Bishop Stopford School

Week Ending: 2nd October 2026

NEWSLETTER





Events all week

Monday
Year 11 Collective Worship
Year 6 into 7 Morning

Tuesday
Year 10 Collective Worship
Year 6 into 7 Morning

Wednesday
Sixth Form Collective Worship
Year 6 into 7 Morning
Year 12 Senior Maths Challenge

Thursday
Year 7 Collective Worship
Year 11 Reports issued
Athletics English Schools X/C Cup
Open Evening 5:30-8:00

Friday 4
Professional Development Day (staff only)

Next week:
Week B

Assembly Them:
More About Me

Year 6 Open Events

#BestOfBishop

As we start our year at Bishop Stopford School, we are delighted to be able to host our Open Events on the week commencing 5th October. We are expecting high numbers of visitors over the mornings of the 5th to 7th October. They will experience how our school works day to day, visiting lessons, hearing from staff and speaking to our biggest advocates, our students.

As Key Stage 3 Pastoral Lead, I oversee Years 7, 8 and 9. I look forward to meeting many of our new students, and alongside Mrs Glue, will assist in their transition to Bishop Stopford School in the summer of 2027.

Open Evening on Thursday 8th October provides prospective parents the opportunity to experience what it is like to be a part of our community. Subjects will showcase learning and how they fit into our students' education pathways, enabling them to unlock their unique potential.

There will also be an opportunity to see other parts of the school, a highlight of which will be our Wellbeing Centre based in the Library. Here parents will be able to meet members of the pastoral team. Supporting wellbeing is a vital part of the development of our young people, and in the Wellbeing Centre we will be joined by Thrive and the Mental Health Support Team who work alongside us and other agencies to support our young people.

Mr Stevenson

From 1st October, we return to full uniform. This means optional summer uniform will no longer be acceptable. Please refer to the school website for the full uniform policy.
All students in Years 7-11 must wear their shirt, trousers or skirt and their form tie.
All students in Years 12-13 must wear a tailored jacket.

We are a Church of England School



Do we take our food for granted?

This was the challenging question for us all this week as we joined for Collective Worship and thought about the **miracle** of our food in creation, how God **meets our needs** in his provision of seed-bearing plants and the **manifold** nature of our food in its rich variety - evidence of our generous and abundant God.

As we realised how hard it is to identify what tiny black seeds would grow into, we acknowledged the awesome process of creation in Genesis 1: 11 -13 and verse 29: 'I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth. They will be yours for food.'

And then came the challenge - **Think** where our food comes from, **Thank** God and all those involved in growing and harvesting and preparing our food, **Treasure** this gift and be grateful, and **Try** to respond in an active way.

I am thrilled to say that since this assembly, I have met with nine Year 12 students keen to volunteer with our local Food Kitchens.

Mrs Hutchinson

Core Values

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

Safe Space

Online Safety

The online world can be difficult to navigate. It becomes more complicated when trying to support, guide and put boundaries in for young people to engage with it well. Service Six, a local mental health charity, is offering webinars to support parents and carers to keep their children safe online. This is open to any family who is living in, or has children being educated in, Northamptonshire.

Service Six has shared the following details:

Target online safety session for Parents and Carers - Monday October 19 • 6:30 PM - 7:30pm

"Our introductory workshop aims to empower parents and carers, or the professionals working with them, to support their children and young people in navigating the online world. This includes understanding risks of being online, based on latest research, social media, laws and legislations, AI technology and parental controls. We also look at the pressures young people face, increase their awareness of the grooming process, the risks associated with indecent image sharing and inform you on how to report online harms, so you feel equipped to support your young people. We will also cover the upcoming law changes and the potential impact it could pose.

Booking link: Target online safety session for Parents/Carers Tickets, Monday, October 19 • 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM GMT+1 | Eventbrite

We are also conscious that students with SEN can find it more challenging to manage boundaries online. Service Six is offering a second session, specifically for the families of SEN children. The course outline is as above, but delivered with an understanding of the greater potential vulnerability for children with SEN.

Online Safety Session for SEN Parents and Carers - Monday, November 9 • 6:30pm to 7:30pm

Booking link: Online Safety Session for SEN Parents/Carers Tickets, Monday, November 9 • 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM GMT | Eventbrite

Mrs Smith

Year 10 Option Changes

Year 10 students have been reminded this week that the deadline for requesting a change in options subjects is **Friday 2nd October 2026**

We have this date as a "cut-off" as, beyond this point, it will be very difficult to catch up on the foundational elements of the course.

Students have also been made aware that, even if a request has been made, it is not always be possible to swap options choices.

This is because specific subjects, in terms of student numbers, are full or because changing subjects may impact upon the timetables of other students.

Any request to change options must have parental consent.

Mr Kirke

Sports News



In June, Grace Thomas competed at National Finals and gained her first British medal 🥉, coming 3rd for the East Midlands as a team and placed 3rd individually for her beam. Having competed at Regionals this weekend, she came 3rd overall and made it into the team to represent East Midlands again this November.

Northampton Saints' Foundation Phase Programme

Congratulations to the following students on their recent selection to the Northampton Saints Rugby Pathway Programmes:

Luke Rahman: U15
Eli Verity: U16
Samuel Howes: U17



Ultra Run

Finn Currie has this weekend completed an Ultra Run. Finn and a friend came in first on the Boughton Ultra Run which commenced at 12 noon on Saturday and finished 24 hours later at 12 noon on Sunday. Every other hour, alternately, they ran 6.7k and in total they each ran 85k (two marathons!). They all won the event which is a tremendous achievement. Well done, Finn!

Mr Young

Lost Property

There is currently a high volume of lost property at the school. If your child has lost something, please encourage them to check the tables opposite the Heads of Year office in the main foyer where all lost property is displayed. Property will be donated to charity if not reclaimed.

Miss Curchin

Stick Insect Eggs

Our stick insects have started to lay eggs and we wondered if anyone would like any? Please e-mail tgriffiths@bishopstopford.com if you are interested.

Mrs Griffiths

Music News

Congratulations to James Phan 10C on passing his Classical Guitar exam with Merit.

Mrs Wilson

Summer Reading Rewards: Our Readers Shape the Library's Future

Over the summer, students across school took on the Summer Reading Rewards challenge. The results were remarkable. Together, they read more than 400 different texts. They explored subtitles, recipes, sewing instructions, directions and step-by-step guides - reading really does come in every shape and size! One student read aloud to a pre-school group, alongside completing her own reading choices, sharing the joy of stories with the youngest of listeners.

Every student who took part has been rewarded with achievement points, Reading Ambassador badges and entered a prize draw to win book tokens. But the rewards don't stop there.

As part of the National Year of Reading, the Government has given school libraries funding to invest in their collections. Who better to help shape the future of our library than some of our most avid readers? Participating students will be choosing new books for the library, focusing on titles which turned them into readers, as well as recommending their favourite books, authors and series.

Every book chosen will be purchased for the library and dedicated to the student who selected it, leaving a lasting reading legacy for future generations of students to enjoy.

A huge well done to all our Summer Reading Rewards participants. We are very proud of you, and we can't wait to see the books you choose!









Year 7 – welcome to the library!

It has been a joy to see how well our newest students have engaged with reading and the library – making great use of the Red Reading Chairs during a lunchtime.

After School Key Stage 3 Homework Club – Reminder for Parents and Carers

Our Homework Club continues to provide a focused and supported environment for younger students to homework. It's a great space for students to settle down, get support if they need it, and stay on top of their assignments.

To help us keep the Club running smoothly for everyone, we'd appreciate your support with the following:

- Students attend Homework Club only when they have homework to complete
- Book for a maximum of three sessions per week.

Homework Club is understandably popular. By being mindful of how many sessions are booked, parents and carers help us ensure every student who needs a session has the chance to access one. Where students regularly attend without homework to complete, we will review and limit the number of sessions available to them. We look forward to seeing students making great use of the Club this year.

Places can be booked on SchoolCloud: https://bishopstopford1.schoolcloud.co.uk/

Homework Club and KS4 Study Club do not run on Open Evening, Thursday 8th October.

Miss Wood

Year 10 Curriculum

Subject	Autumn Term 1	Autumn Term 2
GCSE Art	**Project One: Natural Forms**	
GCSE Computer Science	**Python programming and data types**	**Computational thinking and further programming**
GCSE Drama	**Working from a script: *The 39 Steps*** Understanding the context of the play and the acting/design skills needed to stage a successful performance	**Introduction to Devising: Style Workshops** Epic Theatre / Physical Theatre / Theatre of Cruelty / Theatre of the Absurd
GCSE English	**Literature Set Text - An Inspector Calls**	**Language Paper 1 – Sections A and B** Reading and Creative Writing
GCSE Food	**The Relationship between Diet and Health / Micro and Macro Nutrients**	
GCSE French	**Identity and Free Time**	
GCSE Geography	**Natural Hazards**	**Natural Hazards (complete unit)** **Urban Issues and Challenges**
BTEC Health and Social Care	**Human Lifespan Development**	
GCSE History	**Medicine in Medieval England** **Medicine in Renaissance England**	**Medicine in C18 and C19 Britain** **Medicine in Modern Britain**
GCSE Maths (Topics in italics Foundation and Higher. Topics in bold, higher only)	*Index Laws* *Standard Form* Brackets and Factors Substitution Solving Equations **Quadratics and Cubics** **Direct and Inverse Proportion**	Ratio and Proportion *Constructions and Loci* Pythagoras' Theorem Sequences **Rational and Irrational Numbers** **Rearranging Formulae** **Functions**
GCSE Music	**Coursework Preparation: Solo 1 and Composition 1** **Listening and Appraising** A specific focus on two set works *(Star Wars* and *Defying Gravity)*	
Core PE	**Rugby and Basketball (Boys)** **Netball and Hockey (Girls)**	**Hockey and Dodgeball (Boys)** **Health Related Fitness and Basketball (Girls)**
GCSE PE	Applied Anatomy and Physiology	Cardio-Respiratory System
GCSE Product Design	**Projects:** Introduction to practical equipment **Theory:** Unit 1 - Common Materials	**Projects:** Designing & Prototyping **Theory:** Unit 1 - Common Materials

Year 10 Curriculum

PSHE	**Media and me** **You and Your Rights** Topics include Rights and Responsibilities, Employment Rights and Consumer Rights	
GCSE RE	**Buddhism – Beliefs and Teachings**	
GCSE Science (Triple)	**Biology:** Complete Module 1: Cell biology **Chemistry:** Start Module 1: Atomic structure and the periodic table **Physics:** Start Module 1 Energy	**Biology:** Start Module 2 Organisation **Chemistry:** Complete Module 1: Atomic structure and the periodic table Start Module 2: Structure and bonding **Physics:** Complete Module 1 Energy Start Module 2 Electricity
GCSE Science (Trilogy)	**Teacher A:** Biology Module 1: cell biology Start Biology Module 2: Organisation **Teacher B:** Physics Module 1 Energy	**Teacher A:** Complete Biology Module 2: Organisation Start Module Biology Module 3: Disease **Teacher B:** Complete Physics Module 2: Electricity Start Chemistry Module 1: Atomic Structure and the periodic table
GCSE Spanish (Core)	**Identity and Free Time**	
GCSE Textiles	**Projects:** Textiles sampling **Theory:** Unit 2 – Technical Textiles	**Projects:** Pattern Drafting **Theory:** Unit 3 - Energy
Wider-Curricular	**Culture Day (23.10.26)**	**Christmas Concert** **Year 10 Winter House Games**
Other	**Year 10 Transition Day (03.09.26)** **School Photographs (16.09.26)**	**Year 10 Reports Issued (04.12.26)**

Recruitment

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

Headteacher

Science Technician

Vocational Studies Lead

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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