

Blessed George Napier Catholic School and Sixth Form

God of all, You have poured forth Your light, fill us with faith and the courage to act upon it so that we may shine light in the darkness illuminate the goodness and beauty You have placed in each one of us.



Key Stage 5 Bulletin: 19th December 2023

News and Reminders



Thank you so much to all of you who donated to and helped organise the Reverse Advent Calendar within school. The donation centre was overwhelmed by the school community's generosity. This was not the only jam packed carload!

As always we encourage you to organise your time over the holidays so you can really relax and enjoy the celebrations knowing that you are on track with your schoolwork. Attached is a copy of a blank revision timetable, Yr13s have the obvious reason to be focusing with their mocks and, for some exams, in January (Timetable attached). Yr12s can also use the framework to complete any tasks assigned and consolidate your learning from this term, so notes are revision ready when your time comes.

Please find attached information about the 16-19 Bursary, all applications are welcome and will be considered. If you would like any further information, or the opportunity to privately discuss your situation, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Russell, rrussell@bgn.oxon.sch.uk.

Mrs Ellul has been working tirelessly to get UCAS applications ready to submit, very pleased to be able to 'push the button' on many and even happier to see students starting to receive offers.

If you have any concerns about your next steps whether that is university/ apprenticeship/ job applications or how to make the most of a gap year, please speak to us.

The deadline for the initial payment for the Yr12 Lourdes trip has been extended, please look out for an information letter and permission slip that has been emailed out separately to all Yr12s and their parents/guardians. This is an incredible opportunity and students always receive as much, if not more, than they give from the experience.

We wish you all a joyful Christmas and may 2024 bring you every blessing.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 20th December – School closes at 12:30pm for Christmas
Monday 8th January – INSET Day
Tuesday 9th January – School reopens to all pupils (Week B)
Tuesday 9th January – ParentPay deadline for initial payment for Lourdes Trip
Friday 12th + Monday 15th January – Yr13 Health & Social Care Exams
Monday 15th January – Yr12 Reports
Mon 15th – Fri 19th January - Yr13 Mock Week
Tuesday 16th + Wednesday 17th January – Yr13 IT Exams
Wednesday 24th January – Yr13 PE Mock

Useful Links

About the In2STEM programme - Key Information

The In2STEM programme offers Year 12 or S5/S6 (or equivalent) students the opportunity to participate in our programme of activities taking place between Monday 22 July and Friday 23 August 2024.



Students will be provided with a bursary to cover travel and lunch costs. All events will be held within commuting distance of where students live or online.

For students living in areas where placements are not currently accessible, we are pleased to be offering In2STEM Online. This virtual programme includes online mentoring sessions and provides access to our workshops and competitions.

Interested students can apply by filling in the **Application Form** by **22 December 2023**. Students must meet our [eligibility criteria](#) in order to be shortlisted and a teacher reference is required to verify this. A reference request is sent to the teacher's email inbox automatically when their student applies.

[Student Application Form](#)



Applications to our US 2023 Programme now open!

What is the US programme?

In partnership with The Fulbright Commission, the [Sutton Trust US Programme](#) is designed to support students from state schools across the UK to explore US University options.

It includes **two UK-based residentials** and **a week in the United States** staying on a university campus and visiting a variety of American universities. An optional second year of the programme **supports students to apply to US universities alongside their UCAS options.**

How can you apply?

To apply for the programme, you must:

Attend, and have always attended, **a state-funded**, non-fee-paying school/college.

Be in **Year 12** at the start of the programme.

We prioritise students based on a range of **social mobility criteria** including eligibility for free school meals, household income, and the context of their school and neighbourhood.

Applications will close January 15th 2024 and places are very competitive, so apply ASAP.

[Application form is here](#)

MEDICAL VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES

All Allied Healthcare university courses mandate work experience in a caring or service role within health or related fields, including direct observation of healthcare. Acquiring such work experience can be challenging, and there are areas that students may be interested in but cannot explore. That's why our LIVE Virtual Work Experience presents an incredible opportunity for students.

Find out more here: <https://alliedhealthmentor.org/product/live-virtual-work-experience-programme/>

This programme is suitable for students who are interested in the following careers:

- Nursing- Midwifery- Paramedicine- Physiotherapy- Occupational Therapy- Dietetics
- Radiography- Prosthetics and Orthotics- Speech and Language Therapy- Pharmacy

Students can register individually at any time throughout the programme using the link below. We recommend booking early to gain as much out of this programme as possible. Places are £10 a session to cover administrative and technological costs.

Students can register using the link below:

<https://alliedhealthmentor.org/product/live-virtual-work-experience-programme/>

Applications for the free National NHS Virtual Work experience programme have now opened for 2023-2024! This programme is brought to you by Birmingham Universities Hospitals Trust in collaboration with Medic Mentor, and it is completely free.

Students can apply for a placement, for free at this link:

<https://medicmentor.org/university-hospitals-birmingham-trust-virtual-work-experience/>

Registering for these programmes is simple - students just need to complete the free online application form:

<https://airtable.com/appuQX2ouadvjQUSU/shrroljLczgdg9uLw>

Medical Extracurricular Opportunities through Medic Mentor

- Engage in Essay and Art Competitions, with publishing and research opportunities. This month is centred around the theme "Lifeline," and closes on February 1st.
- Enrol in the Medical Leadership Programme to develop leadership skills and access valuable mentoring opportunities.
- Join the Virtual Medical & Dental Society Committee or Wider Reading Society's Committee for leadership, presentation, and extensive reading opportunities.
- Explore Virtual Work Experience to gain insights into the medical or dental profession.

Here is a list of extracurriculars that you can access for free to help stand out at interviews and in personal statements: <https://medicmentor.org/medical-extracurricular-activities/>

These extracurricular opportunities accept applications throughout the holidays. By signing up for a free student portal, you can access these opportunities:

<https://medicmentor.org/the-medic-mentor-portal-2/>

Are you interested in Law?

[Causeway Education](#) are working with law firm [Wedlake Bell](#) to host an application masterclass for Y13 students interested in applying to solicitor degree apprenticeships. This information will be useful for students considering applying to any firms, although there will be colleagues from Wedlake Bell able to answer questions specific to their application process. The webinar will show students the steps in an apprenticeship application, the reason why certain methods are used e.g. assessment centres and tips and tricks to prepare for this process. We will look at

key themes such as showing an understanding of a firm, the apprenticeship route, and developing commercial awareness.

The webinar will take place on Tuesday 30th January 4.30-6pm. Students can sign up for the webinar here: <https://forms.office.com/e/GxQGpPZ8eE>.

Subject webinars from UEA ONLINE TASTERS

Understand contextual offers before you apply to university.

Entry requirements are not always set in stone. Find out how contextual admissions could affect your university application.

THE STUDENT ROOM: CONTEXTUAL ADMISSIONS

How to avoid getting five university rejections

Learn how to swerve common mistakes that can scupper applications from the start – and what to do if you don't get any offers.

THE STUDENT ROOM: AVOIDING REJECTIONS

University mentoring for black heritage students.

If you're a Year 12 black heritage student on track to achieve ABB (or BTEC equivalent), Insight2Uni e-mentoring from UEA and Insight Education could be for you. You'll get a fully funded university visit, plus nine online monthly sessions to help you nail your UCAS application, learn about the realities of university life, and support with study skills to help you through Year 13.

REGISTER NOW



[Visit UniTasterDays](#)

Check out The Uni Guide Podcast **for an inside look at the student experience at university. In the latest episode, E:24 Studying abroad as part of a UK degree Listen to this and all previous episodes [HERE](#).**

Browse 1701 exciting events listed on UniTasterDays for students, with more being added daily. Including open days, subject taster days, information fairs on studying abroad...Your next university adventure awaits! Check them out [HERE](#).

Explore various university subjects through the dynamic [webinar platform](#), featuring the UK's first video subject guide. **You can browse the videos, search by keyword, or filter by subject.**

The Students' Guide to University is your all-in-one free brochure for essential university guidance. Packed with insights from university experts across the UK. [Download it now](#) – no registration required.

Join our [Subject Taster Days](#) to gain first-hand experience of studying at university level and student life. You will have the opportunity to:

- Take part in lectures and interactive academic sessions.
- Experience practical work and engage in discussion on the topics.
- Discover our facilities and student life during a Campus Tour.
- Hear about the career potential of the courses on offer.

Each Subject Taster Day is free to attend and will give insight into a range of courses within a subject area. You can find a list of which courses are included here: [promotional poster](#)



WE ARE AMAZING APPRENTICESHIPS

A leading organisation in the education sector, founded to tackle misconceptions about apprenticeships and promote the benefits.

Discover resources in the [student zone](#) and the [parent and carer zone](#).

UNDERSTANDING APPRENTICESHIPS

Check out our new animated film release!

WATCH NOW

unifrog

The **universal** destinations platform.

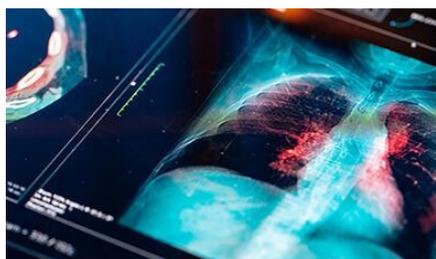
Subject discovery

Learn more about specific subjects, including [Discover business and management](#). [Discover psychology](#). [Discover engineering and technology](#). [Discover liberal arts](#). [Discover computer science](#). [Discover creative arts](#).

Course selection is not the only thing to consider when applying to university, make sure you are seeing the whole picture by attending open days. <https://www.opendays.com/calendar/>



Explore our vast online collection which includes more than 3000 videos, featuring over 1200 speakers dissecting hundreds of topics. <https://www.gresham.ac.uk/watch-now>



The AI Revolution in Cancer Imaging

Dr Richard Sidebottom

Tue, 09 Jan 2024

[Medicine](#) – [Technology](#) - [Invention](#)



Why Is There Only One Species of Human?

Professor Robin May

Wed, 10 Jan 2024

[Microbiology](#) – [Science](#) - [History](#)



Ancient Greek Ideas of Justice

Professor Melissa Lane

Thu, 11 Jan 2024

[Philosophy](#) – [Law](#) - [History](#)



How is Climate Change Affecting The Weather Now?

Professor Myles Allen

Wed, 17 Jan 2024

[Environment](#) – [Physics](#) - [Science](#)



Capital Structure Theory Explained

Professor Raghavendra Rau

Mon, 22 Jan 2024

[Business](#) – [Finance](#) - [Economics](#)

Mansfield Public Talks Recordings of past Mansfield Public Talks can be found on Mansfield's YouTube channel, [here](#).

<https://www.southbankcentre.co.uk/whats-on>

[Winter Exhibitions](#) [Literature](#) [Classical music](#) [Gigs](#) [Performance](#) [Families](#)



Hiroshi Sugimoto: ‘When photography was believable, my art was possible’

The artist offers an insight into his work and some of his most well-known photographic series in this video interview.

[watch now](#) →

oxme.info

Calling all local young people!

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[EVENTS](#)

At times we all need a little support. The Oxfordshire Targeted Youth Support Service is here for you. Please visit oxme.info/tyss



THE ARCHDIOCESE *of* BIRMINGHAM

If you have any questions relating to anything Sixth Form, please contact:

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Mr Thornton – wtho0370@bgn.oxon.sch.uk

Mrs Ellul – mell8376@bgn.oxon.sch.uk

Mrs Russell - rrussell@bgn.oxon.sch.uk

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