



*To seek wholeness through faith,  
quest and learning to become  
what God intends us to be.*

**R**

**Respect  
Resilience**

**I**

**Integrity**

**S**

**Self-discipline**

**E**

**Excellence**



### Key information and news

#### **Attendance matters, moments count**

Punctuality. In each class the teacher takes a register. The attendance register is taken twice a day. If your child is late for school after the register has been closed your child is marked as late after registration. The Local Authority recognise this as an absent mark. Sustained lateness can result in prosecution, so we ask parents who are having difficulty with morning routines to speak to the attendance team as soon as possible for support from school.

#### **Free School Meals**

The Department of Education has suggested that at least 14% of students eligible for FSM are not claiming them. For more information on children entitled to free school meals and how to apply, please see the Website [Free School Meals](#)

#### **The Toby Henderson Trust**

The Toby Henderson Trust is an independently funded charity supporting autistic children and families in the Northeast of England. They provide relevant and appropriate support for young people and their families. Please get in touch to discuss what individual support can be offered (both for students with and without a diagnosis). See the Website for updated information The Spectrum Ball, at Gosforth Park Hotel and new XR therapies, supporting young people with generalised anxieties, fears and phobias. <https://www.ttth.co.uk/>

#### **ASD Family Support Drop-in Sessions – New dates added**

Free support and advice in your local area when supporting young people with ASD. 0-19 years. No diagnosis needed. Please see attached flyer for dates and locations.



## Dates and events

### Parent Events

#### Wednesday 02 April 2025

Year 8 Parents Evening - Online

#### Wellbeing and Values Focus Group

If you are interested in becoming part of a focus group discussing wellbeing and values, please contact **S Lewis-Dale** by email via [admin@stbb.org.uk](mailto:admin@stbb.org.uk)

### Student Events

#### Week commencing 07 April 2025

Year 11 French Speaking Exams

Year 13 Drama Practical Exams

#### Tuesday 08 April 2025

Film Night, 6pm – 8pm, *The Letter: A Message For Our Earth*. (Contact Miss Duffy)

#### Wednesday 09 April 2025

Baker Hughes STEM Girls Event

An Inspector Calls – Year 11

#### Friday 11 April 2025

Spirituality Day – School Finishes 12:10pm



## RISE – The St Benet Biscop Way

### Wellbeing hub

We have signed up to have access to the wellbeing hub, a resource developed by experts in child and adolescent mental health and wellbeing. We are able to offer all student parents and staff free access to this valuable resource. Students all have log in detail via their email.

### This is the link to log in as a parent

<https://club.teentips.co.uk/register/parents/?ca=d5d1d514bbe35c2520cf48c2be08da5a>



## Theme of the week

This week, we have been focusing on inspirational people - individuals who have demonstrated the values we hold as a school. Through their lives, we see powerful examples of Respect, Resilience, Integrity, Self-Discipline, and Excellence in action. From leaders who fought for justice to athletes and scientists who persevered against the odds, these figures remind us of the impact we can have when we live by strong values. As we learnt about them, we also reflected on how we can bring these qualities into our daily lives, whether in our studies, friendships, or challenges we face. We took this week as an opportunity to be inspired and to think about how we can grow into people who make a difference, just like those we admire.

## Flame Event

On the 15th of March, we had the incredible opportunity to attend the CYMFED Flame event at Wembley, London, where we took 30 students to experience an unforgettable day. The theme of the event was centred around reminding students that they are "unstoppable," while also helping them find and strengthen their faith. It truly lived up to both of these powerful messages. We were fortunate enough to hear inspiring talks from renowned speakers such as Bear Grylls, David Wells, and Isaac Harvey MBE, whose words filled us with motivation, faith, and energy. The atmosphere was electrified by live music from Guvna B and Adenike, with students jumping up and down, fully immersed in the music.



One of the highlights was a powerful liturgy led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols, which brought us all together in prayer and reflection. With 10,000 young people in attendance, it was the largest Catholic event in the UK, creating an incredible sense of unity and excitement. Our students were exceptionally well-behaved and respectful, while also having an amazing time. One of our Year 8 students shared, *"The Flame event was the best day ever! I felt so inspired and part of something bigger than myself. I'm definitely unstoppable now!"* It was truly a day to remember, where students not only found joy but also a deeper connection to their faith.

## CAFOD cake sale

Last week, 9I form class organized a fantastic cake sale in support of CAFOD as part of our Lenten challenge to raise at least £10 per form class. The students worked together, baking delicious cakes and designing eye-catching posters to promote the sale. Their hard work paid off, as they raised nearly £100, exceeding their goal and contributing to the important cause. Many other form classes have exciting fundraisers coming up as well, including a penalty shootout against staff, which promises to be a fun and competitive event. It's inspiring to see the whole school coming together during Lent to support CAFOD and make a positive impact.

## Film night – 8<sup>th</sup> April

Join us for an exciting and thought-provoking film night on Tuesday, 8th April, from 6 pm to 8 pm! We'll be screening *The Letter: A Message for Our Earth* – a powerful documentary about climate change and what we can do to help. This free event is open to both students and parents, and there will be teas and coffees available to enjoy while you watch. The aim of the evening is to raise awareness about the environmental challenges we face and inspire action. Don't miss out on this important and inspiring film! If you're interested, simply let Bridgid know or drop us an email at [duffy@stbb.org.uk](mailto:duffy@stbb.org.uk). We look forward to seeing you there! Check out the trailer here: [The Letter Trailer](#).



## Confirmation into the Catholic Church

Please speak with your local parish priest about opportunities for Confirmation into the Catholic Church for students in year 9 or above.



## Quest

### The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to St Benet Biscop!

Following the recent success of the Festival of Reading, we are excited to be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair. It will take place from **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April**. All students in KS3 will be going on a scheduled visit during one of their English lessons in order to browse. In addition, they will also be able to visit the book fair and purchase books during lunch time. Students in KS4 and 5 are able to visit during their lunchtimes to browse and purchase books.

There is an impressive selection of both fiction and non-fiction texts with prices starting at just £2.99. This will include the new Hunger Games novel 'Sunrise on the Reaping'. We will also have a large array of stationery available to purchase. More information about the books available to buy can be found on the following link:

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases/tt>

If you want your child to buy a book or stationery from the book fair, they need to bring cash or pay using Book Fair vouchers which can be bought online. These can be purchased online at the following link:

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers>. Please note, if using book fair vouchers change can not be given in cash.

We will receive 20% of the funds we raise as a school. This money will help us buy more books which can be used in lessons and to add to our stock of library books. This makes this opportunity even more exciting!



## Learning

### Form time- Year 8 Catholic Values

8O have spent time thinking about the Catholic values that are important to them, we discussed how we can embody these values in our day to day lives. We then built and decorated a cross to symbolise these values. There is a lot of 'love' and 'respect' in 8O, which is wonderful to see. Well done 8O!



**Year 10** Food Preparation and Nutrition students continue to increase their skills this year. This time some butchery skills - jointing a chicken and using every part of it in different dishes including Chicken risotto and Lemon, thyme and garlic roasted chicken with mustard mash.

## VI Sixth Form

### Congratulations!

Huge congratulations to two of our Year 12 students who have both achieved incredible successes recently.

- **Arwyn Nicholas**

Has been selected to take part in a residential at Cambridge University in April. The two-day History residential will be a chance to work with lectures and students, exploring Medieval Manuscripts and learning about how to work with research and artefacts to help broaden our historical understanding of the past.

This is an invitational event and Arwyn worked hard to secure this opportunity. Arwyn had to submit a piece of work to be assessed by the History Faculty at Cambridge, before they selected the students who they wanted to invite to take part.

- **Omeose Egbiremolen**

Omeose has been chosen as one of the finalists in a Year 12 essay writing competition, held by Northeastern University London. Omeose's essay on *'The Psychological Effects of Bullying and How it can be Mitigated'* was chosen from 5,770 other entries. Omeose has been invited to attend a celebration lunch and activity day, with other finalists from around the country, at the university campus in central London.

We are incredibly proud of these two students, and their exceptional achievements. We wish them both a very exciting and enjoyable experience. We're sure they will be excellent ambassadors for our school.

### Student Finance

Applications for Student Finance are now open. Please use the following link to find out more and to start your child's application. <https://www.gov.uk/get-undergraduate-student-loan>

It can take up to 6 weeks to process an application so please ensure that you submit the application in a timely fashion to ensure any student loans are in place ready for the start of your child's course.

### EPQ (Extended Project Qualification)

We have had a number of Year 13 students studying the EPQ this academic year, where they have devised their own project title. Last week this culminated in students presenting their project journey to an audience, where there was a live Q&A session as part of the presentation. During the course of the year, students have really demonstrated that they are resilient and disciplined learners where they have had to independently research their chosen topic. Among the titles were *'What influences have had the most significance on the cosmetic dentistry market in the UK?', 'Is there a biological difference in education', 'LGBTQ+ representation in South Korean Film and TV'* as well as an artefact *'A silent horror film'*. It has been incredibly rewarding to see students develop the necessary skills ready for life beyond sixth form.

### UCAS Discovery Exhibition – Utilita Arena, Newcastle – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025

The UCAS Discovery Exhibition is due to take place on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2025, where there will be a host of exhibitors, from universities, colleges, employers as well as apprenticeship providers to help support your child with their 'next steps' after sixth form. Further details as well as a booking form can be found using the following link:

<https://www.ucas.com/registration/register/event/455906>

Your child will be required to register for the UCAS website (please ensure they use their personal email address rather than a school one) and they will be required to make their own way to and from the event. Parents/carers can accompany their child if they wish.

### It's a Crime!

Local crime author Rob Scragg is visiting school on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. He will be delivering a workshop on crime writing to our A Level English Literature students; who are studying crime fiction, and a small number of Key Stage 4 students who were winners in our recent crime writing competition.

## **Cambridge University - Opportunities for Year 12**

There are a number of opportunities coming up at Pembroke College, Cambridge.

### **Subject Masterclasses**

5 - 12 April 2025

[www.pem.cam.ac.uk/y12masterclasses](http://www.pem.cam.ac.uk/y12masterclasses)

### **Arts and Humanities Residential**

7 - 10 July 2025

[www.pem.cam.ac.uk/y12summerschool](http://www.pem.cam.ac.uk/y12summerschool)

### **Subject Taster Webinars**

Various May – June 2025

[www.pem.cam.ac.uk/yr12subjecttasters](http://www.pem.cam.ac.uk/yr12subjecttasters)

### **Open Days**

10 – 11 July and 12 September 2025

[www.pem.cam.ac.uk/open-days](http://www.pem.cam.ac.uk/open-days)

**ALL ARE FREE TO ATTEND! CHECK THE WEBLINKS FOR MORE INFORMATION.**