

Monday 17 March

Year 11 Collective Worship Yr 11 GCSE English & Maths Mocks

Tuesday 18 March

Year 10 Collective Worship Year 7 Spring House Games

Wednesday 19 March

Year 8 & 9 Collective Worship

Thursday 20 March

Year 7 Collective Worship Year 6 into 7 Transition Coffee Morning Year 8 Spring House Games Year 11 English Lectures

Friday 21 March

Year 12 Collective Worship Year 10 Reports issued Non-Uniform Day (see page 5) Year 13 Sociology Conference

Next week: Week B

Assembly Theme: Compassion

We are a Church of England School

#BestOfBishop

On Monday, 8 students with Mrs Hutchinson and Mr Holvey had the immense privilege of travelling to Westminster Abbey to be part of the congregation in the annual Commonwealth Service. In the presence of His Majesty the King and senior members of the Royal Family, they had the privilege of representing schools in the UK.

Being a Church of England School is a real privilege, but it carries responsibilities too. Did you know that there are 4600 Church of England schools in the UK, and that the history of Anglican education stretches back over two and a half centuries? Indeed, 'Sunday Schools' were initially set up to help children who worked six days a week to get an education on their only day off in churches across the country.

Times may have changed, but the rich heritage we have as a Church of England secondary school still stands. We are blessed to uphold the Church of England's education vision, which is 'deeply Christian, serving the common good'. Our aspirations are aligned with it, to educate for:

- 1.wisdom, knowledge and skills;
- 2.hope and aspiration;
- 3.community and living well together;
- 4. dignity and respect.

At school, our Chapel is thriving, worship starts the day and our pastoral care is built on our core values. All of this provides a firm foundation to enable us to unlock each student's unique – and, for us, God-given – potential.

(To find out more, please see our helpful parent leaflet on what it means to be a Church of England school: <u>Bishop Stopford School - Christian Ethos</u> and Values)

Miss Silverthorne



We are a Church of England School



A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other

1 Corinthians 12: 4-11 The Bible Reading The Commonwealth Service Westminster Abbey



"The Commonwealth Day Service at Westminster Abbey served as a way of uniting the Commonwealth's member states in a shared spirit of hope, togetherness and resilience, with this year's theme being 'Together We Thrive'. This year's service, once again, brought 2000 people together from all 5 regions of the Commonwealth in the presence of His Majesty, the King (Head of the Commonwealth) and senior members of the Royal Family. We were delighted to be selected to attend. We sang hymns and enjoyed performances from Braimah and Jeneba Kanneh-Mason and Joan Armatrading, among others. We all affirmed our belief in the Commonwealth, reminding everyone of the strength found in unity and the importance of the Commonwealth today. The atmosphere in the Abbey was incredible and it was wonderful to have been able to have had the opportunity to be a part of this year's celebrations. The service can be watched on BBC iPlayer or YouTube." Liam Menzies (11G)

Core Values in Action

Our Core Values in Action awards recognise students for embodying our school's values in their local communities. We always love to celebrate their contributions which represent our school so well.

The following students receive CViA awards this week:

Samuel Howes (10W) and William Howes (12S) for completing the 'Run 100 miles in February Challenge' - they ran over 100 miles each, raising over £500 for Cancer Research UK!

Beatrice Cooper (8E) took part in the annual village mass litter-pick in Cranford. She herself collected 3 large bin bags of rubbish and several large items of scrap metal from the pocket park spinney area, contributing to a huge collection from the village as a whole over the three day event.





If you know of any student who you think is eligible for a Core Values in Action award, please email newsletter@bishopstopford.com



Safe Space – Online Safety for Parents

Navigating your child's online world can be really challenging, especially when it evolves so quickly. New apps, games and social media platforms are regularly released, alongside updates to phones and mobile technology.

The most important advice shared by all professionals working in this field is to keep lines of communication open. Young people need to have agency and the opportunity to be independent, but they also need clear boundaries and trusted adults to confide in. The key questions are often the simplest:

- Tell me about your new game. How does it work and who are you playing with?
- •I can see that you're chatting to someone but I'm not sure I know them. Can you tell me a bit about them? Are they local to us? Which school do they attend?
- •What are you enjoying most online at the moment? Can you show me?

To support these conversations, and to give confidence in setting up parental controls or monitoring, the UK Safer Internet Centre has released advice which can be accessed here: Social Media Checklists - UK Safer Internet Centre Their website has a wide range of excellent resources for parents and young people, and they also host Safer Internet Day for schools.

Our own school website has a number of links to support parenting in the digital age which can be found here: Bishop Stopford School - Online Safety

In addition, a local charity, Hope for Families, is running a webinar to enhance digital awareness for parents called 'Left to their own devices'. This two hour session is running on Monday 31st March and can be booked via **Left to their Own Devices Tickets, Mon 31 Mar 2025 at 19:30 | Eventbrite**

Though it can feel daunting, we can be optimistic about how the digital world can enhance the skills and opportunities available to our young people when appropriate boundaries, support and guidance are in place.

Mrs Smith

Help your child navigate their future with our Careers Guide

Supporting your child's career journey starts with the right resources. Our new, comprehensive Careers Guide is packed with valuable information to help.

It includes detailed sections on our Careers Charter, key labour market insights, and information about the range of qualifications and apprenticeships available. You'll also find information on local providers, helping your child make informed choices about their future. Access a copy of the Guide on the school website here: Careers Guide for Students

Mr Smith

Attention Parents & Carers of Maths Students

It has come to our attention that some calculators circulating are counterfeit and are giving incorrect answers for certain functions. This could have implications for students sitting exams. Whilst money can be saved by purchasing from other websites, there is this growing risk that calculators bought from some platforms might not work as expected. In order to avoid this, our recommendation is to purchase calculators directly from the school as we source them directly from Casio.

Mr Gay



Being Great Sports!

County School Sports Games

We had a really good representation at the NSport County Games. We qualified in Girls' Dodgeball, Mixed Boccia, and both Boys' and Girls' Indoor Athletics. The students represented us and the Kettering District superbly, giving their all in the right spirit, trying their best and working together.

We were Silver medallists in the boccia (losing out by 3cm with the last throw of the competition!), 6th in dodgeball and we were among the medals in the indoor athletics, the girls finishing in the bronze medal position (a huge improvement after finishing well outside the medals the previous year) and the boys took the gold with a massive team effort! Well done all involved!









We also showcased our students' superb personal qualities by sending over 40 to run the indoor athletics events. The organiser was blown away by how mature and responsible they were - incredible role models

U16 Boys' Hockey Midlands Finals

Last week, the U16 Hockey squad travelled to Nottingham to take part in the Midlands U16 Schools Finals representing Northants.

They came an amazing 2nd, only being beaten by Nottingham High School in the Final. This is a special achievement with our school being one of only 2 state schools that made the finals. The team played 4 group games, winning 3 and drawing 1, which meant they finished second in the group on goal difference.

This meant they had to play Wrekin College who were last season's national Runners Up! The semi final was a tense affair with our boys putting in an amazing defensive shift against a very talented Wrekin side. 0-0 at full time meant it went to penalty shuffles. The 5 players who stepped forward scored 4 out of 5.

Nate Stilwell in goal made 2 fantastic saves, meaning we went through to the final 4-3. This is an amazing achievement and one which pays testament to these boys' determination, talent and resilience!

Squad: Nate Stilwell (GK), Joe Campbell, Aman Singhm, Kethan Singodia, Conor Darby, Ellis Grant (V Capt), Haydn Young (Capt), David Tennant, Ewan Neeson, Jared Brooks, Seb Persuad, Jack York, Oliver Stenson, Jude Mitchell.



... and the rest of the week

Yr 8 boys' football had 2 games in a week, winning 4-1 at KBA on Monday and then on Thursday salvaged a 1-1 draw at Prince William School with a last minute equaliser.

Yr 7 girls had their first netball friendly tournament with 2 teams gaining some crucial experience in interschool fixtures.

U12 boys' hockey had a great triangular tournament against Loughborough and Leicester Grammar Schools.

U12 rugby boys finished a very creditable 2nd in the District Tournament.

Mr Flannigan

Non Uniform Day

Friday 21st March will be a non-uniform day for Comic Relief, donations are £1.

There is an additional voluntary contribution of £1 for Sebastian Nunney's 8th birthday, where all funds raised will directly benefit young people in our local community. There's more information on the website <u>Team Sebastian</u> (Wear Orange Day)

Miss Curchin

British Biology Olympiad

Congratulations to our A level Biologists who completed the extremely challenging British Biology Olympiad! They have been rewarded with certificates and a year of BioNet membership of the Royal Society of Biology.

Chloe Kingsley-Uju Atharva Kulkarni William Johnson Taemin Lee Iona Smith Michaela Agyeman Bediako Tabitha Fray Sarah Harris Rachel Fernandes Nathan Nettey Fin Rogers-Hussey Ariana Haria Emily Beresford Rose Clark Hayley Ndlovu Turia-Anna Aidoo Maya Adamska Raaz Fray Udelle Hopson WE ARE GOING ORANGE!

Mrs Redding

Drama News

Congratulations to Katie Hailes (8W) and Michael Ambrose (8Y) who performed in a new musical 'Across the Line' for the Pauline Quirke Academy at His Majesty's Theatre. It was an amazing experience and honour to perform on such a big stage.





Mrs Fraser

Music Congratulations

Congratulations to Miles De Barros (7G) for passing his Grade 5 Music Theory exam with distinction.

And huge congratulations to Elise Hale (Year 13), who won the Rotary Senior Brass competition last Wednesday. She was invited to the finals on Friday where she came first and was awarded Senior Young Musician of the Year. This is a fantastic achievement, Elise, we are very proud of you!



Mrs Armstrong

Recruitment

We currently have the following exciting opportunity for an outstanding and ambitious individual:

IT Apprentice Technician

The successful candidate will work alongside colleagues, senior staff and governors and will contribute to unlocking students' unique potential in Science.

We hope you are excited by the opportunity to work with us. We look forward to hearing from you.

















Bishop Stopford School, Headlands, Kettering NN15 6BJ | www.bishopstopford.com | office@bishopstopford.com | 01536 503503 Company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales No. 7698789 VAI Registration Number 118 22727 33

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