

## Weekly Parent Newsletter

#### **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

#### 24/25 Issue No 22

Friday 28 February 2024

**Dear Parents and Carers** 

Every student has now received their second report. This report contains attitude to learning and academic information. If you haven't managed to access your child's report please refer to this guide: <a href="Modes-Parent-Guide.pdf">Go4Schools-Parent-Guide.pdf</a> Information on what the grades mean can be located here: <a href="Key Stage 3 Assessment Guide-King Edward VI School">King Edward VI School</a>. Please note, a Level 3 represents 'at age expected attainment'. Well done to all students who received all A and B grades for their attitude to learning effort grades!

**International Competition for Young Debaters** 



Four debate teams from King Edward VI School competed at Cambridge University last Saturday with one making it through to the National Finals. Well done everyone for making such great arguments!

#### **New Bus Service Timetable**

The 73 / 73A bus service changes that are taking effect from Monday 24 February: The services will be running to a revised timetable including a new early evening return journey, click the link for more details: Home

Reminder: it's non-school uniform day on Thursday 6 March for World Book Day. £2 cash donation.

World Book Day Events – Next Week!

BOOK DAY

6 MARCH 2025

To celebrate World Book Day, we're excited to host a week full of fun and interactive activities! Here's what's in store for students, in the Library during break and lunchtime.

- Staff Favourites Display: Check out a collection of staff book recommendations.
- Guess the Book Display: Can you identify the book from a few clues?
- Books Around the World: Explore stories from different cultures and places.

Wednesday: Students can join us for a Book Tasting during lunch! Read the first few pages of new books and leave ratings.

Thursday (World Book Day): It's a Non-Uniform Day! Students can wear something comfy that they enjoy reading in. We will also be doing a tutor time book quiz - the winning tutor group will earn a doughnut breakfast! Also, don't miss the Living Library at lunch. Students may come meet a "book" brought to

life by their favourite staff members and hear their stories.

Friday: Get ready for a Book Scavenger Hunt around the school - it begins in the Library at 1:20pm. The first group to complete the hunt will win a prize. We're looking forward to celebrating reading across the school this coming week!

#### **Parent Visit**

Thank you to the parents who visited the school this week as part of our inaugural parent visit day. It was great to show off the school in action to some of our parents. We look forward to hosting a March parent visit day, later this term.

#### **Deaf Resource Base**

The online display from the Deaf Perspectives project, which King Edward VI students contributed content to, has been highly commended in a national prize awarded by the British Records Association. It is called the Janette Harley Prize and it is intended to generate interest in Suffolk Archives projects and raise awareness of their research and achievements.

The winner and other highly commended entries are listed here:

https://www.britishrecordsassociation.org.uk/news/winner-of-the-janette-harley-prize-2024/

A bit about Suffolk Archives' project The World of Walton Burrell: an online display about Walton Burrell (1863-1944), a prolific expert photographer from near Bury St Edmunds who was born profoundly deaf. Many of Burrell's photographs report on training camps and military hospitals in Suffolk during the First World War. The online display includes films and photographs created by local deaf young people inspired by Burrell's life story and photographs. It concludes with reflections from deaf students on what they would like to see change for deaf people in the future.

Please click on the above 'The World of Walton Burrell' link to access the online display.

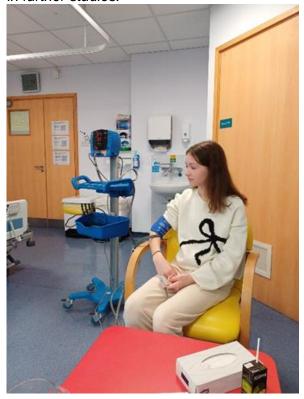
#### **Metabolic Research Study**

Two of our students, Daniel and Abigail, went to Addenbrooke's Hospital and visited the RIHR clinical research centre to take part in a metabolic research study over the half-term. The

study looks at the heart rate and movement of healthy children, so it can be used to help treat children with rare disorders.

Daniel and Abigail's mother wrote: During the visit they had their height, weight and blood pressure taken. Abigail also gave samples of blood, something they desperately need as not many children are willing to give blood. After this they then had a full body DXA scan, looking at muscle, fat and bone density. They were then asked to wear a heart monitor and activity watch for the next 4 days and nights.

I'm very proud of them for doing this, they were both very nervous beforehand but enjoyed the experience. Abigail has even asked to take part in further studies.





#### **Cost of Living**



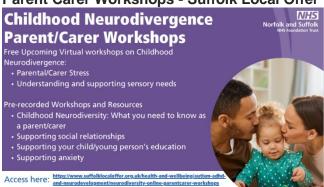
Following the recent announcement that the Energy Price Cap will be rising again from April, we thought it would be helpful to share the following link, which includes a wealth of information and advice to support with the cost of living.

#### Suffolk InfoLink | Cost of living support in Suffolk

If you are worried about your family finances, please do not hesitate to contact our pastoral staff for additional support. This can include onward referrals to agencies such as local foodbanks or access to uniform or equipment in school.

Also, if your circumstances have changed recently, it may also be worth checking if you are entitled to Free School Meals by clicking the following link: Apply for free school meals - Suffolk County Council

Childhood Neurodivergence Online Free Parent Carer Workshops - Suffolk Local Offer

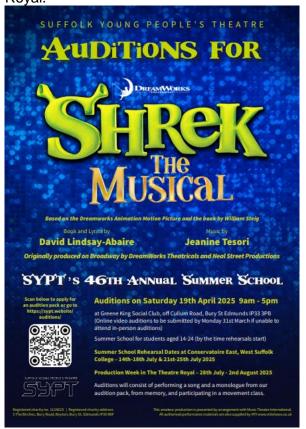


The NSFT Psychology in Schools Team is offering an online parent/carer workshop program that addresses childhood neurodiversity and covers key topics that families have identified as most helpful. These workshops are offered to support families on the neurodevelopmental (NDD) pathway in Suffolk. <a href="CLICK HERE">CLICK HERE</a> to book your place onto upcoming live workshops.



#### **Suffolk Young People's Theatre**

Calling all actors! This is a great opportunity to be part of a great cast and perform in the Theatre Royal.



### Battle of the Bands Competition for 14-16 Year Olds at Suffolk New College.

The winning band gets the chance to record their song in the College's state of the art studio!

To register your interest, please ask your child to email: <a href="mailto:musicteam@suffolk.ac.uk">musicteam@suffolk.ac.uk</a> with their band members names and the instruments they play. Singer/Songwriter and Solo Acts welcome!



The British Racing School



The British Racing School offer a two-year equine course for 16-18 year olds. It is a Level 2 Diploma in Racehorse Care and Exercise at the British Racing School in Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8 7NU.

The course:

- Starts in September 2025
- Lasts for 2 years

- Takes place during term time and three times a week
- Is non-residential
- FREE to attend (plus they may be able to assist with travel and some kit costs)
- No experience necessary

In the first year, students will work towards their Level 1 Diploma and in the second year they will either work towards a BRS-based Level 2 Diploma or take up a paid apprenticeship with a racehorse trainer. More details can be found on the website:

https://brs.org.uk/course/level2racehorsecare/

Alternately, students can also apply for a Residential Foundation Course (over 12 or 18 weeks) at the British Racing School, with start dates on 28 July and 4 August. Students do not need prior experience, during their time at the BRS they will learn everything the need to ride and look after racehorses, ahead of taking up a paid apprenticeship in a racing yard and working towards their Level 2 Diploma in Racehorse Care. More information can be found here: <a href="https://brs.org.uk/course/foundation-course/">https://brs.org.uk/course/foundation-course/</a>

Suffolk New College Open Events



#### **National Careers Week (NCW)**

National Careers Week is a celebration of careers guidance and free resources in education across the UK. NCW, this year is from 3 - 8 March 2025 and is the perfect platform to advise and inspire the next generation as they enter the world of work. NCW dedicated websites are available now and throughout the year: Welcome - National Careers Week

NCW is an ideal time for parents to find out more about what choices your teen has after GCSE and Sixth Form. There are plenty of options, so how do you know what's right for your child? The <a href="The Parent Guide">The Parent Guide</a> highlights some of the options available and suggest different ways you can help your teen decide what suits them best and provides parents with advice on all the options after GCSE and sixth form, as well as teenage health and wellbeing.

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Everyone at King Edward VI would like to wish you a literary weekend.

Deri O'Regan

| Dates for your Diary  Term Dates 2024-2025 & 2025-2026  Additional information can be found on the colondor page of the website |   |
|---|---|
| Additional information can be found on the <u>calendar page</u> of the website  |   |
| Sat 1 March   | Duke of Edinburgh – Bronze Training Day           |
| Mon 3 – Fri 7 March   | National Careers Week                             |
| Mon 3 – Fri 7 March   | World Book Week                                   |
| Mon 3 March   | Pupil Passport Meetings – Y8 & 11                 |
| Tues 4 March  | Pupil Passport Meetings – 9 & 10                  |
| Tues 4 March  | Taster Tuesday                                    |
| Thurs 6 March   | GCSE Performance Recital                          |
| Thurs 6 March   | Non-school uniform day – World Book Day - £2 cash |
|   | donation  |
| Thurs 13 March  | Suffolk Speak Out Workshop                        |
| Tues 18 March   | Parent Focus Group Tea & Talk                     |
| Tues 18 March   | KS3 PSHE Session: County Lines                    |
| Wed 19 – Thurs 20 March   | Year 8 Parents Evening (online)                   |
| Mon 24 – Wed 26 March   | GCSE MFL Speaking Exams                           |
| Mon 24 – Fri 28 March   | PraySpace   |
| Thurs 27 March  | Spring Concert                                    |
| Fri 4 April   | End of Term                                       |

Thought for the Week:

# A society grows great when old men plant trees in whose shade they shall never sit. Greek Proverb

All past issues of this Newsletter are available on our website.