



School Council Litter Pick Up

Mr Tatum's assembly this week was about 'Care for our Common Home' in which he linked Pope Francis's papal encyclical *Laudato si'* with the forthcoming COP26 conference in Glasgow (in November) and environmental matters closer to home – the school field!

Throughout this academic year, the Student Council have also been keen to do something to improve our school environment and proposed an after school 'Litter Pick'. So, on Thursday 19th May eighteen students ranging from Years 7 – 12 chose to give up some of their own time to conduct a 'deep clean' of the school field.



It was fantastic to see the students identify a problem, propose a solution and take action to rectify it. Fuelled by some post-school refreshments to keep their energy levels up, the students divided up into year group bubbles and set to work clearing the school field and concentrating on the edges and corners where the wind-blown litter gathers.

They devised their own competitions along the way to keep them motivated by seeing how many bags they could fill, who could fill the heaviest bag and who could find the wrapper with the oldest sell by date. In the end they managed to fill an incredible 12 bags of rubbish. Along the way they managed to find a ball, a Christmas decoration and a locker key!

While the vast majority of our students are very responsible when it comes to disposing of their rubbish, the amount of litter showed that there is still room for improvement. Part of the problem is to do with excessive packaging and the Student Council would like to urge students to use re-usable containers, wrappers and drinks bottles to reduce the amount of rubbish that finds its way on to the field.

On a slightly different but connected issue, the Student Council raised a concern about the non-recyclable containers and cutlery used in the canteen. The Senior Leadership Team quickly responded to this issue and have now moved to recyclable versions. As Pope Francis wrote in *Laudato si'*, 'Young people demand change. They wonder how anyone can claim to be building a better future without thinking of the environmental crisis and the suffering of the excluded.'

At the end of Mr Tatum's thought-provoking assembly, he threw down four challenges for the St Benedict's community: Never walk past litter; Deep clean of the school field; Reduce the environmental impact of the school; Respect our surroundings. The Student Council have already made some progress regarding these, but sustained change can only be achieved by everyone playing their part.

Charity Haircuts

Over this last week some students and staff have noticed Mrs Berry has changed her hair style. She had joined with three others to cut off their hair to send off to the Little Princess Trust to help make wigs for those who have lost their hair during Cancer treatment. Mrs Berry allowed the others to cut 30cm of her hair off and they followed too getting roughly the same chopped off theirs.



Luckily, a local hairdresser and mother of an ex-student had donated her time and skill to finish off the cuts. We would all like to say thank you for your kind comments and ask if you fancy giving it a go, please do, the Little Princess Trust are always looking for more donations and so if you have at least 7 inches to spare they'll take it. Their website if you are interested in donating is www.littleprincesses.org.uk.



Music Lessons

Reminder that instrumental lessons paperwork needs to be returned by Friday 28th May. tdenny@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk

COVID Tests

COVID tests will be sent home with your child today. Thank you all for continuing with the testing.



Year 7 Update

How good it has been to see so many year 7 students enjoying the range of clubs we have been able to offer, please do encourage your son/daughter to get involved as the term progresses. They are all welcome and do not have to have any previous experience to join a school club.

Please can I also ask you to be vigilant when checking your child's phone? My concerns around technology continue and we still see students using their phones inappropriately. In particular, the sending and receiving of multiple messages over a short period of time on Whats App. Even if you know your son/daughter would not send an inappropriate message it is important that you check to see if they have received any unkind communications. Your continued support for this is appreciated.

Finally, we really enjoy celebrating the success of our students so if there is something they have achieved out of school please do let us know.

Have a good weekend.

Mrs Smart

RoyalMail Stamp Competition - Honouring The Heroes of the COVID Pandemic

Year 7 and 8A have produced some wonderful, imaginative and heart felt designs, celebrating the heroes of the Pandemic. Their designs will be judged in this national competition and we are keeping our fingers crossed that one of our young artists will win the opportunity to have their design made into a real stamp for circulation around the country.

Each of the participating classes has also been awarded a first and second prize as well as an overall winner. Choosing a winner was very difficult and we would like to congratulate all who entered a design. The prizes will be awarded in class.

Well done!

Miss Macdougall

The Art Department

Here are the winners:

Overall winner: Elisha Gamboa, 7B



Year 7

Alexandra Krennek, Katie Douglas, Joseph Marris, Maxim Zak
Darien Almojuela, Nataniel Migula, Rosie Pullen, Ella Niblo,
Alicja Jagodzick, Amelia Funge, Isadora Edwards, Jakub Cwiklik

Year 8

Maria James, Claudia Bergin

Commendations go to:

Ciara Evans, Vanessa Zybalá, Matilda Anjo, Alicia Abreu,
Martha Harvey, Ryan McKenzie, Ryan John, Claudia Scott,

Tania Roy, Isabel Basham, Alicia Rosa, Miamh Walker, Vakare Camilo, Isabella Ledgerton, Helena Bulacz, Kasper Jensen,
Arthur Todd, Marianna Costa Santos, Rowen Draper, Penny Davies, Finn Senior, Emre Ertem

Year 11 Transitions/Leavers Day

I am pleased to inform you that we are having a Transition/Leavers Day for our year 11s on Friday 18th June. This is going to be a lovely afternoon where the students can hang out with their friends, enjoy food, activities and music. There will be a BBQ, ice cream and a selection of inflatable/activities for the students to enjoy.

We are very much looking forward to celebrating the end of assessments and rewarding the students after what has been a very tough two years for them.

To enable the afternoon to go ahead, we are asking for a contribution of £5 per student and request that this is paid via Parent Pay by Friday 28th May (last day of term). I am afraid that we are not able to accept cash payments – if you have not registered for Parentpay, please contact the school and we will send the necessary information out for you.

If a vegetarian BBQ option is required, please mention this in the 'comments' section of Parentpay.

Miss Cox

Non Uniform Day

Next Friday we are having a non uniform day where we will be collecting money for the Cambodia Literacy Appeal, we are asking for donations of a £1 but if you want to give more that would be very welcome. You can pay via parentpay.

Mock Exams

Year 10 and 12 Mock Exam timetables are now on the school website.