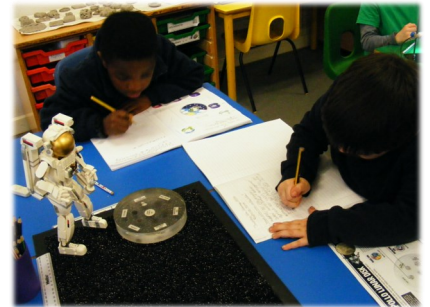


## Outer Space Comes to Tacolneston & Morley!

In the week that NASA hoped to launch Artemis II as the first crewed mission to the moon since the Apollo flights, children at Tacolneston and Morley Primary Academies have had a fantastic Space Week.

Alongside class activities learning about the Solar System, the moon, planets and orbits, the highlight of the week has been the loan of actual moon rock samples and real meteorites from the UK Research and Innovation group. Including samples of moon rock and soil belonging to NASA, children right through the schools from age 4 to 11 have been able to explore and analyse space rocks and meteorites.



Equipped with magnetic probes, digital microscopes, magnifiers and precision scales, children were able to classify rock samples, learn what determines if a material has extra-terrestrial origin, and understand what the moon is really made of.

Children also studied photographs of the earth taken from space, and original footage from the Apollo moon missions. There was a sense of awe and wonder at the fragility of the earth in space and an appreciation of what those astronauts went through in pursuit of scientific knowledge and discovery.

One Year 5 pupil at Morley Primary was particularly captivated by holding and analysing the moon samples: *"It felt weird that I was holding the rocks that came down from the Apollo space missions. Astronauts like Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin have held them and now me. To think they are priceless and irreplaceable, and we've been able to hold them. Wow!"*



The Space Week has certainly enthused a new generation's interest in science and space, with 97% of the children saying they are excited about science after the space work they have done this week, and 70% of them eager to find out more about the things they have encountered.

The Tacolneston and Morley children will be eagerly awaiting the anticipated Artemis II launch in a month's time!

**Andrew Phoenix**  
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 Sanicroft 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

## “They will soar on wings like eagles”

This is the vision of St Mary's Junior Academy in Long Stratton, and which was brought to the fore during their recent SIAMS inspection.

Headteacher Laura Richardson (pictured right) was delighted to receive the final report, which stated that:

*“The school's Christian vision, which aligns with that of St Benet's MAT, underpins an exceptional culture of care and compassion. It is deeply rooted in the everyday practice of the school, enabling pupils and adults to thrive.”*



SIAMS, the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools, went into more detail in their report (available [here](#)) and we would like to pay tribute to the hard work of all St Mary's staff which has resulted in such a fantastic inspection result.

 Statutory Inspection of  
Anglican & Methodist Schools

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

St Mary's Church of England Junior Academy

### Vision

'They will soar on wings like eagles.'

At St Mary's, we nurture respectful and responsible global citizens who contribute to their communities with compassion and courage.

Young minds grow with God's love and an ambitious curriculum for all, to enable everyone to flourish as they 'soar on wings like eagles' and 'live life in all its fullness.'

St Mary's Church of England Junior Academy is living up to its foundation as a Church school and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish. It has the following notable strengths.

### Notable Strengths

- The school's Christian vision, which aligns with that of St Benet's Multi-Academy Trust, underpins an exceptional culture of care and compassion. It is deeply rooted in the everyday practice of the school, enabling pupils and adults to thrive.
- Pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) or who are considered vulnerable are nurtured and empowered at St Mary's. They are loved for who they are and wholeheartedly supported to overcome any barriers to learning. This often leads to transformational change for pupils and their families.
- The ambitious school curriculum has been thoughtfully designed to match the needs of pupils and widen their horizons. They are keen to participate in the extra-curricular and enrichment activities. As a result, pupils enjoy their learning and become confident and reflective learners.
- Strong partnerships between the school and local churches enable pupils and adults to experience a rich and varied programme of collective worship. Consequently, worship impacts positively on their spiritual development.
- Wide-ranging training and development opportunities for staff are a priority for the school and trust. This strengthens curriculum provision and results in adults flourishing professionally.

## DoNESC Updates

### DOCUMENTS ON THE DONESC HELPDESK

You will now find the following documents available for quick reference on the top bar in the DoNESC Helpdesk:

- Payroll calendar 2025/2026
- DoNESC Academies Handbook- Feb 2026
- DoNESC SLA
- OfficeXpress SLA
- OfficeXpress Contact (Escalation) Tree
- Nourish Contact (Escalation) Tree

**Wendy Allsop**

**EA to CEO/Operations & Contract Manager**

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## Rollout of Juniper MIS across St Benet's

**As the two Juniper Sonar training sessions have now taken place, we are moving our focus to the rollout of the MIS software across the Trust's schools.**

Rosemary Ison (DoNESC Operations Manager) and Juniper are preparing a phased rollout implementation plan for the 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.

The MIS rollout programme started in October with Tacolneston & Morley Primaries and our remaining schools will follow on a phased basis after the January census.

Pupil Asset will continue to run alongside Juniper for a period of time as the new system beds in.

If you have difficulty logging into SONAR and the 'forgotten password' link is not working, please contact the Juniper support desk via: [sonartrackerhelp@junipereducation.org](mailto:sonartrackerhelp@junipereducation.org) or use the link here: <https://help.junipereducation.org/>

## Training/CPD Events for the Next Half-term

Week commencing	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>02.03.26</b>			Headteachers Workshop at OH (10.00-16.00)	RSL Network (15.40-16.40)	
<b>09.03.26</b>	CUSP Primary Science Leads	Leaders' Forum at OH (10.00-15.00)		CUSP Primary History Leads	
<b>16.03.26</b>		CUSP Primary Art Leads		CUSP Primary DT Leads	Diocesan Headteachers Conference at Norwich Cathedral (08.45-15.30)
<b>23.03.26</b>	CUSP Primary Geography Leads	Strategy Development Day at OH (09.00-16.00); CUSP Primary Music Leads			

**Note:** All CUSP events run from 15.45-16.45 online. OH = Orchard House.



## 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](#).

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## 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](mailto:info@stbenets.org).



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## Press & PR

Please contact 01603 550147 or [info@stbenets.org](mailto:info@stbenets.org) with any press/media enquiries.

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## Diocesan Communications

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](mailto: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's Strategic Plan for the period 2024-2030 is published [here](#).

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## Vacancies

For vacancies at St Benet's MAT please visit: [www.stbenets.org](http://www.stbenets.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



## 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>

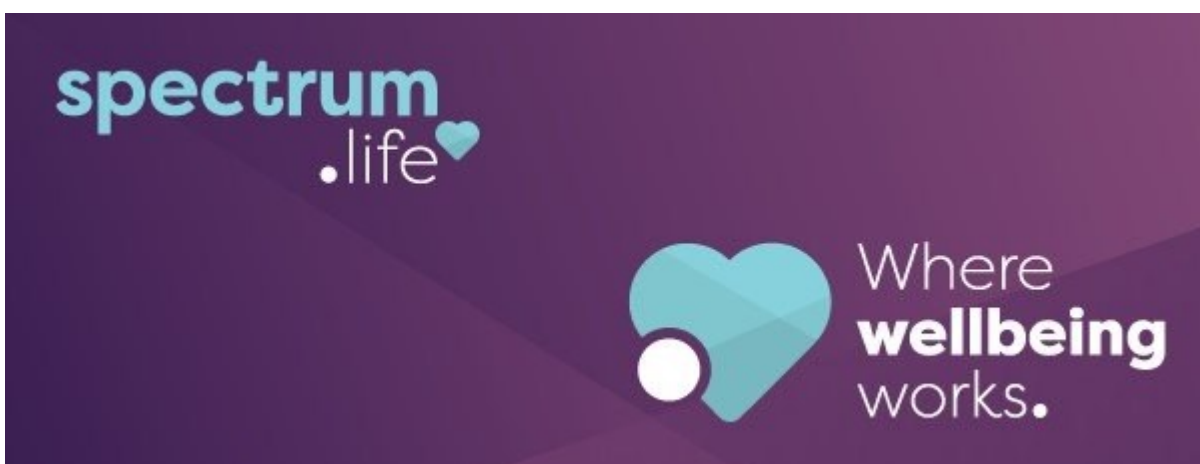
On the home page you will be asked to enter your name and email address, create a password and choose who you work for from a drop-down menu (you should choose St Benet's) and this will then take you through to the welcome page. If you download the app it will ask for your Organisation Code which is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