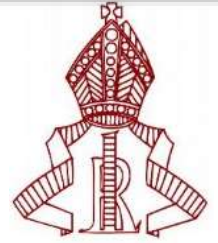


# Bishop Luffa School

2023-2024 Issue 2

December 2023



Dear friends of Bishop Luffa School,

We have had lots of reminders of the Christmas story this term – mostly because staff keep having babies! We've welcomed Tadhg Blewitt and Florence Boxall to the school family just in the last week.

We've also had light after a period of darkness. We were the victims of a cyber-attack in the Spring. It was a very difficult time, and sometimes you wonder why you're being tested in this way: no good seems to come of it. This week we had some good news. Two of our students, who were in Year 12 at the time, helped the police investigate the attack and advised us in school about what was happening and how to deal with it. Their dedication and skill led to them being nominated for an award by the Police Officer handling the case. When the Awards Committee saw what they had done, they upgraded the award. That means that this week, Max Holben and Theo Lane were awarded the Chief Constable's Commendation, which is the highest award that the Police give to civilians. What an incredible achievement – we are so proud of them both.

*A Christmas prayer:*

Lord Jesus, light of the world,  
Be born in our hearts at Christmas,  
Be King of our lives today.  
Amen.

Have a great holiday!

Austen Hindman.  
Head Teacher.



*Max Holben (13An) and Theo Lane (13Ki) receive the Chief Constable's Commendation from the Chief Constable and High Sheriff of East Sussex.*

## Lest We Forget

**A**fter unpredictable cloudbursts, the weather just about held, and we were able to mark the Armistice on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. The whole School assembled on the field just before 11am for a traditional service of commemoration. We heard a mixture of readings and prayers from the Head and others, including Mr Bonney, our School Captains, Mrs Bradberry and members of our clergy team. As well as this, Freddie Lynas (12Otter), using a bugle from World War One, superbly played the Last Post and Reveille either side of a two-minute silence. Wreaths were laid on behalf of the School, and by a member of the armed forces, who we were fortunate enough to have in attendance at our service. The weather held, but it rained during, and only during, the two-minute silence, which added to the poignancy of that moment of solemn reflection. The service ended with the blowing of whistles dating from the Great War. Behaviour was very good, and students showed that they appreciated the importance of this moment, when we pause and consider those people who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect our freedoms.



My thanks must go to staff and students for their support, and my thanks also go to those behind the scenes who helped the event run so smoothly.

**Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities**

## Remembrance Poppies

**A**s part of our Remembrance Day preparations my classes in Year 10 and 11 designed and made their own personalised poppies. The students were able to engrave family members' names onto their poppies, along with pictures to help make them extra special.

The learning opportunities came from using 2D Design software, laser cutting the pieces, learning about



thermo and thermosetting plastics and engraving. The students thoroughly enjoyed making them and they were able to show off their designs, which they proudly wore at the school service on Friday 10th November.

**Helen Ockwell, Teacher of Design & Technology**

## **Bishop Luffa students remember the Holocaust**

**R**ecently two of our Year 13 History students, Harry Appleby and Tom Miller (both 13Ridgeway) had the chance to visit Auschwitz Extermination Camp in Poland. The Holocaust Educational Trust's 'Lessons from Auschwitz Programme' runs trips to this infamous site to help ensure that the memory of the horrific events that took place there are not forgotten. Below are their thoughts on the visit:

'I went to Auschwitz with the Lessons from Auschwitz project, and from this experience I saw what the camps were actually like as opposed to seeing them through a photo. The experience was eye-opening. It was a very important place to visit to realise what conditions the prisoners were put under and what they saw every day, which was incredibly moving. The size of the camp is something that no one can expect, and with the fact that these camps were built for one purpose, the Lessons from Auschwitz project is an experience that will stick with me for the rest of my life'. (Harry)

'I recently visited Auschwitz Birkenau as part of a project through the Holocaust Educational Trust. The day at the death camps was a very emotional and interesting experience. I was able to have a tour of both camps and deepen my knowledge of the topic whilst learning about some of the individual stories of the people that were killed at the camps. I'm going to use the lessons I learnt on this trip to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day in school on the 27th January and highlight the importance of learning about this tragic and horrific event and what it can teach us about the future'. (Tom)



As Tom mentions in his account, we will mark Holocaust Memorial Day as a School in January. Tom and Harry will draw on their experiences (as well as the preparatory and follow-up work that the Trust provides) to help lead the School's events.

**Justin Barnett, Head of Humanities**

## **Our chickens have arrived!**

**A**fter what has felt like a very long period of preparation and excitement, we finally welcomed our flock of Bishop Luffa chickens to the school at the start of November, with some members of the Chicken Club braving a very wet day to greet the hens. They are settling in well and students have already been getting hands on with the hens, holding them, mucking them out, collecting eggs and looking

after their general welfare. The joy that the hens are bringing to the students (and staff!) is already evident and there has been much chicken-related talk throughout the school.

We would like to thank the PFA for their generous funding which has enabled us to give the project wings, to individuals who have responded to appeals for equipment, and to Mr Fowles who has been pivotal in building and preparing the run in the school holidays.



The weather has unfortunately made it exceedingly muddy around the chicken run which is making accessing it safely harder than anticipated. If you have any spare paving slabs, bricks or wood chip which you are willing to donate to the school, we would be very grateful. We can also make use of sawdust/wood shavings for the floor of the run. Please email Mrs Fowles ([fowlesl@bishopluffa.org.uk](mailto:fowlesl@bishopluffa.org.uk)) if you have anything suitable.

## Romola Garai visits Bishop Luffa School

**A**ctor, director and International Rescue Committee ambassador Romola Garai has said it's 'more important than ever' to make refugees feel welcome after a visit to Bishop Luffa School. The star of BBC drama *Vigil* and upcoming film *One Life*, recently surprised students who have been supported by the IRC's Healing Classrooms programme. During the visit, Romola - whose grandfather was a refugee from Hungary - learned how the programme's training and resources have helped the teachers to create a nurturing environment where refugee and asylum-seeking pupils can thrive.



As well as taking a tour of the classrooms, Romola also spoke to Head Teacher Austen Hindman and EAL (English as an Additional Language) Coordinator Susie Cooke about some initiatives at the school. These include an international club where different cultures are celebrated, as well as a buddy system for refugee children and a cooking club.

"The visit shone a light on the profound impact that trauma-informed training and inclusivity initiatives can have," Romola said, adding: "It highlighted that when given the right support, refugee students are able to truly enrich the wider school community."



Staff at Bishop Luffa initially signed up to take part in the Healing Classrooms programme after 21 children from Ukraine joined when war broke out in their home country last year. The school wanted to ensure staff were able to support the newly arrived children and their families as they integrated into life in the UK. Since then, 28 more students who are refugees have been enrolled at the school, some of whom Romola was able to speak with. Romola said: "I met some fantastic students who have come from Ukraine and were able to tell me incredible moving experiences," she said.



"All the young people I spoke to shared the effect of being with staff members who were able to listen to them, take time with them and understand how difficult it has been for them to integrate into a completely different school system in a different language.

"I think they feel very passionately at the support they have had from teachers in the school and it was a really incredible privilege for me to see that."



Speaking of Healing Classrooms, Head Teacher Austen said his staff initially had 'no idea' how to support the students who had moved to the UK. Austen added: "I have no idea what I would do if I had to leave my home today, travel hundreds of miles and then start a new life in a country where I don't speak the language.

"That has happened to the 38 children who currently attend our school. We had no idea how to support them, but fortunately we were put in touch with the IRC and were able to take part in training as part of the Healing Classrooms project. I would urge anyone who is working with children who have entered the country as refugees to join the project, as it will enable you to move beyond good intentions and begin to make a difference."

Romola is also starring in upcoming film *One Life* which tells the story of Nicholas Winton who rescued 669 children from Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia at the brink of World War II, in cinemas across the UK this January.

"I am constantly inspired by the resilience of young refugees," Romola said. "*One Life* tells the story of children brought to safety in the UK, having been rescued from the imminent Nazi invasion of Prague prior to the Second World War. In today's context, the theme of the film and making refugees feel welcome in the UK is more important than ever, and the IRC's Healing Classrooms programme aims to do just that."

## What is the International Rescue Committee?

The International Rescue Committee responds to the world's worst humanitarian crises, including the conflict in Ukraine and the crisis in Afghanistan. We help to restore health, safety, education, economic wellbeing and power to people devastated by conflict and disaster. And we are proud to fight for a world where women and girls have an equal chance to succeed.

[Read more about the International Rescue Committee in the UK](#)

*Photo credit: Scott Ramsey for the International Rescue Committee*

## Computer Science in Action

**I**t was an exciting day at Computer Science in Action. Nine A'level Computer Science students immersed themselves in a tech-packed itinerary:

- "Navigating UX Design" by Katrina Dargel. From basics to growth mindset, Katrina explored UX evolution and its role in innovation. Lead UX Researcher with experience at Ford and Airbus.
- "Smart Cities" by Professor Matthew Leeke, Matthew delved into ML algorithms and smart devices solving societal problems. Professor at the University of Birmingham.
- "The Quantum Computing Race" by Dr Nic Harrigan, Nic unlocked the mysteries of quantum mechanics and computing, explaining their transformative power. From PsiQuantum.
- Lunch break was a welcome pause and then there was an exam session with Professor Matthew Leeke.
- "Behind the Scenes of App Development" by Lyndsey Scott Lyndsey spilled secrets on app development, making them speedy, safe, and inclusive. Software engineer and coding educator.



We have all gained an invaluable insight into the future of computer science!

**Helen Williams, Team Leader of Computer Science**

## News from Design Technology

**D**uring Design and Technology lessons over the last term Years 7, 8 and 9 students have been combining practical and technological skills with creative thinking, to design and making products and systems that meet human needs. They have learnt to use current technologies and consider the impact of future technological developments. All students are encouraged to think creatively and intervene to improve the quality of life, solving problems as individuals and as members of a team.

**Year 7 Textiles** have been making ECO Creatures in their Textiles lessons this term. **Year 7 Product Design** students have been introduced to basic workshop H&S, taught how to use hand tools correctly, learning the theory of different material properties of Wood and Polymers, and introduced to Computer Aided Design (CAD) and Computer Aided Manufacture (CAM).



A sample of **Year 8 textiles** students are trailing a project using E-Textiles within their cushion covers by adding a nightlight.

**Year 8** have been busy in **Product Design** making Handy Grabs, using their knowledge of mechanisms, how to use hand tools and their designing skills.

**Year 9 Textiles** are midway through their upcycling project and have been enthusiastically designing and researching how to upcycle their items of clothing based on designers from the pop art movement. **Year 9 Product Design** students have been growing their Design Development skill this half term ready to make and finish a high standard, well-made Angle Poise Lamp in the new year.

**Year 12 Product Design** students have been working like a small architectural & design company, to design a new unique themed dog kennel that would blend into a busy household or work area in a practical way.



More details about these projects can be found on the school website <https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/news/news-from-the-design-technology-department/>





Exciting times ahead for **Greenpower** in 2024. We are now the proud owners of an IET Formula Goblin Car, which brings with it the opportunity for students to become Young Design and Technology Leaders, assisting me to run a club for the Primary Schools in the Bishop Luffa Partnership. More details of how to apply to become a Young Design and Technology Leader will follow in the Spring Term.



### **Update on the 60th Anniversary Dress**

Fabric has been cut ready for students to draw around their hand and will be given to form tutors in the new year along with instructions. There will be fabric squares available for staff that do not have a form group, more details of where to collect from will follow.

## **November 2023**

**O**ver the month of November Mr Hindman, Mr Jackson, Mr Clarke, Mr Hill, Mr Luff and Mr Blewitt made the 'brave' decision to engage in the Movember movement. They grew different shaped moustaches as a symbol of better men's health. Movember is the leading charity changing the face of men's health, suicide prevention, prostate cancer and testicular cancer. With the charity funding more than 1,250 men's health projects around the world, challenging the status quo, shaking up men's health research and transforming the way health services reach and support men. To help raise money for this charity, students were able to purchase raffle tickets to win the opportunity to shave off a staff member's moustache.

The winners were Ava McGarry-Knightly (8Ridgeway), Bethan Few (12Wilson), Daniel Dickeson (7Otter), Jasim Rahman (12Burrows), Alexander Baynam (9Ridgeway) and Tilly Morgan (11Otter). Thank you to everyone who donated.



**Tom Blewitt**  
**Teacher of PE**



## Sell-Out Sixth Form Fashion Show raises over £12K for charity

A round of applause is thoroughly deserved for everyone involved in the Sixth Form Fashion show this year, whether they were helping behind the scenes, an enthusiastic performer, or the friends and families who came to watch and generously donated money. A record-breaking £12.2K will now be on its way to helping the Sixth Form's three nominated charities: The Sanctuary in Chichester, The Sussex Snowdrop Trust, and Grassroots Tanzania. This year the Fashion Show Committee - Molly Howick (13Andrewes), Reuben King (13Wilson) and Max Sydenham (13Andrewes) - who worked so hard on organising the event, switched up the long-awaited occasion by introducing a competitive aspect, making the dance group who raised the most money per person the winner. Yet the sense of community between students that Fashion Show each year achieves did not disappear, as proven by the fact that the day after the final night there were multiple students with sore throats who had perhaps screamed a little too loud when cheering on their friends!

Max Sydenham exclaimed, "It was great to see all the Sixth Form work together to put on such an amazing show. We still can't quite believe how much money we've managed to raise!"



Ms Lawlor, Head of the Arts Faculty and leader of Wednesday night's highly anticipated teachers' dance, enthused, "It was the seventh Fashion Show I have been a part of since I joined the school and it was definitely the best I have witnessed. From the organisation, to the music choices, to the costumes - everything was so brilliant. As a Dance teacher I was also really impressed by the choreography and the skills that were demonstrated."

Mr Hindman added, "What a Fashion Show! The organisation was incredible – the Sixth Form Committee did a wonderful job. They have absolutely smashed all fund-raising records – I'm not sure how they have managed to get over £12,000 from the school community in the middle of a cost-of-living squeeze and in the run-up to Christmas. Unbelievable!"



More photos from the event can be found on the school website <https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/sixth-form/student-leadership/photo-gallery/sixth-form-fashion-show-2/>

Cerys Holmes (13 Otter)

## International Week

This term we got together to celebrate our first International Week at Bishop Luffa. Our wonderful International Team ran assemblies every day to give everyone the opportunity to get to know each other better. Together we learnt that at Bishop Luffa we are very lucky to have students and teachers from 33 different countries. That week also gave us the opportunity to learn more about these places.

Our students and teachers wrote an "I love from" poem to tell us more about their countries of origin. The poem told us where our students are from without mentioning the name of the country. As clues the first two lines of the poem were about food from their country, then they talked about their childhood memories and sayings and finally they mentioned famous people, family and friends. During lunch time, our students ran an International raffle and the lucky winners received wonderful prizes donated to our school by our partners in South Korea and a variety of businesses. International week has finished, but our International Team still meets regularly to develop more projects that bring us all together. If you would like to be part of the team, just come and join us. We are all international and we are all from Bishop Luffa school.

**Elizabeth López Gamero, Team Leader of Spanish & International School Coordinator**



## Bishop Luffa Careers Fair 2023

All students from Years 7-13 were given the opportunity to visit our Bishop Luffa Careers Fair. Approximately 50 exhibitors offered their time and experience to students. Students completed the Careers Fair Bingo for the chance to win a prize and met and talked to a wide range of employers and education/training providers including Aldingbourne Trust, Emsworth Dental Surgery, Goodwood, Rolls Royce, HNW Architects, PRM Studio, Chichester College, Exeter University, Surrey University and many more. Cobnor Activities Centre joined us this year, bringing along a boat and keeping students engaged with their fun activities. Students asked the exhibitors lots of interesting questions about

academic and vocational subjects, work experience opportunities, possibilities to work/study abroad, interview tips and what advice they would give a young person starting out in their career. There was a great atmosphere at the event and exhibitors commented on how polite, chatty and engaged the students were.



More photos from the event can be found on the school website <https://www.bishopluffa.org.uk/student-leadership/photo-gallery/careers-fair-2023/>

We would like to say a huge thank you to all exhibitors who attended. We are always happy to hear from organisations who can offer employer experiences to students, such as work experience, employer talks, attendance at the careers fair – if any organisation would like to be involved in future careers events, please contact Mrs Hopp on [hoppa@bishopluffa.org.uk](mailto:hoppa@bishopluffa.org.uk)

## Year 12 Trip to GTR

**Y**ear 12 Design and Technology students had the opportunity to visit the Global Technologies Racing team at their headquarters. GTR has decades of experience and success within high level motorsport. Their exceptional work has resulted in supplying to a broad range of industries, including Aerospace and Defence, which has led to them being at the forefront within their industry of composite materials. GTR produce exceptionally high-quality products that clients have come to expect. From Formula One chassis to wishbone covers, or ballistic resistant vehicles to aircraft lift rafts. Structural or non-structural parts - no matter how small or large the production, GTR work or design and develop to the exact needs of their clients.





Year 12 Design & Technology students study the theory of composite materials, and the trip to GTR allowed this theory to be contextualised within the real world. Students undertook a tour of the factory seeing first-hand the process of a flat sheet of carbon fibre transformed into a Formula One car part. After the tour students worked hand in hand with current 2nd year GTR apprentices in a design workshop to show the lamination processes in a practical way. Our Design students engaged fully and learnt industry skills and techniques which they could take away and apply to an exam question with confidence. Throughout the visit staff at GTR were very impressed with our students' enthusiasm and skills.



**James Bonney, Head of Faculty Design & Technology**

## Sporting News

**O**ur students have had some amazing sporting achievements this half term:

Congratulations to Elsie Huxtable (7Ridgeway) who completed in Sussex County Championships in October and did extremely well. She completed in eight races and came away with six medals. 1st Gold - 50 Fly, 1st Gold - 100 Individual Medley, 2nd Silver - 50 Free, 2nd Silver - 200 Free, 3rd Bronze - 50 Breast, 3rd Bronze - 100 Free, 4th - 50 Back and 5th - 100 Breast. Elsie is now the Sussex Champion in her age group for 50m Butterfly and 100m Individual Medley.



Jonty Harwood-Webb (11Burrows) continues to excel in boxing. At the end of October Jonty boxed in the semi-finals of the National Development Championships, which is quite an achievement in his first six months as an amateur boxer. In that time he has become Sussex Champion, Southern Counties Champion and gained a bronze medal at the National Development Championships.

Congratulations to Alex Sydenham (11Andrewes) and Max Sydenham (13Andrewes) who have been selected for the British Sailing team in the 29er class. This team recognises their potential to succeed at the highest level in Youth and Olympic sailing and will represent Great Britain at the European and World Championships next summer.

## Opera at Glyndebourne Opera House

**O**n Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November, A'Level and GCSE Music students went to Glyndebourne Opera House to watch 'Don Giovanni' by Mozart. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to experience a full scale opera with an orchestra. All students enjoyed the production and were impressed with the lavish set and incredible singing.

**Jane Bowen-Melfi, Head of Music**



## St Joseph's visit for creative fun

**W**e recently had students from Years 3, 4 and 5 at St Joseph's primary school visit us for an art workshop. They experimented with creating artworks in response to pieces of music focusing on colour, shape and line and inspired by Kandinsky. They then worked together to create a kinetic sculpture which will be displayed in their school hall. The students worked very hard and were incredibly creative. Well done!

**Laurelly Thorpe, Team Leader - Art**

## CyberFirst Girls Competition

**Y**ear 8 girls were invited to King Edward VI School in Southampton for the launch of the 2023/24 CyberFirst Girls Competition, run by GCHQ's National Cyber Security Centre. The girls had a great day and made a fantastic start on the competition, over the next week they worked in their teams using a range of cyber skills to compete in code cracking, decrypting messages and solving puzzles in a contest which seeks to inspire young women to pursue careers in cyber.



The competition, saw the most teams and schools take part since its inception seven years ago, with 3608 teams from over 750 schools participating. The competition aims to encourage girls aged 12-13 to consider pursuing an interest in technology and introduce them the idea of a career in cyber.

**Helen Williams, Team Leader of  
Computer Science**

## Bishop Luffa takes part in West Sussex Guitar Festival

Congratulations to Blanka Maruszak (9Ridgeway), Jennifer Ruffle (10Story), Ksusha Demchenko (10Otter), Devon O'Donnell (12Burrows) and Anna Swain (9King) who won the Junior Ensemble class at the West Sussex Guitar Festival, having been awarded 'very good' from the adjudicator. Jennifer Ruffle also won the age 15 and under solo class. All performers are students of Linda Kelsall-Barnett who teaches guitar at Bishop Luffa School.



The picture is of the Junior Ensemble group at the West Sussex Guitar Festival - pictured with Gary Ryan, adjudicator.

**Jane Bowen-Melfi,  
Head of Music**

## Year 10 Art Trip to the National Galleries

Year 10 art students recently went on a fantastic art trip to The National Portrait Gallery and National Gallery in London. Currently in the middle of their 'Identity' project, the David Hockney drawings exhibition offered them the opportunity to see a contemporary master at his best. Students were inspired by the work of many other artists in the galleries and enjoyed having the time to explore. They will feed their experiences into their coursework in the coming months.

**Laurelly Thorpe, Team Leader - Art**



## Students win 'Best Physical Innovation Award' at TeenTech Festival 2023

Our amazing Design and Technology Award winning Ambassadors took part in a terrific TeenTech Festival at the Amex Stadium in Brighton. It was highly interactive and designed to inspire young teenagers about the contemporary industries shaping their future. The students were given the opportunity to try their hand at immersive challenges and experiments, to handle cutting edge technology and, most importantly, to spend time with engineers, technologists and scientists from a wide range of companies influencing their 21st-century lives.





This fantastic event was run by Maggie Philbin, who some of you may remember from the Tomorrow's World TV show in the 1980's. She was so inspiring, telling us about new design and technology, and how our students are the designers of the future.



The students were designing and innovating all day, trying out new technology and taking part in competitions. Our team worked hard, in roles aligned with a start-up company, to become the innovators of tomorrow in an hour-long workshop and challenge! They became the designers, developers and marketing experts, using sensors, data and cutting-edge technology, to tackle real-world problems!

WE WON! the 'Best Physical Innovation Award', for a biometric bike locking system pitch, headed up by Bella Wright (9Burrows).

The other students who took part in the festival were Sophie Clunes (8King), Louisa Smith (8Otter), Ben Pitkin (8Burrows), Luke Pendry (8Ridgeway), Benjy Gardner (9Otter), Emmy Lamb (9Wilson), Hannah Beech (9Story), Dom Vida (8Ridgeway) and Brandon Paice (8Andrewes).

All of our students are keen to enter the The TeenTech Awards for students aged 11 to 16 (Years 7 to 11). They will work individually or in a team to develop their ideas from our workshops at TeenTech further and showcase them. The Ambassadors at TeenTech have strongly encouraged our students to go forward to the competition as they were extremely impressed with our students' creativity, innovative thinking and conduct throughout the day.



**Amanda Bonney, Teacher of Design & Technology**

## **African Music Workshop**

**O**n Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December Bishop Luffa students were treated to a wonderful African music workshop courtesy of a Congolese group called *Kasai Masai*. This was organised and part funded by a local community interest company called *WemsFest Live Music*. It was a great session.

**Jane Bowen-Melfi, Head of Music**



## Alex Wilburn awarded Arkwright Scholarship

The Arkwright Engineering Scholarship is an engineering award given to engineering students within the United Kingdom and Channel Islands. The scholarships are awarded through rigorous selection to the highest-calibre students from all educational backgrounds to support them through their A Levels. Scholarships consist of an annual financial award to the Scholar and to their school, and a range of enrichment activities that increase a Scholar's understanding of their chosen field of engineering, such as mentoring and industry visits.

To be awarded an Arkwright Engineering Scholarship, student applicants must go through a three-stage selection process. The first stage is an extended online application form, where students have to describe a technical project they have done and explain how engineering is an interest in their lives. This online application must include a reference from a relevant teacher at the applicant's school. Stage two is a two-hour exam, where applicants must set out the practical design and manufacturing methods of their proposed solutions to two stated engineering problems. The final stage is an interview hosted at a university renowned for engineering.



I am pleased to announce that Alex Wilburn (12Otter) has been successful in being awarded an Arkwright Scholarship after successfully passing through the three-stage selection process. Alex has been a key driver behind our school's successful GreenPower team using his natural leadership traits and passion for engineering.

**James Bonney, Head of Faculty Design & Technology**

## A German Christmas

Key stage 3 students in languages have enjoyed celebrating Advent as it is done in Germany. They have learned all about German traditions at this wonderful time of the year, and they have been busy baking gingerbread at home. In lessons they have been transforming their baking into the most wonderful artistic creations, which have been judged by the Senior Leadership team.

I hope the children have enjoyed eating their gingerbread at home! Merry Christmas from the Languages Team.



**Denise Williams, Teacher of German**

## Christmas with the Music Department

The school choir and band have had a very busy end of term. They performed at the Carol Service at Chichester Cathedral and this event always provides a memorable evening for students, staff, parents and carers alike.

The Choir was directed by Jane Bowen-Melfi, our Head of Music, with the School Band conducted by Matthew Bennett. We were delighted that Edward Cooke was again able to play the organ for us this year. The evening was filled with beautiful music, readings from our students, and wonderful singing.

The School Band and Choir also performed at The Cross in Chichester, helping to raise funds for local Rotary charities. This was a great opportunity for Bishop Luffa students to perform to a different audience and they had a wonderful time.



## Merry Christmas from the International Team

We would like to wish Merry Christmas to everyone in the Bishop Luffa Learning Partnership community and to all our partner schools abroad. Special thank you to everyone who took part in this project. We hope you enjoy our annual International Christmas video

<https://vimeo.com/894588878/e27b10e18a?share=copy>

## Young Carers Xmas Decorate & Make Afternoon

At the end of term, our Young Carers, who go above and beyond at home in various roles, had a relaxing time decorating Christmas themed goodies, from cakes to gingerbread men with a hot chocolate and cream in hand.





## PSHE Topics

The following topics will be covered during PSHE lessons during the Autumn term (but may be subject to change). If you have any concerns about the topics being discussed, please contact your child's Head of House or Mrs Smerdon-Corp, Teacher in charge of PSHE ([smerdon-corp@bishopluffa.org.uk](mailto:smerdon-corp@bishopluffa.org.uk))

The following subjects are being covered.



<b>Year 7</b>	Gangs Staying safe online Alcohol Smoking/Vaping Energy Drinks	<b>Year 8</b>	County Lines Substance Misuse Vaping Alcohol
<b>Year 9</b>	Drugs Addictions Classifications	<b>Year 10</b>	Honour based violence Forced Marriage Social Media Modern Day Slavery Knife Crime
<b>Year 11</b>	Festival Drugs Cosmetic Surgery Online reputation and digital footprint		

## Prayers

The Parents' and Carers' Prayer and Support Group have suggested that we circulate a school prayer list, so that families can reflect the present concerns of the school in their prayers. We will aim to update the list every month.

### Prayer List:

*Every month:*

- Students and their families
- All our staff
- Our Governors and Trustees
- Our Clergy Team and Youth Workers
- Our Worship team
- Our Parents & Friends Association
- Our Christian Union
- Our links to the wider church
- House and Sixth Form Charities

*For January:*

- Preparations for our school play, *Alice!*
- Year 13s taking mocks.
- Year 9s choosing Options.
- Year 10s preparing for work experience.
- Our new Chaplain, Fr Phil Amey.

## School Calendar

Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> December – Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2024	Christmas Holidays
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2024	INSET Day
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2024	Students return to school
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 11 (2022-23) Record of Achievement Evening
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 13 Mock Exams Week
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	PFA Uniform Shop open (2.00pm – 3.30pm)
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	PFA Meeting (6.30pm)
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 9 Options Evening
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January	Sixth Form Winter Ball
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> January	PFA Burns Night
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 9 Parents & Carers Virtual Consultation Evening
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> January	PFA Uniform Shop open (2.00pm – 3.30pm)
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 10 Eucharist
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Year 7 Parents & Carers Virtual Consultation Evening
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 10 Work Experience Week
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	PFA Meeting (6.30pm)
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 13 Parents & Carers Virtual Consultation Evening
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	HALF TERM
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET Day