



Today's Prayer

Listen or read the Prayer for the Day and join in with thousands of others saying these words.

[Today's Prayer | The Church of England](#)

Issue No 27

Friday 8 April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

As we head into a two week break from daily life in school and with Easter set in the middle of the holiday, it is the moment to reflect on this term and the remainder of the year.

It has been a busy term and it has been punctuated by student and staff absences throughout, but we have stayed open and continued to provide clubs, extra-curricular activities such as trips and visits, alongside a quality curriculum delivery. No mean feat.

We need to take this opportunity to remind parents of the basics for uniform (when purchasing over the holidays) and the need for checking details such as black socks with black tights, jewellery (one set of ear studs only, no other piercings). Further details are [here](#).

Please check they have their basic equipment (eg pencil case) to be ready to learn in their lessons.

Networking with other Headteachers in the area, there has been consensus on the need to build children's relationships, resilience and tolerance in our communities. Gathering round a table to eat food provides opportunities for bonding, connects us to each other and helps to support the themes of improving emotional wellbeing and diet. Read this article for further insight: https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/articles/eating_together. We want to encourage our students to sit down and eat in the Le Bistro or Ed's Place either with a packed lunch or with our school food offer, eg meal of the day (two courses: £3.30), which is particularly good value for money.

Meanwhile, Years 11 and 10 have some work to do over the holidays. Please gently (but firmly) encourage them to get the balance right between a routine of high-quality study/revision work and social/relaxation time. With the GCSE exams and

Year 10 exams starting quickly after Easter, they cannot afford to have two weeks off on holiday! Encourage students to use their revision notes, GCSEPod (phone app) and BBC Bitesize KS4. Further information and guidance is on the website [here](#).



FOKES Quiz LIVE!

Date for your diary: we have rescheduled our family quiz night for a LIVE event in school 6.30-7.00pm on Thursday 12 May, you can sign up using the QR code here or via the

following link

<https://forms.office.com/r/zXPJUgzNKc>

We are finally ready to set up your Family Account in Xello!

To comply with GDPR we require your explicit permission for



Cascaid to access details from our school database to create an account linked to your child's account in Xello. [This letter](#) details the information that will be shared with Cascaid. If you wish to set up a Family Account, please complete the permission slip and return it to Student Services by **Friday 29 April 2022**. We are sure your joint exploration of Xello will be both interesting and inspiring. Please do engage in the quizzes and explore options to update your own careers knowledge... you may even discover your ideal career!

Spring Term Careers Update

Click [here](#) for the latest edition of the Parent/Carer Careers update and discover the exciting activities and events your child(ren) have participated in this term.

Year 9 Vaccinations

We sent an email earlier this week from Vaccination UK on behalf of NHS England about a national programme to offer the Meningitis ACWY and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio Vaccination to all students in Year 9. The vaccination team will be in school on 17 and 18 May 2022. Consent needs to be provided by 10 May please.

Year 11 Leavers' Hoodies

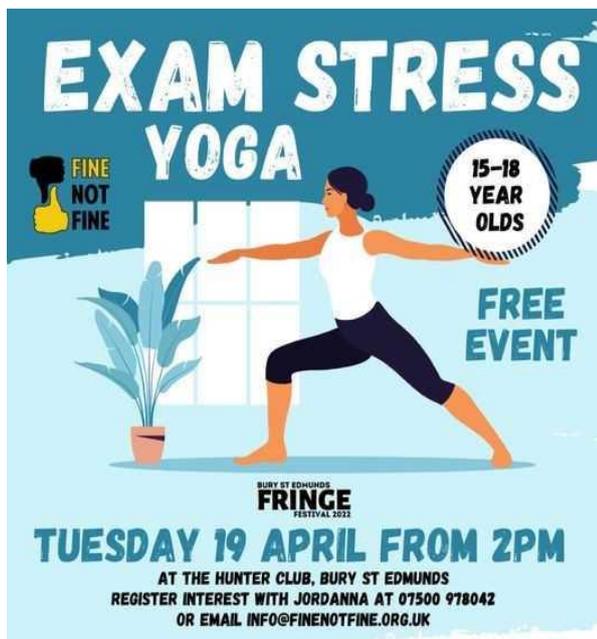
Leavers' Hoodies are now available to order via this link.

<https://www.snowunion.co.uk/product/kes-bury-st-edmunds-leavers-2022-hoodie/>

Price £25, delivery will be to school before May half term. Deadline for ordering is 24 April 2022. For further details please follow the link. Any questions, please contact Mr Post on PO@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk.

Exam Stress Yoga in the Holidays

We'd like to draw your attention to this free event taking place during the Easter break, specifically for 15-18 year olds.



Free Easter Holiday Activities



Those eligible for free school meals, pupil premium or where there is an identified need outside of these criteria can apply for free holiday activities and healthy food at a range of venues and offers across the district. In West Suffolk, the Council have been working with a range of providers to put together offers for all school aged children. They have loads on offer this Easter including:

- Multi-sports camps at Bury Rugby Club
- Family and Teen [swimming sessions at Abbeycroft Leisure pools](#) in Mildenhall, Bury St Edmunds, Newmarket and Haverhill
- Premier Education running sports and activity days in over 10 schools across the district
- Football Fun Factory sessions running at Bury Leisure Centre
- Suffolk Wildlife Trust facilitated Woodland Adventure Days and Holiday Clubs, at Lackford Lakes and Bradfield Woods
- Teens Activity, Adventure Days and Family Park Cooking sessions across the district, facilitated by Go Explore at Abbeycroft Leisure
- A four-day media and film making work shop with The Offshoot Foundation in Haverhill
- Easter Holiday activities at 'The Yard' at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds
- Soft Play and Skating at Curvemotion, Bury St Edmunds
- Happy Days Daycare spaces in Stradishall

You can find [lots of information, including how to book by following this link](#)

or by emailing

families.communities@westsuffolk.gov.uk

Help for low income families

Suffolk County Council is pleased to confirm a discretionary grant is available to support low-income families over the two-week school Easter holiday. The grant is to help families with their essential living costs. There are also a range of activities available, for information, contact families.communities@westsuffolk.gov.uk

The Suffolk Advice and Support Service operates a helpline offering free professional advice in confidence on a range of topics, such as debts, access to food and one-off grants to purchase essential items (0800 068 313). Further information can be found at:

www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/suffolk-advice-and-support-service.

Safeguarding: April is Stress Awareness Month

Everyone can experience stress, and for many different reasons. For children, this could be due to schoolwork, problems at home, or even as a result of interacting with peers.

There's a wealth of resources online to support you and your child to manage stress including a specific guide to support students through GCSEs.

<https://wellbeinginfo.org/stress-awareness-month-2022/>

<https://charliewaller.org/resources/an-emotionally-healthy-approach-to-gcses-a-guide-for-parents>

If you would like some additional support or advice please don't hesitate to speak with your child's Tutor, Pastoral Support Manager or Head of College within school.

And finally ...

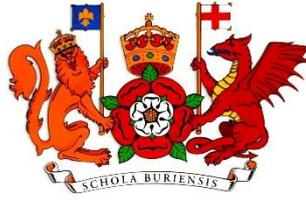
Thank you to our staff, students and parents for your support of the school, the staff and particularly the Leadership Team throughout this year. We will be continuing with our Deputy Headteacher roles, serving within the school.



Beverley Tucker
Co-Headteacher



Tom Grey
Co-Headteacher



A message from our new Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers

It is with great pleasure that I can now introduce myself. After twenty years of leadership in London schools I am exceptionally proud to lead King Edward VI Church of England School as it embarks on the next exciting phase of its illustrious history. It is good to be joining the school as it emerges from the challenges of Covid and ready to reap the full benefits of being an 11-16 school. Education nationally is also in an exciting phase as many voices are contributing to the debate on how to create a stronger education system and prepare young people for the mid-21st Century.

It is particularly exciting to be joining the school at the start of the summer term to support the Year 11s on their final preparations for summer examinations, and help each student secure a great post-16 education plan. I am also looking forward to the exciting events and enrichment opportunities planned for the summer. I am passionate about providing a strong range of extra-curricular opportunities which are so important for wellbeing and character development. Furthermore, I am keen to foster the Church of England values which have been so central to my own development.

I am also passionate about ensuring that every lesson, for every child, is high quality, so I look forward to supporting the excellent staff at the school deliver the summer schemes of learning. I eagerly anticipate the high levels of academic success across all year groups throughout the summer term. Many students will have gaps in knowledge caused by the pandemic lockdowns, but I have every confidence that the school will work tirelessly to close those gaps through catch-up and Covid recovery work.

Having worked in many outstanding schools with some exceptional teachers I will have many new ideas to bring to King Edward VI. However, I also have a lot to learn. I am not only new to the

school but also new to Bury St Edmunds. For this reason, I want to thank you in advance for the welcome which I'm sure you will give me. So far, everyone in the school and wider community has been extremely positive, and I can't wait to roll up my sleeves and start delivering the excellence in education that you expect and that your children deserve.

I look forward to meeting students at the start of next term, and then many of you in the following weeks and months. I fervently believe in the importance of creating a strong partnership with parents so that the young people of the school are given the structure, discipline, support and guidance which they need, to reach high and follow their dreams.

Finally, I want to thank the staff for their dedication and particularly the current Leadership Team for steering the school through a challenging period. King Edward VI is lucky to have such experienced senior leaders and I look forward to joining a team so committed to your children and the wider community.

Have a wonderful Easter and hopefully see you in the summer term.

Deri O'Regan
Headteacher from Summer Term 2022



Reluctant Reader Tip 17: Try biographies/autobiographies that interest your child. Recent student favourites have been *Maddie Diaries* by Ziegler & *The Greatest* (Muhammed Ali) by Walter Dean Myers.

Dates for your Diary

[Term dates for next academic year 2022-2023](#) are now on our website.

Mon 11 Apr - Fri 22 Apr 22	Easter Holidays
Sun 24 Apr 22	Y11 deadline for ordering Leavers' Hoodies
Mon 25 Apr - Fri 6 May 22	Y10 assessments
Fri 29 Apr 22	Y10 Silver DofE final payment deadline
Mon 2 May 2022	Bank Holiday
Mon 16 May 22	Y11 GCSE Exams begin
Tues 10 May 22	Y9 Deadline for Meningitis (&etc) consent
Thu 12 May 22	FOKES Quiz Live!
Tues 17 May – Weds 18 May 22	Y9 Meningitis (&etc) Vaccinations
Tues 31 May 22	Deadline for opt-in application for school transport
Sat 21 May – Sun 22 May 22	Y10 DofE Silver Practice expedition
Tues 28 Jun 22	Y11 GCSE Exams end
Weds 29 Jun 22	Y11 National Exams Contingency Day
Mon 30 May – Fri 3 Jun 22	Half Term
Sat 11 Jun – Sun 12 Jun 22	Y9 DofE Bronze Qualifying expedition
Thu 30 Jun 22	HPV Vaccinations Years 8, 9 & 10 (2 nd date)
Fri 17 Jun 22	'& Juliet' Theatre Trip London
Fri 1 July 22	School closed in lieu of the extra Jubilee Bank Holiday
Sun 3 – Wed 6 July 22	Y9/10 Paris Trip

**FRIENDS OF KING EDWARD VI SCHOOL
F.O.K.E.S.**

**ALL MONIES RAISED
GOES TOWARDS
MAKING OUR SCHOOL A
BETTER PLACE FOR
EVERYONE AND
HELPING TO
CELEBRATE THE
SCHOOL'S
JUBILEE YEAR IN STYLE.**

**QUIZ
NIGHT
LIVE!**

**IN SCHOOL EVENT ON
THURSDAY 12 MAY 2022**

To register interest
use QR Code or link

<https://forms.office.com/r/zXPJUgzNKc>

Click here to register interest <https://forms.office.com/r/zXPJUgzNKc>



You too could be just as amazing as Rose and have the ability to communicate not only with hearing people but with D/deaf people too!!

- Taught by qualified BSL tutor with 20yrs experience.
- Immersive and fun interactive sessions
- Meet new friends and enjoy the visual world of gesture and sign
- Work towards and receive a nationally recognised qualification at your own pace
- All Signature qualifications are accredited by Ofqual
- Face to face sessions
- Tea/Coffee facilities available
- 30 places available
- 20% Deposit to book your place

Enrolment form



Starts Monday 25th April

Contact: Mrs Talbot

SET@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk

For further information and to start your journey!



Thought for the Week

For God loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

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