



Message from the Principal

Dear students, parents and friends

Coming together on Tuesday to celebrate St Benedict's day was a joyful experience. Our deanery priests, Frs Gordon, Peter, Philip, Mark and Tom, were able to join us for the Mass which added to the special feeling of the day. The catering staff provided a delicious celebration lunch to which many staff and students sat down and enjoyed.

Two of our year 7 students made considerable efforts for charity this week – Esme and Kitty had their long hair cut off to support a children's cancer care charity – a very brave and generous pair! They raised over £200 for their chosen charity.

My thanks to all the community spirited students and colleagues who have volunteered to pick up litter with me on daily 'litter patrols' at lunchtimes this week. Next term we will renew our campaign to reduce waste and encourage bin use.

This week's 'fringe festival' has provided an impressive array of entertainment outside by the picnic tables during lunchtimes this week. Performances have included drama, comedy, instrumentals and singing. Well done to all of the students who performed.

Mrs Santinelli

Little Princess Trust – charity haircut

A big well done to Kitty and Esme, both from 7N, who were both very brave for having their hair cut. They wanted to do this to raise money and awareness for the Little Princess Trust, which is a charity that provides real-hair wigs, free of charge to children suffering hair loss due to cancer treatment. Many thanks to all those who have donated towards this good cause and for Emily Mills (Hair Stylist) and Kitty's Mum for taking time out of their day to help with the cutting of hair.





Litter pick volunteers

Thank you to all student helpers this week.



FOSB Open mic event

Last Friday evening saw the very first ever St Benedict's Open Mic with a barbecue in the interval, organised by the Friends of St Benedict's. It was a chance for students to 'show case' their talent by just turning up and taking the stage. It was a wonderful night of singing, musical performances, poetry reading and drama sketches. Over fifty students took part, on their own or in small groups, and they all performed to a very high standard. I would like to extend my gratitude to all of the students that took part and the members of staff that helped: Mrs Verhofstadt, Mr Brown, Mrs Chappell, Mr and Mrs Hallows, Mr Riley and finally to the two students that helped with the sound system: Josh Bobby and Sky Giles.

Mr Santinelli

Year 9 team building workshop



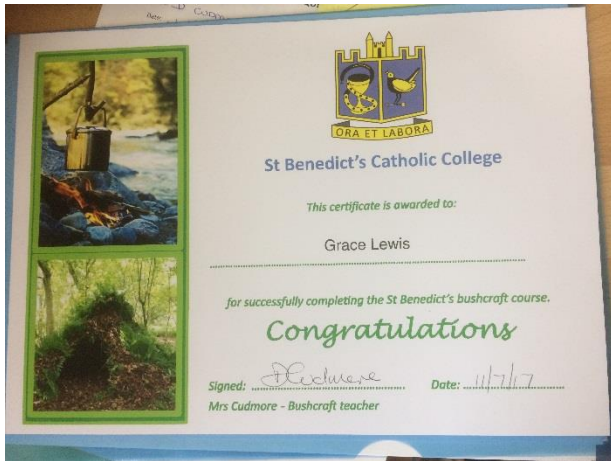
A group of our more-able year 9 pupils thoroughly enjoyed a two hour workshop at Ninja UK. Mrs Humble, coordinator of the MAP (more able pupils), commented that the boys had to support each other throughout the gruelling course, showing excellent teamwork skills as well as personal resilience. They soon realised that it was much more difficult than they had presumed!





Bushcraft

Bushcraft came to an end this week. We have had a great year and look forward to finishing our, hopefully, weatherproof shelter in the autumn. This picture sums it up pretty well I feel. Congratulations to the group, who received certificates of attendance at their year assembly this week. Have a great summer holiday. Thank you to Laura, Jo and Rachel, the LSAs who supported the group this year.
Mrs Cudmore



Jack Petchey Award winners

Congratulations to Akin Akinboh and Mia Patterson for winning the Jack Petchey award.

A huge thank you from the PE department as the money was put towards athletics and basketball equipment for next year!



Sports news

Winners of the summer term team of the month £10 reward:

Madison Willing 7N for always working hard and showing good focus in PE lessons

Jacob Stringer 7 B for showing good skills and excellent awareness in rounders



St Benedict's Team of the Month



Year 9 guest speaker visiting science

The year 9s had the pleasure in the science department of having a guest speaker come in and shed light on his career as an 'Offshore Seismic Processing Geophysicist'. Mr Josh Seddon took us through what his job entailed and highlighted all the science links to his job. Mr Seddon's job takes him around the world in a large ship where he has to gather information about the sea beds on behalf of clients working with his firm. One fascinating aspect was hearing about and seeing images of remotely-controlled robots that he uses as one of the ways to gather information. The students loved the sense of adventure involved in Mr Seddon's job and had LOADS of questions at the end of the session.





Numeracy challenge

Answers for Week Ending Friday 7th July



C 90 cm



B 4



A 5432115

The launch of the numeracy challenge has been incredibly successful, with one third of all students regularly entering. Prizes will be distributed next week to the form in each year group with the highest number of points.

The numeracy challenge will return in September!

Chaplaincy news

Dear students, parents, and friends,

Holy Days - Holidays

As we prepare for the summer holidays towards the end of a busy term and year at St Benedict's, we are all ready for a well-earned rest. The Christian faith stresses the need for rest and relaxation; after all even God our Father rested on the seventh day! Jesus too took time out to rest before, or after, particularly important times in his ministry. The church calendar is full of holy days that mark particular feasts e.g. Christmas; in fact the word holiday is derived from Holy Day.

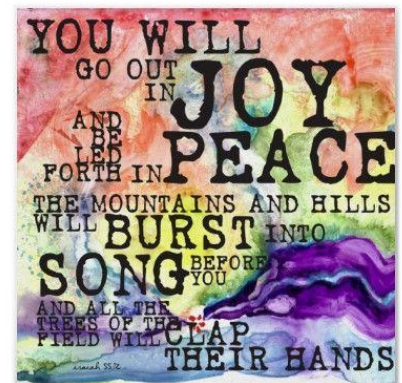
So let us all resolve to make the best of the holidays and enjoy the time of rest and relaxation, following the example of Jesus. Whatever you are doing over the holidays, I hope and pray that you have a great time with your families and that all our students and staff return safe and sound in September.

Heavenly Father, bless us, our families and friends during the forthcoming summer holiday. May we find peace and relaxation, joy and love, during our break, and return here in September, safe from all harm. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

St Benedict. Pray for us.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes 23rd -28th July 2017

Together with pilgrims, including students from our school, I will be part of the Brentwood diocesan centenary pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes in the first week of the holiday. If you have any particular prayer intentions I will be happy to receive them and ensure that they are prayed for whilst we are there. You can contact me via our Facebook or Twitter pages or at r.cerson@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk May God bless you.





St Benedict's Day Mass We had a wonderful feast day Mass last week. Thank you to all our deanery clergy who concelebrated the Mass. Thank you also to all our students and staff who participated in the Mass

Chaplaincy representatives visit to St Peter's chapel Bradwell and St John the Baptist monastery Tolleshunt Knights

Some of our form chaplaincy reps had a wonderful day visiting two very important Christian sites in Essex. They greatly enjoyed the experience and felt spiritually renewed as a result.



St. Teresa's Youth Group



Your Final Date This Term



14th July 5pm - 9pm

Years 4 / 5 / 6

Year 7 upwards

from 5pm - 6.30pm

from 6.45pm - 9pm



Pool



Table Tennis

Come along and join us again for a fun packed evening!!

Future dates

22nd September / 13th October

3rd November / 1st December

Only £2 entry

Free Squash & Biscuits!!

Music



Board Games



Tuck Shop