

A New School Year

The first few days back have gone very smoothly and all students have made a positive, encouraging start to the term. What is good to see is that most students are well prepared for school with full uniform and equipment. Our new intake of Year 7 had their induction day on Wednesday and Year 12 on Thursday. Each Year group had an assembly to start the new academic year off and a period of time with their form tutor to get organised for lessons and to settle in. Three of the key messages this year are to remember our manners at school, to be happy at school and to try to be more independent in our learning, by being more resourceful and resilient when we get stuck.

Our exam results were again very good indeed. I am delighted that at GCSE 74% of students achieved at least a Level 4 in English and Maths, which is the equivalent of the old 'C' grade measure. This was reported in the Bury Free Press on 24th August if you wish to read the article for yourself. In addition, 83% of students achieved a level 4 or above in English with 32% of students achieving a level 7 or above which is the old A/A* measure and 78% in Maths with 25% achieving a level 7 or above. At A Level our results were again excellent with most students getting into their choice of university. Congratulations and well done to all students.

Speaking to students in Year 7, it is clear that they have enjoyed their first week at school. Many have said how much they like moving to different classrooms for their lessons instead of staying in one place and one student expressed how now he is excited about coming to school whereas before he wasn't! Another student told me what she had done in her favourite lesson of the day which had been R.E. which was to use a picture to identify different religions.

We welcome a number of new members of staff to school:

Mr Wright – Deputy Head

Mrs C Laird – Associate Deputy Head (Seconded)

Mrs L Davis – Head of Music

Mrs M Holmes – Teacher of Maths

Mrs N Macey – LSA

And three trainee teachers:

Mrs S Bowyer – Teacher of RE

Mrs L Eastwood – Teacher of Maths

Miss H Keevill – Teacher of Maths

These members of staff have also taken up new roles:

Mrs S Place – Second in English

Mrs S Newton – Subject Leader for Geography

Ms E Coogan – Able, Gifted and Talented Coordinator

Social Media

St Benedict's social media will see much more use this year! You can find us in the following ways:

Twitter: @StBenSchool

Facebook: Search for "St Benedict's Catholic School" or go to <https://www.facebook.com/St-Benedicts-Catholic-School-114533595928993/>

Instagram: @StBenSchool

We are in the process of getting our Facebook page verified so it is official...if you are on Facebook, search for "St Benedict's Catholic School" and look for the school logo (the old St Benedict's Roman Catholic Upper School Facebook map check-in was never affiliated to us).

Polite Reminders

Uniform

We are formalising our sanctions for students who do not follow the uniform code. Lunchtime detentions will take place for all students who are not in correct uniform and will continue, daily, until the uniform is corrected. It is therefore essential that you are mindful when making your purchases that they conform to our uniform code.

Car Parks

Can we please ask parents to refrain from using the front and rear car parks at the beginning and end of the day when dropping off and collecting your child.

Parent Pay

If you see a reminder on your parent pay for locker keys, this is only for new keys or replacements you do not need to pay for another one.

Attendance

Can you please let us know as soon as possible if your child is not going to be in school either by phone and leave a message on attendance or via email attendance@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk

St Benedict's News

