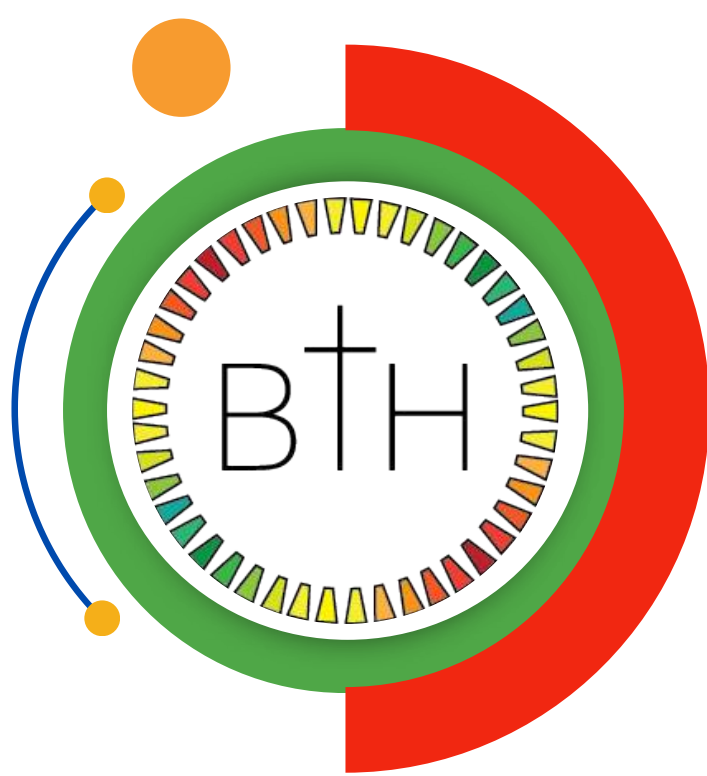




Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College

May God's love be our guide 

Weekly Newsletter



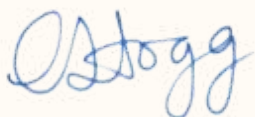
Dear parents/carers,

As we wrap up this fun filled half term, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks for your support, engagement, and encouragement over the past 8 weeks. Your involvement has been invaluable in making this term both productive and enjoyable for the students.

From your help with assisting us with our uniform standards (which is looking very smart by the way), to your attendance in college events such as our wonderful Year 7 Welcome Mass and Sixth Form open evening this week. Your support is appreciated, and it's wonderful to see how it enriches our college community. We've enjoyed watching the students grow, learn, and develop their unique talents each day, and we couldn't have done it without your partnership.

There has been so many fantastic moments this half term, from seeing the students' excitement during our live Student Council announcement this week to the many amazing trips that have gone out to the various destinations, to watching them build friendships and support each other, it's been a term filled with growth, joy, and curiosity. Each day has brought something new and memorable, reminding us how special this time is in their learning journey

I want to wish you all a restful break and looking forward to another fantastic term together on Monday 4th of November.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'C S Hogg'.

Mrs C S Hogg

A red decorative flourish or signature-like element in the bottom right corner.

Trek Camino de Santiago 2024



Santiago de Compostela

The UNESCO World heritage site of Santiago de Compostela, the final destination of the legendary medieval Camino de Santiago (Way of Saint James), is named after the Apostle Saint James (Santiago), who is buried here. Saint James went to this most north-western part of Spain, called by the Romans 'Finis Terrae' (end of the world), to preach and convert people to Christianity. After returning to Palestine in 44AD, he was taken prisoner and tortured to death. The king refused to bury him, so his disciples stole the body and brought him by boat to the Spanish coast where he was buried in a secret place in a wood. Centuries later, in 813, the hermit Pelayo heard music in that wood and witnessed strange lights in the night sky. The site was thus called, in Latin, 'Campus Stellae', field of the star, a name that later became Compostela.

Today, thousands of people known as 'pilgrims' walk the Camino de Santiago for a number of different reasons; spiritual, cultural and adventurous or simply such as wanting to learn about the history of this ancient trail and as a way to get fit and spend time outdoors. The Camino is about the journey and to the majority of people it symbolises a time of reflection, learning and fresh starts.

Mrs Hogg's trek with St Luke's Hospice explores the eighth and final section of the French Way, the most traditional and best known of all the pilgrims' ways to Santiago de Compostela. During the 5-day walk they traverse the hilly landscapes of Galicia, passing numerous points of cultural and historical interest along the way.



Although the St Luke's Fundraising trek is not a religious pilgrimage and is all about raising much needed funds for the Hospice Charity, Mrs Hogg will use the opportunity to launch the BTHCC Jubilee Year 2025 praying for our young Pilgrims of Hope as she walks the Camino.

The theme is "Pilgrims of Hope", and it will be a Year of Hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19 pandemic, and a climate crisis.

Carrying rocks on the Camino is a meaningful tradition for many pilgrims so Mrs Hogg has commissioned the BTHCC Art students to decorate a special BTHCC stone she can lay upon The Way. Last year, more than 300,000 pilgrims arrived to Santiago de Compostela from all different countries around the world. The vast majority of the pilgrims do the Camino de Santiago on foot.

There are also a large number of pilgrims who travel by bicycle. For whatever reason, more and more people are convinced that the Camino de Santiago needs to be an essential part of their individual life journey. There are many books about the Santiago de Compostela and Mrs Hogg recommends watching a film called 'The Way' directed by Emilio Estevez if you want to find out more about this ancient pilgrimage and trek.



Dates for the diary

2024

NOV
04

YEAR 9 ASSESSMENT WEEK
2 weeks

NOV
8

YEAR 8 VACCINATIONS
HPV Vaccinations

NOV
07

YEAR 11 PARENTS EVENING
parents evening online

NOV
11

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK
A week of activities to support anti-bullying week

NOV
25

YEAR 8 ASSESSMENT WEEKS
2 weeks

NOV
29

INSET DAY
students do not attend college for the day

DEC
02

ADVENT APPEAL
Advent appeal starts for 3 weeks

DEC
02

YEAR 11 ASSESSMENT WEEKS
2 weeks

DEC
05

YEAR 10 REVIEW EVENING
parents evening online

DEC
09

CHRISTMAS ADVENT SERVICE
St Vincents Church
Advent Service 6pm

DEC
19/20

WHOLE COLLEGE MASS
All year groups

DEC
19/20

BTHCC TALENT SHOW
Students take part in a talent show

Seb
Deputy



Donald
Prime Minister



Anna
Deputy



Veron
President



Esther
Vice
President

College Prime Minister and Student Body President were decided this week. Mrs Hogg gave them the good news yesterday and discussed their roles.

The Team





Alton Towers Scarefest - Sixth Form



25th of October 2024



Chaplaincy

SVP:

We are setting up our very own BTH SVP group after half term. Which will invite students to join a programme to learn about leadership skills, faith, team building, reflection and prayer. It is a opportunity to take charge of our Faith life at College and the wider local community. Students will take part in fun activities and reflections and organise their own events for advocacy and campaigns and fundraising.



St Vincent de Paul Society
England and Wales
Turning Concern into Action



Faith in Action

Quote of the week:

“I appeal to you, brothers and sisters,[a] in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.”

This quote is telling us to live in harmony and accept everyone.

Events this week:

Wednesday word: 8:30 am in the chapel

Family Mass: Friday 8:15 am in the Chapel

Faith in Action: Tuesday and Wednesdays 1pm in W06

Philosophy club: Tuesday-Thursday

SVP: Every Thursday 12:30-1:30pm in The Chapel with Miss Giles

Weekly Challenge:

Can you do something for someone else this week?



This week's key word:
Family



Year 7 Welcome Mass



25th of October 2024





Kemoy Walker gave all our students the most inspiring talk for Black History Month. Kemoy, who recently won the 2022 Nelson Mandela Award, talked to the students about growing up in Moss Side and the difficulties he faced as a black man. But how he overcame it all with his love for his community and youth work.

"We need to start thinking about the younger generation of today and their needs, young people need role models in the community that they can look up and people that will listen and be the voice for them."



English Schools Cross Country Cup Event
Junior girls (year 7/8) - 2.5k
Junior boys (year 7/8) - 3k
Intermediate girls (year 9/10) - 3k
Intermediate boys (year 9/10) - 4.5k

They were brilliant - amazing effort by all our athletes!

A convincing win for the Year 10 A team.

Goals: Mellor / Farrar / Durkan / Lingard / Raftery / Bryant Team: Flynn/Hooley/Bramich/Faragher/H. Douglas/C. Douglas (POTM)/ Windeler/Farrar (C)/Bryant/Lingar/Mellor.

Subs: Durkan/Luby/Raftery.



The Year 11 A team picked up 3 more league points.

Goalscorers: Broderick / Browne / Mullan

POTM: Mason and Cleary.



Year 10 have been learning how to make fresh pasta from scratch and used it to make some beautiful Carbonara. Some students used chorizo instead of bacon which gave the pasta a wonderful orange tone.



Year 8s have been perfecting their knife skills with this vegetarian Couscous salad. Lots of students bravely tried couscous for the first time and gave discovered a new favourite food!



A group of our Year 10 students went to R4GM Visitor Centre, also known as Longley Lane Tip. Over Key Stage 3 students have been learning about the life cycle of different materials. Where do materials come from, how we use them and what happens when we have finished with them. Year 7 timbers, Year 8 plastics and Year 9 metals. In Year 10 we have been looking at plastics in more detail. It was good to go and see what happens at the end of a materials life cycle and what happens to Manchester rubbish. We saw how the different materials are sorted and what happens to them all afterwards.

Students also had a careers talk about all the different jobs it takes to deal with all our waste.



1. What is one of your hidden talents? I used to be a competitive swimmer for England
2. What is your favourite dish from the school cafeteria? The waffles!
3. What are your “trapped on a desert island” books? Always, Harry Potter!
4. How does technology make teaching more simple or difficult? I’m not the best at technology but I find it fascinating to learn new skills and learn off students that are great at it!
5. What would the students be surprised to find out about you? When I was 2 I fit 12 peas up my nose (Do not try at home!)
6. What inspires you? My faith, and the faith of others, no matter what you believe in!
7. Are there any embarrassing teaching moments you are willing to share? What are they? I was once covering a lesson at my new school and two children were arguing, I told them to stop flirting and I found out they were cousins!



With Remembrance Day fast approaching the Knit and Stitch group will be knitting and crocheting some designer poppies to sell in the week running up to November 11th.



MUSIC NEWSLETTER



Issue 001

Each year group:

Year 7: Rhythm Makers: Djembe Drumming and Indian music

Year 8: Music From Around the World: Samba drumming, Calypso and Reggae

Year 9: Composing: The Planets by Gustav Holst, Pop Songs

What's been on this week:

Tuesday lunchtime – 'Pizzicato' Guitar Group Rome 12

Tuesday lunchtime – Theory Club Rome 11

Monday lunchtime – 'Concerto' Concert Band Rome 12

Monday and Wednesday lunchtime – 'Capriccio' Choir Rome 08

'Concerto' and 'Pizzicato' have been extending their repertoire this term, learning Wonderwall by Oasis. Concerto and Capriccio have also been busy rehearsing together to prepare for the Year 7 welcome mass, where they will perform the hymns for us.

Several performers from year 7 have been hard at work preparing piano music that they will play to entertain parents and students as we have refreshments after the year 7 Welcome Mass on Wednesday evening.



Musician of the Week

Hannah

Hannah is a budding composer and loves using technology to help her, for example, by using programmes such as BandLab and Musescore. Her latest composition is called 'Tapestry of Life' and is a wonderful piece for full orchestra. We have had the pleasure of listening to some of Hannah's work in assembly over the last year.

What to watch on TV:

One Direction: The Only Way is Up (free to stream on Plex or buy on Amazon)

Simon Cowell's right-hand woman Sinitta hosted the unofficial documentary which explored what made the boys a chart topping success. A whole host of famous famous were interviewed about them, including Kelly Rowland, Simon Cowell, Zac Efron and Piers Morgan.





TRIPS

The music department have been lucky enough to go on two trips this week.

On Tuesday 15th October, the players from 'Concerto' took the tram over to Media City to watch the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra perform a live concert broadcast on Radio 3. The concert was to celebrate 10 years of 'Ten Pieces', which are pieces of music written especially for young performers. All pieces were either performed or written by female composers, including a piece of music written by a young and upcoming composer named Cassie Kinoshi. She had written a piece of music especially for the 10-year anniversary, and a film crew were present as they were making a documentary about her. Her piece of music entitled 'The Colour of All Things Constant' featured the choir from Chetham's school of music. Afterwards we met and interviewed one of the violin players, Toby, and learnt all about his career as a musician.



On Friday 18th October the Year 10 and 11 GCSE classes went on a trip to watch the Halle Orchestra perform a concert at the Bridgewater Hall in Manchester. The concert entitled 'The Orchestra Through the Ages' included pieces studied at GCSE, such as: Mozart "Clarinet Concerto in A major", Beethoven's 1st Symphony, soloists on the flute, clarinet and voice with a stunning rendition of "Defying Gravity" from the musical "Wicked" and a fantastic finale of Stravinsky "Rite of Spring" and John Williams "Star Wars- A New Hope" theme. All the while, the music was narrated and described in detail, with audience participation of over 2000 students across multiple schools, all sharing their love of music together in perfect harmony!

COMPUTER SCIENCE NEWSLETTER



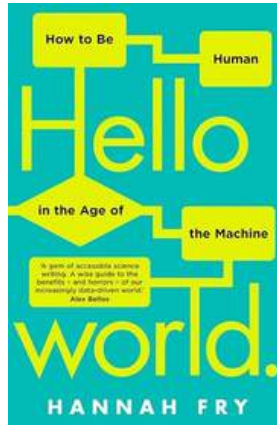
ISSUE 7

Hello!



Welcome to the Computer Science department's newsletter! In every issue we will keep you up to date with everything going on in Computer Science at BTHCC as well as things you can watch/listen/read and see that are all brimming with technology!

Book of the Week



IN THE NEWS

Meta is introducing facial recognition to combat scammers using fake celebrity endorsements in ads, targeting figures like Elon Musk and Martin Lewis. The system will compare flagged ad images with celebrities' profile photos, automatically deleting confirmed scam ads. Meta is also testing facial recognition for account recovery, though concerns remain over privacy. More here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cg565mrdz7zo>



What are we currently LEARNING?



Year 7	Year 7 have been looking at the impact that negative online comments can have on people.
Year 8	Year 8 have been looking at image audience and purpose.
Year 9	Year 9 are still using Audacity to record their voices into a radio advert.
Year 10	Year 10 have been looking at searching algorithms and representing images.
Year 11	Year 11 have been looking at structured and testing programming.
Year 12	Year 12 have been looking at TCP/IP stack and protocols.
Year 13	Year 13 are carrying on with their NEA projects.

Career of the Week

AI engineers develop and implement algorithms that allow machines to perform tasks that typically require human intelligence, such as speech recognition, decision-making, and visual perception.

WHAT TO WATCH

A BRITISH SITCOM ABOUT THE STAFF OF A COMPANY'S IT DEPARTMENT. WHILE HUMOROUS, IT ALSO TOUCHES ON SOME OF THE CHALLENGES FACED BY IT PROFESSIONALS.



weekly

A **compiler** is a software tool that translates code written in a high-level programming language into machine code or a lower-level language that a computer's processor can execute.

Question Time

Which famous computer scientist is known as the "Mother of Programming" for writing the first algorithm intended to be processed by a machine?

Last weeks answer: 8 bits

FOOD AND NUTRITION

THIS WEEK

WHAT IS ON THE MENU?

Year 7: Apple Crumble
Year 8: Cous cous salad
Year 9: Chicken Tikka masala and Naan bread
Year 10: Micronutrients
Year 11: Planning for NEA1 Food Science Investigation

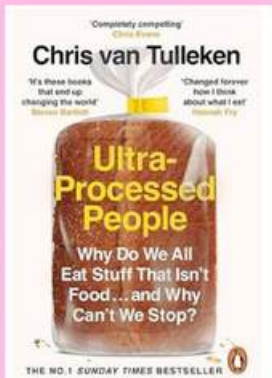


WHAT TO WATCH



Jamie Oliver 'What to eat this week' - Channel 4

BOOK OF THE WEEK



We recommend trying out, Ultra-Processed People: Why Do We All Eat Stuff That Isn't Food ... and Why Can't We Stop?



CHEF OF THE WEEK

HARRY YEAR 8

Harry year 8 who demonstrated excellent chopping skills when preparing his vegetables.

WORD OF THE WEEK

Fairtrade

Definition: Trade between companies in developed countries and producers in developing countries in which fair prices are paid to the producers.

CAREER OF THE WEEK

STREET FOOD TRADER



Street food traders run their own businesses, serving customers food and drinks from a stall or van.

AVERAGE SALARY - £70,000-£100,000

GEOGRAPHY NEWSLETTER

Hello!



Welcome to the Geography department's newsletter! In every issue we will keep you up to date with everything going on in Geography at BTHCC as well as things you can watch/listen/read and see that are all brimming with geography!

What to Watch!



BBC
iPLAYER



In the first episode of this two-part travel series, Simon Reeve travels from the islands of the Aegean to Greece's capital, Athens. He meets an extraordinary cast of characters, from gun-toting priests to the last remaining sponge divers. Getting behind the picture postcard image of this beautiful country, he finds out how the Greeks are coming to terms with a seemingly endless crisis.

What are we currently learning?!

YEAR 7	Year 7 have been completing their end of unit assessments and reflecting on the travel blogs that they have all written.
YEAR 8	Year 8 have been revising and completing their Global Issues end of unit assessment, in preparation for beginning their new topic next half term
YEAR 9	Year 9 have also been doing their end of unit assessment on Manchester, ready to start learning about rivers in November!
YEAR 10	Year 10 have begun the climate topic, they have started to look at global atmospheric circulation.
YEAR 11	Year 11 have been comparing the difference between the regeneration in Ancoats and Cheetham Hill.
YEAR 12	Year 12 have looked at how waves influence beach profiles in physical, and they have also gone through a 12 marker in human!
YEAR 13	Year 13 are completing their centre assessments and we are wishing them the best of luck!

Geography in the News



A third of people in Spain say their local area now has too many international visitors, according to a continent-wide survey that has found most people across Europe are sympathetic to protests against overtourism and back steps to combat it. The YouGov survey comes after a summer of demonstrations and urgent warnings against the impact of mass tourism from Santorini to the Canary Islands, and measures aimed at reducing it announced from the Cinque Terre to Amsterdam.

Career of the week



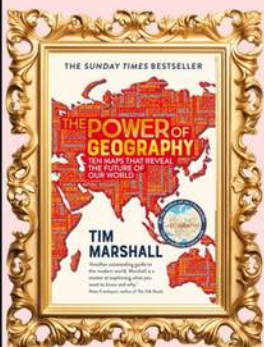
As a **paleontologist**, you could:

- carry out research and write scientific papers
- work on field excavations or digs, collecting data and specimens
- work in laboratories, carrying out experiments and testing on fossils using various analytical methods such as CT scanning and electron microscopy
- carry out data modelling and analyse data for research
- record and classify specimens
- write articles for publications such as professional journals and magazines
- manage displays and exhibitions

'Riverting' Reads



Our book recommendation this week comes from **Mrs Williams**. "I really enjoy reading all of **Tim Marshall's** books. I like reading and learning new things, it helps me to understand why the world is the way that it is. He writes it in an engaging way which keeps me entertained and wanting to read more! I highly recommend this book to all pupils, but especially our pupils doing Geography at KS4 and KS5"



Geography Phrasebook



Ecosystem: known as a biological community of interacting organisms and their physical environment working together and interacting as one whole system.

Environment: it is everything that is around us; all living or non-living things occurring naturally and coexisting together.

Evaporation: the process of water turning into vapour is known as evaporation.