



# St Benedict's Newsletter



**Issue No 4**

**Date Friday 4 November 2016**



**LEST WE FORGET** Year 9 students, Emily Morris and Philippa Hall recently took part in a government funded First World War Battlefields Tour to Belgium and France. The trip included visits to several war memorials, museums and cemeteries including Lijssenthoek Cemetery, Beaumont Hamel Newfoundland Memorial Park, Neuve Chapelle and Caterpillar Valley Cemetery. The students researched local soldiers from Alcester prior to the tour and were able to locate their memorials at the Thiepval Memorial and the Tyne Cot Cemetery. Emily was selected from over 15 students to lay a wreath on behalf of St Benedict's at the Last

Post Ceremony at the Menin gate in Ypres, proudly watched by Philippa and Miss Dance. The tour was both insightful and enjoyable and the students were a credit to the school.

**UPLIFTING EXPERIENCE** Students in Years 8 and 9 were blown away before half term when a Royal Air Force Education show came to St Benedict's to demonstrate the scientific principles of flight. Using drones, virtual reality goggles and real aircraft engines as audio and visual aids, the main aim of the road show was to engage students, especially girls, in STEM subjects, i.e. Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. It also provided a fascinating insight into life and opportunities in the RAF. The English department joined the ride, challenging our Year 8 passengers to write a review of the spectacle during half term. Meanwhile, our Year 9s have since applied some of the principles in action during their Science lessons.



**RESTART A HEART DAY 2016** Local paramedics recently visited Year 8 and spent the day teaching groups of students how to do CPR. As part of a joint initiative, The British Heart Foundation, British Red Cross, St John Ambulance and Yorkshire Ambulance Service, along with all 14 UK ambulance trusts are working to give young people valuable life saving skills. 150,000 children and young people across the UK took part in this year's event, with plans to make the event even bigger for 2017.

**YEAR 11 WORK EXPERIENCE** Students from Year 11 went out on week experience before half term. The week went really well with students going to different working sectors, in particular the retail industry, 12 in sales and/or marketing, 10 in production engineering, 8 in the care sector, 6 in architects/surveying sectors and 8 in admin/office. We have had excellent feedback from employers and we are very grateful to them for taking the time and effort to accommodate our students. Well done to all our students who will have learnt important life lessons during their week out. (Pictured right Jakub Was at his placement at Goldhill contracting Ltd.)



**ALL SAINTS DAY** On Tuesday 1 November we celebrated the feast of All Saints with a Eucharistic Service led by Deacon Steve. During his homily, Deacon Steve spoke about St Ignatius as he encouraged us to be inspired by the saints and to go out and find our own 'hero'. Many thanks to the Chaplaincy Team for organising and co-ordinating our services

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Mr and Mrs Redfern on the safe arrival of William Nelson Redfern, born on Saturday 22 October weighing 8lb 2oz. Mum, Dad and baby are all doing well!





**WEST MIDLANDS U15 TRIATHLON CHAMPION 2016** Ben Jones in Year 10 has recently celebrated his final win in the West Midlands Triathlon Series, representing Stratford Triathlon Club and finishing with an impressive lead of 32 seconds. This was the final race of the West Midlands series which starts in March and consists of several races throughout the year, including some bracing open water swims and hilly bike courses. The results of which contribute to a cumulative score to determine the overall series champion. Congratulations to Ben for being crowned West Midlands Champion 2016, a result of his commitment and dedication to the sport.

**NETBALL** Before half term Year 10 girls played a netball match against Shipston. After the first quarter the teams were drawing, but into the second quarter Bennies girls took the lead with some positive attacking play and accurate shooting from Ella Colorado (player of the match ) and Beth Sykes. Strong defensive work from Alice Fowler, Victoria Hyslop, Emma Phillips and Grace Davis with the combination of centre court players Tara Kilkenny and Elly Adams ensured that the team finished with a comfortable win 13-5. The team are now looking forward to a full weekend of Netball at a PGL tournament over the coming weekend.



**FISHY TALES** Fisher house have a house mascot called Memo John Fisher (aka. MJ). He was brought by 9F and is being looked after by them and Fisher house. His birthday will be celebrated on 1 November. Students in 9F have said 'After a lot of consulting and contributions, 9F have decided to purchase a Siamese Fighting Fish (Betta) and employ it to be the Fisher House mascot. We hope you enjoy our new mascot - Memo



John Fisher. Nemo and memes mashed up as one. You are welcome to come and visit him in Room 23 but please don't tap the glass (he doesn't like it). We are currently raising money for a lamp for his tank and all donations (or an LED lamp) would be welcome. He is much more beautiful in real life and loves coming to the surface for his food'.



**COUNTY FOOTBALL** Well done to Year 10 students Harry Castle and Matthew Turner for spending a very foggy Halloween evening playing football for the U15 County Schools Team. This was their first league match of the season and it was played against Derbyshire at Leamington FC. After a hard fought 90 minutes, the game ended with a 1-1 draw.

**NETBALL PRACTICE** re-started after-school this week on Wednesdays. Everyone is welcome. Please make sure that you have your PE kit with you and a water bottle. Training finishes at 5pm. Netball at lunch-time will start again next week on Tuesday 8 November.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Tues 15 November

Mon 21 to Weds 30 November

Weds 23 November

Mon 28 November to Fri 4 December

Wednesday 7 December

Sixth Form Open Evening

Year 11 mock exams

GCSE Awards Evening

Year 8 Trip to Alton Castle

Carol Service - 4.30pm and 7pm

### **USEFUL CONTACTS**

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