



Bishop Stopford School

Week Ending: 23 January 2026

NEWSLETTER



Monday 26 January
Year 11 Collective Worship
Year 11 Geography Trip

Tuesday 27 January
Year 11 Geography Trip

Wednesday 28 January
Year 12 Collective Worship
Year 9 & 10 Intermediate
Maths Challenge

Thursday 29 January
Year 7 Collective Worship
Year 11 Geography Trip

Friday 30 January
Year 8 & 9 Collective Worship
Year 11 Reports issued

Next week:
Week B

Assembly Theme:
Pastoral Care

Careers Education

#BestOfBishop

Supporting Confident Choices

Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) is central to helping our students to make informed and confident decisions about their futures. We know that making choices can be both exciting and daunting, and we are here to support every student through important decisions. Key transition points, such as selecting Year 9 options or planning post-16 pathways, offer opportunities for students to reflect on their strengths, interests, and long-term goals.

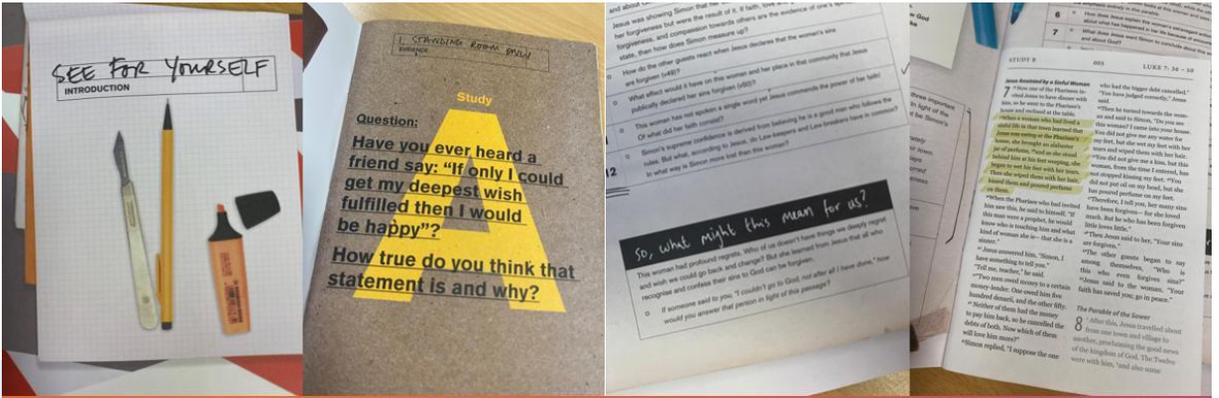
Year 9 Options Evening this week was a fantastic opportunity for students and families to explore the full range of subjects available and to continue meaningful conversations with subject staff and our careers team. Events like this, combined with ongoing guidance and reflection, help students to feel confident in making choices which are right for them and aligned with their strengths and aspirations. From Art and Textiles to Computer Science, Product Design, and PE, each subject offers students the chance to unlock their unique potential.

To support students further in making options choices, Year 9 students can use Unifrog, our online platform designed to explore subjects and careers. They can also speak with their subject teachers, form tutors, and heads of year, and are always welcome to drop by Mrs Taylor's office, our Careers Advisor, at break or lunchtime for additional guidance.

We are proud to provide this support and guidance, helping every student make thoughtful choices, develop their skills, and take the next steps toward a successful and fulfilling future.

Mr Smith





Christian Union Spring 2026: Uncover Luke

'Most people have never read an original eye-witness biography of Jesus. When they do, Jesus is revealed as a compelling figure.'

UCCF

Our Christian Union is thriving

Christian Union meets weekly every Friday at lunchtime, and everyone is welcome. All year groups. Everyone! Sessions are planned and led by our Year 12 and Year 13 students.

This term, we are meeting Jesus through six accounts in the Gospel of Luke. These invite students to 'See for yourself', providing historical context, and asking 'so what might this mean for us?'

Throughout the term, CU also offers one-off sessions. This term we are excited to invite students to the following:

- February 6th: 'How can we trust the Bible?' with guest speaker, Paul Linnell.*
- March 6th: Q&A 'Ask it' session with Year 12 students forming a panel to answer these questions.
- March 27th: CU Cinema with popcorn

If students have not been to CU before, they are very welcome to come and see for themselves what we do.

(*Paul Linnell delivered our Bishop Lecture to Year 12 last term with his exhibition '500 years of the Bible in English' which is now at Leicester Cathedral.)

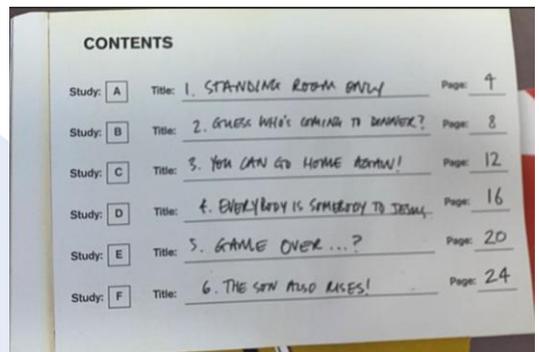
Mrs Hutchinson

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

Mrs Peach



Safe Space: GROK AI

Ofcom and the BBC have reported specific concerns about the artificial intelligence tool *Grok*, which is integrated into the social media platform X (formerly Twitter). Grok has been reportedly generating sexualised images, including of under 18s, using real images uploaded to the platform. The UK government has threatened to regulate the platform, should appropriate safeguards not be put in place.

Although these AI-generated images are not real photographs, they are created using the likeness of a real person. Such depictions, made without consent, can be deeply distressing, harmful, and may significantly impact a young person's emotional wellbeing.

As a school, we take online safety very seriously. All social media platforms, including X (Twitter) and Grok are blocked on our network for students. We have developed schemes of work to teach them about the responsible use of artificial intelligence, using approved tools that have integrated and reliable safeguarding measures in place.

There are ways that you can support your child with their internet use at home:

1. Review Privacy Settings

Please check the privacy settings on any social media accounts your child may use. Ensure that profiles are set to private and that personal images are not publicly accessible.

2. Know Where to Report Harmful Content

If your child encounters sexualised images, even if they are AI-generated:

- Report the content directly on the platform where it appears (for example, using X's reporting tools).
- Inform us at school and contact the police if the content involves your child.
- Retain screenshots and relevant details, as these may assist authorities in taking appropriate action.

The UK's **Report Remove** is a confidential service for children and young people under the age of 18 in the UK. It allows them to report sexual images or videos of themselves and request their removal from the internet. Further information: <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/report-remove/>

3. Restrict Access

Until stronger online safeguards are consistently in place, you may wish to consider restricting or monitoring your child's access to X (Twitter) and similar platforms.

Thank you for your continued and collaborative support in helping us keep our young people safe online. If you have any concerns or require further guidance, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Mrs Smith

>Something More?

At the weekend I visited Winchester with my grandparents. We had a really lovely time and I learned a lot. We went to Winchester Cathedral. I made a stained-glass window, and I also saw one dead body cast, plus lots of bones from bodies and a skull, which I found fascinating. I loved it especially because I want to be a pathologist when I leave school.

I found the history of Winchester really interesting too. I especially liked learning about the West Tower, and I saw a stained-glass window that had been smashed and then put back together (I'm not completely sure why it was smashed, but it was amazing to see how it had been repaired).

I also liked the calligraphy, and a lady made me a personalised bookmark, which I'm keeping safe. Another special moment was signing the visitors' book at Jane Austen's grave. The trip helped me to reflect on the idea that there is >Something More, as I felt a real sense of awe and wonder standing in the Cathedral.



Ellena Harwood (7W)

Rosie Wrighting MP Visit

We were delighted to receive a visit from Rosie Wrighting today. She met with Miss Silverthorne and other members of staff on current issues of concern. She also visited a Year 9 PHSE lesson to hear what students think about the potential of banning social media.



Miss Silverthorne

Sixth Form Open Afternoon Success!

We have enjoyed hosting Open Afternoons for over 75 visitors to our school. These have been for students considering our Sixth Form as one of their Post-16 Options. With 365 applications now complete, we are excited for the next stage in our application process.

Our Sixth Form is appealing, not only for the quality of teaching and learning at A Level, but the range of individualisation which is available to each student through volunteering and leadership opportunities, pastoral care, and post-18 pathway planning.

For example, this week has seen the start of responses to students from their Oxbridge applications. We are delighted that two students already have been successful in securing offers from Oxford, which is brilliant news. We look forward to finding out how other applicants have fared.

For any students still considering applying to our Sixth Form, complete an application form as soon as possible via [Bishop Stopford School](#). The deadline is **Friday 30th January**.

Miss Whitehead

Driving on Headlands

Thank you to those of you who have responded to our plea for changing driving behaviour for safety in the vicinity of the school. We have seen a marked improvement this week, for which we are very grateful.

We are, however, still seeing far too many cars coming past school and turning into Ostler's Way or Bishop's Drive. A reminder to come no further than Glebe Avenue to drop off and pick up.

Miss Silverthorne and Revd Canon Brian Withington (Chair of Governors)

Civil Society

Our Civil Society has been busy these last few weeks. You'll now spot clear halal labelling across our refrigerated items in the school. Well done Ahmed! We're also working hard on introducing varied recycling in school to boost our sustainability efforts. **Sophia Armstrong (12S2)**



Sporting News

Congratulations to Alexandra Howes (8S) for representing Northamptonshire at the East Midlands County Tournament at Soar Valley. She was also awarded Player of the Match against Derbyshire.

Our Year 7 Boys' basketball team are Kettering and Corby District champions following their tournament win this week. Well done to all the boys who've played over the last three weeks. It was a real squad effort and ended with a narrow win vs Latimer in the final game.

U15 Rugby had their first hit out of '26 against Sharnbrook. It was a challenging game against a great opposition with Bishop losing players through injury. However they were resilient to the end.

We had a great U15 Girls' Hockey game v King's School, Peterborough. It was end to end play with 9 goals being scored! King's eventually took the spoils 5-4.



Mr Flannigan

School Calendar

Important Dates

Bishop Stopford School
 faith | justice | responsibility | truth | compassion

30 JAN Year 11 Reports issued	3 FEB Year 8 HPV Vaccinations	4 FEB Year 11 Progress Review
9-13 FEB National Apprenticeship Week	12 FEB Year 13 Reports issued	13 FEB School Closes for Half Term



Year 9 Curriculum – Spring Term 2026

Subject	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2				
Art	Cubism	Cubism – Painting Response				
Computer Science	Python Programming	Media Animation				
DT	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Food (Unit 1) Food Science Raising Agents</td> <td>Food (Unit 2) Teenage Diets Vegetarianism</td> </tr> </table>	Food (Unit 1) Food Science Raising Agents	Food (Unit 2) Teenage Diets Vegetarianism	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Textiles Advanced Techniques Environmental impact of Fashion</td> <td>Product Design Contexts as starting points. Design Development Testing Functional Prototypes</td> </tr> </table>	Textiles Advanced Techniques Environmental impact of Fashion	Product Design Contexts as starting points. Design Development Testing Functional Prototypes
Food (Unit 1) Food Science Raising Agents	Food (Unit 2) Teenage Diets Vegetarianism					
Textiles Advanced Techniques Environmental impact of Fashion	Product Design Contexts as starting points. Design Development Testing Functional Prototypes					
Drama	Rotation Project 1 – Too much punch for Judy	Rotation Projection 2 – The History of Pantomime.				
English	Poetry anthology: Conflict and Adversity	Shakespeare's <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>				
French (Duals)	Les vacances	Mes vacances de l'année dernière				
Geography	Topical Geography Censorship in China, the dark side of Tourism in Thailand and illegal migration in the USA	Climate Change Includes a specific focus on the Maldives				
History	World War Two Causes and Events	The Holocaust History of Antisemitism and the persecution of Jews in Nazi Germany				
Maths	Proportion, Map Scales, Angles, Pythagoras and Trigonometry	Substitution Recap, Drawing straight line graphs, Other types of graphs				
Music	Reggae ensemble performance	Film Music arrangements				
PE	Boys – Hockey and Badminton Girls – Health Related Fitness and Dance	Boys – Handball and Health Related Fitness Girls – Badminton and Cricket				
PSHE	RSE – The law and consent, contraception and sexual health					
RE (GCSE)	Christianity – Beliefs and Teachings					
Science	Biology, Chemistry and Physics – KS3 Consolidation	Maths in Science Transition to GCSE Science				
Spanish	Una vida sana	Mi cuerpo				
Tutorial	Northamptonshire County Schools Challenge					
Wider-Curricular	Intermediate Maths Challenge (28.01.26) Year 9 Communion (06.02.26) London Theatre Visit (13.02.26)	Book Week and Careers Week Year 9 Spring House Games (25.03.26)				
Other	Year 9 Reports issued (09.01.26) Progress Review and Options Evening (22.01.26) Options Deadline (30.01.26)					



Recruitment

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

Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages

Teacher of Mathematics

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.

Bishop Stopford School, Headlands, Kettering NN15 6BJ | www.bishopstopford.com | office@bishopstopford.com | 01536 503503
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Cucina

WEEK 2

Week Commencing: 03/11/2025 24/11/2025 15/12/2025 05/01/2026 26/01/2026
 16/02/2026 09/03/2026 30/03/2026 20/04/2026

CLASSIC HOT & HEARTY

CLASSIC MAIN MEALS

VEGETARIAN MAIN MEALS

MONDAY

Pork & Beef Sausage, Served with Mash with Onion Gravy

TUESDAY

Beef Lasagne with Homemade Garlic Bread & Garden Peas

WEDNESDAY

Hand Carved Roast British Turkey, Crisp Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables, & House Gravy

THURSDAY

Sweet & Sour Chicken, Served with Fried Rice

FRIDAY

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

MONDAY

Vegan Sausage Casserole with Gravy (VE)

TUESDAY

No Waste Cauliflower Cheese Pasta Bake (V)

WEDNESDAY

Cheese, Onion & Leek Pie, Served with Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy (V)

THURSDAY

Sweet & Sour Tofu with Fried Rice (V)

FRIDAY

Jamaican Squash Pasty with Chips & Peas (V)

DESSERTS

MONDAY

Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Sauce

TUESDAY

Pear & Ginger Crumble with Cinnamon Custard

WEDNESDAY

Jam Sponge with Custard

THURSDAY

Baked Churros

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

Fork Friendly Falafel Kebab (VE)

TUESDAY

Vegan Singapore Noodles (VE)

WEDNESDAY

Singapore Fried Rice (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

