Boys & Girls
Monday	Bath City Football	Astro	Y7 – Y8	Boys
Tuesday	Netball	Courts	Y10 – Y13	Girls
Tuesday	Football	Astro	Y10	Boys
Tuesday	Basketball	Courts/Gym	Y10 – Y11	Boys
Wednesday	Hockey	Astro	Y7 – Y9	Girls
Wednesday	Football	Field	Y9	Boys
Wednesday	Football	Astro	Y11	Boys
Thursday	Fixtures	Various	Various	Girls
Thursday	Football	Astro	Y7	Boys
Thursday	Football	Field	Y8	Boys
Thursday	Basketball	Courts/Gym	Y8 – Y9	Boys
Friday	Football	Astro	Y7 – Y9	Girls



All clubs are from 3.15pm - 4.15pm
Please register on School Cloud for ALL clubs
Please speak to a member of the PE Team if you have any questions



St Gregory's Breakfast Club

Open every day

Time: 08:15 — 08:30

Cost: Free

Who: Open to all students



Nut Allergies



Please be aware that we have students and staff with serious nut allergies. We would therefore ask that you do not include nuts in packed lunches and snacks, eg chocolate and cereal bars.

SEND Homework Club for students with SEND

Monday to Thursday each week

Immediately after Lesson 5, until 4pm

Students should come straight to the Study Room in the Inclusion Department at the end of the school day.

Sessions can be booked through the school Gateway via parents evening/school cloud <https://saintgregorysbath.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

(Maximum of two sessions per week)

NB: If your child is unable to attend, please cancel your booking as places are limited.



Thursday 25 January to
Saturday 27 January, 7:00pm

Online tickets available from at
www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-gregorys

