

Our Ref: MPO/KWI

26th October 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

I write at the end of a long and busy half term. There has been much to celebrate and be proud of this term. We have been really impressed with the new year 7 and how well they have settled in. They wear their uniform with pride, are working hard in lesson and many are participating in activities after school in sport, arts and other areas. Year 11 are working incredibly hard and have been dedicated in all of their 'Walking Talking' exam experiences so far. It was good to see so many of them at the revision evening earlier this week. PPEs (mock examinations) are not far away now.

You may be aware of the provisional release of GCSE results performance tables by the DFE last week. We are delighted that Bishop Perowne students made progress that was 'Above Average' in 2018. Our provisional Progress 8 score of +0.26 ranked the school as 2nd in the city and 7th across Worcestershire. The hard work of staff to transform Bishop Perowne over the last couple of years is now having a significant impact on the outcomes for our students. However it's not just in the GCSE results that the improvements can be felt; I have shown many potential new families around the school in recent days as the deadline for secondary school applications approaches. They have seen a calm and purposeful school, full of engaged and committed students. We were delighted to be able to share these improvements with OFSTED inspectors when they came to visit last week. We will be able to inform you of the outcome soon after half term once the report is published.

I want to thank all of our parents and carers for their continued support and partnership. Just a few reminders and notices:

- All students are required to wear a jumper after half term. School Togs inform us that any stock issues have been resolved.
- Parking at end of day – we ask that all parents/carers park with consideration to other road users and our neighbours. We have had a number of complaints over the last half term from neighbours asking us to remind parents/carers not to block drive ways or access to driveways/property. Staff at Green Hill Lodge, the Children's Home opposite our school, have asked that parents/carers do not park on the road leading to their and our car park as access is required at all times. In recent weeks an ambulance had considerable trouble in accessing the Children's Home due to the parking of cars on the road leading to the car park.
- Email addresses – in order to save on the enormous cost of posting letters out to parents/carers we have changed our policy and are now using the more cost effective method of email. We would ask all parents/carers in the event that we do not have your email address on record that you contact our Reception (01905 746800) to provide us with the same.
- Two contact details - in order to comply with the latest Department for Education guidelines and ensure that we can adequately safeguard your son/daughter in the event of an emergency we need to have at least two sets of contact details held on our management information system. We require contact names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses for each contact. Please telephone our Reception (01905 746800) in order to provide us with the necessary details.

I hope all of our students and families have an enjoyable and restful half term break
Yours sincerely,



Mark Pollard - Headteacher

STEM CLUB - Thursdays 3-4pm

Everyone is welcome to join STEM club! Here we do experiments that are outside of the curriculum so students can enjoy the wonders of science and get hands on practical experience each week! This year we regularly have twenty students or so each week conducting a range of practicals from making slime to bouncing bubbles!

Stem club is a great opportunity for students to have fun and at the same time enhance their knowledge and understanding of STEM related topics. We have recently invested in a 3D printer and students can bring their own designs that we can then bring to life! Many students have also invested in their own pair of specialist specs and have received badges to recognise their efforts in STEM. Last year, several students received CREST awards for their project work as part of the club!

So what are you waiting for? We're here every Thursday and look forward to welcoming more students to the club!

Physical Education Department Update

The first half term has seen all of the year groups start their fixtures with some encouraging signs in our performances even though the results have not always gone our way. All of the years have played boys football and Years 8, 9 and 11 have competed in rugby. Girls in Years 7, 8, 9 and 11 have also competed in Netball and have demonstrated a real improvement in their techniques and skills.

After half term the focus will switch to girls Football and with the improvements to the sports hall completed we will be able to kick start our Badminton and Basketball clubs and teams.

Rugby practice will be switched to Wednesday after school and all students are invited to attend. Basketball will be Tuesday after school, Badminton club on Mondays after school and football club will continue on a Thursday.

On Thursday 25th October and Friday 26th October we started the Community sports programme and results will be available after half term.



Arts News

This term we welcome our new Head of Music, Mrs Peters to the Arts team. We wish her well in her new post and look forward to working with her.

Ike Fallon

Ike studied GCSE dance at Bishop Perowne before going on to study at Kidderminster College and Urdang Academy in London. Recently Ike joined us for our successful open evening performance in the Performing Arts





Studio with the great news he has been cast in the major musical Fame. We send Ike our very best wishes for a stunning new dance career.

Oliver

Students turned up in their droves for the auditions for this well-loved musical 'Oliver'. After tasks in all three art forms we now have a large cast of students who range from Year 7 through to Year 10 in major roles. Rehearsals are well on their way and the strains of 'Oliver' and 'I'd do anything' can be heard in all Arts areas.



Can we remind any student involved in the performance that they should attend our first **Saturday rehearsal on 10th November- 10-4pm** where we will put together Act 1. A packed lunch and plenty of water will be required for this rehearsal.

Silver Arts Awards

On the 24th October Year 11 Drama students and Mr Plant attended a moderation of the Silver Arts Award. The Arts Award is a nationally recognised qualification in the arts and will allow Drama students to achieve two qualifications when they leave us in May 2019.

Congratulations to Mr Plant and:

Murphy Carr
Eddie Finn
Tom Griffiths
Abigail Hourigan
Olivia Howard
Dawud Hussain
Josh John
Hannah King
Ben Lawrence
Mia Lindley
William McCrae
Marcia Neto
Caitlin Ratcliffe
Tate Roberts
Harvey Rowberry
Keira Symes

Into the Light

Our first 'Into the Light' performance of the season was held on Thursday 25th November in the college theatre. With a programme of eighteen pieces of dance, drama and music, this event has really grown in its popularity. With a Halloween themed raffle and the Friends of Bishop Perowne kindly providing refreshments during the evening, over forty students performed for parents and friends.



'Plastic Is A Problem – Fix It'

At the end of last year GCSE Drama students attended a 'Creative Futures' event at the Hive in Worcester. Aimed at developing awareness of community projects, involving students from different schools in arts workshops and giving young people the chance to formulate community projects of their own, it was a positive and dynamic experience for all involved.

At the end of the day students were offered the chance to win £100 in funding which could be used to develop a community project of their own. Bishop Perowne students were the winners of the competition with their suggestion of a Theatre in Education performance which would educate young people about the problems of plastic waste and which would result in the making of a film. This project is now well under way with rehearsals taking place weekly and the performance expected to take place in December this year.



Future events - dates for your diary

Christmas Carol Service at St Barnabas Church 11th December 2018

This year sees a change of venue for our annual Carol Service to our local community Church. The evening service will include traditional Christmas hymns as well as music and dance to celebrate the season. Further details to follow after the half term holiday.



The Christmas Dance Show

As we draw closer to Christmas our minds turn towards the annual Christmas Dance show which will be held on 18th December in the College theatre at 7pm. Students are already rehearsing dance pieces and the show will include both exam and club work.



12th, 13th and 14th February 2019

Clubs on offer on Performing Arts this term:

Day	Club on offer	Open to	Timings	Oliver
Monday	Drumline	all years	3-4pm	As per the schedule already issued to students.
Tuesday	Choir	Yr7-10	3-4pm	
Wednesday	KS3 Dance club	Yr7-9	3-4	
	Orchestra	Yr7-10	1-2pm	
Thursday				
Friday	YR 11 Arts Hubs	YR 11	3-4pm	
	Choir	YR7-11	1-2pm	

EAL Department

We have been busy welcoming new EAL students to our school since September, helping them to settle in and improve their English language skills to enable them to access the curriculum. As part of exploring Worcester, we had trips to visit the Foodbank and also to attend a workshop at Worcester Museum and Art Gallery on the effects locally of the First World War. We always have time for a little bit of fun too, learning about British customs. Here are some of the EAL students making a Jack o' Lantern.



On Friday 26th October EAL students visited the Worcester Foodbank with donations.



New menu at the College canteen

A reminder to all of our parents/carers, the College serves delicious meals and snacks three times a day – at breakfast, morning break and lunchtime. Food quality is excellent and prices offer great value for money.



After half term we will be introducing a new menu, increasing our daily hot meal options from two to three (except Friday, which is our popular chip day). There will be exciting new items with an international flavour – in addition to our popular chicken tikka masala, chicken korma and curry. We will be offering chicken Balti, chilli con carne, lamb moussaka and sweet and sour chicken. Fans of traditional British food will be pleased to see other new offerings including cottage pie, roast pork, dumplings, chocolate fudge pudding and Bakewell tart. Every day we will continue to offer great vegetarian hot meals, including vegetable bakes, Quorn lasagne and vegetable korma.

Please note that all profits we make from our canteen operation are reinvested into the College to improve educational outcomes for our students. If your son/daughter currently brings a packed lunch to school, please consider using our school canteen as an alternative. It is a way of giving the College an extra financial boost that benefits all our students.

ParentPay

We would like to thank all our parents and carers who are now signed up to ParentPay and who are using the system to pay for their sons' and daughters' meals, trips, study guides, stationery and other items purchased from the College.

If you have any questions about your ParentPay account, or need a login ID and password, please contact Mrs. Benita Pomeroy in our finance office on 01905 746802 or bpo@bishopperowne.co.uk.

We recognise that for various reasons a number of parents and carers may prefer the option of topping up their ParentPay account using cash at convenience stores with PayPoint facilities. If you would like further information about this option, please contact Mrs. Pomeroy.

Bishop Perowne Friends Association

Bishop Perowne Friends Association held a meeting during the last month. As part of that meeting we invited members of the Student Leadership Team to discuss fundraising for the coming year. Following student feedback we have agreed to target fundraising for a new cycle shed. You will see activities focussed towards this throughout the year.

The next meeting for the Friends Association is on 13th November at 6.00pm at the school. Anyone who wants to help, please come along.

For more information on the Friends Association please contact us on friends@bishopperowne.co.uk