



THE ST. BENET'S NEWSLETTER

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TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

This week at St Benet's, our worship has centred on the message that each one of us is a Temple of the Holy Spirit. The children have reflected on how God's presence lives within us and how we are called to share that presence with others through kindness, respect and love. In prayer, they have been encouraged to make room in their hearts for the Holy Spirit and to recognise just how precious they are in God's eyes.

As we approached Remembrance, this theme took on a deeper meaning. The children have been reminded that honouring the presence of God within ourselves also means honouring it within others. Through our reflections and acts of remembrance, we have taken time to be thankful for those who gave their lives for our peace and freedom and to consider how we can live in a way that continues their legacy of courage, sacrifice and hope.

AFTER HE WAS RAISED FROM THE
DEAD, HIS DISCIPLES REMEMBERED
THAT HE HAD SAID THIS. THEN
THEY BELIEVED THE SCRIPTURE
AND THE WORD THAT JESUS HAD
SPOKEN.
- JOHN 2:22

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

As we move into this joyful season, we have a number of Christmas events planned for our children and families to enjoy. We hope the coming weeks will be filled with celebration, community and festive spirit across the school.

- **Monday 1st December** – The children will be visiting the Hungate Church Christmas Tree Festival, where they will have the chance to see the beautifully decorated trees created by local groups and organisations.
- **Friday 5th December** – Our sister school, St Edmund's in Bungay, is holding their PTFA Christmas Market. Families from our school are warmly invited to attend. Entry is £1 for adults (including a free mug of mulled wine), and children enter for free.
- **Friday 12th December** – The whole school will be heading to the Marina Theatre in Lowestoft for our annual visit to the pantomime, always a much-loved Christmas tradition.
- **Tuesday 16th December** – Our Christmas Carol Service and Nativity will take place at 2pm, followed by tea, coffee and mince pies for families. We look forward to sharing this special occasion with you.
- **Wednesday 17th December** – We will be enjoying Christmas Dinner Day, Christmas Jumper Day and a PTFA film night after school. Further details about the film night will follow shortly.
- **Friday 19th December** – School closes for the Christmas holidays.

We look forward to celebrating these festive events together as we journey through Advent towards Christmas.

STAY AND PRAY – ROWAN CLASS

We have our Rowan Class 'Stay and Pray' session on Monday. This session will take place in the morning straight after drop-off at around 8:50am. We warmly invite parents and carers to join us for a special time of quiet reflection which allows families to pause together and share in our school's prayer life.

The week after, Stay and Pray will be for Oak Class.



The Catholic Schools of
the Waveney Valley



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

UPDATE TO SICKNESS AND DIARRHOEA ABSENCE GUIDANCE

We would like to inform families of a change to our guidance regarding absence following sickness or diarrhoea. In the past, children were advised to remain off school for 48 hours after any instance of sickness and/or diarrhoea. However, in the majority of cases, sickness is a one-off episode and children do not need to remain away from school for the full 48 hours. From Monday 17th November, the updated guidance is as follows:

- Children should remain off school for 48 hours only if they experience a serious bout of both sickness and diarrhoea.
- If a child has sickness only, or diarrhoea only, and it is a single, short-lived episode, they may return to school once they are well enough.

As always, we ask parents and carers to use their judgement and consider whether their child is well enough to participate in a full school day.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our school community healthy and safe.

SCHOOL FOR PEACE – CAROLS AT THE QUAY

We are delighted to share an invitation to a special festive event, Christmas Words and Music, taking place on Friday 12th December at 6.30 pm. The evening will be held at The Boat Shed at Hipperson's, nestled along Gillingham Dam in Beccles (NR34 0EB). It promises to be a warm and welcoming celebration, complete with seasonal refreshments — and heating to keep everyone cosy!

Parking is available on site, and while entry is free, any donations made on the evening will go towards supporting The School for Peace, a charity close to the hearts of those organising the event.

The School for Peace Support Group hopes to see many families and friends joining together for this uplifting start to the Christmas season. More information can be found at www.schoolforpeace.org

UNIFORM

As mentioned last week, we are consulting on changes to our uniform arrangements for next academic year following legislation currently working through parliament. Please can you take a few minutes to click on the link below and share your thoughts on changes to our uniform policy.

LINK TO THE CONSULTATION - <https://forms.gle/9MgXTdvh5bCorQNY6>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER

Monday 17th – Stay and Pray for Rowan Class – Time 8:50am

Monday 24th – Stay and Pray for Oak Class – Time 2.45pm

Friday 21st – 11:00am – Oak Class Mass

Friday 28th – Hungate Christmas Tree Festival

DECEMBER

Friday 1st – 10:00am – Hungate Christmas Tree Visit

Friday 5th – 11:00am – Beech Class Mass

Friday 12th – Pantomime Trip – Marina Theatre, Lowestoft

Tuesday 16th – 2:00pm – Christmas Carol Service and Nativity

Wednesday 17th – Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner

Friday 19th – School Closes for the Christmas Holidays