

Introducing Chaplaincy Hubs

I'm really pleased to have reached the point where I'm letting the wider school community know about this new and exciting project!

In these coming weeks there will be 12 new teams starting, each one is a new way for the students and staff to participate in creating a better environment for the whole school community. Each team will have a specific and manageable remit which will be theirs to develop and work with. Already more than a hundred students have shown an interest in joining one or more of the new student hubs, and in the coming weeks students will be invited to come along to the first meeting. The Chaplaincy Hubs seek to do more than just promote the Faith Life of the school, they will also provide a forum for students to put faith into action.

There are 12 teams which fall into 4 broader categories

Worship	Outreach	Creative	Support
Prayer	Publicity	Art	Ideas
Resourcing	Fundraising	Drama	Tech
Liturgy	Service	Music	Stewarding

Teams will be led by staff, sixth formers and year 10s who have volunteered for the roles, and through this students will hopefully have a strong impact in the life of the school. I'm very excited and I'm looking forward to keeping you updated in future issues as these teams begin to take shape within the school. Watch this space!

Matt Spiller
School Chaplain

Support for Parents

During these unsettled times we are increasingly aware that we all need a little support from time to time below is a link to the NHS foundation trusts parental support page, which contains some useful pre-recorded workshops to support parents and their children dealing with a number of issues.

<https://www.nsfh.nhs.uk/parent-workshops>

They are free and can be accessed at anytime. If anyone needs any further support on these kind of matters or any others please feel free to contact any of our pastoral team here at St Benedict's.

Mrs Berry

Parking

Can we once again please ask parents not to use the school car parks when dropping off or picking up, it is extremely busy at both times of the day with staff and students on bikes entering or leaving the premises. There are a number of streets close to the school where you can drop off and pick up safely. We thank you in advance for your cooperation.

ESU MACE Debating Competition

On the evening of Tuesday January 25th, our year 12 debate team opposed the motion proposed by the team from Norwich High School that "This House would ban gambling". Despite some technical difficulties, the debating skills of Nokutenda Jaji, Nancy King and Bethinn Feely ensured their progress into the regional finals, the draw for which will take place next week, with the competition being staged between 21st February and 3rd March.

We are hoping that the teams will be able to debate in person, rather than remotely, as this is not only more straightforward logistically, but also supports and promotes the contest as an opportunity to meet, network and broaden all the participants' appreciation of the process and of one another. Since we have drawn opposition roles in both the previous rounds, proposing the motion we are allotted would also enrich the experience of our students. There is, perhaps, a stronger sense of anticipation than in past competitions simply because we have been denied the chance to take part in debates and public speaking for the past two years: the team and I are keen to learn the details of our next debate.

All three are also loyal members and supporters of St Benedict's debate club, co-managed by Mr Hempel (English department), which meets on a weekly basis to thrash out a wide spectrum of issues across all year groups. This has been a great success and those who attend have a hand in its evolution and methods as we make debating as spontaneous and dynamic as possible, continually welcoming new members and watching their confidence grow.

St Benedict's is, through our participation in both the Mace and the Churchill public speaking competition, now an ESU -Affiliate School.

Mrs James (English department)

ESU ORACY
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2021-22



Maths Challenge

This week 23 of our maths superstars from year 7 and 8 competed in a special 25th anniversary maths challenge. The maths challenge is a 45-minute, multiple-choice competition aimed at high ability Maths students across the UK. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve interesting problems.

The students all completed the challenge online and can revisit the site to see which questions they correctly answered while we eagerly await the final results. Our maths superstars are:

Year 7—Peyton Bovitz, Serena Bergin, Anniston Coleman, Sean Dersley, Lily Georgy, Izzy O'Flynn, George Wightman, **Year 8**—Mia Baglow, Isabel Basham, Helena Bulacz, Raf Calumpiano, Aidan Feely, Joseph Ferdinand, Ollie Hayes, Brook Larner, Lucy McLoughlin, Emma Payne, Finn Senior, Isaac Senior, Emily Vince, Ben Warner, Lola Williams

