



From the Headmaster of the Prep School

We all know that the role of any primary or preparatory school is to prepare children. The question of how to prepare them or what to prepare them for, however, varies more than one might imagine. We live in a world where young children have more pressure and face more hurdles in their early education than ever before. Successive governments have produced an ever greater array of targets, initiatives, assessments and league tables and testing of core skills has become part of children's everyday lives, with all the pressure that goes with this.

A huge benefit of independent preparatory education is that children can be freed from such

limitations and allowed to explore a far wider curriculum and learn a much broader set of skills. Yet, increasingly, we see academic testing prevailing in these schools too, with excessive preparation for 11+ and 13+ exams for grammar or senior schools and an over-reliance on testing in general. Children are judged on the results they achieve, so schools teach to the test to get results. This is what makes St Bede's Prep School different. Our children frequently outperform their counterparts elsewhere not because they have been taught to the test but precisely because they haven't.

The early years of childhood are vital in shaping children for the future and there are no second chances. We

want our children to feel secure and happy, to have a sense of belonging and to flourish; their time at Prep School should be rich with experiences. They should explore the world with fresh eyes, seeing the beauty and wonder of all around them. They should experience things at first hand, visiting, measuring, building and taking part. Their lives should be full of plays and poetry, languages and culture, science and technology. In all they do they should learn to work together and develop confidence in themselves.

So much that takes part at the Prep School goes far beyond any examinable curriculum. Visiting lessons and activities, I have seen younger children building and programming Lego robots, older children stripping disused computer mice to make vehicles that follow light, children studying naval warfare using model canons where all six stages are needed before a papier-mâché canon can be fired and pupils in English dramatizing their creative writing. Our children learn to compete in team and individual sports, to make music, to create 3D effects with tonal gradation and to perform on stage in



front of an audience. They learn to have a go, to experience success and to cope when things do not come easily.

We prepare children for the diverse society in which they will live by giving them a diverse school in which to learn, yet they pursue their many different talents and interests at the right level for them through our comprehensive setting system. Where an individual needs support in one area, we make sure it is provided so that success can be maximised and potential fulfilled and when a child needs to be stretched, we want to take them on that journey.

We hope never to produce a typical St Bede's alumni because our children have hopes and ambitions as varied as they are. What we do see, though, are former pupils confident to have a go, ambitious in all they do, happy and balanced and able to lead. It is this, above all, that we are preparing children for: to grow up as happy, balanced and capable individuals who make the most of their talents and who have the skills to take on whatever life beyond school will throw at them and succeed.

Nick Burmington

Scholarships and Exhibitions to St Bede's Senior School

Academic

Jack Rickard	St Bede's Prep School
Chris Bowe	Skippers Hill
Chloe Durrant	St Bede's Prep School
Emilie Stone	Skipper's Hill Manor
William Churcher (Exhibition)	St Bede's Prep School
Robert Cook (Exhibition)	Skippers Hill Manor

Art

Emily Redman	Skippers Hill Manor
Isabelle Montgomery	Brambletye
Eve Walsh	Great Walstead
Bethany Thomas	St Andrew's
Yasmin Sayed	Roedean
Nathan Collins (Exhibition)	St Bede's Prep School
Freya Drewek (Exhibition)	St Bede's Prep School
Annabel Rudden (Exhibition)	St Bede's Prep School

Drama

Ciaran Bowling	St Bede's Prep School
Perry Eggleton	St Aubyn's Prep School
Harvey Cole	St Bede's Prep School
Hannah Roberts	St Bede's Prep School
Alice Potter (Exhibition)	Ratton
Joseph Robson (Exhibition)	St Bede's Prep School

Music

Ivan Friedman	St Bede's Prep School
Ryan Packham	St Bede's Prep School
James Cuxson	St Bede's Prep School
Stevie Cannell (Exhibition)	
Alfie Atwood (Exhibition)	Brighton College Prep School

Sport

Benjamin Boorman	St Bede's Prep School
Felicity Collins	Ringmer
Joshua Higgs	Hailsham Community College
Jack Burkhill	Brambletye
Amber Lam	St Bede's Prep School
Bethany Giddings (Exhibition)	Ardingly Prep School
Charlie Pugh (Exhibition)	Great Walstead
Kyran Bungaroo (Exhibition)	Brighton College Prep School
Samuel Kisbee (Exhibition)	Skippers Hill Manor

SENIOR SCHOOL

St Bede's in top five per cent for Value Added at A Level

St Bede's students achieve greater Value Added at A Level than students at any other school in East Sussex and in fact the Senior School is in the top five per cent in the country for Value Added at A Level.

Department for Education figures show that since 2008, our A Level students have earned results way in advance of what might have been expected of them when they started their courses – in most cases more than a grade.

Deputy Head Academic, John Tuson said: 'This is testament both to the expectations our Sixth Formers have of themselves and to the breadth of courses we offer in the Sixth Form – more than 50.

'This breadth of opportunity, along with our extensive co-curricular programme, creates a stimulating environment in which our students can explore, grow and succeed. We are academically ambitious for all our students and the clear message to them is: "Expect more – of both yourself and the opportunities you have".'

In September the Senior School is introducing a BTEC National Level 3 Diploma in Animal Management – a vocational option that earns UCAS points and which can be combined with A Levels. Four Veterinary Schools have already said that they will be accepting the qualification.

Also being offered from September is the Extended Project Qualification. The EPQ allows students to be totally responsible for their own learning through a written report, a performance, an extended essay, a piece of art, a community project, an artefact, or even an event; indeed, there is nothing that it cannot be. The EPQ carries up to 70 UCAS points (equivalent to an AS A*) and will strengthen students' UCAS applications as well as making a positive difference at university interview.

Dorms win House Drama

One of the highlights of the year for students and staff is always Inter House Drama. Houses are given just over 24 hours to prepare a production to be performed in front of the whole school.

It is a great opportunity for students, and not just drama students, to perform to a large audience and with such a short turnaround from being given the scripts, actors need to be quick to learn their lines and familiarise themselves with the play; whilst directors need to edit the scripts down into short scripts, ensuring the plot still makes sense.

This year's production was *The Castle* - a Radio 4 comedy

show. The day prior to the performance the directors had to pull a particular episode out of a hat. Directors not only had the task of editing the scripts but also had to adapt a Radio 4 comedy show into a live performance.

Stand out moments included a human size English breakfast served on a plate and the fact that three of the five Houses had girls playing the male roles and boys the female roles!

Kim Fuller, author of *The Castle*, sat on the judging panel which eventually awarded Dorms the overall title. Best actress and actor went to Lola Jeffries and Louis Buzuk. Best Director went to Nikita Leys of Deis.

Changing landscape

In January new contractors took over the building of our two boarding houses and work is now continuing apace, with walls seeming to spring up on a daily basis.

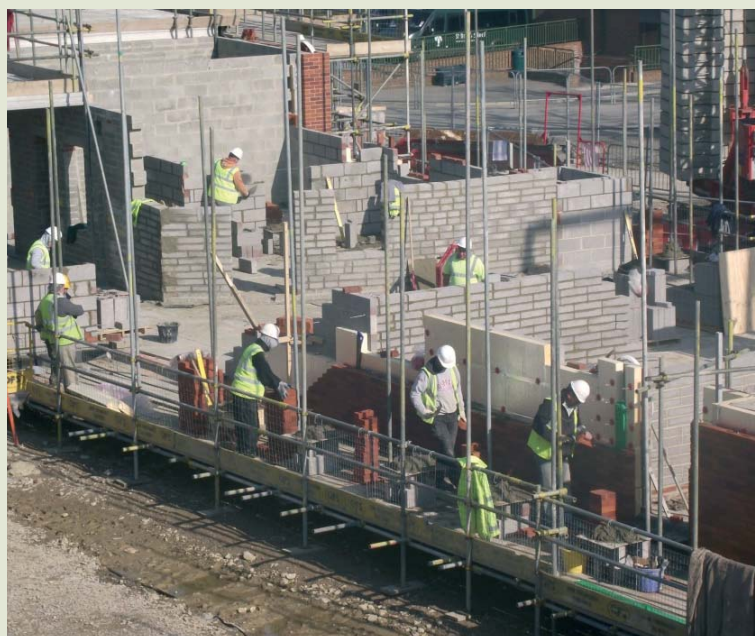


The Keir Group were awarded the contract following Rok, the original contractor, moving into administration in November. This has slightly delayed the opening of the houses – which had been planned for September, but the work is on schedule for Stud House to move into their new accommodation after half-term of the autumn term and for Crossways to move into their new accommodation by January.

With Crossways moving to the new build, Camberlot will give up their tower 'down the road' and take up residence next to Dorter House.

The external design of the two houses has a very 'Sussex' feel, whilst inside they will replicate the light and spaciousness of the current Dorter and Crossways houses. Solar panels will provide the bulk of hot water needed and ground source heat pumps will heat the houses.

The new houses, together with those opened in 2007 will put St Bede's boarding accommodation not just amongst the best in England, but amongst the best in the world.





Moving with the times

As many of you already know from our fortnightly e-letter, there will be a number of changes to the Senior School uniform from September.

Moving with the times, St Bede's is linking up with School Blazer, a company which makes bespoke uniforms for many of the top schools in Britain, and in a few weeks time most of our uniform will be available on-line and can be sent to anywhere in the world.

We have spent a long time researching various clothing companies; the quality of material and workmanship and the styles available and are

confident that both parents and students will be pleased with what we have chosen in consultation with our current students.

Changes to the uniform from September 2011 include a very smart jacket for girls in the first three years and we will be offering a black suit for Sixth Form girls which will have two different skirt options as well as trousers – as modelled by Deputy Head of School, Georgie Dawson and Prefect Lara Williams in our photographs. From 2012 we will be offering a choice of two suits.

More details will be sent to parents after Easter.



Dimbleby packs the house out

David Dimbleby, doyen of political broadcasting, was guest speaker at St Bede's Student and Parent Speech Society's second meeting. The recently inaugurated society is run by the School's Head of Philosophy and Ethics, Marc Rattray who has managed to pack the library on two occasions with the quality of speakers. The first lecture was given by author and historian Antony Beevor and tickets for David Dimbleby's lecture were gone within a week, leaving over a hundred 'late-comers' disappointed.



Politics however, was not on the agenda, although it inevitably reared its head during question time; instead Mr Dimbleby spoke about the making of his recent BBC1 series, *The Seven Ages of Britain*.

The audience were given a glimpse into how a television series of this stature is produced - a lengthy process involving much discussion and starting with the choosing of the Ages, then the objects that typified them. Mr Dimbleby also shared some illuminating anecdotes – look out for Jeremy Paxman's pink shirt! – and showed several clips from the series, explaining how each segment was put together.



PREP SCHOOL

Adventures in Canterbury



Year 6 pupils made their annual pilgrimage to the shrine of St Thomas Becket at Canterbury Cathedral. They saw for themselves the very site where he was brutally murdered and the site where miracles were prayed for after his death. The children marvelled at the general magnificence of the Cathedral and learned about the great skill and craftsmanship in building it in a workshop.

The pupils also visited The Canterbury Tales, where they heard some of the stories that the pilgrims told each other en-route to Canterbury, as put together by Chaucer.

Ancient Egypt

On a beautiful sunny day that seemed to herald Spring, Year 5 pupils sprang into their seats for a coach trip to the British Museum. They went to see the Egyptian exhibition rooms as part of their Easter term Integrated Studies.

Short of a field trip to Egypt, this was the best way to get first-hand experience of the age and wonder of the ancient Egyptian artefacts and way of life. Not surprisingly, the Mummies were the greatest attraction (not a Daddy in sight!). Ginger, the best preserved sand-buried body, certainly captured the children's imagination, as did the gruesome methods for removing internal organs and the brain before embalming. The trip was followed by an authentic ancient Egyptian feast; the food however was fresh!



A dramatic day for Year 8

Year 8 pupils went to London to visit Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and see a spine-chilling performance of *The Woman in Black* at the Fortune Theatre in Covent Garden.

The tour of the Globe Theatre was most interesting and the guides were very informative, giving everyone lots to include in their forthcoming cross-curricular Shakespeare projects. The pupils joined in a presentation on how young male actors were transformed into some of Shakespeare's leading ladies – like Juliet and Lady Macbeth – with the use of clever costuming.

After a rather chilly lunch on the Embankment, the pupils made their way across London – with a whistle-stop tour of the landmarks of Trafalgar Square and Pall Mall – to see Susan Hill's famous ghost story *The Woman in Black*. Much of the play was spent with the audience screaming or peeking at the drama through fingers but all agreed that it was a wonderful production, full of clever staging, wonderful sound effects and lighting, and superb acting.



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Katya claims



Each year, Lions clubs around the world hold a Poster Contest in local schools and youth groups to encourage young people worldwide to artistically express

Wowing the judges with an eye catching poster was the aim of the year 8 pupils in the Eastbourne 'leg' of the competition. Katya was the winner from St Bede's Prep School. Katya then went on to represent the school at the East District.

The president of the Eastbourne Lions Club was very pleased to be a part of and a delight for me as Eastbourne President to attend the recent District Convention in Eastbourne. The convention was held in the East District (which has a total of approximately 100 clubs) and shows how talented the

Freya wows the judges

Five-year-old Freya Kirby wowed the judges at this year's Eastbourne Festival. She played the piano in the festival and came first in the Grade 111 and IV class with 87 entries, winning the Marjorie Skellorn cup in the process. This was a fantastic achievement as there was a lot of competition - 14 players in total. The adjudicator gave Freya very positive feedback describing her performance as 'brilliant' and saying that she 'caught the mood of the music'.

Freya also came first in the Piano Solo for Children under 13 in which she played *Knight's Waltz* by Schumann with passion and maturity. Such a beautiful performance gained her the V & M Verrall Remembrance Cup. It was an exciting festival!

Freya with the Marjorie Skellorn cup

Winning the Prize



Freya sponsored the Lions International Peace Quilt groups. This contest encourages young people to share their visions of peace.

Freya's piece and taking home the winning place. She was eleven year old Katya Goodwin from Brighton to be awarded second place in the South East.

Ms. Lynn Flanagan said: "It was a surprise for Freya to accept the prize for Katya at our school. To be voted second in the South East (with approximately 70 Lions clubs) is certainly an achievement for our young lady is'.

Anglo Saxon banquet

Clad in beautifully designed costumes with attention to every detail, Year 3 pupils completed their Anglo-Saxon studies with a fine feast. The pupils entered the dimly lit banquet hall and sat at long tables bedecked with the most wonderful spread of typical Anglo-Saxon food so cleverly researched and provided by the school chef.

The menu started with pease pottage and village bread followed by a main course of roast ox, chicken drumsticks, hard-boiled eggs and root vegetables. The feast was then completed with sumptuous orchard fruits and cheese. All this was eaten from wooden bowls and platters with wooden implements and accompanied by several tots of mead (which was actually honey and apple juice!)

Riddles, a favourite form of mealtime entertainment for Anglo-Saxons, were asked at intervals throughout the feast and duly appreciated by a crescendo of table clattering with wooden spoons!

Such ambitious tastes and appreciative appetites have never before been witnessed at Year 3 lunchtime, and it could definitely be said that a thoroughly good time was had by all!



Stepping back in time



Year 7 pupils stepped back in time when they welcomed the Rainbow Theatre group to the school for a workshop on the lives of Victorian children. The workshop was to give the children an insight into what it was like to be young in Victorian times and fire their imaginations as part of their studies of the Industrial Revolution in Integrated Studies. The children were enthusiastic as they acted out roles and were genuinely shocked to learn about the terrible conditions that children faced in schools, factories, coal mines and even down the sewers!

The children were all very thankful for living in these times and not being forced out to work to support their nine brothers and sisters!

The Circus comes to St Bede's

The circus was in town for Year One Pre Prep pupils when Gary the Clown visited school to give a Science presentation based on the topic 'Forces'. All the children had a go at pulling and pushing in order to make plates spin, diabolos rotate, balloons change shape and magical mice disappear.



Teddy Bears' Picnic

If you go down to the woods today...well maybe not the woods but as part of the Year One Teddies Topic children from the Pre Prep went on a fun and informative trip to the 'Build a Bear' workshop in Brighton.

The children all helped to make a Year One bear called Charlie. Charlie is now living an exciting life staying with a different child in Year One each night!

Following on from that the children made sandwiches and invited their teddies to come to school for a Teddy bears picnic. They ate everything!

ST BEDE'S SPORT

Footballers win Southern Schools championship

The first team are the new Southern Schools' champions having beaten Eton College at the Corinthian-Casuals football ground in Tolworth, in the final of the U18 Elgin Capital Southern final.



St Bede's went undefeated through the Southern Division, winning all their matches on route to the final. Eton won the Northern Division, winning six of their seven games and losing one to Brentwood. The final saw the winner of the Southern Division take on the winner of the Northern Division for the title of Elgin Capital Southern Independent Schools league Champions.

Having previously won this tournament in 2007, St Bede's were looking to repeat history and win the competition for a second time whilst Eton wanted to make amends for last year when they narrowly lost in the final to Charterhouse 1-0.

As the game kicked off both sides looked nervy with many loose first touches; neither side looked comfortable on the ball, often over-hitting short passes and under-hitting long passes. After 10 minutes we started to settle and completed a nice phase of play down the left flank which created the first opportunity on goal, which the Eton keeper saved.

Throughout the first half we looked to be on the front foot and played positive football on the floor, spending most of the time in the Eton half. Eton looked to play long ball football which our centre backs dealt with comfortably. After

continuous pressure, St Bede's eventually scored with Solomon March scoring half way through the first half.

During the remainder of the first half St Bede's looked the more threatening and the most likely to push on for the next goal in the game. But the match became scrappy as the ball was often exchanging hands, with both sides creating chances but neither side capitalising on them.

As half-time arrived you could imagine that both managers would be asking their players to settle quickly into the second-half and to be more positive about getting the ball on deck and playing attacking football. The pitch was in superb condition considering the previous few weeks' weather and ideal for constructive football.

The hundred-strong crowd welcomed the players to the field for the second-half. As

Busy England schedule for Yolanda



Yolanda King is building up to her next big competition - The Austrian Open, which is over the Easter break.

Before she departs to Austria to compete for the England Junior team Yolanda will be competing in the Womens' British National League in Bristol. Here she will meet her team mates and begin preparations for the big national event.

Prep hockey success



The Prep School's U9 Boys' hockey team has won the Sussex Independent Schools hockey tournament at Ardingly College.

Two days later both the U11 boys and U11 girls won the Yazoo mini hockey tournament at Eastbourne.

Lady cricketers winning run

The Girls' U15 cricket side have won the Lady Taverners Sussex final. After winning the area competition they reached the final where five teams competed for the title of Sussex Champions.



St Bede's beat teams from Brighton College, Moira House, Oathall Community College and Bishop Luffa to win the competition and gain a place in the regional final to be hosted in Buckinghamshire on the 1st April. The national final will be played at the prestigious 'Home of Cricket' - Lords - and to reach the final and play at Lords is a real dream for the St Bede's girls.

Barbados sunshine tour f



Read the latest sports results at www.stbedesschool.org

St Bede's 2 Eton College 0

the game got underway, it was Eton that started brighter, creating two golden opportunities which they didn't exploit. One chance was put wide and another free header was headed directly at our goal keeper, Grant Young, who commanded the box throughout the game, claiming the ball whenever needed.

In the last quarter we began to take control of the final and the crowd started to feel that it was going to be St Bede's night. Fans started to think it would have been a different game if Eton had capitalised on the early opportunities they had had in the second half.

With 10 minutes to go manager David Leggett made substitutions and took Thibault Bain off and bought Jay Amin on. This proved to be a great tactical change and with 10 minutes to go Larry Egunjobi took the ball round the keeper

and the right back on the left side of the field and crossed the ball to Jay Amin to tap the ball in at an open goal, from the edge of the six yard box, with almost his first touch.

With the second goal going in and not long to go, the hopes of an Eton come-back disappeared as victory was secured for the second time in the cup's five year history. The players celebrated in front of a strong St Bede's crowd made up of two coaches worth of current students, Old Bedians, parents and staff, as captain Duncan Brown proudly lifted the trophy.

Man of the Match was awarded to Steven Perry who played centre back and commanded the back four with real presence, not loosing a header all game and setting the standard.

St Bede's riders at national championship

Throughout the year the National Schools Equestrian Association hold regional qualifiers for the winning teams and individuals to compete at the National Schools Championships at the end of the year.

Having won the qualifier class at St Leonards - Mayfield School in September the team travelled to the Championships to compete in the Intermediate 90cm Jumping with Style class. As expected at a Championship the course was tricky and the competition tough but our group of four riders who only came together as a team in September gave it their all and came 6th out of 17 teams. We are very proud of them and look forward to many more competitions this year.

Team members: Meg Wrenn, Hugo Godwin, Chiara Castellini, Charlie Marshall.



or netballers

St Bede's Senior School, U16 Netball Squad has returned from a busy half-term week, playing an extensive and competitive fixture programme in the beautiful surroundings of Barbados.

Seventeen young students enjoyed a week of nine netball fixtures against local schools and clubs, and enjoyed convincing wins over four of their opponents. The team were exposed to a vastly different and physical standard of netball and managed to adapt and cope with the physicality of the Barbadians dominance, with skill and control. St Bede's team played local schools on the island during their stay including Deighton Griffith School, Coledridge, Parry and Combermere schools.

Outstanding performances from all the players and experiences gained which will last a lifetime.

Jono claims Bronze in England 1, 2, 3!



Jono Ketley won bronze for England in the Pentathlon at the recent U17s Home Countries indoor international in Glasgow.

He competed with three other England representatives in this discipline and whilst team mates on the track they were all chasing the gold medal as individuals. With athletes coming from England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland this was always going to be a tough event for Jono.

In the end he claimed Bronze, with his England team mates winning silver and gold, to make an England 1, 2, 3. In the process of taking third place Jono set a personal best in the long jump with 6 metres 55 cm and England went on to win the most medals of the competition.

Jono is currently training at Horsham but runs for Crawley Athletics Club.

Adam Lam gets England call up

Adam Lam, has been selected to represent England in the 'Victor Junior OLVE Tournament 2011' held in Antwerp, Belgium. This prestigious badminton event will be hosted on the 23rd, 24th & 25th April. Adam will travel with the English team on the 22nd and be part of the U13 squad.

This will be Adams first international event and he is relishing the opportunity to play on a bigger stage. Adam has recently received more great news; that he has won sponsorship from 'Sports Aid' thanks to Badminton England and will be travelling to Wembley Stadium in late March to receive his award and meet Olympian swimmer, Mark Foster as part of the Asda Athletes programme.



Adam is on the World Class Start Potential Programme (WCSP) and trains at The Academy under coach Manfred Tripp in Milton Keynes.

PERFORMANCES & EVENTS

Senior School

Wednesday 4th May

A & AS Music Recitals

Venue: Church

Time: 7.15pm

Thursday 5th May

Sports Awards

Venue: Main Hall

Time: 6.00pm

Friday 6th May

St Bede's Parents and Students Speech Society

Military Combat operations in Afghanistan –
the view from a serving Royal Marines
Commando officer

Venue: Library

Time: 7.30pm

Monday 9th May

MCC Cricket

Venue: 1st X1 Cricket Pitch

Time: 11.30am

Saturday 14th May

Open morning

Time: 9.30pm

Friday 20th May

Leavers' Recital

Venue: Library

Time: 7.15pm

Thursday 26th May

Btec Final Gig

Venue: Library

Time: 7.15pm

Friday 10th June

Folk Evening

Venue: Library

Time: 7.15pm

Saturday 18th June

St Bede's Rocks

Venue: Lawns

Time: 3.00 – 8.00pm

Saturday 25th June

Sussex County Youth Orchestra (USA)

Joint Concerts

Venue: Main Hall, Marquee and Lawns

Time: 6.00 – 11.00pm

Friday 1st July

Prize Giving

Venue: Main Hall

Time: 2.15pm

Lunch by the lake at 12.30pm

Prep School

Friday 6th May

Open Morning

Time: 9.30am

Friday 6th May

Prep School Rocks

Venue: Dining Room and Cricket Pitch

Time: 6.00 – 8.00pm

Saturday 7th May

Open Morning

Time: 10.00am

Monday 23rd May

Year 3 Play Enormous Crocodile

Venue: Theatre

Time: 2.30pm

Tuesday 21st June

Primary Schools' Music Day

Venue: Music Department

Time: 10.00 – 3.30pm

Saturday 25th June

Sports Day

Venue: Eastbourne Sports Park

Time: 9.30 – 12.30pm

Thursday 30th June,

Friday 1st July

Year 8 Play West Side Story

Venue: Theatre

Time: Thurs – 7.15pm

Fri – 2.00pm

Saturday 2nd July

Prize Giving

Venue: Sports Hall

Time: 10.30 – 12.00pm

For further information on Senior School events please telephone

01323 843252

For Prep School events please telephone

01323 734222

Catch up on all the latest news and find the information you need
on www.stbedesschool.org