



THE ST. BENET'S NEWSLETTER

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WELCOME BACK!

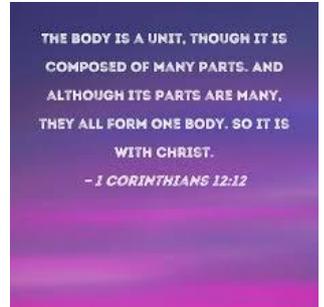
It has been a real privilege to spend my first week as Executive Head teacher getting to know the children here at school. They have shown such warmth and enthusiasm, and it has been a pleasure to begin learning their names and discovering their many gifts and interests. I would also like to thank the parents and carers who have taken the time to stop, say hello and extend such a generous welcome – your support is very much appreciated.

In our welcome assembly this week, we reflected on St. Paul's words to the Colossians, where he speaks about us all being part of one body. Each person has their own role and unique talents, yet together we form something stronger and more complete. I encouraged the children to see our school community in this way – a family where every child, member of staff and parent contributes something special to help us all grow and flourish.

Looking ahead, I will be sharing further details about the exciting opportunities and events planned for the year. One key date for your diary is our Welcome Mass, which will take place on Thursday 18th September at 11:00am in St. Benet's Church. It would be wonderful to see as many families as possible join us for this important celebration. There are a couple of additional key dates at the end of this newsletter.

After spending time with the staff team at the beginning of this week, I feel both inspired and confident about what lies ahead. Together, we can make this year a truly successful one for all of our children. I will continue to be available on the school gates at the start and end of the day when I am at St. Benet's, but if you would like a longer conversation, please contact the office to make an appointment.

With every good wish, Patrick Kennedy, Executive Head teacher



ATTENDANCE REMINDERS

Good attendance is vital to every child's learning and progress. Of course, we know that children will sometimes be unwell but please ensure you inform the school office by 9am each day of absence – our answerphone system means you can ring at any time. In line with government guidance, term-time holidays are not permitted. Absence request forms are available for special circumstances and will be considered in line with our policy and, where required, in consultation with governors. While we understand illness will occasionally keep children off, our aim is for every child to achieve at least 97% attendance across the school year. Thank you for your support!

UNIFORM REMINDER

It has been wonderful to see how smart the children have looked in their uniforms this week – they really do wear them with pride. Thank you for helping us keep our school looking so smart. That said, we have noticed a few children not quite in the correct uniform. We kindly remind all families that it is important every child comes to school wearing the full, correct uniform each day.

We have a small stock of good-quality second-hand uniform available free of charge at school. Please contact the school office and we will be happy to check what sizes we have for you. Our uniform is also available from Screens in Lowestoft. A reminder of our full uniform requirements can be found on our school website here: <https://www.st-benets.suffolk.sch.uk/uniform>



The Catholic Schools of
the Waveney Valley



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

HANDWRITING GOOD PRACTICE GUIDE

Earlier this week, an email was sent to parents with a copy of the Good Practice Guide for Handwriting. We are having a really big push on improving children's handwriting this year and so your support will be greatly appreciated in supporting your child(ren). If you have any questions about this guide, please speak with your child's class teacher.

CLASS NEWSLETTERS

Next Friday, we will be sending home copies of your child's class newsletter. This will detail lots of important information about your child's Curriculum, Homework Expectations, PE, Forest School and other useful information. Please make sure you look out for this and speak to your child's class teacher should you have any questions.

BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

A reminder about the before and after school clubs we offer here at St. Benet's:

Our Breakfast Club operates Monday to Friday in our school hall from 7.50am to 8.45am. It is run by Mrs Sheen and Mrs Woodgate.

After School Clubs operate from 3.15pm to 4.15pm and will start from Monday, 8th September. The overview for this half-term is as follows:

Monday - Dance Club with Miss McEntee (3.15pm to 4.15pm) - Years 3 to 6 only

Tuesday - KS1 Multi-Sports with Premier Sports (3.15pm to 4.15pm)

Wednesday - KS2 Football Skills with Darrel Sibbons (3.15pm to 4.15pm)

Friday - KS2 Multi-Sports with Premier Sports (3.15pm to 4.15pm)

All after-school clubs are FREE however we require you to book a space for your child(ren) via WisePay as spaces are limited. Failure to book your child's place will result in them not taking place until a booking is made A reminder of the link to the WisePay:

<https://www.wisepay.co.uk/store/generic/template.asp>

Please speak to the school office should you have any questions.

Thank you for your support!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER

Monday 8th – After School Clubs Start

Thursday 18th – 11am – Whole School Mass in St. Benet's Church

Thursday 18th – 5pm – 8pm – Notre Dame High School Year 6 Open Evening

OCTOBER

Wednesday 1st– All Day – Whole School Photographs

Thursday 2nd– 9:30am – 3:00pm – Year 6 Art Day at Sir John Leman High School

Thursday 23rd – 3:15pm – School Closes for Half-Term

NOVEMBER

Monday 3rd – 8:45am – School Opens

OUR NEW STARTERS FOR THIS YEAR!

(inc. our new Head teacher!)

