



Bishop Stopford School

Week Ending: 8 May 2026

NEWSLETTER



Events all week
GCSE Examination Period
A Level Examination Period

Monday 11th May
Year 9 Collective Worship
External A Level PE Moderation

Tuesday 12th May
Year 10 Collective Worship
Isles of Scillies Parents Evening

Wednesday 13th May
Year 12 Collective Worship
Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

Thursday 14th May
Year 7 Collective Worship
Year 12 Progress Review
Year 8 MFL Football session

Friday 15th May
Year 8 Collective Worship
DofE Bronze Practise Expedition
Year 8 MFL Football session

Next week:
Week B

Assembly Theme:
Mental Health awareness
week

Bishop Honour

#BestOfBishop

Today, we have had the immense honour of hosting the public announcement of the newly appointed Bishop of Brixworth Designate. Bishop Debbie asked if we would be willing to host this prestigious occasion, and we were, of course, delighted to do so.

It has been an absolutely unique morning. Firstly, we had to wait for Downing Street to release the news that the King had approved the nomination of Alex Hughes to this role. After this, Alex met with students from all years groups and took questions on a wide variety of topics. Both Alex and Bishop Debbie were incredibly impressed by our students. There were a number of other diocesan staff in attendance; all of them remarked on the depth of questions asked and the natural way in which students interacted at such a prestigious occasion.

I was immensely proud of the way they represented our School in the quality of their interactions. This was certainly a >Something More? moment on a magnificent scale!

Students asked a wide range of rich questions, including those about influences of Alex's faith, what he was looking forward to and how he would engage with young people in his work. All of them were impressed by his warmth and wisdom.

Libby (Yr 9) spoke on behalf of everybody when she said, "The new Bishop was very relatable. He made us feel part of his new family."

We wish Bishop Designate Alex every blessing and commit to pray for him as he undertakes his great responsibilities. We also look forward to welcoming him back to our School after his installation at Westminster Abbey in July.

Miss Silverthorne



Mr Alan Palmer

It is with sadness we heard the news that Mr Palmer, former Deputy Headteacher, passed away last weekend.

Alan maintained an avid interest in our school throughout his retirement. He led our 60th Alumni event last year and was Guest of Honour at our Celebration of Achievement in December. His friendship and faith was an example to us all.

Miss Silverthorne

We are a Church of England School

Message from Mrs H.....

Dear Year 13 CU leaders –

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1:3-6



Christian Union said goodbye to Year 13 Student Chaplains last week.

This was one of several messages from students to our amazing Year 13 Chaplains last Friday lunchtime::

'I wanted to say something. From all of us in year 11 and probably from everyone else here - we've learnt a lot from you guys. You were the big kids making 6th form look cool. You've taught us how to be ourselves, how to make bad days good and good days, better. I'm going to be honest; we are losing the people who made the school feel less scary. Good luck with everything. Whatever you are doing next, we are rooting for you and if you ever come to see us, try not to judge how bad we are at being 6th formers compared to all of you!' (Jessica Year 11)

The Chapel was overflowing last Friday - full of Year 7s to 13s, of cakes and laughter, of honest answers about how God has helped our sixth form students through, full of 'My Lighthouse' and full of prayers full: full of care, tears and deep fellowship.

We wish every blessing to Emily, Evie, Olivia, Pleasant, Sam, Tabitha, Tom - and say a big 'thank you' to them all.

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 Ronnie Butler (8C) for handing in another student's wallet which he found near the bus stop.

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

Supporting Your Child's Health and Wellbeing during Exam Season

The exam season has begun, with Art completed and speaking and listening exams already underway. From Monday, Year 11 and Year 13 start their written exams in venues across the site. We know that this can be a challenging time for many. A certain level of stress is normal but maintaining good physical and emotional health plays an important role in helping everyone to perform at their best.

We encourage parents to support regular routines at home, particularly ensuring students get enough sleep and reassuring them of the normality of the exam season. Positive sleep patterns benefit concentration, memory and emotional regulation. Eating regular meals, including breakfast, and staying well-hydrated can have a positive impact on focus and energy levels.

Balancing revision with breaks is important. Short periods of physical activity, time outdoors, or relaxing activities can reduce stress and improve productivity. Encouraging students to talk openly about how they are feeling is important.

Our staff are available to provide support, and we encourage students to seek help if they feel overwhelmed.

Mrs Smith

Year 8 and Year 10 Careers Consents

Take a Child to Work Day is fast approaching in Super Curricular Week. Once you have secured a place for your child (with a parent/carer, family member, or trusted family friend), complete the consent form by Friday 22nd May **2026**: [Year 8 Consent Form](#).

Tutor groups **C/D/W/Y** attend their placement on Tuesday **14th July 2026**

Tutor groups **E/G/P/S** attend their placement on Thursday **16th July 2026**.

If you need further support, please contact me or your child's Head of Year.

The Year 10 Day in Industry is also taking place during Super Curricular Week on Tuesday 14th July.

Please complete the Year 10 Day in Industry consent form by Friday 22nd May 2026, if you have not already done so: [Year 10 Consent Form](#)

If you need further support, please contact me or your child's Head of Year.

Mr Smith

Music News

Congratulations to the following students on their achievements:

- Chloe Partridge (11C) for passing her grade 7 piano exam with a distinction.
- Amy Wilson (10P) for passing her grade 6 Saxophone with distinction.
- Noah Mistry (9S) for passing his grade 4 electric guitar exam with a merit.

Peri Music – Drum Lessons

There is an opportunity for your child to learn the art of percussion by having drumming lessons in school! Learning to play the drums offers mental, emotional, physical and social benefits, making it a rewarding and enriching experience.

For further information or to sign up for lessons, please contact peri@bishopstopford.com

Mrs Armstrong



Kettering Old Grammar School Foundation

Celebrating 450th Anniversary

Last half term, two Year 7 students – Matthew Banham-Hall and Lawrie Adams-Knowles – served as superb representatives of Bishop Stopford School at the Kettering Old Grammar School Foundation (KOGSF) annual lunch. The boys delivered great speeches about their experiences on their residential to Govilon Activity Centre in Wales. This Centre is owned and run by KOGSF. What is even more momentous is the upcoming 450th anniversary of the original Kettering Grammar School in 2027. It was originally founded on 15th June 1577 on the instruction of Queen Elizabeth I.

The KOGSF charity has supported hundreds of young people within the Kettering Borough through educational grants and bursaries since its establishment in 1911, as well as hosting around a thousand young people at Govilon every year. At Bishop Stopford School we have offered the residential trip to all Year 7 students for as long as we can remember as an integral – and highly memorable – aspect of the transition to secondary school. To celebrate this extraordinary commitment, and as part of wider commemorations for the 450th anniversary next year, KOGSF is offering a unique opportunity to former students of Bishop Stopford School: a one-day visit back to Govilon Activity Centre to re-live and reminisce on fond memories of your own Year 7 visit!

If you are a former student (any age) and would be interested in participating in the one-day anniversary trip with other former students, including a tour and activity, please complete [KOGSF Anniversary](#) by May 31st 2026.

The day visit will be all expenses paid by the KOGSF, including transport from Kettering. It will take place around Easter 2027 – date tbc.

Mrs Hainsworth & Mr Steel



The Resistable Rise of Arturo Ui

The Resistable Rise of Arturo Ui is a satirical play which serves as a parable about the rise of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party in Germany. The story is set in the grim streets of Chicago, where Arturo Ui, a petty gangster, seeks to control the vegetable market and expand his power. The play is a commentary on the mechanisms of seizing power, where crime and violence become tools of political ascent. It serves as a warning about the dangers of political blindness and indifference, urging audiences to recognise the signs of tyranny and take action against it.

Ellis and Charlie wrote: *'The Resistable Rise of Arturo Ui' was completely different from what we thought. We were immediately entranced by Gira The Clown and were immersed from the very beginning. The next 2 hours of the piece opened our minds to the history of events which occurred during Hitler's rise to power. The RSC captured Brecht's intentions perfectly. Well done to everyone!*

Beau Coleman said: *The Royal Shakespeare Company's production of 'The Resistable Rise of Arturo Ui' depicts Ui (played by BBC Sherlock star Mark Gatiss) as a ruthless small-time gangster who exploits fear, corruption, and economic hardship to seize control of Chicago's vegetable trade. As Ui's power grows, he manipulates politicians, silences opposition, and spreads his influence through violence and propaganda. The play is darkly comic yet chilling, warning audiences how easily tyranny can grow when people allow it to happen. The performance was on a thrust stage which immersed us in the action. It also meant the Clown could break t'he fourth wall'. It felt like he as Ui/Hitler's minion was controlling our emotions and thoughts.*



Mrs Fraser

Year 8 Curriculum

Subject	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
Art	Composite Faces Exploring ideas in response to the artist Giuseppe Arcimboldo	Artist Response Outcome to include a painting and/or clay model
Computer Science	Computational Thinking	Developing for the Web
DT	Food (Unit 1) Staple Foods Environmental Issues	Food (Unit 2) Healthy Eating Modifying Recipes
		Textiles Developing sewing machine skills Constructing a pattern
		Product Design Shaping metals Heating forming plastics. Target markets
Drama	Rotation Project 2 – Blood Brothers	Rotation Project 2 – Blood Brothers
English	Dystopian Writing	Literary non-fiction: Exploring other worlds
Foundation Learning	Applying, across the subjects studied in school, what we know about our learning habits	
French	Technology	Customs and Festivals
Geography	Tropical Rainforests (Continued)	Physical Geography: Coasts <i>Erosion, Transportation, Deposition, Hard and Soft engineering</i>
History	The Transatlantic Slave Trade and British Empire	The Industrial Revolution
Maths	Drawing cubic, reciprocal & exponential graphs Sequences Area	Scatter Graphs Volume & Surface Area of Cuboids and Prisms Averages
Music	Structure Ground Bass arrangement.	Performance Challenge and Review of Key Words from the year.
PE	Athletics and Rounders (Girls) Tennis and Athletics (Boys)	Tennis and Softball (Girls) Cricket and Softball (Boys)
PSHE	Staying Safe	Health and Wellbeing
RE	Sikhism – Can equality make a difference?	Christianity – How do we know what is right and what is wrong?
Science	Topic 11: Fluids (Physics)	Topic 12: Heat Transfers (Physics) Topic 13: Making Materials (Year 9 Chemistry Topic)
Spanish	Mi ciudad	Las fiestas
Wider-Curricular	Junior Maths Challenge (29.04.26) Year 8 STEM Day – Band 1 (06.05.26) Year 8 STEM Day – Band 2 (07.05.26)	Scilly Isles Visits (June 2026) Super Curricular Week / School Walk Sports Day (21.07.26)





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

Important Dates

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

Cucina

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	Monday Vegan BBQ Boston Bean Sausage Casserole & Mash (VE)
Tuesday Cajun Chicken, Tomato & Sweetcorn Wholewheat Pasta Bake with House Salad	Tuesday Lentil & Chickpea Dahl with Roasted Tikka Cauliflower & Steamed Rice (V)
Wednesday Roast Breast of Turkey, Crisp Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables & Roast House Gravy	Wednesday Cheese & Potato Pie with Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables & Roast House Gravy (V)
Thursday Sweet & Sour Chicken with Carrot Rice	Thursday Crunchy French Onion & Leek Macaroni Cheese with House Salad (V)
Friday Chip Shop "Fryday" Fish, Salmon Fishcake or Pizza with Chips, Peas & Tartare Sauce	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
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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 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)
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TRATTORIA

