

Blessed George Napier Catholic School and Sixth Form



As October is the month of the Holy Rosary, we ask for the intercession of Our Lady during this time.

*Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy, our Life, our Sweetness, and our hope.
To thee we cry, poor banished children of Eve.*

*To thee we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.
Turn then most gracious advocate, Thine eyes of mercy toward us,
and after this, our exile, show unto us, the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.
Pray for us O Holy Mother of God,
That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

Amen.

Key Stage 5 Weekly Bulletin: Week Ending Friday 16th October 2020

Dates for your diary:

- Friday 6th November – Please order your school photograph by this date to benefit from free delivery to the school.
- Tuesday 17th November – This is an extra school photograph date for only those year 12 students who missed having their photo taken on 13th October. Please be at school by 9am and dress smartly.

Important information and reminders

- **9 day challenge:** Half term is 9 days long and we have challenged students to use their time wisely. Please see the attached revision plan which all students should complete and stick to. Year 13 might also add in time for personal statements to be written.
- **Absence from school:** Just a little reminder that if your son or daughter is unable to attend a lesson, due to illness or an appointment, you must contact the absence line.
- **UK University and Apprenticeship search:** In previous years, Year 12s visited a Higher Education Exhibition at Brunel University in March, where students talked to university and apprenticeship representatives and they returned home with many prospectuses. Students then went to individual Open Day visits to university campuses in the Spring. Due to COVID-19, all the information for **Year 12 and 13 students** has gone virtual. UK Unisearch will be hosting 10 Webinars on **Wednesday 4th November from 12pm to 6pm**. The event is completely free of charge, and open to students in Year 12 and 13. To book a place for students or parents please visit: <https://ukunisearch-london.vfairs.com/en>
Webinar topics include:
 - Choosing a Course
 - Personal statements
 - Studying in Scotland
 - Higher and Degree apprenticeships
 - Life at University
 - Introduction to creative careers
 - Why study at a business school, Student finance
 - Why choose an apprenticeship?Details of presenters and times are found on the following link: <https://ukunisearch-london.vfairs.com/en/webinar-timetable>
- **Virtual UCAS taster** event dedicated to specific subject-areas so you can get all the info and advice you need:
 - [UCAS futures in social sciences, humanities, and teaching](#) – 23 & 24 October
 - [UCAS futures in maths, engineering, and computing](#) – 2 & 3 November
 - [UCAS futures in the creative arts](#) – 13 & 14 NovemberPlease apply through: <https://www.ucas.com/ucas/events/find/scheme/virtual-and->

[digital/type/scheme/virtual-and-digital/type/exhibition](#)

- **UniTasterDays:** There are lots of events listed in many different subject areas. Please visit this link <https://www.unitasterdays.com/Search.aspx?MILES=99999&PC=OX169HY>
- **University of Bristol Bursaries:** [We have a new programme of scholarships](#) which will support around 130 Black and mixed-Black heritage students over the next four years, totalling more than £1million in bursaries. One part of our new programme to support Black heritage students, is to provide 20 Black Futures Scholarships. A scholarship comprises of a £2,000 bursary, targeted support from the Careers Service and funding to support employability opportunities. To find out more and apply for this bursary, please [click here](#)

Year 12 Messages:

- **Aspiring Professionals Programme:** Applications are now open for the Social Mobility Foundation's [2021 Aspiring Professionals Programme](#). This supports ambitious, high achieving young people from low-income backgrounds to access top universities and professional careers. The programme is free of charge and features university application support including free visits (when possible!), mentoring and internships with leading companies, and professional development and skills workshops
- **University of Bristol Taster events: Explore!** These virtual taster events will help you explore what it would be like to study various courses at degree level. [Visit this webpage to find out more. Forward this sign up link onto your students.](#) If you have any questions please email uob-tasterevents@bristol.ac.uk
17 - 20 November. Applications close on 23 October
- **University of Bristol: Re-launch: Library of key subject specific Virtual Resources**
To access our easy to navigate library of subject specific resources, including pre-recorded lectures, lesson plans, podcasts and blogs you and your students can [sign up following this link](#).
- **Reading Scholars applications now open:** The deadline for applications is 6th November 2020. Consisting of four events (virtual or on-campus), the Reading Scholars programme will give Year 12 students an insight into the Higher Education environment, experience of a range of academic sessions within their chosen strand (14 strands in total, including a Law strand this year for the first time), and the opportunity to receive mentoring support from one of our current students studying a subject related to their strand. The Reading Scholars programme is particularly beneficial to those considering applying to the University of Reading due to the following benefits for those completing the programme:
 - Guaranteed conditional offer or invite to interview if applying to University of Reading
 - Two grade drop on most courses where made an offer from the University of Reading
 - If University of Reading offer is firm choice, can apply for £1000 Reading Scholars bursary in first yearhttps://www.reading.ac.uk/web/files/ta/Reading_Scholars_Yr12_Brochure_2021.pdf?dm_i=4R68,EMY9,XWCJ8,1PF4T,1
- **Pathways to Law programme:** <https://www.law.ox.ac.uk/admissions/pathways-law> Past students have benefitted from this programme by having reduced grade university offers in law and other university courses. Applications are now open for the 2020/2021, Information on the selection criteria and application form can be found on [The Sutton Trust Website](#).

Year 13 Messages:

- **Personal Statements:** If you need **help with your personal statement**, email Mrs Ellul a short paragraph about what you want to study, and what readings, TED talks, MOOCs, and podcasts you've experienced.
- **Webinars:** A series of short webinars for parents and students including A University Guide for Parents, via Unitaster: <https://app.geckiform.com/public/#/modern/FOEU0401nFTGvbRV>
- *A University How to Guide for Parents, Carers and Guardians – 1st December 6pm*
- *Student finance and managing your money at university – 3rd December at 4.30pm*
- **The Birmingham University Undergraduate index:** Please visit <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/shape-your-future/index.aspx> This allows you to explore courses, and attend talks and subject tasters.

- **University of Bristol: BAME @ Bristol - Arts and Social Sciences and Law**
Following a successful event from Science, this event will offer the opportunity to hear from current BAME undergraduate students studying English, History, Languages, Economics, Politics and more. [Students can sign up following this link](#). 5 November - 5pm.
- **Swansea University:** presents virtual sessions to prepare you for university. <https://www.swansea.ac.uk/som/schools-engagement/virtual-sessions/> The College of Arts and Humanities at Swansea University are holding several webinars for students to find out more about a variety of different subjects and they also have virtual open days soon. Students will have the opportunity to meet Academics, Colleagues and Student Ambassadors to discuss:
 - Course content
 - Where your degree can take you (Workplace skills and common careers - Employability)
 - Student experience - discuss with a student their experience of university including fresher's week and their societies experience
 - Q&A opportunity with recruitment staff and students.
- **UCAS Live and Virtual Exhibitions:** Right now, 73% of students applying to university and college are yet to decide their final choices. With many open days cancelled, students need more help than ever to get the facts they need to make informed decisions. To help, UCAS is hosting live, virtual exhibitions, dedicated to their interests. With advice on how to research options during the pandemic, writing personal statements, and student finance, it's your chance to get their questions answered by subject and admissions specialists.
Go on the link to book your place
<https://click.email.ucas.com/?qs=860995dd0c62e58f2944de8e50cfc046c1aea4c15d246e948d18a71728942e5749158a74660807210003c4f36f0213bad5c370f4847d1e67>
- **Apprenticeships:** For Apprenticeships in IT, Engineering, Accountancy and much more please visit <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resource/coding-week-poster-bundle/>
- **Choosing 5 universities:** Have a look at university leagues tables to ensure you are aiming high, and that your insurance choice is not too far down the list for your subject. <https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/league-tables/rankings> and <https://www.theguardian.com/education/ng-interactive/2020/sep/05/the-best-uk-universities-2021-league-table>
- **Subject taster days.** These are available through: <https://www.unitasterdays.com/ut-tuesdays.aspx>
- **Examples of personal statements:** These may be a great inspiration, but please be aware to remain original as plagiarism will be picked up: <https://universitycompare.com/personal-statement-examples/>

If you have any questions relating to anything Sixth Form, please contact:

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