



Dear Parents and Carers

A very warm welcome to our first Bulletin of 2022, on a very cold January day. Spring Term is a busy time with Parents' Evenings, Year 11 exam results and FOKES events, all happening in the next few weeks. We will also be consulting with parents this term on a variety of topics to seek your views on making school improvements. We will do this in several ways: surveys, small groups and the parent forum (dates for this will be sent out soon).

We have a family quiz evening planned for Friday 11 February 2022. Scan the QR code or click on the link to get the details and sign up. Please share it with family members around the country/world and encourage them to purchase access to the quiz for £5 per household. This event is run by our PTA (FOKES) to raise funds for the school. <https://forms.office.com/r/zXPJUqzNKc>



It is 50 years since we became a fully mixed comprehensive school in 1972. To mark the start of this half centenary year we will be reflecting as a community on what we have achieved over this time and the direction the school needs to take in the future. We are keen to plan some commemorative celebrations, particularly from September 2022 when the anniversary begins. If you are interested in getting involved with planning these, please email [admin@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:admin@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk). Ideally, we would like parental representation for each year group.

We are certain that you will have seen the local news about the consultation by the Unity Trust Academy and will be considering the implications for the community of Bury St Edmunds and for our school, in particular. We will be communicating further on this in due course.

## Forthcoming dates for your diary

- **Weds/Thurs 12 & 13 January 2022** Year 9 Parents' Evenings online
- **Weds 19 January 2022** Year 11 Trial Exam results available to parents on Go4Schools
- **Weds/Thurs 19 & 20 January 2022** Year 11 Parents' Evenings online
- **Weds/Thurs 2 & 3 February 2022** Year 8 Parents' Evenings online (not yet live)
- **Fri 11 February 2022** FOKES Online quiz

Please arrange your Parents' Evening appointments [via the online booking system](#).

## Communication

We are looking to further improve our communication to parents this year. All issues of this Bulletin are available [on our website](#) we are also trialling the following: sending the parent newsletter via Teams to all students, sending a link to the newsletter via our Facebook page and Instagram feed. Please email suggestions that might help us to keep you informed to [admin@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:admin@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk).



## Learning British Sign Language

As you may recall, we canvassed our school community last Summer Term about the exciting opportunity to become accredited as a Level 1 British Signer. From this, we had a significant number of interested parties and are keen to progress this offer. At the school, we value the importance of inclusive education and seek to extend this ethos to our wider school community.

We are proud to offer the fantastic skills of Sarah Talbot: one of our team in the Deaf Resource

Provision at King Edward's, to deliver this course. Sarah has vast experience in training people to sign and is keen to get started with this course. We are initially looking to offer 30 places to parents, students, and members of the community, to be delivered through weekly twilight sessions here at the school.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please keep an eye out for further information on our school communications and social media.

**Reading Rivers** A reminder to ask your children to bring in their reading rivers to their English Enrichment teachers to show their journey of reading.

### Water Bottles

We have a large collection of unnamed water bottles looking for their owners. If your child came home last term without their water bottle, please send them to Reception to check.



### Covid Update

The school complies with DfE and Suffolk County Council requirements regarding how we respond to the pandemic. This is not always the same as the Government guidance issued to the rest of the country and may differ to what you are hearing in the media. We will update parents with new information as it comes in but at present the main changes are that if a child has a positive LFD Test, they will no longer need to get a confirmatory PCR. However, they will need to isolate for 10 days unless they have two negative LTDs on day 6 and then on day 7. If not, they will need to continue to self-isolate until they have a negative LTD. However, if they are symptomatic they should still be taken for a PCR test (correct at the time of going to press!). [Full details are here.](#)

Please be mindful of the incredibly difficult job our Reception staff have in negotiating this minefield by being supportive to them if they need to contact you.

### Message from Hedingham & Chambers Bus Company

Owing to the pandemic and staff shortages buses may be delayed at short notice. They will provide updates on their [twitter feed](#) and asked us to point this out to our students and parents.

### The Storehouse

With thanks to Mrs Harris, English Teacher, who organised the collection of carloads of food and goodies to the Storehouse Ministry prior to Christmas. As a Christian school it was wonderful to support the Vineyard Church in giving back to our community by helping those in greater need at a time of year when some families find it incredibly hard to make ends meet. Thank you to all our parents and carers for supporting this cause and making this generous donation possible.

### Safeguarding

The NSFT Psychology in Schools team run a program of parent workshops throughout the year to provide up to date advice and guidance on how parents and carers can support the young people in their life. All the workshops are recorded for you to watch at any time and they have a number scheduled to take place live via Eventbrite in the coming weeks including:

- 24th January at 1pm - Supporting our young people with anxiety
- 24th January at 6pm - Supporting our young people with eating difficulties/disorders
- 25th January at 6pm - Supporting our young people managing big feelings.
- 15th February at 6pm - Supporting our young people with low mood

<https://www.nsft.nhs.uk/parent-workshops/>

If you have any ongoing concerns you wish to discuss with school please don't hesitate to contact your child's Head of College or Pastoral Support Manager.

Beverley Tucker  
Co-Headteacher

Tom Grey  
Co-Headteacher

**Reluctant Reader Tip 5:** Try a 'phone/ screen free' hour. Every day hand in their phone for an hour. Eventually (out of boredom?!) they may pick up a book! This could be a whole household New year's resolution!

Beverley Tucker  
Co-Headteacher  
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WEST SUFFOLK  
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16<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Dear Ms Tucker

**Re: Christmas**

We would like to extend a huge thank you once again to the children, parents and staff for the amazing food donations and Christmas treats collected for our Storehouse Ministry. We love to be able to give out Christmas treats alongside our regular food bags during this season and your generous donations have allowed us to do this.

We greatly value the continued support and generosity received from King Edward VI School as we seek to work together by practically caring for those in our community who, for whatever reason, find themselves in a place of need.

With our grateful thanks once again, not only from West Suffolk Vineyard Church but also from the people we serve.

With every blessing,



**Kim Cloete**  
Storehouse Coordinator  
West Suffolk Vineyard Church



**FREE TO ENTER**  
**PHOTO**  
**COMPETITION**  
*ON THE THEME:*  
**A Different View**

TAKE A PHOTO OF ANY  
ACTIVITY OR SCENE YOU  
FEEL FITS THE THEME

SEND IT as a Jpeg attachment  
TO:  
**OBphotocomp@mail.com**  
by **14/02/2022**

**Don't forget -**

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR

- FULL NAME
- DATE OF BIRTH
- YOUR COLLEGE
- THE DATE YOU TOOK  
YOUR PHOTOGRAPH

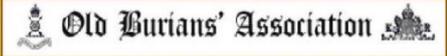
**(This should be between  
September 2021 & February 2022)**  
**ONE PHOTO PER PERSON**

**PRIZES**

Fourth prize	£10.00
Third prize	£20.00
Second prize	£30.00
<b>FIRST PRIZE</b>	<b>£50.00</b>

ALL WINNING ENTRIES WILL BE  
PUBLISHED IN THE OLD BURIAN  
MAGAZINE - 2022 EDITION  
AND POSSIBLY ELSEWHERE !

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### Thought for the Week

“Intelligence plus character - that is the true goal of education.”  
*Martin Luther King*

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