



Bishop Stopford School

Week Ending: 30th January 2026

NEWSLETTER



Events all week

Monday

Year 11 Collective Worship

Tuesday

SIAMS Inspection

Year 10 Collective Worship

Year 9 Vaccinations

GCSE PE Moderation

Wednesday

SIAMS Inspection

Year 8 & 9 Collective Worship

GCSE PE Moderation

Year 11 Progress Review

Thursday

Year 7 Collective Worship

Year 8 MFL International Morning

Friday 4

Year 12 Collective Worship

Year 9 Communion

The Importance of Fieldwork

#BestOfBishop

Geography is a gateway to many communities, ranging in scale from our local surroundings to the globe. We explore the world around us, fostering interdependence and promote social cohesion. This always unlocks unique potential for our students. The opportunity to explore our environment is crucial to understanding concepts taught in lessons. The complex relationships between physical and human geography are intertwined. Cementing these connections is paramount to learning about our world.

Our students enjoy fieldtrips to Woburn Safari Park, GCSE to Carding Mill Valley in Shropshire and Stratford in East London and A level to the Dorset coastline, the Lake District and Brick Lane. There are also *>Something More?* opportunities, such as our October 25 trip to Naples and Capri. The academic learning gained is obvious, but social and personal skills are developed in teamwork and working in unfamiliar surroundings. These provide opportunities to illustrate leadership and resilience.

Our students have thoroughly enjoyed and benefited from their opportunities. I urge you to read their experiences and if you have any questions, do contact myself or our wonderful geography students.

Mrs Harvey (Head of Geography)

SIAMS Inspection

We are undergoing our inspection next week as a Church of England secondary school. On Tuesday and Wednesday, members from all parts of our community will meet with the inspector, with a focus on how we unlock unique potential for everyone here. We look forward to sharing the outcomes in due course.

Miss Silverthorne

Next week:

Week A

Assembly Theme:

The *>Something More?* of building each other up



We are a Church of England School



Jeremiah 29: 11

1 Peter 5:7

Joshua 1:9

Psalm 19: 1

Philippians 4:13

Ephesians 2:10



“How Great thou ART”

Over the past two years, canvases have appeared on our school walls created by students. These are artistic reminders of the powerful truths that God is speaking into our lives: the >Something More? of the Bible for all of us to consider.

Students can identify where these paintings are in school, and can expect to see more soon!

Mrs Hutchinson

Be Curious: Nothing to lose BIG Questions in the Chapel

How do I understand what the Bible says about women?

Thursday Jan 29th
Girls only - Lunchtime
Guest speaker
Linnet Smith

How do I live in a world which is pulling me in all directions?

Counter Culture Club
Thursdays Week A
Lunchtimes
Student led

How can I trust the Bible?

Friday Feb 6th
Lunchtime
Guest speaker
Paul Linnell

counter culture.
EP 2 | IDENTITY

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

Spectators at fixtures

We know how important it is to be engaged with your child's education. Watching your child take part in PE fixtures is just one way that parents and wider family can support, encourage and share these moments of school life.

We wanted to remind parents of the process we follow for this to happen safely. We have to balance the practicalities of parents watching with the statutory safeguarding responsibilities we have for all. Students are on site until 5pm, participating in extracurricular activities. This means we need to manage all adults on site, including those coming to see their own children in one of these activities.

The process:

- Parents are allowed to spectate at **after school fixtures only**.
- All parents coming to spectate at fixtures must report to Reception and sign in with a form of identification.
- If you are recorded on our system as a named contact for your child, you will sign in, be given a lanyard and be able to go directly to the fixture's venue.
- At the end of the fixture, you must return to Reception to sign out and give in your lanyard.
- As with all sporting support, we welcome encouragement and cheering for all players.

If you have wider family who would like to watch fixtures regularly, please contact us to share their details and make them additional contacts for your child on our system.

A wider circle of friends or members of clubs outside school will not be able to watch fixtures. While we appreciate that this will be disappointing for some, it is an important element of assuring effective safeguarding.

Thank you for your support with this process.

Mrs Smith

Excellent Outcomes for All

We were delighted this week to receive the following letter from none less than the Secretary of State for Education!

“Congratulations to you and your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at Bishop Stopford School achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement.

This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed.

Your school's achievements demonstrate what is possible, and I hope you will continue to share your experience and best practice with others. Even the strongest schools can go further. We encourage you to lead the way as a system leader - sharing effective practice, championing networks, supporting collaboration, and helping raise standards across the sector.

Please pass on my thanks and congratulations to your staff and pupils. I look forward to working with you as we strive together to raise standards for all.”

Miss Silverthorne

The Importance of Fieldwork Cont'd

"I have really enjoyed the geography trips this year, especially the trip to Bay of Naples in Italy. The trips that I have been on so far have been so fun and educational. I learnt so much about the formation of Mt. Vesuvius and how it affected the city of Pompeii when it erupted. I have also really enjoyed the field trips to Carding Mill Valley and Stratford for our physical and urban fieldwork enquiries as they were highly educational and were a good visual representation of what we had been learning in class".

Sophie, Year 11



The Naples trip was the best school trip I have ever been on. It has given me opportunities of learning about culture, relevant geography knowledge and local history. Since then, I have gotten closer and made better friends with people at school who I never would've imagined. I was able to apply information I have learned in lesson to Mount Vesuvius and the Herculaneum, and I honestly cannot put into words how beautiful the area is.

Sam, Year 11



In October a few of us had the incredible opportunity to go on a trip to the Bay of Naples in Italy. We did all sorts of activities such as climbing Mount Vesuvius and learning about the geology of the area. We explored Pompeii and Herculaneum, the cities destroyed in the eruption, and we had a day in Capri where we went on a fantastic boat trip around the island to admire its coastlines. We also explored the island using the funicular railway! I would recommend this trip to everyone as it has certainly created great memories, for me at least.

Rupert, Year 11



"Turning classroom learning into lived experience."

Geography fieldtrips are one of the most valuable and crucial parts of the subject as they turn the theory we learn in lessons into real, meaningful experiences. Having the privilege to observe human and physical processes firsthand is fundamental to making our content easier to comprehend and remember for exams. Furthermore, collecting our own datasets allows us to practice our own geographical data collection and application skills. These fieldtrips also encourage teamwork and independence, developing our critical thinking skills for case studies, such as Brick Lane. Most importantly, fieldtrips inspire curiosity and further engagement in the subject, helping us appreciate the relevance of geography in real-life global affairs such as climate change and migration.

Lola, Year 13

Celebrating the National Year of Reading – Go All In!

I am delighted to share our plans for the National Year of Reading, a year-long celebration designed to inspire a love of literature and strengthen reading habits across our school. The **#Go All In** initiative represents an exciting opportunity to further secure reading at the heart of school life. It will allow every student to discover the transformative power of books and how they shape our world and connect to how we live. We'll be reconnecting reading with the things that already inspire us – from playlists and football matches to films, food and family time.

Understanding Our Readers

To ensure our activities truly meet the needs and interests of our students, please encourage your child to complete "National Year of Reading" questionnaire, sent as an optional homework task to student Edulink accounts this week.

This survey explores current reading habits, preferences, and attitudes, and gathers valuable feedback about reading groups within school. Your child's responses will help shape new school and library initiatives.

As an incentive, all completed responses will be entered into a prize draw to win a Kindle, Amazon vouchers and National Book Tokens.

Luke@Lent and Luke@LentPLUS – Bible Read-A-Thon

Mrs. Hutchinson starts our National Year of Reading with this wonderful opportunity for students to read the Gospel of Luke. Luke was a doctor who 'carefully investigated' the eyewitness accounts he was being told and wrote his book 'so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.' This is open to students, staff, parents, carers and the wider family. Read together, discuss together and come together!

Readathon cards will be available the week before half term: from the Chapel, the Library and the Foyer.

Book Week Celebrations

Our annual Book Week and Read-A-Thon, March 2nd – 6th, encompassing World Book Day on March 5th, will take on special significance as a flagship event within the National Year of Reading. Students can look forward to themed activities, creative challenges, and opportunities to celebrate their favourite books and characters. This will be a chance for our whole school community to come together in appreciation of storytelling and literature.

Author Visit

We are thrilled to be hosting an author during the summer term who will share insights into the writing process. They will discuss their work and inspire us to see reading and writing as creative, accessible pursuits. Details about our author will be shared closer to the event date,; we anticipate this will be a memorable highlight of the year.

Welcoming Our New Year 7 Students

To mark the important transition from primary to secondary school, every student joining us in Year 7 will be gifted a book. This gesture symbolises our commitment to reading and provides each new student with their own book to treasure as they begin their secondary school journey. Their parents will also be offered the opportunity to come into the school library on transfer days to spend time exploring the library together and reading their book.

Quizzes and Competitions

Throughout the year, students will have opportunities to participate in reading quizzes and competitions designed to challenge, entertain, and reward their engagement with books.

Getting Involved

The success of the National Year of Reading depends on participation from both school and home. We encourage you to talk with your child about the books you are all reading, and support them in completing the questionnaire. We will keep you updated with details of specific events and activities. Together, we can make this a truly memorable year which instils a lifelong love of reading for all.

Miss. Wood

**Proud to support
The National Year
of Reading 2026.**



European Parliament Ambassador Schools Photo Competition

I am so proud of all of the wonderful entries to the European Parliament Ambassador Schools photo competition. Students have put lots of thought, creativity and effort into their submissions.

Do have a look at our Instagram page for their photos and descriptions of what Europe means to them.

Well done and thank you to all of you who have participated.

Miss Graziano



English Speaking Union Mace Debating Competition

On Monday, a team of our senior debaters in Years 10 and 11 travelled to Sir Jonathan North College in Leicester to compete in the second round of the English Speaking Union (ESU)'s prestigious Mace Debating Competition. The speaking team – Vanshi Patel, Ella Adu and Florrie Murphy – delivered superb speeches in opposition to the motion, 'This House believes that climate protests which disrupt daily life are morally justified'. They fielded challenging questions and 'points of information' with aplomb. Despite the incredibly high calibre of the other five competing teams from Stamford School, Oundle, Sir Lawrence Sherriff, Sir Jonathan North and Bourne Grammar, our amazing team were selected as one of the top three by the judging panel. They now progress to the Regional Final – what an achievement!

We are incredibly proud of the students, not just for their impressive oracy skills, but also for being superb ambassadors for our school and conducting themselves magnificently throughout the event. The supporting team played an equally crucial role in preparation for the event and providing sterling support and encouragement on the night: very well done all. Next stop, East Midlands Final in March!



Mrs Hainsworth & Miss Blackburn

Year 9 Progress Review & GCSE Options Choices

Last week, we were delighted to invite Year 9 students and their families to January's combined Progress Review and GCSE Options Evening. The evening provided opportunity to further explore options choices and receive valuable feedback to take into the rest of the academic year. Year 10 students offered additional insight into the GCSE structure and I am grateful for such positive feedback of the event. The deadline to submit Year 9 Options is **Friday 30th January**.

This Monday, Year 9 welcomed former student and founder of Lulu's Talent Management, Lulu Cockayne, who shared her inspiring journey since completing her GCSEs and A Levels here. Lulu spoke about her path from wearing her blue jumper to building her own successful business, emphasising that there is no single route to success and encouraging students to follow their own passions with confidence.

As Head of Year, it has been fantastic to play a part in supporting Year 9's enthusiasm and openness to the process. Students have asked great questions and begun to consider what is possible beyond school, while understanding that success can take many different forms.



Mr Darby



Holocaust Memorial Day 2026

Holocaust Memorial Day, commemorated on 27 January 2026 is a time to remember the six million Jewish men, women, and children murdered in the Holocaust, along with the millions of others persecuted by the Nazi regime and in subsequent genocides. It is a moment to honour the survivors, reflect on the consequences of hatred, prejudice, and indifference, and renew our commitment to stand up against antisemitism, racism, and all forms of discrimination. By remembering the past, we help shape a more compassionate and just future. Within the Humanities Faculty we include the teaching of the Holocaust in History and RE lessons, focusing both on the history of antisemitism, as well as the rise of the Nazis and the experiences of Jewish people in WW2. Across the school we also explore issues of modern-day antisemitism, racism and discrimination so that students can apply their learning to more recent situations.

The theme of Holocaust Memorial Day this year is "Bridging Generations," emphasising that remembering the Holocaust is a shared duty for all ages. At Bishop Stopford School we are developing this theme with two upcoming events. The first is that we have two Year 12 History students taking part in the *Lessons from Auschwitz* programme, where they focus on the universal lessons of the Holocaust, its relevance today, and combating prejudice. This involves our students visiting Auschwitz-Birkenau and, on their return, sharing their experiences with the wider school community. We will also be hosting our annual Holocaust Awareness Morning with Year 10 in the summer, where we invite a Holocaust survivor to come into school and share their experiences with our students. Through our curriculum, these events and our shared learning, we connect with survivor stories, build empathy, and renew our commitment to creating a world free from intolerance, ensuring history's lessons guide us toward hope and understanding.

Mr Jennings (Head of Humanities) & Miss Moloney (Head of RE)



'2.22 A Ghost Story' Trip

On Tuesday 13th January, the GCSE and A level students went to see '2.22 A Ghost Story' at the Derngate Theatre, Northampton. Thank you to Grace Thompson for the following review:

"This play could be considered revolutionary. It had everything: tension, shock, surprise and fear all in one making it a combination that was truly worth seeing. The post twist kept everyone reflecting upon the piece throughout the journey home. This play drew the audience in within minutes, and was truly spectacular. The way 2.22 managed to provide the audience with enough information to understand yet question is impressive. This play would manage to surprise you no matter how many times you watch it. No words could describe the thrill it will leave you with. Definitely recommended."

This play has given the students plenty to talk about and write about.

Mrs Fraser



Sports News: Hit for Six!

Elina and Karina Patel are making incredible marks on the cricket pitch. Both have achieved at a level far above their age group, breaking multiple historical records and establishing themselves as two of the most promising young cricketers in Northamptonshire. Their dedication, consistency, and professionalism in training and match environments have been repeatedly praised by county coaches, Blaze Academy staff, and club coaches alike.

Both Elina and Karina have had unforgettable seasons and continue to demonstrate

- Exceptional talent
- Dedication to training
- Leadership and team values
- Strong representation of the school at local, county and regional level

They are now recognised as two of the **top young cricketers in Northamptonshire** and are among the strongest performers nationally in their age groups.

Well done on your exceptional achievements!

Mrs Patrick



Musical Success

Congratulations to Senudi Wanshanatha 7Y who achieved a distinction in her Grade 2 Trinity London Piano exam!





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

Important Dates

30 JAN

Year 11 Reports issued

3 FEB

Year 9 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 10 Curriculum – Spring Term

Subject	Spring Term 1	Spring Term 2
GCSE Art	Media Exploration – Final Outcome	Project 2: My Surroundings
GCSE Computer Science	Python Programming	Computer Networks
GCSE Drama	Introduction to Devising: Style Workshops and Portfolio The Crucible	
GCSE English	English Literature – Power and Conflict Poetry	English Literature – Power and Conflict Poetry
GCSE Food	Projects: Fish Preparation, Choux Pastry, Pasta Making Theory: Food provenance	
GCSE French	Mobile Technology and Celebrity Culture	Healthy Living and Lifestyle
GCSE Geography	<u>Urban Issues and Challenges</u> London <u>Physical Landscapes of the UK</u> Overview, Fieldwork Preparation and River Landscapes	<u>Physical Landscapes of the UK</u> Coastal Landscapes
GCSE Health and Social Care	Completion of tasks 3 and 4 for Component 1 PSA	Component 2 - Health and Social Care services and barriers to accessing these.
GCSE History	<u>Medicine in Modern Britain</u> <u>Medicine on the Western Front</u> Mock Exam	<u>Elizabeth I - Queen, Government and Religion (1558-69)</u>
GCSE Maths	Arcs and Sectors Surface Area and Volumes Bounds Transformations Foundation: Pythagoras Frequency Tables Probability Percentages	Higher: Similarity – Area and Volume Probability Trigonometry in 2D and 3D Linear Graphs Foundation: Fractions Linear Graphs Sequences Decimals and Estimation
GCSE Music	Unit 3 Listening and Appraising Coursework Composition 1	Unit 3 Listening and Appraising Coursework Composition 1
Core PE	Boys – Hockey and Badminton Girls – Health related fitness and Dodgeball	Boys – Handball and Health related fitness Girls – Badminton and Cricket



Year 10 Curriculum – Spring Term Cont'd

GCSE PE	Cardio-Respiratory system	Physical training and the use of data
GCSE Product Design	Projects: Pattern Drafting / Mock NEA Theory: Common Materials	
PSHE	<u>Staying Safe in Relationships</u> Specific focus on respect, abusive relationships, domestic abuse, Honour-based violence and forced marriage	
GCSE RE	<u>Buddhism – Practices</u>	
GCSE Science (Triple)	<u>Module 2: Organization</u> <u>Module 3: Disease</u>	
GCSE Science (Trilogy)	Biology Module 3: Disease Chemistry Module 1: Atomic Structure and the Periodic Table Chemistry Module 2: Structure Bonding and Properties Chemistry Module 3: Chemical Calculations Biology Module 4: Bioenergetics	
GCSE Spanish	Mobile Technology and Celebrity Culture	Healthy Living and Lifestyle
GCSE Textiles	Projects: Mock NEA Theory: Energy, Systems & Mechanisms	

Wider-Curricular	Art and DT Trip (08.01.26) Drama Trip – 2.22 A Ghost Story (13.01.26) Year 10 Communion (23.01.26) Intermediate Maths Challenge (28.01.26)	Science Live Visit (24.02.26) Year 10 Geography Fieldwork (26.03.26 to 29.03.26) Belgian Battlefields Visit (12.03.26 to 14.03.26) Year 10 Spring House Games (03.03.26) Spring Concert (17.03.26) Intermediate Maths Challenge (19.03.26) Art Mock (26.03.26)
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Other	Year 10 Reports issued (27.03.26)
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Recruitment

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

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.

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Cucina

WEEK 3

Week Commencing; 20/10/2025 10/11/2025 01/12/2025 22/12/2025 12/01/2026
 02/02/2026 23/02/2026 16/03/2026 06/04/2026

CLASSIC HOT & HEARTY

CLASSIC MAIN MEALS

MONDAY

BBQ Chicken Served with Salt & Peppers Wedges, Garden Peas

TUESDAY

Chicken Arrabbiata Pasta Bake

WEDNESDAY

Roast Shoulder of Pork, Crisp Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables & House Gravy

THURSDAY

Chicken Korma with Pilau Rice & Coriander Salad

FRIDAY

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

VEGETARIAN MAIN MEALS

MONDAY

Chipotle Quorn Dippers with Salt & Pepper Wedges & Garden Peas (V)

TUESDAY

Crunchy Topped Macaroni Cheese and House Salad (V)

WEDNESDAY

Cheesy Roasted Squash & Parsnip Crumble. Served with Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy (V)

THURSDAY

Cauliflower Bhaji with Pilau Rice & Mint Yogurt (V)

FRIDAY

Crispy Onion Pakora Burger Served with Mango Slaw, Chips & Peas (VE)

DESSERTS

MONDAY

Sticky Lemon Sponge

TUESDAY

Mixed Berry & Apple Crumble

WEDNESDAY

Jam Roly Poly & Custard

THURSDAY

Banana Pudding & Custard

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

Buffalo Cauliflower Wings, Served with Salt & Pepper Wedges (V)

TUESDAY

Vegan Singapore Noodles (V)

WEDNESDAY

Hot Falafel Buddha Bowl (V)

THURSDAY

Onion Bhaji Skewer with Bombay Potatoes (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

