

# BISHOP



# RAMSEY

Church of England School  
Executive Head and CEO: Dr Hilary Macaulay

20<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

## **End of first half term at Bishop Ramsey**

Reflecting back on this time last year when we were still navigating our return as a school from the disruptions of COVID it has been wonderful to have an entirely 'typical' start of an academic year for our school community. It has certainly been an exceptionally busy first half term. Unprecedented numbers attended our October Open Evening with over 1600 visitors coming to learn more about what we do at Bishop Ramsey and it was fantastic that the Friends of Bishop Ramsey opened up the Pod under our festoon-lit canopy on the patio and served a variety of refreshments to visitors. We could not have done it without the help of more than 300 of our students who volunteered to be with subject areas or serve as tour guides during the evening. It was also great that we were able to open the school once again for our four Open Mornings for prospective parents/carers to see the school in operation during a normal working day.

Our 218 Year 7's have settled incredibly well and it was commented upon at Open Evening by a number of visitors just how confident they were, despite the reality that they had only been at Bishop Ramsey for five weeks at the time. This is further testament to the way our school community supports one another to feel included, informed and happy.

As a Christian Learning Community, we have been able to enjoy the benefits of and taken strength from our Chaplaincy team with full Eucharists taking place for Years 7-11 so far, the Year 8 & 9 Chaplaincy residential weekend to Woodrow High House for over 80 students and all Year 7's enjoying their Chaplaincy day trips this half term. Bishop Lusa Nsenga-Ngoy started the Hillingdon-Harrow leg of his pilgrimage at Bishop Ramsey this term accompanied by other clergy from the two Dioceses with a prayer meeting and worship time led by our school Worship Band with students then accompanying him on part of his walk. It has also been lovely to be able to start getting back into local churches for worship, starting with Year 8's to St Lawrence Church, Eastcote where they were welcomed by Fr John Seymour for the Eucharist service.

Throughout October we have been recognising Black History Month with assemblies and specific focus in several curriculum areas. Adopting the Halo Code last year as part of our school uniform has been an important element of our ongoing commitment and wider work on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) which we are undertaking both internally and with the National Centre for Diversity.

**Address:** Hume Way, Ruislip, Middlesex, HA4 8EE ∞ **Telephone:** 01895 639227  
**Email:** [office@bishopramsey.school](mailto:office@bishopramsey.school) ∞ **Website:** [www.bishopramseyschool.org](http://www.bishopramseyschool.org)

Our clubs are all up and running, Sport fixtures have started in earnest and, in true Bishop Ramsey fashion, we are pretty much winning everything so far. Several trips and visits have already taken place, participation in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is very popular indeed once again and we currently have six overseas trips running this academic year too. We are also excited about a project we are leading, very generously funded the Willesden Area Council, which involves the London Community Gospel Choir working with 8 local CofE primary schools, our own choirs and our Music Department with workshops and rehearsals to prepare the music for a special LDBS schools' service at St Paul's Cathedral on 26<sup>th</sup> January.

We have been blessed with reasonably good weather to this point, but it is starting to turn colder, and the wetter and darker days will be ever more upon us when **school returns on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**. To this end it might be timely to remind your children that a sensible, warm waterproof coat/jacket is going to be needed very soon as is ensuring prompt arrival at muster each day ready for silent reflection before Assembly or Tutor time. Getting up when it's cold and dark in the mornings can be somewhat of a challenge for some of our young people so making extra time to ensure they get to school on time and start the day in a positive way is a priority.

Do keep an eye on our calendar for the various parents/carers events after Half Term in the lead up to Christmas including:

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November** Sixth Form Open Evening  
**Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November** St Cecilia Concert  
**Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November** Parent Prayer Group meeting  
**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November** Year 8 Parents' Evening  
**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November** Parent Engagement Group Meeting  
**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December** Carol Service at St Paul's Church  
**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December** Year 13 Parents' Evening  
**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December** Years 11-13 (2021-22) Prizegiving

Building on our school's recent Eco Schools Green Flag award, we are conducting a survey to update our Travel Plan and establish an accurate picture of how our c1,300 students travel to and from school. To help us in doing this I would be very grateful if you could complete the questions which can be accessed at the link below. You will be able to choose the Year group(s) your child(ren) is in, therefore please do complete for each child you have attending Bishop Ramsey: [Travel Plan Questionnaire](#)

Thank you for your ongoing support of both our school and your children, without which we would not be able to achieve what we do as a partnership. I wish you all a happy, restful and safe Half Term break.

Yours sincerely,

**Hilary Macaulay**