



# Bishop Stopford's School

Brick Lane, Enfield, Middlesex, EN1 3PU

Headteacher: Mrs T. Day BA (Hons), NPQH

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July 2018

Dear Families,

As we draw to the end of another Academic year I would like to thank the students, parents and staff for what has been an incredibly special and successful year for Bishop Stopford's School. As you will be aware this is our Golden Jubilee year and what better way to celebrate than with a visit from the Bishop of London and a fabulous Ofsted.

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2018, the school was inspected by Ofsted and it gives me great pleasure to be able to share with you that the school continues to be a 'good' school. The report is glowing and although it is available on our website in full, I thought that it would be useful to highlight some aspects of it for you.

As you know, I and my staff, have high expectations for our students. Ofsted said that we are, 'ambitious for all pupils.' They also quite rightly reported that, 'overall attainment in GCSE examinations was strong' and, 'pupils achieving a good pass in English and mathematics was significantly above national averages'. They said, 'pupils are making stronger progress across almost all subjects because of the focused support we provide'.

I and the staff are extremely proud of our students. Ofsted said that our pupils, 'are proud of their school. They see themselves as part of a close school community.' They also said that school provided opportunities for our students to become leaders, 'both inside and outside school', which prepares them well for adult life.

The Inspectors recognised the, 'calm orderly atmosphere around the school', and that our pupils, 'are keen to learn in this positive environment'. Ofsted said that our students told them there is a, 'sense of family here'. We often talk about the deep sense of belonging in our school and the uniqueness of this bond. I am very proud of our family and believe that our close connection sets us apart from other schools.

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July we had our Founder's service celebrating 50 years of the Stopfordian Family. It was a very special day and a great way of celebrating our success. It is not any one part of a school that makes it successful, but the positivity and energy of all its components pulling in the same direction for the benefit of our students. What follows is just a fraction of the activities that have taken place this term to support the development of our wonderful school and students.



**Telephone:** 020 8804 1906 **Fax:** 020 8216 1760

**Email:** [generaloffice@bishopstopfords.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:generaloffice@bishopstopfords.enfield.sch.uk)

**Website:** [www.bishopstopfords.enfield.sch.uk](http://www.bishopstopfords.enfield.sch.uk) **twitter:** @BishopStopfords



## 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee

To mark our 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee, a day of celebration was planned for the Stopfordian family. Governors, ex-Senior Staff and friends of the school joined the current staff and student body, as well as members of our 'link' primary schools in giving thanks for the life of our school. It was wonderful to welcome Robert and Sarah Stopford, the children of Bishop Robert Stopford, the school's founder, back to the school for the occasion. To mark this event the current Bishop of London, The Right Reverend and Right Honourable Dame Sarah Mullally DBE, was invited to lead the celebration service.

This special day included an 'open air' Eucharist / Founders service, a celebration lunch and concluded with games and festivities on the school field.



Work on the celebrations has been going on all year. The day started at 6.00am in the school playground with Mr Porter and the site team, keenly assisted by members of the support staff gathered to setting up the worship area. It included over 700 seats, a music stage, PA system, gazebos and the school altar. By 8.30am everything was set ready for the students to start rehearsing in preparation for the service.



Bishop Sarah arrived at school and after meeting with myself and Mrs Roskell, our Chair of Governors, toured the school. She visited lessons and enjoyed meeting and chatting with our students.



This was followed by break time in the staff room, where the Bishop had an opportunity to meet the staff and have a coffee!



At 11.30am, guests, students and staff all took their places in the worship area for the service, all wearing their celebration Stopfordian badges. The service included traditional school rituals, including the presentation of the Camomile and the school Scrolls. Worship music was lead by Ms Dougherty and a Eucharistic prayer was taken from Anglican Common Worship.



In her sermon, Bishop Sarah, spoke of the importance of traditions matched with the relevance of the present. She described the school community as 'living stones' of the school, explaining that everyone present must make their mark in the life of the school.



**Telephone:** 020 8804 1906 **Fax:** 020 8216 1760  
**Email:** [headsoffice@bishopstopfords.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:headsoffice@bishopstopfords.enfield.sch.uk)  
**Website:** [www.bishopstopfords.enfield.sch.uk](http://www.bishopstopfords.enfield.sch.uk) **twitter:** @BishopStopfords



At the conclusion of the service, Mr Paul Dennis, a long standing employee, friend and now Governor of the school, received a gift marking his 50 years dedication to the school.



Meanwhile the staff and students made their way to the canteen to enjoy a celebratory lunch, after which, the students made their way to the field where an afternoon of festivities had been arranged including, a mini football tournament, alongside games such as 'splat a rat' 'hook a duck', 'who is the teacher baby photos', a cake making competition and many more. Special thanks to our canteen manager and his staff, aswell as Ms Dorrington for organising such a fun afternoon.



The day was a great success and a real family occasion, confirming once again the special relationship we have with each other.



## Sixth Form

This term, we have had a number of exciting opportunities for our Sixth form. Alongside their academic studies and preparing for both their final exams (Year 13) and trial exams (Year 12), they have been involved in both leadership and developmental opportunities. We were also fortunate enough to have Goldman Sachs (Investment Bank) visit the school on 29<sup>th</sup> June to give all of our Year 12 students some mock interview practice to support their preparations for UCAs applications. Students had one to one sessions practising their interview skills and received individual feedback. Staff from Hertfordshire University have also led on assemblies to support students with their applications. Five Year 12 students also attended the preparing for Oxbridge conference which is supporting their application process.

On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May our Local MP Joan Ryan visited school to meet members of Year 12 who have taken part in the Brilliant club's Scholars Programme this year. The Brilliant club is a charity that exists to increase the number of students from under-represented backgrounds to progress to highly selective universities. They do this by enrolling PhD students to share their expertise with state schools as part-time tutors.

This year six of our Year 12 students enrolled in the Scholars Programme which started with a launch event at Newnham College, Cambridge. This was followed by a series of fortnightly tutorials at school around the subject of using gels and creams to deliver medication through the skin. A final essay was submitted and then marked by our PhD tutor. One of our students achieved one of the highest marks across the country and has been submitted by her tutor to be included in the Brilliant club's annual publication of the best work from the Scholars Programme. We will know in early July whether this submission has been successful.

On 14<sup>th</sup> June our Year 12 Scholars spent the day at the School of Oriental and African Studies, part of the University of London, for their Scholars Programme Graduation. As well as taking part in the Graduation Ceremony, the students were shown around the university and attended various workshops.

## July 12<sup>th</sup> – Interview Preparation Workshop.

A group of Year 12 students took part in an Interview Preparation Programme. Students were given insight into writing a strong academic personal statement, preparing for university entrance tests and accessing wider reading. The workshop was run by staff from Oxford and Cambridge Universities and our students were very positive about the impact it will have on their own university applications.

Year 12 students have also had the opportunity to go on two weeks of work experience in order to give them an insight into the world of work and explore possible paths for the future. Students have worked with MP Joan Ryan, have gone into nurseries, shops, worked with the NHS, pharmacies, solicitors and private medical facilities in order to boost their personal statements and consider their choices for beyond The Sixth form. The skills that the Year 12 students have gained will give them a competitive edge over other applicants when applying to top universities.

Good luck to all of our Sixth form students in their exams and their next journey.

## Year 11 Prom

The prom on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July was a huge success. Our students were smart and glamorous. They sang and danced in unison and were able to celebrate the successes of their recent exams. Many enjoyed dressing up for the 'magic mirror' and later in the evening we were able to crown our prom King and Queen. Forty Hall commended us on our students and a fantastic night was had by all.

## Exam Magic

We have been incredibly fortunate to have had 'Exam Magic' support us with preparing the year 11 students for the exam season this year. Exam Magic is run by Michael Warwick who came in to speak to parents, ran intensive sessions with students and supported all of the year 11s with a practical guide dedicated to preparing for the exams. This work has been invaluable for the students as it has supported them in making small attitude adjustments that bring about huge improvements in exam results and life beyond the school gates. We look forward to this becoming a reality on results day in August!



## **Year 10 Opportunities and Trips**

Year 10 have had a wealth of opportunities this year and it has certainly seen the students grow not only as individuals, but as a group. Students who aspire to go into the medical profession enjoyed a 'Medical Careers Day' where they were involved in key aspects of working in the profession, finding out what it entails, how to get there and speaking to people who are already in the profession. Other students enjoyed a day of rock climbing and looking at challenges in relation to aspiring to new heights. Just last weekend, students were away on a residential where they took part in challenges and fun, working together, motivating each other and making memories which will last a life time. We would like to thank all staff that enabled the trip to happen, students for their exceptional behaviour and parents for supporting the trip. Well done Ms Dorrington, Head of Year 10.

## **Year 9 Belgium Trip**

In the early hours of Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July, the History Department and Miss Pavlou, proudly took 18 students to visit the battlefield sites of the First World War. Over 2 days the students visited different sites to see the scale of the war along with how the soldiers, doctors, nurses and the many others needed for the war are remembered today. On Friday evening, the students attended a ceremony that has taken place on a daily basis since the 1920s at the Menin Gate, to remember those from the British Commonwealth who have no grave around the town of Ypres. Whilst there, one member from each History class walked together to lay a wreath to represent the school paying their respects to all those fallen in the Great War. It was commented on how smart our students looked and how respectful the school had been. The group returned with some delicious Belgium chocolate to give to parents and friends. The trip was a great way to celebrate a very positive year for the entire year group within the History Department.

## **Year 7s and 8s Allotment Club**

Over the past few months, the front of the school has slowly changed with members from years 7 and 8 helping to restart the allotment area. Each week, students have come together to clear, plant and water the new plants. This is a new beginning for students, growing their own food. With team work, organisation and time, different crops have started to grow and so far we have seen the rhubarb growing strong and the mint plant expanding rapidly. Students have been generous in giving their time to ensure that the project has been a success.

## **Borough Athletics**

The sun was shining all day long to make the conditions for the 2018 Borough Athletics pretty difficult for all the competitors. However, some of our Bishops Athletes displayed outstanding individual performances.

Year 7 students came away with silver and bronze medals in the 200m and 4x100 metre relay and gold medals were won in the 100 metre and hurdles event.

We had strong relay performances throughout, with the year 9 boys bringing back bronze medals. Astounding performances were seen from the Year 10 boys in the senior relay who competed against Year 11 and Sixth Form and won a gold medal.

Year 10 performed extremely well with a gold medal being won in the 200 and 400 metres. One student took home three medals, including relay, a gold in the long jump and bronze in the 100 metres. The boys came third overall in the senior boys' competition.

Year 7 students were awarded a silver in 1500 metres, a bronze for the javelin. A year 10 student won a silver in the 1500 metres. A silver medal was awarded to one of our year 9 students for the triple jump.

Overall there were lots of 4th/5th finishes across the track and field events which meant that within the mixed school competition we came a worthy 6th with 209 points!

We would like to congratulate all of the students that took part. They were a credit to the school and their families.

A big thank you to all those involved in the organisation of the event.



### **Gaming Club**

This year the school has a new gaming club which has seen students from all year groups come along and work together to solve puzzles, battle monsters and develop their own imagination each week. It started with a few students, but has rapidly grown to students bringing others along on a weekly basis to help in their own missions and stories they wish to follow. Mr Ramadan and Mr Lister have thoroughly enjoyed seeing students across the year groups work together and follow each other when decisions are made.

### **Drama Department**

The Drama Department were not only witness to some amazing student performances this year, but also trips to Dr Faustus, Alice Underground, Woman in Black, Brief Encounter and Wicked. With the 6<sup>th</sup> formers bringing their performance of 'The Importance of Being Earnest' to the main stage in school. Our amazing Year 7 students, who performed at Ridswa 2018, brought home the prize for 'Best Script'. Our students truly reflect the key aspects of Drama; collaboration, understanding, imagination and the belief in anything is possible. The school looks forward to building on this in 2019, particularly with the help of RADA (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art) who came to the school to open our newly refurbished Drama room, which was funded by the Greig Trust. RADA, one of the most prestigious drama schools in the world, were able to see Sixth Formers performing their A level monologues and they were extremely impressed with the school, teachers and students.

I would like to thank all of the students, staff and parents who have helped and supported these wonderful opportunities. I wish you all an enjoyable summer. Take time to rest and recuperate. I look forward to welcoming our students back to school in September. Year 7 and 12 induction day takes place on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September at 8.30am. For all other students school recommences on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 8.30am.

Well done once again to the entire Bishop Stopford's family.

Warmest wishes.



**Mrs T Day**  
**Headteacher**

