

Beacon Federation schools celebrate awards success



Both Year 6 classes in the Beacon Federation (Dickleburgh and Garboldisham Primary Academies) have recently received their certificates for completing the Archbishop's Young Leaders Award.

Year 6 groups from across the Federation successfully completed their Archbishop Young Leaders Award. They had to complete individual and group challenges and then work together to complete the Community Challenge.



At Garboldisham, the children baked cakes at home and at school and raised money through a bake sale for the RSPCA and The Nook Children's Hospice. They also wrote to our MP to campaign for a safer pedestrian crossing for our families on the A1066. We are just waiting for a reply!

At Dickleburgh, the children organised activities to share with the residents at our local care home. They also sang and chatted with them all afternoon. This was enjoyed so much by everyone that it is now going to be a regular activity this year too.

Moira Croskell
Executive Headteacher



B-Comms is the fortnightly newsletter for Church of England schools who are Members of St Benet's Multi Academy Trust:

Acle Primary, Alburgh with Denton Primary, Catfield Primary, Dickleburgh Primary & Pre-school, Diss Junior Academy, Diss Infant Academy & Nursery, Garboldisham Primary, Happisburgh Primary, Harleston Sanctroft Academy, Hickling Infant, Little Plumstead Primary, Morley Primary, Newton Flotman Primary, Pulham Primary, Scole Primary, St Mary's Junior, St Mary's Primary, Sutton Infant and Tacolneston Primary

New sensory garden opened at Newton Flotman Primary Academy

On Tuesday 30th September, pupils and parents came to the grand opening of Newton Flotman CoE Primary Academy's new sensory garden, accompanied by Captain Canary, the Norwich City Football Club mascot.

The garden has been fully funded by the Friends of Newton Flotman parent group, who were donated the money from Newton Flotman Nursery when it closed its doors in 2023.

Headteacher, Mr Riley, commented, *"This is a wonderful space for all of our children to access and use. We are so fortunate that the Friends funded this project as a lasting legacy to the Nursery"*.

Adam Riley
Headteacher



New primary MIS across St Benet's

We are pleased to announce that a new Trust-wide primary Management Information System is being rolled out to all St Benet's schools from September 2025.



The Trust Central Team and a group of Headteachers, supported by Rosemary Ison from DoNESC, went through a lengthy appraisal process to identify the best system to replace Pupil Asset and Scholar Pack.

After much testing, [Juniper Education](#) were awarded the contract as the providers of our new MIS. They have started the roll-out and training process this month. The Trust has agreed that Pupil Asset will run concurrently with Juniper MIS for a number of months whilst the new software is embedded in our schools.

One of two online training sessions on 'How to use SONAR reporting and tracking' has been held and recordings of the sessions are available for those unable to attend or as a reminder. The second training date will be advised soon.

We are also preparing a phased rollout implementation plan for the Juniper MIS software. This will involve in-person and online training sessions for admin staff members which will be scheduled a number of weeks ahead of your school's actual rollout date.

Further information in respect of the MIS rollout will be shared with Headteachers in the coming weeks as details are firmed up.

Training/CPD events for this half-term

Week commencing	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
06.10.25		RE Network; CUSP Primary Art Leads, 15.45-16.45 online	LA Data Support: Provisional Results & KS2 QLA Session at OH, 13.00-16.00	CANCELLED RSL Network, 15.40-16.40 online; Christianity as a Global World Faith - free Diocesan training, 16.00-17.00 online; CUSP Primary DT Leads, 15.45-16.45	
13.10.25				Christianity as a Global World Faith - free Diocesan training, 16.00-17.00 online; CUSP Primary Music Leads, 15.45-16.45	

Key:

OH—Orchard House NR20 3LR

RSL—Raising Standards Leads

Diocesan Vacancy

Religious Education and Christian Distinctiveness Manager



Are you an experienced teacher of Religious Education who is looking for the next step in your career? Are you passionate about Religious Education and Christian distinctiveness in schools? Do you want to make a meaningful impact across Norfolk and Waveney? If so, we'd love to hear from you.

Join the Diocese of Norwich as our Religious Education and Christian Distinctiveness Manager and help shape the spiritual and educational landscape of our church and community schools.

For full details on the role and how to apply for it, click [here](#).

Closing date for applications is Wednesday 15th October with interviews on Thursday 23rd October.



Diocesan Prayer Diary

The Diocese of Norwich have a Prayer Diary, which can be accessed [here](#).

The Church of England have a Time to Pray website [here](#).

Central Team Contact Details

The Diocese of Norwich Education Team (St Benet's, DNEAT, DoNESC) are based at Orchard House, Hall Lane, East Tuddenham, Norfolk NR20 3LR. This is also the registered address for St Benet's MAT.

The central phone number for St Benet's is 01603 550147 or you can email the Central Team via info@stbenets.org.



Press & PR

Please contact 01603 550147 or info@stbenets.org with any press/media enquiries.

Diocesan Communications

Following the news that Paul Dunning will be retiring at the end of 2025, the Diocese of Norwich have announced the appointment of Chris Allen as his replacement. Chris will already be known to many of you from his role as Diocesan RE Advisor, and we wish him every success with his new role, which starts in January 2026.



Footprints magazine and Flourishing Together are circulated to all Diocesan schools. The latest editions can be read [here](#). If you would like your school to be featured in either please contact Jodie Ballard, PA to the Diocesan Director of Education, at: jodie.ballard@dioceseofnorwich.org.

It is the responsibility of the Diocesan Board of Education to oversee the strategic direction for all schools and academies within the Diocese of Norwich. That's 107 schools in total across St Benet's, DNEAT and LA-maintained schools. The DBE has just published its next Strategic Plan covering the period 2024-2030. We encourage you to have a look [here](#).

Vacancies

For vacancies at St Benet's MAT please visit: www.stbenets.org.
Please email your vacancies to: hr@donesc.org.



Don't forget you can apply for funding from the Immeasurably More project or submit an entry for an Immeasurably More award or Champion of Change award.

"Immeasurably more than we can imagine"



The St Benet's Immeasurably More Project aims to actively promote, encourage and facilitate aspirational learning experiences across all the schools within the Trust, celebrating equality, diversity, belonging, inclusion and justice at every opportunity.

Opportunities for Schools

- ◇ Apply to the Immeasurably More Fund for money to support with financial barriers for specific projects focused on social change
- ◇ Apply for an Immeasurably More Than Award, in the following categories:
 1. Immeasurably More than just Pupil Leadership (inc Courageous Advocacy)
 2. Immeasurably More than just Celebrating Difference
 3. Immeasurably More than just Music and the Arts
 4. Immeasurably More than just a Curriculum
 5. Immeasurably More than just a School (once all above are achieved)

Opportunities for Pupils

- ◇ Schools will be able to nominate pupils to be a "St Benet's Champion of Change", awarded for instigating and following through with their own projects which are focused on issues of justice, responsibility and courageous advocacy



DoNESC News

St Benet's Updated Policies

The following policies have recently been reviewed, updated and approved:

- S10 Complaints Procedure
- S17 Finance Policy
- HR06 Probation Policy - All Employees
- HR10 Ex-Offenders Policy
- HR11 Staff Bullying and Harassment Policy
- HR14 Maternity Policy
- HR21 Menopause Policy
- HR25 Secure handling of information provided by the DBS
- HR28 Paternity Policy (*New policy*)
- HR29 Staff Substance Misuse Policy (*New policy*)
- NS03 Lettings Policy
- NS06 Cleaning Policy
- NS14 Statement of procedures for dealing with allegations
- NS18 Early Years Charging and Admissions Policy

The following policies have had typographical updates/corrections and are being reissued, their review dates remain unchanged:

- NS11 Parent, Carer & Visitor Conduct Policy
(*appendices updated including poster for display*)
- S25b Appraisal Policy - Teaching Staff and Headteachers (*typos corrected*)

These policies have been uploaded to the St Benet's website (<https://stbenets.org/about-us/policies/>) and recently circulated to academy Headteachers and offices via iAM Compliant.

Please ensure that all staff are aware that these policies have been updated and are now in circulation.

Tara Burrows
Governance Officer/Trust Clerk

Did you know...

St Benet's pays for all its employees to have free access to the Spectrum.Life employee wellbeing service. If you haven't registered yet, follow the simple instructions below to sign up online.



The online platform is accessible from this link:

<https://donesc.spectrum.life/login?org=DoNESC>

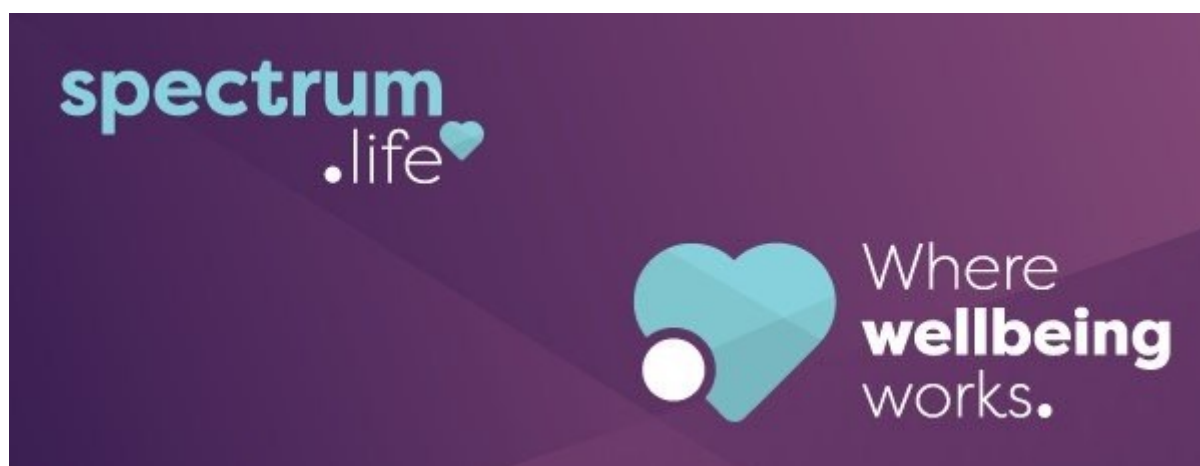
On the home page you will be asked to enter your name and email address, create a password and choose who you work for from a drop-down menu (you should choose St Benet's) and this will then take you through to the welcome page. If you download the app it will ask for your Organisation Code which is DoNESC. If you have any problems registering, please contact wendy.allsop@donesc.org

The Spectrum.Life service also includes access to 6 free counselling sessions (virtual or face-to-face) via the Employee Assistance Programme, access to a Discount Marketplace, advice on fitness, nutrition and many articles, videos and audios around wellbeing.

There are weekly running guides, advice on stress, diabetes, sleep, menopause, heart health, exercise videos and much more.

B-Comms will focus on some of these specific areas in future issues and your Headteachers will be receiving some promotional material to share with you.

We encourage you to sign up and make use of Spectrum.Life; it's there for your benefit!





Our Values

Honesty (n. Being honest; truthfulness)

I have chosen the way of truth.

Psalms 119:30

Courage (n. Bravery, boldness)

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9

Compassion (n. A response to other people's suffering which goes beyond sympathy and is expressed in taking action to help)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Matthew 9:36

Hope (n. Expectation and desire combined; feeling of trust)

But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance.

Romans 8:25