

League Tables

As I am sure you are aware, the school league tables came out yesterday. St Benedict's has yet again come top in the Bury St Edmunds area for Progress 8, Attainment 8 and for the number of students achieving grade 5 + in English and Maths. Our Progress 8 score is **0.46** which is above average, our Attainment 8 score **50** with **49%** of students achieving grade 5 or above in English and Maths. Both Progress 8 and Attainment 8 focus on the results of a pupil's best eight GCSE results including English and Maths.

[Compare selected schools and colleges - GOV.UK - Find and compare schools in England](#)

This reflects the **hard work of students and staff** and shows the difference strong parental involvement and support can give to your children's education. Our staff are very talented and go above and beyond, often using their own time to help and support students. We pride ourselves on the quality of teaching here and the quality of our Curriculum but also recognise that exam results are not everything and encourage our students to take part in extra Curricular activities as much as possible which increases confidence and self-esteem.

Holocaust Memorial Day

Tomorrow is Holocaust Memorial Day and we have had assemblies in school across both sites this week led by John Gregory to remember those who died in the Holocaust and subsequent genocides and those who continue to be persecuted for being different.

[A history of Jewish persecution in Bury St Edmunds - The Millers Tale](#)

Kate Pereira

We Won!!!!

We are very excited to announce that St Benedicts won the Market Project led by Mrs Gridley's Community Artist-in-residence role. We won the award for Best Market Event. This takes into account all of the smaller projects and events involving our students including logo & bag design project ,arts entrepreneur market stalls , puppet parade , ceramic mural etc. A massive well done to everyone involved.

Charity Fundraising

Miss Buchan who works in the school office is taking place in the Big Half , which is a half marathon taking place in London at the beginning of March, she has a charity place and will be running for St Nicholas Hospice which is based in Bury St Edmunds. Miss Buchan says "this is an amazing place and I am privileged to be running my first half marathon for such a worthwhile cause . I know the Hospice has a special place in many peoples hearts". If you would like to sponsor her, please use the following link every donation is a big help.

<https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-display/showROFundraiserPage?userUrl=StephanieBuchan&pageUrl=1>

Former student Mathew Dawson is also taking part in this event .Mathew is running for the charity Street Doctors. Street Doctors are a group of medical students who teach Haemorrhage control and CPR to 'at risk' young people. This includes teaching in Young offending teams, prisons, and schools in areas with particularly high levels of street violence. Mathew has been part of this project in London for over 5 years. Mathew said he joined as he was shocked by the frequency of young people being victims of knife crime. If you would like to sponsor Mathew see the link for his just giving page. <https://www.justgiving.com/Matt-DawsonSD>

Science Club



St Benedict's USC science club saw our students becoming microbiologists; learning the techniques of plate spreading and plate streaking. The students also learnt how to work in an aseptic manner, for example flaming the mouth of the test tube, which reduces airborne contaminants through the use of convection currents, this technique requires dexterity as when used with streaking it requires one handed opening and closing of the sample tube, whilst simultaneously loading the loop, this allowed the students to successfully grow yeast, which they then studied under the microscope the following week. It is so good to see such a great turn out for science club and we are now welcoming more girls to the club, please feel free to drop in on any Wednesday and see what we are up to.

Mrs Coogan

Christmas Talent and Magic Shows

Our year 13 Business Students successfully put together two events at both St Benedict's Upper and Lower school sites just before the Christmas holidays, whereby all the students were entertained by amazing magical tricks and saw the incredible talent our students possess. The two teams of five jointly made just over £1,500 net profit. Special mentions should be made to all those people behind the scenes that helped make the events run smoothly.



The magic show was a great opportunity to link together 6th Form students with the years 7 and 8, whereby talent, skill and vocational studies were put in place to inspire our students. Three year 8 students were heavily involved in assisting with the distribution of refreshments, these were Charlotte Southin, Lilli Warn and Aimee Wain, which was greatly

appreciated by the Magical team. The Magic Show Team consisted of Tomasz Dworzecki, Tom Sanger, Samuel Alfred-Jones, Mark Scicluna and James Samuel.



The Talent Show was a huge success, being the most anticipated event of the year. It has definitely set the bar high for next year's year 13's to meet. It helped the students to gain more experience in organising and planning an event. The Talent Show team consisted of Maisie Sawyer, Kamila Alysa, Daniel Wilson, Sammy Stringer and Joseph Kingsbury. Both events were coordinated by Mr R Taylor (Head of Business)

Maths News

We have been piloting a new test with Years 7, 8 and 9. It is set and marked externally which does mean it is all in colour! The questions were very interesting and having a multiple choice format made it no easier at all. Here is a sample to try for yourselves
Mrs Reid

14. Chandra hung lanterns from the left along a piece of string so that every third one was blue and every fifth one was yellow. The rest were pink.



Chandra stopped when he could no longer continue this pattern.

Which statement is true?

- (A) Chandra hung 15 lanterns.
(B) Chandra hung 5 blue lanterns.
(C) Half of the lanterns were pink.
(D) Chandra hung 8 pink lanterns.

Parents Evenings

- Year 9 parents evening - Thursday 1 February 2018
Year 7 parents evening - Thursday 22 February 2018
Year 11 revision evening - Thursday 1 March 2018
Year 8 parents evening - Thursday 8 March 2018
Year 10 parents evening - Thursday 22 March 2018

Term Dates

Spring term 2018

Starts Wednesday 3 January 2018
Half term Monday 12 February 2018 to Friday 16 February 2018
Ends Thursday 29 March 2018
Spring (Easter) holiday Friday 30 March 2018 to Friday 13 April 2018

Summer term 2018

Starts Monday 16 April 2018
Half term Monday 28 May 2018 to Friday 1 June 2018
Ends Tuesday 24 July 2018
PD Days 23 and 24 July

Roadworks

There are a number of roadworks in Bury St Edmunds at the moment, can you please ensure you leave sufficient time to get your child into school before the bell at 8.55.

Sickness

Can we please request that if your child phones or texts you during the school day to say they are unwell and need to be collected, you check with the office before you come and get them. The correct procedure is they need to come to the office and have permission from their Head of Year to say they can go home.

Absence

If you are leaving a message on the answer machine reporting your child's absence, where possible can you leave a reason for the absence not just unwell.

Friends
of St Benedict's Catholic School

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 3rd March
@The Crypt

£5 per person - Max. 6 people per team
(parents, friends, staff and older students welcome)

Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm start
The Crypt, St Edmunds Parish Church, BSE

Drinks are available to buy at the bar
Bring your own food/nibbles

Tickets available from School Reception
(All profits go to the school)

For more information please contact: friends@st-benedicts.org

FRIENDS OF ST BENEDICTS QUIZ NIGHT - SATURDAY 11 MARCH
I would like to purchase ____ tickets for the Quiz Night and enclose £ ____ (€5 per person).

Parent/Carer Name: _____
Mobile Number (in case of query): _____
Student's Name: _____ Form: _____

Please hand your form into School Reception (Upper or Lower School Centre) by Friday 23rd February