

Today we welcomed Bishop Alan Hopes to St Benedict's, he was joining us to celebrate St Benedict's day which is on the 11 July, we were due to have an outdoor mass with the whole school a celebration we were all looking forward to as it would have been the first in 2 years. Sadly the weather was unkind to us and we had to make a last minute cancellation, the good news is that the Bishop has agreed to come back to us on the 19 July to once again help us celebrate St Benedict's Day.

Y11 into Sixth Form Transition Day

Thank you to all of the students who were able to attend the Y11 into Sixth Form transition day on 2nd July. We were very pleased to welcome students from St Benedict's along with students from other schools interested in joining our sixth form for next year.

As part of the programme of events, we welcomed back past sixth formers Seren Firat, Elodie Wells, Mary Whittingdale, Alfie Dry, Will Harpur-Davies and Tom Bidewell who shared their knowledge and experiences of sixth form along with some very useful hints and tips about making the most of your time as an A Level student here at St Benedict's.

We also welcomed back Matt Fildes who spoke about the sixth form mentoring programme that will be starting in September.

The UEA shared an excellent remote session focussing on how to make the most of the opportunities that arise during 'A' level study, life after sixth form and studying at university.

Should any Year 11 student who is planning to stay on at St Benedict's Sixth Form have any questions regarding sixth form, please don't hesitate to contact me.

It was a great event and we look forward to seeing everyone on results day.

Mrs Fenner

Sixth Form Administrator and Outreach Officer

Music instrument lessons

We have exciting news of a new Violin teacher who will be joining us in September. Mrs Sokolowski was a student at St Benedict's before going to study the violin at the age of 18 in London at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama for 4 years. Since then she has been teaching the violin in schools and privately, in London and more recently in Bury St Edmunds where she grew up, as well as performing in orchestras, folk bands and chamber music groups. Mrs Sokolowski is a qualified music teacher and has also studied violin teaching with Sheila Nelson and Geza Silvay. She is enthusiastic and dedicated to achieving the very best for each student.

If you have still yet to sign up for lessons we have a few spaces left in the following:

Singing, Drums, Guitar, Strings (Violin, Viola, Cello)

Brass (Trumpet, Cornet, Trombone), Woodwind (Saxophone, Clarinet, Flute),

Apologies but piano lessons are full.

If you wish to sign up please e mail tdenny@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk ASAP.

Thank you to everyone who has already returned their forms about starting or continuing their musical instrument lessons in September.

Science News - Journal of Science

The latest edition of the Journal of Science is a unique collaboration with the school's Art Department and is subtitled "THE ART OF SCIENCE". The idea arose from a conversation with Mrs Chacksfield, Head of Art, back in January and was designed to showcase a project that Year 12 and Year 10 students had been tasked with: Golden Lockdown. The project was the brainchild of trainee teacher Miss Ruth MacDougall, inspired by the "Voyager Golden Record". Students were invited to produce work that reflected their time during lockdown, with the "Golden Record" in mind. This work has since been published on a dedicated website: <http://www.goldenlockdown.wordpress.com/>

The student's introduced their work with their own words as follows: "In January 2021 we returned to Lockdown and the indefinite prospect of working from home. To fully contemplate the hurdles and opportunities that this isolation from our teachers and friends imposed, we were challenged to step outside our comfort zones, look skyward and consider life on earth as we knew it and as we know it now."

As to present each student's work in full would merely duplicate what is already available on their website, Miss Macdougall decided to give students the further opportunity to use the written Journal as a means of enhancement, creating a statement by giving an overview of their work as well as selecting key images. It would therefore add a new dimension to their work.

But what exactly is the "Voyager Golden Record"? In 1977 renowned cosmologist and writer, Professor Carl Sagan, led a team tasked to create a Golden Record of life on Earth, containing greetings, music, sound recordings and images. Their Golden Record, actually a gold-plated copper disc, was fixed to the side of the Voyager spacecraft and launched into space in the hope of introducing us to any inquisitive extra-terrestrials who may find it. The Voyager mission was to fly by and explore the giant planets of Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. The velocity and trajectory of the craft would then take it beyond the Solar System and into interstellar space where it might eventually enter another star system and be picked up by the residents there. By deciphering the messages on the Golden Record they would therefore realise that they are not alone in the Universe.

The Journal is available to view on the school's website and social media.

Mr Gregory



Charity Week

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! - to all of our students and parents who have helped to make our charity week so successful and so enjoyable.

The different year groups were allocated a day on which they could wear non-school uniform and hold a year group bake sale on the astro-turf at break time.

Both Year 7 and 8 voted for a 'Casual' theme for their non-uniform days (with a few adventurous students opting for fancy dress!) and brought in an amazing amount of cakes and sweet treats. Baking must have been the Sunday afternoon activity in houses across the county!

On Wednesday it was Year 9s turn to go without uniform and quite a few students (and tutors) chose to dress up in '90s' costumes - including a matching set of Year 9 and Year 9 tutor Spice Girls; so that we had 'Then' and 'Now' 'Lookalikes' touring the school grounds. Mr Hempel also revealed his alter ego as a very convincing Superman/ Christopher Reeve.



Year 10 voted for a '70s' theme and enjoyed the opportunity to wear flares and hippy chic clothing. They also enjoyed seeing their tutors dress up as they did in the 1970s - in

school uniform! Once again, the students brought in a vast array of cakes which the year group enjoyed eating at break time.

We are aware that these events don't just happen and that a lot of work goes on behind the scenes - bake sales, especially, can't happen without a lot of parental support at home, so we are very thankful for all your efforts in helping us raise money for charity and for bringing a bit of colour and joy to our last few weeks in term.



The student helpers have also been absolutely brilliant and have performed a super job in setting up the tables, displaying the cakes, selling them and clearing up afterwards.

They Year 12 day has been postponed until Monday because of St Benedict's Day but we are looking forward to them dressing up in their chosen theme of 'Characters from the 2000s' and to sample their delicious cakes - 'On your marks, get set - BAKE!'

Money raised so far:

Year 7 - St Nicholas Hopsice - £358.38

Year 8 - Macmillan Cancer Support - £345.55

Year 9 - MIND - £295.07

Year 10 - Macmillan Cancer Support - £265.40



Sports Day 14 July 2021



St Benedict's Sports day is just around the corner.....

Next week will be St Benedict's sports day which will be taking place on Wednesday 14th July. This will involve all students taking part in Athletics events which will include both track and field events. All pupils have signed up to the events in advance and we are really excited to see some competitive events this year.

Information:

- Please could we ask all students to come into school in PE kit for the whole day on Wednesday 14th July
- Bring snacks, plenty of water and sun cream. We're hoping to see the sun.
- Ice creams will be sold by 6th formers and will be available to purchase so bring your pennies.

We are super excited for the first whole school event of the year and good luck to all students! May the best combined tutor group win!!