



# Bishop Stopford School

## HOLD THE FRONT PAGE!



### Inspection of Bishop Stopford School

Headlands, Kettering, Northamptonshire NN15 6BJ

Inspection dates: 1 and 2 April 2025

The quality of education  
Behaviour and attitudes  
Personal development  
Leadership and management  
Sixth-form provision  
Previous inspection grade

Outstanding  
Outstanding  
Outstanding  
Outstanding  
Good  
Requires improvement

The headteacher of this school is Jill Silverthorne. This school is run by a single academy trust, Bishop Stopford School, which means other people in the trust also have responsibility for running the school. The trust is overseen by a board of trustees, chaired by Brian Withington.



# Bishop Stopford School

Week Ending: 9 May 2025

**NEWSLETTER**



## Events All Week

GCSE Examination Period  
A Level Examination Period

### Monday 12 May 2025

Year 9 Collective Worship  
Praying Parents 2pm

### Tuesday 13 May 2025

Year 10 Collective Worship  
U14 boys & girls Midlands  
State School Hockey Finals  
Year 7 Progress Review

### Wednesday 14 May 2025

Year 8 Collective Worship

### Thursday 15 May 2025

Year 7 Collective Worship  
Year 8 HPV Vaccinations  
Year 8 Isles of Scilly Parents  
Information evening

### Friday 16 May 2025

Year 12 Collective Worship

**Next week:**

**Week B**

**Assembly Theme:**

**Something More?>**

## Celebrating All Things PE

*#BestOfBishop*

What should we celebrate most in PE at our school? The joy of preparing for fixtures and tournaments, sometimes bringing trophies home, like winning the Plate at the State School National Hockey Championships or being the only state school to reach the U14 Netball regional finals? Perhaps it's the exam success in A Level and GCSE, where students achieve consistently above national standards. Is it the students who take leadership roles in primary schools' sports events such as Hockey Kwiksticks and Indoor Athletics, where they are showered with praise for their maturity and aptitude? Or the high levels of engagement in core PE, where working hard, striving to make progress and developing a positive attitude to being active is the norm? Or is it House Games, where students take pride in representing their house in competitive sport but enjoyment the central aim?

In truth we celebrate all these equally, as we support students to make physical activity a fundamental part of their lives, an integral part of who they are.

Providing a range of opportunities helps students find their way into an active life. This is PE's small part in helping Bishop Stopford School achieve its intent; nurturing individuals to 'leave us healthy and happy' and ready to include physical activity in their lives beyond school.

We were delighted then, that we were chosen because of our reputation to support Oak Academy and PE Scholar to produce national exemplar materials for GCSE, which will be available to all schools. 12 students were involved initially in demonstrating drills and progressive practices in football. Oak Academy was so impressed, they have asked to return to develop some netball and basketball resources too - impressed with our students' ability to listen and follow instructions, the quality they produced and then the positivity and enjoyment they showed while performing. They are such fantastic role models: we are very proud to showcase them.

**Mr Flannigan**



I urge you, first of all, to pray for all people. Ask God to help them; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them. <sup>2</sup> Pray this way for kings and all who are in authority so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup> This is good and pleases God our Savior, <sup>4</sup> who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth. <sup>5</sup> For there is one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus. <sup>6</sup> He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone. This is the message God gave to the world at just the right time.

1 Timothy 2:1-6

*“On Tuesday the 8th of May 1945, Europe saw peace after nearly six years of bitter conflict. From Germany's invasion of Poland on the 1st September 1939, to when Karl Dönitz offered total and unconditional surrender, effective from the 8th May 1945, Europe had not known a day without bloodshed.*

*The course of the Second World War represents more than just needless conflict. To me, it represents ordinary people committing extraordinary acts. One example is the taking of Bénouville Bridge, on the D-Day of Operation Overlord. It was a mission which seemed doomed to fail, with a slight mistake from the glider pilots being catastrophic for the soldiers on board. Even if they landed successfully, they would have to remove demolitions from the underside of the bridge, and then hold until relieved. If the landings at Sword Beach were to fail, the men of the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry tasked with this mission, would be stranded deep in enemy territory. To say it seemed impossible was an understatement. But each man briefed didn't say, 'Seems too dangerous for me, I'll sit this one out.' Instead, they nodded and asked, 'When do we go?'*

*It is moments like this which can be found throughout the Second World War, moments of ordinary people doing the extraordinary. They didn't do it for glory, or awards, but rather for their friends and family, so that their children, and their children's children, and eventually us, might live in a better world. That is what we should remember when we reflect on VE Day this year.*

*Of course, it would be impossible to mention peace in Europe without mentioning the ongoing war in Ukraine, which mirrors these extraordinary feats committed by the ordinary people of the country, for the sake of the families and homes. Whilst we remember Victory in Europe this week, let's also remember to keep Ukraine in our prayers, so that they might also find a peaceful solution.”*

**Jacob Hicks Year 13**

## 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 students receive CViA award this week:

Annabelle Milligan (7C) helped to set up and then sold plants at the village VE Day celebrations. Annabelle and other children from the church grew some of the plants from seed in preparation for the sale. They raised £75 for Thorpe Malsor Church.

Jai Singh – Faith and Football (see page 4)

If you know of any student who you think is eligible for a Core Values in Action award, please email [newsletter@bishopstopford.com](mailto:newsletter@bishopstopford.com)



**Mrs Peach**

## Safe Space – promoting good health for exams

A recent article in The Times has highlighted the need to consider how the adolescent brain is developing when supporting young people as they take exams. Professor Blakemore (Psychology and Cognitive Neuroscience at the University of Cambridge) contributed. He states that understanding what is healthy and what is motivational, helps schools and families to support young people to achieve their best.

Blakemore reinforces the importance of sleep and the primary importance of a regular sleep pattern. Research from the universities of Cambridge and Fudan (Shanghai) found that young people who go to sleep earlier and who sleep for longer, tend to have better brain function and perform better in cognitive tests. Their study showed that even a difference of fifteen minutes was enough to demonstrate cognitive improvement.

Adolescents tend to learn better through rewards. Blakemore encourages parents to work with their children to identify positive activities to break up revision. Continued engagement in sports, volunteering and youth groups are valuable, as are smaller amounts of structured time listening to music, gaming and socialising – either in person or online.

As students approach the exam period, it can be tempting to remove everything that isn't revision. But ensuring the continuation of activities which promote good health, good sleep and positive routines can lead to a healthier and less stressful time.

**Mrs Smith**

### Year 13

Today, Year 13 begin their study leave. It is lovely to see so many in their blue jumpers (or uniforms from previous schools) and expressing a whole range of emotions as they come to the end of their schooling here at Bishop Stopford School. We wish them all the very best in their exams and in their futures too.

**Miss Silverthorne**

### Warhorse Theatre Trip

On Thursday 1st May Year 10, 12 and 13 Drama students went to see *Warhorse* at Milton Keynes Theatre.

*"I found the performance of 'Warhorse' poignant, moving and quite intense in parts. It was really interesting to see different theatre techniques- the puppetry (including two life sized horses) was incredible and really brought the story to life. Having not read the book before the trip, I was pleasantly surprised, and greatly enjoyed the show- it was also a lovely way to unwind after the Year 10 mocks.*

*I found the production of 'Warhorse' fantastic and was gripped by the story of the horse and the boy all the way through. Although it was sometimes rather upsetting, there were some very humorous exchanges over the language barriers, as well as an equally amusing goose.*

*I loved the show and am very thankful for the opportunity- I would definitely recommend it! - Florrie*



**Mrs Fraser**



## STEM Days

*Year 8 Unleash Their Inner Engineers During Thrilling 'Untamed Earth' STEM Days!*



The Main Hall buzzed with excitement this week as Year 8 students traded their usual lessons for an immersive experience in the world of STEM! Our 'Untamed Earth' themed STEM Days saw students diving headfirst into a series of exhilarating design-and-make challenges, putting their creativity and problem-solving skills to the test in collaborative projects.

From constructing miniature generators and zippy hovercraft to engineering resilient storm-proof buildings, the students tackled each task with impressive enthusiasm. The day was packed with hands-on activities that brought science, technology, engineering, and maths vividly to life. The grand finale? A thrilling egg drop challenge from the mezzanine floor, where students designed and built parachutes, hoping to protect their fragile cargo from a lofty fall!

Our dynamic STEM Days are designed to bridge the gap between classroom learning and the real-world applications of science, technology, engineering, and maths. By experiencing these subjects in such an engaging way, students gain a valuable insight into the diverse and exciting career paths STEM offers, sparking a passion, for some future study in these crucial fields.

A huge thank you to Mr Sidgwick for his fantastic organisation in making these inspiring STEM Days a resounding success!

**Mr. Harwood**

## Music News

Congratulations to Emily Partridge (12P) who passed her Grade 8 piano exam with Merit.

Well done to Jai Singh who played the keyboard at Wembley Stadium on the occasion of Faith & Football Series Vaisakhi Celebration, organised by the FA.

*"We have received great feedback from the FA and the audience. It was an honour for me to perform at this prestigious venue."*



**Mrs Armstrong**

## Readathon

A huge thank you to all the donations to support the Readathon this year- we have raised £687.00! The donations to the Read For Good charity will go towards buying new books and story tellers for children in hospital.

**Mrs Thurlby**

## District Athletics Championships

Last week, both the Year 8 and Year 9 District Athletics Championships took place at Corby Triangle. It proved to be a very successful day for both age groups as they both came 1<sup>st</sup> in their respective competitions. This week, the combined Year 10/11 Championships also took place and we were runners up.

The Championships also provide a platform for selection for the County Championships in June, where we expect some of our students to be involved. We await notifications of these names.

Well done to all students involved!

## Rugby County Finals

### U13

Last week the Year 8 squad played in the County Finals Tournament at Northampton Saints. After a slow start they improved with every game narrowly missing out on a play off place by points scored. A special mention to a number of the squad who doubled up with a morning at the District Athletics in addition to the finals.

### U15

The Year 10 squad also qualified for the County Final for the second year running to play Moulton in a repeat of last season's final.

It was again played at Northampton Saints on their senior training pitch which was like a carpet!

The game did not disappoint with some expansive rugby played by both sides. Ultimately it was small margins that separated the sides with Bishop falling short. We are very proud of the boys: they have gelled so well as a squad this season and the type of rugby that they try to play. We look forward to next year.



## U13 Cricket

Last week the U13s travelled to Ratcliffe College to play in the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the National Cup. They chased 120 in less than 20 overs with Oscar Court scoring 90. Some good bowling and tight fielding proved to be the point of difference between the sides.

They now look forward to a trip to Worksop College in Notts in the next round.

## Mr Young

# Year 9 Curriculum – Summer Term

Subject	Summer Term 1	Summer Term 2
<b>Art</b>	<u>Portraiture</u>	<u>Abstract Art</u> Including Miro, Mondrian and Japanese <u>Notan Art</u>
<b>Computer Science</b>	Media Animation	Impact of Technology
<b>DT</b>	<u>Food (Unit 1)</u> Food Science Raising Agents	<u>Food (Unit 2)</u> Teenage Diets Vegetarianism
		<u>Textiles</u> Advanced Techniques Environmental impact of Fashion
		<u>Product Design</u> Contexts as starting points. Design Development Testing Functional Prototypes
<b>Drama</b>	Rotation Project 1 – Too much punch for Judy	Rotation Projection 2 – The History of Pantomime.
<b>English</b>	Romeo and Juliet	Viewpoint Writing: The World in my Words
<b>French</b>	<u>"L'environnement"</u>	
<b>Geography</b>	<u>Natural Hazards</u> Students examine the different types of natural hazards and focus on the structure of the earth.	
<b>History</b>	<u>The Holocaust</u> Students will examine the origins and events of the Holocaust and compare it to other Genocides	<u>Cold War</u>  <u>Local History</u> This will focus on local history and how it has impacted on students at BSS directly or indirectly.
<b>Maths</b>	Inequalities Drawing / Writing Vectors Transformations	Similarity and Congruency – stating and proving using ASA, SSS and SAS Simultaneous Equations
<b>Music</b>	<u>Moods in Film</u> Composing a character leitmotif	Composing an underscore
<b>PE</b>	Athletics and Rounders (Girls) Tennis and Athletics (Boys)	Tennis and Softball (Girls) Cricket and Softball (Boys)
<b>PSHE</b>	<u>RSE Consolidation</u> Teenagers guide to Relationship project	<u>Health and Wellbeing</u> Dealing with pressure / loss / <u>grief</u> / divorce
<b>RE (GCSE)</b>	<u>Christianity – Practices</u>	
<b>Science</b>	Transition to GCSE – Fundamentals in Science	Practical projects – Embedding practical skills
<b>Spanish</b>	<u>La tecnologia</u>	<u>Fiestas en el mundo hispanico</u>
<b>Wider-Curricular</b>	Super Curricular Week / School Walk Sports Day (22.07.25) Celebration Assemblies (24.07.25)	
<b>Other</b>	Year 9 reports issued (03.07.25)	









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# Important Dates

<b>22 APR-1 MAY</b> <i>Yr 10 Mocks</i>	<b>23 APR-2 MAY</b> <i>Yr 11 MFL Speaking Assessments</i>	<b>8 MAY</b> <i>GCSE Exam Period Begins</i>
<b>9 MAY</b> <i>Yr 7 Reports Issued</i>	<b>12 MAY</b> <i>A Level Exam Period Begins</i>	<b>12 MAY</b> <i>Praying Parents 2pm - 3pm</i>
<b>13 MAY</b> <i>Yr 7 Progress Review</i>	<b>20 MAY</b> <i>GCSE Music Ensemble Evening</i>	<b>23 MAY</b> <i>School closes for Half Term</i>

## SAVE THE DATE

### Celebration of Achievement

Tuesday 16 December 2025

6:00pm – 7:30pm

Refreshments served from 5:15pm

Our annual event to celebrate success and present exam certificates is a highlight of our calendar, with over 500 attending. This year, on our 60th anniversary, we expect it to be more popular than ever. Details of how to book tickets will be sent in the autumn term.

For GCSE and A level students and their families



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# Recruitment

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

- Teacher of RE
- Teacher of History
- Apprentice Careers Advisor

The successful candidate will work alongside colleagues, senior staff and governors and will contribute to unlocking students' unique potential in Science.

We hope you are excited by the opportunity to work with us. We look forward to hearing from you.

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 Company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales No. 7698789  
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# Cucina

WEEK 1
Cucina

Week Commencing: 31/03/25, 21/04/25, 12/05/25, 02/06/25, 23/06/25, 14/07/25

CLASSIC HOT & HEARTY	
CLASSIC MAIN MEALS	VEGETARIAN MAIN MEALS
<p><b>MONDAY</b> Lemon &amp; Herb Piri Piri Chicken with Spicy Rice</p> <p><b>TUESDAY</b> Chicken Chow Mein</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> Honey Glazed Roast Gammon, Crisp Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables &amp; House Gravy</p> <p><b>THURSDAY</b> Mexican Style Beef &amp; Tortilla Lasagne</p> <p><b>FRIDAY</b> Chip Shop 'Fryday' Fish, Pizza or Fishcake &amp; Chips with Peas &amp; Tartare Sauce</p>	<p><b>MONDAY</b> Piri Piri Quorn, Macho Peas and Spicy Rice (VE)</p> <p><b>TUESDAY</b> Hoisin Tofu Chow Mein (VE)</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> Crunchy Topped Macaroni Cheese, House Salad or Seasonal Veg(V)</p> <p><b>THURSDAY</b> Smokey Plant Based Chilli, Served with Rice, Nachos &amp; Corn (V)</p> <p><b>FRIDAY</b> BBQ Bean Burger with Chunky Chips &amp; Peas (V)</p>

**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	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Pakistani Tarka Dhal (VE)	Vegan Singapore Noodles (VE)	Vegan Ramen Bowl (VE)	The Big Plant Burger (VE)	Garlic & Chilli Noodles (VE)

TRATTORIA				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Tomato & Basil Pasta	Pasta in a Cheese Sauce	Mozzarella & Tomato or Pepperoni Pizza	Creamy Pesto Pasta	Margherita Pizza

**DESSERTS**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Savoury Penicillin Cake with Vanilla Sauce	Apple Strudel & Custard	Chocolate Sponge & Chocolate Sauce	Cookie Dough Fruit Cumble	Fruit, Jelly & Yoghurt Pots

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**

