



# St Benedict's Newsletter



**Issue No 9**

**Date Friday 01 February 2019**

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Jack Adams in 8M who was a finalist in the Worcestershire Young Poet Laureate 2019 competition. Jack entered two poems and performed them at the final which took place at the end of January. Jack was the youngest finalist and came 4th which is an amazing achievement. Well done Jack! One of the poems that Jack performed at the final has been chosen as the Poem of the Month for February. It is called 'The Change We See' and will be on display in the library on The Poetry Place notice board during February.



**FOOD FOR THOUGHT** The snow may not have amounted to much this week but our Year 11 Food and Nutrition students have been cooking up a storm in the Food Technology kitchen as they embark on the practical element of their GCSE examination. For three weeks they will be demonstrating a broad range of skills. The culinary topics set this year are: Food for Teenagers, Asian Dishes or Vegan/Pescatarian diets. With a strong emphasis on presentation, it's deliciously good to see so many students with their eye on the highest prize.

**POETRY ESCAPE** the annual competition is now open. This year they are challenging students to write a poem about something they are passionate about, from championing a cause to writing about what life is like for a student today. The competition is open to students aged 11-18. There are prizes to be won and the chance to have entries published in the competition book. Entry forms are available in the library by The Poetry Place notice board. All entries should be returned to Miss O'Toole in the library with an entry form attached by Monday 11 February.

**IN THE LIBRARY** we currently have a Page to Screen display with a collection of books that have all been made into films. We also have a Chinese New Year display, featuring Chinese Dragons and books about China.

**THE ST BENEDICTS CATERING CAVALRY** came to the rescue of St Nicholas Primary on Wednesday when they found they had no power to their kitchen. Over 400 meals were cooked and transported to St Nicholas Primary, Coughton and Welford on Avon schools. After a major investment in ultra modern cooking equipment here at St Benedict's last summer we were able to help Educaterers in their hour of need.

Well done to our fabulous Catering team who stepped up to the challenge as well as producing all the lovely food for us.

**WWI BATTLEFIELDS TOUR** We have a few places remaining for this trip on 2-4 October 2019. It is open to current Year 8 students. Please pay the deposit on ParentPay and see Miss Dance for further details.

**YEAR 11 INTERVIEWS** Most students have had or will have their careers interviews. If you would like to see Mrs Holmes about the options available to your son or daughter, please send an email to [holmes.j5@st-benedicts.org](mailto:holmes.j5@st-benedicts.org)

**SIXTH FORM APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2019** Our deadline for applications is Friday 8 February. If you have any questions or would like a hard copy of our prospectus, please either pop into school or call the Sixth Form Office on 01789 767030

**EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURE** Following the recent snow and bad weather, please refer to the letter issued this week for our notification and school closure procedures.

## USEFUL CONTACTS

Telephone: [01789 762888](tel:01789762888)

Emails: [admin@st-benedicts.org](mailto:admin@st-benedicts.org)

[pta@st-benedicts.org](mailto:pta@st-benedicts.org)

Send your news to: [newsletter@st-benedicts.org](mailto:newsletter@st-benedicts.org)

School Website: [www.st-benedicts.org](http://www.st-benedicts.org)



95%	=	<b>47 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR</b> 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days
90%	=	<b>95 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR</b> 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day
85%	=	<b>142 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR</b> 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days
80%	=	<b>190 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR</b> 32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS

### WHAT DO YOUR ATTENDANCE FIGURES ACTUALLY MEAN?

### BE SMART BE THERE!

Percentages based on 190 academic days

**ATTENDANCE** Our School Attendance Policy states that attendance should be at least 97%, in line with the guidelines from the local authority. Ours currently is below this at 94.4%. You will appreciate from the graphic above, the impact that missing time off school can have on your child's education. Please try and make appointments outside of school hours.

**WELL DONE** to 10M, who are this week's top attending form with 97.14% attendance, followed closely by 8M with 96.15%. Keep up the good work, there is still plenty of room for improvement.



**JUST A REMINDER** that students are allowed to bring balls to play with at break and lunch on the playground. Please ensure these are named with a permanent marker before they are brought in. The Pastoral Department are unable to supply balls for students to use.

**SCHOOL UNIFORM** Next week, we are having another clampdown on uniform. Please ensure your son or daughter has

- ◆ Shoes that can be polished
- ◆ A clip on tie
- ◆ A v necked school jumper

Girls must wear a badged school skirt that is knee length

**Please note that hoodies are NOT allowed in school, and from next week these will be confiscated.**



**SAFER INTERNET DAY** Next week all students will attend an assembly for Safer Internet Day 2019 which will take place on Tuesday 5 February with the theme 'Together for a better internet'. Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre the celebration sees hundreds of schools and organisations join together to raise awareness of online safety issues and run events and activities right across the UK. To find out more and get involved visit <http://www.saferinternetday.org.uk/>

#### Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 5 February	Year 12 Trip to Birmingham Art Galleries
Thursday 14 February	Year 9 Parents' Evening and Options Talk
Monday 18 - Friday 22 February	Half Term break
Monday 25 February	Inset Day - School closed to students
Thursday 28 February	Year 13 Parents' Evening