



Headteacher Update

Once again the week has ended in something of a blur. Sport's Day was brilliantly run and our students did themselves proud. This week we said farewell to our Year 13 students at their lovely leaver's event in the Athenaeum; it was wonderful to see our fantastic young people enjoying the culmination of a successful time at St Benedict's. As we look ahead to St Benedict's day and another very busy week I hope that you all have the opportunity to enjoy some of the joys this time of year brings.

Yours in Christ, Mrs Senior

Royal Academy Summer Exhibition

Our 12 Art and Design students visited the Royal Academy in London this week to gain inspiration for their personal investigations and NEA assignments from the amazing array of work on display. We were hit by fields of still life paintings and political commentary as the work has been curated this year by British artist David Remfry RA. Exploring the



theme of 'Only Connect', inspired by a quote from the novel *Howards End* by E. M. Forster, the exhibition holds 1,614 featured works, including Richard Malone's dramatic mobile installation in the Wohl Central Hall pictured here.

"It was so inspiring to see such a broad combination

of artworks by both professional and amateur artists. The textile work has given me lots of inspiration for my own project" Claire Jones, Year 12 student.

We had a fantastic day, so I look forward to seeing how the students make use of their research now!

Ms Chacksfield, Head of Art and Design



Laura Dockrill – Author Visit

On Tuesday 4th July, some year 7 and year 8 students were privileged to be visited by a famous author called Laura Dockrill. Laura spoke to the students about how best writing

comes when you are speaking your own truth with your own voice. I, myself, was inspired when Laura mentioned in her talk about how during and after her serious mental illness, she kept on writing; showing she persevered through the hard times by expressing her emotions through writing. The students found the talk very enjoyable and asked a lot of curious questions. The visit ended with Laura signing copies of her latest book 'You are a story: a creative writing guide' for the children. We give a huge thanks to Laura for coming to St Benedict's, to do this talk.

Written by Alexis Rose
Josy, 7S



Poetry by Heart

This week, St Benedict's English Department took a small group of Year 7-9 students to the University of East Anglia to perform their favourite poems. Organised by 'Poetry by Heart', the event brought together students from across Norfolk and Suffolk for a fantastic workshop on sonnets and lots of inspiring readings. Our students performed a range of modern and classic poems in front of a large audience and although they were really nervous, they were truly brilliant, funny and moving. Everyone enjoyed the day out at UEA and it was a wonderful opportunity for our younger students to see life at a campus university. Many thanks to everyone who joined us; you were impeccably behaved and a real credit to the school with your enthusiasm and maturity. Special thanks to Mrs James who drove us there and back!

Miss Turner
(English)



Idiom of the week - British Sign Language

Sign Languages are languages with vocabulary and grammar. There are many different forms of sign language, the two most famous are ASL (American Sign Language) and BSL (British Sign Language). They also have idiomatic phrases. Here are the basic greetings. Can you use them this week?

MFL
Department



St Benedict's Day Raffle - Reminder

We're very much looking forward to St Benedict's Day next Tuesday and the school is buzzing with preparatory activity.

Please don't forget to try and sell your raffle tickets and send the stubs and money into school with your child. There are lots of wonderful prizes and all the proceeds from the raffle are going to West Suffolk Wish in memory of Salvador Modke.

Mr Taylor

SCIENCE CLUB- Micropipette practice

Thanks to the initiative of Mr Tanguay (Senior Science Technician), on Monday 3rd July our Science Club students were able to practice with a piece of equipment that is standard in all molecular biology laboratories but is very rarely available in secondary school, even in 6th Form – a hand-held, automatic micropipette.

The micropipette is an important tool used in many laboratory applications from microbiology to genetic engineering. It is used to transfer very small and exact volumes of liquids in either millilitres (one thousandth of a litre) or microliters (one millionth of a litre). In their practice the students learned how to transfer such small volumes accurately and to see the amounts of liquid measured by this very precise tool. In fact, they were able to transfer volumes as small as two microlitres.



After practicing their technique they were tasked with transferring various coloured liquids onto a plastic sheet.



All this is a prelude to some real molecular biology work for both the Science Club and the A-Level Biologists. The students will be doing a practical to analyse fragments of DNA using a technique known as gel electrophoresis. This technique is used to separate a mixture of biomolecules according to their size. This will be reported in a future newsletter.

The Science Department

Suffolk Youth Climate Conference

On Wednesday 5th July thirteen members of the school Eco-Council, ranging from Y7 - Y10, represented the school at the Suffolk Youth Climate Conference.

Mrs Cooper and Mrs Cornish did a fantastic job of supervising the students throughout the day. The programme consisted of a Green Careers Fair; an inspiring talk from the wildlife TV presenter and author Megan McCubbin, who is perhaps most famous for being one of the faces of the BAFTA award-winning BBC series *Springwatch*; a series of workshops; and witnessing the Suffolk Youth Climate Declaration.

Will Blewitt (12A) also attended the conference in his role as an MYP for the UK Youth Parliament. In this capacity he helped to lead some of the workshops and also spoke to delegates about what his role has entailed as a way of encouraging other students to follow in his footsteps.

The students really enjoyed the day and have been inspired to put what they learned into practice in their roles as eco-councillors. A big thank you to all the students who took part: Rowan Steggles, Ella Ferdinand, Emilia Beswick, Genevieve Dobson, Elsa Bush, Lyra Reimann, Eve Adiguzel, Guilherme Santos, Portia Ratcliffe, Oscar Martyn, Carl Conway, Kwame Atuah, Kuba Kluczynski and Will Blewitt.



Megan McCubbin also gave each school that attended the conference a signed copy of her latest book, 'An Atlas of Endangered Species', which will be available to read from the school library.



Mr Murphy

Year 13 Prom

On Thursday 6th July our Year 13 students gathered at the Athenaeum in Bury St Edmunds for their last official activity as St Benedict's students. It was a beautiful balmy evening as the students arrived outside the Athenaeum. The Angel Hotel provided the perfect background for some group photos before heading into the venue for a sit down meal, followed by some dancing. The event itself was organised by Elinor Hurry, ably supported by her prom committee, they put a lot of effort into decorating the venue and it looked stunning. The teachers who were there really enjoyed themselves and it was a perfect send off for a lovely co-hort. Enjoy your summer Year 13 and we look forward to seeing you on results day.

The Sixth Form Team

