



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 30

Friday 13 May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

GCSE exams will begin for Year 11 students on Monday. Year 11 Parents/Carers will have received a separate email today with a week to view exam schedule and copy of the presentation shown to Year 11 students in assembly. I would like to congratulate Year 11 for the hard work and diligence which they have shown in preparing for their exams and would like to wish everyone the very best of luck throughout the exam period.

From next week we will be tightening up the rules surrounding students leaving classrooms during lessons. From Monday, we will not be allowing students to leave class for the toilet unless pre-agreed with Heads of College (eg if your child has a medical condition). Having students out of class unnecessarily creates disruption to the learning of others, in addition to the student themselves missing out on key learning, so it is very important. Toilets can be used before school, breaktime, lunchtime and after school. Your support is much appreciated as we tighten up these behaviour basics.

Reluctant Reader workshops

Over the last few weeks we have had several 'Reluctant Reader' sessions for parents and students to attend. Parents took away the message that reading for 15 minutes every day makes accelerated gains in reading age for students. We ended the sessions with time for parents and children to browse the school library together and students left with new books to read.

A Year 7 student told us he has read every day since the session for 15 minutes at a time. He previously didn't read very much and now he is really excited about the book he's reading. He spoke about the book to other students in his tutor group and announced excitedly "My mum and dad are going out to buy me new books this weekend."

Thank you to those parents who attended to support their children. Reading at a level which challenges is the single best thing students can do in KS3 to improve their education.

Language Options for Year 7 and Year 8 Students

- **Year 7 students only**

In Year 8, students have one lesson per week of French, and one lesson per week of either German or Spanish. If your child is currently in



Year 7 they will need to choose their language options by completing this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/rZbgCnUg4P>

- **Year 8 students only**

Next year, Year 9 students will learn just **one** language (four lessons per fortnight). This will enable them to study the language in more depth and ensure that they are better



equipped to continue that language at GCSE level. If your child is currently in Year 8 they will need to choose their language option by completing this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/1EJ1QhqHyG>

Parent Governor Election

Thank you if you have already cast your vote in the Parent Governor Election. [Please follow this link to vote if you haven't done so already](#). The deadline for voting is 4pm next Thursday 19 May 2022.

Parent and Carer Feedback on Careers

Please take 4 minutes to add your views. If you are happy with our careers programme, let us know via this survey: [Parent and Carer Feedback Form – The KEVI Careers Programme](#)

FOKES Quiz

Thank you to those who attended last night's quiz. One of our staff teams won on the last question! If you would like to support FOKES in any way or if you have suggestions for fundraising please email fokescommittee@gmail.com



Suffolk Community Games

A promotional event for the Suffolk Community Games organised by ['Active Suffolk'](#) was held at our track last Friday. We are very much looking forward to hosting this community event in July. Active Suffolk said:

"The Festival of Suffolk, which will mark and celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, are pleased to announce another headline event which will be taking place this summer. The Suffolk Community Games, which will take place on Saturday 9 July at the Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre and King Edward VI School facilities will see hundreds of school children and their families engaging in a day packed with fun and inclusive sports and activities."

Look out for more information about this exciting event nearer the time.

Lost Property

We have a large amount of lost property. Some items are named but most are not. If you have lost something please come to Reception to check. If items are not claimed by next Friday 20 May 2022 they will be disposed of.

Safeguarding

As a school we are very aware of the current cost of living crisis affecting the nation and are keen to support families in any way we can. If you are facing financial hardship the following link has a range of different support services for Suffolk residents.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/suffolk-advice-and-support-service/>

We also work closely with a local foodbank and can provide food parcels to families if necessary. Please do not hesitate to reach out for additional help by contacting our Pastoral team.

And finally, I am delighted to report that our commitment to international relations remains strong as we hosted five Italian students from the British Language School this week. It was a pleasure to have them in school. Thanks go to the King Edward's students from Years 8 and 9 whom they shadowed whilst they were here.

Deri O'Regan

Reluctant Reader Tip 20: Learn together... it's OK if you are not a confident reader yourself – the key thing is that your child shares the experience of reading with you. If you come across a word you don't know and your child asks you what it means, find out the answer together. You'll be helping your child to remember that we are all lifelong learners.

Use your phone to learn the pronunciation and definition and then make it into a game: rewards for those in the household who use the word correctly in everyday use!

Dates for your Diary	
Term dates for next academic year 2022-2023 are now on our website.	
Mon 16 May 22	Y11 GCSE Exams begin
Tues 17 May – Weds 18 May 22	Y9 Meningitis (&etc) Vaccinations
Sat 21 May – Sun 22 May 22	Y10 DofE Silver Practice expedition
Tues 31 May 22	Deadline for opt-in application for school transport
Mon 30 May – Fri 3 Jun 22	Half Term
Sat 11 Jun – Sun 12 Jun 22	Y9 DofE Bronze Qualifying expedition
Fri 17 Jun 22	'& Juliet' Theatre Trip London
Thu 23 Jun 22	Y11 leavers' day
Tues 28 Jun 22	Y11 GCSE Exams end
Weds 29 Jun 22	Y11 National Exams Contingency Day
Thu 30 Jun 22	HPV Vaccinations Years 8, 9 & 10 (2 nd date)
Thu 30 Jun 22	Y11 Prom at Blackthorpe Barn
Fri 1 July 22	School closed in lieu of the extra Jubilee Bank Holiday
Mon 4 July 22	PD Day school closed to students
Sun 3 – Wed 6 July 22	Y9/10 Paris Trip

Thought for the Week
“Excellence is not a skill. It is an attitude.”
Ralph Marston

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

COVID-19 Vaccinations

Help keep yourself, your friends and
your family safe **#GrabTheJab**

Moreton Hall Community Centre

Sunday 15th May 10.30 – 15.00

5 years plus
Over 75s Spring Booster

Appointments only

please call
0344 257 3961

Symonds Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 7EE

NHS

www.sneevaccine.org.uk