

**Bishop Rawstone Church of England Academy
A National Teaching School**

**NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS – July 2015
(Issue 54)**

July 2015

A Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parent/Guardian

It is the end of another jam-packed year at Bishop Rawstone.

I have been privileged this year to witness a number of highlights including students involved in musical concerts, the school production, sporting activities, charitable work and most recently the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award.

What stands out are the exceptional qualities of resilience, fortitude, and compassion that our students exhibit day in, day out. They are excellent ambassadors for the school who are always commented upon positively by members of the public and other members of staff when they represent us in the wider community.

Once again we said au revoir to our Year 11 students who, I have to say, have been the most exceptional group of young people I can remember and that is saying something after what has preceded them. The prom this year had a really special atmosphere and the students and their parents did not disappoint us with their choice of vehicles for their grand entrance. The Viking longboat hauled along by one of our ex-students dressed as a Viking will stay in my memory for a very long time! Results day is on Thursday 20 August and we hope that they will all get the exam grades their hard work deserves.

We have a number of staff leaving us this year. In fact two members of staff, Mrs Lane and Mrs Parker left us on 1 July to start in their new roles as Vice Principals at the North Liverpool Academy. Mrs Lane served the school for 20 years and in that time she progressed from a trainee teacher to Assistant Headteacher. Mrs Parker had been with us for just short of 15 years, starting as an NQT and finishing as a Senior Leader. Our longest serving member of staff Mrs Dickinson is retiring at the end of term after 29 years dedicated service. Mrs Dickinson has given Bishop Rawstone her all and if anybody can have teaching described as their vocation it is her. She exemplifies what it means to sacrifice home life for her profession and she has had a huge impact on the careers of a great many students and teachers who have benefited greatly from her support and care. Mrs Harrison also left us this year after 31 years of service. Mrs Harrison was an extremely popular teacher who had ex-students coming up to her years later reminiscing about past exploits. We are also losing four members of our support staff; Mrs Dawson after 14 years, Mrs Heyes after 13 years of service and Mr Platt and Mrs Gallagher who have both been with us for 2 years. Without support staff, Bishop Rawstone would grind to a halt and their support above and beyond the call of duty has been very much appreciated by me and the rest of the teaching staff. We wish each and every one of our colleagues well for the future.

As people depart we also see new faces joining us and a couple of old faces with new roles and responsibilities. Mr Gardiner joins us as Lead Teacher of Geography, Mrs Ashcroft as Teacher of MFL, Mr Hull as Teacher of Science, Mrs Walton as Teacher of History and Mrs Harrison as Faculty Leader of English. Miss Palmer moves from Lead Teacher of Music to Head of Year 8, Mr Sixsmith becomes Head of Year 10, Mr Davies becomes Lead Teacher of Music, Mr Hosker Curriculum Leader of Mathematics, Miss Morris Second in Mathematics, Mrs Webber Curriculum Leader of Technology and Computing, Mr Jackson Lead Teacher of Computing, Mrs Winter Assistant Headteacher and Mrs Gregory Assistant Headteacher.

Miss Carr is getting married this summer but won't be changing her name and Mr Marsden is also getting married and I should make it clear it isn't to Miss Carr and I presume he won't be changing his name either! We wish them both a long, happy and contented marriage with their prospective partners.

The last couple of weeks have seen the start of our 'trips season' with students engaged in a whole host of activities both at home and abroad. Our staff deserve a great deal of praise for their determination to continue to offer extra-curricular trips to students. Believe me when I say it is daunting and extremely time consuming to plan and execute a trip in a 'blame culture' and an increasingly bureaucratic world.

As you know from a previous letter, we are due to start a major refurbishment project in the Art and Technology block and have now appointed a firm of builders to carry out the work over the summer holidays. The work will cost in the region of £510,000 all of which is coming out of reserves which we have been raising for this purpose. In the current financial climate we will not be able to fund something of this magnitude again, but it is now or never and as I have already explained to you, I couldn't see the students facing another year under-resourced in an area of the curriculum which I believe is going to become increasingly important over the next few years for the future prosperity of our nation.

We continue to build links with other schools as part of our Teaching School remit and this is going to be vital as schools are charged with improving themselves and the system in which they operate. To do this we need to form strong alliances and share best practice across schools both in terms of chalk face teaching and learning and in developing colleagues to lead schools in the future. We are also looking at our training model for new teachers and are currently adapting our strategy to ensure we recruit the very best people into teaching.

I hope this has given you a flavour of the work we are undertaking to ensure Bishop Rawstone continues to flourish in these challenging times. As ever I wish you and your families a restful summer and I look forward to seeing your sons and daughters back and raring to go in September.

Yours sincerely



Mr P Cowley
Headteacher

PASTORAL CARE 2015/16

From September 2015 there are changes to the Bishop Rawstone Pastoral Care system. These changes have been driven by the desire to support our students as effectively as possible, and as such the Pastoral team has grown to reflect this.

Mr Duckworth is now Senior Leader – Head of Pastoral Care and is overseeing the leadership and management of all 5 year groups and pastoral issues on a day-to-day basis.

Mrs Anglim is Senior Head of Year with responsibility for Year 9. Mrs Anglim will continue to monitor transition at KS2-3 and KS3-4 as well as the day-to-day running of Year 9.

From September the following staff are Heads of Year:

Year 11 – Mrs Jones
Year 10 – Mr Sixsmith
Year 9 – Mrs Anglim
Year 8 – Miss Palmer
Year 7 – Miss Huyton



It also seems appropriate at this point to review some of the systems that we have in school, so we are also looking at our rewards policy.

The points system will still operate next year, however they will be online and digitally recorded. Points will be reported home to parents via letters and reports regularly, so you will know how your child is doing. The reward shop will continue to run, but we are currently looking at changes to what we give students, and the level at which we reward them is also in discussion at present.



Next year there will also be changes to the rewards trips – we want to try to add variety to these and give our top students the chance to celebrate a successful year. In September more information will be available about this.

House System

From September Bishop Rawstone will introduce a House system. This will be based around six houses that are all linked to previous Bishops of Blackburn. The House system will be vertical incorporating one form per year for each House. Competitions will range from Quizzes, Sports Day, Subject Competitions, Inter house sports, Games, plus more. The House System will be used in school to promote the achievement of the students in its widest form in a totally positive way, from the classroom to the sports field and from helping out around the school to quizzes. It will be promoted by positive competition and by committed staff and house captains. Through the House system, students will be encouraged to develop quality relationships, it will help students develop a real sense of togetherness and an awareness of corporate responsibility.



All students will have an effect on the overall house points, as things such as attendance will go towards it, eg the winning tutor on a weekly basis will gain the maximum 6 house points for their house. The competitions that will take place throughout the year will be open for all to get involved. There will be a variety so that all students feel they can succeed in them and this approach will attract different students to different events.

Parental Engagement

Mr Williams will continue to develop the role of parental liaison, enhancing further the communication between school and home.



This year we invited Year 10 parents to school, in small groups, to meet with staff individually and get a feel for the school. This worked very well and we plan to develop this through all year groups next year. As well as this, Mr Williams will have the role of overseeing all bus issues and concerns liaising with safer travel as and when required.

Charity and Events

From September Mrs Loveday will be in sole control of all charitable events run in school, as well as organising and being involved in some of the larger, non-charity based events that the school organises. Mrs Loveday will promote through school and beyond (the press) a wide range of initiatives that we are supporting.



Worship

From September Ben Green will also be part of the Pastoral Team. We want to develop worship even further and Ben is already looking at ways we can make it more relevant for our students across all years.



2015/16 is an exciting year for Bishop Rawstone, and all the planned changes are intended to support our students from the moment they arrive in Year 7 to the moment they leave in Year 11.

Modern Foreign Languages Faculty

The Modern Languages Faculty would like to express its thanks to Sanela Miloradovic, our Austrian Language Assistant, for all her hard work this year. Sanela worked tirelessly to help students across all years to improve their speaking skills in German. We wish



her well with her future studies as she returns to Innsbruck following her eight-month placement at Bishop Rawstorne.

They would also like to extend their thanks to Mrs Davies and Mr Gregory who have been volunteering in the department over the course of the year, working with students to improve their speaking skills. This one-to-one support is invaluable and we are most grateful for the time which they have given up in order to prepare our students for their GCSE speaking assessments. Danke schön/Merci beaucoup!

If any parents/guardians with skills in French, German or Spanish would be interested in helping in the department during the next academic year please contact Mrs Lawley at school.

Year 9 Mentors

Many thanks to all the Year 9 students who applied to act as mentors to our Year 7s in September. We had **61** applications for 12 positions so it was a very difficult job



trying to choose the successful candidates! Many of our older students remember the impact our mentors made in helping them to settle at Bishops, and this year's mentors have already done a really fantastic job on the New Intake evenings and Taster Day. The following Year 9s have shown themselves to be confident, organised and wonderful ambassadors of our community: Tom Bithell, Abigail Brooks, Megan Counce, Eloise Frost, Jack Greenall, Alice Hayes, Jack Knowles, Josh Metge, Imogen Mould, Ben Owen, Chris Smith and Paige Towriess.

“Here come the Girls!”

Year 10 Textiles/Art students along with some Year 9 students had the opportunity to visit graduate Fashion Week in London on Tuesday 2 June. They saw a brilliant fashion show of graduate work, and were able to look at portfolios and garments produced by final year students from a range of universities around the country. Excellent inspiration for future years and careers! Even more exciting was celebrity spotting in the front row!



STEM Club

Bishop Rawstorne have won a Greenpower F24 electric kit car which has been presented by global engineering firm, Siemens, through its Curiosity Project – which is designed to encourage curiosity in STEM in young people. Students studying Resistant Materials and students who are involved with our STEM Club will be able to use Siemens Solid Edge design software to create the most aerodynamic bodywork. They will then learn how to construct the car ready to enter the Greenpower IET Formula 24 races and hopefully reach the national final at Rockingham.



engineering talent by offering students the chance to design, build and race an electric vehicle. As well as the thrill of racing, the students will develop the team work and problem solving skills required for engineering and running a race car.

Mr Cowley expressed himself delighted with the award and presentation saying: “We are very grateful to Siemens and Greenpower for providing such a wonderful opportunity to our students. It is a key part of our role here in school to engage our students in STEM activity and each year offer a broad range of activities and initiatives. This award provides our school community with a platform on which to showcase how Siemens, Greenpower and Bishop Rawstorne can work together in a spirit of excellence and curiosity to develop the engineers and scientists of tomorrow.”

STEM Club

Members of the STEM Club recently took part in a Sustainability Conference at St. Christopher's C of E High School in Accrington. We entered 2 teams who competed against 16 other schools in 6 different challenges. One of our teams came fourth and the other won the competition with each student receiving some iTunes vouchers and £100 for the school which will be re invested into the STEM Club.



Astronomy Club

A group of students from Years 7-10 have been participating in the Astronomy Club. The club has involved many activities such as looking at the moon and planets such as Venus during the winter months. Students have also been given the opportunity to share their sightings with the group and have produced presentations to help others to find celestial bodies in the night sky. Although this club has finished for this year due to sun light hours, it will return next year!

CREST Club Bronze Award in Science

Students in KS3 Science have now completed the CREST Bronze award. This year students have been outstanding and very creative from designing and making their own toothpaste, bath bombs and fizzy drinks to bridge building. All students who have completed their portfolio this year have been awarded the CREST bronze award and will receive their certificates which are accredited by the British Science Association, a great addition to their record of achievement.

Greenpower Education Trust is a charity that works with schools, colleges and universities to inspire the next generation of

CREST Club Silver Award in Science

Three students are undertaking the challenge of completing the CREST silver award. The students are researching and developing different bridge designs to test which one is the best. Megan Ackers, Eleanor Iddon and Evelien Schumer have completed their portfolio and the results are currently being generated.

Salter's Chemistry Festival

A group of four Year 8 students participated in the Salter's Chemistry Challenge at Manchester University. This is a fantastic event and the students were excellent representatives of the school. Although we did not win the competition it was a fantastic challenge for the students, who really enjoyed the occasion. The team of four was George Hodgkinson, Harriet Thompson, Caroline Marsh and Jenna Stout.

Science and Technology Challenge Day

This year a group of twelve Year 9 students represented Bishop Rawstone at the annual Science and Technology Challenge Day at Cardinal Newman College. During the course of the day students had to complete four challenges including: a construction challenge, E-Fit technology challenge, robotic challenge and a racing car challenge. Although we did not win the overall competition we did not come home empty handed. Bishop Rawstone won the construction challenge! The students who represented the school in this challenge were: Megan Ackers, Eloise Frost, Jake Turner, Thomas Bithell, Josh Metge, Christopher Smith, Billy Wei, Meg Ashcroft, Jessica Jackson, Christopher Aldridge, Matthew Crompton and Emma Freeman.

Year 7 Trip to Blackpool Zoo

During this trip Year 7 students were given the unique opportunity to be taught about animal adaptations by the experts at the zoo. During this visit students could physically handle some of the zoo's specimens including stick insects, hissing cockroaches and a royal python. After these sessions students were given free time to explore the zoo so that they could witness the adaptations of all the animals.



Year 8 Physics Olympics

Four Year 8 students have competed in the Ogden's Trust Physics Olympics at Albany Academy. During the course of the day students participated in various challenges against other schools. The aim of the day was to allow students from other schools to collaborate and compete against one another and also to enrich and enhance students in the field of Science. The students who participated were Lucy Robertson, Andrew Lemm, Kaden Blakey and Henry Heaton.



Space Day

Year 7 were off time table to spend the day in Science learning about space. The day included various activities



including guest speaker Dennis Ashton (author of Stars and Planets), a step inside the amazing indoor planetarium and much more.

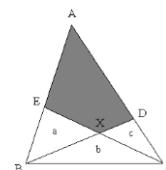
Primary School Challenge

The Mathematics Department recently hosted the 12th Primary School Challenge. The night is a fantastic opportunity to continue developing our relationship with the local primary schools and is also a chance for many primary pupils to have another small experience of life at Bishop Rawstone before September, after also attending the Year 6 Taster Day. This year we welcomed 10 teams, a record attendance. The standard of the students and the involvement and passion they have never cease to amaze, especially in the energetic relay round. This year Eccleston Primary emerged winners after a close competition, where at one stage, 4 teams were tied for second place. I wonder what the theme could be for 2016's challenge?



Edge Hill National Mathematics Challenge

A team of Year 9s recently represented the academy at the Edge Hill National Mathematics Challenge. After progressing through the two qualifying rounds, Jake Turner, Josh Metge, Josh Jackson and Jake Harvard were invited to spend the day at Edge Hill University alongside 24 schools from around the country including Watford, Wycombe and Harrogate. They were required to present their findings and solutions for a given problem to a panel of judges who were looking for evidence of not only mathematical skills, but a critical comparison of alternative approaches, evidence of group work and the use of ICT. Although we were not among the top 3 schools, the team have taken much out of the day and grown in confidence especially with speaking and presenting.



Adventurous Geography

The department recently took a group of Year 8 students to the Lake District on an Adventurous Geography weekend. Activities included rock climbing, abseiling, low ropes courses, river scrambling and orienteering. A great time was had by all.



ECO Club

The ECO club recently used their recycling skills, by using 'jam jars' for containers to hold their low fat cheesecake which incorporated seasonal fruits, the results of which was enjoyed by many. You too may want to try it, just follow the recipe for which you will also need a round flan dish.

Ingredients

1. 1 packet low fat digestive biscuits
2. 300g low fat cream cheese
3. 300ml low fat natural yoghurt
4. Large punnet of strawberries (or any fruit of your choice)
5. Teaspoon of icing sugar (optional)



Method

1. Crush the digestive biscuits as small as you prefer
2. Place the crushed biscuit in the bottom of your dish
3. Mix the cream cheese and yoghurt together (add a teaspoon of icing sugar to sweeten if required) place this on top of the biscuit base
4. Slice the strawberries and arrange on the top of the yoghurt and cream cheese mixture
5. Put in the fridge to cool

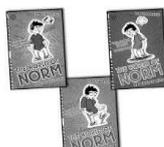
Readathon 2015

As always, lower school students have thrown themselves into the Readathon challenge this term. The students recorded ALL their reading, from books to brochures, magazines to the internet, over a 2 week period, and wow they did so well! This year our students raised a whopping £1577, the most we have ever raised as a school, and this has been gratefully received by children's charities including: ReadWell, CLIC Sargent, Together for Short Lives, and Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity. Thanks to their hard work, our school Library will also receive £315 worth of free books for our students to enjoy, so be sure to visit our library to peruse our new choices!



Jonathan Meres Author Visit

Earlier this year, the library had its most zany visitor yet...The ever popular Jonathan Meres, author of The World of Norm series.



Our Year 8 cohort were in stitches at his tall tales and silly stories (and the way he poked a little fun at certain staff members!). Eventually and rather reluctantly, Jonathan discussed his journey from stand-up comedy to children's literature with a really engrossing presentation in the hall, before spending lunchtime meeting, chatting and signing books with many of our students. Even local primary schools got involved with 130 Year 5 students visiting to join in the fun!

We are looking forward to even more visits from renowned authors. One of our first visits next year may be from an off-the-wall poet just as zany as Jonathan ... watch this space!

Scholastics Bookfair

As always, the Scholastics Bookfair was a roaring success and we are already looking forward to our next one in the new school year.

The range of books and stationary on offer was fabulous with something for all tastes. Student librarians took the lead in running the event showing fantastic teamwork ... and showing Mrs. Double, our librarian, who is boss!

Thanks to your support and your children's enthusiasm surrounding the event, the library was awarded with over £500 of free books to order from Scholastics, allowing us to keep well stocked with all the newest fiction titles. Well done Bishops!

Blind Date with a Book

This June, the English department and the library joined forces again for Blind Date with a Book and set students up with literary 'dates'!



We selected a variety of books, covered them up in 'oh so secretive' wrapping paper and noted clues to their identity on the front cover so students didn't know the 'identity' of their blind date until they unwrapped it.

The initiative has been incredibly popular with over 200 books unwrapped in two weeks! Students' reviews of their book selections, their 'rated dates', came in thick and fast. Book reviews were judged and prizes awarded to the best in each year group, and overall, before the end of term. Was it you who got lucky? If not in love, then literature perhaps?

The Student Council have been involved in many initiatives this year on behalf of the student body. They have continued to visit Croston Park Care Home, for whom the Activity Club have made birthday, Christmas and Easter cards, which are always happily received by the residents. The managers very much appreciate all that the students do.

Investment in the Activity Club has provided exciting materials for craft work and the purchase of giant draughts, chess and wooden tower blocks; table top push hockey and football, all of which have created great indoor and outdoor activities for students.



The Student Council has also provided more eight seater picnic tables with parasols to provide more outdoor seating and shade.



Some of the many issues raised by the students and considered or actioned by the Student Council include:

Reinstating the news on the television screens in the mornings. Clarification of issues regarding bus monitors. A design competition for the new postcard led by Mrs Armitage. New mirrors and

hooks in the toilets and changing rooms. Invitations for guest speakers to our meetings and passing on discussions through tutor groups.

Currently they are working on a project with the English department to share poetry with the residents of Croston Park.

Thanks to the efforts of all the school in raising money for our chosen charities we were able to donate the following:

- £573.00 to the Philippines Appeal
- £633.00 to Rosemere Cancer Foundation
- £500.00 to (PEAS) African schools

The Student Council submitted an application for consideration of the 'Speaker's School Council Awards', and were judged 'Highly Commended', for their project at Croston Park Care Home. Although they did not win the top award, the Speaker, The Rt Hon John Bercow MP commended the work of the Student Council, which they should be very proud of. In addition to the certificate the school can also use the official logo of the awards on our website which again is an achievement. On behalf of the staff, Mrs Thompson congratulated the students for their commitment and achievements in this project:

'A very successful year, I would like to thank the students for the tremendous work they have done, it's been such a pleasure to work with them.'

The experience has been beneficial and enjoyable to both the students and the residents of Croston Park.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Mr Smart and Mr Jackson are leading the Duke of Edinburgh Award at school this year. 33 Year 10 students are completing their Bronze Award. To get the qualification students must complete physical, skill, volunteering and expedition elements of the award. There has been a great commitment from the students in completing the award and we wish the candidates well in their forthcoming expedition assessment.



Lancashire Schools Athletics Championships

A number of our athletes were selected to represent Chorley District Athletics Squad at the County Championships. Flossie Dickinson won the Inter Girls 1500m, whilst Alex Marsden finished 3rd in the Inter Boys 100m Final. Alex Dodd, Tom Dickinson, Emma Fulton, Ryan Stansfield, Jack Greenall and Billy Wei also competed in a variety of events.



School Sports Day

The weather again was very kind for the School Sports Day on 11 June. With nearly 450 athletes participating over the day, it was

a great demonstration of commitment and healthy competition. A number of school records were smashed, especially in the track events in the afternoon. Overall "C" took the whole school honours amassing the most points over the day's competition. Well done to everyone that took part.

Cricket 2015

With many of our students actively involved in local club cricket, Bishop Rawstorne have helped to buck the trend of falling participation in state school cricket.

Unfortunately the Year 7 and Year 9 teams suffered early exits in the competition, defeated by Our Lady's Preston and Hutton Grammar School respectively. The sevens who have been practicing regularly since, lost in a friendly to St Michael's and the nines are due to play Ormskirk in the Plate competition.

Congratulations to the Year 8 and Year 10 cricket squads. They both had relatively successful campaigns in this year's Lancashire Cup competitions. The Year 8 team enjoyed victories against St Michael's Chorley, St Mary's Crosby and Arnold King Edwards School Lytham before being defeated by Parklands in the quarter finals.

Year 8 Team at St Mary's Crosby



The Year 10 team representing Bishop Rawstorne for the final time this season also enjoyed success until the quarter final stage.

Wins against Our Lady's Preston, Hutton Grammar School and Accrington Academy allowed us to progress to the last eight of the competition. We were outplayed on the day by a strong Lancaster Grammar School side.

Most of our squad have represented school throughout the last four years, showing skill, commitment and exemplary sportsmanship. We wish them future success in local club cricket.

Year 10 Team at Lancaster Royal Grammar School



Congratulations to Max Harper who was recently selected to represent Lancashire U 15s Cricket. Max is a top order batsman who also bowls legspin. He played a major part in a two wicket defeat of Yorkshire recently and is looking forward to several fixtures in the coming weeks. Congratulations to Max for representing himself and school with this fantastic achievement.



Thank you

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Croston Sports Club for their continued support for our school sides. We really appreciate the hard work which goes into providing us with such fantastic facilities for many of our home games.

Shirt Sponsors

We are very grateful for the two offers so far and are keen to talk with anyone else who thinks they can help kit out any of our various teams. If you think you can help please contact Mr Williams on his email: mwilliams@bishopr.co.uk

Girls Football

Three girls teams from across Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 took part in the recent Euxton Girls Tournament. All three teams played some fantastic football, with the Year 9 and 10 team, and one of the Year 7 and 8 teams both reaching their respective finals. Both teams were unlucky to lose their finals after penalty shoot-outs.



A team of Year 9 and 10 girls represented the school at a tournament run by Preston North End, where the winner of the tournament would represent PNE at Wembley Stadium. The team were unlucky to lose the semi-final, again after a penalty shoot-out.

The Year 10 and 11 girls played their U16 Lancashire Cup Final against St Bede's, Blackburn on the 11 June. The girls narrowly lost the game 4-2 and were unlucky to miss a number of good chances. This was a great achievement to not only reach the final but play so admirably against a team who have recently been crowned the English Schools Champions.

This also marked the end of the Year 11s time with school. Praise must be given to this set of girls who have achieved huge amounts of success on the football field in the last five years. They have won numerous tournaments, reached finals in regional competitions and played at the Emirates Stadium, London in the Premier League U14 tournament. Good luck to them in the next stage of their education and footballing life, and well done for representing school in such a fantastic way.

Well Done

Congratulations and well done to Jamie Wilson, 7H who managed to raise £720.79 for 'The Legacy Rainbow House' by taking part in the Rainbow Ramble.



Congratulations

A huge congratulations goes to Rachel Cooper 10M who gained 100% in her Musical Theatre exam.



It is always nice to celebrate the achievements of our current students, but also to hear good news about the progress of our former students. Runshaw College have recently informed us that the following have been named as AS Student of the Year in their respective subject areas:

- Andrew Bithell - Further Maths
 - Chloe Quick - German
 - Christian Broad - Drama and Theatre Studies
 - Max Phythian – Spanish
- Many congratulations from all of us here at Bishops and we look forward to hearing news of A2s and university destinations.

National Chemistry Camp

Congratulations to Year 10 Triple Science students, Emma Ryding and Benjamin Smith! Both students were awarded a place on the National Chemistry Camp University residential. Emma and Ben thoroughly enjoyed their experience of university life, meeting other students from around the country and, of course, carrying out advanced level Chemistry experiments.

Germany Trip

Once again our students have said "Auf Wiedersehen Croston" and "Willkommen in Deutschland" as we headed off to Cologne for our bi-annual visit. 90 students accompanied by 9 members of staff took in the pleasures of Boppard, St.Goar, Koblenz and of course Cologne itself. Highlights of the trip included a visit to the Nurburgring Formula One circuit, a cruise down the river Rhine, shopping and sightseeing in Cologne and above all the Phantasialand theme park. Many thanks to Mrs Lawley and Mrs Broadley for organising this.



Iceland 2015

We have just returned from our second Geography trip to Iceland. The trip was a resounding success and has created amazing memories and was a life changing experience for all involved.

We visited the Blue Lagoon, spectacular waterfalls, stood across two tectonic plates, climbed on a glacier and went caving in a lava tube. In the evenings we also visited one of Iceland's many outdoor swimming pools to take advantage of the warm geothermal waters.

The trip is open to Year 10 students who have picked Geography as a GCSE option and the closing date for the visit next year is Friday 11 September 2015. If you have any questions regarding the visit please contact Mr Sixsmith.

The school website has a more detailed blog of our adventure and can be found at:

<http://bishopr.co.uk/blog/category/iceland-trip>



'B' for Bishops Badges

Congratulations are given to 46 of our students who have been awarded with the 'B' for Bishops badges. These have been awarded for a variety of reasons and to find out who the recipients are and their achievements please look on our website www.bishopr.co.uk and go to 'Parents'/'Pastoral'/'B for Bishop Badges'

REMINDERS

Updated Contacts

Please ensure that school is provided with any changes to your data. Addresses, work phone numbers and mobile phone numbers are updated so that we are able to make contact should an issue occur in school.

Absence

Parents **must** inform the school office of their child's absence by 9.30am on **each** day. A letter should be sent on return to school. Letters are also requested for hospital and dental appointments.

Seatbelts on school buses

Could we please ask parents to remind all students who travel to and from school on a bus that they must wear their seatbelts at all times.



Medication

Should it be necessary for a student to bring medication into school they must hand it into the main office immediately upon arrival. It is the student's responsibility to call at the office at the appropriate time to take the medication. We also ask that parents supply instructions of the times at which the medication is to be taken. Under no circumstances must a student carry medication around with them whilst in school.



Mobile Phones



Mobile phones must be switched off and kept in students' bags at all times whilst in school.

