



THE ST. BENET'S NEWSLETTER

RINGSFIELD ROAD, BECCLES, NR34 9PQ
EXECUTIVE HEAD TEACHER – MR KENNEDY
ASSISTANT HEAD TEACHER – MISS LYONS

Website: www.st-benets.suffolk.sch.uk

Email: office.stbenets@cpswv.org

Phone: 01502 712012

Friday 6th February 2026



FRASSATI - THE MAN OF THE BEATITUDES

At St. Benet's this week, our assemblies and prayers focused on the Beatitudes and on St Pier Giorgio Frassati, known as the man who lived his faith with joy and courage. The children reflected on how they too are called to be faithful followers of Jesus, inspired by the example of saints who have gone before us. Each day's prayer invited the children to thank God for these role models and to celebrate the ways God works through ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

WHEN JESUS SAW THE
CROWDS, HE WENT UP ON
THE MOUNTAIN AND SAT
DOWN. HIS DISCIPLES
CAME TO HIM.
- MATTHEW 5:1

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SESSION

A reminder that the next First Holy Communion session will take place on Saturday 7th February at 10:30am at St Benet's. There will be sessions for both children and parents, and we look forward to seeing everyone there.

PTFA ST VALENTINE'S DAY BAKE SALE

The PTFA will be holding a St Valentine's Day Bake Sale on 12th and 13th February, taking place after school on the playground. Both cash and card payments will be accepted.

If you are able to support the sale with donations, baked or shop-bought items are very welcome. Please bring any donations to reception in the morning, and if items are home baked, ensure ingredients are clearly labelled. Thank you for your continued support of the PTFA.

ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

We have had an increase in parents not informing school on the days that their child/ren are absent due to illness. This creates an additional burden on our office staff who have to make contact to find out the reason for the absence. On each day your child is unfit to come to school, please report this absence by calling the school on (01502 712012) and leaving a message on the child absence line (option 1) to let us know. This is operational 24/7 so please ring at anytime of the day/night to inform us. In the message you must leave your child's full name and class and give the specific reason for absence. The information you give will be recorded on our official register.

ATTENDANCE MONITORING

Our half-termly attendance monitoring will take place next week. This is where we analyse the attendance of all our children and write to parents whose child/ren are identified as 'persistently absent' (attendance is below 90%). Where required, the Local Authority Education Welfare Officer will become involved to support. Our current whole school attendance percentage is 93.4% which is below the current National average and well below our school target of 97%. If you need any support in improving your child's attendance, please contact the school office.

LUNCH BOOKINGS

Please can you make sure you book your child's lunch in advance of the day through our SELECT system. We have seen an increase in children requiring a meal who haven't pre-ordered one. Where meals aren't booked in advance, there is a chance a limited menu will be available for selection.



The Catholic Schools of
the Waveney Valley



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

REMINDER: CRAZY HAIR DAY – THURSDAY 12TH FEBRUARY 2026

A reminder that Crazy Hair Day will take place on Thursday 12th February 2026. Further details have already been emailed to parents by the school office, so please check your inbox if you haven't already done so.

On this day, the school kitchen will be offering a special lunch menu consisting of a Hot Dog (or veggie sausage) in a roll with potato wedges and sweetcorn, followed by iced sponge cake. Please remember to pre-order meals via SELECT in advance. We're looking forward to seeing some wonderfully creative hairstyles!

WORLD BOOK DAY

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Wednesday 4th March, as Forest School will be taking place on Thursday. The day will be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our love of reading and stories.

Children are invited to come dressed as a character from their favourite book, or they may choose to bring a book into school and wear their pyjamas, ready for a cosy bedtime story. A range of fun activities will be planned throughout the day to help bring books and reading to life for the children.

WORLD
**BOOK
DAY**

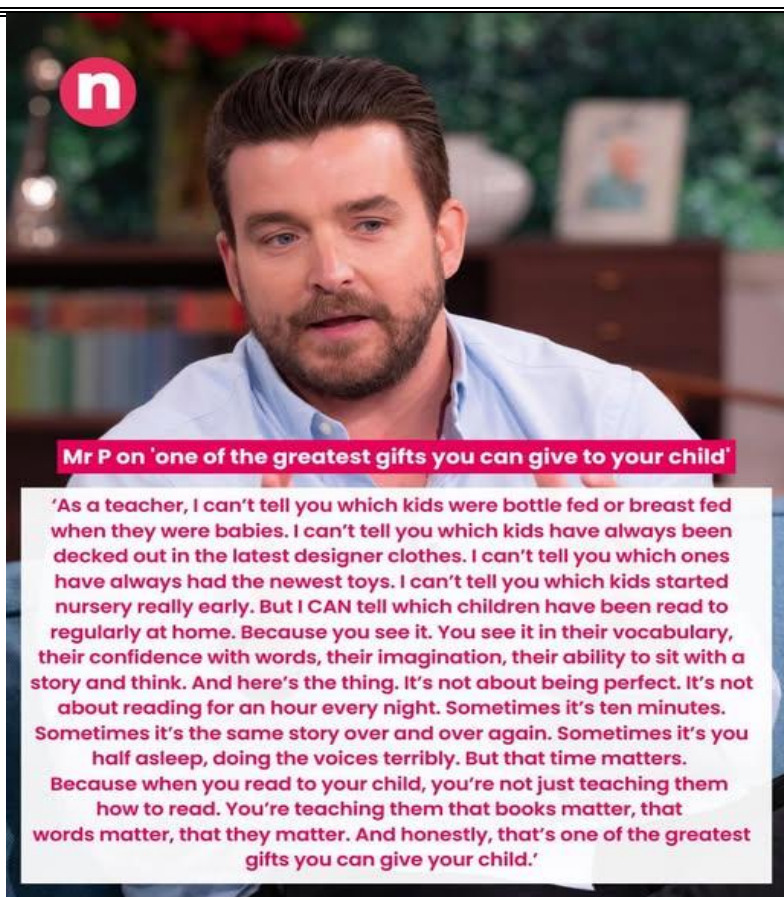
SCHOOL FOR PEACE – QUIZ EVENING

Join us for a fun Quiz Evening on Saturday 14th March from 7–9pm at the Sea Cadet HQ, Fen Lane, Beccles. We're delighted to welcome experienced quizmaster Jeff Hoyle for what promises to be a great night. Tickets are £6 and include entry to the quiz, with a raffle and refreshments available on the night. Drinks will be on sale or feel free to bring your own. There is plenty of parking available.

All proceeds will go directly towards the building of our new classrooms, so every ticket really does make a difference. To book tickets, please email congoschool4peace@gmail.com or contact Mary on 07932 576399.

THE IMPORTANCE OF READING WITH YOUR CHILDREN

This year we will be doing an increasing amount of work developing a love of reading in our children. As part of this, I just wanted to share this screen grab from social media with you. It comes from a teacher in the north of England who is quite prolific on social media. However, I can't underestimate the truth behind a statement he made a while ago. It's not about creating 'bookworms' or the next Einstein but opening children up to new worlds, ideas, concepts and vocabulary. It also develops your connection with them. Have a read of what he had to say, give it some thought and seize the opportunities you have to read to your child whilst also hearing them read as well... no matter what year group they are in!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY

WB 9th – Children’s Mental Health Week, NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe Workshops and Safer Internet Day

Friday 13th – School Closes for the Half-Term Break

Wednesday 18th – Ash Wednesday – Lent Begins

Monday 23rd – School Opens

Wednesday 25th – Distribution of Ashes Service – 2:30pm in Church

Thursday 26th – Forest School – Y6

MARCH

Monday 2nd – Stay and Pray – Oak Class

Thursday 5th – Forest School – Y5

Friday 6th – Rowan Class Mass – 11am

Monday 9th – Stay and Pray – Rowan Class

Thursday 12th – Forest School – Y4

Friday 13th – Beech Class Mass – 11am

Monday 16th – Stay and Pray – Beech Class

Thursday 19th – Forest School – Y3

Friday 20th – Oak Class Mass – 11am

Tuesday 24th – Parent Teacher Meetings

Thursday 26th – Forest School – Y2

Friday 27th – School Closes for Easter Holidays

APRIL

Sunday 5th – Easter Sunday

Monday 13th – School Opens

Thursday 16th – Forest School – Y1/R

Thursday 23rd – Forest School – Y1/R