

Celebrating Abbey 1000



Our year 7 performers and artists had a fantastic day parading through the Town to display their work to the public as part of the Schools' celebration event that took place this week.

The students sang an adapted Kirie-lesion chant on stage in Abbey Gardens and performed their own series of devised monologues based on Chaucer's Tales, to celebrate the town's heritage and character. They can be very proud of their professional attitude while performing and how well they represented the school on the day. Great work year 7!

A huge thank you to Mrs Severy, Mrs Wray, Mr Murphy, Mrs Smart and Ms Stemp who helped make the event a success.

Ms Chacksfield



Art A-Level Exhibition

Congratulations to all 15 of our Year 13 artist's who celebrated the completion of their course this week with an Exhibition of their portfolio displayed for friends and family. The opening event on Thursday was a great chance to see the achievements of the students, with work in a diverse range of media from painting and printmaking to digital media, short-films, stained glass, textile and interior design. Jacky Livens from the Bury Arts Society who came to view the work to select entrants for a National Art Competition, commented that the work was 'mature, lively and to be highly commended, particularly considering the challenges that the students have had to work with during lockdown'. We are really proud of how hard the students have worked and used their creativity, imagination and resilience during the course and we wish them every success as they head out into their new careers and courses of study.

Thank you for making this year have such a great show!

Ms Chacksfield

Year 11

This week Year 11 completed their final public examinations and celebrated this coming-of-age moment with our transition fun day and their Prom. A huge thank you to parents / carers as without your support these events would not have gone so smoothly. The Year 11's conducted themselves perfectly at both events and it has been wonderful to see them relaxing after all their hard work.



Science News

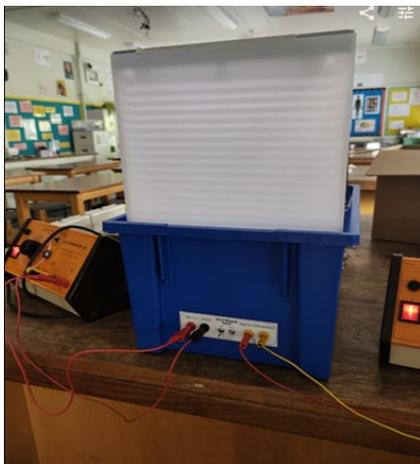
The Vinten Trust Continues To Help St Benedict's

The William & Ellen Vinten Trust was set up in 1982 to help young people move on to careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). The Trust also helps schools with the purchase of new STEM equipment such as our new laser-cutter; also the refurbishment of the Langley-Newtonian telescope at St Benedict's which, hopefully, we can use once again for our popular astronomy evenings.

A new initiative by the Trust is to provide a sum of up to £500 for the school to use in purchasing scientific equipment that would not usually be approved through normal channels, thus providing a significant boost to the resources of the Science Department. This is done at the discretion of our Vinten STEM ambassador, Mr Derek Langley, after whom our telescope is named.

Thanks to the generosity of the Vinten Trust and the good work of Mr Langley, the Science Department has been able to purchase three items: a superb, model knee joint; a modern, wind-turbine kit; and a ripple tank. Our current ripple tank is ancient, cumbersome and, frankly, "Heath Robinson" – it has long been on our "wish list" for replacement.

The new, Unilab Midi ripple tank provides a simple and effective way for students to investigate the properties of waves. The ripple tank is completely self-contained, requiring minimal set-up compared to the traditional equipment, and ideal for easy transport and storage. It incorporates a built-in LED stroboscope to



provide perfectly stationary images of the pattern of waves and the large front facing screen makes this ripple tank ideal for classroom demonstrations. There is also an extensive range of accessories, including three dippers and a selection of barrier shapes and lenses.

Mr Tanguay, Senior Science Technician and a physics specialist, chose this piece of equipment and the others along with Mr W Stafford, Head of Science – thanks to their expertise and the generosity of the Vinten Trust our Science Department's resources are much improved.

Mr Gregory

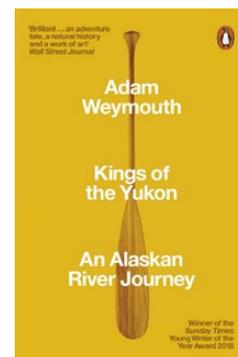
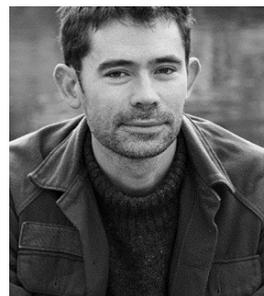
Primary Sports Festival

On Wednesday we had the Primary Sports Festival, where 120 year 5 students came up from St Louis Catholic Academy, St Josephs Catholic Primary and St Edmunds Catholic Primary. All students engaged in some Rounders and Capture the Flag games, as well as an indoor workshop of either History, Art or DT. We had 12 year 9s who were 'buddies' for the event, showing the year 5s around the school and helping out with the sessions. In addition, we had 12 year 10s who helped organize and lead the Rounders and Capture the Flag games. All helpers did a fantastic job and represented the school proudly! We look forward to seeing the year 5 students in a couple of years when they join us in year 7!



Mr Bates

Young Writer of the Year Visit



On Thursday last week, author Adam Weymouth visited St Benedict's to give a talk to our Year 12 students. Adam is the winner of the 'Sunday Times Young Writer of the Year' and the 'Lonely Planet Adventure Travel Book of the Year' for his first book, Kings of the Yukon. Adam discussed his education and background in environmental journalism, his formative experiences as someone who walked from Salisbury to Istanbul in 8 months and the research he conducted during his 3,000 km canoeing expedition that inspired his book. A Q&A session was held afterwards where our students asked insightful questions and Adam discussed his current and future projects. Should you be interested in Adam's work, please follow the link www.adamweymouth.com and/or listen to his new podcast, 'Spoken Earth' (www.adamweymouth.com/spoken-earth-podcast), where he interviews some of the most interesting environmental thinkers working today.

Mr Richmond