

# Blessed George Napier Catholic School and Sixth Form



*A Prayer for the third week of Advent.*

## Christmas Prayer of Pope John XXIII

O sweet Child of Bethlehem,  
grant that we may share with all our  
hearts in this profound  
mystery of Christmas.  
Put into the hearts of men and women  
this peace for which they  
sometimes seek so desperately  
and which you alone can give to them.  
Help them to know one another better,  
and to live as brothers and sisters,  
children of the same Father.  
Reveal to them also your beauty,  
holiness and purity.  
Awaken in their hearts love  
and gratitude for your infinite goodness.  
Join them all together in your love.  
And give us your heavenly peace. Amen

## Key Stage 5 Weekly Bulletin: Week Ending Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND REMINDERS



This has been a challenging term for us all in so many ways. School has had to change to become Covid secure and this has had a significant impact on our teaching and learning. Students have lost a lot of their 'social' time in school and it has not been so easy for us to meet together as a community. Despite these difficulties, we welcome our largest Year 12 ever and say 'thank you' for the way you have settled into sixth form and congratulate you on your progress so far. Year 13 has risen to the challenge of making crucial decisions about their future destinations without being able to attend 'real' open days and we have our largest number of Oxbridge candidates ever in this cohort! So, a huge thank you for working together and with us to adjust to the 'new normal' and for not letting the current restrictions limit your horizons or define your year. Have a wonderful and well-earned break, take care and stay safe please. Happy Christmas

- **Covid 19:** The festive period is an important time of year for many of us. This has been a difficult year and Christmas will not be the same as normal. Whilst we recognise that you will want to be around your family and friends, and that the Government has relaxed the rules for a short period, please act responsibly and adhere to the guidelines. Thank you.
- **Signing in and out sheets:** In the New Year, you will still be required to sign in and out in the LRC. The only slight amendment to the signing in and out sheets is that you will now be required to write down the times that you are signing in and out.
- **Christmas planner:** Students have been asked to complete a Christmas holiday planner, a further copy of which is attached. The aim of this is to encourage them to strike the right balance between having a relaxing break and being ready for school on 5<sup>th</sup> January. They use it to identify when they can work on homework / NEA / EPQ / consolidation / revision and getting ahead for

next term. Thanks for your support with this.

- **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.



## YEAR 12

- **Oxbridge - Newsletter for Prospective Applicants:**  
This is a new initiative run by the Cambridge Admissions Office. It is a monthly newsletter for pupils who intend to apply to Cambridge in October 2021, for entry in 2022. Pupils can sign up using this form: <https://app.geckiform.com/public/#/modern/21FO00rhq2ami800h813veoiv2>. There is no deadline, so they can sign up at any point to begin receiving emails.
- **Summer Schools : Discover Bath** Summer School programme (available in 21 different subject areas) which may be suitable for some of your Year 12 learners. Discover Bath is a summer programme taking place over 4 days in August 2021. The focus is on a 4-day summer school, where students will work on university level work and will have some work to do before and afterwards to make the most of the experience.
- **Yr12 Online Summer schools:**  
**These Summer Schools are run in partnership with the Sutton Trust.** Every year, UCL runs a number of Summer Schools for Year 12 state school students. The Summer Schools offer a taste of studying a degree programme and of university life.  
Students can register their interest now on our website or visit <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/widening-participation/learners/year-12-and-13/year-12-summer-school-online>  
Full applications open on Monday, 11 January and close on Tuesday, 2 March 2021.
- **YR12 free masterclasses online – Apply early to secure a place**  
Each Masterclass will include the opportunity for students to ask questions about the topic presented. After each Masterclass, we will send out a short further reading list if students wish to learn more about the subject. This can be a great way to kick start wider reading and demonstrate their interest in the subject when they come to write their UCAS Personal Statements. The deadline is Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January at 23:59. For further information and an application form please visit <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/widening-participation/learners/year-12-and-13/masterclasses>
- **Oxbridge virtual conferences:** BOOK NOW to secure a place. Bookings for the Oxford and Cambridge Student Conferences 2021 will be different to previous years. This year, we are asking students to book themselves on to the conference. Teachers will still need to book themselves on in order to access our teacher content, but we hope that this new system will make your lives easier during a busy time. Bookings will **open in January 2021** and can be made via our **website**.
- **Year 12 Summer School:** Sutton Trust UK Summer Schools give you the chance to experience what university life is really like. Please visit <https://summerschools.suttontrust.com/>
- **Cambridge Sixth Form Law Conference – Year 12:** Exciting opportunity for current year 12 students who are interested in studying law. The 2021 Conference will involve a 2 or 3-hour interactive online session, of Law. The interactive sessions will **run between Monday 22nd March and Friday 26th March**. Applications open at **9am on Tuesday 1st December 2020**. This year, eligibility will be based on widening participation criteria. This will be students who:
  - Are currently or have ever been in local authority care
  - Are or have recently been eligible for Free School Meals
  - Have a self-declared disability
  - Would be the first in their generation to attend higher education Are recognised as a refugee or are a person seeking asylumApplications will close once we have reached a capacity of 800 and so we recommend that you submit your application as soon as possible. If this capacity is not met, applications will close on 31st December 2020. (<http://www.cambridgesixthformlawconference.com>)



## VIRTUAL TASTER DAYS

- **Birmingham University:** Birmingham University have announced extra flexibility for 2021 admissions - Given Covid-disruption, they are reducing entry requirements across their programmes by at least one grade on the typical offer. This is in addition to pre-existing reductions, such as those related to the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) (where students get have their offer reduced by one grade with an A in their EPQ), the 'Pathways to Birmingham' programmes, and contextual offers. Visit Virtual Open days at Birmingham University on <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/how-to-apply/index.aspx>
- **UniTaster Tuesdays** - Online weekly university guidance webinars #UTDIAG. UniTasterDays in collaboration with HELOA are delivering impartial university guidance webinars at 12pm and 2pm every Tuesday. They have one key aim - to support students considering university to make informed decisions. <https://www.unitasterdays.com/ut-tuesdays.aspx>
- **Uni Taster Days:** De Montfort University talks have created a new resource for students. This bespoke student toolkit will cut through the noise, help students understand the process of applying to university and find out if university is right for you. Please visit <https://www.unitasterdays.com/common/ect.aspx?trackId=5&t=2&f=24&mid=7131&ds=06/11/2020&url=https%3a%2f%2fwww.dmu.ac.uk%2fstudy%2flive-stream%2findex.aspx>
- **Virtual UCAS taster:** This event dedicated to specific subject-areas so you can get all the info and advice you need: Please 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>



## POST 18 CAREERS

- **Become an allied health professional.** There are [15 different allied health professional roles](#) and they each work across a range of sectors in the NHS, from emergency response and diagnosis to mental and physical rehabilitation. Each role plays a crucial part in treating, rehabilitating and improving patient's lives. Students will have the opportunity to get involved from day one, working alongside specialists from all levels who will support and mentor them throughout their career. For further information, please visit the link above.
- **Apprenticeships:** The list of current **apprenticeship vacancies** includes Nestlé, Virgin Media, Network Rail, Sky and more. With hundreds of vacancies to browse, Christmas is the perfect time to start thinking about applying for that perfect apprenticeship! [https://amazingapprenticeships.com/vacancies/time-to-apply/?utm\\_source=mailchimp&utm\\_medium=Xmas%20vacancies%20article&utm\\_campaign=Xmas%20vacancies](https://amazingapprenticeships.com/vacancies/time-to-apply/?utm_source=mailchimp&utm_medium=Xmas%20vacancies%20article&utm_campaign=Xmas%20vacancies)
- **All About Apprenticeships - December Parents' and Carers's pack** – In the [December issue](#) we look at volunteering, Post-16 SEND options, T Level subjects coming soon, apprenticeship award winners, Traineeships FAQs, Job coach support and more! Please click on the link above for more details and to view the December issue.
- **Apprenticeships:** For Apprenticeships in IT, Engineering, Accountancy and much more please visit <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resource/coding-week-poster-bundle/>



## UCAS AND FINANCE INFORMATION

- **Financial support for a degree in healthcare:** All students will receive at least £5000 a year to help them with their studies, and they won't have to pay a penny back. You can [apply here](#) if you have any questions, give them a call on 0345 6060 655 or email [advice@healthcareers.nhs.uk](mailto:advice@healthcareers.nhs.uk)
- **UCAS preparation Yr12:** Applications for the King's College London [Online Medicine and Dentistry Lecture Series](#) are now open. There will be online lectures and they will also learn about the different elements of applying to medicine and dentistry including the UCAT, Personal Statements, and Interviews. Lectures will be held online on Wednesday's at 6-7pm and will run in blocks of three throughout 2021. The first three lectures will take place on 03 February, 10 February, and 17 February. The remaining nine lectures will take place in Spring, Summer and in the run up to applications in October. For more information about eligibility criteria and to apply, [students](#)

[should follow this link](#). The deadline to apply is **10:00 Monday 18 January**.

- **UCAS applications:** Keep working on your UCAS applications - please ensure you check your subject exam boards on your application.
- **Finance** -Information on eligibility and Loan payments/repayments can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/student-finance>
- **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/>
- **Portfolio for interview:** Get advice and information about putting together a portfolio ready for interview visit <https://www.unitasterdays.com/events/event/62341/portfolio-advice>
- **UCAS support from Sheffield university:** Please visit [https://explore.sheffield.ac.uk/areas-of-interest/how-toapply?utm\\_source=Uni%20UK&utm\\_medium=Link%20from%20email&utm\\_campaign=November%20emaily](https://explore.sheffield.ac.uk/areas-of-interest/how-toapply?utm_source=Uni%20UK&utm_medium=Link%20from%20email&utm_campaign=November%20emaily)

## VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE

- UNIFROG have just added **virtual work experience** opportunities to the Unifrog platform! Students can now search for virtual work experience placements at top employers around the world using the Special opportunities tool. Some of the FREE opportunities include:
  - **JPMorgan Chase** Investment Banking Virtual Experience
  - **Accenture** Virtual Experience Programmes
  - **Clifford Chance** Business and Human Rights Global Virtual Internship
  - **HM Government** Cyber Discovery Virtual Work Experience

Students can also find paid-for programmes such as InvestIN's Future Doctor Programme.

### **How do I find these opportunities?**

The virtual WEX placements are all on the **Special opportunities tool**. You can find the tool in the 'Searching for opportunities' section of the Student homepage

## OTHER INFORMATION

*'Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year'*

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

Mrs O'Donnell – [SODonnell@bgn.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:SODonnell@bgn.oxon.sch.uk)

Mr Thornton – [wtho0370@bgn.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:wtho0370@bgn.oxon.sch.uk)

Mrs Ellul – [mell8376@bgn.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:mell8376@bgn.oxon.sch.uk)

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