



# St Benedict's Newsletter 268

18 October 2024



## Sixth Form Open Evening - 22 October

Our Sixth Form Open Evening is on Tuesday 22 October at 6:30pm and is open to all year 11 students and their parents/carers, you don't need to book for the event.

The evening will start at 6.30pm with talks in the main hall from Mrs Senior and Mr Richmond followed by the opportunity to meet the teachers for each of the A Level subjects and some of our current students who will be able to answer your questions about what it's like to study at St Benedict's.



### St Benedict's Catholic School Sixth Form 2025

#### What makes St Benedict's Exceptional?

##### A-Level Results 2024

- 13% of grades awarded were A\*
- 26% of grades awarded were A - A\*
- 50% of grades awarded were A\* - B

Named Top Performing state school in Suffolk in 2021, 2022 and 2023 in the Sunday Times Good School Guide

- Small class sizes
- 10 hours teaching per subject over two weeks
- Expert team of advisers to guide students through the UCAS procedure
- Over 85% of our students achieve their first choice university
- A high proportion of our students go to Russell Group Universities, including Oxbridge

#### Sixth Form Open Evening

22<sup>nd</sup> October 18:30-20:00

The evening will start with talks from the Headteacher and Head of Sixth form, after which there is an opportunity to meet the subject teachers and current students.

*Wisdom Compassion Resilience*

## Suffolk Schools Cross Country



Possibly the most exciting thing to happen on Thursday 17 October was that it stayed dry and the sun shone, not normally the prevailing conditions at the Royal Hospital School (RHS) near Ipswich, however, there were some other exciting events that day as well as the weather!

At 9.15am 51 St Benedict's students were taken to RHS to compete in the Suffolk Schools Cross Country Competition. This competition is for all secondary schools in Suffolk and the day is split with the first half being for runners in the north and west of the county and the second half being for runners in the south and east of the county, the top 50 from each race qualify for the next stage of the county competition which takes place at Woodbridge School on 16 January 2025.

It was a wonderful day of running, with notable performances from Sophie Bolton (yr 8) winning her race in formidable style, especially as she was also competing against girls from the year above. Molly Murphy (Yr 10) was also competing against the year above and finished an impressive 3rd and Charlie Oxborrow (Yr11) finished 4th, just missing out on the medals! The best team goes to the junior boys (years 8 and 9) who managed to finish 5,6,7 and 8th giving them a team score (1st 4 finishers of each race are entered into a team competition) of 26!

The results are shown below.

### **Minor Girls (years 6 & 7)**

Clara Needham - 16

Sophia Collins - 64

Alice Nowak - 47

Temi Yewon - 119

Clara Pope - 89

Beatrice Millington - 118

Martha Heywood - 102

Phoebe Martineau - 112

**Minor Boys (years 6 & 7)**

Sidney Astle - 16

Callum Sleight - 33

Evan Cameron - 113

Hugo McTrusty - 53

Solomon Brokenshire-Dyke - completed the race but had an injury and we're not sure where he was placed

Casper - 108

Harry Petrucci - 40

Oscar Grove - 36

Lochlan Murray - 48

Jac Charlesworth - 120

Max Sukpe - 138

**Junior Girls (Years 8 & 9)**

Sophie Bolton - 1

Beatrice Harpur-Davies - 13

Imogen Knight - 17

Eliza Rowley - 63

**Junior Boys (years 8 & 9)**

Noah Wilkinson - 5

Jake McConnell - 6

Oliver Lamas - 7

Gregory Slater - 8

Kacper Kolodziej - 23

Aiden Cameron - 25

Ollie Man - 28

Charlie Gladding - 36

Dylan Bain -37

Rupert Stafford - 43

William Herlihy - 57

Alexander Balmer - 62

Harrison Jones - 96

**Inter Girls (years 10 & 11)**

Molly Murphy - 3

Eva Torfinn - 11

Eleanor Slater - 13

Violette Davy - 18

Keira Swarbrick - 27

Daisy Constant - 31

Tia Wynne-Rogerson - 37

**Inter Boys (years 10 & 11)**

Charlie Oxborrow - 4

David Lupsa - 5

William Glover - 14

Jasper Matthews - 32

Oskar Lipinski - 64

Finnian Senior - 65

Matijus Juchna - 74

Senior Boys (years 12 & 13)

Taylor Valach - 39



*1 - Jake, Oliver and Noah on their way to 5,6 and 7 positions*



*2 - Year 7 Boys*



*3 - Year 7 girls*



*4 - Year 8 and 9 boys*



*5 - Year 8 and 9 girls*



*6 - Year 10 and 11 boys*



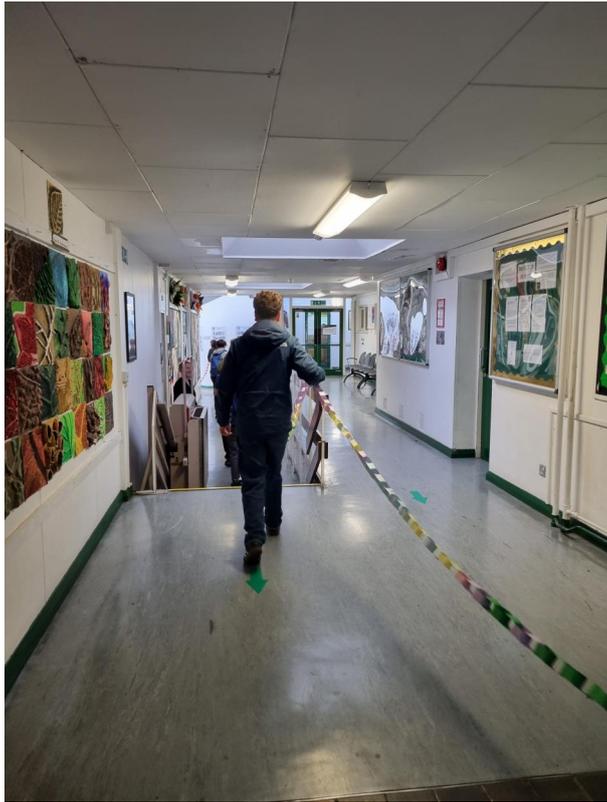
*7 - Year 10 and 11 girls*

## Change the World

As part of their 'Change the World' project, in PSHE and Citizenship lessons, students from Years 7-11 each made a paperchain in their lesson - as an example of how on our own we can all do something and when it is joined with others, it can become something big. We decided this week to go even further and join them from all the classes together to show how as a school, we can do something very big! We think it ended up being well over 300m and managed to reach further than one end of the school to the other!

We hope this was a good visual reminder to encourage students to keep doing their 'change the world' challenge, assigned to them. So far we have seen and heard brilliant things which have already been going on and can't wait to see the rest before Christmas.

*Mrs Cobbold*



## Gala Dinner



This promises to be a wonderful evening, please book your tickets through parent pay.

*Mr Taylor*

## Exam Certificate Evening

### **Exam Certificate Evening 17th December**

Students who sat GCSE or A Level exams in summer 2024 please join us -

Tuesday 17th December 3:45pm – 5pm

Collect your official certificates

Refreshments will be available

Anyone who has not received their exam certificates from 2021, 2022 or 2023 please contact Mrs Edwards [cedwards@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:cedwards@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk) as soon as possible to arrange collection.

*Mrs Edwards*

## **INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FOR CAMBODIA**

**SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER AT 7.15PM IN  
ST EDMUNDS RC CHURCH, WESTGATE STREET**



**ALL ARE VERY WELCOME – A FUNDRAISER FOR OUR  
TWINNED PARISH OF SIEM REAP IN CAMBODIA**



**STUDENTS OF ST BENEDICT'S SCHOOL WILL  
TELL US ABOUT THEIR TRIP TO SIEM REAP  
THIS SUMMER**



***PLEASE JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS AFTER IN THE CRYPT***

**THERE IS NO TICKET - DONATIONS ARE VERY WELCOME ON THE NIGHT**

## Interact

'Interact are a newly formed student-leadership group led by Sixth Formers. They work to bring about positive change both in their local and wider community. They receive mentoring from the Rotary Club to do this and their first event was supporting the organisation of the raffle at the Summer fayre for My Wish last year. As part of this the Rotary Club also offer opportunities for all students at St Benedict's to get involved in. A couple are detailed below. Please email Mrs Hamilton if you have any questions about this at [ddunsmore@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:ddunsmore@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk)

1. We are running a young photographer workshop which is free for 11–17-year-olds. It is supported by the Town Council and has been run very successfully for the last 3 years. If any St Benedict's students would like to join us they need to sign up at the What's on in West Suffolk Website [https://www.facebook.com/BuryAbbeyRotaryYoung Photographers Workshop - Theme: Wonderful Water \(whatsonwestsuffolk.co.uk\)](https://www.facebook.com/BuryAbbeyRotaryYoungPhotographersWorkshop-Theme:WonderfulWater(whatsonwestsuffolk.co.uk))
1. One of the events we hold around World Polio Day is a movie night in association with the Abbeygate Cinema. This year we are showing Patch Adams on Monday 28th October. It is a certificate 12 and all proceeds from ticket sales from the show are donated to the Rotary Foundation's End Polio Now Campaign. The film is open to the general public and we would be delighted if students and families from St Benedict's were able to attend. The timings are 5.30 for a 6pm start. There will be a short few words about the charity before the film starts, in place of adverts! *After struggling with depression in a mental hospital, Hunter "Patch" Adams (Robin Williams) decides he wants to become a doctor. He enrolls at Virginia Medical University but is disillusioned by the school's clinical perspective on patient care. With the aid of a wealthy friend, Adams opens his own medical clinic for those without insurance. He forms a deep bond with fellow medical student Carin Fisher (Monica Potter) before a tragedy causes Adams to re-evaluate his approach.* Please use this link to book: [Patch Adams - Charity Screening | Abbeygate Cinema](#) And let Mrs Hamilton know if you are attending as it would be lovely to know which of our St Benedict's members are supporting the event!

Mrs Hamilton

## Netball News

On Wednesday 16th October Year 7&8 Girls played netball fixtures against Thurston. Year 7 Girls played two games and won both. Unfortunately, Year 8 Girls after a resilient battle lost by two points. Well done to both teams!!!

Mrs Szczech

## Polish Heritage Flight



SPECIAL MEETING Monday 21st October at 13:00 in E5 Polish your Polish CLUB

**Ms Drabik will be joined by Mr Gregory (Science Technician)**

There will be a presentation about an historic event taking place next year (September 2025) to commemorate the 85th anniversary of the Battle of Britain and,

in particular, the exploits of Polish pilots in the Royal Air Force that contributed to the successful outcome. We shall discuss ways that our Club can support this event.

**REMEMBER. INSPIRE. UNITY.**  
**PAMIĘTAMY. INSPIRUJEMY. ZJEDNOCZENI.**  
 POLISH HERITAGE FLIGHT



On 11th November 2010 The Polish Heritage Flight was formed.

As part of the Historic Aircraft Collection based at the Imperial War Museum Duxford, (Although not part of the IWM) the project aims to bring to life the stories of the people that came to the 'Island of last hope' to take up the fight from Britain in the Second World War.

The Flight has been formed by Hawker Hurricane G-HURI, star of the 2018 '303 Squadron' movie.

Having worn 2 different 303 Squadron schemes since 2015 it was decided to pay tribute to 302 'City of Poznan' Squadron & both Flt Lt Tadeusz Chlopik & Wing Commander Julian Kowalski, with a 'dual scheme' for the 2023 Season.

302 were based at Duxford for a short period during the Battle of Britain, it was on September 15th 1940 that 302 Squadron & both Chlopik & Kowalski were scrambled to intercept German Bombers over RAF North Weald.

**Flying Hurricane P2954 WX-E, Flt Lt Chlopik** shared the destruction of a Dornier 17 before being shot down over North Weald. Despite bailing out he was killed. He was just 32 years old. Flt Lt Tadeusz Chlopik is buried in Sutton Road Cemetery in Southend on Sea.

**Julian Kowalski flying Hurricane P3935 WX-D** destroyed a Dornier 17 and damaged another. He went on to Command 302 Squadron and in April 1944 Commanded No.1 Polish Wing from RAF Northolt. He was released in 1947 at the rank of Wing Commander.

At the end of the Second World War, with Poland now under Soviet Communist occupation, like many it was felt unsafe to return home so Julian Kowalski remained in England. He lived in Ipswich until his death in December 1986.



**DUXFORD**  
 PARTNERS  
 POLISH HERITAGE FLIGHT

Bugsy Rehearsals next week

Date	Where	Time	What	Who is needed
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>	G1	1pm	Fat Sam's Grand slam	Whole Cast
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	G1	1pm	Bugsy Malone song	4 club singers
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	G2	1pm	Page 1 - 5	Hoods, Bugsy, Flash Frankie, Barber, Roxxy, Undertaker, Pop Becker, Blousey, Fizzy
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Hall	3.45 -5	Page 1 - 5	Whole Cast

Road Safety

Can we please ask all parents who are driving students to school and collecting in the afternoon to give care and consideration to our students, local residents and other drivers. It is extremely busy around the school at these times with a great deal of students leaving at the same time, crossing roads, riding bikes etc, not just from our school but County as well, we have received a number of

reports of dangerous driving and confrontational parents. We need to ensure that everyone is safe and are asking for your cooperation.

Can we also remind you that the front and rear car parks are for staff only and not for drop offs or pickups unless pre-arranged for our disabled staff and students. We have a number of students that have disabled badges, and the parents have not been able to park in the allocated disabled bays which causes them an issue.

We hope that we can work together to alleviate these problems and we thank you in advance for your help and cooperation.

*Ms Buchan*

## Reporting Absences

### Reporting your child's absence

If your child is unwell or has an appointment e.g. dentist/doctor could you please leave a message by 9.00am including the reason for the absence via:

Phone: 01284 753512 and Choose option 1:

And then choose option 1 for students in year 7-11 and option 2 for students in the sixth form

OR

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

For information on what to do if your child has COVID-like symptoms please see the following link for NHS guidance:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

**If you do not inform us by 9.00am or use the above phone/email address, it will be highly likely that you will receive a text alert at home or at work.** Please note the school operates a first-day response to absences.

If, in exceptional circumstances, you need to request permission for your child to be absent from school during term time, you should complete a **leave of absence application form (please see link below)**, at least three weeks in advance, stating the reason why the absence must be taken in term time. Please note that the Fixed Penalty Fine is now £80 per legal guardian for unauthorised absences of 10 sessions (5 days) or more.

<https://www.st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=74&type=pdf>

Thank you very much.

*Mrs Wesley - Attendance Officer*

## Dates for your Diary



- 22 October - Sixth Form Open Evening
- 25 October - Break up for Half Term
- 4 November - Back to School
- 8 November - Gala Dinner
- 12 November - Careers Fair
- 13 November - Year 8 Parents Evening
- 18 November - Yr 11 Mocks Start
- 22 November - PD Day
- 26 November - Yr 13 Parents Evening
- 29 November - Sixth Form Trip to London

## Contact Us



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