

Newsletter



St Bede's and
St Joseph's
Catholic College

Issue 1

Website: www.sbsj.co.uk



Welcome from the Headteacher

Dear Parent/Carer,

I do hope that you all managed a super break with your families over the summer and we look forward to working with you all this academic year as we seek to build on the successes of 2015/16.

We welcome onto the Ignis site our third co-educational year group into Year 7. We had over 1000 applications for the 300 places in this year group which we view as a definite sign that the college is growing in popularity.

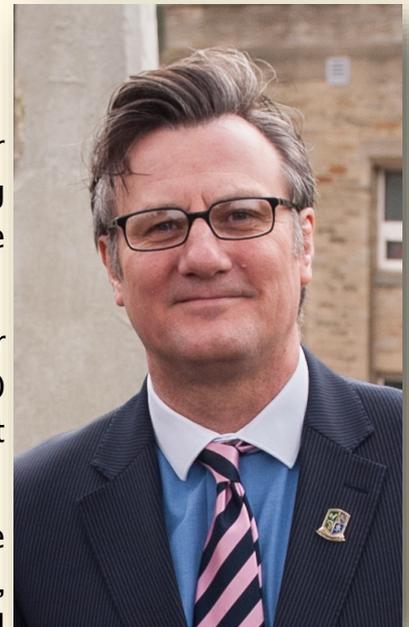
We know that prospective parents value our distinctive Catholic ethos, our wide range of extra-curricular activities, fantastic teacher/student relationships, good behaviour and academic success and we will continue to deliver on those important elements of college life this year.

Our provisional examination results look excellent: A phenomenal 91% of our 6th form students accepted places at university (compared to the average of 61% across other Bradford institutions). At GCSE, 57% of our students achieved the gold standard 5 or more C grades including English and Maths (47% being the Bradford average). More importantly the new government accountability measure 'Progress 8' which measures the value that we add to a student's academic achievement over an 8 subject range revealed a score of 0.2 which would place us 6th in a league table of 29 schools.

I would like to thank the students and staff for the hard work that has clearly gone into achieving such good examination results. Our thanks are particularly directed at staff who have made such a positive contribution to the school, some over many years, and who have left us in the summer either through ill health, retirement, relocation or promotion: Sharon Deegan, Judith King, Margaret Hattersley, Rowan Aston, Andrew Stanton, Alison Gribbin, Daniel Higgins, Iram Khan, Manjit Kaur, Michael Dore, Carl Southward, Michelle Fong, Jonathan Ridley, Alex Nicholson and Richard Phipps. We say goodbye to them with our very best wishes.

We have also been busy recruiting new staff to our team: Sobia Khan (Head of Science), Ellie Fiddler (Science) Kieran Tate (Lead Practitioner English), John Atkinson (Literacy Coordinator), Jenny Humphries (History) and Cheryl Procter (Art),

We have also made a number of internal appointments: Stephen Burrows has been appointed temporary Deputy Headteacher and will be responsible for the personal development, behaviour and welfare of students.





Headteachers message continued

Nick Parker who has given many years of skilled and dedicated service to the school as Deputy Headteacher has stepped down from this position and will now be the senior member of staff responsible for student welfare. He will be supported in this role by Helen Foster who moves from her role as Radiate Manager to Welfare Officer. Matthew Hargreaves has been appointed Subject Leader of PE to cover a maternity absence. Neil Humphreys has been appointed Assistant Headteacher.

Listed below are the Progress Leaders that have been allocated to each year group for 2016/2017.

	Ardor	Ignis
Year 7		Mr J Walsh
Year 8		Miss H Stone
Year 9		Mr P Rhodes/Mrs M Hymas
Year 10	Mr A Hannan	Mrs A French
Year 11	Mrs J Khan	Mr C Oldcorn
Year 12	Mr L Ashdown	
Year 13	Mr J Tomlinson	

We have a busy term ahead of us with baseline testing happening in all subject areas for all year groups in order to set realistic but challenging academic targets for the year ahead. Achievement Information Evenings are being held for parents of students in all year groups to alert them to key dates in the college year and to provide them with ways in which they can support their children with their studies this year.

The Year 7 retreat camps begin next week for year 7 forms. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to bond, and reflect on the challenges and opportunities that lay ahead.

Twenty students (the biggest gathering in the diocese) are departing for the annual pilgrimage to Walsingham this week, auditions have begun for what promises to be a spectacular college production of Les Miserables in the spring term and the popular theatre trip to London departs imminently. The Year 6 Open Evening is pencilled in for the 28th September.

Welcome Masses for all year groups have been celebrated providing an opportunity for students to reflect upon the responsibility of all members of our community to live out the values of the college in our daily lives.

Please keep an eye on this newsletter for further news and information as the year progresses and of course on our Web site and Facebook page.

Here's to another successful year.

Mr L A Bentley
Headteacher