



St Benedict's Newsletter

28 June and 5 July 2024



A bumper edition due to technical issues last week!

## School Election Mirrors Reality



In our school mock election four Year 8 students, Lyra, Wiktor, Kacper and Nina, volunteered to represent the Conservatives, Green Party, Labour and Liberal Democrats and presented campaign speeches written by Cameron who is studying Politics in Y12.

On the day of the election, the students were given an opportunity to vote in their form groups and the votes were counted by a sixth form team of Politics and Model UN students; Danny, Isaac, Cameron, Sophie and Abi.

608 students exercised their right to vote and the results were as follows:

- Labour - 218 votes 35.9%
- Greens - 190 votes 31.3%
- Liberal Democrats - 106 votes 17.4%
- Conservatives - 48 votes 7.9%

Mr Stafford, election analyst specialist, interrogated the results further and analysed what the results would be if the 27 form groups were treated as individual constituencies. Under the first past the post system Labour would have won with 15 seats with the Greens in second place with 6.

Our school election result seemed to foreshadow the result of the real election. It was a really good opportunity for our students to become involved with Politics and will hopefully encourage them to exercise their right to vote when they turn 18.

Mr Murphy



## Walsingham

### Year 7 Walsingham Trip Reviews

On 20 June, Year 7 students went on a trip for two days to Walsingham, where we stayed at Elham house. The students were split into two groups. Group one was to go to the pilgrimage and walk the

Holy Mile whilst group two were doing activities such as biking, safari and high ropes at Holkham Hall. We would then swap activities the next day.

On Day One, in the morning, group one went to the pilgrimage which is a place where people come to worship God and light a candle for their loved ones. I think that the pilgrimage is a lovely place to go and visit because it is peaceful, and very beautiful too. We were all given a clipboard and a pen and two pieces of paper that had activities to do all over the site, which I really enjoyed. In the afternoon, we registered and lined up ready to walk the Holy Mile. The Holy Mile is a Mile long walk that people walk usually bare foot. Once we got back, we went to our newly shown dorms to unpack before lining up again to go to the park nearby where we could play games and go on the playground. We then walked back and made Rosaries and paintings. Finally, we enjoyed burgers and chips for dinner before going to bed.

The next day, after breakfast, we got on the coach to go to Holkham Hall where we were sorted into three small groups (Groups A, B, C). First group A went on the safari where we saw baby deer and male deer with massive horns. After the safari it was lunchtime. After lunchtime we did a 3-mile bike ride which had nice views but was a bit bumpy in places. The last activity was the high ropes where we had to get across to the trees facing different obstacles along the way. I was nervous at first but as I did more of the obstacles, I felt a bit more confident in myself. My favourite bit though was the zipline. It was so fun!

Finally, we got onto the coach again and went to the beach at Wells Next to The Sea where we had fish and chips (It was very yummy) and played games such as rounders, dug super deep holes and built sandcastles. Afterwards we returned to Elham House for bed, ready for the journey back to school on the next day.

I really enjoyed the Walsingham trip. It was a brilliant and memorable experience. I learnt so much about Walsingham and it deepened my religious learning too, like how in the past few thousand years maybe millions of people have walked the Holy Mile and how historical Walsingham is.

Eve King 7L

My favourite thing was probably all of it. On the first day, I went to Holkham Hall and went on a tractor ride where we looked at fallow deer and other wildlife. We also went on a bike ride (even though I fell off I still enjoyed it) and did the high ropes course. After that we went to the beach and ate fish and chips.

Alice Roper 7X

My favourite thing was the pilgrimage and the shrine because we got to learn about Our Lady of Walsingham, the church and the priest. The church was filled with beautiful architecture, I especially liked the part that was for Our Lady of Walsingham. After we left the church we walked a Holy mile to go to the shrine.

Leonor Almeida Da Veiga 7X

Walsingham was a truly amazing trip!

The rooms were great and there a few good functions in them, such as a desk that folded up to reveal a sink. The meals were great and very delicious. The activities were all very fun, especially the deer safari and biking, in which I was cruising down a hill at about 35mph. I especially liked the goslings and baby deer at Holkam Hall, one of which was born a few hours before we saw it.

Overall it was probably the best trip I have been on.

George Apps 7X



















## Summer Celebration Awards Evening

On Tuesday 2nd July we invited 79 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 musicians and were fortunate to have a guest speaker, Rev. John Morrill.

Here is a full list of the awards presented:

Philippe	D'Mello	Silver St. Benedict's award
Jacob	Deeming	Silver St. Benedict's award
Lisa Marie	Ferino	Silver St. Benedict's award
Lilly	Hardy	Silver St. Benedict's award
Beatrice	Harpur-Davies	Silver St. Benedict's award
Daniel	Herd	Silver St. Benedict's award
Adam	Herd	Silver St. Benedict's award
Linduli	Jayaneth	Silver St. Benedict's award
Imogen	Knight	Silver St. Benedict's award
Tommy	Langton	Silver St. Benedict's award
Holly	Mabbett	Silver St. Benedict's award
Nathanael	Senior	Silver St. Benedict's award
Oscar	Slade	Silver St. Benedict's award
Bea	Smith	Silver St. Benedict's award
Hannah	Thomas	Silver St. Benedict's award
Lena	Baginska	Gold St. Benedict's award
Evie	Chambers	Gold St. Benedict's award
Eleanor	Moylan	Gold St. Benedict's award
Gabriella	Pohec	Gold St. Benedict's award
Teisha	Roughley	Gold St. Benedict's award
Yasmine	Smye	Gold St. Benedict's award
Chloe Grace	Cooper	year 7 & 8 Resilience award
Philippe	D'Mello	year 7 & 8 Service award
James	Attfield	year 7 & 8 Wisdom award
Sean	Dersley	Year 9 Resilience award
George	Wightman	Year 9 Service award
Archie	Coogan	Year 9 Wisdom award.
Ellen	Beckwith	KS3 Headteacher award
Toby	Flood	Achievement in Art yr 10
Bartek	Zarnoch	Achievement in Computer Science yr 10
Isadora	Edwards	Achievement in Drama year 10
Harel	Samuel	Achievement in DT Product Design yr 10
Phoebe	Moran	Achievement in English yr 10
Niamh	Roberts	Achievement in Food Technology year 10
Maxim	Zak	Achievement in French yr 10
Joseph	Ferdinand	Achievement in Geography yr 10
Darien	Almojuela	Achievement in History yr 10
Aidan	Feely	Achievement in Maths Yr 10
Tegan	Findley	Achievement in Music yr 10

Toby	Peachey	Achievement in PSHE yr 10
Joseph	Marris	Achievement in RE yr 10
Isabel	Basham	Achievement in Science yr 10
Ara Ysabelle	Anacleto	Achievement in Spanish yr 10
Elisha	Gamboa	Achievement in Textiles year 10
Raf	Calumpiano	Achievement in Business yr 10
Mia	Turner	Achievement in Art yr 11
Kwame	Atuah	Achievement in Computer Science yr 11
Ethan	Lane	Achievement in Drama year 11
Jakub	Nasilowski	Achievement in DT yr 11
Claudia	Bergin	Achievement in English yr 11
Nancy	Bailey	Achievement in Food Technology year 11
Oscar	Martyn	Achievement in French yr 11
Mohamed	Ismail	Achievement in Geography yr 11
Franklyna	Nyarko	Achievement in History yr 11
Asir	Isswiasi	Achievement in Maths yr 11
Martha	Harvey	Achievement in Music yr 11
Portia	Ratcliffe	Achievement in PSHE yr 11
Charlie	Biggin	Achievement in RE yr 11
Alice	Ellison	Achievement in Science yr 11
Monika	Smith-Delgado	Achievement in Spanish yr 11
Tanasa	Nyamande	Achievement in Business yr 11
Lily	Skipp	Achievement in Textiles yr 11
Amy	John	KS4 Headteacher award
Katie	Dunn	'Eureka' prize for Science
Henry	Southin	Saint Albertus Magnus prize for Geography
Benjamin	Norman	Saint Bede prize for History
Claire	Jones	Saint Catherina of Bologna prize for Art
Maria	Anjo	Saint Dympha prize for Psychology
Beatrice	Widmer	Saint Gerome prize for Languages
Florence	Scott	Saint Hildegard Von Bingen Literary prize
Jacquelyn	Hernandez	Saint John Bosco prize for Sociology
Gregor	Donnachie	Saint Matthew prize for Economics
Jack	Desira	Saint Martin de Porres prize for Health and Social Care
Catherine	Welman	Saint Margaret Clitherow prize for Business Studies
Oscar	Lyons	Saint Thomas Aquinas prize for RE
William	Blewitt	Saint Thomas More prize for Politics
Isaac	Pernot	Saint Hubert prize for Maths
Sophia	He	Fr Gerald Quigley prize
Adam	John	Saint Monica prize
Jasmine	Lau	Paul Rossi prize for public speaking
William	Blewitt	Douai Prize

Musicians: Oscar Lyons and Aryobarzan Asadi

## Athletics Successes

### Athletics News!

Sophie Bolton in year 7 has been doing incredibly well in her athletics this summer. She has competed in an International 800m at the 'Night of the 10,000m PB's' in London which is an

Olympics qualifier. She came 5th overall in this race which was a great achievement as she was racing against girls in the year above.

She won the Suffolk County Championship cross country at Holbrook earlier this year which gave her qualification into the London Mini Marathon in which she came 37th.

Sophie has been focussing on her 800m but decided to try a 1500m race at Watford earlier this week and she won her race in a time of 4:58 secs. This is the 10th fastest time in the UK this year for her age group!

She has also been racing in a Suffolk/Essex league on a Friday evening (Friday 5 series) and has won the two races (2.4Km) that she has competed in at Felixstowe and Framlingham, finishing first girl overall. These races include up to U17's from clubs all over Suffolk and Essex!

I know that Sophie has many more events coming up, so we wish her all the luck! Well done Sophie!

*Mrs Wright*

### **Spartan Success**

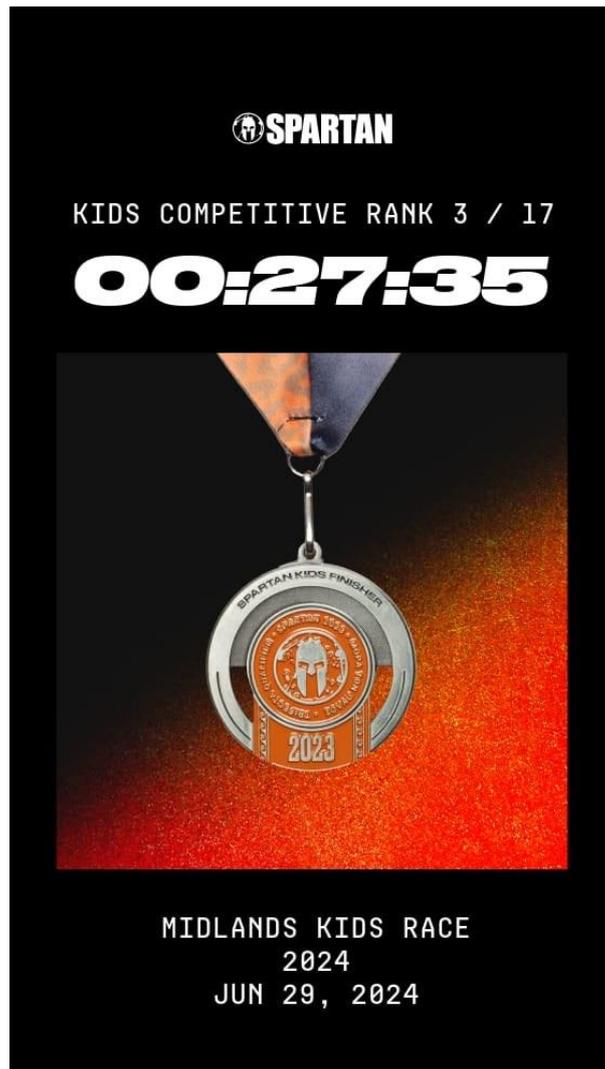
Massive congratulations to year 8 student Ollie Man who entered his first Spartan race this weekend.

Ollie achieved 3rd place in the 3km, 20 obstacle race in an impressive 27 minutes 35 seconds, receiving a nice bit of bling, the first of many I am sure.

Ollie is following in his parent's footsteps, both are keen spartan racers, these races are not easy and require lots of strength and agility, well done Ollie.



1 - Ollie Man



### Super8 Athletics

Our **year 7 and 8s** have competed at their Super8 Athletics competitions over the last couple of weeks and have done very well! The **Year 8** girls came joint first with Finborough and the boys came 10th place - however, they did have an injury mid way through the event which meant they competed with only 7 members of the team. Some great performances from Lucy Murphy and Amelia Smith coming 1st and 2nd place in the 1500m and Noah and Jake taking 3rd and 4th.

Our **year 7 girls** came 2nd place overall which is a brilliant result against a difficult field of athletes. The **boys** came 6th place out of 17 teams which is an amazing effort! Greg Slater came 6th in his 800m and the girls had the 3rd fastest time in the medley relay and Sophie Bolton won the 800m.

Well done to all pupils involved in the Super8 Athletics competitions this year, you have all performed and represented St Benedict's extremely well!

*Mrs Wright*

### Farewell to Year 13 Maths Students

On Wednesday 26 June the A Level maths teachers joined their students for a night of celebration, to wish them luck in their future endeavours. This was reinstating a tradition from the pre-Covid days

whereby the Maths department and Yr 13s always had an end of year meal and Mrs Reid was determined to reinstate it this year. It was great to be able to socialise with such wonderful students, we wish all of them well for the future. No prizes for guessing the venue – Wetherspoons in Bury St Edmunds!

*Mrs Cornforth*



## Space Dome



### **SCIENCE NEWS – THE SPACE DOME RETURNS!**

Following the success of last year's Space Dome, Ms Dalby was determined to invite it back again on Tuesday 2nd July. We were not disappointed, especially all of our Year 7s, plus some staff and 6th formers, who were given a truly amazing, astronomical experience thanks to the visiting expert astronomer and Master of the Dome, Mr Matt Nutter.

The Space Dome is an inflatable, indoor planetarium. The observer inside is able to see the night sky projected onto the inner surface of the dome and view it as they would the real sky overhead. The



## Suffolk Youth Climate Conference

On Wednesday 3rd July we took 12 year 7 and 8's to the second Suffolk Youth Climate Conference which was held at Suffolk One in Ipswich. The keynote speaker at the event was Chris Packham who is a TV presenter on BBC's Spring & Winter watch, a naturalist author, and a campaigner for conservation and the environment. Lyra Reimann was one of 21 lucky students selected to interview him after his speech. At the event the students engaged in various climate related workshops such as 'climate change vs the coast', 'flood management', 'action to save our oceans' plus many others. Whilst the students were beavering away in their workshops Mr Gregory and myself had our agenda for the conference on the Climate Action Plan for schools which included the speech from Chris Packham. The students all had a fantastic time at the conference and were a credit to the school.

*Mrs Cornish*

My name is Lyra and I was lucky enough to attend the eco-council meeting in Ipswich and interview Chris Packham! After the morning briefing, I was escorted to a large room with around 20 other students from different schools to question Chris Packham. It was so exciting! Everyone was really nice and Chris answered the questions in great detail. He was really amiable and it was a great pleasure to be selected for the interview. I will treasure the experience forever.

*Lyra Reimann*



## Year 12 Trips

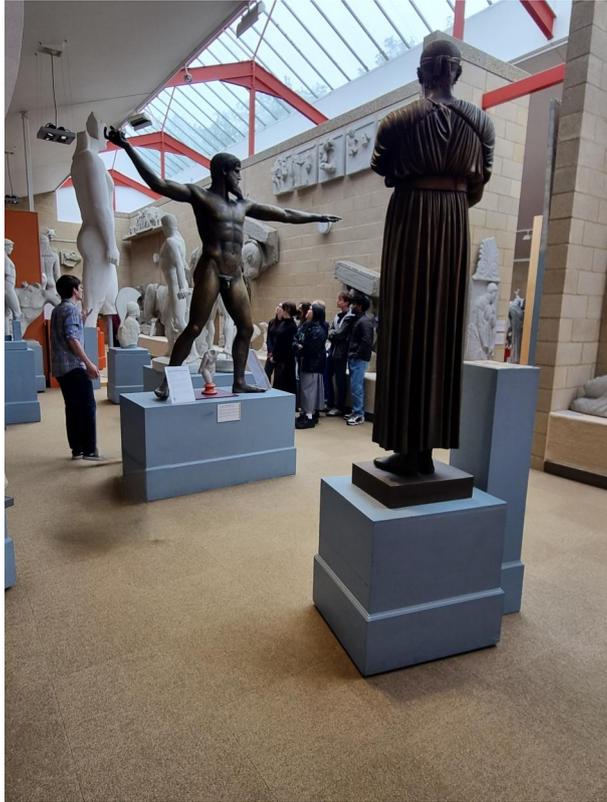
It's been a busy week for the year 12s with trips for the Geographers, Classicists, Artists and Biologists!

On Tuesday the Geographers set off to Southwold in the drizzle to undertake their field studies in Coastal and Human Geography data collection. On arrival the students headed down to the beach where they learnt how to measure sediment size and take a beach profile. After a short lunch break the students headed into the town to collect their data for their NEA fieldwork.

On Wednesday the Classicists went to Cambridge where they visited the Museum of Classical Archaeology at Sidgwick College, and had an enlightening tour from Will, who took the students on a chronological journey through the statues of the Classical Period from 1700BC to 400AD. After the tour the students had time to explore the museum on their own before heading into Cambridge for some lunch. At 13:00 the students met at the Fitzwilliam Museum where they spent the rest of the afternoon exploring the museum's classical collection.

Next week's newsletter will have reports from the Art and Biology department.







## Year 11 Prom

Year 11 were ready for a celebration after all the hard work and effort they have shown over the last few months. Their prom took place on Wednesday evening at Ravenwood Hall. It was a gorgeous evening and wonderful to see all the students looking their best (and all the forms of transport that delivered them to the venue!).

Enjoy your lovely long break, you've earned it and we look forward to seeing you back at school for results day on 22 August.

*Mr Turner*



## Trip to Mars



### **PRIMARY LIAISON SCIENCE NEWS – St BENEDICT’S GOES TO MARS!**

Well not quite, but as part of the school’s primary liaison program Ms Mak and Mr Gregory spent last Friday morning (28 June) at St Edmunds Primary School with an enthusiastic group of around 60 budding astronauts, mainly year 5s, who were given a presentation about why, throughout history, people have been so fascinated by the “Red Planet”. In particular the prospect of finding evidence of life on Mars, past or present.

The students, working in groups of 4-5, were then given 3 soil samples to test. One of the samples was from Mars and, with hints given about what Martian soil might be like, they had to determine which one was most likely Martian. The tests included colour, feel, particle size of the grains, acidity, solubility and, finally, an evaporative test to see whether there was any salt present in the sample. (Spoiler alert: the “Mars sample” was not from Mars, although one student said that it must have been “very expensive” to get it!)

To close the morning the students were given a presentation about what we are doing on Mars now, both with satellites in orbit and with two “rovers” on the surface – Curiosity and Perseverance. They were also shown a recent photograph of Perseverance taken by itself – the first “selfie” from Mars! They were also given the most intriguing prospect that, in their lifetime, men and women will travel to Mars for exploration – who knows, they might be one of them.

The educational resource used was provided by the UK Space Agency and developed by ESERO-UK (European Space Education Resources Office in the UK) and the Centre for Industry Education Collaboration. The aim of ESERO-UK is to support the space sector by helping teachers open doors for young people from all backgrounds, by delivering inspiring world-class teaching in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

*Mr Gregory*

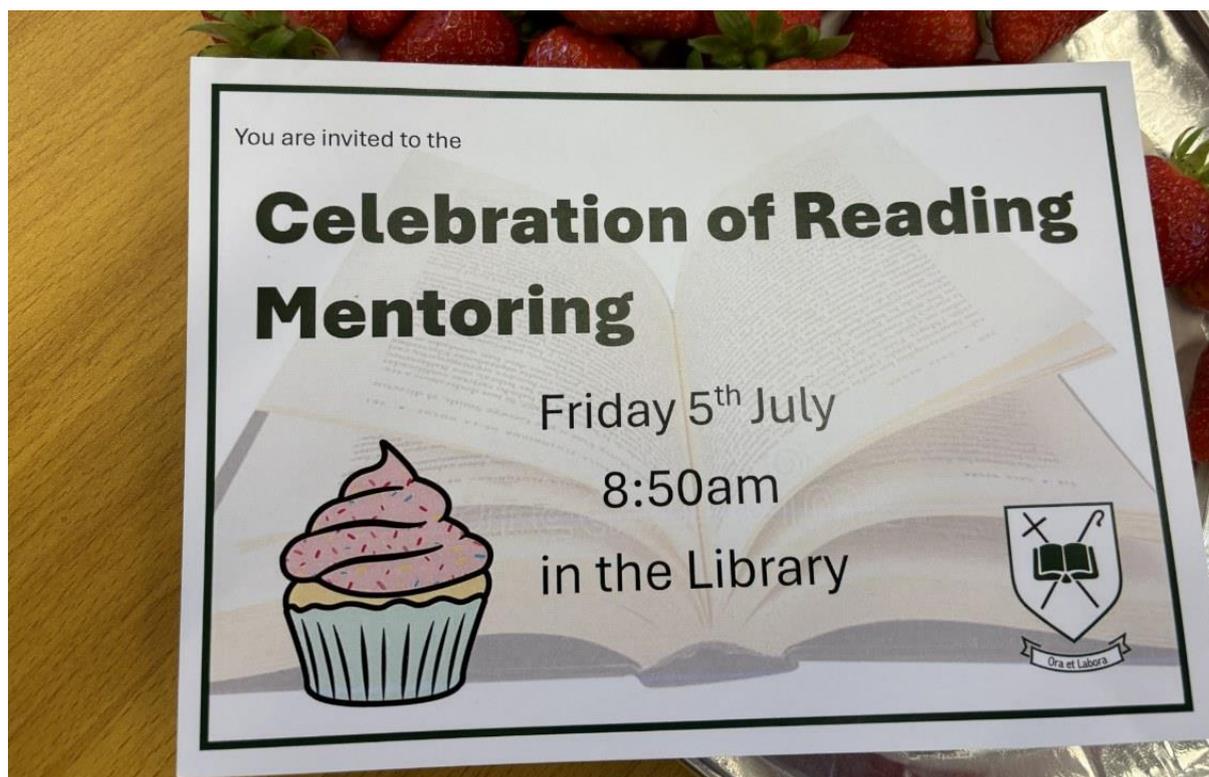


## Year 10 Social

Last Friday evening the Year 10 students had a fantastic time celebrating the end of exams with a Silent Disco and BBQ. It was a joy to see them enjoy themselves at the end of a very demanding term. I look forward to seeing more students involved in events over the next year. I would also like to extend a huge thank you to the staff who came to help, it is really appreciated. Thank you.

*Mrs Wray*

## Guided Reading Celebration



This morning, we celebrated the Year 10/Year 7 Guided Reading Programme. The programme has focused on matching Year 10 students with Year 7 students who have spent every Thursday reading together during the course of the year. Mrs Pickersgill produced a fantastic spread of cakes, strawberries, and cookies. Mr Tatum handed out well-deserved certificates to all the students who participated and showed such commitment to the programme during the course of the year. We are looking to expand the programme next year.

*Mrs Wray*

## Finance Talk

Guest Visitor

On Thursday a group of Year 9 and 10 students were privileged to hear a visitor come in to talk about Finance. Jack Taylor from Thomas and Young Wealth Management explained lots of key terms relating to money and shared tips on how we can look after what we have. The students asked some great questions to expand what they learn in PSHE and Citizenship further.

*Mrs Cobbold*

## Sunset Walk



We did it!!!!!! Nine Year 7's and their Mums completed the Sunset Walk.

It was a very hot evening, regardless of this we still managed the Zumba warm up in the beautiful Abbey Gardens.

We set off from Abbey Gardens to our first stop which was the hospice. For the first part of the walk we were assisted by Year 11 student Vanessa Lyons. A massive thanks to Vanessa for joining us.

As we left the hospice I think we had all forgotten how hilly Bury St Edmunds actually is. We soldiered on and made it to the halfway point. When you are on a sponsored walk with the Head of Music it is essential to stop at the halfway point for a sing song. Can you guess the song we sang? It was clearly a grade 7M performance.

All the way round the route we were entertained by various singers, bands and entertainers.

Thank you to Mr Wilson and the Glenmoriston Pipe band. You sounded great!

We also had our very own students entertaining us on route as part of the Academy of Movement. Thank you Annabel Ellison from Year 8 and Lorenzo Martinez from Year 9 you were both fantastic.

We made it round the course and to the finish line where we were given our medals and delicious cake.

Special thanks go to our Year 7's, Martha Lockhart, Lottie Sander, Holly Mabbett, Daisy Farrant, Megan Balchin, Chloe Cooper, Esme McCleary, Sofia Lyons and Teisha Roughley who were full of energy for the entire walk even though they had just returned from their school residential. Always a massive thanks to all the Mums, Lindsay Law, Holly Cooper, Claire McCleary, Tessa Sander, Sheila Balchin, Tamsin Farrant, Adriana Lyons and Sarah Lockhart.

To date we have raised a massive £1225.

Our just giving page is still open so if you would like to donate we would be very grateful. Thank you to everyone who has already sponsored us.

[Just Giving Page](#)

*Mrs Roughley*





## Music and Lamda Lessons

Please don't forget to return you paperwork for music and lamda lessons to Mrs Roughley this week.

[troughley@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:troughley@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk)

Mrs Roughley



## Vacancy

### Science Technician

Salary: Grade 2 point 3- 4 £22.737 to £23.114 pro rata

Job Term: Full Time, Part Time, 38 weeks a year

Appointment: Permanent

Place of work: St Benedict's Catholic School

Required from September 2024

Due to promotion within the team we are looking for a science technician to work with our established and successful team to provide technician support in this excellent and vibrant area of our school.

This post involves supporting the subject leader and teachers in the preparation of resources and equipment for science lessons. The post will require a knowledge of the relevant equipment, substances and related procedures. The post involves solving straightforward problems and providing support to ensure that classrooms are well-prepared with the correct equipment. Training will be provided where necessary. Our curriculum includes separate sciences at GCSE and A Level as well as KS5 Medical Science. No particular specialism is required for this role, but a willingness to learn and support colleagues.

This is a term time only role currently 30 hours per week- although this is negotiable and we would be happy to consider other hours.

We will review applications as they are received so an early application is advised and we reserve the right to close the advert early if an applicant is appointed before the closing date.

Closing date: 9.00am 12 July 2024

Interviews: TBC

Further details:

## New Penalty Notices

Please note that a new system for attendance penalties starts in August this year, the information can be found in the link below.

[New Penalty Notice from 19 August 2024](#)

## Dates for your Diary



8 July - Cambodia Trip Departs

9 July - Sports Day

11 July - St Benedict's Day and Fayre

17,18,19 July - Transition Days

19 July - Break up for summer

## Contact Us



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