

Bishop Stopford School

Week Ending: 1 May 2026

NEWSLETTER



Year 6 Coffee Morning

Monday 4th May
Bank Holiday

Tuesday 5th May
Year 10 & 11 Collective Worship

Wednesday 6th May
Year 12 Collective Worship
Year 8 STEM

Thursday 7th May
Year 7 & 8 Collective Worship
Year 8 STEM

Friday 8th May
Year 9 Collective Worship
Year 13 Study leave begins

Next week:
Week A

Assembly Theme:
Pilgrimage

All Things Maths

#BestOfBishop

As I come to the summer term of my first year as Head of Maths at Bishop Stopford School, I'm delighted to say what a fantastic start it has been. I want to say a heartfelt thank you to all of our students and parents for the warm welcome and support shown throughout the year — it has made a huge difference. Our Maths Department has had a great year, filled with hard work, enthusiasm and plenty of mathematical curiosity from our students. We also have lots of exciting events, developments and opportunities. Here are just some of the things we've been up to, and what you can look forward to next:

Maths Challenges

We are always looking to challenge our students to improve their mathematical thinking and problem-solving. One of the ways we do this is through the national Maths Challenges run by the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust (UKMT). These competitions take place at three levels - Junior, Intermediate and Senior - and give students the chance to apply their skills to complex, creative problems.

The Junior Maths Challenge took place this week, with the Senior and Intermediate rounds earlier in the year. We are always delighted to see students progressing to the follow-on rounds, where they tackle even more demanding questions.

A huge well done to all students who took part, achieved a Bronze, Silver or Gold certificate and congratulations to those who qualified for follow-on rounds. We look forward to sharing the results of the Junior Maths Challenge once they are released!

Mrs Banfield

Contd on P4



We are a Church of England School



Dear God

We pray that the Year 6 students will make special memories in their last year of primary school.

We pray that those who are nervous will gain courage and confidence and those who are excited keep up their enthusiasm as they grow.

We give thanks for our wonderful community of hard-working teachers at Bishop Stopford who help us reach our full potential.

Please give the new students strength, joy and peace in this new chapter of their life

Amen

We always love to welcome our new families to school. This week was Year 6 Coffee Morning (see also p3).

The above prayer was written and read by Jessica in Year 7 on Monday as we welcomed our new 'family' of parents and carers. Esmee, also in Year 7, prayed the following:

Heavenly Father, we pray over all the children transitioning into Year 7 from Year 6. I ask God to give guidance to your children as they find their way around school; that peace may be given as they find new friends and as they start a new beginning here at Bishop Stopford School. Thank you that our school unlocks our God-given potential. Please help our new Year 7s in September to find the things that they enjoy in lessons and to discover the lunchtime clubs and activities that will unlock their own unique potential here. Amen

We truly do have so much to be thankful for.

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.

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

Mrs Peach

Music Congratulations

Congratulations to the following students on their amazing achievements:

Noah Mistry (9S) for passing his grade 4 electric guitar exam with merit.

Miya Philip (9W) for passing grade 5 clarinet with distinction.

Freya Hawkes (12S1) for passing grade 6 voice with distinction.

Mrs Armstrong



Safe Space – Water Safety

Each year, a small number of children and young people tragically lose their lives whilst playing in water. We have seen a significant number of cases this year already, with unexpectedly strong waves attracting attention in storms, but then drawing people under water or out to sea.

As the warmer months promise sunshine and higher temperatures, more young people will be spending time outside. Many swim in open water. It's crucial that they understand the risks and choose places approved for wild swimming.

There are some very helpful resources online which can help parents to have open conversations about the risks of playing in water: [RLNI: RNLi Education Resources For Young People](#) and advice [RNLi Open Water Swimming Safety Advice And Tips](#) The Fire Service annual 'Be Water Aware' campaign: [Be Water Aware – NFCC](#).

If you would like to be even more involved, the National Water Safety Forum is running a consultation until 13th May, seeking input on England's Drowning Prevention Strategy. To share your views, use this link: [Consultation on the England Drowning Prevention Strategy - National Water Safety Forum](#)

Mrs Smith

Year 6 Coffee Morning

We were delighted to welcome parents of our new intake of Year 6 students to our Year 6 Coffee Morning. It was wonderful to host them here to begin the next stage in their children's education.

Over the course of the morning, parents heard from key staff, were able to ask questions and even attempt our rather tricky Bishop Form Group Cathedral picture quiz! (See @bishopstopford1 Instagram if you would like to have a go.)

Parents heard from four of our Year 7 students about their experiences, gaining a firsthand insight in what it is like to be a Year 7 student in our community. They were also treated to wonderful piano playing on entrance and had the opportunity to speak to our Sixth Form Leadership team and Year 7 volunteers. We trust they could see the exciting times ahead as their children progress from primary school to secondary.

Thank you to all of those who attended: we had a record number of over 180 parents. If there are any questions from either those who could attend or not, do use the key contacts list below.

Safeguarding: Clare Smith Deputy Head of Pastoral, Safeguarding and Wellbeing – csmith@bishopstopford.com

General information: Lee Stevenson Key Stage 3 Pastoral Lead – l Stevenson@bishopstopford.com

Pupil Premium: Presheena Norwood – pnorwood@bishopstopford.com

Transport/uniform/admissions: Kirsty Smith – ksmith@bishopstopford.com

Inclusion: Bianca McGregor SENDCo – bmccgregor@bishopstopford.com

Thank you again to all who made the time to visit us, and we really look forward to our new students starting at Bishop Stopford School this year.

Key Dates

Event	Day	Date
Primary School Visits	Weekdays	Beginning in May and running until mid-June
CATS Testing day	Saturday	27 th June 2026 8:30 – 12:00
Transition Days in School	Monday and Tuesday	6 th and 7 th July 2026
Parent Transition Evening	Tuesday	7 th July 17:00 – 19:00
Start of Year 7	Thursday	3 rd September 2026
Admissions Pack		1 st week April

Mr Stevenson



Senior Maths Challenge

- Oliver Taylor (11D) – Best in Year, Silver
- Raiyan Elahi (12W2) – Best in Year, Gold
- Ewan Mitchell (13S) – Best in Year, Gold

Students across Years 12 and 13 qualified for the Senior Kangaroo Challenge, with:

- Danny Atkinson (13G) – Best in School, Silver
- Samuel Baynes (12E1) – Best in Year, Bronze

Intermediate Maths Challenge

- Thomas Pickford (9Y) – Best in Year, Gold
- Alice Li (10D) – Best in Year, Gold

Students across Years 9 and 10 progressed to the follow-on rounds the **Grey Kangaroo** (Year 9) and **Pink Kangaroo** (Year 10).

- Thomas Pickford (9Y) – Best in School, Bronze
- Joshua Romy – Best in School, Bronze

Pi Day Assemblies

Last term, I delivered a series of assemblies for Pi Day, celebrated each year on 14th March (3.14). Students explored the meaning and origins of π , discovering why this fascinating number appears everywhere from circles and cylinders to probability, engineering, and even nature. Students were encouraged to think beyond the classroom, exploring how mathematical ideas have shaped human understanding for thousands of years. It was a brilliant opportunity to spark curiosity and celebrate the wonder of mathematics.

Sparx Maths Homework

A huge thank you to all Year 8 and 9 students, and to parents and carers, for taking part in the Sparx Maths homework trial and for completing the feedback questionnaire. Your engagement, honesty and commitment have been invaluable. The trial has been incredibly successful, giving us a clear picture of how we can continue to strengthen homework. We are delighted to confirm that Sparx Maths will be fully launched in September, running alongside Dr Frost Maths to provide a rich, balanced and effective homework programme for all students.

Upcoming Assessments

As we move into the summer term, all students will be completing their end-of-year assessments. Revision information and tasks will be shared on Edulink and sent home ahead of each assessment window. But students don't need to wait! They can be well prepared by using Dr Frost Maths to undertake independent learning. Using Formally Marked Work front sheets and assessment feedback sheets is also a great way to identify personal areas of weakness and to begin targeted revision. If any student feels unsure, stuck, or would benefit from extra guidance, our intervention and support sessions are always open and we strongly encourage them to attend.

Maths Support & Intervention

We are committed to ensuring every student feels confident and supported in their mathematical journey. Alongside high-quality lessons, we offer a range of drop-in sessions and targeted interventions to help students consolidate their learning and ask questions.

Year 7 Numeracy Intervention: Tuesday morning registration

KS3 Maths Help (Years 7–9): Mondays – M1 – 12:45–13:15

KS4 Maths Help (Years 10–11): Wednesdays – M9 – 12:45–13:15

Year 11 Intervention Programme: Tuesday lunchtime/after school

KS5 Maths Help (Years 12–13): Thursday lunchtime – M9

A-level Boost Sessions: Wednesdays – M5 – 12:30–13:15

A-level Further Maths Help: Thursdays – M3 – 12:45 – 13:15

Y12 Intervention: Wednesdays– M3 – 12:40 – 13:15

Thank you for taking the time to read about “All Things Maths.” I hope it has given you a helpful insight into the exciting work, achievements and opportunities happening across the Department. If you have any questions or would like further information about anything we've shared, please do not hesitate to get in touch — we're always happy to help.

Mrs Banfield



Year 12 Oxford Experience Trip

Last week, a group of ambitious Year 12 students travelled to Oxford for an immersive day, getting a flavour of life and study at this prestigious university. Our visit was hosted by Lincoln College, but students were fortunate enough to receive a tour of neighbouring Brasenose College too. They had excellent advice from current students at both colleges, including from a Bishop alumnus!

The group was also able to visit the Bodleian Library, the second largest in the UK, which was inspiring for all. We are excited to see where their applications take them next year.

Mrs Hainsworth



County Cup Final Rugby

Under 16 Rugby County Cup Champions 2026

Last Thursday, the U16 (Year 11) rugby squad finally became County Champions, winning a close fought encounter v Moulton 41-32. This was also to be their "last dance" together as a side which has gone from strength to strength since Year 7.

What made last week so special is that this was their third successive final. In the previous two, they finished as runners up. After a stunning opening score, points were exchanged with scores tied at half time.

We started to dominate possession early in the second half, with some outstanding defence and several well taken tries. Moulton were not done and with five minutes to go the scores stood at 35-31.

We bravely turned down a kickable penalty and went for the corner. The ball was lost and Moulton attacked deep from within their own half. It took all the team's resolve to stop Moulton from scoring through a crucial turnover. A couple of phases later, with some great interchange from both forwards and backs, we went over to score to secure the long-awaited win.

This was an outstanding end to the season and, for some, their time at our school. [Congratulations](#) to all involved. It's been a pleasure!

A special mention must be made for Will Bantin who contributed so much to this team over the years, but could not play in the final due to an unfortunate injury before Easter.

And the 3 Year 10s who played up an age group deserve special mention. They certainly didn't look out of place: Conor Smith, Jamie Revell and particularly Eli Verity at #10 who kicked 6 conversions, securing 12 points.

Try Scorers: Charlie Court, Jeremie Anochie, Will Webster x2, Laurence Harvey x 2.

Squad:

Laurence Harvey, Theo Mizon, James Rahman, Alex Ologan, Austin Dale, Will Webster, Jayden Nettey, Millan Montgomery, Thomas Wears, Eli Verity, Toby Brotherton, Charlie Court, Eddie Harvey, Jeremie Anochie, Samuel Howes (Capt), Jamie Revell, Conor Smith, Charlie Augusciak, Ewan Templeman & Aston Kane

Mr Young



Year 7 Curriculum

Subject	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
Art	Completion of Compositional studies Landscape Project: Observational drawing, applying the formal elements	Landscape Colour response, exploring ideas from Fauvism.
Computer Science	Introduction to spreadsheets	Binary and logic circuits
DT	Product Design Nightlights (Focus on wood and plastics)	Textiles Bags (Focus on hand sewing techniques)
Drama	Food 1 Afternoon Tea	Food 2 Afternoon Tea
English	Greek Theatre Includes the development of a piece of drama in response to the stimulus <i>Amycus and the Argonauts</i>	Animal Farm This is an analytical study of a challenging modern model leading to an examination of an extract from the text.
Foundation Learning	Shakespeare's Monologues	
Geography	Applying, across the subjects studied in school, what we know about our learning habits	
GRIT	Complete work on Settlements Begin work on Deserts	Deserts
History	Team Identity	True Grit
Maths	Medieval Monarchs What makes a good Medieval Monarch?	The Black Death Enquiry Question – Was 1348 the end of the world?
Music	Substitution Solving Equations Angles	Converting units of Measure Properties of Triangles and Quadrilaterals Area Co-ordinates and Graphs
PE	Ensemble Performance 2	Structure AABA Composition
PSHE	Athletics and Rounders (Girls) Tennis and Athletics (Boys)	Tennis and Softball (Girls) Cricket and Softball (Boys)
RE	Health and Wellbeing What is mood? Why is sleep important? The impacts of drugs etc on the human body	
Science	Christianity – is three parts or persons?	
Spanish	Ecosystems (Biology) Mixtures and Separation (Chemistry)	Sexual Reproduction (Biology) Sound (Physics)
Wider-Curricular	Mi ciudad	Mi casa
	UKMT Junior Maths Challenge (29.04.26) Flying Theatre Visit (18.05.26)	Year 7 Collective Worship (19.06.26) Super-Curricular Week / School Walk Celebration Assemblies (23.07.26)
Other	Year 7 Reports Issued (05.06.26)	Sports Day (21.07.26)

Safe Travel to School

As you are aware we have had a major focus to reduce traffic outside school and thereby improve safety.

We are working closely with Kettering Borough Council and four other schools to improve transport issues in our area. All students both here and in the other schools will be participating in a "How do you come to School?" survey. A company called Brightwayz has been commissioned by Kettering Borough Council to analyse the outcomes to develop a more effective and coordinated approach to our transport issues.

In the meantime please continue to observe our requests regarding transport to and from School.

Miss Silverthorne





Important Dates

Bishop Stortford School
1000 Churchway, Stortford, Essex, SS16 5LH

8 MAY Year 13 Study Leave begins	8 MAY Year 8 Reports issued
10 MAY Year 10 Ensemble Evening	12 MAY Isle of Scillies Parents' Information Evening - 6pm
21 MAY Year 11 Study Leave begins	13 MAY Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
22 MAY School Closes for Half Term	14 MAY Year 12 Progress Review

Cucina

WEEK 1

Week Commencing:
13/04/26 04/05/26 25/05/26 15/06/26 06/07/26 27/07/26

CLASSIC HOT & HEARTY

CLASSIC MAIN MEALS

MONDAY

Beef & Lentil Bolognese with Pasta & House Salad

TUESDAY

Bang Bang Chicken with Soy & Mixed Rice

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

Chicken Tikka & Chickpea Masala, Braised Rice & Kachumber Salad

FRIDAY

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

VEGETARIAN MAIN MEALS

MONDAY

Plant Based Bolognese with Pasta & House Salad (V)

TUESDAY

Bang Bang Eat Curious with Soy & Mixed Rice (V)

WEDNESDAY

Vegetable 'Squashage' Roll with Crisp Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables & Roast House Gravy (V)

THURSDAY

Cauliflower, Courgette & Chickpea Rosti with Braised Rice, Kachumber Salad & Minted Yoghurt Dressing (V)

FRIDAY

Vegan Chickpea & Coriander Burger with Fries (VE)

DESSERTS

MONDAY

Spiced Pineapple Cake

TUESDAY

Chocolate & Banana Brownie

WEDNESDAY

Sticky Ginger Cake

THURSDAY

Gaty Apple Crumble

FRIDAY

Hot Chocolate Rocky Road

Fruit and Jelly Pots 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

Vegan Singapore Noodles (VE)

TUESDAY

The Big Plant Burger (VE)

WEDNESDAY

Roasted Butternut, Sweetcorn & Chipotle Pasta (VE)

THURSDAY

Maple & Chilli Cauliflower Wings with Cajun Wedges (VE)

FRIDAY

Garlic & Chilli Noodles (VE)

TRATTORIA

MONDAY

Pasta in Cheese Sauce

TUESDAY

Tomato & Basil Pasta

WEDNESDAY

Margherita or Pepperoni Pizza

THURSDAY

Creamy Pasta

FRIDAY

Margherita Pizza

