

We would like to ask for your prayers for Fr John Warrington, a local priest and a Governor here at the school, who underwent a transplant operation last Friday, we wish him a speedy recovery. Also in our thoughts is Fr Michael Teader who has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and is at home resting.

Reverse Advent Calendar

This year instead of the Advent Angels (which Staff will continue to run in the staffroom) we have asked Gatehouse to provide a list of 14 items they are in short supply of, and then every morning during advent we will have a collection in our form groups with one of those items. This will mean that we will structure our Christmas hampers much better and our giving will be really targeted.

Please look at the calendar below and choose which items you'd like to give as a family, perhaps your child can do tasks at home to earn the items to donate, or they can pay a proportion from their own money if appropriate.

Gatehouse is a local charity, who run one of the towns 2 major food banks, it's absolutely essential that at Christmas time neither of the food banks run out of stock, as it creates havoc for some of our most vulnerable families at a really difficult time of year.

Matt Spiller

Huge Congratulations

Congratulations to four of our 6th form students, Will Harpur-Davies, Thomas Bidewell, Alan John and Leo Saiu-Bell who went to Northgate High School on Thursday 29 November to compete in the Team Maths Challenge competition. I am happy to say I am very proud of the boys; they came second out of the 17 schools that attended and really enjoyed the Maths problems.

The highlight was their performance on the cross number round where we believe they were the only school to score full marks, which every year proves extremely difficult to do.

Hamish Jogee

Christmas Card Competition Deadline 2 December

Calling all artists, photographers and designers! Could you be the designer of the school Christmas Card this year? See your work published as a real card this Christmas.

Please use your favourite choice of media, collage, paint, pencil, mixed media and submit your design on card/paper no bigger than A4. Please ensure your design reflects the theme of Christmas in an imaginative way to convey the values of the school.

Reports and Parents Evenings

We will be moving over to using Edulink to book parents evening appointments and also for the publication of interim reports. To this end please do watch out for emails relating to the availability dates for these. We hope that these changes will improve the efficiency of our systems as well as reduce the environmental impact of the amount of paper which we generate.

The system for parents evenings and viewing reports are fairly easy to use and are included in the Edulink guide that is available on the school website.

If you do not have access to Edulink you will still be able to make parents evening appointments by asking your child to do this directly with the teacher concerned. In the same way if you wish for a paper copy of a report to given to your child please let the school office know and we will do this via the class tutor.

Many thanks

Mr D'Mello

From the Exams Office

The Year 11 mock exams run from Friday 29 November to Friday 13 December. It is a tight schedule of exams, and it would help the smooth running of the day if those Year 11 students can come to school prepared, ie:

- No mobile phones/smart watches or any other electronic devices are allowed in the exam room
- Students should have the right equipment for the exam, ie for Maths exams: calculator, ruler, protractor, compass
- Clear plastic water bottle (with no labels); clear plastic pencil case
- Wear full school uniform;
- Check the exam information noticeboards outside the Chapel and Exams Office for the daily programme, so they know where the exam will take place
- Go straight to hall, on days when there is a core subject exam in the morning;
- Arrive at the exam room promptly – 10 minutes before the exam start time.

For queries about the mocks or examinations in general, contact the Exams Officer, Debbie Aliaga, by email: daliaga@st-benedicts.suffolk.sch.uk or via the school on 01284 753512 (extn 2238)

Thank you

Debbie Aliaga



Weekly Attendance

Year	A	C	P	L	S	X
7	91.1%	93.8%	96.3%	93.5%	88.5%	95%
8	92.9%	90.4%	91.1%	98.5%	92.2%	92.9%
9	95.4%	94.8%	93.8%	93.4%	94.7%	97.5%
10	93.3%	92.4%	91.2%	92.5%	89.6%	83.2%
11	95%	95.9%	96.7%	91.9%	97.6%	95.8%

Whole-school Literacy

Every week we now have a 'Word of the Week'. This is part of our whole-school approach to literacy. This week the word is 'serendipity' and students and staff have been vying to use the word in the most inventive and effective way; so far, Mr Murphy and Mrs Green are in the lead! Students are encouraged to use the Word of the Week throughout the week to help embed the word in their vocabulary. It would be wonderful if students carried this on at home too. Students can potentially earn a green token for their House if they use the Word of the Week in their learning. Literacy learning is also part of our Tutor Time, please ask your child what they have learned in Tutor Time and how they have used the Frayer Model. Next term, we will be launching a St Benedict's Readathon . . . watch this space! Mrs Bergin Director of Inclusive Education

Cassandra Bergin
Director of Inclusive Education

Dates for the Diary

Carol Service
Tuesday 10 December 2019
St Edmunds Church
Bury St Edmunds
7.00pm

Year 7 Parents Evening
Thursday 5 December 2019
5.00pm— 7.00pm

GCSE & A Level Certificate Tea
Tuesday 17 December 2019
4.00—5.00pm

Year 11 into 6th Form Day
Tuesday 17 December 2019

Deadline for 6th Form Applications
Thursday 19 December 2019
End of Term
Thursday 19 December 2019

Start of Term

Tuesday 7 January 2020 PD Day

Monday 6 January 2020

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“GCSEPod saves the day again!”
Student Tweet

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