



Headteacher's Update

It always feels to me like the end of the summer term is like a runway, not because we 'take off' at the end, but because it feels as if there is so much to cram in before we run out of term. This week has seen a wonderful celebration evening, Masses of Ss Peter and Paul, year 11 prom and so much more. The next two weeks speed up even further, but with Sports Day, St Benedict's Day and year 13 Prom the pace certainly is not slowing! The school continues to be abuzz and in all the haste and business it is wonderful to see young people thriving, even when the days can be a bit of a blur!

Yours in Christ, Imogen Senior

PE Kit

As of September 2023 the school is changing PE kit supplier to the same company that supplies the school uniform, C&D Uniform Solutions. There will be a link on the school website if you need to replace any PE kit.

You do not need to order new PE kit if your current kit still fits, you can continue wearing the current kit until you need to replace something.

Mr Senior

Exams Update

Public exams have now finished! Well done to all students who have sat their exams for the summer season – you have all worked hard and with integrity during these exams. Please keep an eye out for forthcoming information about August results days.

Year 10 and year 12 mocks have also finished today – we are proud of how you have all risen to the challenge!

If you have any queries about anything exam related then please do email:

cedwards@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk

Caroline Edwards – Exams Officer

Year 11 Prom 2023

Last night saw Bennies celebrating the class of 2023 at their Year 11 Prom at Ravenwood Hall. Thankfully the sun arrived in the early afternoon to set the stage for a wonderful evening.



Sixth Form Update

It's been another busy week for our sixth form, despite the fact the Year 13s have now all officially finished their exams, with the last paper, Theology being sat on Monday 26th June.

On Monday we welcomed all the Year 11 who have applied for our sixth form to our Induction Morning. The day started with a welcome from Mrs Senior and then a talk from Mr Richmond about what the students can expect during their time at St Benedict's sixth form, including the new extra-curricular subjects and the numerous trips that are organised for them. Mr Richmond was followed by Matt Fildes, an ex-Bennies student working at Raiffeisen Bank International AG, who gave a talk on his career journey since leaving St Benedict's. The students were then able to enjoy break in the common room with snacks and refreshments before having the opportunity to meet the teachers for each subject they are considering for A-level study. Those who have applied for the Cambodia trip also had the opportunity to attend a talk with Matt Spiller to find out more about the 2024 trip. We hope the students enjoyed the morning and are looking forward to joining our sixth form after their well-deserved summer break. A huge thank you to all the members of staff who helped with the running of the event.

On Tuesday we took all the Year 12 students to the NEC, Birmingham, for the UCAS Discovery Event where they had the chance to meet representatives from over 150 higher education providers alongside industry giants such as PwC and the armed forces. The students all left buzzing with ideas and thoughts about their post-18 options, and now have plenty of time and information to continue their research into their preferred courses.

Mr Richmond

Year 11 Prom Cont.

The students arrived in style and looked very much the part in an array of fabulous dresses and suits. They enjoyed a hog-roast and lots of dancing. It was lovely to see so many staff and parents who came to take photographs. Huge thanks to everyone who helped make the evening memorable for them.

Mrs Wray

Summer Celebration Awards Evening

On Wednesday 28th June we invited 61 students and their families to our Summer Celebration Awards evening. The students were either nominated by their teachers or were awarded for their achievements so far this year. We were entertained by our excellent singers and musicians and were fortunate to have a guest speaker from The Catenians, Mr Paul Rossi.

Here is a full list of the awards presented:

Isabel Basham-Silver St. Benedict's award
Helena Bulacz-Silver St. Benedict's award
Philippe D'Mello-Silver St. Benedict's award
Harmony Hardy-Silver St. Benedict's award
Michael Knight-Silver St. Benedict's award
Wiktor Konopka-Silver St. Benedict's award
Leja Lukoseviciute-Silver St. Benedict's award
Oscar Marshall-Silver St. Benedict's award
Lucy Murphy-Silver St. Benedict's award
Lyra Reimann-Silver St. Benedict's award
Sophia Isabella Rivera-Silver St. Benedict's award
Harel Samuel-Silver St. Benedict's award
Aly Smith-Silver St. Benedict's award
Amelia Smith-Silver St. Benedict's award
Hannah Thomas-Silver St. Benedict's award
Nathanael Senior-Gold St. Benedict's award
Leonor Jardim-year 7 & 8 Resilience award
Philippe D'Mello-year 7 & 8 Service award
Ellen Beckwith-year 7 & 8 Wisdom award
Helena Bulacz-Year 9 Resilience award
Kerys Whitehouse-Year 9 Service award
Isabel Basham-Year 9 Wisdom award.
Charlie Oxborrow-PE KS3 boys award
Phoebe Krieger-PE KS3 girls award
Aidan Feely-KS3 Headteacher award
Christine Chua-Best in year Art yr 10
Amy John-Best in year computer science yr 10
Ethan Lane-Best in year Drama year 10
Antony Denni-Best in year DT product design yr 10
Amy John-Best in year English yr 10
Matthew Jobbins-Best in year Food Technology year 10
Adam O'Flynn-Best in year French yr 10
Amy John-Best in year Geography yr 10
Oscar Martyn-Best in year History yr 10
Asir Isswiasi-Best in year Maths Yr 10
Claudia Bergin-Best in year Music yr 10

Grace Clifton-Best in year PE yr 10
Mohamad Ismail-Best in year PSHE yr 10
Kairo Boyaram-Best in year RE yr 10
Tanasa Nyamande-Best in year Science yr 10
Franklyna Nyarko-Best in year Spanish yr 10
Alanna Charlton-Best in year Textiles year 10
Alice Prosser-Best in year Art yr 11
Angel Jose-Best in year computer science yr 11
Ava Denyer-Peach-Best in year Drama year 11
Liam Wakes-Best in year DT product design yr 11
Molly Gardiner-Best in year English yr 11
Danny Potter -Best in year Food Technology year 11
Aleksandra Bulacz-Best in year French yr 11
Angel Jose-Best in year Geography yr 11
Phoebe Harpur-Davies-Best in year History yr 11
Taylor Valach-Best in year Maths yr 11
Phoebe Harpur-Davies-Best in year Music yr 11
Elise Wright-Best in year PE yr 11
Helena Peachey-Best in year PSHE yr 11
Taylor Valach-Best in year RE yr 11
Angel Jose-Best in year Science yr 11
Zuzanna Piatek-Best in year Spanish yr 11
Anna Barlow-Saint Catherina of Bologna prize for Art
Helena Peachey-Saint Edmund prize for Drama
Connor Chacksfield-Saint Gerome prize for Languages
Bethinn Feely-Saint Hildegard Von Bingen Literary prize
Leonel Jose-Saint Hubert prize for Maths
Nancy King-Saint Cecilia prize for Music
Elinor Hurry-Saint Thomas More prize for Politics
Lilli Warn-'Eureka' prize for Science
Cian Murphy-Saint Sebastian prize for Sport
Krzysztof Mikulski-Saint Monica prize for politics
Alex Humphries-Fr Gerald Quigley prize
Nokutenda Jaji-Paul Rossi prize for public speaking
Rhian Li-Typhoon8 prize for Computer Science
Elinor Hurry-Douai Prize

Our singers and musicians: Martha Harvey, Aoibheann Leighton-Scott and Claudia Bergin



Y11 Leavers

If you have any revision books that you no longer require, we would be very grateful if you could donate them to St Benedict's, so we can ensure that ALL our students have access to revision materials in the future.

Uniform that is no longer required (especially skirts) by your families and is in good clean repair would also be gratefully received.

Any donation items can be dropped at reception.

Thank you, from the KS4 team

Idiom of the week- Spanish

"Me estás **tomando el pelo**." (You're pulling my leg.)

Tomar el pelo literally means "to take the hair," and is used when someone is tricking or making fun of someone else, but in a good-natured way.

"Me estás **tomando el pelo**." (You're pulling my leg.)

MFL Department



COMPUTING SCIENCE – An 'Innovation Day' at Mildenhall College

On Thursday 29th June, Miss Woodruff (Head of Computing Science) took 12 Yr7 and 8 students to the Mildenhall Academy for a 'Physical Coding Innovation Day' during which the students, working in teams of 3, were set a coding challenge in the context of UN global goals. The Innovation Day was a collaboration between the Mildenhall Academy, Computing at School and the ARM school program – all part of a wider initiative supporting teachers using physical computing in schools. In all, 5 schools from the area attended.



Physical computing is a relatively new concept in teaching computer science in schools. It is designed to take programming away from being solely on the screen and moves it into the real world. From making an LED blink, to programming a robotic turtle such as a Sphero, or creating a weather station. When a student's project works, they can see their creation move, or light up, or record some data from the environment in real time – and these can be brilliant 'Eureka!' moments.

The students' task for the day was related to UN Goal 14 – 'Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.' This overall goal was targeted at a specific area, how to clean up an oil spill in an ocean. There are novel materials that can be used to soak up oil on the ocean surface, but they have to be pulled along by boats. The teams were each asked to design and build a model 'oil spill cleaner upper boat.' The boat would

be an unmanned 'drone' vehicle – and this is where the challenge really lay.

The teams would initially break down the problem using the concept of IPO – Input Process Output. The 'drone boat' should follow a pre-programmed path and this would have to be thought out in advance. Then, the students were given a 'kit' that included a microbit, a servo driver board, and two servo motors. These are all pretty familiar (at least to the students!), but the hard part came next: the teams were provided with 'boat building' materials that included balsa sheets, duct tape, metal foil, masking tape. They needed to design and build a model 'drone' boat and power it by paddles using the 'kit'.

Finally, the teams tested their boats on an inflatable pool. Our 4 teams came up with boats which were unique in their own ways. They all floated but did not perform exactly as desired, giving the students the chance to refine their idea and try again, which is a normal part of the process, as new ideas rarely work as intended first time round. In fact, we learn more when things don't quite work out. As Thomas Edison famously said: *"I have not failed. I have merely found ten thousand ways that don't work"*.

The event was summed up very well for us all by student Philippe D'Mello who writes: *"We went on a Computing Trip to Mildenhall College Academy. Here we worked in small teams to design, code and build a prototype for a small boat using microbits. It was a great opportunity to work collaboratively, using different skills together, to create our boat."*

A big thank you to Jon Gregory for being our minibus driver as well as providing the teams with some great advice for their boats and writing up the newsletter article.

We are very proud of the students who came with us, they represented the school exceptionally well and we have had lovely feedback from staff at the event regarding their perseverance and excellent manners!

Miss Woodruff



Maths Challenge Success

Following his exceptional performance in the Junior Round of the Maths Challenge, where he received a gold award; George Wightman gained entry into the Pink Kangaroo competition. The Pink Kangaroo is the second round of the maths challenge, only available to the top 10,000 students in the UK, the top 25% of these students gain a certificate of merit from the Pink Kangaroo.

The qualifying score this year was 90 marks for a certificate of merit, while George managed to score 119, massively exceeding this benchmark. Well done George, brilliant work.

Here is a chance for you to test your maths ability with one of the questions from the paper.

Mrs Nicholls

19. A rectangle with vertices $(0, 0)$, $(100, 0)$, $(100, 50)$ and $(0, 50)$ has a circle with centre $(75, 30)$ and radius 10 cut out of it. What is the slope of the line through the point $(75, 30)$ which divides the remaining area of the rectangle into two shapes of equal area?

A $\frac{1}{5}$

B $\frac{1}{3}$

C $\frac{1}{2}$

D $\frac{2}{5}$

E $\frac{2}{3}$