



St Benedict's Newsletter 285

21 March 2025



## Bugsy Malone

St Benedict's Catholic School presented *Bugsy Malone* from Wednesday 12th to Friday 14th March 2025. We want to recognise all the hard work from those involved in school time, lunchtimes and after school rehearsals. They should feel very proud of themselves for their tremendous effort at performing the school musical. We had quite a young cast this year with the oldest actor being in Yr 10 and the youngest in Yr7. From the jaw-dropping principal actors, to lively and stylish supporting actors; the marvellous chorus; the upbeat, wonderful band; the gorgeous, professional dancers; to the incredibly quick stagehands; to the intelligent tech-crew on light and sound and to the massive audience members, we would like to say a huge THANK YOU for such an amazing show. How many people, still have splurge on their clothes, we wonder?

The big man himself, Bugsy Malone was played by the exceptional Felix Brown who brought his character to life keeping the enthralled audience on their toes with his quick quips and monologues.

His lovely female companion, Blousey played by the beautiful Evelyn Scott left the audience in awe with her stunning solos "I'm Feeling Fine" and "Ordinary Fool" as well as her infamous acting prowess.

Fat Sam, with his Grand Slam was performed by Matthew Becker who previously played Mr Pinky in Hairspray last year displaying his talent for the performing arts yet again to the fabulous audience.

Flirty and satirical Tallulah was a showstopper for the crowd played by Martha Lockhart earning herself well-deserved applause at the end of her solo “My Name is Tallulah” and her coy behaviour towards Bugsy throughout the play.

Isabelle Crossley, the dazzling actress who was Fizzy in the musical, deserved the massive applause for her brilliant solo “Tomorrow” which left the audience with red hands from so much clapping.

Sebastian Siarkowski as Dandy Dan defined the character in the musical as his posh demeanour on stage was perceived as a character chock-full of charm and sophistication, especially with his witty song about him which he sang remarkably well.

His equally fantastic girlfriend, Louella performed by Arabella Powis earned several laughs at her lines in Dandy Dan’s Song about how “He’s so hot.” and “What a Shot!” he is. She played the part of a fancy lady perfectly.

The comedic duo O’Dreary and Captain Smolsky played by Soloman Brockenshire-Dyke and Alexis Rose Josy, respectively, left the audience in peals of laughter and tears in their eyes while they conducted their ongoing investigation throughout the show especially when O’Dreary tipped a bag of flour onto Smolsky!

The powerful boxers Harlee Hammond Johnson and Christian Lupsa who were Cagey Joe and Leroy, respectively, left the audience with lots of praise. A well-done goes to Harlee for his awesome solo “So You Wanna Be A Boxer” and Christian who made the audience laugh a lot for his comedic lines.

The two Rival gangs belonging to Fat Sam and Dandy Dan were noted spontaneous with their cream pies and splurge guns. Fat Sam’s Hoods: Louis-Jeremy Robinson, Snake Eyes-Amelie Pennine, Ritzy- Catherine Cunningham, Knuckles-Sidney Astle were known for their funny song “Bad Guys” with their funky dance moves. Dandy Dans’ gang included: Laughing Boy- Temi Yewon, Benny Lee- David Message, Shoulders- Anna Kisliakov, Yonkers-Neil Bissesseur, Doodle-Chloe Cooper, and Bronx Charlie- Sebastian Peasy who handled the splurge guns magnificently and had good aim at hitting their victims!

A very impressive and talented group of dancers picked by the splendiferous choreographer Miss Dalby made the audience gasp in surprise and shock at their daring lifts and stunts as well as their well-choreographed dance numbers receiving huge applause. These dancers include Teisha Roughley-Bangles, Lottie Sander-Velma, Beatrice Harpur-Davies-Dotty, Ella Ferdinand-Tillie, Phoebe Martineau-Loretta, Emilia Lambillion-Sinclair, Amelia Zabojszcz, Beatrice Millington, Clara Martinez, Charlotte Nicholls (who also played the adorable role of Babyface), Elizabeth Nicholls, Harriet Baldock (who had a mesmerising dance solo in the

song "Bugsy Malone") and Hosanna Gee. These dancers were something else and took the show to the next level.

A show can't be a show without a chorus and this group of people are often overlooked even though they are a KEY part of the show. The chorus included the superb: Rowan Steggles (undertaker supreme), Diego Davies (Russian Violinist and Undertaker), Saoirse Walker (Oscar in the audition scene), Imogen Knight (singer), Imogen Rowland (singer), Genevieve Dobson (singer), Amaara John (singer), Moriah Becker (Pop Becker), Elsa Bush (Radio Announcer), Skyrah Victoria Yarnold Da Silva (Radio Announcer), Ruby Holmes (Waitress), Henrietta Tatum (English Reporter and a number of other roles!), Gabriella Pochec (Polish Reporter), Tili Zak (Slovakian Reporter), Genevieve D'Mello (Seymour Scoop and more), Sophia Rivera (Butler), Lisa Marie Ferino (Lena Marelli with a solo!), Evalina Garnett (Shady), Elena Stachowiak (Roxy Robinson) and Daisy Farrant (Pickett). Without these top-tier students the show couldn't go on!

Our school shows are set apart from others because we have our very own live orchestra/band performing music for the audience which is awesome. These musical individuals include: Hannah Thomas, George Wightman, Sean Dursley, Sookie Kennedy, Jools Kennedy, Polly Saade, Serena Bergin, Lucy Murphy and several of our multi-talented teachers, Miss Dalby, Mrs Severy and Mrs Roughley.

As well as our own live band we have a group of students who volunteer to help with the light and sound and this bunch of students are very tech-savvy, and we are grateful to have them on board with us. The group includes: Phillipe D'Mello, Max Becker, Jude Brown, Nate Senior, Jake Bridges, Charlie Biggin and two incredible teachers Mr Spiller and Mr Cameron-Laker.

Without this next group of people our show nights would have been an utter wreck, we give a colossal thank you to: Penny Rice, Clotilde D'Mello, Constance D'Mello, Sofia Lyons and Ella Wray. Many people spent their lunchtimes in the art room creating props and scenery for the stage so thank-you to everyone who helped with this. Also, some students volunteered to help with makeup and this includes: Claudia Bergin, Talia McQueen-Hargrove, Lola Williams, Valarie Amissah, Maddison Turner and Ellen Baldock. Others volunteered to help with the confectioneries and selling of sweets in the interval.

Last but not least, the largest thank you goes to our staff that helped make the production of Bugsy Malone actually happen. This excellent group of teachers are : Mrs Roughley who organised the show and the music for the cast, Miss Dalby for her fantastic choreography in all the dance numbers as well as her musical input in the band, not to forget the immense skill of being the no.1 splurge-maintenance person in the show!, Mrs Keefe for her calm demeanour backstage helping the cast as well as being an awesome Down and Out Cook, Mrs Cornforth for helping the backstage do their job as well as dealing with the casting process, Mr D'Mello and Miss Coogan for their fantastic performances in the Audition Scene

creating mass laughter in the audience, Mrs Senior, Mr Tatum and Mrs Hamilton for giving their efficient speeches to the audience on how to behave in the show even though on Friday Mr Tatum had a bit of an accident with a can of splurge...

To the audience, who were lovely to perform for and who couldn't help clapping in the finale song, "You Give a Little Love". Buggy Malone was an unforgettable experience filled with memories that will be cherished in our students' minds for a lifetime and was an inspirational production.

Written By Alexis Rose Josy 9S and Hannah Thomas 9A

### Bugsy Refreshments

Charlotte and Cristiano executed their event management skills with finesse. All guests relished the wonderful range of refreshments - some said its was just like being at the west end. They exceeded their fundraising target by 3 times the anticipated amount which is testament to their excellent planning and team work.

*Mrs Kennedy*









## MFL Debating Competition

On Tuesday 18th March, three of our Year 12 French A Level students represented St Benedict's Sixth Form in the regional 'Joutes Oratoires' competition, organised by l'Institut Français. Ten teams from seven different sixth form providers participated. Adam O'Flynn, Viktoria Pawlowska and Mia Turner had to prepare three motions –

1. *La diaspora est le moteur du succès de la musique francophone dans le monde* (The diaspora is the driver of success for Francophone music in the world).
2. *Le Service Civique devrait être obligatoire pour tous les jeunes* (National Service should be compulsory for all young people).
3. *On devrait interdire l'utilisation de la technologie de reconnaissance faciale dans les espaces publics* (Facial recognition technology should be banned in public spaces).

The students had to prepare two minute presentations both for and against each of the motions as they didn't know until the last minute which side of the motion they had to defend. Immediately afterwards, they conduct a four minute 'strife' against each of their opponents where arguments go back and forth between the competitors, and then finally a conclusion is presented to the adjudicators. All this in French and with only 100 words for notes.

Adam, Mia and Viktoria did very well, winning both their debates against Abbeygate College and Haileybury School in the first round and beating Haileybury School (again) in the second round to get a place in the final against Framlingham College. The final required them to plan in 15 minutes the unseen motion '*Est-ce qu'aujourd'hui les femmes en France ont suffisamment de droits?*' (Do women in France today have sufficient rights) Our students had to argue 'for' the motion, and although a tightly fought contest, they very narrowly lost out to Framlingham.

All three were commended for their fluency, quality of language, ideas, sportsmanship and general demeanour. Although they did not participate due to being on a trip, special mention goes to our two other Year 12 French A Level students, Carl Conway and Ella Wray who helped in preparing the team for the competition.

Félicitations l'équipe!

*Mr Richmond & the MFL team*



## Public Speaking Update

It has been a very busy term for our public speakers. Over the course of the period since Christmas, we have entered three Year 12 students into the regional ESU competition, held via Zoom, in which each had to present a topic of their own choice for 5 minutes, followed by some very searching questions from co-competitors and the judges. Elina Solovei spoke very compellingly on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; Keitija Kravale presented her impassioned response to the continuing war between Russia and the Ukraine and Anotidaishe Bhauti told us about the importance of the quest for greatness. All three acquitted themselves with confidence based on effective research and hard practice. Anotidaishe went through to the semi final and then the final, tweaking his speech to keep it fresh at every round. Despite his Herculean efforts, he was ultimately not victorious; undaunted, he is also entered for the Gresham College Young Orator of The Year competition – whose results we await with some excitement.

On the 11th of March two teams from St Benedict's went to County High School to participate in the Rotary Club Youth Speaks competition. Our Year 9 team consisted of Alexis Rose Josy – our Speaker - and Lyra Reimann, the latter of whom discharged the duties of the Voter of Thanks as well as her own as Chair when a colleague dropped out. Their presentation was a thoughtful exploration of the world of refugees, through history and across the globe. I am still at a loss as to why they didn't win, but they were placed second, rewarded with welcome book tokens and certificates.

Our Year 12 team were Christine Hua as Chair, Tavy Scamponi-Grey as Speaker and Charlie Biggin as Voter of Thanks. Again, their topic was beautifully presented as they interrogated the benefits of the much-feared arrival of AI. I was particularly proud of this group as two of the members are part of the sixth form oracy class, who joined in order to bolster their own confidence. It was a perfectly timed and very well-balanced presentation, but somehow also deemed a second-place performance, which nevertheless won them book tokens and certificates. I should like to offer all five my congratulations and sincere thanks for all their preparation and practice: they are all worthy ambassadors of the school.

And more wonderful students represented St Benedict's in the Magistrates' Court Mock Trial Competition at Great Yarmouth and North Norfolk Magistrates Court on Saturday 15th March against Springwood High School, King's Lynn. As lawyers, witnesses, ushers and legal advisors, both Year 9 sides defended and prosecuted a case about the alleged possession of a dangerous weapon in a public place. Not only were the case and the court-room contest exciting, but the students all had the chance to see the cells, be locked in one, be secured with handcuffs and even sample some of the inmates' food. (As it was a Saturday, the cells were unoccupied!) Although we didn't win, it was a most enjoyable day and I hope it will inspire some of these students to sign up to the Bar Mock Trial Competition next year. I should like to acknowledge the extra efforts of Rebeca Bagutiu, who stepped in to be a witness for both the prosecution and the defence when a fellow participant failed to turn up.

What a joy it is to take St Benedict's students anywhere and to be told, as I was last Saturday, that ours are some of the most polite, most appreciative, best-behaved and kindest that organisers, judges, officials and staff from other schools have encountered. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to the school's presence in all of the oratorical events this academic year – I am proud to work with you.

*Victoria James*



## Netball

The Year 7 and 8s played a friendly netball tournament at County Upper School. The Year 7 team, despite hard work and resilience, lost by one. The Year 8 team travelled around the court effortlessly and won by two. Both teams enjoyed the tournament and had performances to be proud of. Well done everyone!

*Ms Szczech*

## RE Phone Backgrounds

To help Year 11s remember some of the key quotes which they will need for their upcoming RE exams, we have made some images containing the quotes which they can download and save as a phone background.

Hopefully, every time the phone is looked at, they are also doing a bit of revision!

Your Year 11 child has already been sent them, but they can also be downloaded from the images attached here. Any problems accessing them then contact Mrs Cobbold [scobbold@St-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:scobbold@St-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk)

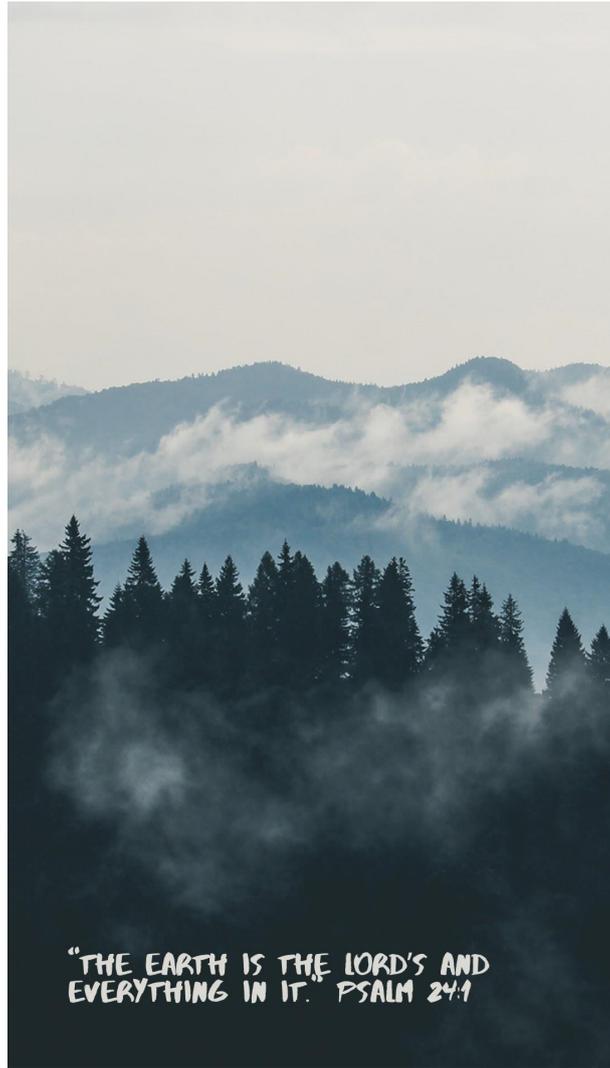
Anyone else is of course welcome to download them too!

*Mrs Cobbold*



"God made man  
in his image".

Genesis 1:27



"THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S AND  
EVERYTHING IN IT." PSALM 24:1

**LOVE YOUR  
NEIGHBOUR  
AS  
YOURSELF**

Jesus - Mark 12

**HEAR O ISRAEL!**

**THE LORD IS OUR GOD,  
THE LORD ALONE.**

**THE SHEMA**

*"There is neither male  
nor female, for you are  
all one in Christ,"*

*Galatians 3:28*

**“LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOUR  
AS YOURSELF”**

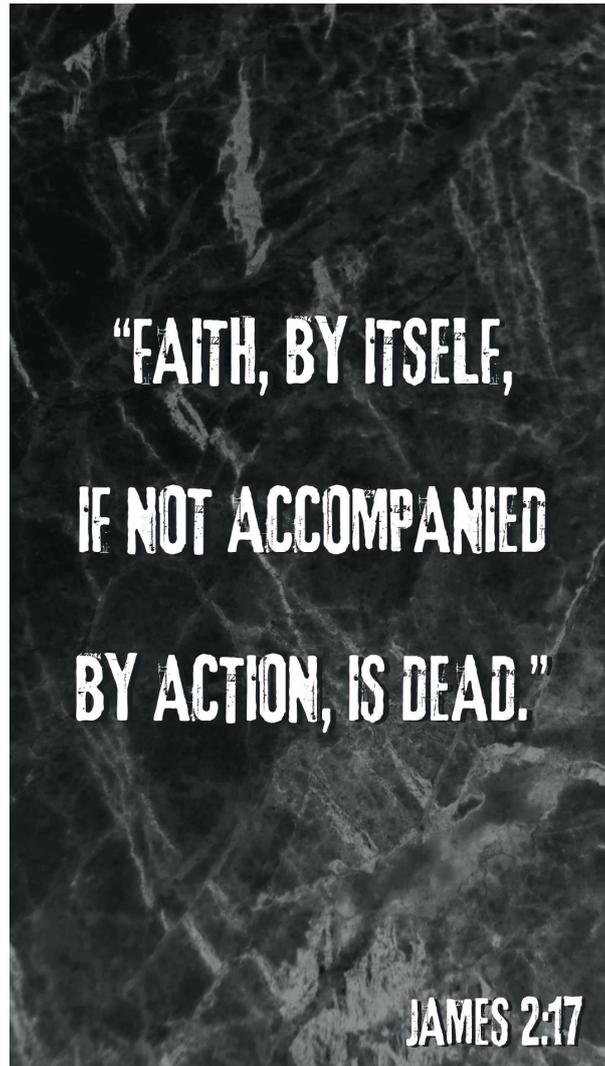


**MARK 12**

**"GOD MADE  
MAN IN HIS  
IMAGE."  
GENESIS 1:27**



**"THE EARTH  
IS THE  
LORD'S AND  
EVERYTHING  
IN IT."  
PSALM 24:1**



## Ignite

Last call for Glow - St Edmund's Deanery Youth Day in St Benedict's on Saturday 29th March.

Organised by the Ignite Team, the day promises a dynamic mix of activities, talks, social time, Adoration, Mass and more. A fantastic opportunity for secondary school and sixth form students to come together, deepen their faith and share the Lenten journey with other young Catholics.

To register scan the QR code on the poster or online at [Booking Link](#)

# GLOW

## St Edmund's Deanery Youth Event

**An afternoon of:**

- Engaging talks
- Games
- Small Groups
- Adoration
- Catechesis
- Mass
- Food

**29<sup>th</sup> | MAR | 2025**

**St Benedict's Catholic School**  
Beetons Way, Bury St Edmunds IP32 6RH

**Doors open at 12:30pm - Ending by 6:30pm**

Register  
**HERE**

**Inviting all who are secondary school and sixth form age (11-18)**  
Please bring your own packed lunch. Supper will be provided.  
To help cover the costs of the event, we're suggesting an optional £5 contribution.  
Your support is appreciated, please feel free to attend whether or not you can contribute.  
Everyone is welcome!  
**or visit our webstie**  
[www.rcdea.org.uk/youth](http://www.rcdea.org.uk/youth)

**Calling all Youth from:**

**Brandon,  
Bury St Edmunds,  
Clare, Diss, Haverhill,  
Mildenhall,  
Newmarket,  
Stowmarket,  
Sudbury and  
Hadleigh, Thetford.**

Led by The Ignite Team

## Careers Talk: Life as a small animal Vet

On Wednesday 19th March, Richard Davy BVetMed MRCVS delivered a fascinating Careers Talk on the Life of a small animal Vet. Richard qualified as a Vet 28 years ago and now owns and runs a small animal veterinary practice in Sudbury and Great Yeldham (Ardmore Veterinary Group), involving 5 other vets, 2 locums, 15 nurses and 10 operational and kennel staff. Richard noted the pros and cons of veterinary practice - repetitive (but rewarding) work, dealing with financial stresses of pet owners, but spending the day with cats, dogs and the odd guinea pig, alongside a great team of like-minded people. We learned about the challenges met by vets, especially at Christmas and Easter, when pets might ingest chocolate, mince pies and other toxic substances that require urgent action to be taken. (Do not read the next sentence if squeamish) We discovered that a vet is able to identify antifreeze ingestion in dogs from the green sick it produces, whereas dog sick as a result of rat bait ingestion is purple! We learned about the amazing range of foreign bodies found in pets, number one in dogs being socks, although underwear, bedding, corn on the cob (BBQ), door hinges, car key fobs and needles have all been recovered too!

Richard highlighted the importance of transferable skills in veterinary practice, especially communication, which is vital in working with animal owners, managing teams and liaising with specialists. Attention to detail, problem-solving (Richard's favourite aspect) and

teamwork are essential aspects of daily practice and make the job both enjoyable and interesting.

In terms of studying to become a vet, students wishing to access a degree course in Veterinary Medicine will usually require A grades at A Level in Biology and Chemistry, and a high grade (A or B) in a third subject such as Physics, Maths or Psychology. Richard explained that this degree was not only a foundation for specialising in areas such as equine or exotic animal medicine or animal welfare but offered wider career opportunities both in the UK and abroad in fields such as Biomedicine, Pharmaceuticals, Research and Teaching, to name just a few. Richard emphasised the value of work experience (WEX) and the benefit of trying out a range of animal-related environments (Veterinary practices, farms, kennels etc.) to ensure this pathway would be the right choice.

It was an inspiring and insightful talk that left the students with a dog in their family eager to get back home to count their socks!

**Here is a link to online Veterinary WEX for students aged 13-19: [Link](#)** (Students will need to create an account - top right tab on web page - to access this and other online WEX courses and will gain a certificate of completion - great for a CV!)

*Miss Hahn*





## Exciting Opportunities

### Exciting Opportunities!

Here are some career-related opportunities for students to exploit and explore:

#### Games Design and Animation Workshops - Years 10 & 11

Suffolk New College, Ipswich:

- [2D Game in A Day Workshop](#) (8th April)
- [Animation in a day](#) (9th April)
- **Years 11-13: [Online Work Experience in Law](#)** (Slaughter and May) 4 Events (online) in May, July, October (all 4 must be attended) **Deadline** for applications: **28th March**
- [Online Work Experience with KPMG](#) **Business, Finance, Accounting, and Professional services** (14th April) Register NOW!
- New [National Youth Strategy](#): 🗣️ **Use your Voice!** Young People aged 10-21 years and up to 25 years with an EHCP are being asked to submit their views to Government on a range of topics including what issues matter to them in their local

area, what services they think should be available to young people, and how money should be spent in their area – delivering on the government's Plan for Change to spread opportunity across the country. Views are being collected NOW and the **deadline** for sharing them is **Wednesday 16th April**. Young people can share their views by completing this survey: [NYS Deliver You](#) (if under 16 years, parents/carers will need to complete initial details).

Miss Hahn

## Exam Stress Webinars

### Managing Exam Stress Parent/Carer Webinar



The Managing Exam Stress Webinar is for Parents/Carers of Year 11s.

It is very normal for exams and tests to lead to anxiety, stress, and worry. This webinar is designed for parents/carers to attend to provide guidance on supporting young people with preparing for and coping with exam season.

When: Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> of May 2025  
Where: Online  
Time: 13:00pm-14:00pm

Register here: [Managing Exam Stress Tickets, Wed 14 May 2025 at 13:00 | Eventbrite](#)

**The webinar has three sections**

- PART 1 STRESS - What is stress? The stress response, How do we know we are stressed? What keep stress going?
- PART 2 MANAGING EXAM RELATED STRESS – Getting the basics right, Sleep, Relaxation and Letting stress out, Rewards and Motivation and Preparations.
- PART 3 QUICK WINS ON EXAM DAY – Positive self-talk, Imagery, Breathing and Grounding techniques.
- Additional Resources available

[1 - Event Sign Up](#)

## Managing Exam Stress Webinar



The Managing Exam Stress Webinar is for Yr 11 Young People.

It is very normal for exams and tests to lead to anxiety, stress, and worry. This webinar is designed for young people to attend to provide guidance around preparing for and coping with exam season.

When: Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

Where: Its virtual.

Time: 4pm – 5pm.

How to sign up: [Managing Exam Stress - book here](#)

### The webinar has three sections

- PART 1 STRESS - What is stress? The stress response, How do we know we are stressed? What keep stress going?
- PART 2 MANAGING EXAM RELATED STRESS – Getting the basics right, Sleep, Relaxation and Letting stress out, Rewards and Motivation and Preparations.
- PART 3 QUICK WINS ON EXAM DAY – Positive self-talk, Imagery, Breathing and Grounding techniques.
- Additional Resources available

### [2 - Event Sign Up](#)

## The perception of time, and how we can use it to understand our world

The perception of time is something that all of us have, no matter how tall or short. Every living creature has a perception of time, but it varies, and by a lot. For example, an ant seems quite fast for us, yet for the ant we are just slow. We can use the same concept to religion.

Religion and the concept.

The concept can be put up to all sorts of scenarios. One intriguing thing is that, in the scriptures, it clearly states in Genesis 1 and 2:1-3 that God made the earth in six days and rested on the seventh. We know, however, that the earth, and all the landforms and life that makes it so unique, took millions of years. It does not fit in with the seven days, if you take it literally, that is.

If you, however, apply the concept to the seven days of creation, we can figure out why it seems that God is trying to avoid making miracles. It is said that God is omnipresent, or, in other words, everywhere. This means that we have the same situation, except from now that we are the ant, and God is the human. We see his miracles as “delayed”, because we

count minutes, hours and years. However, we can assume that we are disrupting his seventh day, which was supposed to be devoted to rest.

How the concept helps us understand.

The concept can help us understand the world around us. After all, it teems with living creatures that we long to understand. It helps us understand their reality, or “step into their shoes”. We need to look from other perspectives to understand them, and one of the perspectives is time. We need to understand how they see the world if we are to understand their behaviour.

It is interesting how much we still have to learn. Looking through different lenses can help us achieve that. Who knows what will happen on the 8th day? Only God will know.

*Article by Wiktor Konopka (9X)*

## Classics Abroad

A group of students from the Sixth Form are currently in Athens for the Classics Trip, here is a photo of the group and a full report will follow next week.

*Mr Elmer*



RNLI



From a young age I have been supporting the RNLI and trying to help out as best as I can. For example, last year I took part in a swimathon to raise money for them.

I started supporting RNLI because I love the sea but I also know how dangerous it can be. Last year the RNLI celebrated their 200th anniversary, they formed in 1824. In total from 1824 to 2024 the RNLI have saved over 146,000 people. Another thing I love about the RNLI is that all the people who have saved these lives are volunteers and have put their lives at risk for the safety of others. So next time you are by the sea and you see a station, why don't you call in and find out more and if you can donate some money it will help keep this great organisation going.

[Click here to donate](#)

#### **Fun Fact**

RNLI stands for Royal National Lifeboat Institute.

*Written by Charles Jackson 7P*

## PRIMARY LIAISON NEWS – Galileo and Newton go to St Edmund's Catholic Primary

On Wednesday morning (19th) this week our Science Department introduced two of the world's most famous scientists to St Edmund's year 5s: Galileo Galilei and Sir Isaac Newton,

all in the cause of understanding gravity, falling objects and motion. The setting was the impressive Crypt of the St Edmund's Catholic Church.

The morning was divided into 2 sessions either side of break, the first devoted to Galileo and the experiment in which he, allegedly, dropped 2 cannonballs of different weights from the top of the Leaning Tower of Pisa to see if they dropped at the same rate and hit the ground together – which they did, proving his theory that objects with different masses would fall at the same rate under gravity. Before this, though, the students conducted another experiment dropping a ball and a feather. Contrary to Galileo, the ball hit the ground first and the feather much later – what was going on? The students worked it out brilliantly – can you?

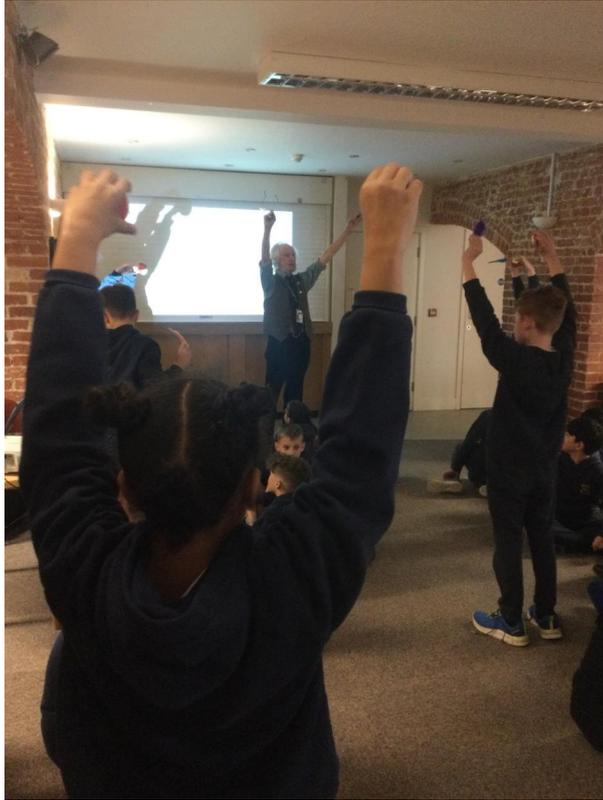
The second activity involved a repeat of the first but with two plastic bottles: one empty and the other half-full of water to add weight. This time the two objects fell at the same rate and hit the ground at the same time. Although the students answered this puzzle correctly, they were shown a tv clip from 1971 in which an Apollo astronaut on the Moon dropped a hammer and a feather and they both fell at the same speed and hit the lunar surface together – so Galileo is right after all. Have you worked it out yet?

As one cannot talk about gravity without talking about Sir Isaac Newton, after break the students were given a short biography and a video clip explaining how he came upon his Universal Law of Gravitation. Did an apple really fall on his head to give him the idea of gravity? Sorry, no – but it remains a delightful story! The students were also introduced to Newton's 3 Laws of Motion, our understanding of which in concert with gravity, have led to us developing space rockets.

The students' third activity involved them launching their own "rockets" using film canisters and Alka-Seltzer tablets. The enthusiasm, and indeed skill, of the students in this and their earlier tasks was exceptional. To end the morning, after everyone had calmed down, the students were shown how cats can actually defy Newton's First Law of Motion by always landing on their feet after a fall. So not only did we cover Galileo and Newton Physics, but we did Cat Physics as well.

As during our last visit in December, the student's attentiveness was impeccable and their questions probing and insightful. We look forward to returning in the summer term when we shall be going to Mars!

*Mr Gregory*



## Data Collection Sheet Updates

It is important that the information we hold about your child is kept up-to-date.

Please remember that as a parent/guardian/carer, you can check, amend and update most of your child's information on Arbor, including changing your mobile number and address or adding information such as religion, family contacts, medical information and transport method.

If you are struggling to do this please email [Arbor@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:Arbor@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk) where we will be able to help you.

Thanks

*Mrs Defew*



GCSEPod is an excellent resource that can be used throughout the lead up to GCSEs.

### [Parent Resources](#)

## 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



25 March - Year 12 UCAS Discovery Trip

26 March - Careers Workshop: **How to write a great CV** Lunchtime (12.45-1.25pm) in the Drama Studio

28 March - Year 9 Options Deadline

2 April - Careers Workshop: **How to write a great CV** Lunchtime (12.45-1.25pm) in the Drama Studio

8 April - Break Up for Easter

## Contact Us



St Benedict's Catholic School

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[www.st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk](http://www.st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk)