

ST. BENET'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY – WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



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FORGIVE, RESET, REPEAT

This week at St Benet's, we have been reflecting on Jesus' teaching about forgiveness in Matthew's Gospel. Peter asks Jesus how many times we should forgive someone who has hurt us, and Jesus responds, "not seven times, but seventy times seven." His message is clear: forgiveness should not have a limit.

As we begin a new school year, this is a particularly important message for our children. We are a community of people learning and growing together, and there will inevitably be times when we make mistakes, fall out with others or get things wrong. Jesus reminds us that forgiveness gives us the opportunity to reset, start again and move forward together.

Our school values of Faith, Compassion and Resilience help us to do this. Through our faith, we learn to follow Jesus' example; through compassion, we show kindness and understanding towards others and through resilience, we learn to move beyond difficulties and try again.

As we continue into this new academic year, let us remember that sometimes we all need a second chance – and sometimes, we need to be willing to give one. Forgive, reset, repeat.

We will be coming together as a school family with our wider parish family for our Start of Year Mass at 11:00am on Friday 18th September. We hope as many of you as can will join us for this.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS – YEAR 6 MOVING TO YEAR 7

If your child is currently in Year 6, it is now time to start thinking about which secondary school you would like them to attend from September 2027. Suffolk County Council will publish all the information you need to help you make your decision, including details of the application process and available schools, from 12 September 2026.

The deadline for submitting your application is Saturday 31 October 2026. It is important to apply by this date, as late applications may reduce your chances of being offered a place at your preferred school. Please make sure you familiarise yourself with the application process and key deadlines and submit your application on time.

You can find all the information you need and apply online at: www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions

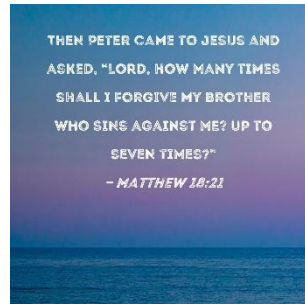
SIR JOHN LEMAN HIGH SCHOOL OPEN EVENING – THURSDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER 2026 - 4.00PM-7.00PM

Parents and carers of children in Year 6 are warmly invited to attend the upcoming Sir John Leman High School Open Evening on Thursday 17th September. This is a great opportunity for prospective Year 7 pupils and their families to visit the school, meet staff and find out more about life at Sir John Leman. Booking is required. We very much look forward to seeing our Year 6 children and their families there. Please click on this link to register: [Book your place at the Open Evening](#)

MUSIC LESSONS – PIANO AND GUITAR

Would your child like to learn to play the piano or guitar? We offer weekly piano and guitar lessons in school with Joe, giving children the opportunity to learn an instrument in a familiar and convenient setting. Lessons cost just £9 per session and we currently have a number of spaces available.

If your child is interested in learning an instrument, this is a great opportunity to get started and develop their confidence and musical skills. Places are limited, so please contact the school office to find out more or to book a place.



The Catholic Schools of
the Waveney Valley



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

PHOTOGRAPHIC CONSENT – REMINDER

A quick reminder to parents and carers to complete our online photographic consent form if you have not already done so. We are updating our records to make sure we have your current preferences regarding photographs of your child being taken and shared through our school's approved communication platforms, including ClassDojo!, Facebook and our school website.

The form takes less than 2 minutes to complete and asks you to select whether you consent or do not consent to photographs of your child being taken and shared. You can access the form here: [St Benet's Photographic Consent – Fill out form](#)

Thank you to everyone who has already completed the form. Your responses help us ensure that we respect your wishes while continuing to celebrate the wonderful experiences and achievements of our children. If you have any questions or queries about this, please don't hesitate to contact me via the school office.

CLASS DOJO

A huge thank you to all our parents and carers who have signed up to ClassDojo! We now have nearly 70% of our parents registered, which is fantastic. ClassDojo! will be used this year as an additional way for us to communicate important information and updates with families, as well as making it easier for parents and carers to contact their child's class teacher or the school office directly.

If you have already registered, please take a moment to check that you can see your child's class. Your child's class should be clearly labelled 2026-27. If you cannot see the correct class or are experiencing any difficulties, please speak to Mr Kennedy. Messages can be sent through ClassDojo! during the day and will be checked at various points. Please remember that there is no expectation for staff to respond to messages outside of school hours.

Thank you once again for your support as we introduce ClassDojo! across our school community. We hope it will make communication between home and school simpler, more efficient and more accessible for everyone.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME – FIRST CONFESSION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

If you have a child in Years 3–6, you may wish to consider enrolling them in the parish's Sacramental Preparation Programme for First Holy Communion and Confirmation in 2027. If you would like your child to take part or would like to learn more, please e-mail Fr. Simon (simon.blakesley@rcdea.org.uk) or complete a yellow enrolment form, available at the back of the church.

The venue and format of the preparation programme will be confirmed once we know where the majority of our candidates are from. We look forward to welcoming families as they begin this important and joyful journey of faith together.

As part of preparing for the sacraments, families are reminded that there is no substitute for regular attendance at Sunday Mass and taking an active part in the wider life of the parish. The programme can also provide a wonderful opportunity for children and their families to reconnect with and become more involved in our parish community.

THE BIG LUNCH – FREE SCHOOL LUNCH!

We are delighted to let families know that, as part of The Big Lunch campaign, Aspens will be fully funding all children's school lunches on Thursday 1st October 2026. This means that all children can enjoy a free school meal, including those who would normally pay for their lunch. There is no need to miss out! All you need to do is pre-order your child's chosen meal through the usual school meal ordering system or via the school office.

On the menu:

- Crispy breaded chicken nuggets with chips and beans
- Vegetable fingers with chips and beans
- Chocolate brownie

How to order:

As the system has been locked for this special event, meal orders need to be placed manually through the school office no later than Friday 25th September. Please either email, ring or send a Dojo message! We hope as many children as possible will take advantage of this fantastic opportunity. It is a great way to save families the time and cost of preparing a packed lunch while allowing the children to enjoy a delicious school meal together. Don't forget to order your child's meal today!!!

For any parents who have any general queries about school lunches, our school chef, Zoe, will be in the playground before school on Monday morning if you would like to ask her any questions or have a chat about school lunches.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER

Friday 18th – Whole School Mass

Monday 21st – Beccles High School to visit Year 6

Wednesday 23rd – No Football Club with Darrell

Friday 25th – Diocesan Schools Mass

OCTOBER

Thursday 22nd – Flu Vaccinations (Reception to Year 6)

– School Closes for Half-Term

More dates to be added in the coming weeks, including:

- Class Mass
- Class Structure Drop-in opportunity with Mr Kennedy
- Parent/Teacher Meetings
- PTFA Events