



*"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given .... and his name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor." Isaiah 9:6*

Issue No 14

Friday 17 December 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

As we all wind down for a well-earned Christmas break, we have been reflecting on the achievements and accomplishments of our students this term. We have achieved a great deal as a school community and couldn't have done this without the wonderful support of our parents and carers. We have looked to bring back many of the opportunities that our students sadly missed out on last year and have been delighted at the interest and engagement expressed.

Our Year 7 students have now completed their first full term at secondary school! This cohort have slotted in well to our school community and demonstrated a keen interest in their curriculum. We are proud of the confidence and resilience they have demonstrated as they have transitioned to King Edward's.

Over recent weeks, our Year 11 students have completed their mock examinations and demonstrated a great deal of maturity in the way they have prepared for and conducted themselves during this stressful time. We are continuing to make preparations for internal assessments next term and will keep parents and carers notified of these plans as they are finalised.



Many thanks to Mrs Fouracre-Smith and her team for the fabulous Christmas Celebration at the Cathedral on Tuesday evening. It was wonderful to finally be able to have a live performance. Positive messages from parents have been coming into the school, reminding us on how important to everyone these occasions are.

Today, Year 11 students and some brave staff performed our Pantomime, 'Sleeping Beauty' to a live Year 11 audience. Under the watchful gaze of Miss Stoll, the student and staff cast have been prepared well for this performance. The recording was played to the rest of the students during Session 4. Funds raised from the show will contribute towards reducing the cost of Year 11 prom tickets in the summer. Well done to all those involved, and a special thanks to Miss Stoll for her excellent directing.

### Positive Behaviour Rewards

As you know the College with the highest number of merits was **Melford** and were therefore entitled to a non-uniform day, today. The tutor groups with the most merits were treated to hot chocolate and a cookie during tutor time this week as a reward for their positive behaviour.

These rewards were as a direct result of students working with the school's senior leadership team to ensure that awards and rewards are motivating for all students. We would be interested to hear of any further suggestions that students may have for encouraging positive behaviour across the school.

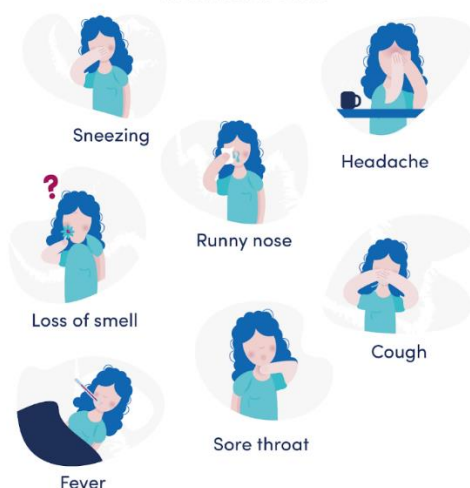
Finally, we want to offer a huge note of thanks to our parenting community. You will all appreciate how challenging this term has been with the current, and ever changing COVID-19 guidance. Your support and understanding through this challenging time has been central to us keeping our school community safe.

## Start of Spring Term information

Please carefully read the separate message emailed with information about COVID-19 testing at the start of next term on 5 January 2022.

### Be clear on COVID

The most important symptoms we all need to know!



## VAXI TAXI

**Free taxis for eligible 12 to 15 years olds to attend their COVID-19 vaccination**

Transport will be provided from home to the nearest vaccination centre and back again

**STEP 1** Book an appointment at your nearest vaccination centre <https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus-vaccination>

**STEP 2** Book your ride with our taxi company partners

**STEP 3** Have your Covid vaccination

**STEP 4** Book your return taxi journey

For taxi companies we're in partnership with in your area visit [www.suffolk.gov.uk/GetVaccinated](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/GetVaccinated) or email [SuffolkCOVIDResponseHub@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:SuffolkCOVIDResponseHub@suffolk.gov.uk)

Children will need to be accompanied by their parent/carer during the journey and at the vaccination site

Suffolk County Council NHS

## Year 11 exams Summer 2021

JCQ Exam board have published a student FAQ with regards to advance information for Summer exams in 2022.

[https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Students\\_AI\\_FAQs\\_Summer\\_2022.pdf](https://www.jcq.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Students_AI_FAQs_Summer_2022.pdf)

## Reading for Pleasure

- **Did you know** In Iceland they have the tradition of Jolabokaflokkur, or “Christmas Book Flood” in English. This is where they give and unwrap new books on Christmas Eve, and then cosy up with family, and reading into the night. Why not try it this year as a family?
- **Competition** Any students who have bought or borrowed the books from our Book Advent this year, please send us picture of you reading it with a review! Bonus points if you have a picture of you reading to a pet/ sibling. Send photos to Miss Reynard [RD@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:RD@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk) in exchange for recognition points.
- **King Edward’s Book Worms** As part of our reading for pleasure focus, Mrs Eley and Mr Nichols are starting a reading club on Monday lunchtimes (A117). This is open to all year groups. We will be choosing and reading books from the Carnegie nominations in preparation for shadowing the awards in the spring. <https://carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/take-part/>

## Free Christmas Food Packs

[FREE Food and Activity Packs](#) are available across West Suffolk for families eligible for Free School Meals. Every pack contains all the ingredients for Christmas Dinner and Boxing Day lunch for a family of 4! Bookings are made on a first come first served basis. Email [exploreoutdoor@acleisure.com](mailto:exploreoutdoor@acleisure.com) to find out more.

## Safeguarding



As tech and gadgets may feature highly on the list of gifts that some will unwrap on Christmas day, Parent Zone have put together a helpful guide about how to make sure any new devices are safe and ready to use.

They have also put together a dedicated guide to smartphones and tablets, looking at options for family sharing, parental controls and more. Find everything you need to know, with practical tips and links to help make the most out of new devices by clicking on the link below.

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/getting-tech-ready-christmas>

**Reluctant Reader Tip 4:** Visit the library with your child when you go into town. Ask your child to meet you in the library and then take your time selecting a book to read yourself. While they are waiting for you (modelling good practice), ask them to choose something for themselves.

### And finally ...

*On behalf of the staff at the school, we wish all parents and students a peaceful and restful Christmas break full of Christmas blessings.*

Beverley Tucker  
Co-Headteacher

Tom Grey  
Co-Headteacher

### Thought for the Week

“She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”—*Matthew 1:21*

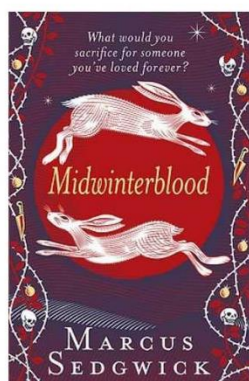
## Book Advent Calendar Days 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13

### Book Advent Calendar 13th December



Found abandoned in a bear cave as a baby, Yanka has always wondered about where she is from. She tries to ignore the strange whispers and looks from the villagers, wishing she was as strong on the inside as she is on the outside. But, when she has to flee her house, looking for answers about who she really is, a journey far beyond one that she ever imagined begins: from icy rivers to smouldering mountains meeting an ever-growing herd of extraordinary friends along the way.

### Book Advent Calendar 14th December



Have you ever had the feeling that you've lived another life? Been somewhere that has felt totally familiar even though you've never been there before, or felt that you've known someone even though you are meeting them for the first time?

Eric and Merle loved and lost one another, and have been searching for each other through time ever since. This novel comprises seven short stories and travels in time, from 2073 back to the days of Viking sagas. Across the different tales, the two souls appear as lovers, mother and son, brother and sister, and artist and child as they come close to finding each other before facing the ultimate sacrifice . . .

### Book Advent Calendar 15th December

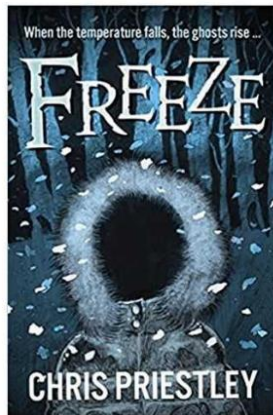


It is Midwinter's Eve, the night before Will's eleventh birthday. But there is an atmosphere of fear in the familiar countryside around him. Will is about to make a shocking discovery - that he is the last person to be born with the power of the Old Ones, and as a guardian of the Light he must begin a dangerous journey to vanquish the terrifyingly evil magic of the Dark.

This is probably one of the greatest fantasy sequences ever written. Darkly magical and intense Cooper weaves her storytelling wonder over fully realised characters and worlds, drawing in the reader and leading them on a journey that will leave them clambering for the rest of the series.



## Book Advent Calendar 16th December



Award-winning master of scary stories Chris Priestley returns with a spine-tingling collection of ghostly tales to chill you to the bone ...

When Maya and her classmates are asked to write a creepy story with a winter theme, they come up with some brilliant ideas. Rising floodwaters uncover long-buried bodies and ghostly children take to the ice on a frozen canal. But as each of the stories is read out in class, Maya grows more and more uncomfortable. She features in each of her friends' creepy tales and they start to feel a little too real. Finally, when a mysterious new girl stands up to read the last story of the day, the light outside dims and it starts to snow. The classroom starts to freeze but everyone is trapped. Can Maya stop the story before the nightmare comes true?

## Book Advent Calendar 17th December



Sixteen-year-old Mina is motherless, her magician father is vicious, and her silent heart has never beat with love for anyone. In fact, it has never beat at all, for her father cut it out and replaced it with one of glass. When she moves to Whitespring Castle, Mina forms a plan: win the king's heart with her beauty, become queen, and finally know love. The only catch is that she'll have to become a stepmother.

Fifteen-year-old Lynet looks just like her late mother, and one day she discovers why: a magician created her out of snow in the dead queen's image. Lynet would rather be like her fierce and regal stepmother, Mina, but when her father makes her queen of the southern territories, Mina starts to look at Lynet with something like hatred, and Lynet must decide what to do - and who to be - in order to win back the only mother she's ever known . . . or else defeat her once and for all.

*All past issues of this Bulletin are available [on our website](#).*