



Bishopstrow College – January 2020 Agent/School Newsletter

Greetings from the Principal

Like many of the students I have recently completed my first term at Bishopstrow. We all seemed to have had a great term: always busy, always something new and exciting to learn, always plenty of friendship and fun to enjoy. For me, a particular pleasure was seeing the enthusiasm of teachers and students alike, whether in the classrooms, on the games fields or around the College.

During the term, I had a lot of discussion with students about the things they especially enjoy here at Bishopstrow. How many schools are there where the students invariably say how much they like all their lessons and their teachers? How many where students say they appreciate all the help, kindness and support they get from all the staff? How many where the students say how much they enjoy the food? It has been a real joy to hear Bishopstrow students saying all of these things and I am delighted that their experience is so positive.

May I wish everyone a Happy New Year and prosperous 2020. We look forward to welcoming our students, current and new, for Term 2.



Creative Arts

During Term 1, Junior and Senior classes enjoyed working with clay. The brief was to make a small sculpture using a hollow form. The Juniors made birds whilst the Senior group replicated peppers, pears and lemons.



Meanwhile, Junior and Middle students made some very skilled observational drawings of shadows.



Using the camera on their phones – the Seniors took pictures of 'macro/small worlds' and looked at the work of the artist Slinkachu. The images below are by current students Tomomo and Edward.



Sport

During the Autumn Term, students were involved in a varied sports programme, but with a focus on traditional English sports. They had the opportunity to display these skills at fixtures and training sessions against other schools. The Senior boys and girls had the opportunity to play badminton against Sherborne School, whilst the boys participated in a football match at Appleford School. They very much enjoyed demonstrating their skills in a competitive situation and represented the College exceptionally well.

Meanwhile, our Middle students enjoyed a home football game against Sherborne International and their efforts paid off, resulting in a very close score of 9-7.

As well as students being able to participate in sporting fixtures and activities, during the Autumn, our Junior and Middle students took part in a week of inter-house competitions competing in their respective houses in football, basketball, kwik-cricket and fun games. The competitions were enjoyed by all the students and they demonstrated great sportsmanship, attitude and teamwork.



Activities

The students enjoyed a variety of activities during Term 1. During Halloween they carved pumpkins, with their designs displayed at the front door of Barrow House; they also ventured into Bishopstrow village for a spot of trick or treating in costumes they had made which was enjoyed by all. The local village bonfire and fireworks display to celebrate Bonfire Night generated great excitement, with a traditional 'guy' made by the students.

During a 'Lazy Weekend' at the College, the students were required to put their thinking caps on for the inter-house quiz. Categories included music, film, maps, the UK, art, flags, sport, and general knowledge, with Newton House coming out on top! A further inter-house activity meant that the students got to exercise their vocal chords in a singing competition, with Nightingale House



proving to be the winners this time! Movie nights meant that the students were able to enjoy the wizarding world of Harry Potter, a firm favourite for most! It was great to see the students engaging with the activities together and, of course, having fun!



Christmas at Bishopstrow

As the end of term approached, everyone at Bishopstrow College engaged in the Christmas spirit after several fun-packed weeks of activities and outings. Students enjoyed a range of activities such as creating decorations, decorating the Christmas tree and watching Christmas movies. The College looked fabulous, with many hand-made festive decorations.

We also enjoyed traditional family style Christmas games in the evenings, such as Pictionary and charades. As the end of term approached, we visited the Bath Christmas Markets where students got to enjoy a range of twinkling chalets selling unique gifts and food. We finished the year with our annual Christmas Party. This fun event was held in the Bishopstrow Village Hall and was enjoyed by all. We also had a local theatre group come to the College to perform a pantomime for the students. In the last week of term, the students enjoyed a delicious 3 course Christmas meal cooked by the kitchen staff and served by our boarding team. A perfect finish to 2019!

Place availability

We still have some availability in Terms 3 and 4, and on our Academic Summer Programmes across all age groups, although space is now limited.

Our Programmes have English language at their core, but are also complemented by a varied programme of other academic subjects, creative arts, sports, social programmes and excursions to ensure that students have a stimulating and rewarding experience with us.

Please contact our Registrar, Sarah Smallbone, on enquiries@bishopstrow.com as she would be delighted to help.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who supported Bishopstrow throughout 2019, including our students, their families, agents and guardians, plus our 'destination schools'. With all good wishes for a prosperous 2020.



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