



13/03/26

Dear Parents, Carers, Students,
Staff and Friends of the School



Thank you to all families who were able to attend the Cultural Celebration Event last night. These events are perhaps the liveliest in the school calendar and are vital in helping us move beyond inclusion to truly celebrating the cultural diversity within our school. Highlights ranged from bagpipes to Filipino stick (Tinikling) dancing.

The level of student leadership and ownership of the event is quite unique, and seeing our young people proudly share their heritage makes for a truly special evening. My thanks to Mrs Iyaji, Miss Selvakumar, Mrs Stewart, and Mrs Tirado Diez for their contributions to making the event such a success.

Last week's World Book Day events were enjoyed by staff and students. I leave you to play 'Name the Villain' from the staff above. Well done to Miss Fielding for organising the sponsored readathon, the students involved ploughed through many fantastic novels.

It goes without saying that our thoughts and prayers remain with the community of Thorpe St Andrew, the victim, her family, the staff, students and the wider school community. We pray for peace and an end to the violence that our young people are exposed to.

Best wishes,

Tom Pinnington - Headteacher

"A Simple soul is one who seeks only God and does not fear being laughed at or despised"

-St Julie Billiard-Foundress of the Notre Dame Order



Work Shadowing – Friday 6 March

On Friday 6 March, many of our students headed out into the workplace to complete their work shadowing placements. This is always a valuable opportunity for students to experience the world of work first-hand, gaining insight into different careers while developing their confidence and independence.

It was fantastic to hear about the wide range of placements students attended and, it was wonderful to see some of our students in action across workplaces in the city. We hope all the students who took part had a fantastic day and found the experience both enjoyable and inspiring as they begin to think about their future pathways.

National Careers Week – Oak Street Circus Visit

Also on Friday 6 March, as part of National Careers Week, we took a group of 40 students to Oak Street Circus in Norwich for a unique and engaging workshop focused on developing transferable employability skills through movement and performance.

Throughout the day, students took part in a series of practical activities that encouraged them to work together, communicate clearly, and support one another as a team. The workshop explored key transferable skills that are important in any workplace, including communication, teamwork, confidence building, listening skills, problem solving, resilience and adaptability.

It was fantastic to see students challenge themselves, step outside of their comfort zones and grow in confidence as the day progressed. The activities required students to trust one another, collaborate effectively and reflect on how these skills apply to future employment and everyday life.

We were incredibly fortunate to be supported by a brilliant team of instructors Farid, Massey, Rosie and Rebecca who each brought their own specialisms and energy to the sessions. Their encouragement and expertise helped students to push themselves, try new things and celebrate their achievements.

We are very grateful to the Oak Street Circus team for creating such a positive and supportive environment for our students. It was a memorable experience and a wonderful way to celebrate National Careers Week while developing skills that will support students in their future education and careers.

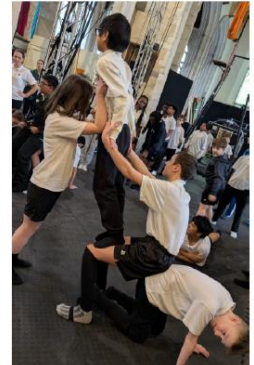
Miss Freezer and Mrs Holden



THE

OAK CIRCUS

CENTRE



WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENTS NEEDED

Do you own a business or work for a company
that could host a Year 10 student for work experience?



6–10 July (5 days)

We have many Year 10 students still looking for
placements and would love to hear from businesses
willing to support our students.

————— Please contact: —————

Mrs Holden



rholden@ndhs.org.uk

New Piano for the Music Department

After two and half years of fundraising, the music department raised enough funds to purchase a brand new Kawai K300 upright piano, supplied by Berries Barn Pianos in Norwich.

A huge thank you to all who donated through concert tickets sales and other donations. A special thank you to the McClean family for their generosity and the PTFA who have provided fantastic support in our fundraising efforts.



Notre Dame High School **SPRING CONCERT**



6:00pm Thurs 26th March

In our Sports Hall

Tickets: £3pp or £10 for a family of 4
Available on Ticketsource or on the door

 **INDHS** LIFE to
the FULL



NATURAL AND MAN-MADE FORMS PROJECT



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7

YOUNG CARERS BREAKFAST CLUB



Come along to room 50B
Every first Wednesday
of the month
8.30am till 9.00am



A young carer is a child or young person who provides regular care, support, or assistance to a family member who has a physical illness, mental health condition, disability, or substance misuse issue.

Does the above describe you? If so come along and have a chat.
Start date is 4th March

NDHS Drama Department Presents...



Notre Dame Stories

Tuesday 16th & Wednesday 17th March

Notre Dame Chapel at 6pm

Tickets £4

Available from Ticket Source

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/notre-dame-high-school/e-mjbavx>

Give your soul a spring clean!

Y9-11 Sacrament of Reconciliation
Lunchtime Tues 17th & Wed 18th
with Fr Martin in the Chapel.

It is a great way to reflect on the mistakes you've made and give yourself a fresh start.

**FORGIVENESS
IS A GIFT YOU GIVE TO
YOURSELF.**



THURS. MASS

08:20 on 19th March

in the Chapel

Celebrated by

Fr Martin

ALL WELCOME





2ND - 3RD MAY 2026

IGNITE FESTIVAL

**FOR THOSE IN
YEARS 8 - 13**

**FAITH
CAMPING
LIVE MUSIC
GOOD FOOD**



**ST. BENEDICT'S
SCHOOL
BURY
ST. EDMUNDS**



**TO BOOK WITH THE NORWICH
GROUP, SCAN THE QR CODE**

**FOR FURTHER INFO SEE
ignitefestival.co.uk**



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Does the above describe you? If so come along and have a chat.
Next one is 15th April

BOOM!

Young Carers

Are you a Young Carer?

At The Benjamin Foundation we are committed to working with young carers across Norfolk.

We want you to have the same hope, opportunity, stability and independence as those without caring commitments. We can support you in specialist groups running throughout the year so you can meet other young carers, have a break from your caring responsibilities and have fun taking part in games and activities.

We also run trips, visits, activities (including short residential breaks) in school holidays to help develop your confidence, and giving you the opportunity to try new experiences.



Watton Young Carers Group

Fridays 5pm-6.30pm for 8 - 11 year olds
Fridays 6.45pm-8.15pm for 11-18 year olds

Taverham Young Carers Group

Fortnightly on Tuesdays 6.30pm-8pm for
8 - 16 year olds

Lakenham Young Carers Group

Fortnightly on Wednesdays 6.30pm-8pm for
8 - 16 year olds

North Walsham Young Carers Group

Fortnightly on Thursdays 6.30pm-8pm for
8 - 18 year olds

Norwich Young Carers Group

Marlpit Community Centre
Fortnightly on Wednesdays 4.45pm-6.15pm and 6.30pm-8pm for 5 - 18 year olds
Pilling Park Community Centre
Fortnightly on Thursdays 4.45pm-6.15pm and 6:30pm-8pm for 5 - 18 year olds

**We also run monthly meet-ups for Young Adult Carers
aged 16-21 in Norwich**

Learn More:

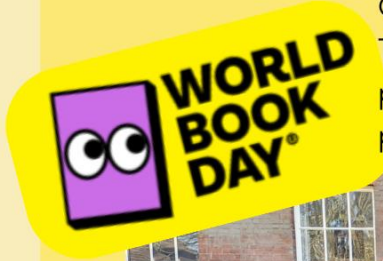
boom@benjaminfoundation.co.uk | 07880 242 374



Library Notices

March has been a busy month for the Library!

Our World Book Day 2026 theme was 'villains' and the staff delivered! There were some excellent costumes to be seen around school and pupils took part in form time activities to promote reading for pleasure, as well as creating their very own villains in library lessons!



Form Quiz Winners

Mr. Short
Mrs. Neville
Mrs. Kirwan



A huge well done to the pupils who took part in our sponsored read and who raised over £250 for Book Trust by spending a day in the library reading as many pages as they could in 5 hours!

Here you can see what our pupils collectively read throughout the day.



The Carnegies 2026



The Carnegies are the UK's longest running and best-loved children's book awards, recognising outstanding reading experiences created through writing and illustration in books for children and young people.

If you are hungry for your next read and like exploring different genres the Carnegies are for you. If you would like to take part in the awards by committing to read some of the nominated books please come and speak to Miss. Fielding!

