



**HARLESTON SANCROFT**  
ACADEMY

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Diocese of Norwich  
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Multi Academy Trust

**Value for this half term:** Respect

**Theme for this week** (24 - 30 April 2023): Earning respect

**Life Skills theme for the week:** We are able to ask questions

Last week, in Friday's 'Business Hub' session, Year 7 students had the opportunity to listen to people from a variety of walks of life and to ask them questions about their career pathways. Also, Year 6 students came to the secondary site on Thursday afternoon and enjoyed working collaboratively with each other and Year 9 student ambassadors in order to complete the orienteering challenge. Thank you to all staff, students and visitors from the wider community for making these such fantastic experiences.

Sunday 23 April marked Saint George's Day and the day of Shakespeare's death, in 1616. It is often said that Shakespeare died on his birthday, although it's really a little more complicated than that: we don't know his actual birthday, but we do know that he was baptised on 26 April, 1564, and so, by tradition, his birthday is celebrated three days earlier, on 23 April.

Shakespeare is widely regarded as being the greatest writer in the English language and the world's pre-eminent dramatist. In his play, 'Henry V', King Henry (Harry) famously gives a rousing [speech](#) to his soldiers before they go into battle, ending with the words: *I see you stand like greyhounds in the slips, / Straining upon the start. The game's afoot: / Follow your spirit, and upon this charge / Cry "God for Harry, England, and Saint George!"*

Uplifting in a very different way, modern poet, Brian Patten, wrote an alternative version of St George's story. Patten said: "There's no country more beautiful than England in April; "I believe we should celebrate its landscape, and its flora and fauna through St George's Day."

Entitled 'The True Dragon', Brian Patten's St George finds the dragon too beautiful to kill:

St George was in awe of it  
It was a thing apart  
He hid the sleeping dragon  
Inside every English heart.

So on this day let's celebrate  
England's valleys full of light,  
The green fire of the landscape  
Lakes shivering with delight.

Let's celebrate St George's Day,  
The dragon in repose;



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The brilliant lark ascending,  
The yew, the oak, the rose.

The rest of Patten's poem can be found [here](#).

To find out more about St George, including where and when he was born, and whether or not he slayed a dragon, have a look at BBC Bitesize's '[Five things you didn't know about St George](#)'. BBC Sounds also has some great resources for anyone wanting to find out more about Shakespeare, including a free audiobook dramatisation of 'Romeo and Juliet' [here](#) (a useful revision resource for all of our Year 11 GCSE English Literature students).

Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust (NSFT) **Psychology in Schools Team's Parent Workshops** are a great opportunity for parents and carers to find out more about supporting the young people in our families. These workshops are free, expert-led and accessible online. The next set of workshop sessions take place in the middle of May and cover a range of topics, including: managing big feelings; low mood; anxiety and building resilience. Here's the [link](#).

We would also like to share information about **accessing support** for 0-25 year olds across Norfolk & Waveney, regarding '**Mild to Moderate Mental Health Needs**'. Here's the [link](#).

**Exams - supporting Year 11 students:** There is some excellent information [here](#) about young people and exam stress, provided by the charity 'Mind'. 'YoungMinds' also offers some useful guidance [here](#) around the supportive steps that families can take in the lead up to exams.

Looking ahead to next week - the start of May - the **GCSE Art and GCSE MFL oral examinations** are taking place. We strongly encourage all Year 11 students to familiarise themselves with the details of their exam timetables, ensuring that they are able to be in the right place at the right time to complete these assessments. We will be asking the whole school community to support Year 11s during this time, including moving quietly around the site in order to avoid disrupting any exams taking place.

### Attendance and Punctuality Matters:

We continue to highlight the importance of excellent attendance and punctuality, and the key role they play in helping every student to flourish in school and beyond.

Students who miss school frequently can fall behind with their work, feel nervous about returning to school and ultimately do less well in their exams.

### Key events:

Thurs 27 April - In England, NEU strike day


Fri 28 April - Bronze DofE preparatory expedition

Fri 28 April - Year 11 Pop-Up Café in the Quad

Mon 1 May - Early May Bank Holiday

Tues 2 May - In England, NEU strike day

Tues 2 May onwards - GCSE Art exams



The poster is for a 'Year 11 Prom Fundraiser' featuring a 'Pop-up Café' on Friday 28th April. It includes a Harleston Bannockburn Academy logo, a photo of a drink, a speech bubble saying 'Don't forget to bring some cash!', and a list of details about the event.

**Year 11 Prom Fundraiser**

**Pop-up Café - Friday 28th April**

- Come along to the Quad on Friday 28th April at lunch time.
- We will be selling cakes and biscuits, as well as a variety of hot drinks.
  - There will also be a chance to win **LOADS of SWEETS** (Guess how many in the jar!)
- All money raised goes to the Year 11 Prom @ Dunston Hall.

Weds 3 May onwards - GCSE MFL oral exams

Tues 18 May - Year 10 Parents/Carers Evening

Thurs 29 June - Year 11 Prom

### **School website and Twitter:**

The [school website](#) is a useful source of information. Please also visit the Harleston Sancroft Academy [Twitter feed](#) for photos and updates.

**A Prayer** for [St George's day](#) - for the strength of faith in testing times:

God of hosts, who so kindled the flame of love  
in the heart of your servant George  
that he bore witness to the risen Lord  
by his life and by his death:  
give us the same faith and power of love  
that we who rejoice in his triumphs  
may come to share with him the fullness of the resurrection;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever.  
Amen.