Bishop Stopford School

Week Ending: 13th November 2026

NEWSLETTER





Events all week
Year 11 MFL Mock Speaking Exams
Govilon (Week 4)

Monday 16 November
Year 11 Collective Worship
Praying Parents 2 - 3pm in The Chapel
Rugby U12 v Wellingborough

Tuesday 17 November
Year 10 Collective Worship
Sixth Form Open Evening

Wednesday 18 November
Sixth Form Collective Worship
Year 12 Senior Maths Challenge

Thursday 19 November
Year 7 Collective Worship
GCSE Solo Music Recordings

Friday 20 November
Year 8 & 9 Collective Worship
GCSE Solo Music Recordings

Next week:
Week B

Assembly Theme:
Anti-Bullying Week

A Year 7 Govilon Adventure!

#BestOfBishop

Our students have once again enjoyed an unforgettable residential experience at Govilon Activity Centre in the beautiful Brecon Beacons National Park.

Following months of careful planning, our eight Year 7 forms have taken part in an exciting week away, supported by the incredibly experienced centre instructors and our dedicated volunteer staff. For some students, the residential experience may have been familiar, while for others it was their first time staying away from home.

The annual Govilon trip is a fantastic opportunity to strengthen friendships and bond during the first months with us. Through a variety of team-building activities and personal challenges, students develop confidence, resilience and independence, while creating lasting memories together. From the moment they arrived at Govilon, the comfortable and homely accommodation and welcoming staff helped everyone to feel at home.

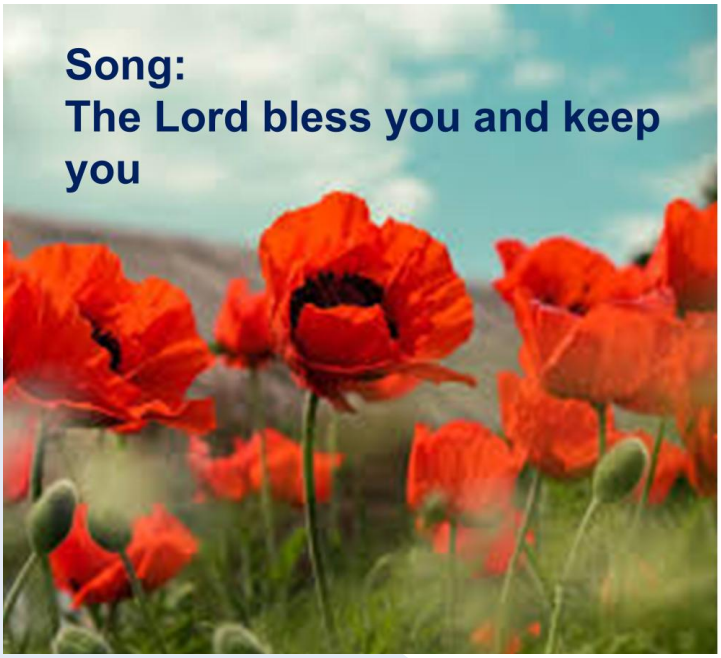
Each day has been packed with adventure! After a hearty breakfast, students took part in a range of exciting activities, including gorge walking, caving, river walking, rock climbing, bushcraft and canoeing. Even the wet weather didn't stop the fun, with indoor activities ensuring there was always something exciting to enjoy.

After a busy day, students refuelled with delicious homemade evening meals, with the wonderful Govilon team catering for a wide range of dietary requirements. There has also been plenty of time for fun in the evenings, with activities including ten-pin bowling, games and quizzes.

(continued on page 4)

Mrs Duffy

We are a Church of England School



**The Lord bless you and keep you
The Lord make His face to shine upon you
To shine upon you and be gracious
And be gracious unto you**

Our whole school community gathered on Wednesday in a Service of Remembrance. This included a congregation of support staff, 7Y (reading the Bible), 8E (sharing their prayers) and our worship singers who enhanced the worship singing *Make me a channel of your peace* and *The Lord bless you and keep you*. We were delighted to welcome Mrs Brett (ordinand) to share a remembrance reflection before Jonah (Yr 13) played The Last Post on his trombone, which was deeply beautiful and moving. This poem was written by a student in Year 9 especially for this service and was read by Mr Gay. Thank you to all involved in making this such a precious half an hour.

Remembrance Poem

'Deep beneath your feet we lie,
No longer do we see the sky,
Here it's a brother, there a friend
A long-lost father, brave till the end.

The shroud of poppies covers us who sleep.
We lived full lives 'til death did us reap.
Bombs and shells, they made us blind
Families, we left behind.

So the peace and calm enjoyed, you owe
To us, who sleep far down below,
For there's a reason why we did fall
We wished for freedom and peace for all.'

Mrs Hutchinson

Core Values in Action Awards

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.

- Six year 12 students have started working as volunteers at The Food Kitchen in the Central Methodist Church, Kettering. They responded to a challenging invitation during our Harvest week assembly - and are visibly living out our Core Values and making a difference in peoples' lives: Reuel Mendonca, Navami Sreekumar, Selina Marium Jose, Lydia Abraham, Abishek Abraham and Chelsea Matabalan.

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Core Values in Action Awards Cont'd

- India Lilley (Year 13) has created the most beautiful and powerful piece of artwork for our Christmas Carol service this year on the theme "The Language of Heaven". This CVIA recognises the time and commitment, the care and thought which India has taken.

If you know of a student who may be eligible for a Core Values in Action award, email newsletter@bishopstopford.com.

Mrs Peach

Safe Space - Money Muling

Money muling is a form of money laundering targeted at older teenagers and those starting university. Money obtained through criminal activity is moved into a neutral account, held for a period of time, and moved out again, effectively 'cleaning' the money in the process.

Students and young adults are targeted because they are often more susceptible to:

- Offers of 'easy money' for limited work;
- Social media messages;
- Fake job advertisements;
- A request – sometimes made through a friend of a friend – to use their bank account as a 'one-off';

When a young person accepts the offer, the money is transferred into their account and they become a 'money mule'.

There are significant concerns because this is linked to serious and harmful organised crime, including exploitation and human trafficking. For the young person involved, it can be very dangerous. Banks track movements of money across accounts, especially where they have been flagged previously. Not only can the money mule's account be frozen, but they become responsible for the money lost – often with extreme dangers from criminal gangs – and they are also at risk of criminal prosecution.

Young people can protect themselves by being vigilant about their accounts and remembering:

•Legitimate businesses will never ask young people to hold money in their accounts;
•Offers of work from overseas can be harder to trace and therefore have greater risks involved;
•Requests for account details could put them at risk; students should never share these.

You can find more information about money muling on the *Report Fraud* website: Money muling and on the *Don't Be Fooled* website: If it sounds to good to be true, it probably is.

If you are concerned, talk to your child about their communication with others and track their spending, if they have a bank account. Ensure they know how to report a concern, with the police and with their bank.

Mrs Smith

Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch will be served in The Olive Grove on Wednesday 9th (Years 7 - 9) and Thursday 10th December (Years 10 - 13). Parents need to pre-pay using Parentpay, and complete the form for students' menu choices by Friday 27th November.

Mrs Peach

A Year 7 Govilon Adventure! (cont'd from p1)

Our students have represented Bishop Stopford School brilliantly throughout their visits, and we are incredibly proud of the enthusiasm and resilience - and the excellent behaviour they have shown.

A huge thank you to all of the staff who have left their families for the week and so willingly given their time to help make this such a memorable and valuable experience for our students.

We would also like to thank the fantastic team at Govilon Activity Centre who serve us so well, and to parents and carers for entrusting us with your children.

We hope our Year 7 students return home with wonderful memories, stronger friendships and a few stories of adventure to share!

Mrs Duffy






Literacy Corner

- **'Take 10 to Read' GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ Title**
  On Thursday 8th October the National Literacy Trust and British Council hosted the 'Take 10 to Read' event with the aim to achieve a new GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ title for the most people reading online in twelve hours. Hourly sessions were hosted by authors, where readers from all over the world came together for a shared reading moment over a twelve-hour period. As a school, we embraced this opportunity and took part in the evening sessions in the library as part of Year 6 Open Evening. A big thank you to the following staff who took part in the event: Mr Gay, Mrs Norwood, Mrs Wilson and also Sixth Form student Nate Stilwell. We also had two lovely Year 6 students who sat and read with us! In total 153,862 participants took part from 92 countries and territories. We look forward to displaying our GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ certificate with pride.

- **The National Literacy Trust have launched a podcast called 'The Joy of Books'.**
  For book lovers, poetry lovers and anyone who loves a great recommendation, this new podcast explores the books, stories and poems that make us who we are. In each episode, some of Britain's best-known names revisit their earliest reading memories, the books which got them through tough times, the ones that changed their lives or changed the way they saw the world, as well as those guaranteed to lift their spirits. If you are looking for where to start, episode three is with The Body Coach, Joe Wicks. You can find this wherever you listen to your podcasts or watch on YouTube:
  https://www.youtube.com/@NationalLiteracyTrust/podcasts

- **Six Minutes of Reading Reduces Stress**
  The University of Sussex found that reading for just six minutes can reduce stress by 68%. This is more relaxing than listening to music, playing video games or having a cup of tea! Reading for pleasure enables our brains to escape the every day and transport our feelings to a different place. In addition, the physical act of holding a book and turning the pages can help to focus the mind. We are proud to have a large range of books available to borrow from our Library. Enjoy a relaxing six-minute read together at home, whether it is every day or when you need to have a breather. Do encourage your child to do so. Why not?

Happy reading!

Mrs Donlevy

Economics Essay Competition

This term, our Year 13 Economics students were invited to take part in an essay writing competition. The competition was an opportunity for students to apply all their Micro and Macro learning to a current real-world context which is not covered in great depth within the curriculum.

Students attended two lunch time sessions, were presented with the essay title and planning time on the first day, and then on day two, they wrote their essay. The essay title was, 'Discuss the economic effects of the decision of the UK government to cut VAT this summer'. Competitors were provided with an article about the Government's 'Great British Summer Savings' scheme.

Students were able to discuss the benefits to the tourism market and broader economic impacts of the potential extra spending during the summer holidays, along with an analysis of the impact of this scheme in both the short- and long-run for the country.

The competitors brought fabulous insight to their applied arguments and judging was difficult. Well done to all who took part.

Congratulations to our winners and runner up:
1st Place: William Bevitt
2nd Place: Dhruv Bakrania
Joint 3rd Place: Niall Saving and Will Dent
Runner Up: Kelsie Torsutse

Mrs Donlevy

Elevate Education Parent Guide

We are pleased to share a free resource with you from Elevate Education, who work with our students on study skills, motivation, exam preparation and wellbeing.

Elevate has produced a Parent Guide to Student Success. It's a 260-page guide, and it brings together 25 years of research from working with over 3,000 schools and a million students each year. It covers:

- Getting your child motivated, and keeping them there;
- Time management, organisation and ending the last-minute all-nighters;
- What studying actually means, and why most students never get past homework;
- Technology and distractions;
- Preparing for exams and managing the stress around them;
- Building resilience and learning to recover from a disappointing result.

It is full of practical advice on how to raise these topics with your child at home.

The guide is completely free and downloadable: Elevate Parent Guide Downloading the book also gives access to Elevate's free live parent webinars.

The remaining sessions this term are:

- **How You Can Help Your Child Prepare for Exams:** Tuesday 10 November, 6:00-7:00pm
- **How to Help Your Child Study with ADHD:** Tuesday 24 November, 6:00-7:00pm
- **How You Can Build Resilience in Your Child:** Tuesday 15 December, 6:00-7:00pm

We hope you find these useful.

Miss Whitehead

Carol Service – Monday 7th December



Recruitment

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

Science Technician

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

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

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