

## Open Mornings and Open Evening

We have had many, many visitors in school over this week, with parents and Year 6 children making very important decisions about the schools to which they will apply next year.

It has been an absolute pleasure to hear so many positive comments about our school from our parent visitors;

'Behaviour is excellent;

'The teachers are so open and welcoming;

'What was said in the presentations was borne out by what we saw around school;

And from a Year 6 student, 'Do I really have to leave? I'd rather stay!'

We would like to thank all of our students who gave up their time to make Open Evening so successful, and Year 8 & 12 student guides for Open Morning: there were so many positive comments about all of them. They were a credit to our school.

Deadline for September 2024 applications: 31<sup>st</sup> October midnight for local authority form; 3.30pm for our A1 form.

**Miss Silverthorne**

## Year 11 Progress Review

Year 11 Progress Review is 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023. It is a really important event as our students prepare for their GCSEs. All parents or carers should have received the details of how to log in to make appointments. If anyone is unsure how to make appointments, please contact me: [bcoe@bishopstopford.com](mailto:bcoe@bishopstopford.com).

Year 11 is an exciting and challenging year for the students as they prepare for mock exams and complete coursework, as well as preparing for their final exams.

Progress Review gives parents and carers the opportunity to find out first-hand how students are progressing with their studies.

Preparation for the meetings is key. We advise conversations at home and that families prepare questions for subject teachers, so that the appointments can be really productive. This will mean that there will be maximum benefit from the time available.

Please contact me if you have any questions before or after the Progress Review and see page 5 for details of our Year 11 "Healthy Habits" Workshops.

**Mr Coe**



**Week B**  
**Assembly Theme**  
**Our Diverse Community:**  
**Black History Month, Diwali**  
**and Harvest**

**Events all week**  
**Govilon (7C, 7W)**

**Monday 16 October**

Year 11 Assembly

Praying Parents 2pm Chapel

**Tuesday 17 October**

Year 10 Assembly

**Wednesday 18 October**

Year 8 & 9 Assembly

**Thursday 19 October**

Year 7 Assembly

Year 11 Progress Review

**Friday 20 October**

Year 12 & 13 Assembly

School closes for Half Term

**Bishop is excellent because..**





# We are a Church of England School



A big thank you goes to all the Year 7 students - just 5 weeks into life at Bishop - who took the time to write postcard messages to our Year 6 visitors this week. The joy was all mine - and I hope will be a source of delight to you also - as you read through a small selection from more than 100 positive contributions.

“So you are probably worried about Year 7 (I was worried too). Don’t be worried! Bishop Stopford has many students but they are all so friendly.”

“Could I tell you one special thing about Bishop Stopford is that they would help you whenever you need and they are really protective.”

“I hope you have a wonderful open evening that shows you the power of Bishop that makes your worries vanish in a moment. You will have fun, trust me.”

“Don’t worry about getting lost, there will be signs, teachers, friend, head of year, and older children.”

“Everyone is welcomed warmly and everyone is kind and friendly.”

“Loads of clubs and sporting activities are available and we have thousands of books! Personally, I have loved my first month at Bishop Stopford and we’d love to welcome you next year!”.

And to close:

‘I’m sure you will settle in well and blossom like we year 7s are!’

Amen to that!

**Victoria Hutchinson**  
**Lay Chaplain**

## Safe Space

Over the last fortnight, subject leaders, governors and members of the senior leadership team have been visiting lessons and speaking with students about their learning and the things that keep them safe. In every lesson, students have been hugely positive about the things we do to keep them safe. For some, it's been a real opportunity to think through that idea. One student said: "To be honest miss, I just think of it as everything you do so that we don't need to worry about it!".

It's great to be assured that students feel safe in their lessons and around the school site. This was also confirmed in our recent survey, where 99% of the 742 students who took part stated they felt safe in school.

These are some of the things we do to help students feel safe:

- Have a dedicated, non-teaching pastoral team who are there to support students;
- Ask students to identify trusted adults they can speak to about any concerns;
- Have regular contact with parents and carers which allows for sharing important wellbeing information;
- Follow up lateness and attendance concerns;
- Ensure staff are on duty, in high vis jackets, at the beginning and end of the day, at the bus stop and at break and lunchtimes;
- Ensure the site is safe and well maintained;
- Ensure the site is cleaned throughout the day;
- Have fire drills with the whole school and regular testing of the emergency bells;
- Have high expectations of student conduct and respond to poor behaviour when it is seen;
- Foster positive relationships between staff and students. (In the student survey 99% of students said they got on well with their teachers.)

There will be many more things that form part of the safeguarding of our young people and their own support of their peers is crucial. We're very proud of the support within the community and the highly respectful and positive relationships between its members.

**Mrs Smith**

## Parent Forum "You said .... We did"

We appreciate the time given by all parents who attended our Parent Forum last Wednesday, and the helpful written feedback we received from those who couldn't attend in person.

The Parent Forum is an excellent opportunity for parents to get involved in school life, raise issues, be consulted on school policy, and share their views. It's also a great way for us to consider matters more closely from a parental perspective and to highlight areas for us to address.

Last week's Parent Forum focused on the important transition from primary school to secondary school. Feedback was extremely positive about the school's arrangements for the October Open Events, the June primary school visits, July transition days, the parents' coffee morning, and the introduction of Edulink, which has enabled parents to keep up to date with their child's progress in school.

It was really helpful to hear of areas for improvement, and we will be working on those as priorities. These include the way we communicate some of the information in the admission pack, the purpose and outcomes of the CATs testing, and giving information about new programmes such as Bedrock.

We would like to thank those parents who attended in person, and those who gave feedback in written form. We look forward to our next Parent Forum in the spring term.

**Mr Harwood**



## Student Reports “You said .... we did”

One of the outcomes of our Parental Surveys last year, is that we have been looking closely at how we can improve the efficacy of the student reports which we issue.

We know that reports are an extremely important means of communication between school and home as well as a vehicle by which success can be recognised and celebrated, and educational outcomes improved. The information which most parents want from schools is updates on their child's progress.

Each year, we send out around 3,500 individual reports to students and parents and so we are determined to ensure that these are as helpful as possible

This is why we have worked closely with parents, including at the inaugural Parental Form (June 2023) to produce new-look reports at all key stages this year.

These will include:

- the inclusion of PHSE on KS3 and KS4 reports;
- “Areas for Development” in each subject, including one that recognises those students who are performing to their full capabilities and potential;
- greater guidance for students in terms of how they can respond to the identified Area(s) for Development and for parents in terms of how they can support their children to respond;
- A form tutor comment on the final report of the year, which gives a summary of each student's Personal Development in 2023-24;
- additional guidance for parents around our attendance expectations as well as the wider contexts around the House Point and Behaviour Point figures which appear on the reports.

Year 11 students and parents have received a short report this week and we would welcome any feedback on the revised format.

**Mr Kirke**

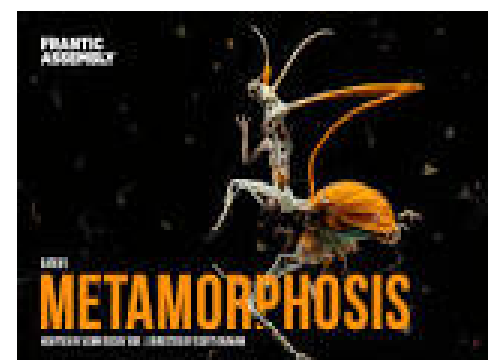
## Drama News

Last week marked the launch of the KS4 and 5 Theatre Society. The society is led by Justin and Lance in Year 13. The students had organised a resources session focusing on Stanislavski's method. Theatre Society meets on a Tuesday after school until 4:30pm in AC4.



### Metamorphosis Review

Who knew a play about a man turning into an insect could be so energetic, so interesting and ultimately... controversial? Our students certainly out in their recent theatre visit. The company (Frantic Assembly) engaged the audience with carefully choreographed movements. These depicted the monotonous routine of life before and after Gregor Samsa, a salesman who “loves fabric”, transforms into a bug overnight.



The metamorphosis was beautifully alluded to through literal foreshadowing, as Gregor's shadow transformed into a bug before he himself had done so. By the end of the first half, the transformation was complete, albeit a little underwhelming for some students who expected a full-blown bug costume- like that depicted on the poster. With that said, Felipe Pachecho created a vivid image of Gregor's fear and agitation as he succumbed to his new appearance. From dangling from light bulbs, to climbing up walls in a sporadic manner, his performance elevated the show to a highly engaging level.

**Mrs Fraser**

# Year 11 Healthy Habits Workshops

Last week, Year 11 students received their mock exam timetable. To support students in maintaining healthy habits during times of preparation for assessment periods, we have put together a series of workshops for Year 11 students.

The aim of these sessions will be to help students prepare in a mentally healthy way. We will share practical revision tips and time management skills, equip students with the tools to help with the reduction of exam anxiety and strategies to manage tendencies towards perfectionism.

Details of the workshops are below. More detailed information will be provided in assembly next week.

When	Theme
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Time Management
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Revision Resources & Strategies
Half Term	
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Advice from Y12s: How to Succeed at GCSE
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Understanding Perfectionism
Thursday 23 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Strategies for Managing Perfectionism
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Healthy Habits and Managing Exam Stress
6 <sup>th</sup> -15 <sup>th</sup> December - Mocks	

Miss Lowdon, Mrs Hainsworth

## Sports News

### County Netball

Congratulations to the following students on their selection for the Northamptonshire Netball Squads:

Rosa Currie & Lily Martin: U13  
Freya Neeson: U15

### Athletics

Benjamin Westmoreland -Alexander recently took part in the Amazing Northampton Team Relay Race (1/2 Marathon 13.1 miles). Benjamin’s team comfortably came first in 1.14.33.  
The following week, his team repeated this feat by winning the Olney Squeaky Bone Team Relay race.  
Next year, Benjamin hopes to compete as a single athlete over this distance.  
Congratulations.

### Loughborough Lightning U14 Netball

Congratulations to Erin Brookes & Lily Martin who will join the Loughborough Lightning U14 Development Hub for this season. Well done girls!

Mr Young



# HOUSE PARKRUN RESULTS

2023

parkrun



w/beg: 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023

1 Lap = 0.57km



Durham & York








Canterbury & Winchester



Ely & Peterborough



Gloucester & Salisbury

LAP TOTAL	NORTHS	SOUTHS	EASTS	WESTS	TOTAL
Year 7	206	214 	183	199	401km
Year 8	226	234 	192	175	413km
Year 9	215 	229	213	247 	452km
Year 10	210	192	184	172 	379km
Year 11	168	178	187	200	366km

- Run, Jog, Walk every results counts.
- HOUSE POINTS: 1<sup>st</sup>: 100 points  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: 75 points  
 3<sup>rd</sup>: 50 points  
 4<sup>th</sup>: 25 points

2022 Winners: Year 7



Year 8



Year 9



Year 10



Year 11





# Reading Partners

This week saw the start of Reading Partners in the Library. Year 12 students are partnered with Year 7 students to listen to them read, help them find which book to read next and to monitor their reading progress. We have been delighted with the response, with over 35 Year 12 students volunteering. This successful and well received programme can continue to support and nurture the enjoyment of books and reading for students in year 7 - many of whom go on to become Reading Partners themselves. For our year 12 students, it demonstrates a commitment to school values. They role model best practice and build 1:1 relationships which are of huge value to their partners. Well done to all involved.

Miss Wood – Librarian

# Music Achievements












Congratulation to Elise Hale (Year 12) on becoming the winner of the Young Bandsperson Award from Brass Bands England and supported by the ABRSM. Elise had had an amazing year, winning the BBC Young Reporter of the Year for her article on brass bands. She has now received this award and has been commended for her passion and enthusiasm, and her ability to balance her studies with her huge engagement in the world of musicianship.

Congratulations to Jai Singh y8 for achieving a Distinction in Grade 3 Piano and Grade 4 Indian Classical Vocals.



Mrs Armstrong

# Cucina

	WEEK 2	<b>Classic Favourites</b> MONDAY 	<b>EASTERN</b> TUESDAY 	<b>Great British</b> WEDNESDAY 	<b>SOUTHERN STYLE</b> THURSDAY 	<b>Fish &amp; Chips</b> FRIDAY 	
	MAIN MEAL	<b>TRADITIONAL SAUSAGE &amp; MASH</b> Onion Gravy	<b>THAI GREEN CHICKEN CURRY</b> White Rice	<b>ROAST GAMMON</b> Stuffing, Yorkshire Pudding, Gravy	<b>TOGARASHI SPICED MINCED BEEF</b> 50/50 Carrot Rice	<b>FRESHLY BATTERED FISH/ SALMON FISHCAKES</b>	
	VEGETARIAN MEAL	<b>VEGAN SAUSAGE &amp; MASH</b> Onion Gravy	<b>VEGETABLE PAD THAI NOODLES</b>	<b>CHEESE, LEEK &amp; BUTTERNUT SQUASH PIE</b> Mashed Potatoes, Gravy	<b>VEGETABLE &amp; SOYA BEAN SPRING ROLL</b> 50/50 Carrot Rice	<b>QUORNISH PASTY</b>	
	VEGETABLES	<b>PEAS CARROTS</b>	<b>LIME &amp; CORIANDER SLAW</b>	<b>SEASONAL VEGETABLES SEASONAL SALAD</b>	<b>SOY GLAZED CRUNCHY VEGETABLES</b>	<b>PEAS CHIPS</b>	
	<b>TOMATO &amp; BASIL</b>						
	PASTA POTS	<b>PESTO PASTA</b>	<b>VEGAN BOLOGNAISE</b>	<b>CHEESE SAUCE</b>	<b>CARBONARA</b>	<b>ARRABIATA</b>	
	JACKET POTATO	<b>TOPPED WITH A CHOICE OF CHEESE, TUNA OR BEANS</b>					
	HOT PUD	<b>CLASSIC APPLE PIE</b> Custard	<b>CHILLED COCONUT RICE PUDDING</b>	<b>JAM SPONGE</b> Custard	<b>CREPE BAR</b> Fruit Toppings	<b>BOSTON BROWNIE</b> Chocolate Sauce	
	FRUIT POT	<b>SELECTION OF FRUIT POTS AVAILABLE DAILY</b>					
	JELLY POTS	<b>SELECTION OF JELLY POTS AVAILABLE DAILY</b>					
YOGHURT POTS	<b>SELECTION OF YOGHURT POTS AVAILABLE DAILY</b>						
<div>TRY OUR HOME-MADE <b>SOUP</b> WITH FRESHLY BAKED BREAD</div> <div>LOOK OUT FOR AMAZING BLUE DOT MEAL DEALS</div> <div> PIZZAS, WRAPS &amp; PANINIS FRESH OPTIONS EVERY DAY</div> <div>TAKE HOME A TAKEAWAY Collect Before You Go Home</div> <div>LUNCH MEAL DEAL Check out what's on offer today! </div> <div>WATCH OUT FOR OUR <b>POP UP &amp; STREET FOOD PROMOTIONS</b></div> <div> All of Our Deli Range, Sandwiches, Salads &amp; Desserts are <b>FRESHLY MADE HERE DAILY</b></div>							