



Bishop Stopford School

Week Ending: 27th February 2026

NEWSLETTER



Photo: Year 10 Science Live!

Events All Week

Bishop Book Week
GCSE Food Practical Exams
National Careers Week

Monday 2 March

Year 11 Collective Worship

Tuesday 3 March

Year 10 House Games
Year 11 English Lecture

Wednesday 4 March

Year 12 Collective Worship

Thursday 5 March

Year 7 Collective Worship
World Book Day

Friday 6 March

Year 8 & 9 Collective Worship
Year 12 Bishop Lecture

Next week:

Week B

Assembly Theme:

>English: The Gift of Language

Bishop Book Week

#BestOfBishop

Bishop Book Week takes place next week, incorporating World Book Day on Thursday 5th March - a week of quizzes, activities and competitions. Students can enter the 'Design a National Book Token' competition with the chance to win prizes for themselves, their form and the school. There will be a bumper book sale on Wednesday and Thursday in the library, rounding out the week with a quiz on Friday.

On World Book Day, students can win a £10 Amazon voucher by finding the six staff who will be dressed up as literary characters.

Additionally, students have been busy taking part in the "Doors to Imagination" competition – a competition to dress their tutor group door in a theme linked to a book. And there's a box of board games as the prize for the most creative door. The entries are looking fabulous and really showcase how enthusiastic we are as a school about reading and all things books.

Book Tokens to claim a free World Book Day book are available in the Library. These can be used until 12th March.

Earlier this term, students were invited to complete a reading habits questionnaire. This has provided us with invaluable insights into what they would like to see in the Library. Plans are in place to put their wishes into practice.

Students will have information about the week's activities shared with them in form time and on Edulink.

Miss Wood

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**





>Something
more!

In the beginning...

Genesis 1:1-3

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

³ And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light



'We are all made of star stuff' Carl Sagan

Our Week A assemblies are considering the >Something More? – the spiritual dimensions - of our school subjects.

Before half term, Mr Reilly (Head of Computer Science) opened our minds to the beauty of the individual personality and soul, the hands and mind which lie behind created things. He showed us that this is something which AI cannot replicate as it is a soulless 'thing'. He made this point so powerfully by sharing the handwritten story by his 4-year-old niece: AI could never replace the essence of the uniqueness of her writing.

This week, Mr Holvey (Head of Physics) has shared passionately about Science and how he came to a faith in God as revealed in The Bible. He explained how compatible he found faith and science.

Mrs Pointer (English teacher) said, 'It was really interesting to hear about how the story of Creation can be explained from a scientific viewpoint as well as how closely linked these theories are to what we are taught in the Bible. It is evident that science and the Bible are not juxtaposed in what they convey about God's creation: believing in one does not mean that you cannot believe in the other as well. Thank you, Mr Holvey, for opening my eyes to the similarities.'

Why not ask your children about these assemblies and what has impacted them?

Mrs Hutchinson

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.

Well done to Orlaith Corkerry 7D - Orlaith regularly helps with the church teas at St Edwards and has done for a number of years.

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

Mrs Peach



Safe Space

This week, we have been informed by our colleagues at the Local Authority of a new image being used for young people to acquire drugs. The image contains a QR code which, when scanned, opens a website that appears legitimate.

The image's likeness to a popular fast food chain makes it even more concerning. Younger students may well not recognise the adaptations and could therefore be exposed to inappropriate content.

We would encourage families to have open conversations about this image, or scanning the QR codes of other, unknown posters or stickers seen in town.

If you do see this sticker, please report its location via this online form:

[QR Code-Report Form – Fill in form](#)



Guidance for parental controls, enabling safe access for devices, as well as an exploration of the relative risks, can be found here:

[QR Codes - what's the real risk? - NCSC.GOV.UK](#)

[Complete Parental Controls Guide UK 2025: Step-by-Step Setup for Every Device - GEEKEDCARTREE](#)

[How to set up parental controls for smartphones and social media - Which?](#)

[Use Parental Controls to Keep Your Child Safe | NSPCC](#)

If you are concerned about your child, or another at the school, please contact their form tutor or Head of Year.

Mrs Smith

Parking

It is disappointing that, on our return after half term, we have received numerous complaints from residents about parent parking and irresponsible driving. This is currently affecting the Thurston Drive area. If you drop off passengers near Kettering Leisure Village, please do so in their car park and not in the entrances of adjacent roads.

In addition, may we remind you yet again of the simple rules we have in place for safety and courtesy:

- Do not turn in or block residents' driveways.
- Always consider the impact of your driving and parking on our neighbours.
- We have reduced congestion by locating school buses on Highfield Road. This is a good drop off/pick-up point supervised by staff (8 minute walk).
- If you must come on to the Headlands, be aware of your speed and the number of pedestrians. Drop off no further than Glebe Avenue (5 minute walk).

Miss Silverthorne

Key Stage 3 Readathon

Alongside our many other activities for Book Week, students in years 7-9 will be taking part in a Readathon for the 'Read for Good' charity (2nd - 6th March).

The charity supports children in hospital and provides brand new book and resident storytellers to comfort children during challenging times. More can be found about this great cause here: [Read for Good: motivating kids to love reading and helping disadvantaged children.](#)

To support the charity, students will have 10 minutes in lessons dedicated to reading to achieve their reading goal for the week. The easiest way to submit sponsorship money is via Parent Pay, but we will also accept cash and cheques. Cheques can be made payable to Bishop Stopford School and students can post these in the labelled red box outside the Finance Office. Please ensure that any cash or cheques are in a sealed envelope with name and form of student with the words 'KS3 Readathon'. The deadline for sponsorship received in school is Friday 13th March.

Please note that sponsors can also be made directly on the Read For Good website if you select 'sponsor a child'.

As a thank you, Read for Good send the school a voucher with a value of 20% of the total we have raised.

Miss Thurlby



Chair of Governors

The Chair of Governors' role is a vital one to ensure the health and ongoing success of our school.

This week was the final one for Reverend Canon Brian Withington as our Chair of Governors. Brian has been associated with governance at our school since academisation in 2012. His contributions and leadership have been wise, thoughtful and godly – inspirational to us all. We will really miss his guidance and his selfless willingness to share so much time and wisdom with us. We would also like to thank his very long-suffering wife for enabling him to undertake this role for so long!

As we move into a new phase without Brian, we welcome Mrs Clare Holden to lead our governors. Clare has a long association with governance in education, having led governors of a Northamptonshire primary school. She has been a member of our governing board since 2023.

We look forward to the continued work of our governors – those who are parent, staff, community and Foundation governors – to ensure our school continues to deliver education to the highest standards. We would also like to thank all of them for their generosity in taking on this highly accountable volunteer role.

Miss Silverthorne



Goodbye X, Hello Instagram!

As a school we have decided to move from X as our primary method for communication on social media. Concerns over harmful content and the need for safer communication, alongside X's alignment with values which do not reflect those of our school community, have led to this decision.

We will move to Instagram and our existing Facebook platform will remain. There are various actions we will need to take to make the move successfully, and so main school Instagram account will become live after the Easter holidays.

We wish to continue to engage with as many stakeholders as possible via our social media channels and provide clear, positive, and trusted information. As always, our social media accounts will continue to be reviewed and regularly monitored.

More details on how to find us on Instagram will follow shortly. I look forward to sharing information and showcasing students' activities and achievements with you through these platforms.

Miss Duffy



Musical Success

Congratulations to "A Kind of Blue" who performed an amazing set in HMV Kettering last Saturday.

The band performed for 45 mins and attracted quite a crowd! Their set comprised classics from the swing era, such as *Mr Sandman*, *Fly Me to the Moon* and *'Aint Misbehaving*, among many others. They were very professional and even had talent spotters trying to recruit them for local Jazz nights!

Well done to Edward Hoadley, keyboard, Ella Adu, vocals & George Mears, drums.

'A Kind of Blue' will be performing at our Spring concert on 19th March, both as the audience and arrive, and as part of the concert - do come and see them in action

Music Exam Success

Well done to Esther Turner 7P for passing grade 2 Piano with distinction.

Mrs Armstrong



Year 12 Curriculum – Spring Term 2026

Subject	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2
A-Level Art	Project One Observational Responses Artist Responses	Project One Development of ideas Exploration of media
A-Level Biology	Biological Molecules (Complete) Transport in Plants (Complete) Classification and Evolution (Start)	Enzymes (Complete) Classification and Evolution (Complete) Biodiversity (Start)
A-Level Business	Finance Supply markets	Finance Elasticity Product/service design
A-Level Chemistry	Enthalpy and Entropy Organic Synthesis Chromatography and Spectroscopy	Redox and Electrode Potentials Transition Elements
A-Level Computer Science	Algorithms and Data Structures	Software Development (NEA style project)
A-Level Economics	Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply Types of Firms and how they grow Analysing the Firm	Economic Growth Costs, Revenue and Profit
A-Level English Language and Literature	Focus on The Great Gatsby and links with The Whitsun Weddings Analysis of All My Sons	
A-Level English Literature	Othello and Love through the Ages Poetry anthology Texts in Shared Context Paper 2 (Post 1945- to modern times) Comparison of 'Stockett's 'The Help' and Sylvia Plath's 'Ariel' poetry anthology	
A-Level French	La famille en voie de changement La Musique	Le patrimoine Revision of AS topics
A-Level Further Maths	Pure: Roots of Polynomials Matrices Proof by induction Decision: Linear Transformations Mechanics: Work, Energy & Power	Pure: Proof by induction Volumes of revolution Vectors Decision: Critical path analysis Mechanics: Elastic Collision (part 2)
A-Level Geography	Coastal Systems and Landscapes Coasts as natural systems / Coastal processes / Coastal Management etc Hazards Wildfires, Tropical Storms and Multi-hazardous environments Water and Carbon Feedback loops, water cycle, carbon cycle and human impacts on them.	
A-Level Geology	Earth Structure Plate Tectonics Igneous Rocks Sedimentary environments and Processes	
A-Level History	The Early Tudors – Stability of the Monarchy: 1547-1558 Russia – The Civil War and Lenin	The Early Tudors – Religious Changes Russia - The Rule of Stalin
Life and Ethics	Planning for the Future: What are pensions, voting and democracy and tenancy rights Health and wellbeing: Looking after ourselves, supporting others, revision and dealing with exams.	



A-Level Maths	Pure: Differentiation Exponentials and Logs Circles Statistics: Location and Spread Mechanics: Forces and Motion	Pure: Integration Trigonometry – Sine and Cosine Rule Statistics: Representations Correlation Distributions Mechanics: Variable acceleration Forces and Friction
A-Level Music	Recital Preparation Composition Practice Choral harmonisation Analysis of Rite of Spring and cues from Batman Dictation and 30-mark essay practice	
A-Level PE	Post 1950 – development of modern sport Theories of Learning and Performance The Cardiovascular system	Sociological issues Memory models and information processing The Respiratory system
A-Level Physics	Waves Laws of Motion and Momentum	Quantum Physics Laws of Motion and Momentum
A-Level Politics	UK voting behaviour and media Liberalism	The US Constitution
A-Level Product Design	Project 3 – User Centred Design 1.1 Materials and their Applications 1.2 Performance Characteristics 1.3 Enhancement of Materials	NEA 1.4 Forming, Redistribution and Addition 1.6 Scales of Production 1.7 Digital Design and Manufacture
A-Level RE (Philosophy and Ethics)	Challenges of Religious Belief Utilitarianism Natural Law	Religious Experience Free Will and Determinism Natural Law
A-Level Psychology	Memory and RMs Social Influence and RMs	Psychopathology and RMs Attachments and RMs
A-Level Sociology	Differential Educational Achievement Social Policy Gender roles in the Family and Childhood	Research Methods Population Change UK
AS / A-Level Spanish	Igualdad de los derechos, Laberinto del Fauno	
A-Level Theatre Studies	<u>Our Country's Good / Death of an Anarchist</u> Students will develop knowledge of the context of the play and how this has shaped the writing and the way in which the play is received by an audience. Students will also be working on a devised performance which reflects the style of their chosen theatre practitioner.	

Wider-Curricular	Drama Trip – 222 a Ghost Story (13.01.26)	What Career, What University Fair (27.02.26) Year 12 Lecture (12.03.26) Spring Concert (17.03.26) Communion (26.03.26)
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Other	Year 12 Reports Issued (13.03.26) Spring Concert (17.03.26)
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Recruitment

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

Teacher of English

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.



Cucina

WEEK 1

Week Commencing: 27/10/2025 17/11/2025 08/12/2025 19/01/2026 09/02/2026
 02/03/2026 23/03/2026 13/04/2026

CLASSIC HOT & HEARTY

CLASSIC MAIN MEALS

MONDAY

Beef Bolognese with Wholegrain Pasta & House Salad

TUESDAY

Kung Pao Chicken with Vegetable Rice

WEDNESDAY

Honey Glazed Roast Gammon, Crisp Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables & House Gravy

THURSDAY

Chicken Tikka Masala, Served with Braised Rice & Kachumber Salad

FRIDAY

Chip Shop 'Fryday' Fish, Pizza or Fishcake & Chips with Peas & Tartare Sauce

VEGETARIAN MAIN MEALS

MONDAY

Plant Based Bolognese with Wholegrain Pasta and House Salad (V)

TUESDAY

Kung Pao Cauliflower with Vegetable Rice (VE)

WEDNESDAY

Lentil Sage & Onion Wellington (V)

THURSDAY

Butter Cauliflower & Chickpea Curry, Served with Braised Rice & Kachumber Salad (V)

FRIDAY

Homemade Cheese & Onion Slice with Chips & Peas (V)

DESSERTS

MONDAY

Spiced Pineapple Cake with Custard

TUESDAY

Chocolate & Banana Brownie

WEDNESDAY

Syrup Sponge with Custard

THURSDAY

Oaty Apple Crumble with Custard

FRIDAY

Hot Chocolate Rocky Road

Fruit and Jelly Pots Available Daily

HOMEMADE SOUP & FRESHLY BAKED BREAD
Available Daily

JACKET POTATOES
Topped with a Choice of: Cheese, Tuna or Beans Available Daily

Cucina



MADE YOUR WAY!

**CHOOSE IT!
ADD IT!
TOP IT!**

Switch up your flavours with our street food-inspired range, available **Tuesday to Thursday**. With weekly rotating choices, there's always something tasty.

Choose a base, add protein, and top it your way!

Visit the restaurant to check out what's on offer each week

NATURally

MONDAY

Pakistani Tarka Dhal (VE)

TUESDAY

Vegan Singapore Noodles (VE)

WEDNESDAY

Onion Bhaji & Vegetable Rice Bowl (VE)

THURSDAY

The Big Plant Burger (VE)

FRIDAY

Garlic & Chilli Noodles (VE)

TRATTORIA

MONDAY

Tomato & Basil Pasta

TUESDAY

Pasta in a Cheese Sauce

WEDNESDAY

Margherita or Pepperoni Pizza

THURSDAY

Creamy Pesto Pasta

FRIDAY

Margherita Pizza

