



Weekly Bulletin

This week we have been focussing on the theme of Adventure. Every day is a new adventure, and even though uncertainty scares us, it's a blessing to wake up every morning knowing we could create the best day of our life. But sometimes we will feel like each day is another day of doing almost the same things as yesterday. Maybe you often find yourself thinking, "I wish I could live a more exciting life." We've all been there. God is a God of adventure and creativity, and he desires for us to discover purpose and experience the good life he offers. But he also helps us decipher when we've bought into lies about what the "exciting life" is supposed to look like, and he wants to free us from unhealthy expectations that lead to discontent.

Year 13 Celebration

Today we held a Celebration of the Word for our Year 13 students on their last day of school. They have been in education now for 13 years, for some of them, longer; it is all they have known and one of only a few constants in their lives.

We gathered today to remember, pray and consider with hope, the future. We thanked God for their time together, for the friends they have made, for all they have learned about life from each other. We took time to think about the next stage of their lives and considered the sort of people that they wish to become. We thanked God for those who helped them thrive and make it to this stage, particularly their parents and guardians, who have imparted their wisdom and guidance to them, and loved them unconditionally, which has been their constant resolve.

Self-Advocacy session, run by Splinter Group

The Splinter Group comprises neurodivergent adults who provide support and guidance to individuals who need it. Attached is an information sheet and invitation to the next networking event, being held in Morpeth on 20th May.

More information can be found by visiting <https://splintergroup.org.uk/information-hub> or by contacting SplinterGroupNorth@gmail.com.

Autism family Support Drop in session – New dates added.

Free support and advice in your local area. 0-19 years. No diagnosis needed. Please see attached flyer.

Parent and carer forum for students with SEND

Please see attached the flyer for the Northumberland parent carer forum. They work with young people and their families, education settings and other professionals to make sure services that are commissioned to support young people, plan and deliver support that is needed.



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Year 7 Rugby Success at Blyth Rugby Club

In a recent tournament at Blyth Rugby Club our year 7 rugby team gave a superb display of rugby with a win over Bede Academy (6 tries to 2) and a draw with Blyth Academy (3 tries all). Captain Aaron Bacon, led from the front, scoring multiple tries and making big tackles in defence. The experience of Isaac Lumsdon showed as he played great rugby and supported the organising of others. Superb running was on show from across the whole team with great line breaks made by all but specifically Zac McHugh, Jake Clarke and Luke Gibson, who powered past defenders. We were even treated to a chip and chase by Zac. Morgan Day-Atkinson and Leo Todd were similarly strong in attack. Jake Atkinson showed great bravery by making some great try saving tackles on some towering players. Player of the Match against Bede Academy was Sam Mein for his superb work rate and quality of performance. Matthew Lewis was Player of the Match against Blyth Academy for his excellent offensive tackling and for constantly offering himself up to the carry the ball. In the age old tradition of rugby, the boys then were treated to food in the clubhouse and a sing along on the minibus home. Finally, a big thank you to Matthew Welch (year 10) for giving up his evening to use his sound expertise to support and coach the team.



Congratulations, Year 8!

On Thursday, April 25, 2024, 63 Year 8 students took part in the Junior Maths Challenge. A massive thanks to all the students who took part; they should be very proud of their efforts. 16 of the 63 will receive certificates. Well Done!

Massive congratulations to both Daisy Watson and Tomasz Sidzinka, who have made it through to the next round. This is a fantastic achievement, as only 10% of entries nationally make it to the next stage. The next round will take place on Tuesday, June 11, 2024.

We would like to congratulate Jaime Armstrong, who has just completed his Marine Engineering course through the Cadets. Alongside Dalia Ramzi, she has been entered to sit her Grade 2 piano exam in June.

Finally, all of the Year 8 tutor groups have been working hard to help those in our wider communities through fund-raising events. Including 8B, who raised £53.61 for CAFOD in one breaktime through their tuck shop. All marketing and operation of the tuck shop were completed by the students themselves. Well done, everyone!

Mr Mavin

Year 9 sporting successes

Theo Benjamin

Theo has played football since a young age, always kicking balls whenever he could. He was disappointed not to make the school team in Year 4 at Whitley Memorial First School, and I think this gave him the drive to succeed!!

He joined a local football team as an U8 player and played at a lower level for a couple of years, enjoying learning the game. Soon he was asked to play for a premierships team at grass-roots level, where he continued to develop and learn; quickly he gained the hunger to win and improve. Theo played at this level for 5 years.

Grass roots and school football were his main focus for many years; playing with school friends was important and a special time he will never forget. The development and success he obtained at St. Benet Biscop in school football opened the doors for him to represent East Northumberland School FA-District Level for several years. He was then asked to trial in Year 9 for his County-Northumberland SFA U14s, with over 100 young players from the North East. He was successful with his trial, and a place was offered to him in the 20-man squad.

Theo was noticed by several scouts over the summer of 2023 while playing at grass roots and then at district and county games. It was Newcastle United who approached us to invite him to attend their development/pre-academy programme weekly, which allows him to train and play with his grassroots teams and school teams and also receive additional training from Newcastle United coaches at their first team training ground.

In February 2024, Theo was asked to trial at Newcastle United Academy for 8 weeks at U14's. During this time, Theo played against teams such as Liverpool, Leeds, Manchester City, Fulham, and Leicester, as well as Sunderland. His trial was cut short to six weeks, upon which he was offered a two-year contract with Newcastle United Football Club in April 2024. His first international tournament was in Greece, only missing out on the final!

Y9 Mille Ward's voice on the joy of rowing

At rowing, I feel at home because of the atmosphere everywhere. I enjoy the challenge and competition rowing provides. Rowing also helps me train hard with activities such as outdoor rowing and occasionally training indoors with the rowing machines.

In training sessions, we aim to achieve beyond our limits, as it will help in the future for competitions and indoor training. We also sometimes do weight or core training. Then do stretches to finish.

Last weekend, I attended a rowing regatta in Durham. I raced in an 8 (750m) and a double (500m), narrowly missing out on first place in both races. On May 18, 2024, I am doing a rowing competition at Cambois. I love the excitement of my races. It is very fun, and everyone cheers everyone on.

I have made lots of friends and am looking forward to more racing, which is scheduled to come very soon.

Year 9, keep going with your passion and drive for all sports.

Finally, good luck to the Y9 students who will or have been selected to represent St. Benet Biscop at the Schools Area Athletics Championships at Monkton Stadium, Jarrow, on Monday, June 11th. Students need to continue to attend Athletics Club on Wednesday's afterschool if they would like to be considered for selection here.

Mr Gravell

Punctuality

If your child is late for school after the register has been closed, your child is marked as late after registration. The local authority recognises this as an absent mark. Sustained lateness can result in concerns being raised with the Education Welfare Officer, so we ask parents who are having difficulty with morning routines to contact school so we can work together to address any problems that may be arising attendance@stbb.org.uk

Water Safety

As we come into the summer months, we would like all our students to read the following advice from the RNLI and watch the Float to Live video:

If you found yourself struggling in the water unexpectedly, your instinct would tell you to swim hard. But a cold water shock could make you gasp uncontrollably. Then you could breathe in water and drown. Instead, you should float to life.

The best way to float is to tilt your head back with your ears submerged. Try to relax and breathe normally. You can gently move your hands to help you stay afloat if you need to. Spread your arms and legs out to improve stability, and it's OK if your legs sink; we all float differently. Once your breathing is under control, call for help or swim to safety.

<https://rnli.org/safety/float>

Wishing you a lovely weekend.



Mr K Shepherd
Headteacher