



St Benedict's Newsletter



Issue No 6

Date Friday 2 December 2016



ADVENT This week saw the start of Advent in the Catholic Church. In assembly on Monday we saw the lighting of the first Advent candle and the wreath was blessed by Deacon Steve. We will be preparing for Christmas and the coming of Jesus for the rest of the term.

Form Groups are involved in raising money for our Advent Charity CAFOD to support their emergency appeals fund.

Continuing with Christmas tradition, we are holding our Carol Service on Wednesday 7 December in St Nicholas' Church in Alcester. Services are at 4.30pm and 7pm. Please reserve your seats at the School office, if you haven't already done so.

PHILOSOPHY DEBATE On Tuesday 29 November, ten Year 10 students had the opportunity to take part in a GCSE conference with philosopher Peter Vardy. The event was hosted by Studley High School and students listened to him discuss different points of view about issues such as sanctity of life and genetic engineering. At the end of the day students were able to take part in a debate about the future of genetic engineering. It was fantastic to hear so many young people express their views in front of their peers. (pictured right Peter Vardy).



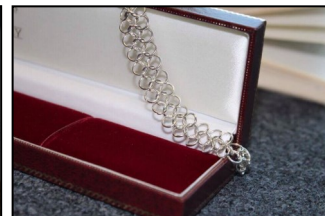
SLAM DUNK! St Benedict's are competing in the School Games Basketball League for the first time!. Students from Year 9 and Year 11 are taking part and both teams have made a fantastic start.

Year 9 competed against Henley High School, Alcester Academy and Studley High School last week winning all their games convincingly. The Year 9 team is showing real potential led by man of the match Jim Soriano who scored over 20 points across all games. (pictured left)

Year 11 competed against Studley High School and Alcester Academy. Again they had another very strong start to life in the basketball leagues, beating Alcester Academy convincingly. The Year 11 team came up against a tough, well drilled Studley High School team, they played a nail biting game only to lose by 2 points with Studley scoring in the last 20 seconds. The game could of gone either way and the boys played their best, showing great effort and attitude. Man of the Match was Arnald Loyola.

ALTON CASTLE On Monday 28 November Year 8 students departed for Alton Castle for the annual retreat. We look forward to their return and hearing about the amazing time they have had.


YOUNG ENTERPRISE A group of Year 12 students are taking part in the Young Enterprise Scheme and have set up a business called Affinitas. The company make and sell upcycled gifts and handmade bracelets that could be the ideal Christmas present. Students will be selling their wares at the Stratford Christmas Market in Rother Street tomorrow, if you are in the area, please pop along and have a look. All profits will be donated to the Shakespeare Hospice and Cancer Research.





NETBALL On Tuesday 29 November, Year 7 girls played in a netball fixture against Stratford Girl's Grammar School. The competition was high and the team worked really hard to defend against the opposition and maintain a positive and supportive team spirit throughout. The girls came away from the game identifying specific tactics and skills that they need to work on in order to win next time. Every netballer worked hard and applied themselves fully to the game, showing elements of excellent attacking and defending play. The players of the matches, nominated by the opposition, were Niamh Boyle and Madelaine Bayliss.

RUGBY On Wednesday 23 November our Year 7 team took part in a 3 team tournament as part of the RFU development programme. In the tournament St Benedict's played Alcester Grammar and lost by 3 scores to 1. In our second game we drew with Alcester Academy 1 score to 1. In this game we took the lead only to concede after valiant defence on our line with the last play of the game. The RFU programme will re-start in January.

HOUSE WRITING COMPETITION

THEME:
LET IT SNOW...

Categories:

- Short Story** - minimum 500 words, maximum 1,000
- Poem** - minimum 3 lines, maximum 40 lines
- Song lyrics** - (music is optional, but must be your own composition)

Each entrant will receive one house point (please make sure your name and form are on your entry)

Open to all - individual prizes for each Key Stage

Hand in entries to Mrs McKinley (room 34) or your English teacher

Closing date: Friday 9th December

Questions or queries? See Mrs McKinley or your English teacher.

LET IT SNOW.... The English Department are running a House Writing Competition for all students.

Students can only enter each category once, but you can enter each of the three categories (short story/poem/song) if you wish.

Closing date is end of school on the 9 December and prizes will be awarded shortly after.

PTA ADVENT CALENDAR RAFFLE The drawing of the Advent Calendar Raffle is well under way, with winners being selected every day from 24 November to 25 December. Special prizes for the Early Bird Entry and the 1st Sunday of Advent have already been given out and there are more to come on the last day of term, the remaining Advent Sundays and Christmas Day. All results are published on the PTA Facebook page. Thankyou to everyone who has contributed and Good Luck!



You can now keep up to date with school news and information via Twitter. Please follow us at @StBenedictsUK

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 7 December	Carol Service - 4.30pm and 7pm
Friday 16 December	Last day of term / Non school uniform day
Tuesday 3 January	Term begins - Teacher Training Day - Students not in school
Wednesday 4 January	Students in School

USEFUL CONTACTS

Telephone: **01789 762888** Fax: **01789 400192**
 Emails: **admin@st-benedicts.org** **pta@st-benedicts.org**
 Send your news to: **newsletter@st-benedicts.org**
 School Website: **www.st-benedicts.org**