



School Defibrillator

As you will be aware, the school was asked to establish and run a COVID testing centre in school from January until March. The DfE has provided schools with additional funding to pay for the staff they anticipated were required to run the testing centre. As a school we took a decision that the most efficient and appropriate way for us to run our testing centre was for the Senior Leadership team of the school to run and administer this and therefore we did not have any additional costs as a result of setting this up. Now that the funding has arrived in school we have looked to invest this in areas that will benefit the school community. We decided that we would use this funding to purchase a defibrillator for the school. Whilst we hope that we will never have cause to use this, we know that for every minute after someone suffers a cardiac arrest, they lose 10% of their survival chances. Having an accessible defibrillator on school site is an important step we can take to try to ensure that if the worst were to happen, we would do all within our power to get the right help to whoever needs it. The defibrillator is stored on a hook outside reception.

Competition Time

500 Word Short Story

The English Department would like to invite all students to enter their annual short story competition. Our previous winners have gone on to win county poetry competitions and have been published in The Bury Free Press. So if you have an idea we would love to see your stories. This could be the beginning of your writing journey.

This year's theme : Freedom/ liberty

- Your story could be an old folk tale that has been passed down through the family, or one that has become a family favourite
- Your story could be based on the idea of an adventure where the character gains freedom/ liberty – You could think about Mr Tumnus from "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe".
- It could be individual pursuit of freedom/liberty from a person or a situation – like, for example, Ariel in "The Tempest"
- It could be based other- worldly adventures such as "the Hobbit" or think about Jenny Weasley's pursuit for freedom from Tom Riddle's diary.
- It could be based in reality – Pursuit of /gain of freedom from a bully, gang or difficult situation.

Entrants: Year 7, 8, 9 and 10

Winners

- The winning stories will be published in "The BAM"
- Each winning entry and two runners-up from each year group will receive a gift token.

Mrs Oakes

Tutor Parents' Evenings

The tutor parent evenings for years 7,8,9,10 and 12 are scheduled to take place on Tuesday July 13th and Thursday July 15th from 17:00 to 19:00. They will unfortunately have to take place remotely but bookings on Edulink will open on 29th June at 17:00 p.m. Please look out for a letter explaining how to book these and then an email from the tutor on how to join the meeting at the booked time.

Many thanks

Mr D'Mello

Reading Rewards Week

Advance notice that 5th to 9th July will be Reading Rewards Week. During this week, all students will take part in reading activities in tutor time and lessons, and have the opportunity to complete extra-curricular projects linked to reading.

As part of tutor time activities, we will be running a Book Exchange in tutor groups. If you have any unwanted books on shelves at home that you think another student would enjoy reading, please bring them in to exchange. Tutors will be collecting the books on Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th, then they will be quarantined before the Book Exchange on Friday morning.

We will also be running a Design a Bookmark competition. Details are available from the Library or you can download the digital template from Student Shared Area > Learning Resource Centre > Reading Rewards Week > Bookmark template. Entries should be submitted to the Library by Tuesday 13th July. All winning entries will have their bookmarks printed and copies will be kept in the library for students to use.

Mrs Oakes

Maths Winner's

Winners of the bronze, silver, gold and pink Kangaroo awards for Maths, a big well done to them all.



Art Exhibition

Last night we held our annual art exhibition of GCSE and A Level work, a big thank you to those that took time to come and view the work of our very talented artists



Year 11 Leavers Day



What a wonderful morning we had yesterday! Pretty much the whole year group come back in to celebrate their time here at St Benedict's, the

sun was shining, everyone had a smile on their face, it was a fantastic atmosphere! It was great to see so many of them enjoying the inflatables, signing each other's shirts, and simply chatting to each other and the staff.

Thank you very much to Carolyn, the kitchen staff and Mr Tatum for providing the BBQ and the ice creams, they went down a treat! Thank you also to all of the year 11 tutors who spent the morning joining in with the celebrations.



Many of them have been tutors of the year group for a long time, so it nice for them to be able to say a proper goodbye. Thank you to Mr Spiller, our school chaplain who led a beautiful reflection and a chance for the students to quietly look back on their time here at St Benedict's. The morning ended with a thoughtful and inspiring message from Mrs Senior, whose words I am sure will stay with the students for a long time. Year 11 are loved and will always be part of the St Benedict's family. We are always here for our students, current or past, so please do keep in touch! We look forward to seeing them all dressed up in their prom outfits at Ravenwood Hall at the end of the term!

Best wishes,

Miss Cox

Charity Week 5th - 9th July

Monday the 5th July will mark the beginning of charity week. Each year group will raise money for a charity of their choice on a different day of the week:

Monday 5th July - Year 7
Tuesday 6th July - Year 8
Wednesday 7th July - Year 9
Thursday 8th July - Year 10
Friday 9th July - Year 12



On their designated day the students in that year group will be a non-uniform/fancy dress day, and hold a bake sale on the AstroTurf. This week, the students in each year group have been thinking of charities that they would like to support and fancy dress themes. These ideas will be collated and the students in each year group will be able to vote (via Microsoft Forms) for which charity they would like to support and a theme for their fancy dress. There will be prizes for the best fancy dress costume in each year group.



The deadline for voting will be on Sunday 27th June so that the results can be sent out at the beginning of next week in order to give students enough time to organise fancy dress (if they choose to do so -

otherwise they can come in non-school uniform) and buy ingredients/cakes for their year group's bake sale.

This should be a very fun week and will hopefully raise well-needed funds for the charities they have chosen. Payment for the non-school uniform/fancy dress days will be made through donations on ParentPay. More details will be sent out next week.

Phones and Airpods

Can we once again remind you that students should not be using mobile phones whilst they are in school they should be kept in bags or lockers, if you need to contact your child in an emergency you can call the school office and we will pass a message on. This also applies to Airpods, we have had a number of students persistently wearing them in school. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this.

Whatsapp

We feel that it is important to make all our parents aware that Whatsapp is officially rated for users of 16 and above. (<https://www.net-aware.org.uk/networks/whatsapp/>). We are aware that many of our students use this App, and often parents are unaware of the age-rating for this. Use of this and other social media can often present challenges in school and between students and we thought it was important to draw this to your attention.