




## Diversity Bulletin


March 2024

1. Women's International Day
2. Culture Day
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4. We are in Lent
5. Last Month at Bishop's - Chinese New Year - Traditions and Facts  
Bishop's new diversity logo
6. Last Day of School - Easter Egg Hunt

Item:	Notes:
1.	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Women's International Day, Friday 8th March</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">The campaign theme for International Women's Day 2024 is <i>Inspire Inclusion</i>. For more information please click on: <a href="#">Inspire Inclusion</a> (Digital version)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>How are we going to celebrate Women's International Day At Bishop's?</i></p> <p>Friday Form Time - Heads of years have been emailed a PPT for form tutors to share with their form during Friday's form time.</p> <p>Lessons - Heads of departments have been emailed slides of individual women of excellence to distribute amongst members of staff. Members of staff are requested to choose a woman of excellence from the PPT and have it displayed on their boards as students enter the classroom (before the starter task).</p> <p>The PPT will also be on the TV screen in the foyer for students to rewatch during break and lunchtime</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
2.	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Culture Day 21st May 2024</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Each department will represent a country:</p>



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	<p style="text-align: center;"> <b>English - Nigeria</b>  <b>Maths - Jamaica</b>  <b>Music - Ireland</b>  <b>Science - Ghana</b>  <b>Media - Korea</b>  <b>History - England</b>  <b>RE - The Philippines</b>  <b>French - France</b>  <b>Art - Japan</b>  <b>EAL - Olympic Refugee Alliance</b>  <b>Geography - All countries represented in other departments</b> </p> <p>Some Heads of Departments have uploaded their lesson plans for the day (one for KS3 and one for KS4 and KS5). If you haven't chosen a country for your department, please do this by Friday 8th March!</p> <p>If you haven't already, please upload your lesson plans by Monday the 6th May. Please email Mrs Opara if you are unsure about anything.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>What to expect on the day:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lessons will be focused on the department's chosen country.</li> <li>• Students will be allowed to wear a giant flag of their choosing as a cape over their uniforms.</li> <li>• Music from around the world will be played to welcome staff and students in the morning.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steel Drums will be played at the end of the day.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The canteen will create a menu for the week from around the world.</li> </ul> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
3.	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>We are approaching Ramadan</b></p> <p>In 2024, <b>Ramadan begins on Sunday, March 10 and ends on Tuesday, April 9</b>. Ramadan is a floating month that shifts by approximately 10 days each year. For example, in 2025, it will begin 10 days earlier than 2024, on February 28 and will continue to start 10 days earlier each subsequent year. That is because the Islamic calendar is based on the lunar calendar, which is around 10 days shorter than the solar year. That means Ramadan is experienced in all 4 seasons over the course of approximately 40 years.</p> <p>Its official start is subject to the sighting of the new moon, either by spotting the new moon with the naked eye or by astronomical calculations.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">During Ramadan, Muslims fast every day from dawn to sunset. Everyone is expected to participate, although there are some exceptions for those who are ill, pregnant, nursing or travelling, as well as for young children and the elderly.</p>



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In the Islamic faith, the fast teaches discipline, sacrifice, mindfulness, reflection and empathy for those who are less fortunate. If unable to fast, Muslims can give to charity or fast outside of Ramadan.

Ramadan, in its entirety, is a special time in Islam, but the last 10 nights hold greater significance as they have the Night of Power amongst them, which is known as Laylat- al-Qadr. This special night is believed to be when Muhammad first received the Holy Qur'an

In the evening on April 9, and for the next three days, Muslims celebrate Eid ul-Fitr, or the "Festival of Breaking the Fast." Eid ul-Fitr marks the end of Ramadan and is the second major Islamic holiday. It's celebrated through communal prayer, gifts and a feast.



4.

### We are in Lent

The season of Lent lasts for forty days, excluding Sundays, and is a special time for Christians to reflect and get ready for the joyous celebrations of Easter. During Lent, people in our school community may choose to do things like fasting, eating smaller meals, or giving up treats, inspired by the example of Jesus, who fasted for forty days in the wilderness.

In addition to personal practices, many in our community also engage in acts of kindness, donate to charity, spend time studying the Bible, and gather with friends to talk about Jesus' life. These activities help us prepare for the significant events of Holy Week and Easter.

Ash Wednesday is the starting point of Lent, where we participate in a special service. During this service, ashes made from blessed palm crosses are used to make a small cross on our foreheads. This tradition goes back to the Middle Ages. Ash Wednesday sets the tone for Lent with thoughtful readings, heartfelt hymns, and a focus on saying sorry for mistakes and making positive changes.

Overall, Lent is a meaningful and inclusive time for our school community to come together, reflect on our faith, and prepare for the uplifting moments of Easter.



**Bible verses to read during Lent**



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1. **Isaiah 53:5** - "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds, we are healed."
  2. **Matthew 4:1-11** - The Temptation of Jesus in the wilderness.
  3. **Matthew 6:16-18** - Jesus' teaching on fasting.
  4. **Matthew 9:14-15** - Jesus' explanation of fasting disciples.
  5. **Psalm 51:10** - "Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me."
  6. **Joel 2:12-13** - "Even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity."
  7. **2 Corinthians 5:17** - "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"
  8. **Romans 12:1-2** - "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."
  9. **John 3:16-17** - "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."
  10. **Luke 22:39-46** - Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane before his crucifixion.
- These verses offer guidance, reflection, and inspiration for the Lenten season.

5.

### Last Month at Bishop's

### Chinese New Year - Year of the Dragon



This year Bishop's canteen joined in with the celebrations:

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Chinese New Year is an annual 15-day festival in China and Chinese communities around the world that begins with the new moon that occurs sometime between **January 21 and February 20** according to Western calendars. Festivities last until the following full moon.

### ***The origin and traditions of the Lunar New Year:***

The Lunar New Year is one of the most important holidays in many Asian countries and the Asian diaspora. The holiday is sometimes called the **Lunar New Year** because the dates of celebration follow the phases of the moon.

Since the mid-1990s people in China have been given seven consecutive days off work during the Chinese New Year. This week of relaxation has been designated Spring Festival, a term that is sometimes used to refer to the Chinese New Year in general.

The origins of the Chinese New Year are steeped in legend. One legend is that thousands of years ago a monster named Nian ("Year") would attack villagers at the beginning of each new year. The monster was afraid of loud noises, bright lights, and the colour red, so those things were used to chase the beast away. Celebrations to usher out the old year and bring forth the luck and prosperity of the new one, therefore, often include firecrackers, fireworks, and red clothes and decorations. Young people are given money in colourful red envelopes. In addition, Chinese New Year is a time to feast and to visit family members. Many traditions of the season honour relatives who have died.

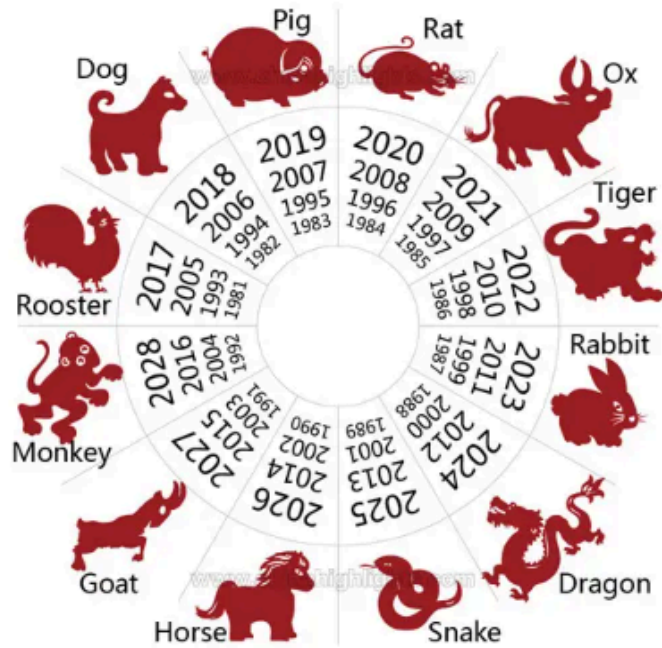
Among other Chinese New Year traditions is the thorough cleaning of your home to rid the resident of any lingering bad luck. Some people prepare and enjoy special foods on certain days during the celebrations. The last event held during the Chinese New Year is called the Lantern Festival, during which people hang glowing lanterns in temples or carry them during a nighttime parade. Since the dragon is a Chinese symbol of good fortune, a dragon dance highlights festival celebrations in many areas. This procession involves a long, colourful dragon being carried through the streets by numerous dancers.

### **History of the 12 chinese animals of the zodiac:**

[Please click](#)

To find out which animal represents your personality, look for the year you were born. If you were born from 1st January to the 29th January, look for the year before you were born. For example if you were born on the 1st January 2003, you are a horse, not a goat!

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### Bishop's New Diversity Logo

Thank you to Mr Keating for designing a number of logos for the diversity ambassadors to choose from. Last month it was put to the vote and we have decided on this wonderful design:



6.

### Last Day of School 28th March

In anticipation of Easter Sunday (31st March), there will be a number of mini Easter egg packets hidden around the school on the last day of term! Will you be able to find them? Happy hunting!



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