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

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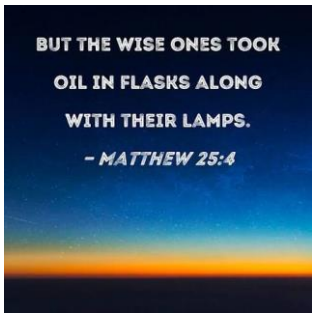
WE BELONG TO GOD



This week at St Benet's, we have been reflecting on Jesus' parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Through this story, Jesus reminds us of the importance of being ready for God and making the most of every opportunity to grow in our faith. Waiting wisely isn't simply about waiting for something to happen; it is about how we choose to live each day.

We have been encouraging the children to think about the choices they make and how they can follow Jesus through their words, actions and relationships with others. Every act of kindness, every moment of compassion and every opportunity to help someone is a chance to show God's love.

Our values of Compassion, Faith and Resilience help us to do this. By putting these values into practice each day, we can continue to grow as individuals and as a school community. As we move through the term, let us remember Jesus' message to stay ready, make good choices and take every opportunity to live as His followers. Let us all learn to wait wisely!

PANTOMIME TRIP!!

We are delighted to announce that our whole school will be joining with our federated school, St. Edmund's, to watch the pantomime *Snow White* at the Marina Theatre in Lowestoft on Friday 11th December. We started the trip for the first time last year and it proved to be a fantastic experience for all our children and we're sure it will be a magical experience again for the children, full of fun, laughter and festive spirit.

The cost of the trip will be approximately £16.50 per child. We understand that the coming months can be an expensive time of year, so we will be putting payment plans in place to help families spread the cost over the coming weeks. The trip will be added to Wisepay early next week but if you want to discuss any aspect of this, please speak to Mr Kennedy around school. We are really looking forward to sharing this special event again together as a school community to kickstart our Christmas celebrations!

Please check the Dates for your Diary section of our school newsletter for important dates as we move through this busy half-term!

ST. BENET'S IS A PARKRUN PRIMARY SCHOOL!

This week we held a special assembly about junior parkrun. The children learned about the benefits of being active, looking after our wellbeing and being part of our local community. Now, we'd love for St. Benet's to come along and experience junior parkrun together!

WHAT IS JUNIOR PARKRUN?

Junior parkrun is a fun, free, weekly 2k event for children aged 4–14 and their families. You can walk, jog, run, volunteer or cheer and everyone is welcome. The parkrun takes place every Sunday morning on Beccles Common at 9am (meet there at 8.50am) but on Sunday 29th November, we are hoping as many parents and pupils from St. Benet's will join Mr Kennedy and Mrs Huxtable down at the common to take part together.

As a parkrun primary school, we're encouraging our pupils and families to get active together and discover their local junior parkrun. If it is your child's first time, find out more and register for free at juniorparkrun.com

Come along, give it a go and let's enjoy junior parkrun together!
Kind regards, Mr Kennedy and Mrs Huxtable

Artsmark Silver Award
Awarded by Arts Council England

TRUST-WIDE CONSULTATION – FUTURE SCHOOL TERM DATES

A trust-wide consultation regarding proposed changes to future school term dates, including an amendment to the dates for the 2027–2028 academic year, was shared with parents and carers via ClassDojo this afternoon. We are keen to hear the views of our school community and would encourage all parents and carers to take the time to read the proposal and share their feedback.

The consultation opens today and closes on Monday 23 November. The outcome will be communicated before the end of term. Thank you for taking the time to contribute to this important consultation. If you have any questions, please speak to Mr Kennedy.

RECEPTION SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

If your child was born between **1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023**, remember to apply for their full-time Reception Year school place by **15 January 2027**.

You must submit an application even if your child already attends a nursery class, pre-school or family hub.
Apply or find out more at suffolk.gov.uk/admissions, call the Admissions Team on **0345 600 0981**, or contact your local school.

We are holding another Open Day on Tuesday 10th November where parents are able to turn up to the school and have a tour with Mr Kennedy. Tours will be at 9:30am, 11:00am and 1:30pm. However, we understand that working parents can't always make that day. Therefore, we encourage those applying for a place next year to contact school and make an appointment to have a look round at a convenient time for them. If you have a family member or friend who is going to be applying for a place next year, please share this information with them!

NURSERY PLACES AVAILABLE – JANUARY STARTERS

We are delighted that our Nursery provision continues to grow and we are looking forward to welcoming a new group of children in January. We currently have nursery places available and children who have turned 3 since September may now be eligible for their 15 hours of funded early education.

If you know of any families who may be interested in a nursery place for their child, please encourage them to get in touch with the school office to find out more or arrange a visit. We would love to welcome more children into our school family and continue to see our Nursery flourish!

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL AND REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

We are supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal this year. Our Poppy Appeal collection box is available in the school reception, with a range of items including traditional poppies, pencils, reflective keyrings, bracelets and snap bands. There is no minimum donation, so families are welcome to donate whatever they can. Thank you for supporting this important cause and helping us to remember those who have served and sacrificed.

Mr Kennedy will be at the cenotaph on Sunday with a couple of our pupils laying a wreath on behalf of St. Benet's RC Primary School and Nursery as part of the Remembrance Day Service here in Beccles. Members of our school community are welcome to join them at the cenotaph for this special event.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER

Tuesday 10th – Open Day
WB Wednesday 16th – Assessment Week
Friday 20th –Mass of Remembrance at St. Benet's Church to Remember Those We Hold in Our Hearts
Monday 23rd – Future School Dates Consultation Closes
Friday 27th – Wear Purple Day to mark the start of Advent

DECEMBER

Tuesday 8th – Mini Vinnies to visit local Care Home to sing Carols
Wednesday 9th – Whole School Advent Mass at 10am
Friday 11th – Snow White Panto Visit to the Marina Theatre
Tuesday 15th – Christmas Dinner Day
– Provisional Date for Whole School Nativity
Wednesday 16th – Provisional Date for PTFA Film Night
Friday 18th – School Closes for Christmas Holidays