

Welcome back!

Welcome back to a new academic year. The new term has begun smoothly with a focus in assemblies on a renewed sense of faith and belief in our own abilities. Our new students and new staff are settling in well to the day to day routines and have commented on how welcomed they feel. It is great to see enthusiastic students well equipped and looking so smart and ready to learn.

Exam results

Congratulations again to our students who took GCSE and A' Levels this year. We wish all students who took exams the best of luck as they leave for university over the coming weeks or start college. We still have a few places left in our sixth form if you are considering St Benedict's for A' Levels. Contact the school reception if you are interested. Below is a summary of our results:

A' Level:

85% A* - C (Highest in West Suffolk)

58% A* - B

100% Pass rate

GCSE:

English and Maths – 68% 4 - 9

English 79% 4 – 9

Maths 71% 4 – 9

English 56% 5 – 9

Maths 46% 5 – 9

Thank you to staff and parents for your continued cooperation whilst the car park on the USC is being expanded and for making sure students are dropped off away from the car parks.

We have a busy and exciting year ahead including our annual sponsored walk in two weeks and our production of Beauty and the Beast in January. Please use our website to look at the school calendar for events coming up, our newsletter and e mails that are sent from the school. If you have any concerns about your child please contact their form tutor in the first instance.

Kate Pereira

St Benedict's says farewell to Father Alvan

It is with much sadness that the school says its goodbye to Father Alvan. A final mass was celebrated this Thursday and it was great to see so many students and staff voluntarily attending. In his usual inimitable style Fr Alvan reminded us that God has made us 'stars' and that it was up to us keep on shining so that those around us in our community are aware of the great love that God has for us.

As he has shown us many times before, Fr Alvan has a way of communicating the Gospel that is spot on for both young and old alike, and for this we will always be grateful.

Fr Alvan moves on to Great Yarmouth where he will continue his missionary work with other priests from his community. We wish him well on his journey and pledge to keep him in our thoughts and prayers. We thank him for his encouragement, his strong sense of Christian purpose, his calm presence and the warm friendship that he has shown to all in our school. St Benedict's loss will no doubt be Great Yarmouth's gain, and we wish him all the best as he continues his lifelong vocation.

John D'Mello

Sponsored Walk

Friday 28th September sees the annual St Benedict's Sponsored Walk! Following the success of last year's walk, resulting in our new CCTV system in school, we will be walking to raise money to support the Arts in school. 50% of the money raised will support artistic events at St Benedict's this year, and 50% will be donated to a local charity selected by School Council. All students from year 7 to 13 will be taking part in what promises to be a fun day of fundraising for the school.

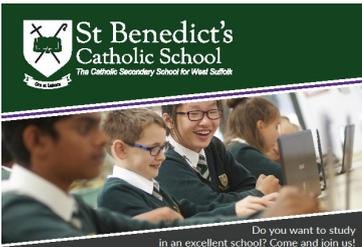
The route is about 1.5 miles starting and finishing at St Benedict's USC - this loop will be completed several times over and will be heavily marshalled by staff.

We are asking for students to get sponsored but to make this as simple as possible, you can sponsor/ donate via ParentPay - any amount will make a difference, but there is guidance on ParentPay as to how you can help us hit our target goal. Please log on and give what you can.

Students should attend either in school uniform or in fancy dress! This is for all years, not just the 6th form. If in school uniform, students may wear walking shoes or trainers.

I would like to thank you in advance for your support of this event. Please send all enquiries to dwright@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk

Dan Wright



St Benedict's Catholic School
The Catholic Secondary School for West Suffolk

Do you want to study in an excellent school? Come and join us!

Faith	Respect	Service	Responsibility
Justice	Compassion		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excellent GCSE results • Excellent A' Level results • Talented, caring staff • A learning community where students will master, grow and flourish 	<p>Open Evening 2 October 18:30 - 20:30 Upper School Centre, IP32 6RH</p> <p>Open Morning 3 October 09:30 - 10:30 Lower School Centre, IP33 3PH</p> <p>Sixth Form Evening 1 November 18:30 - 20:30 Upper School Centre, IP32 6RH</p>		

St Benedict's Catholic School welcomes children from all backgrounds, abilities and faiths. We are an inclusive school with a distinctive Catholic ethos which enables our core values to underpin everything we do.

144 01234 73313
www.st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk
Suffolk Way, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP32 6RH

Exam Information

20 September – Deadline for remarks of exam papers

27 September – Deadline for requesting copies of scripts

For details, see the Exams section on the VLE.

Internal Examinations 2018-2019

Please find below a list of all the scheduled internal mock examination periods for each year group.

25th -26th September 2018 English Language Mock Examination

5th November to 19th November Year 11 Mock Examination – all subjects.

26th November Year 9 Option Choice Subjects Mock Examinations in class.

7th January to 21st January 2019 Year 13 Mock Examinations

29th January to 1st Feb 2019 Year 11 English and Maths Mock Examinations

4th Feb to 8th Feb Year 11 Optional Mock Exams in class.

23rd April to 26th April Year 9 English, Maths and Science mock examinations.

7th May to 17th May Year 7 and 8 internal assessments in class.

13th May to 24th May Year 12 Mock examinations

17th June to 28th June Year 10 Mock Examinations.

John D'Mello

Arts Award

Big congratulations to the following students who have achieved their Arts Award Silver (Level 2) qualification.

George Wright	Year 11
Angela Garnace	Year 10
Paula Ratcliff	Year 10
Kirstein Paulo	Year 10
Orla Tully	Year 10
Amelia O'Dell	Year 10
Catherine Peake	Year 11
Anna Berry	Year 10
Rafaella Warren-Barbieri	Year 10
Rose Davy	Year 10

Arts Award will be running again this year; we shall be working alongside music and drama to put on the school show. We are calling for budding artists, costume designers, backstage hands, lighting and sound technicians to register their interest. There will be a student notice to follow with details of an imminent meeting.

Lou Gridley Teacher of Art / Art Awards Adviser

Shadowing Scheme

Here at St Benedict's we are working closely with Cambridge University; which means lots of exciting opportunities for our students. Cambridge University offers new Year 12 students the chance to experience University life. This 3-day residential experience is free to attend, during which attendees can experience life as a student; attending lectures, supervisions with a current student as a mentor, as well as enjoying social activities all mentors are chosen to match the prospective students' needs. Around school we have posters advertising the Cambridge University Shadowing scheme if your son / daughter is interested then please speak to Mrs Senior or Ms Coogan Applications are via this website: <https://www.applytocambridge.com/shadowing/apply/>.

Is university for me?

How do supervisions work? What's the food like? What are lectures like? What do people do in their spare time?

2019 SCHEME DATES

24th - 26th January
31st January - 2nd February
7th - 9th February
All dates are Thursday - Saturday

APPLY NOW!

Applications close Friday, 16th November 2018.

Go to www.applytocambridge.com/shadowing to find out more!

Stretch and Challenge

A stretch and challenge idea from Mrs Titcombe for budding historians:

We would like to encourage families to investigate and learn together so this week History has highlighted a BBC 4 documentary called 'Olden Days' presented by Ian Hislop. It is an excellent examination of the legend of King Arthur and the story of King Alfred the Great (9th century King who is studied at GCSE) showing how their stories have been interpreted differently throughout history. The documentary is part of a series and is available on iPlayer. It would be suitable for all years.

Uniform

If you have children who have left the school and have any old jumpers or ties they would be much appreciated in school. Thank you.