



## Maths Challenges Success

### Intermediate Maths Challenge (IMC) 2022

The IMC is a 60-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.

We are delighted to announce that students at St Benedict's achieved 6 golds, 4 silvers and 5 bronzes in this year's IMC! To recognise the highest performers in the Challenge, UKMT awarded the top-scoring 60% of participants Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates in the ratio 3:2:1. Please see below for those who secured certificates!

**Gold:** Catherine Dunn, Adam John, Oscar Lyons, Phoebe Harpur-Davies, Taylor Valach and Raphael Spiller

**Silver:** Luc Wallace, Gregor Donnachie, Angel Jose and Fernanda Lopez-Clift

**Bronze:** Jasmine Lau, Benjamin Norman, Laurence Mayall, Henry Baldock and William Wells

Following this challenge, UKMT have invited 1500 of the highest performers to take part in one of three British Mathematical Olympiads, Adam John has qualified for a place in the Maclaurin Olympiad. Around 8000 will take part in the Pink Kangaroo, and Phoebe Harpur-Davies, Catherine Dunn, Oscar Lyons, Raphael Spiller and Taylor Valach have qualified for this. These exams will take place later this month. We are so proud of the achievements of all our pupils that took part in the Intermediate Maths Challenge.

Mrs Nichols

### MFL World Film Club. (in E5)

Do you enjoy watching foreign films (with subtitles!) and discovering the life and culture of different countries through the medium of film? Then the MFL Department's **World Film Club** is for you.

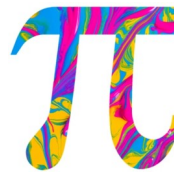
Due to popular demand Ms Wintersteller and Mrs Dalby will be showing the wonderful French Film "Les Choristes".



The first half of the film will be shown on Wednesday, 23rd of March. The second half of the film will be shown on Wednesday, 30th of March. We will start promptly at 3.50pm and will finish shortly before 5 pm.

Everybody is warmly invited to come and share our passion for film with biscuits provided. We are looking forward to seeing you on Wednesday (23/03/22) and bring along some popcorn!

Ms Wintersteller



## PI Day March 14<sup>th</sup>

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March is Pi Day. It is celebrated around the world in the 3<sup>rd</sup> month on the 14<sup>th</sup> day as it is the first digits of pi (3.14). Pi is the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter. In other words, pi equals the circumference divided by the diameter ( $\pi = c/d$ ). The value of pi has been calculated to many millions of decimal places, to no readily apparent pattern.

At St Benedict's we will be celebrating pi day on Monday with some whole school activities. Every Maths lesson on Monday will include a pi activity. There will be pi puzzles and crafts in E2 at lunchtime. Also we will be running 3 competitions open to all students to participate in throughout the week.

### Competition 1: Treasure Hunt.

Look for the clues around the school and answer the maths questions. The answers will all be digits of Pi. Write the answer to the maths question and the location in the school on a piece of paper. There are ten questions to find, can you find them all?!

### Competition 2: Pi Day Problem Hunt.

How many maths problems can you find in the correct order within the digits of pi? You can use any Maths operations. For example,  $3.1415$ ,  $4 + 1 = 5$ . Write a list of as many as you can find.

### Competition 3: Pi Ku Poem.

Write your own Hai-ku poem to the number of syllables for the first 3 digits of pi. Hence the name Pi-ku poem! Line 1: 3 syllables, Line 2: 1 syllable, Line 3: 4 syllables. Link the theme of your poem to Maths and Pi.

Hand in or email your competition entries to one of the Maths teachers by Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March for your chance to win a prize.

Happy Pi Day to you all!

Mrs Eastwood

## RE Lecture

On Thursday this week Year 12 RE students had a live call with alumni student Mary Whittingdale. She is currently studying Theology and Religion at Oxford University and gave us a short lecture about Augustine, to coincide with the RE A Level Course. The students asked interesting questions to learn more about Augustine as well as university life and what it is like to study Theology.

Mrs Cobbold

## World Book Day



Last week was the latest Reading Week at St Benedict's. One highlight of this week being World Book Day on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, which saw staff and students dressing up as their favourite book characters. Another highlight was the hotly contested Door Decorating Challenge, in which tutor groups decorated the door of their tutor room on a book related theme. Congratulations go to Filipa Pinto and Ysabelle Calahi in 11A, whose Attack of the Titans door was the overall winner, with 7S as overall runners-up with their Diary of a Wimpy Kid door. In addition, there were year group winners 8C (The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas), 9X (Roald Dahl), 10C (The Gruffalo), 12C (20,000 Leagues under the Sea) and 13L (Dracula).



As well as dressing up and decorating doors, students took part in a wide variety of reading activities during their lessons, as well as learning about the benefits of joining Suffolk or Norfolk libraries and the huge range of free content that is available through this service. We would encourage all students to join their local library if they have not already done so and would also like to remind them to complete the Reading Survey that has been set on Edulink so that we can make improvements to our own in-school library.

The English Department

## GCSE Pod

We would just like to remind you that St Benedict's has a subscription to GCSEPod which provides Award-Winning audio-visual teaching and learning resources for GCSE subjects. It is an incredibly useful resource for students in Years 10 and 11, but also for Key Stage 3 students. GCSEPod's own research has found that on average, regular users of GCSEPod achieve, on average, 1 grade higher per subject than non-users.

If your son/daughter has not yet logged in to GCSEPod or has forgotten his/her password, please could you encourage them to activate his/her account by following the instructions below.

Mrs Murphy

### Helping your child log in to GCSEPod



#### Logging in for the first time

If your child has never logged into GCSEPod before then they will need to activate their account.

1. Go to [www.gcsepod.com](http://www.gcsepod.com)
2. Click 'LOG IN'.
3. Click 'New to GCSEPod - Get Started!'
4. Select 'Student' and have your child enter their name, date of birth and the name of their school.
5. Your child then chooses their own user name, a password and a password hint. There is an optional field to set a password reset email - we recommend doing this so they can recover their password easily if they forget it.
6. Click 'Save' to finish and log in.

#### Forgotten their password?

If your child has logged in before they should have a username and password to sign in with.

If your child cannot remember their login details then click on the 'Forgotten my login details' button the login page.

This will provide you with options to access a password hint or reset their details.

Our support team are also on hand to help with login issues. On the bottom left of the login page you will see our live chat support, click on the + icon to open the chat window and speak to a member of our support team.

If live chat is not available then our support team can also be called on 0191 338 7830 between 8.30am and 5pm.

We are also contactable by email to [support@gcsepod.com](mailto:support@gcsepod.com)

### STILL CAN'T GET LOGGED IN?

If your child is still unable to get logged in then there may be another issue with their account which needs to be resolved by their school. Please get in touch with their school to advise of the issue. Using GCSEPod out of term time? Give us a call on 0191 338 7830 between 8am and 5.30pm or by email to [support@gcsepod.com](mailto:support@gcsepod.com) and we will do our best to help you get logged in.



[gcsepod.com](http://www.gcsepod.com) [info@gcsepod.com](mailto:info@gcsepod.com) 0191 338 7830

## Former Student

It is always lovely to see how our past students are getting on, especially when they go out of their way to support their old alma mater. Yesterday, ex-student Tamika Green, who is now a Community Reporter for the East Anglian Daily Times and Ipswich Star, visited the school to let the History department know that she had written an article about Jo Ellen, a former civil rights activist who worked with Martin Luther King. The full article can be found here: [Bury St Edmunds resident shares story of civil rights activism and of working with Martin Luther King \(suffolknews.co.uk\)](https://www.suffolknews.co.uk/bury-st-edmunds-resident-shares-story-of-civil-rights-activism-and-of-working-with-martin-luther-king/)

When Tamika was in the sixth form she studied the American civil rights movement for one of her A-Level History units and kindly thought of the History department as she thought that the staff might be interested to find out more about Jo Ellen. She also kindly donated a copy of the Bury Free Press containing the article to the school and left her contact details to see if it would be possible to arrange for her and Jo Ellen to visit the school to talk to our current sixth form students.

Since leaving St Benedict's, Tamika has completed a Writing and Film Studies degree at Anglia Ruskin University (First Class Honours), secured her job as a Community Reporter and has also worked in the community as a board member for Bury St Edmunds for Black Lives. As such, she is a superb role-model for our students, especially as she is committed to representing and creating content for young people of all backgrounds.

Mr Murphy