



# St Benedict's Newsletter



**Issue No 6**

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## *St Benedict's – the Sunday Times Top Comprehensive School in the West Midlands*

St Benedict's has been ranked the Top Comprehensive School in the West Midlands for 2017 in the recently published Sunday Times Parent Power Report. The influential league tables combine GCSE and Sixth Form performance and reflect the superb results achieved this year by our students.

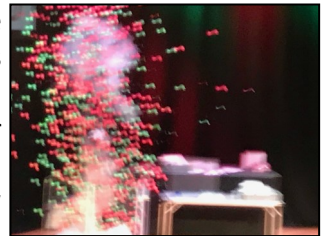
The school was highlighted in the editorial for our International Baccalaureate results

“A mention in dispatches goes to St Benedict's RC High School, in Alcester, the highest-ranked comprehensive in the region ..... the school achieves excellent IB outcomes. Very few state or independent schools embrace the IB as wholeheartedly as St Benedict's ..... So its attainment of a 77% pass rate at 7, 6 or 5 in Higher Level IB papers (up from 66.7% last year) is remarkable, given its non-selective intake.”

The IB results also placed us in the top 5 non-selective state schools in the country – a fantastic achievement and testament to the superb teaching and support provided by our staff!



**POP, FIZZ, BANG!!** Year 7 students and parents took the opportunity to visit the first of 2 sell out Warwick Christmas Lectures at Warwick Arts Centre this week. We discovered how many miles per hour Santa needs to travel to deliver presents to all the children in the world and what fuel is best to boost the speed of his sleigh. We also saw how many calories there are in Wotsits and what happens when



1 litre of liquid nitrogen is dropped in a dustbin of ping pong balls- we cant wait until next Monday's lecture!

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL** On 27 November a group of St Benedict's students and teachers went to see 'A Christmas Carol' at the RSC, in Stratford. We went on the opening night to watch the classic novel by Charles Dickens brought to life. The incredible actors and timeless plot marked the start of Christmas here, at St Benedict's." Written by Philippa Hall, 10C.



**MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS** St Benedict's, Alcester Academy and Our Lady's collaborated to offer our families and families from Dunnington school the opportunity to participate in a Mental Health and Well Being session. The afternoon, led by Dawn Preece, Senior Educational Psychologist at Warwickshire County Council, was an outstanding success and we received very positive feedback from those who attended. Both schools will be looking at offering other sessions together in the future.

**BOOTIFUL GESTURE** To mark 'Premature Awareness Day' on 17 November, a group of St Benedict's staff responded to an appeal from The Walsgrave Hospital in Coventry. It's a subject close to the heart of DT & Textiles teacher, Mrs McDermott, who mobilised her colleagues, Ms Taylor Jones, Ms. Claridge, Mrs Seabourne and Mrs Sacharewicz to get knitting mittens, booties and hats. These tiny items will be a huge help to the neonatal ward at Coventry for babies born extremely premature.



### **Dates for your Diary**

Monday 11 December	Christmas Carol Service - 5pm
Friday 22 December	End of Term
Monday 8 January 2018	Students return to school
Tuesday 9 January 2018	Year 11 Parents' Evening 4:15 - 6:45 pm followed by Elevate parents' seminar 6:50 – 7:30 pm in Sixth form

### **USEFUL CONTACTS**

Telephone: [01789 762888](tel:01789762888)

Emails: [admin@st-benedicts.org](mailto:admin@st-benedicts.org)

[pta@st-benedicts.org](mailto:pta@st-benedicts.org)

Send your news to: [newsletter@st-benedicts.org](mailto:newsletter@st-benedicts.org)

School Website: [www.st-benedicts.org](http://www.st-benedicts.org)