

We would like to say a massive well done, congratulations and thank you to all the students and staff who were involved in the High School Musical production that has taken place this week. They have been rehearsing like crazy and all the hard work paid off with 3 virtually sold out performances. It was lovely to see the amazing talent we have in school and we are very proud of each and every one of them. Thank you also to everyone who took the time to come and see the show we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. There will be photos and a full report in next weeks newsletter.

## Babraham Institute Visit

The Babraham Institute runs an annual schools' day to give students interested in a career in science the opportunity to try some science in research laboratories. The Babraham Institute is located on the East side of Cambridge and is set in beautiful grounds around the original Babraham Hall. The Institute was created in 1948 as a national centre to study livestock farming and breeding, with the aim of using science to help increase production. Over time the aims of the Institute have changed, and it is now one of six National Centres for Research, specialising in Life Sciences, particularly the science of ageing.

Five Y10 students – Kairo Boyaram, Tanasa Nyamande, Bailey Cameron, Mohamad Ismail and Portia Ratcliffe - were selected to attend the day and we met in reception at 11.30 ready to make the journey in the minibus. On arrival we were welcomed to The Institute and given a briefing about how the afternoon would run. The students were then separated into 20 groups of 4/5 and set off to take part in their practical sessions. The practical's lasted about two hours and our students found them very interesting. After the practical sessions we were given a talk by a 3rd year PhD student and the students were given the opportunity to ask questions at the end. The St Benedict's students asked some great questions and were more engaged than many of the sixth form students there.

Mrs Slater

## PENTAGOMANIA 1

MARCH 20<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>. Sign up by March 18<sup>th</sup>.



The LRC IS SPONSORING a PENTAGO tournament

Winner receives a special prize! Best 2 out of 3 matches during

Lunchtime all week (March 20-25)

## Charity Concert

One of our Sixth Formers, Oscar Lyons, is playing in a charity concert on Saturday 11th March. The money raised will go to Bury St Edmunds Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Suffolk Dementia Charity.



If you're interested in going, check out the link below:

<https://www.whatsonwestsuffolk.co.uk/whats-on/details.cfm?id=782747&ins=1129390>

Oscar Lyons

## Sporting Highlights

### U13 Boys Basketball

On Tuesday 28th of February, the U13 boys had their first basketball tournament at Horringer Court Middle School. We played with 7 students in year 8, and two students in year 7 playing a year up. The boys played fantastically well, winning 26-10 against Horringer, and 39-2 against Westley. Well done!

### U12 Boys Rugby Tournament

On Thursday 2nd March, the U12 boys had their first rugby tournament at Westley Middle School. We brought 12 students along, with half of them never playing a rugby fixture before. Despite this, the boys played extremely well. They worked hard as a team and stuck together. We started off brilliantly, beating Horringer and Thurston in our first two matches. The boys fancied a challenge and opted to play Newmarket, who were the strongest team at the tournament. Despite losing, we put up a good challenge! The final game was against Westley. This was an extremely close and competitive match, and were unfortunate to lose by one try. Overall, the boys should be proud of their efforts as they definitely made a strong impression!

Mr Bates

## Immunisation Clinics

We have been advised that the schools immunisation team hold adolescent immunisation clinics at the Newbury Community Centre on St Olaves Road, Bury St Edmunds on a Tuesday afternoon between 13.00–15.00, these are for catch up sessions, if you contact them direct they can let you know if you are missing any. 0300 555 5055



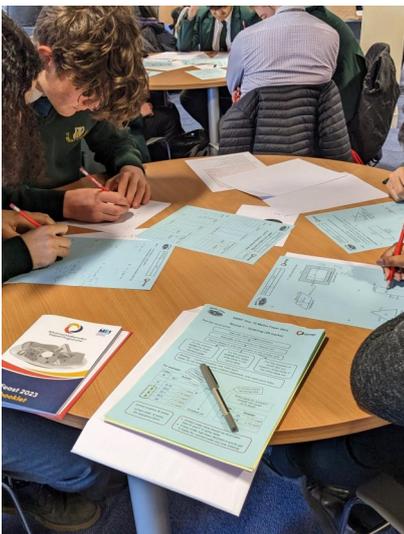
## Maths Feast Success

The Maths Feast is a fun educational challenge for Year 10 students which test problem-solving and teamwork skills. Teams of four students test their maths skills with a feast of problems!

This year we took two teams of our year 10 Maths students to Kesgrave school to compete against other schools from Suffolk, this year the challenge and increased in size and in difficulty, but both of our teams performed brilliantly, achieving awards for their success. The competition never announces an overall winner, but certificates are awarded for winning rounds, scores, consistency and teamwork. The rounds included calculation and ordering, deciphering errors, mathematical comprehension and a closely timed relay race. Our maths superstars put in an excellent performance and both teams were also awarded certificates; one for the highest score at the midway point and the other for having consistently high scores for all four rounds. While we will never know the overall winners, our students were definitely some of the front runners.



We had 13 students train for this event, attending lunch time sessions to practice on questions from previous challenges, but we could only take 8 students and it was incredibly hard to select the students that attended the competition as they all worked so hard in their preparation sessions, and we know they all would have represented the school fantastically. Our 8 students who attended, representing St Benedict's were Grace Clifton, Grace Ellis, Alice Ellison, Asir Isswiasi, Amy John, Mario Maala, Oscar Martyn and Finola Thacker



Mrs Nichols

## Reading Week and World Book Day



This week has been the second Reading Week of the academic year. This was timed to coincide with World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March. As part of the celebrations, staff and students dressed-up as literary characters. There were also many other activities running throughout the week, which included a Masked Reader quiz, the Battle of the Books (Harry Potter versus Alex Rider) and the hotly contested Potato Challenge – where tutor groups were given the task of turning a potato into a book character! The winners of this challenge and pictures of the winning entries will be published in next week's newsletter.

Mrs Oakes