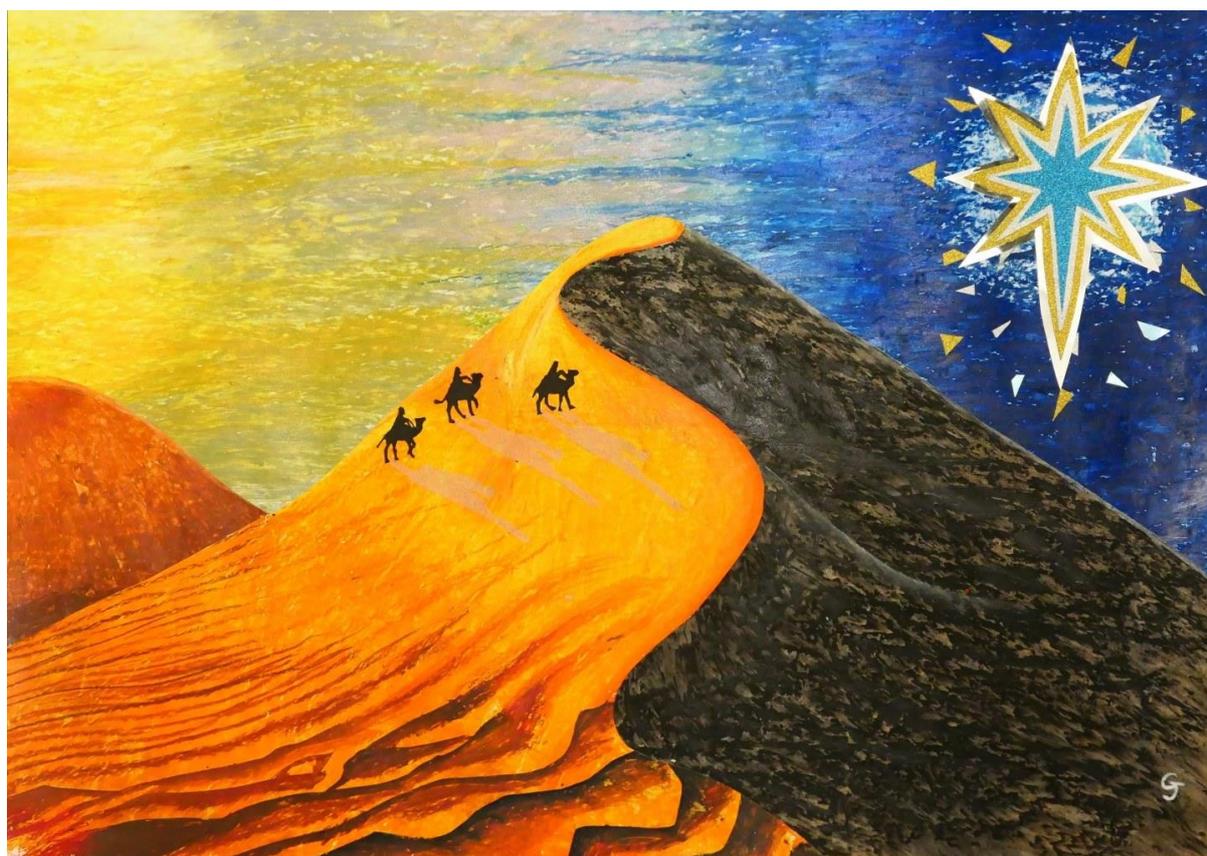




St Benedict's Newsletter 274

6 December 2024



U14 Girls Football

St Benedict's 1 – 0 Thomas Gainsborough School

On Tuesday 3rd December, the U14 girls played their first match of the season against Thomas Gainsborough School, marking their debut as a school team in an 11-a-side format. The match was fiercely contested throughout. The Bennies defence, led by Captain Lucy Murphy, alongside Patrycja Golonka, Eliza Rowley, and Alanna Evans, were challenged by strong and skilful attackers, requiring them to put in a determined effort.

Towards the end of the first half, Imogen Grove nearly put Bennies ahead when she skilfully turned her defender and fired a powerful shot at goal. The keeper managed to palm the ball off the line, and although it appeared to have crossed, the linesman ruled otherwise.

Despite the setback, Bennies displayed admirable resilience and continued to press for the win. The decisive moment came in the final five minutes, when substitute Sophie Bolton, with her explosive pace down the right wing, pounced on a rebound from the goalkeeper and slotted the ball into the far corner to secure the victory.

The Player of the Match was goalkeeper Evelyn Scott, whose outstanding performance was crucial to the result. TGS had numerous shots on goal, but Evelyn made each save look

effortless, ensuring the game never shifted in their favour. Without her exceptional contributions, the outcome could have been very different. Bennies now move onto the 2nd round of the Suffolk County Cup and will play the winners between King Edwards v Felixstowe.

Mr Bates



Chaplaincy Team makes Christmas Cards at Primary schools

A big thank you to everyone who supported the year 12 Chaplaincy team who visited four local primary schools this week, they worked with Class 4 to create some fantastic Christmas cards which they plan to distribute amongst the elderly in local nursing homes. It was a fantastic experience and lots of fun was had!

Year 12 organised this project with skill and enthusiasm; we look forward to the next steps of this and future projects!

Matt Spiller





PRIMARY LIAISON – SCIENCE GOES TO ST EDMUNDS PRIMARY

On Tuesday 3rd December Ms Mak and Mr Gregory had the pleasure of taking a science workshop to the Yr5 students at St Edmunds Primary School. The whole year group, around 60 students, were assembled into a special, double classroom for 3 hours of science, including a break of course!

After an introduction by Ms Mak, Mr Gregory gave a presentation entitled “The Theory of Evolution”. This included an explanation of the concept of the “Tree of Life” that includes all the plants and animals that have ever evolved from the earliest forms of life – single-celled organisms in the Earth’s oceans as long ago as 3.8 billion years. The students were shown a video of Sir David Attenborough taking us through this timeline of evolution right up to the present day.

Mr Gregory stressed that all this is still a “theory”, but one based on a large body of evidence. Two men fundamental to the accumulation of evidence and, indeed, the modern theory of the evolution of species were presented to the students – Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace. It was explained that although everyone tends to think of just Darwin when it comes to our modern theory of evolution, Wallace, who worked at the same time as Darwin in the 19th century (although separately), is now deservedly receiving equal credit.

After a break the students, in groups of 2 or 3, were provided with the method and materials to carry out their own biological investigation: the dissection of a flower, in this case a lily. This enabled them to explore all the different parts of the flower that are crucial to its life cycle, from the pollen-bearing anthers to the egg/seed-containing ovary. The students dissected out all the various parts and taped them onto a card which they then labelled with the parts’ scientific names.

As a *finale*, the students were given a presentation entitled “The Evolution of Flowering Plants and the Rise of the Pollinators”. This included how, since the first appearance of flowering plants around 130 million years ago, their evolution has coincided with that of the pollinating insects to the benefit of both.

The students were impeccable in terms of their attention, practical work and, especially, the quality and variety of the questions they raised throughout the workshop – a credit to themselves and St Edmunds. We look forward to a return visit in the New Year with a different but equally informative workshop.

Sixth Form Trip to London

On Friday 29th November 135 sixth form students went to London for their Christmas trip. It was a remarkably mild morning for November when the coaches left Bennies at 9:15. The year was split into three groups according to their museum choice and each group was taken directly to either the National Gallery with Mr Richmond and Mrs Slater, The British Museum with Mrs Senior or the Natural History Museum with Mr Spiller and Mrs Nicholls. After a couple of hours soaking up the history and culture the groups reconvened in Covent Garden where they dispersed with their friends to enjoy the twinkly lights and do a spot of Christmas shopping. Everyone reconvened at 5.30pm for the return journey.

On behalf of all the staff on the trip I would like to commend the students on their exemplary behaviour which made the day a pleasure to be on.

Mr Richmond and Mrs Slater



Applications for Sixth Form

To all Year 11s, please send in your Sixth Form Application before the Wednesday 11th December to ensure you can take part in the A Level taster sessions after Christmas:

[Application Form](#)

If you have a clash of subjects, there is an opportunity to let us know this on the form. If you have any other questions about applying here, please contact Mrs Slater: aslater@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing your applications.

Mrs Slater

Exam Certificate Evening



CLASS OF 2024

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

EXAMS CERTIFICATE

AFTERNOON

TUESDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2024

3:45PM - 5:00PM

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

PLEASE JOIN US TO COLLECT YOUR SUMMER 2024
EXAM CERTIFICATES, ENJOY TASTY REFRESHMENTS &
CHAT WITH STAFF & FRIENDS

Carol Concert

St Benedict's Carol Service is on Wednesday 11th December at St Edmunds Roman Catholic Church.

To reserve your seats please click on the link below:

[Click here to reserve tickets](#)

Mrs Senior



GCSE Pod



GCSEPod is a website that contains hundreds of really useful revision videos and assessment resources tailored to help students learn, retain and recall all the information they need to achieve their GCSE goals.

GCSEPod claim that is 'proven to help students achieve one grade higher on average than non-users, across 28+ GCSE subjects and all exam boards'.

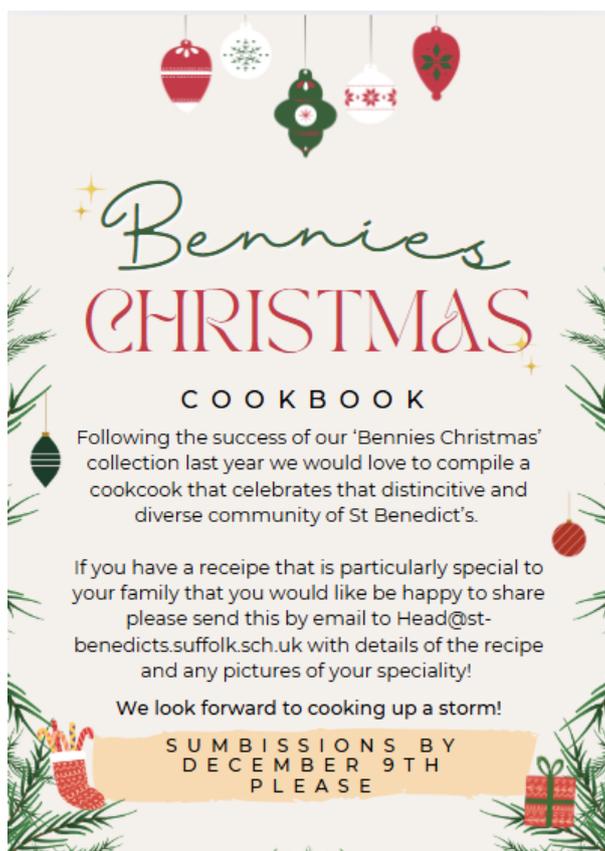
If you would like to find out more, please click on the link below:

[Parent Resources](#)

St Benedict's Cook Book

Do you have a special family recipe that you would be willing to share with others? If so we would love to hear from you.

Mrs Senior



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

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



11 December - Carol Concert

12 December - Year 12 Parents' Evening

17 December - Exam Certificates Evening

18 December - School Christmas Lunch

20 December - Last Day of Term

6 January - PD Day

7 January - PD Day

8 January - Students back in school

Contact Us



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