



# NEWSLETTER

**No. 165 – July 2015**

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## Headteacher's News

Dear Student, Parent, Carer, Friends of the School,

We are approaching the end of another very busy and successful school year. As I write this students are coming to the end of Challenge Week and Stretch Yourself and are preparing for sports day.

The range of events and opportunities that staff and students engage in seems to grow each year. This year we had highly successful Ofsted and Section 48 Inspections, a full range of extra-curricular activities and individual and group success in the Maths Challenge, Sport, the Performing Arts and Science and Charity – truly the Challoner Way!

This is the last time I will be writing to you and I would like to thank you for your support personally and more importantly for the school and for the many cards and messages you have kindly sent to me.

I have had the privilege of serving as Headteacher for 10 years, I have enjoyed (nearly) every minute of it. Challoner students are very, very special.

I hope you all have a lovely summer and I am sure you will give Mr Wright your full support as he takes up the Headship of this exceptional school.

Yours sincerely

A J Corish  
Headteacher

## Forthcoming Dates

14-17 July 2015	School Production of "Hairspray"
17 July 2015	END OF TERM (Mass @ 12:30pm) School finishes 3:35pm
2 September 2015	Year 7, Year 10 and Year 11 return
3 September 2015	All year groups in school
7 September 2015	Year 7 Welcome Mass at St Joseph's 6:15pm
8 September 2015	Year 11 Aiming for Excellence Evening 6:30pm – 7:30pm
9 September 2015	Year 10 Aiming for Excellence Evening 6:30pm – 7:30pm
10 September 2015	Year 7 Aiming for Excellence Evening 6:30pm – 7:30pm
14 September 2015	Year 8 Aiming for Excellence Evening 6:30pm – 7:30pm
15 September 2015	Year 9 Aiming for Excellence Evening 6:30pm – 7:30pm
26 – 30 October 2015	HALF TERM

## Ardèche

42 pupils from Year 9 and 10 enjoyed another successful trip to the south of France. We couldn't have asked for better weather on the Mediterranean at Mimosa beach, where we did a range of activities including the Banana boat and rock jumping which seemed to be the most popular.

We then moved on to the Ardèche River where we started our descent over the next three days. We completed the 19 miles through the spectacular Ardèche Gorge playing lots of river games, and it was seemingly the task of 42 pupils to get the staff as wet as possible! The pupils were fantastic, attempting everything, and seemed to grow in confidence throughout week developing new skills while having fun. We look forward to another trip in two years' time.

## Modern Foreign Languages

### Young Interpreters Day - 26<sup>th</sup> June



On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June, Year 10 students Mica Antonio, Lou Aira Dela Cruz, Joel George, Christopher Gregory, Liam Vandamme, Kamil Nowak, Agata Nowakowska and Francheska Serafica were invited to lead workshops in the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Young Interpreter's Conference at Queen Mary's College. The theme of the conference was "A Young Interpreter's Journey", where younger children took part in workshops throughout the day, led by a number of older students.



The workshops for the infant school children included things they might not have done before such as cooking, dancing, art, ICT and design, where they could get a taste of working with the Young Interpreters to help them to be more prepared for secondary school transition.

The Young Interpreter scheme provides additional support to pupils who



are learning English as an Additional Language, to their families and to schools. The support they can offer to a newly-arrived pupil can be very reassuring from a parent or carer's point of view, at a time when their child may be adapting to substantial changes. It also supports school staff in a variety of ways at different points during the school day.



The younger visitors thoroughly enjoyed their day experiencing new things and working with their older interpreters who also thought the conference was a great success.

### **Spanish Exchange 2016**

In 2016, San Sebastián in northern Spain will be the European City of Culture. In March 2016, we will welcome 15 students from La Salle Berrozpe School in San Sebastián, northern Spain. They are coming to experience English life and culture and a reverse visit is currently planned for current Year 9 and 10 students to visit Spain later next year.

La Salle Berrozpe is a school for 6-16 year olds situated just outside San Sebastián, in a smaller town called Andoain. We need somewhere for the visiting students to stay, and it is a perfect opportunity to improve your language skills, meet new friends, and



visit a different part of the world! When visiting we will be taking students to the beautiful city of San Sebastián, which is famous for its amazing views and fiestas. If you are interested, please speak to Ms Corrigan as soon as possible.

*Written by Seb Francis, MFL Student Leader (10 St Benedict)*



## Saxon Wood



Marie Boyere, Ronia Palatty, Mrs Ferris, Mr Parratt (Head of Saxon Wood), Miriam Halls, Georgina Leonard and 3 Saxon Wood students.

Four Year 7 girls raised nearly £100 with a raffle in school for Saxon Wood School. They organised everything themselves and Mr Bouyere kindly donated a mobile phone to be raffled. Above is a picture of the students presenting their cheque to Mr Parratt. The students then gave us a tour of their school.

## Geography Trip 2015 – Calshot Spit

Once more we had glorious weather as the Y10 students recorded data and examined the features and processes along the coast of Hampshire. The students worked very well and hopefully brought their classroom learning to life.



***Annotated Field Sketches***

***Pebble Analysis  
- length and roundness***

***Beach Profile Measurement***

## Challenge Week 2015

### **Art**

The Art department was extremely busy in Challenge Week. We were very lucky to have our school chosen for an art project with the National Trust based around Sandham Memorial Chapel, Burghclere and the work of Sir Stanley Spencer. Thirty Year 8 and 9 students visited the Chapel and worked with a local artist on site. They then had a full day in the art rooms at school sculpting individual art pieces that will ultimately culminate in a permanent piece of art at Sandham Memorial Chapel. The work will be unveiled in November to coincide with Remembrance Day. I would like to thank Ms O’Kelly for accompanying the students with me, The National Trust and Chris the artist for all his hard work.

Thursday and Friday was dedicated to the work of M C Escher. Year 8 students and the Art department worked in a rota with the Mathematics and Religious Education departments and created some excellent clay pieces based on our school, the work of Escher and tessellation.

I hope to display the outcome early next academic year.

***Mrs Ferris***

### **RE Challenges: A Journey to visit two new Places of Worship and a Conference**

Y8 had a wonderful opportunity to make a very special journey during Challenge Week; to both a Mosque and Gurdwara in Southampton. Having spent this half term exploring Islam and a Deep Learning Day finding out about Sikhism, it was only right that students were able to observe their actual worship and ask the kind of questions that textbooks cannot answer.



Both The Mosque and the Gurdwara were so welcoming and more than happy to spend time explaining their beliefs and how these beliefs are lived out in daily life. We were treated to some Sikh hymn singing, accompanied by a harmonium and tabla drum. Some students said later that it was like being in another world. We also loved eating the delicious lentil dahl and rice lunch, many of us went up for third helpings!



In the Mosque, students were surprised to hear Shahid, our guide, reading texts from the Qu’ran about Jesus and Mary and we felt honoured to be able to watch the afternoon prayers take place. In a time when there is so much distrust

and misunderstanding about Islam, it was so precious for our students to be told that the Terrorists' belief system is not in line with the Qu'ran and that true Islam is about Peace and Submission to God's Will.

On Thursday, Miss Gill took 6 Y8 students to the first ever RE Voice Conference in Winchester, to join with exploring the value of RE and the Big Questions associated with it. In particular they evaluated the question 'Does religion matter if you are not religious?' To explore this question they partook in a series of workshops with lecturers from Winchester University and representatives from a variety of faiths. The students demonstrated a high degree of passion, inquisitiveness and intellect. They all came back enthused and eager to create an RE Voice in Bishop Challoner next year – watch this space!

### **Duke of Edinburgh's Award Year 10 Practice Expedition - New Forest - July 2015**

During Challenge week this year 28 pupils along with Mrs Cooper travelled down to Brockenhurst in the New Forest to participate in their Practice Bronze Expedition. The participants have been attending training sessions led by Mrs Cooper throughout the academic year and it was now time to put their new navigational, cooking and first teamwork skills into practice.

The students were divided into four walking groups and were supervised by Mrs Poole, Mr Sheers, Miss Leroyer and Ms Corrigan. Both the staff and the students involved were a real credit to the success of the trip. Everyone put in a lot of effort and teamwork.

The students will now participate in a second Expedition in September again in the New Forest which will be assessed by a qualified Hampshire Assessor. The assessor will be looking for the walking groups to fulfil the 20 requirements set by the Award. The groups need to be self-sufficient for the two days walking and the one night camping, carrying all they need!

Just a reminder that there are several Open Groups in the Basingstoke area where our current year 9 pupils are able to sign up and participate in the Award next year.

Centre	Location	Contact
Fleet Open Centre	Youth Centre – Court Moor School	<a href="mailto:Fleetopen.dofe@gmail.com">Fleetopen.dofe@gmail.com</a>
Basingstoke Open Centre	'Venue' Junction 6 Everest Community Academy	<a href="mailto:basingstokedofe@gmail.com">basingstokedofe@gmail.com</a>
Old Basing Open Group	The Beddington Centre, Old Basing	<a href="mailto:oldbasingoac@aol.com">oldbasingoac@aol.com</a>

For more details please contact **Mrs Cooper** in the PE Department.



### The Bishop Challoner Countryside Club

The Bishop Challoner Countryside Club visited the New Forest during Challenge Week.



Thirteen students spent a night on the farm at the Countryside Education Trust's Out of Town Centre; where they fed and mucked out a number of animals. They had a scenic 7km nature walk along the Beaulieu River and experienced horse riding on the heathland. Ms Revitt was accompanied by Mr Gough and Mrs Tarantino-Hind; the staff were relieved to see the food they prepared eaten without any grumbles and in fact second helpings were asked for.



### Battlefields Trip 2015

On the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of Challenge Week 34 Year 9 students embarked on a journey to visit the battlefields of the First World War. They were accompanied by Mr Gallimore, Mrs Vaughan, Mr Wright and Mrs O'Sullivan. It was regrettable that they were unable to visit the Somme battlefield areas due to the Tour de France, but a fuller exploration of the Ypres Salient was made possible as a result.

The students were highly responsive to the emotive subject matter and enjoyed the excellent tour and commentary provided by our guide John Cameron-Webb (who has served for us on previous visits). It was also an extra special visit for three of our party who were able to visit and pay their respects at the actual graves of their ancestors – an event that made the trip even more meaningful in understanding the sacrifice and futility of the First World War.

### History

On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July Bishop Challoner hosted Henry Schachter – a Holocaust survivor. Henry shared with the Year 9 group his amazing testimony and spent time with us at school.

I believe it is quite unique that we are able to provide this type of learning to our students and it is a real indication that Bishop Challoner is supportive of enrichment and development of the young person at a very deep level.

After his successful visit Henry wrote to us to commend the type of school we are and how our pupils are recognised by the community.

A hugely successful Challenge Week on many levels!

## PE News

### Sports Day



Year 7 sports day winners St Francis  
Year 8 sports day winners St Francis  
Year 9 sports day winners St Anthony  
Year 10 sports day winners St Francis



**Year 9/10 Cricket**

Year 7 and 8 Cup Competition – We were unlucky not to win the Basingstoke Schools cup final held at May's Bounty against a strong Sherfield side. A Man of the Match performance from Josh Pavey almost clinched the trophy for Challoner, with an unbeaten 48 runs with the bat, and 2 wickets and a catch in the field.

**Athletics**

Congratulations to Year 7 and 8 athletes who qualified to represent Basingstoke Schools at the County event in Southampton. Joshua Brooks, Gavin North, Denzel Dangana, Macy Barrett and Ruth Pavey from year 7. Daniel Dortch, Joseph Higgins, Ibbi Popo, Cameron Prayag, Joshua Ngabo, Erin Hamill, Tracy Asubonteng, Annabel Cox and Thalia Dahlen from year 8. A fantastic achievement, well done!

**Girls PE**

The Bishop Challoner girls sports teams have again been very successful this term with fantastic achievements in both Rounders and Touch Rugby.

Our Year 8 Rounders team were joint winners of the Basingstoke Schools League and our Year 7 Rounders team were the overall winners of their League. The Year 7's were unbeaten against every school in the Borough.

We also had success in Touch Rugby, a new activity introduced this year by Mrs Cooper. Bishop Challoner Catholic School hosted two summer festivals where Schools from the Basingstoke area could enter teams. The results were as follows:

Year 7/8 - A team = Winners, B team = 3<sup>rd</sup> and C Team = 5<sup>th</sup>

Year 9/10 – B team = Winners and A team = 2<sup>nd</sup>

As well as the sporting activities mentioned we have also entered teams into the Girls Cricket Tournament days held at Mays Bounty Cricket ground organised by Mrs King. The Year 9/10 came 2<sup>nd</sup> placed School overall.

Finally we were the winning School at the Superstars Event ran in connection with the PE students at Queen Mary's College.