

The May sunshine has appeared and it has been a real joy this week to see so many students out in the beautiful weather on the school fields taking advantage of the spaces we have. I have seen descriptive writing lessons using the field for inspiration, lunchtime rounders and early ice-llies enjoyed by Sixth Form which has made the summer seem ever-closer. The exhibition of GCSE and A level Art work has transformed our corridors and I have seen designs for French theme parks and heard fantastic explanations of Pentecost in Year 7 RE.

As we rapidly approach the end of this half term, from an organisational point of view we are looking ahead to next academic year and our plans for a single site. On Monday I will be sending a letter detailing some of the arrangements in place for the move to a single site and some of the logistics around this. I have also sent out by email details of intended changes to the school day for September. The move in September provides a good opportunity to make changes that suit our needs and make the most of our buildings and facilities. As I have said in the letters please do get in touch if you have any comments or queries.

Best wishes, Imogen Senior

### Announcement

We are delighted to announce that Ms Denny has been appointed as Head of Music on a permanent basis following Mrs Davies decision to not return from Maternity leave. Ms Denny has been a huge asset to the school since her arrival and we are delighted that we have been able to appoint such a skilled replacement for Mrs Davies. We look forward to working with Ms Denny and wish Mrs Davies and her family the very best and thank her for her time at the school.

### Revision Sessions

The Maths and English departments will each be running a revision day for Year 11 pupils over the half term break. Details have been sent out to all parents and carers of Year 11 and we kindly ask that you send Ms MacMillan or Mr Jogee an email if you would like your son or daughter to attend either the English, Maths or both sessions.

The English session will focus on revisiting the skills needed for both English Language papers, in particular the reading questions. The English revision day will take place on Tuesday the 28th of May and consist of a morning (10-12) and afternoon (12:30 - 2:30) session. Please note that, if you haven't already emailed to reserve a place, there are more places available for the afternoon session.

The Maths session will focus on material not already seen in the first paper which pupils will be sitting on Tuesday the 21st of May. There will also be a focus on using calculators effectively since the two papers after the half term break will require the use of one. The Maths revision day is on Friday the 31st of May, from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

We wish all Year 11 pupils the best of luck in all of their exams. Ms MacMillan & Mr Jogee

### Year 7 & 8 homework is moving to EdulinkOne

After half term we will be launching Homework using EdulinkOne with year 7 & 8 students, in place of the current ShowMyHomework solution. Year 7 & 8 students will be shown how to use the new homework tool in their IT lessons before half term.

If you have not yet had a look at your parental access to EdulinkOne, please look out for your welcome email. If you have not received a welcome email, please contact us for more information:

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

James

Howell



St Benedict's Catholic School  
The Catholic Secondary School for Girls

**You are invited to:  
GCSE/A Level  
Art Open Evening**

Thursday 23rd May 2019  
6-7pm refreshments provided

Please come along to celebrate the student's achievements in Art this year.



**May  
YOUTH CLUB**

FOOD | MUSIC |  
GAMES

**Saturday 18th May  
4 till 6PM**

StEdKM Church Crypt  
21 Westgate Street IP33 1QG

Open to all Aged 13+

# St Benedict's News



## Sporting Highlights

### An excellent start for Year 7 rounders!

On Tuesday we hosted the first round of the U12 league and came across three very good teams. Our first match was against Thurston, with a mixture of strong fielding and great bowling by Abbie Bushell and some great batting we won the game 3-2. Next was KES, the team worked excellently in field, and produced some great hits, led by Lilia Payne, to secure another victory, 4½ - 3½. Finally we came up against Horringer and girls were full of confidence and focus. They maintained their brilliant form, with great fielding by Pola Pasik, and consistent batting by all we ended with our best result, 5½ - 3. For the first time the girls have played as a team they made the perfect start and are ready for the next challenge!"

### Art Projects

This Sunday 19th May at 8.30 Miss Gridley, Nancy King and Elinor Hurry (yr 9) will be meeting retired female veterans at their monthly breakfast club at Wetherspoons. Students are invited to join us to interview female veterans and current serving officers in celebration of 100 years of women serving. The interviews will form part of a pop up museum event on Bury St Edmunds market on 29th June. Anyone with stories and memorabilia relating to the role of women in the armed forces is invited to join us at Wetherspoons. Please make contact with Miss Gridley who is coordinating the project on behalf of West Suffolk Council. Email: [art@louisegridley.com](mailto:art@louisegridley.com)

### The recipe to loving your local market

A recipe book full of budget recipes from around the World and free taste testing will herald the launch of al fresco dining on Bury St Edmunds market later this month.

West Suffolk Council has been working with students from St Benedict's School and market traders on initiatives to celebrate Love Your Local Market fortnight (17-31 May) and to encourage people to shop local.

That will see market shoppers invited to enjoy open air dining at the market from Saturday 25 May. The market already sells an array of freshly cooked World cuisine. The new dining area being created in the street food aisle will mean that shoppers will have a better setting to sit, enjoy their food and watch the world go by each and every Wednesday and Saturday. Special market themed table cloths designed by students will adorn each table.

The 25 May will also see the launch of a free recipe booklet, compiled by students at St Benedict's and featuring budget recipes from around the world, all using produce available from the market. If that wasn't enough to whet the appetite their will also be a chance to try these dishes for free at taste -testing stands from 10am to 3pm.

Community artist and project coordinator Louise Gridley from the school, said: "Our Students have independently researched local produce and pricing, designed and trialed recipes and organised the written and visual content in the recipe booklet. Through their efforts they hope to be able to persuade people to shop local and support their historic market town."

The work is part of their Silver Arts Award qualifications which has seen them explore the importance of the market not just economically but also socially as part of the long standing heritage of the town.

Students from the school are also working with the Council and the market to organise a pop up museum on the market to celebrate Armed Forces Day on 29 June. The pop up museum will mark 100 years of women serving in the Armed Forces and will showcase stories, photos and other memorabilia. Serving women officers and veterans are invited to share their stories with students from St Benedict's School who will be conducting interviews and preparing exhibits for the event.

The event is supported by Moyses Hall Museum, Women's Royal Army Corps, the British Legion, the Guildhall, the Suffolk Regiment Museum and other local armed forces regiments.

A West Suffolk Council spokesman said: "The market plays an important part in the success of Bury St Edmunds market. It is an attraction that continues to bring in people from far and wide. People come to Bury St Edmunds not just to shop but to enjoy eating out, going for a coffee, the mix of fabulous events put on by OurBuryStEdmunds and the Council as well as the other great heritage, culture and leisure activities that we have here. That is why it is important to celebrate our market, to encourage people to shop local and to recognise its social as well as economic importance through the work that we carry out with our partners including the school.

During the May half term on Saturday 25 May and Wednesday 29 May from 10am-3pm children are invited to solve a clue of trails to win enter into a prize draw.

### Locker Keys

Just a reminder that locker keys for year 11 & 13 must be returned via the red box in reception by 3.30pm on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May.

If the key is returned by then, in an envelope with their name and locker number on and the locker is left in a clean and tidy ( and empty!) state, they will be able to collect a refund of the deposit between Mon-Thur from 10th until 27th June. Any refunds not collected by this date will be returned to school funds. If the key has been paid for via Parentpay within the last 6 months, we will be able to refund directly to the Parentpay account, but this is not possible for transactions made before this.

*Finance Department'*



It was an educational afternoon at St Benedict's Catholic School in Bury St Edmunds on Friday 10th May, particularly for students interested in engineering as a future career.

As we all know, the demand for engineers gets higher and higher each year with new technology being developed and new innovations in construction, so, to inspire the next generation of engineers, St Benedict's invited Ian Prosser CBE, HM Chief Inspector of Railways to share his advice with the students.

Mr Prosser attended St Benedict's himself from 1970 to 1977 and had always had a keen academic interest in science and mathematics. Because of this he decided to pursue a career in engineering, because he wanted to "make things happen in the real world." Following his attendance at Imperial College London, Mr Prosser began to work as a control engineer with the company Imperial Chemical Industries in 1981. It was throughout this job that Mr Prosser developed his main employment skills of problem solving, communication and perseverance. He progressed into Pharmaceuticals Project Management and in 1991, was sent to Canada to troubleshoot pharmaceutical plants that were experiencing unexplained explosions. It is this step in his career, Mr Prosser said, that he began to become interested in the health and safety aspect of engineering. After all, "good business is good safety."

As to Mr Prosser's progression into the rail industry, well this began at his studies in St Benedict's too, for from the science lab, he could look out the window and see the trains crossing the A14 bridge. He began working for Amey Rail as a control and safety engineer, managing critical health and safety within the company and across Britain's railways. "My mission, since I have been in the railways, is to change the health and safety culture. It was a culture that needed to be changed."

Some of Mr Prosser's incredible work within the rail industry has included reducing the number of broken rails by 10 fold, improving the health and safety of the workforce by fourfold and making the London Underground the safest metro in the world.

Mr Prosser is passionate about improving the rail industry and his vision is that one day, there will not be rail related fatalities.

One thing that Mr Prosser was very keen to get across to the students was their own relationship with railways and rail safety. The number of teenage suicides involving trains and the number of fatalities due to teenage trespassers on level

crossings is something that Mr Prosser is always striving to reduce. He believes the biggest way teenagers can be educated about rail safety is just that - education. Young people need to be educated on how devastating rail fatalities are for they affect the teenagers' friends, families and anyone who witnessed their death. Rail safety needs to be incorporated more into education and Mr Prosser and his company run workshops and assemblies that educate young people on rail safety. Mrs Senior, the recently appointed head teacher of St Benedict's, said that she would be more than happy to make Mr Prosser's vision a reality by giving students at St Benedict's informative and educational assemblies on rail safety, working towards reducing teenage rail fatality rates.

It is important that we all work together to provide a better, safer and healthier future for the next generation, and it is people like Mr Ian Prosser, the ORR and all in the educational system, that make this goal and vision achievable.

Emily Bickers

## LSC Science Club

After the success of last time's heart dissection, Ms Coogan's LSC Science Club chose another vitally important organ to investigate - the kidney. Once again our loyal band of members did not let us down and demonstrated some amazing dissection skills. I should point out that kidney dissection is not just hacking away at the flesh, so to speak. Whereas the heart can be dissected in sections, the kidney needs to be laid flat and dissected in such a way as to initially produce two matching halves, thus revealing the fascinating internal structures that can then be further dissected.

Mr Sousa organised the club members into small groups, 6 in all each with their own lamb kidney to dissect. The kidney is an organ that has evolved in mammals in such a way that, due to its efficient functionality, even a lamb's kidney is almost identical to a human kidney in terms of structure and function. Mr Sousa displayed a large diagram on the science lab's projector screen so that the students could identify their kidney's various internal parts as they went along.

The kidney is a complex, multifunction organ whose main function is the production of urine thereby controlling the body's fluid and chemical balance. We all know that, as mammals, we need water to survive and that our kidneys help conserve our body's water;



however, we still need a daily drink. Would you believe that there are some mammals living in our hottest, driest, desert regions that can go without drinking water almost forever? One example is the Fennec Fox (*Vulpes zerda*) of North Africa and the Middle East. Its kidneys have adapted to become so efficient that they produce highly concentrated urine, thus minimising water loss. Their requirement for water can be met entirely from the food it eats and by its own internal metabolic processes that produce water as a by-product!