



# St Benedict's Catholic College Newsletter Issue 13 - Friday 8th December 2023

## Message from the Principal

Dear parents, carers, students and friends

A huge thank you to Fr Mark Swires who celebrated Mass for the college yesterday when we assembled in the sports hall to mark Advent. Frequently during the season of Advent we are urged to 'be ready' or 'prepare', but what are we being asked to get ready for? We are of course getting ready to welcome Jesus on Christmas day, but we are also being asked to be ready to welcome Jesus into our lives every day. In assemblies this week, Mrs Verhofstadt and I have been asking students to apply Jesus' exhortation to help others in our daily lives, to care for those in need and to be welcoming and inclusive in our attitudes. We promoted our annual collection for Colchester

Foodbank and invited each student to bring just one item to donate to this very worthy cause and place it in the wheelie bin in our dining room. Long life milk, tinned meat or fish, tinned fruit, tinned custard, toilet rolls, deodorant, shampoo, small jars of coffee, biscuits or festive treats are all welcome donations.

There is lots to look forward to as the end of term approaches. We have Christmas lunches taking place on Tuesday and Thursday next week, our Foodbank collection finishes on Friday 15th, when students can wear a Christmas jumper or accessory with their college uniform in exchange for bringing in a foodbank donation and then our annual carol service on Monday 18th December at 6.00 pm - please do come along to what will certainly be a lovely opportunity to get in the Christmas spirit. We will also be drawing the winner of our beautiful felt Nativity set and stable which is being raffled to support the fantastic work of BCCS. Details about how to buy tickets are in the Chaplaincy section of this newsletter.

Wishing everyone associated with the college a blessed second Sunday of Advent,

Mrs J E Santinelli

Principal

## Chaplaincy

### Carol Service

The college carol service will be on Monday 18th December at 6.00 pm in the Manning Hall. If you would like to attend this wonderful and festive evening, please could you fill out the following form if you haven't done so already: <https://forms.office.com/e/b2iHD4V0i6>

### Nativity set raffle

To be in with a chance to win this beautiful hand-made Nativity figures set and wooden stable, please find the "crib raffle" section on ParentPay. Tickets are £2 each. If you do not have a ParentPay account or you are having trouble with ParentPay, please contact the college office. All money raised will go to support the incredible work of Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

### Reconciliation

Advent is a time of preparation and new beginnings, which means many Catholics take this opportunity to go to confession. As a result, there will be certain slots next week where students are invited to come out of a lesson to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If you are interested, please ask Mr Fusi or any of your RE teachers. Alternatively, confession is also available at your local parish church and the timings can be found below:

- St Mary Immaculate & The Holy Archangels - Saturday 9th December at 10.30 am
- Our Lady of Light & Saint Osyth - Saturday 9th December at 11.00 am
- St James the Less and St Helen - Saturdays after 9.30 am Mass (Priory Street) and after 5.00 pm Mass (Monkwick)
- St Teresa's, Lexden - Saturdays at 11.00 am

Mr Fusi



The poster features a crest on the left with a castle, a chalice, and a bird, with the motto 'ORA ET LABORA' below it. The main title 'NATIVITY SET' is in large green letters, followed by 'RAFFLE 2023' in red. A green holly branch separates the title from the payment information. The payment section includes a QR code with 'SCAN HERE!' below it, and the text 'FOR PAYMENT' and 'ENTER BEFORE 18TH DECEMBER' in red. Below the QR code, it says 'Or visit ParentPay.' and 'FOR A CHANCE TO WIN'. At the bottom, a photo of a nativity set in a wooden stable is framed by a red border with white snowflakes and green trees.

**NATIVITY SET**  
**RAFFLE 2023**

✕ **FOR PAYMENT** ✕

ENTER BEFORE  
**18TH**  
**DECEMBER**

**SCAN HERE!**

Or visit ParentPay.

FOR A CHANCE TO  
WIN





## Vomiting and Diarrhoea

If you have vomiting or diarrhoea, **you must remain home for 48 hours after symptoms clear.** Please notify the college each day of absence on **01206 516817** or emailing; [attendance@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk). Practise good hygiene by washing hands thoroughly with soap and warm water and drink plenty of fluids. If you are concerned contact NHS 111 or talk to your GP.

Help us  
help you


**NHS**

## Diarrhoea and vomiting?

There's no specific cure for stomach bugs such as norovirus  
Treat yourself at home while the virus runs its course




stay hydrated



take paracetamol



prevent spread



stay at home for two days  
after symptoms clear

## Year 9 Pathways

From Friday 8th December, year 9 students will have their second whole year group opportunity to register their interest in changing their Pathway subjects, depending on availability.

Students should fill in a digital form for which the link has already been emailed to them to their college email address.

It is important that students discuss Pathway changes with their current teacher, their form tutor, the teacher responsible for the subject they wish to move to, and their parents/carers. Students are required to confirm that they have done so in one of the sections of the form and will have to bring back a signed permission slip from their parent/carer by Friday 15th December.

The online form will close at 8.15 am on Friday 15th December to allow sufficient time for our students to reflect on their Pathway choices, revisit the GCSE Pathways support materials with their parents/carers and discuss with the relevant teacher for the subject they wish to move into about the requirements, challenges and benefits of studying their subject at GCSE level.

If the Pathway changes are possible, students will receive their new timetables on Monday 8th January. Alternatively, Mr McCourt will speak to the students concerned and together we will find a way forward.

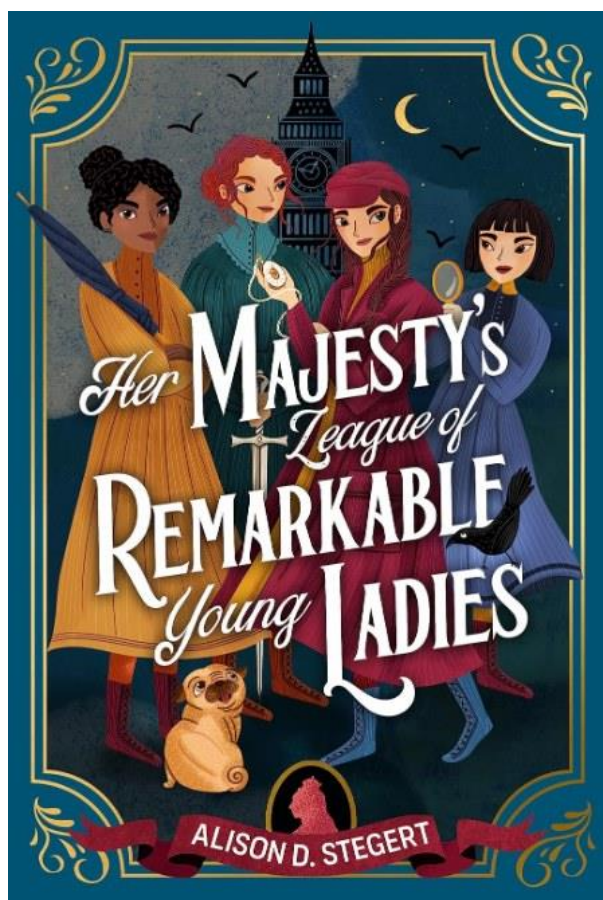
For more information on this process, please click [here](#)

Mr Cretu

Assistant Principal



## Book of the Week



1 - [\*Her Majesty's League of Remarkable Ladies\*, by Alison D. Stegert](#)

### **Her Majesty's League of Remarkable Ladies by Alison D. Stegert**

Plots, spies and inventors abound in an epic adventure set between London and Paris. Mischief is afoot, and Queen Victoria is not amused. Her stalker must be stopped. Forget the cavalry - this is a job for Her Majesty's League of Remarkable Young Ladies! The League's newest recruit is Winifred Weatherby, a feisty girl genius and gadget maker. Winnie's creations are remarkable, but is she clever enough to protect the Queen and achieve her own dream of winning the top prize in Paris for young inventors?

This is available from the college library.

Mrs Sullivan

Reader Leader

## Communications sent out this week


Carol Service - All years

Christmas Lunch update - Years 7, 9 and 11


## Catering Menu - Week B

Please ensure your child's ParentPay meal account is in credit. Any new deposits for the day must be made by 8.20 am in order for funds to clear in time for break.

For the full list of menu choices this week, please click on [here](#)



### Monday Week 2



<b><u>Main Meal</u></b>		
Chilli con carnie, rice & tortillas	£2.35	Wheat/gluten/milk/soya
Jacket potato & beans	£1.25	
add cheese	£1.05	Milk
<b><u>Veggie Option</u></b>		
Quorn chicken & savoury rice	£2.35	Egg

<b><u>Grab and Go</u></b> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Chicken goujon wrap</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.75</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Gluten</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Brie &amp; bacon panini</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.65</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Wheat/gluten/milk</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Cheese &amp; tomato pizza</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.25</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Wheat/gluten/milk</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Spicy potato wedges</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£0.75</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Cous cous &amp; veg tuk tuk</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.05</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Gluten</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Cold pesto, spinach &amp; tomato pasta pot</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.05</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Wheat/gluten</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Selection of sub rolls</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.65</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Allergens detailed on product</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Various small filled roll</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£0.75</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Allergens detailed on product</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Soup and bread roll*</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.50</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Wheat/gluten</td> </tr> </table> <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 5px;">*from November 23</p>	Chicken goujon wrap	£1.75	Gluten	Brie & bacon panini	£1.65	Wheat/gluten/milk	Cheese & tomato pizza	£1.25	Wheat/gluten/milk	Spicy potato wedges	£0.75		Cous cous & veg tuk tuk	£1.05	Gluten	Cold pesto, spinach & tomato pasta pot	£1.05	Wheat/gluten	Selection of sub rolls	£1.65	Allergens detailed on product	Various small filled roll	£0.75	Allergens detailed on product	Soup and bread roll*	£1.50	Wheat/gluten	<b><u>Salad bar</u></b> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Salad box</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Tuna</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Eggs (x2)</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Ham</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Cheese pot</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.05</td> </tr> </table> <b><u>Drinks</u></b> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Water</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£0.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Milk carton Various flavours</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£0.65</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Radnor fizz</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£0.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Radnor splash</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£0.50</td> </tr> </table>	Salad box	£1.05	Tuna	£1.05	Eggs (x2)	£1.05	Ham	£1.05	Cheese pot	£1.05	Water	£0.50	Milk carton Various flavours	£0.65	Radnor fizz	£0.70	Radnor splash	£0.50	<b><u>Snacks</u></b> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Granola pot</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.05</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Wheat/gluten/milk</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Yoghurt</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.00</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Milk</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Fruit pot</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.50</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Yum Yum</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£0.85</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Wheat/milk</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Doughnut</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£0.70</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Wheat</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Popcorn</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Proper Chips</td> <td style="text-align: right; padding: 5px;">£1.00</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Granola pot	£1.05	Wheat/gluten/milk	Yoghurt	£1.00	Milk	Fruit pot	£1.50		Yum Yum	£0.85	Wheat/milk	Doughnut	£0.70	Wheat	Popcorn	£1.00		Proper Chips	£1.00	
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## Tuesday Week 2



### Main Meal

Thai chicken & savoury rice	£2.35	Wheat/gluten/milk/soya
Jacket potato & beans	£1.25	
add cheese	£1.05	Milk

### Veggie Option

Spicy 5-bean chilli, rice & tortillas	£2.35	Egg
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### Grab and Go

Burger/Cheeseburger	£1.75	Gluten
Caribbean beef panini	£1.65	Wheat/gluten/milk
Pepperoni pizza	£1.25	Wheat/gluten/milk
Roast potato pot	£0.75	
Arrabiatta pasta pot	£1.05	Wheat/gluten
Tomato & spinach pasta	£1.05	Wheat/gluten
Selection of sub rolls	£1.65	Allergens detailed on product
Various small filled roll	£0.75	Allergens detailed on product
Soup and bread roll*	£1.50	Wheat/gluten
* Tomato or Sweet potato & butternut (*from November 23)		

### Salad bar

Salad box	£1.05	
Tuna	£1.05	Fish/milk/egg
Eggs (x2)	£1.05	Egg
Ham	£1.05	Sulphates
Cheese pot	£1.05	Milk
<b>Drinks</b>		
Water	£0.50	
Milk carton	£0.65	Milk
Various flavours		
Radnor fizz	£0.70	
Radnor splash	£0.50	

### Snacks

Granola pot	£1.05	Wheat/gluten/milk
Yoghurt	£1.00	Milk
Fruit pot	£1.50	
Yum Yum	£0.85	Wheat/milk
Doughnut	£0.70	Wheat
Popcorn	£1.00	
Proper Chips	£1.00	



## Wednesday Week 2



### Main Meal

Mini toads, mash, veg & gravy	£2.35	Gluten/milk
Jacket potato & beans	£1.25	
add cheese	£1.05	Allergens detailed on product

### Veggie Option

Vegetarian mini toads, mash, veg & gravy	£2.35	Gluten/milk
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### Grab and Go

Chicken goujon wraps	£1.75	Wheat/gluten
Pulled pork panini	£1.65	Wheat/gluten/milk
Pepperoni pizza	£1.25	Wheat/gluten/milk
Potato pots	£0.75	
Steak Slice	£1.55	Wheat/gluten
Tomato & spinach pasta	£1.05	Wheat/gluten
Selection of sub rolls	£1.65	Allergens detailed on product
Various small filled rolls	£0.75	Allergens detailed on product
Soup and bread roll*	£1.50	Wheat/gluten
* Tomato or Sweet potato & butternut (*from November 23)		

### Salad bar

Salad box	£1.05	
Tuna	£1.05	Fish/milk/egg
Eggs (x2)	£1.05	Egg
Ham	£1.05	Sulphates
Cheese pot	£1.05	Milk
<b>Drinks</b>		
Water	£0.50	
Milk carton	£0.65	Milk
Various flavours		
Radnor fizz	£0.70	
Radnor splash	£0.50	

### Snacks

Granola pot	£1.05	Wheat/gluten/milk
Yoghurt	£1.00	Milk
Fruit pot	£1.50	
Yum Yum	£0.85	Wheat/milk
Doughnut	£0.70	Wheat
Popcorn	£1.00	
Proper Chips	£1.00	







## Thursday Week 2



### Main Meal

Beef chow mein & prawn crackers	£2.35	Wheat/gluten/milk/soya
Jacket potato & beans	£1.25	
add cheese	£1.05	Milk

### Veggie Option

Vegetable noodles and crackers	£2.35	Gluten
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### Grab and Go

Spicy chicken fajita	£1.60	Wheat/gluten
Bacon & egg panini	£1.65	Wheat/gluten/milk
Pepperoni pizza	£1.25	Wheat/gluten/milk
Paprika spicy wedges	£0.75	
Tomato & spinach pasta	£1.05	Wheat/gluten
Cold pesto, spinach & tomato pasta pot	£1.05	Wheat/gluten
Selection of sub rolls	£1.65	Allergens detailed on product
Small filled roll	£0.75	Allergens detailed on product
Soup and bread roll*	£1.50	Wheat/gluten
Tomato or Sweet potato & butternut (*from November 23)		

### Salad bar

Salad box	£1.05	
Tuna	£1.05	Fish/milk/egg
Eggs (x2)	£1.05	Egg
Ham	£1.05	Sulphates
Cheese pot	£1.05	Milk
<b>Drinks</b>		
Water	£0.50	
Milk carton Various flavours	£0.65	Milk
Radnor fizz	£0.70	
Radnor splash	£0.50	

### Snacks

Granola pot	£1.05	Wheat/gluten/milk
Yoghurt	£1.00	Milk
Fruit pot	£1.50	
Yum Yum	£0.85	Wheat/milk
Doughnut	£0.70	Wheat
Popcorn	£1.00	
Proper Chips	£1.00	



## Friday Week 2



### Main Meal

Scampi popcorn, chips and beans	£2.35	Wheat/gluten/fish
Jacket potato & beans	£1.25	
add cheese	£1.05	Milk

### Veggie Option

Vegetable burger and chips	£2.35	Gluten
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### Grab and Go

Mac cheese tuk tuk	£1.05	Wheat/gluten/milk
Mozzarella & tomato panini	£1.65	Wheat/gluten/milk
Cheese & tomato pizza	£1.25	Wheat/gluten/milk
Cheese & ham toastie	£1.05	Wheat/gluten/milk
Cheese bites & salad	£1.65	Milk
Nachos & salsa	£0.65	
Nachos & guacamole	£1.00	
Chips	£1.00	
Selection of sub rolls	£1.65	Allergens detailed on product
Small filled roll	£0.75	Allergens detailed on product
Soup and bread roll*	£1.50	Wheat/gluten
Tomato or Sweet potato & butternut (*from November 23)		

### Salad bar

Salad box	£1.05	
Tuna	£1.05	Fish/milk/egg
Eggs (x2)	£1.05	Egg
Ham	£1.05	Sulphates
Cheese pot	£1.05	Milk
<b>Drinks</b>		
Water	£0.50	
Milk carton Various flavours	£0.65	Milk
Radnor fizz	£0.70	
Radnor splash	£0.50	

### Snacks

Granola pot	£1.05	Wheat/gluten/milk
Yoghurt	£1.00	Milk
Fruit pot	£1.50	
Yum Yum	£0.85	Wheat/milk
Doughnut	£0.70	Wheat
Popcorn	£1.00	
Proper Chips	£1.00	



## Instagram Highlights











You can follow our Instagram link [here](#)

## Numeracy Challenge

Well done and thanks for your hard work. This week's 3 respect points go to Ana and Aurora of 9N. Congratulations!

Mr Asamoah

Teacher of maths and Numeracy Coordinator

# A display of work done by Ana and Aurora below in respective order

## WEEK 33 SESSION 1 - Answer as many questions as you can in 5 mins

MENTAL STRATEGIES -  
do these in your head

Q	Question	Answer
1	$8 + \square = 20$	12 ✓
2	Double 20	40 ✓
3	$173 + 10 = \square$	183 ✓
4	$99 - 70 = \square$	29 ✓
5	$7 - 3 + \square$	4 ✓
6	$102 = 90 + \square$	12 ✓
7	$62 + 15 = 62 + 8 + \square$	7 ✓
8	$37 - 9 = 37 - 7 - \square$	2 ✓
9	$\square \times 3 = 3 + 3 + 3$	3 ✓
10	What time is shown on the clock?	2:20 pm ✓
Total out of 10		10

TIMESTABLES -  
do these in your head

Q	Question	Answer
1	$24 \div 6 = \square$	4 ✓
2	$\square \div 6 = 7$	42 ✓
3	$21 \div \square = 3$	7 ✓
4	$24 \div \square = 4$	6 ✓
5	$5 \times \square = 10$	2 ✓
6	$5 \times 10 = \square$	50 ✓
7	$20 \div \square = 10$	2 ✓
8	$\square \times 10 = 50$	5 ✓
9	$10 \times \square = 90$	9 ✓
10	$5 \times \square = 35$	7 ✓
Total out of 10		10



KEY SKILLS - you may use written calculations for these questions

Q	Question	Answer
1	$411 + 9683$	10094 ✓
2	$2^2 + 4 \times 4$	20 ✓
3	Write 950546 in words. Use the opposite page for your answer	
4	$50 - 8.98$	41.02 ✓
5	Simplify $14/70$	$1/5$ ✓
6	Which is the highest number, -10 or -9?	-9 ✓
7	Value of the dot 	24 ✓
8	Is 29 a multiple of 6?	10 ✓
9	What is the value of £1?	21 ✓
10	$3/8 = \square/64$	24 ✓
Total out of 10		10

What's your **NINJA** Score?  
Fill in your scores in the boxes and calculate it now!

MENTAL STRATEGIES: 10  
TIMESTABLES: 10  
KEY SKILLS: 10 +

MY **NINJA** BELT: BLACK  
MY **NINJA** SCORE: 30

## WEEK 33 SESSION 1 - Answer as many questions as you can in 5 mins

MENTAL STRATEGIES -  
do these in your head

Q	Question	Answer
1	$8 + \square = 20$	12 ✓
2	Double 20	40 ✓
3	$173 + 10 = \square$	183 ✓
4	$99 - 70 = \square$	29 ✓
5	$7 - 3 + \square$	4 ✓
6	$102 = 90 + \square$	12 ✓
7	$62 + 15 = 62 + 8 + \square$	7 ✓
8	$37 - 9 = 37 - 7 - \square$	2 ✓
9	$\square \times 3 = 3 + 3 + 3$	3 ✓
10	What time is shown on the clock?	2:25 pm ✓
Total out of 10		10

TIMESTABLES -  
do these in your head

Q	Question	Answer
1	$24 \div 6 = \square$	4 ✓
2	$\square \div 6 = 7$	42 ✓
3	$21 \div \square = 3$	7 ✓
4	$24 \div \square = 4$	6 ✓
5	$5 \times \square = 10$	2 ✓
6	$5 \times 10 = \square$	50 ✓
7	$20 \div \square = 10$	2 ✓
8	$\square \times 10 = 50$	5 ✓
9	$10 \times \square = 90$	9 ✓
10	$5 \times \square = 35$	7 ✓
Total out of 10		10



KEY SKILLS - you may use written calculations for these questions

Q	Question	Answer
1	$411 + 9683$	10094 ✓
2	$2^2 + 4 \times 4$	20 ✓
3	Write 950546 in words. Use the opposite page for your answer	
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5	Simplify $14/70$	$1/5$ ✓
6	Which is the highest number, -10 or -9?	-9 ✓
7	Value of the dot 	24 ✓
8	Is 29 a multiple of 6?	10 ✓
9	What is the value of £1?	10 ✓
10	$3/8 = \square/64$	24/64 ✓
Total out of 10		10

What's your **NINJA** Score?  
Fill in your scores in the boxes and calculate it now!

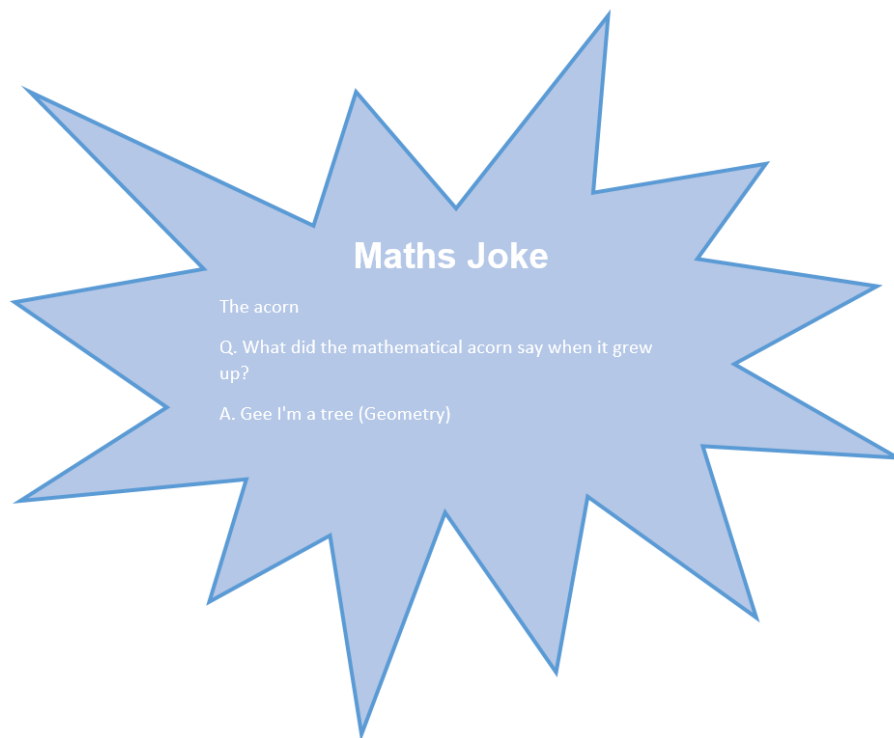
MENTAL STRATEGIES: 10  
TIMESTABLES: 10  
KEY SKILLS: 10 +

MY **NINJA** BELT:   
MY **NINJA** SCORE: 30

Full Leader board as of Thursday morning 06<sup>th</sup> December 2023 below

<b><u>Leaderboard</u></b>			
<b>7S</b>	<b>1193</b>	<b>9S</b>	<b>707</b>
<b>7T</b>	<b>1211</b>	<b>9T</b>	<b>1406</b>
<b>7B</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>9B</b>	<b>718</b>
<b>7E</b>	<b>1216</b>	<b>9E</b>	<b>1411</b>
<b>7N</b>	<b>1182</b>	<b>9N</b>	<b>1148</b>
<b>7D</b>	<b>1202</b>	<b>9D</b>	<b>1196</b>
<b>8S</b>	<b>1290</b>	<b>10S</b>	<b>283</b>
<b>8T</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>10T</b>	<b>593</b>
<b>8B</b>	<b>808</b>	<b>10B</b>	<b>519</b>
<b>8E</b>	<b>1231</b>	<b>10E</b>	<b>244</b>
<b>8N</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>10N</b>	<b>586</b>
<b>8D</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>10D</b>	<b>591</b>





## Week Commencing 11th December 2023 - Week B

*We are occasionally asked to promote activities/clubs etc. from local groups. Such activities are not quality assured by the college and parent/carers should be aware of the need to reassure themselves of the quality and safety of the services on offer, for example by visiting, looking at information reports etc.*

## Every Child Deserves the Magic of Christmas

As families decorate their tree and prepare for Father Christmas to visit, it's hard to believe there are children of all ages across Essex who have never experienced Christmas before. Foster carers Sheila and her husband are bringing the magic of Christmas to vulnerable children in care. [Watch her video](#) to hear her heart-warming story of how they are restoring the childhood magic of Christmas time.

We carefully match children to your family and support you every step of the way. Could you consider fostering and transform a child's life?

Visit [www.essex.gov.uk/foster](http://www.essex.gov.uk/foster) or call 0800 801 530 to find out more.



What if you've never had a Christmas?