

NEWSLETTER



March, 2026



Message from The Headteacher, Mrs Day



Dear families

As we approach the end of a very busy and successful spring term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the many achievements our school community has celebrated so far this year.

It has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm, determination and kindness shown by our pupils in all areas of school life. From their hard work in the classroom to their participation in sports, performances and enrichment activities, our children continue to make us extremely proud. Staff have also worked tirelessly to provide engaging lessons and opportunities that help every child grow both academically and personally.

This term we have seen excellent progress across the school. Many pupils have demonstrated resilience and a positive attitude towards learning, and it has been particularly pleasing to see how well they support one another and embody our school values each day.

As we move towards the Easter break, we are reminded that Easter is an important time in the Christian calendar. It is a season that celebrates hope, renewal and new beginnings. In school, pupils have been learning about the meaning of Easter and reflecting on themes of kindness, forgiveness and community.

I would like to thank all parents and carers for your continued support throughout the year. Working together helps us create the best possible environment for our children to thrive.

I hope you all enjoy a restful and joyful Easter break with your families. We look forward to welcoming the children back next term, refreshed and ready for the exciting opportunities ahead.

On behalf of all the staff and governors at Bishop Stopford's School, I wish you a happy and peaceful Easter.

Kindest regards

Mrs T Day, Headteacher

London Youth Games

Indoor Rowing

Our students delivered an outstanding performance at the London Youth Games Indoor Rowing competition, held at Latymer School. They emerged as overall winners in what proved to be one of the most fiercely contested events of the sporting calendar.

Competing against schools from across Enfield, our boys and girls from Years 7-10 demonstrated exceptional determination, teamwork, and athleticism. The atmosphere was electric as each year group battled through fast-paced individual races and high-energy relays, with every point contributing to the final standings.

The event was run by British Rowing who provided coaching to start with followed by competitive events. Our coach for the day was Olympic pathway lead Jamila Sinclair who is based at Lea Rowing Club in Hackney. Jamila was amazed at our students and encouraged them to come to the talent identification camps at the club.



London Youth Games Basketball



Our basketball squad has delivered a phenomenal achievement this term, being crowned Enfield Champions in the London Youth Games 3v3 Basketball competition. Their outstanding performances across the tournament earned them a 100% win rate, securing their place in the regional phase in East London. This is a remarkable milestone for the team and a testament to their discipline, teamwork, and competitive spirit.

The Year 10 trio were exceptional throughout the competition, demonstrating skill, composure, and relentless determination in every match. Their success was further strengthened by the expert coaching and leadership of Year 12 student whose guidance played a key role in the team's unbeaten run.

With their regional qualification secured, the team is now just one step away from reaching the prestigious national final, held on a specially designed outdoor court with stadium seating in Trafalgar Square. This iconic setting is reserved for the very best teams in the country, and our students are firmly in the running.

This achievement reflects the hard work, resilience, and Stopfordian ethos that our students bring to every challenge. Their commitment on the court mirrors the values we strive to build across the school—determination, respect, and pride in representing our community.

We look forward to supporting the team as they continue their journey toward national success.



Indoor Athletics Year 7 Boys Shine at Regional Finals



Our Year 7 boys team delivered an exceptional performance at the London Youth Games Indoor Athletics competition, earning their place in the regional round of this prestigious event. Representing Enfield against the 31 other London boroughs, the team competed with determination and pride at Redbridge Sports Centre.



Each athlete took part in a demanding programme of events, including a run, throw, jump, and relay, demonstrating impressive versatility and teamwork throughout the day.

One of our students showed his skills by producing an outstanding performance and won his event, showcasing remarkable speed and composure under pressure. The rest of the team also contributed strongly, with consistent efforts across all disciplines helping secure Enfield's competitive standing in the regional round.

Reaching this stage of the London Youth Games is a significant achievement, and our Year 7 boys represented the school with energy, resilience, and excellent sportsmanship. Their success reflects both their hard work and the support of the PE department in preparing them for high-level competition.



We are incredibly proud of the entire team and look forward to seeing their continued progress in future events

Tottenham Hotspur FC Partnership

Developing Skills, Focus and Opportunity



Our ongoing partnership with Tottenham Hotspur Football Club continues to make a powerful impact across the school, offering students a unique blend of high quality coaching, personal development, and unforgettable experiences.



Each week, Tottenham Hotspur coaches deliver additional in school training sessions, designed not only to develop football skills but also to provide targeted intervention to support focus, behaviour, and engagement. These sessions have quickly become a highlight for many students, helping them build confidence, discipline, and teamwork both on and off the pitch.

Opportunities Beyond the Classroom

The partnership has opened doors to a range of exceptional experiences, including:

- Exclusive tournaments where students compete against other partner schools
- Visits to the Tottenham Hotspur Training Centre, giving students a glimpse into elite level preparation
- Future trips to the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium for boys and girls who have shown strong progress in behaviour and schoolwork

These rewards have proven to be powerful motivators, encouraging students to strive for excellence in all areas of school life.



Raise Standards in Coaching and Academic Excellence

This term has been a significant and highly productive period for the PE Department, marked by a strong focus on raising standards both in sports coaching and academic achievement. With practical moderation taking place across BTEC Level 3, CTEC PE, and BTEC Level 2 courses, students have been working hard to demonstrate their skills under formal assessment conditions.

Throughout the moderation process, students showcased impressive levels of preparation, confidence, and leadership. Under the watchful eye of the exams camcorder, which records performances for official grading, our learners rose to the challenge and delivered work of a consistently high standard.

Standout Moments

Exceptional leadership displayed by students during practical assessments (Jovorn Year 12)

- Strong performances across all qualification levels (Julia Year 10)
- Professionalism and maturity shown throughout the recorded
- moderation process (Abdi D Year 12)

Our primary schools have benefitted from this with our students running the borough Boccia event for 12 schools, the forthcoming borough basketball tournament next month and the 'Biggest ever Girls Football event' all here at Bishop Stopford's School.



Borussia Dortmund Youth Academy, Success for Bishop's

This season has brought an exciting milestone for one of our own. Our year 10 student currentl, has been selected to join the prestigious Borussia Dortmund Youth Academy London Programme—a remarkable achievement that reflects both his dedication and his exceptional footballing ability.

Being part of this programme has given him the opportunity to train under world-class coaches, gaining insight into elite-level football and developing his game in a highly competitive environment.

What makes his journey particularly impressive is his versatility. Initially identified by the academy as a goalkeeper, he has since caught the attention of coaches for his outfield talent. They are now actively exploring his potential in multiple positions—an exciting testament to his adaptability, athleticism, and football intelligence.

At Bishop's, we have long recognised his diverse skill set. Throughout the season, he has contributed both in goal and outfield, bringing strength, creativity, and reliability wherever he plays. His flexibility has been a huge asset to our teams and has played a key role in our success across competitions.

We are incredibly proud of our year 10's achievement and look forward to seeing how he continues to grow, both within the Borussia Dortmund programme and here at Bishop's. His journey is an inspiration to our younger players and a reminder of what hard work and passion can achieve



EXPLORING THE SITES AND CULTURE OF LONDON



Students from year 10, 11 and 12, recently enjoyed an enriching trip to central London. Travelling on an open-top bus and a Thames river cruise, students experienced the city from unique perspectives while taking in its iconic landmarks.

Art students gathered valuable primary source material and found inspiration for their coursework through London's rich culture and architecture. Highlights of the day included the engaging audio commentary on the bus tour and the live narration during the river cruise.

Despite a foggy start, the weather soon cleared, ending the day in bright sunshine. The students conducted themselves impeccably and were a true credit to the school, making the trip both successful and thoroughly enjoyable for all involved.



Year 12 Trip to Gilwell Park

On Wednesday 18 March, forty-three Year 12 students visited Gilwell Park for a full day of outdoor learning, adventure, and team building. The group were greeted with beautiful sunshine, which set the perfect backdrop for exploring the woodland surroundings and taking part in a wide range of activities. From the moment they arrived, students showed real enthusiasm, making the most of the opportunity to step outside the classroom and work together in a new environment.

Throughout the day, students took part in climbing, fire-lighting, bushcraft, water-rocket challenges, and a number of team-building tasks designed to encourage cooperation and problem-solving. Many students pushed themselves to try new experiences, whether that meant reaching the top of the climbing wall, mastering fire-building techniques, or collaborating with classmates to complete practical challenges. Their engagement and positive attitude helped create an energetic and supportive atmosphere in which everyone could contribute.

As the day went on, students developed a range of transferable skills including communication, resilience, leadership, creativity, and teamwork. These skills are not only valuable for their studies but also play a key role in preparation for future employment and life beyond school.

A huge thank you to Mrs Miller, Mr Keating and Ms Solomon for their support throughout the trip, and to all of the students for their enthusiasm, cooperation, and brilliant behaviour.



Creative Arts Faculty

We are delighted to share that our students will be taking part in an exciting fully funded theatre programme delivered by Chickenshed Theatre Company.

This programme is designed for our Year 9 students who have chosen media and drama for GCSEs and combines live performance with interactive learning. Our students will participate in their first session this Friday, followed by additional workshops after the Easter break.

About the Performance: Ride or Die

Ride or Die is a powerful, gritty urban theatre piece inspired by Crime of the Century. Blending hip-hop and drill influences, the performance explores the life of Jay, a young person navigating the challenges of growing up in a difficult environment.

Students Will Experience:

- A live theatre performance
- An interactive workshop encouraging discussion and reflection
- Follow-up sessions to deepen understanding through creative participation
- This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to engage with real-world issues, develop their critical thinking, and experience high-quality inclusive theatre.



Year 9 Students Rehearse Super Heroes



We are delighted to share our Year 9 students are currently rehearsing for their upcoming performance of Super Heroes.

Over the past few weeks, students have been working hard during their lessons to develop their acting skills, explore characterisation, and bring the play to life. It has been fantastic to see their enthusiasm, creativity and commitment grow with each rehearsal:

- A Positive Learning Experience
- Students have particularly enjoyed:
 - Collaborating with their peers
 - Building confidence through performance
 - Exploring themes and characters in a creative way

The energy in rehearsals has been brilliant, and students are thoroughly enjoying the process. We look forward to sharing more about the performance as it develops.



Year 11 Trip to see Hamilton



We are proud to share that our Year 11 students recently attended a live performance of Hamilton, which is their set text for GCSE Drama.

Seeing the production live provided students with a valuable opportunity to deepen their understanding of the play, including its staging, choreography, music and performance style. Experiencing the energy and creativity of the production first-hand brought their classroom learning to life in a powerful and memorable way.

Enhancing GCSE Learning

The trip supported students in:

- Analysing live performance techniques
- Understanding character interpretation and staging choices
- Developing their ability to evaluate theatre in performance

This was an inspiring experience that will directly support students in their GCSE studies, helping them to approach their exams with greater confidence and insight.



Students Attend 'Power 2 Make A Change'

We were delighted that our students recently attended Power 2 Make A Change, a powerful live hip-hop theatre production, thanks to the generosity of Nexus who provided 100 free tickets for our school.

Created in collaboration with Platinum Performing Arts and Boy Blue, the production builds on a successful film project and explores the importance of making positive choices. It highlights how decisions can shape young people's futures and open pathways to success.



A meaningful experience for students

The performance used hip-hop theatre to engage students with themes of:

- Choice and consequence
- Resilience
- Empowerment

Students also had the opportunity to take part in a post-show Q&A with cast members, allowing them to reflect on the performance and hear directly from positive role models working within the arts.

This was an inspiring and thought-provoking experience, helping students to see how creativity can be used as a powerful tool for self-expression and social change.



Celebrating International Women's Day



To mark International Women's Day, we celebrated the achievements of women in sport – particularly in areas where they have historically faced barriers to participation and recognition.



Throughout the week, each lesson began with a starter slide highlighting a different woman in sport, helping to raise awareness of the challenges they have overcome and the impact they have made.

Inspiring Students Through Representation

Students explored:

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- The barriers women have faced in traditionally male-dominated sports
- Stories of resilience, determination and success
- The importance of representation and equality in sport and wider society

These discussions encouraged students to reflect on progress made, while also recognising the work still needed to ensure equal opportunities for all.

Easter Egg Hunt



To mark the end of term, we are excited to be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on the last day of school!

This fun-filled event will give students the opportunity to celebrate the end of a busy term with their peers, enjoying a sense of community and friendly competition.

A Well-Deserved Treat

The Easter Egg Hunt is a great way to celebrate students' hard work this term.

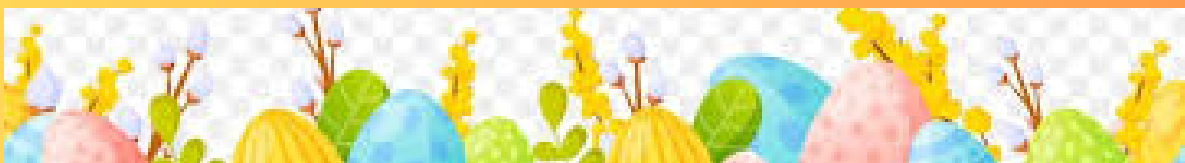
It involves hiding decorated eggs—often chocolate or plastic eggs filled with treats—around a space like a playground, garden, or school. Children then search for the hidden eggs, usually collecting them in baskets.

The activity is all about:

- Fun and excitement as children explore and discover hidden eggs
- Celebration of the Easter season
- Togetherness, as friends and classmates take part at the same time

We look forward to seeing the students enjoying the festivities and creating happy memories with their friends and look forward to ending the term on a high and wish all our students and families a happy and restful Easter break!

A big thank you to Ms Rogers who ordered in all the Easter Eggs.



Year 7 & 8 Steel Pan Bands

We are proud to share that we now have two steel pan bands, made up of talented students from Year 7 and Year 8.

Students have been developing their musical skills through regular practice, learning how to play as part of an ensemble while building confidence and rhythm.

It has been fantastic to see their enthusiasm and commitment, and we look forward to future performances showcasing their progress.



History of The Steel Pan

Transition to Metal (Early 20th century)

By the 1930s, bamboo was replaced by metal containers, such as biscuit tins, paint cans, and oil drums, because they were louder and more durable.

Musicians in urban areas like Laventille and Port of Spain began discovering that different areas of the metal drums produced different pitches.

Birth of the Steel Pan (1940s–1950s)

Innovators such as Ellie Mannette, Winston “Spree” Simon, Anthony Williams, and others shaped and tuned oil drums into instruments that could play melodies and harmonies.

By the late 1940s, full steel bands had formed, each instrument covering a musical range—from tenors (high) to basses (low).

The steel pan became central to Carnival celebrations, replacing the Tamboo Bamboo bands.

Innovation and Global Spread (1960s–present)

In the 1960s, Trinidad and Tobago declared the steel pan as its national instrument.

The design evolved with better tuning techniques, chromatic scales, and international performances.

Today, steel bands and pan orchestras exist worldwide—in the Caribbean, the United States, the UK, Japan, and beyond—symbolizing resilience, ingenuity, and Caribbean cultural pride.



WISHING YOU ALL A VERY
HAPPY EASTER!
FROM ALL THE STAFF AND
STUDENTS AT BISHOP
STOPFORD'S SCHOOL

