



Bishop Stopford School

Week Ending: 10th July 2026

NEWSLETTER



*Above: Induction day helpers

Events All Week

Super Curricular Week

Year 12 Work Experience

Year 9 Languages Trip to Spain

Monday 13th July

Year 9 Collective Worship

Year 10 Rock Climbing

Year 9 Disaster Management Day

Tuesday 14th July

Please refer to Super Curricular Week activities

Wednesday 15th July

Please refer to Super Curricular Week activities

Thursday 16th July

Please refer to Super Curricular Week activities

Year 10 Rock Climbing

Westminster Abbey: installation of Bishop of Brixworth

Friday 17th July

School Walk

Next week:

Week B

Assembly Theme:

Super Curricular Week!

Work Experience

#BestOfBishop

As we look ahead to Super Curricular Week, Years 8, 10 and 12 will embark on an experience of work which will help to prepare them for life after school.

Work experience is a valuable opportunity. Spending time in the workplace allows young people to step outside the classroom and gain a better understanding of the world of work. It enables them to develop independence, critical thinking and build confidence for the future.

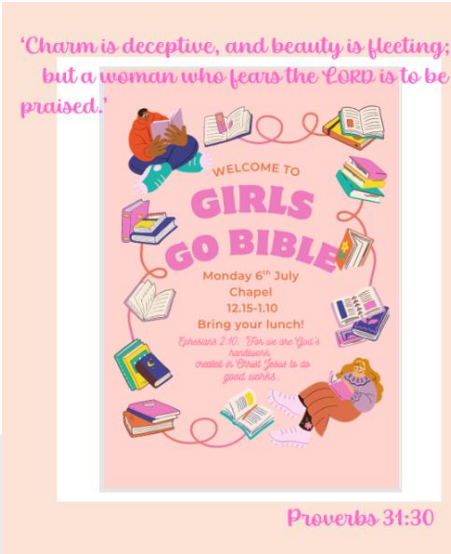
Employers often look for qualities such as communication, teamwork, reliability, and problem-solving. A day in the workplace gives students the opportunity to develop these vital skills and learn how to interact professionally. For some, this may be their first time in a professional environment. While that may be daunting at first, it is vital that students utilise this opportunity to push themselves out of their comfort zones. They may meet new people, adapt to different routines and take on unfamiliar tasks. By overcoming these challenges, students gain self-belief and learn that they are capable of succeeding in new situations. These experiences can have a positive impact not only on future employment, but also on their academic studies and personal growth.

Students in Years 8 and 10 have been prepared for their day in the workplace through the personal development curriculum. We encourage students to log into Unifrog over the weekend and research the career/industry that they are exploring. They will then begin this career chapter well informed and be able to ask employers great questions about their placement.

Thank you to all parents and carers who have helped to arrange the placements for our students. If students have not been able to arrange placements, they are expected in school and will take part in an alternative provision.

Miss Thurlby





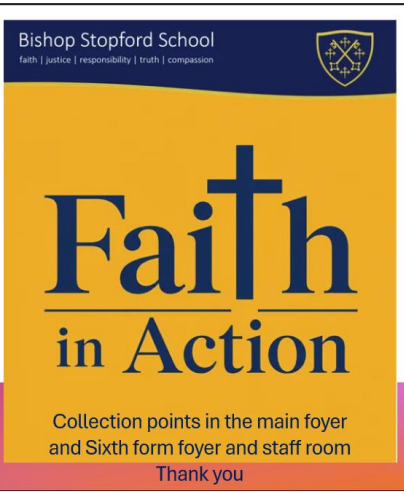
Girls Go Bible!

In the heat of Monday, the Chapel was a haven of happy calm as our Girls Go Bible group met at lunchtime. Led by Year 12 students, we thought about what beauty is and how God views beauty. This led to us making our very own hand mirrors - which were non-reflective! This was a helpful reminder to us all that beauty is not outside appearance: it lies deep within. Proverbs 31:30 was then written on to the 'mirror' to affirm this truth: "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised".

Mrs Hutchinson



Our Summer collection for
The Kettering Food Bank



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.

The following group of students spent four hours participating in **Faith and Chaplaincy workshops** in school with the Church of England's national Growing Faith initiative. Their input and comments were filmed and will be used to form a national resource available in October to train young people in Pupil Chaplaincy. Well done to all who took part.

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Joel Wiffen | Matthew Olupitan |
| Precious Abiona | Chloe Mayes |
| Jacob Middleton | Evalyn Hogg |
| Katie Hailes | Anna Raymond |
| Thomas Pickford | Malachi Carney |



Core Values in Action Cont'd

Liliana Cecerelli also receives a Core Values in Action Award. She is currently mentoring a younger student and her impact in recent months through 1:1 support and role-modelling has been significant.

Ignite was a youth event held at Christ the King Church last Friday evening - for young people and led by young people. Joel, George and Precious led the worship and music, and Elijah shared a specially written rap about Jesus being the light in our dark world. Well done to:

Joel Wiffen
George Robson
Precious Abiona
Elijah Borbor

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 – Staying Safe in the Community

As the summer holidays approach, young people will spend more time out in the community, meeting friends, travelling independently and exploring the world around them. This is critical for their development, helping them to evaluate risk and manage unexpected circumstances.

All parents will navigate this in the best way for their families, agreeing safety strategies, times to meet and helpful boundaries. Here are some practical suggestions to support conversations at home:

1. The NSPCC highlights the importance of helping children understand *personal safety* and building their confidence to speak up if something doesn't feel right. Their guidance can be found here: [NSPCC: Keeping children safe \[nspcc.org.uk\]](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/)
2. West Midlands Police has shared guidance about simple routines to support safety. These include planning journeys together, remaining on busy, well-lit routes, keeping valuables out of sight and communicating if there are any changes to the plan: [West Midlands Police: Staying safe when out and about \[westmidlan....police.uk\]](https://www.westmidlandspolice.uk/staying-safe-when-out-and-about/)
3. Peer pressure is a challenge at any age and is especially acute for teenagers. Advice from Safe4Me outlines what constitutes anti-social behaviour and encourages positive conversations about awareness of surroundings: [Safe4Me: Advice for parents and carers \[safe4me.co.uk\]](https://www.safe4me.co.uk/advice-for-parents-and-carers/)
4. Safer Northants shares information about local issues and this link gives information about knife crime: [Safer Northants: Community safety guidance \[safernorthants.co.uk\]](https://www.safernorthants.co.uk/community-safety-guidance/). Open conversations about this can save lives, and encouraging young people to run, hide and report concerns to the Police can help protect them in emergency situations: [ProtectUK: Run, Hide, Tell guidance \[protectuk.police.uk\]](https://www.protectuk.police.uk/run-hide-tell-guidance/)

If you ever have concerns about your child's safety or wellbeing, please do not hesitate to contact your child's form tutor or Head of Year.

Mrs Smith

Last Day of Term

Please note that school will close at **12:30 on Friday 24th July**. Buses will collect students early.

Please remind your child to empty their locker before the last day of term. Lockers will be emptied over the summer holiday and any items remaining will be disposed of or donated to charity/the uniform shop.

Miss Curchin



School Walk

Our annual Sponsored Walk takes place on Friday 17th July for students in Years 7-10, with Year 12 supporting.

This year we are raising money for an additional covered outside area for students. Families can donate via the [JustGiving](#) page or by cash via the Finance Office. Sponsorship forms have been sent to parents. Paper copies are available from Reception.

To ensure everyone stays safe and well through the day, please ensure your child has:

- **Appropriate footwear.** We recommend walking shoes, walking boots or secure trainers. Students will not be able to walk in sandals, flip flops or sliders. Canvas pumps should be avoided.
- **Water and snacks.** Students should ensure they have plenty of water, as well as snacks and a packed lunch. There will be an opportunity to fill bottles at the lunch break.
- **Sun protection.** When its overcast, the temperature can be deceptive. Students should wear sun lotion and ensure they have a hat.
- **Socks.** As healthy and active young people, the distance of the walk doesn't tend to faze students, but sometimes they don't consider the impact on their feet. Please ensure your child is wearing proper socks: walking or sports socks which tend to be a little thicker. Alternatively, we'd recommend wearing two pairs of regular socks. Trainer socks, which don't cover the heel, should be avoided.
- **Plasters.** There are checkpoints throughout the walk. Staff will be available for first aid. However, it can be very useful for students to carry a couple of plaster, just in case they feel a blister forming.

Ice lollies for £1 will be available when students stop for lunch. Please ensure students have the correct change.

We anticipate that every student will take part. If a student has a legitimate reason not to take part, please contact their Head of Year.

Mrs Smith

Sports News



Congratulations to Will Howes who has been selected for the USA U18 Rugby team and is currently on tour in South America. After flying to Miami, Will flew to Uruguay to feature in 2 test matches in Montevideo v **Uruguay U18**. He then transfers to Buenos Aires, Argentina, to play a **Buenos Aires Select XV**.

This is testament to all the hard work, dedication and commitment Will has directed to his rugby over the past couple of seasons.

Will has been selected to start at 15 for USA v Uruguay on Saturday- kick off time is 3pm UK time. This U18 game is the opener before the Romania v Uruguay test game. Congratulations and we are very proud to hear of your international selection and wish you all the best in this incredible opportunity.

Mr Young

Congratulations to Eva Thompson (8W) competed in the British Gymnastics inter- regional trampolining final representing East Midlands. This was Eva's first big competition on a grand scale at the Birmingham Utilita Arena. She came 15th out of 26 for her age group and level. We are very proud of her achievement.

Mrs Smith



Big Achievements

Congratulations to Ella Bagdonaviciute (8S) for her out of school achievements! She competed in the regional dance qualifiers on half term in February and at East Midlands Finals in May. She then successfully made it through to the All England Dance (AED) National Finals! She will be performing in five different group dances at the finals the last week of July.

Ella also competed in a county gymnastics competition on April 19th and won 1st place on vault. We are incredibly proud of her dedication and teamwork. Well done, Ella!

Miss Moloney

Graduation News

We love to celebrate former students' successes. Please do share any other graduation news with us.

"Bishop Stopford School alumna, Rebekah Baynes (class of 2020/Sixth form 2022), has graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree with Honours of the First Class in Computer Science from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland.

May I take this opportunity to again thank Mrs Silverthorne and all the Bishop Stopford School staff for their dedication, vision and hard work, which made it possible for Rebekah to succeed in her studies."

Mrs Baynes

"I just wanted to let Bishop know, I am graduating from the University of Southampton with a MChem with year-long industrial experience, graduating with a 2:1 and I had an amazing time at university. I will be happy to support Bishop as an Alumni wherever possible."

Bethany Cressey

RSC Playmaking Festival

On Wednesday 1 July, our talented and dedicated Key Stage 3 and 5 Drama students captivated audiences with their performance of a key scene from Shakespeare's *The Tempest* at the Corby Cube Theatre.

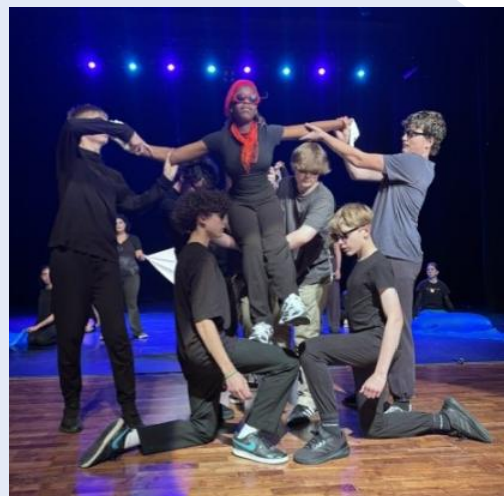
Over the past few months, students have devoted their time and energy to preparing for this exciting opportunity through after-school Drama Club. In the rehearsal process, they developed a wide range of valuable skills, including collaboration, effective communication, confidence-building, and a deeper appreciation of Shakespeare's language and dramatic storytelling. Most importantly, they demonstrated tremendous courage and professionalism in performing before a live audience.

The students represented Bishop Stopford School as part of the Royal Shakespeare Company's Playmaking Festival, joining five other secondary schools and one primary school from across Northamptonshire in celebrating the creativity and talent of young performers.

A huge thank you goes to Mrs Fraser, Mr Gay and Miss Jones for their dedication, encouragement and hard work in supporting the students throughout their preparation. Our performers were an absolute credit to the school, showcasing both their talent and exemplary conduct.

Congratulations to all involved on a truly memorable achievement!

Mrs Fletton



Celebration of the Arts 2026

What an incredible evening celebrating the creativity, talent and dedication of our students!

The school community came together to enjoy a spectacular exhibition of Art and Design, featuring a stunning exhibition of GCSE and A level student art, innovative design and textiles projects and an impressive food presentation. The evening also recognised outstanding achievement through our special awards for progress and celebrating the hard work and growth of students across the year.

Our Key Stage 3 Drama Club delighted the audience with a series of engaging performances, from Shakespeare's 'Othello', Needle's 'The Rebels of Gast Street' and Kelly's 'DNA'. Students demonstrated confidence, imagination and amazing teamwork on stage. The celebrations continued with a wonderful summer, music concert, bringing together performers from every age group and showcasing the breadth of musical talent within our school.

Perhaps most inspiring of all was seeing our entire community united through the arts, with older students supporting and encouraging younger performers and artists throughout the evening. The atmosphere was one of pride, encouragement and shared celebration.

Thank you to all our students, staff, families and visitors who helped make the evening such a success. The creativity, commitment and community spirit on display were truly exceptional.



Mrs Fletton



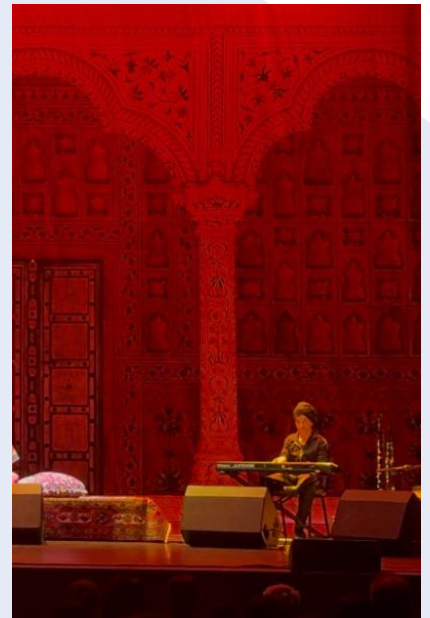
Music News

Congratulations to Ruth Jones for achieving distinction for grade 3 euphonium.

Congratulations to Miles de Barros for achieving a Merit in his grade 5 double bass exam.

Congratulations to Jai Singh (10E) for his recent performance at St. George's Hall for the prestigious Bradford Literature Festival. He played the keyboard as part of the team of musicians for performances of 'ghazals', which are a South Asian form of poetry.

Mrs Armstrong



Changes to Free School Meals (FSM)

What is changing?

Expanded entitlement for families on Universal Credit

From the start of academic year 2026-7, all children in households receiving Universal Credit will be entitled to free school meals, regardless of earnings.

Going forward, there will be two types of eligibility:

- **Targeted FSM:** for households in receipt of universal credit earning £7,400 or less (includes free meals and additional support such as pupil premium).
- **Expanded FSM:** for households in receipt of universal credit earning above £7,400 (free meals only).

End of transitional protections

Since 2018, some children have continued to receive free school meals, even if their family circumstances changed during the roll-out of Universal Credit. This is referred to as *transitional protections*.

Now that entitlement is being expanded to all families on Universal Credit, these protections will end at the end of the 2025-6 academic year.

This means that some children may no longer be eligible for FSM from the start of the 2026-7 academic year if their family does not receive Universal Credit or another qualifying benefit. Eligibility will now be based on current benefit status.

What you need to do

If your child currently receives free school meals:

- in most cases, you do not need to reapply;
- your local authority will check your eligibility automatically using the details already held and inform you of any changes to your FSM eligibility;
- in some cases, we – or the local authority – may contact you to confirm your details;
- if you are unsure, please contact us or the local authority for advice.

If your child does not currently receive free school meals:

1. you may now be eligible under the expanded criteria;
2. you will need to apply using the Parent Portal: <https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/parent-portal>

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact me: pnorwood@bishopstopford.com

Mrs Norwood

Lessons From Auschwitz

This week two Year 12 students, Amrita Johal and Imogen Hollwey, delivered powerful assemblies to each year group on their experience participating in the Lessons From Auschwitz Project through the Holocaust Educational Trust this year.

As part of the programme, both visited Auschwitz Birkenau death camp in Poland, where they saw harrowing evidence of the crimes committed by the Nazis against millions of Jewish people, as well as hearing testimonies from survivors of the Holocaust.

They were privileged to be able to share reflections on their experience with the rest of the school community through their assembly. Thank you, Amrita and Imogen, for sharing such an important message of awareness and activism in the face of prejudice or persecution: these are certainly lessons that show the 'Something More' of History.

Mrs Hainsworth

Exam Information

Full details regarding results day arrangements have been emailed to Year 11 and Year 13 students and parents from both the Exams Office and the Sixth Form Team. It is important that you read this information as it will give you advice and guidance on receiving your results, post-results services and the Sixth Form entry process.

Staff will be available to offer support to students and parents on the following dates and times following the receipt of your results.

A/AS Level Results Day: Thursday 13th August - 08.30am - 02.00pm

Friday 14th August - 09.00am - 12.00pm

Wednesday 19th August - 10.30am - 02.00pm

Thursday 20th August - 10.00am - 02.00pm

Friday 21st August - 09.00am - 12.00pm

Monday 24th August - 09.00am - 12.00pm (Exams Office only)

Tuesday 25th August - 09.00am - 12.00pm (Exams Office only)

GCSE/BTEC Tech Award Results Day: Thursday 20th August - 08.30am - 02.00pm

Friday 21st August - 09.00am - 12.00pm

Monday 24th August - 09.00am - 12.00pm (Exams Office only)

Tuesday 25th August - 09.00am - 12.00pm (Exams Office only)

Autumn Exams Series for GCSE Maths and English resit entries only

Please note that these exams will take place during the second week of the half term holiday, but school will be open to students sitting these exams.

GCSE English - 3rd and 5th November

GCSE Maths - 4th, 6th and 9th November

Summer 2027 exam timetable (particularly for current Year 12 and year 10.)

The summer 2027 exam timetable is available to view on Edulink under the noticeboard tab. It is important that you also read the "Contingency Day Notice" as the awarding bodies ask that students be available on Wednesday 23rd June should one or more exams have to be cancelled nationally due to an unforeseen emergency.

Mocks/end of year assessments

Year 11 - 2nd - 11th December 2026

Year 13 - 11th - 19th January 2027

Year 10 - 12th - 16th April 2027

Year 12 - 21st - 25th June 2027

If there are any changes to the school calendar the students will be informed.

Mrs Thompson

Moonpig - 'Chase your dreams, not money'

Computer Science, Business and Economics students recently had the opportunity to hear from Dave Rimmer from Moonpig, who gave an interesting talk about his career and the lessons he has learned throughout his journey.

He talked about the growing use of AI in business, explaining how it is changing the way businesses operate and recruit employees while highlighting the importance of using it responsibly to avoid possible risks. We were reminded that careers are rarely straightforward and that unexpected changes can lead to exciting new opportunities. He also mentioned that employers don't only look for just having a degree, but equally important is how candidates apply the skills and knowledge gained.

As well as this, Dave discussed Moonpig's commitment to reducing its environmental impact through things such as working towards net zero and planting trees.

He ended the talk with some advice: 'Chase your dreams, not money', explaining that Moonpig made a loss for its first 5 years before becoming the successful company it is today. Dave was also kind enough to hand out plushies and chocolate to students who asked questions about the talk.

Mia Kirke & Rebecca Pearson –Year 12



Mental Health Support Workshops

Northamptonshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

THE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM

SUMMER WORKSHOPS

Managing my Emotions and Anger
10:30am-12:00pm on 27th July at Kingsthorpe Family Hub
1:00-2:30pm on 14th August at Sudborough House, Kettering

Managing my Low Mood
1:00-2:30pm on 27th July at Rectory Road Clinic, Rushden
11:00am-12:30pm on 7th August at Danetre Hospital, Daventry

Mindfulness and Relaxation
11:00am-12:30pm on 13th August at Danetre Hospital, Daventry
10:30am-12pm on 27th August at Rectory Road Clinic, Rushden

Managing my Anxiety
11:00am-12:30pm on 17th August at Danetre Hospital, Daventry
10:30am -12pm on 19th August at Sudborough House, Kettering

Managing Sleep Difficulties
10:30am-12pm on 19th August at Brackley Medical Centre
10:30am-12pm on 25th August at Isebrook Hospital, Wellingborough

FOR ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT
CYP.MHST@NHS.UK

SUITABLE FOR AGES 13-17

SIGN UP HERE!



FREE

NORTH NORTHANTS ACTIVE FAMILIES *Fundays 2026*

**All fundays
12noon - 4pm**

Wednesday 5th August
West Glebe Park, Corby
NN17 1SZ

Wednesday 12th August
Castlefields Park,
Wellingborough
NN8 1LW

Wednesday 19th August
Spencer Park, Rushden
NN10 6UL

Wednesday 26th August
North Park, Kettering
NN16 9JT

Fun for all ages with
activities to help you
move more, arts &
crafts, and more!



Thank you to all funders, sponsors and partners for supporting the events.



North
Northamptonshire
Council



North
Northamptonshire
Leisure



Recruitment

We currently have the following exciting opportunities for outstanding and ambitious individuals:

Senior Network Technician

First Aid and Allergy Lead

Teaching Assistant

The successful candidates 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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WEEK 2

Week Commencing:
20/4/26 11/05/26 01/06/26 22/06/26 13/07/26

CLASSIC HOT & HEARTY

CLASSIC MAIN MEALS

VEGETARIAN MAIN MEALS

MONDAY

Pork Sausage (Beef Casing) & Mashed Potatoes with Onion Gravy

TUESDAY

Cajun Chicken, Tomato & Sweetcorn Wholewheat Pasta Bake with House Salad

WEDNESDAY

Roast Breast of Turkey, Crisp Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables & Roast House Gravy

THURSDAY

Sweet & Sour Chicken with Carrot Rice

FRIDAY

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

MONDAY

Vegan BBQ Boston Bean Sausage Casserole & Mash (VE)

TUESDAY

Lentil & Chickpea Dahl with Roasted Tikka Cauliflower & Steamed Rice (V)

WEDNESDAY

Cheese & Potato Pie with Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables & Roast House Gravy (V)

THURSDAY

Crunchy French Onion & Leek Macaroni Cheese with House Salad (V)

FRIDAY

Vegan Moroccan Spiced Butternut Squash Pasty with Chips & Peas (VE)

DESSERTS

MONDAY

Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Sauce

TUESDAY

Pear & Apple Orchard Crumble

WEDNESDAY

Cocoa Bread & Butter Pudding

THURSDAY

Jam & Coconut Sponge

FRIDAY

Apple Traybake

Fruit and Jelly Pots Available Daily

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

street VIBES

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

Garlic and Chilli Noodles (VE)

TUESDAY

Singapore Fried Rice (VE)

WEDNESDAY

Lentil & Chickpea Dahl with Crispy Bombay Potatoes (VE)

THURSDAY

The Big Plant Burger (VE)

FRIDAY

Vegan Singapore Noodles (VE)

TRATTORIA

MONDAY

Pasta in Cheese Sauce

TUESDAY

Tomato & Basil Pasta

WEDNESDAY

Margherita or Pepperoni Pizza

THURSDAY

Creamy Pesto Pasta

FRIDAY

Margherita Pizza

