



Headteacher's Update

As we start a new term it is useful to remind everyone as well as provide information to new parents about the start and end of the school day.

There are several schools and colleges along Beetons Way and the adjoining roads and as a result the roads around school and bus stops are incredibly busy. In the interests of safety, students cannot be dropped off or picked up by car in either the main school car park, small front car park or the bus bay. Dropping off and picking up in these areas not only adds significantly to the congestion around the school, but is incredibly dangerous as students are moving between cars. If you are picking up and dropping off by car, please do so away from the school. The Greengage pub have asked that we ask parents not to use their car park and we ask parents and carers to be considerate of the local residents at all times.

It is also important to note that the school site only opens at 8.15am and that all students are expected to leave the school site at 3.45pm unless they are attending a supervised afterschool club or event. Students cannot remain on site after the end of the school day as they are not supervised or monitored. Where students are attending an after school club, they remain on site until this has finished and then leave via the main exit.

Mrs Senior

Idiom of the Week- French

En faire tout un fromage

Since cheese might be the most important thing in France, "*en faire tout un fromage*" literally translates to "to make a whole cheese about something." The idiom means do not give something the importance of cheese. The French use this expression when people overreact, exaggerate, or give too much importance to something that isn't worth it. Nothing is as important as cheese – so don't make it so.



Example:

Tu ne vas pas en faire tout un fromage!

Don't make such a big deal about it!

MFL Department

Library Request

Do you have a pile of books waiting to go to a charity shop, games that are no longer played, or a complete puzzle at the back of a cupboard? If you answered yes to any of the above then please do consider donating these items to the library, all items will be gratefully received.

Mrs Pickersgill

Inter House Cross Country

The Inter House Cross Country Championships will take place during Periods 1 - 3 on Tuesday 19th September.

All students who would like to take part in the event should have pre-registered with their form tutor.

Period 1: Year 7: 2,400m

Period 2: Year 8 & 9: 3,200m

Period 3: Year 10 - 13: 3,600m

Students taking part in the event should arrive at school on Tuesday morning in their PE kits and bring warm/waterproof clothing and a bottle of water.

They should attend lessons as normal and register with their class teachers. However, during the period that their year group is racing, once they have registered they should make their way to the start at the top end of the field.

After they have finished their race they should remain on the field until the end of that period before returning to lessons as normal. They will have the choice of remaining in their PE kits for the rest of the school day or changing into their school uniforms.

The top eight students in each race will be considered to represent the school in the Suffolk Schools Cross Country A Race at the Royal Hospital School on Thursday 12th October.

This is a great opportunity for students to exercise, participate in a house event and maybe gain selection to represent the school in a county championship. It is always a lot of fun and we wish all runners well.

Mr Murphy



In support of Our Lady Immaculate Church,
Lawshall

Saturday 14 October 2023

Lawshall Village Hall, IP29 4PB
At 7.30 pm

Teams of 4-6, but if you would like to attend and join a table as a single or pair, please get in touch.

£10 per head, to include a Ploughman's supper. Bring your own alcohol. Tuck shop with soft drinks available.

Tickets available from:
Sarah Farr: 01284 386444, or 07776 144003, email: sarah@farhome.co.uk
Pat Field: 01284 762252 or 07769 953464, email: m.field@btinternet.com
Catherine at St Edmunds Presbytery between 10.00 and 3.00, 01284 754358

'Ph'Hugh – What a scorcher!

Suffolk Historic Churches Ride and Stride

On an unseasonably hot Saturday morning last weekend Mr Murphy joined Hugh O'Neill, former Headteacher, two fathers' of ex-students - Michael Truman (Jake and Sam) and David Collender (Killian, Maria and Thomas) and a fellow parishioner from St Edmund's, Gina Costante, for the Suffolk Historic Churches Cycle. Thank you to David for thinking up the headline for this article!

Having mustered at St Edmund's at 9.00am we then headed south to our first church, St Peter's, in Nowton. There we spoke to a lovely couple who took time away from polishing the brass to provide us with some history about the church. They explained that it had formed part of the Oakes family's Nowton estate and that Orbell Ray Oakes transformed the church in the nineteenth century to be a fitting resting place for his wife Elizabeth Frances Oakes, mainly by installing beautiful stained glass windows which were sourced from the Low Countries.

From there, we continued heading south to All Saints in Hawstead. Once again, we met a very well informed man with a passion for local history who gave us a guided tour of this beautiful church. He explained that the powerful and wealthy Drury family from Hawstead Place exercised a lot of influence over the church, as did the Metcalfe and Culm families who succeeded them. Local historian Clive Paine once described this church as the Westminster Abbey of Suffolk because of all of its memorials, the oldest of which has been attributed to Sir Eustace FitzEustace from the 13th century. However, the most impressive memorial is that of Sir Robert Cullum who died in 1664 which has in epitaph by his friend John Donne inscribed upon it. Donne also wrote a poem about Sir Robert Cullum's daughter Elizabeth, *'An Anatomy of the World'* (1611), who died at the age of 15 and is represented on her monument in the church reclining her head on one hand.

We then headed out on the undulating hills past the Metcalfe alms houses and into Lawshall where we stopped for a break in the gardens of the Church of Our Lady Immaculate and St Joseph, where Hugh gave us a fascinating impromptu talk on the history of the Rookwood family who lived at Coldham Hall and the continuity of Roman Catholicism from the Middle Ages to the present day in the village, including the execution of Ambrose Rookwood for his involvement in the gunpowder plot. It was great to catch up with Michael and David, and also to chat to Gina about her interesting work for the US Ministry of Defence.

By this time, we were all feeling quite thirsty, but Hugh managed to persuade us back onto our saddles with the promise of a weak cup of squash and a biscuit at our next stop at All Saints around the corner. Unfortunately, we weren't able to go into this church because work was being carried out on the tower. So, still thirsty, Hugh promised us that there would definitely be refreshments at St Nicolas church in Stanningfield. When we arrived we were met by the sight of a much younger and fitter group of cyclists, taking a selfie, who were also taking part in the Suffolk Historic Churches' Ride and Stride. Smiles broadened on both sides as we realised it was the Snudden family (also ex St Benedict's alumni). It was great to catch up with Jeremy, Claudia and Theo who explained that their mum and dad were also participating and they were about to cycle to meet them for

lunch. Having said our goodbyes we paused in the cool of the nave and admired the impressive 15th century doom painting and helped ourselves to the long-promised drink of squash and a biscuit.

On our return to Bury St Edmunds, Gina spotted a sign for St Thomas a Becket in Great Whelnetham, a lovely church which none of us had ever visited before. We then retraced our tyre tracks back past Nowton Park and said goodbye to Gina at the 'Wolf' roundabout, before heading back to St Edmund's. Michael, David and I then headed to our respective homes for lunch leaving Hugh to tuck into an energy bar while waiting for Dot (Dorothy) Neoh and Tracey Ennigham who were joining him for a cycle in the afternoon. On the way home I stopped off at St Mary's and the Cathedral to add to my tally of churches. Initially, I thought that the Cathedral had definitely laid on the best refreshments as I saw crowds of revellers entering through the main doors with large posters advertising gin, before realising that the entrance for the Suffolk Ride and Striders was through a much smaller one at the side!

After a hearty meal at home, I then re-joined Hugh at Fornham St Martin and was introduced to Dot and Tracey. Inside the church was an impressive array of church kneelers lined up on the top of the pews. After raising Tracey's saddle Hugh took the lead once more as we headed to Fornham All Saints. On the way there I discovered that Dot was a keen golfer and a member at Flempton, as well as being involved with the St Edmund's church choir and gardening group. It was also great to talk to Tracey as we discovered that we had both moved up to Bury St Edmunds from a similar part of London.

Then we continued to head north to West Stow, where we had a lovely chat with the same man we met last year who works at Culford School in the Maths department, who kindly took a photograph of us. Having caught our breath and had some more squash and biscuits we headed south towards St Catherine's in Flempton, where we met the same kindly woman who also welcomed us last year. Once more we marvelled at the beautiful stained glass and collection of kneelers which, to Dot's delight, featured one with a golf hole and the badge of her club just up the road.

Unfortunately, at this point I had to bid my farewells as I needed to head home to go to an engagement in the evening. However, they continued up the hill to St Giles's in Risby, a long-time favourite of the St Benedict's History department, before they too headed back to St Edmund's. It was a fantastic day, particularly as the bright weather showcased the wonderful Suffolk countryside and its historic churches in all their finery. It is always a pleasure to talk to Hugh and it also provided an opportunity to get to know fellow parishioners a bit more. All in all, I cycled 17 miles in the morning and 14 in the afternoon, and managed to visit twelve churches, while Hugh bagged one more church and a few extra miles. If you would like to sponsor us and help raise money for the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust in its 50th Birthday Year, you are welcome to make a donation via ParentPay, and we would be very thankful.

Mr Murphy

