



## 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 28

Friday 29 April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I am pleased to report that the staff and student community have given me a great welcome in my first week and it has been a pleasure to speak to years 7, 8, 9 and 11 in assembly. I have articulated my passion for great learning to all within these year groups and look forward to developing further ambition for scholarship with every child in the school over the summer term.

Year 10 have been highly focused in their summer term examinations throughout this week with immaculate behaviour and focus on these important assessments. Having met with the Year 11 Student Leaders I can report that students are feeling well supported in this final phase of their journey through the school. However, I am also aware that facing public examinations after such a disrupted few years of education is daunting for some. If you are a year 11 parent, subject guidance can be found here: [Key Stage 4 Success - King Edward VI School \(king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk\)](http://king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk)

Please don't hesitate to get in contact with the school if we can help in any way over the next few weeks running up to the first GCSE exams and throughout the examination series. After visiting both Abbeygate and West Suffolk College this week I can also report that both colleges are excited about welcoming our students next year and keen to strengthen partnerships with the school.

As we are supporting Year 11 at one end of the school, we are also preparing for a new cohort of Year 7 students to join us next year. Our transition evening was a great success this week with a packed hall full of keen year 6s and their families, eager to learn about the great opportunities at our school. We look forward to welcoming them back for the next phase of their transition support later in the term.

We are in the process of planning tutor groups for next year and would be very keen to hear the views of our families via this mini survey:

<https://forms.office.com/r/HZbVPtYzk6>

Thank you in advance for sharing your views. We are keen that students have a voice in this process so please discuss it with them before responding. The closing date for this consultation is **Friday 6 May 2022**.

## Home Learning/Teams

We will no longer be providing home learning when a child is at home unwell. The guidance from the Government is that all children should be in school unless they are too unwell to attend school.

## Covid Update

As you are aware, the guidance has changed regarding Covid related illnesses and absence procedures in all schools. The full government guidance from 18 April 2022 relating to '...Health Protection in Schools...' can be read [here](#).

### • Testing

There is **no longer** be a requirement to test or to inform the NHS or school that your child has tested positive for Covid. If your child does test positive for Covid however, please let us know, as you would do with any other illness/absence by reporting to [attendance@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@king-ed.suffolk.sch.uk). Schools are being asked to treat Covid as any other respiratory disease and the full details can be found in the alphabetical listing of infectious diseases [here](#).

### • What happens if my child is unwell?

We have been advised to inform you of the following if your child is unwell:

- Children with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, who are otherwise feeling well, can continue to attend school
- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and where possible avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough
- If a child or young person does have a positive COVID-19 test result, be that from the stock you have left in your house or that you have paid for, they should try to stay at home and, where possible, avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day of the test. The risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower after 3 days if they feel well and do not have a high temperature
- Children are to return to school after 3 days if they feel well enough to attend
- Children who live with someone who has had a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend school as normal.

#### • **Wearing face coverings**

Students, staff and visitors are welcome to wear face coverings in the communal areas of the school.

We recognise that the above guidance signals a change in the way schools are being asked to deal with covid-related absence and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us via your child's tutor.

We will continue to ensure all classrooms and communal areas are well ventilated and measures such as sanitising will continue to be encouraged.

#### **Changes to our sanction system for negative behaviour**

From next week all lunchtime detentions will take place the day after they have been set. This means that if a student receives a lunchtime

detention at any time on a Monday they will sit the detention on Tuesday. Students will be made aware of this change to procedures in tutor time next week.

#### **Uniform & Jewellery reminders**

Students were reminded of our uniform expectations in tutor time this week. Please help us to maintain our good standards. Skirts should be fully unrolled at the waist and shirts tucked in. Coats should no longer be worn in classrooms. Students are only permitted a single stud earring in each ear (no dangly earrings please) and one necklace to be worn under shirts. No other jewellery is permitted, including rings. If students are wearing prohibited jewellery it will be confiscated.

All uniform infringements will be logged on Go4Schools. Five infringements will result in a sanction.

#### **Sports News!**

Congratulations also to Tom Taylor (Year 10) and Sam Blackwell (Year 8) who both qualified for the English Schools Cross-Country Championships. They represented Suffolk at this national event in Kent last month.





Before the holidays a group of Year 8 boys completed their before school fitness programme 'First Up', with a visit to The Playground, a 1km assault course with 25 obstacles, in Barrow.

A new cohort of Year 8s have started on the twice weekly Sport England scheme this term.



### Absence Requests

Parents applying for their child to have leave from school should complete a Leave of Absence form [which can be found on our website here](#) and return it to school for authorisation well in advance.

As a matter of school policy and as the Government states, parents should not normally take their children on holiday in term time and there is no legal right to do so. If the holiday is unauthorised a Penalty Notice may be issued to every adult living in the household and to those who have parental responsibility.

### KEVI Careers programme

In the Spring 2022 [Careers Update for Parents and Carers](#) we said we would be asking for your feedback on any potential additions and improvements to the current Careers programme. To help you in this task, as a first step, please take a look at [this summary](#) of the programme. Watch this space for your feedback form next week!

### Year 9 Vaccinations

We sent an email before Easter 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. A reminder that consent needs to be provided by 10 May please.

### Deaf Awareness Week

Next week is Deaf Awareness Week, run on an annual basis by the [UK Council on Deafness](#)



The theme for Deaf awareness week 2022 is Deaf Inclusion, to explore the theme of inclusion within our community. The aim of the campaign is to highlight the impact of hearing loss on everyday life and increase visibility and inclusion of Deaf people. Emphasising the importance of mental health and empathising with underrepresented groups as well as raise pertinent issues of deafness being overlooked in education, health settings and the workplace.

This week saw the third and final reading of the BSL Bill in the House of Lords and Royal assent was given, meaning that there will be a British Sign Language Act 2022. This means that BSL now has official language status and its users will benefit from legal protections. Good news!

## Safeguarding

Charlie Waller, the Mental Health charity, are running a series of FREE live webinars for parents. They are all presented by mental health trainers, speakers and guest speakers who come from a wide range of professions, including education, psychology, social work, youth work, public health, psychotherapy and nursing. Topics include 'The Teen Brain', 'Sleep' and 'Perfectionism'. [Please follow this link](#) for more information.

If you are worried about your child and feel they could benefit from some additional support please talk to their Head of College or Pastoral Support Manager for advice and guidance.

I hope you have wonderful bank holiday on Monday and we look forward to seeing our students back ready for school on Tuesday next week.



Deri O'Regan



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

### Reluctant Reader Tip 18:

Use 'The Schools Recommended Reads' list at the below website for ideas for books. Read through the list together with your child and choose books together.

[Recommended books for KS3 & KS4 - children and teens aged 11-16 \(schoolreadinglist.co.uk\)](https://www.schoolreadinglist.co.uk)

### Dates for your Diary

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

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 <sup>nd</sup> 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

### Thought for the Week

'Everything you do - good or bad - affects everyone else in the room. That means everything you do matters because you matter.'

*Unknown*

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