

BartholoNews



23 July 2013

www.stbarts.co.uk

Issue No: 695



END OF TERM

Term ends today, Tuesday 23 July, at 12.30pm.

As I reflect on the year, 2012-2013 has seen a wealth of achievements and positive developments at St Bart's.

Our interim analysis from Ofsted confirmed that high standards had been maintained in 2012. Building on these, staff and students have worked, in a very focussed way, to address any areas of underachievement this year. We trust that our students will gain well deserved success in August 2013.

Learning Environment

Developments to the learning environment in the past year have included the completion of the Fives Courts, the opening of the Nature Reserve and the commencement of the Enhancement Project. We have enjoyed excellent collaboration with Berkshire Maestros, their programme and provision providing excellent opportunities for students and the local community to participate in music making. Thanks to careful management of school funds and the generosity of Maestros, we now have the benefit of a new grand piano in the Hall.

Parents' Association

The generous donations from the Parents' Association and our Foundation governors have made possible the purchase of tiered seating for the Hall.

International School

Our International School status has been further strengthened through 'Partner Ghana' and we look forward to staff and students visiting our partner school in the next academic year.

Celebration of Achievements

Each week, we have been able to celebrate individual and team achievements and share the tremendous wealth of extra curricular activity, exchanges and visits which have taken place, at our whole school assembly and through BartholoNews.

New Headteacher

As we reach the end of term, our governors have now completed the recruitment process for the headteacher post for January 2014 with the appointment of Ms Julia Mortimore. We shall look forward to welcoming her to our school.



Retirements

The summer term will see the retirement of four long serving members of the teaching staff, Mr Hart, Mr Wade, Mr Lockwood and Mrs Challen.

Mr Hart is retiring after 44 years' service at St Bart's. In this time, he has made a truly excellent and exceptional contribution to the school. Mr Hart joined the staff as a PE teacher in 1969. Immediately, his talents as a gifted PE teacher, with particular strengths in rugby and hockey, were recognised, just as his flair for English and drama was appreciated. Thanks to Mr Hart's unflinching commitment, in so many areas of school life, teams have met



with success, staff have been supported, whilst charity fundraising has reached record levels. Mr Hart served as Curnock House Head from 1983 until 2006. Countless students and their families have Mr Hart to be grateful to, for the care, support and inspiration he has provided. It is a testament to his professionalism, his commitment to students and his love of teaching that Mr Hart will be retiring from the PE 'classroom' winning the same respect that was his due when he joined the profession.

Mr Wade joined St Bart's in 1979 as a very talented chemistry teacher. Over the years, his passion and enthusiasm for his subject have never waned; he has continued to inspire countless students to take up the subject at a level with many going on to university. Mr Wade's chemistry experiments are truly memorable, with balloons, coloured liquids, small explosions all featuring in his exceptional open evening and chemistry day sessions. Thanks to Mr Wade, chemistry really does have the 'magic moments'.

As Head of Combined Science from 1988, Head of Chemistry from 1993 and Head of Faculty from 1996 until 2012, Mr Wade has continued to promote the sciences and it is fitting that the results at GCSE in 2012 were amongst the strongest in the school.

Mr Wade's commitment and contribution to Evers House has been outstanding, not only as a very caring and effective tutor but in his support for charity fund raising and House evenings.

Mr Wade's timetabling skills within science are now being further developed and we are grateful for his contribution to the work of the school timetabling team.

Mr Lockwood is retiring after 33 years. Mr Lockwood was appointed to St Bart's in 1980 to teach science. He was promoted after two years' service to have oversight of CSE science. Mr Lockwood became Acting Head of Biology in 1988 and Head of Biology a year later. An all round scientist, Mr Lockwood has also contributed to Physics teaching. He is a gifted teacher who has inspired students with his passion for the subject, not only in lessons but through leading biology field trips and expeditions. Thanks to

Mr Lockwood's enthusiasm for bringing learning to life outside the classroom, students have had opportunities to engage in expeditions in countries as far afield as Venezuela and Borneo.

Mr Lockwood's contribution to the wider life of the school has included leading the Navy section of the Combined Cadet Force.

Mr Lockwood's capability and experience led to his being invited to contribute to the West Berks Training Partnership management team. In this capacity, he has taken a lead in the local teaching training of Graduate Training Programme (GTP) students. He is widely respected for the contribution he has made to the profession in this capacity.

It is fitting that in his last year of teaching, Mr Lockwood's contribution to science has been recognised in his being elected as a Fellow of the Society of Biology.

Mrs Challen was appointed to teach French in 1991 but has gone on, not only to teach French and Spanish, but to be Head of Spanish since 2002.

Mrs Challen's unfailing dedication and conscientious approach have been invaluable, not only in her teaching, but in her leadership of the Spanish exchange programme which has flourished in recent years.

It is a tribute to her hard work that the Spanish results at GCSE last year were particularly strong and that numbers opting to take languages post 16 have risen.

Appointed as Year Team Leader, Mrs Challen made a very positive and significant contribution to the personal development programme in the Sixth Form.

Mrs Challen's commitment, meticulous attention to detail and hard work in modern foreign languages have been remarkable. She will be greatly missed by colleagues and students and remembered by the many parents who have appreciated the great care she has given to students on the exchange programme. To each member of staff who is retiring this summer, we wish you a very long, happy and fulfilling retirement. You will be greatly missed.

Farewells

We have a number of other staff who will be leaving St Bart's this summer. From geography, Miss Burton will be moving to a post in Switzerland. Mrs Ember leaves us to teach physics elsewhere. Miss Shayler in the English faculty, Mr Gibbons in the PE department and Miss Jones in dance, will leave us to take up promoted posts as heads of departments in other schools. We say farewell to Mr Karley and Mr Edwards from humanities and wish them well as they go on to other posts. Mr Green who has worked in humanities and as an Assistant Teacher is leaving to teach history. Miss Day and Mrs Restivo in personalised learning will be leaving us to further their studies. Mr Hodgson will be leaving the science technician team to embark on the post graduate certificate of education in order to become a teacher. Mr Peacock who has worked in maths, will be moving to a new post.

We are grateful to Theo Durrant and Mark Stopher, for their support in media this year.

To all staff and students leaving St Bart's this summer- thank you for the contributions you have made to the school. Every best wish for the future.

We have been fortunate to enjoy another busy and highly productive school year. We look forward to the summer results and the autumn term ahead. Thank you to all who have supported the school and helped to make this year a success.

Mrs C I Haddrell, Headteacher



START OF AUTUMN TERM

Monday 2 September and Tuesday 3 September are staff training and development days.

For students in Years 12 and 13 requiring subject advice and guidance, this is available on Tuesday 3 September in the Sixth Form Area from 10.30am to 12 noon.

Term begins for all students on Wednesday 4 September with times as follows:-

Year 12 new to St Bart's report to the Sixth Form Area at 11.00am

Year 7 report to the Hall at 11.15am

Years 8 – 13 report to tutor rooms at 12.15pm



FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Why not boost your language skills, make new friends and get to know the country better by taking part in an exchange next academic year?

The modern languages faculty is running the following exchanges next academic year. They are open to all who will be in Year 9 to Year 13 and studying the language of the country visited, with the exception of the Chinese exchange, where you do not have to be studying Chinese.

Letters are available now for the French and Spanish exchanges and will be available in September for the German and Chinese exchanges. Students can collect letters from their language teachers or from the modern languages office.

If as a parent you would like more information please email the following staff for details:

French exchange : mcollinson@stbarts.co.uk

Spanish exchange : acasa@stbarts.co.uk

German exchange : zjohnson@stbarts.co.uk

Chinese exchange : mwood@stbarts.co.uk

Proposed dates :

French : French come to England :

11 December 2013 – 18 December 2013

St Bart's go to France : 26 January 2014 - 3 February 2014

Spanish: St Bart's go to Spain : 4 February – 11 February 2014

Spanish come to England : end June – beginning July 2014

German : St. Bart's go to Germany :

28 January – 4 February 2014

Germans come to England :

19/20 June – 26/ 27 June 2014

Chinese: St Bart's go to China :

29 March – 10 April 2014

Chinese come to England : summer term 2014
(dates to be confirmed)



ENGLISH/GERMAN EXCHANGE 2013

Finally we are in England! One week in the United Kingdom. What will happen? What will we do? Will we cope with the different culture and the foreign family? One week with many surprises and experiences.

On 4 July 2013, 46 students and three teachers from *Otto-Hahn-Gymnasium Monheim* are waiting for the coach to get to the airport of Cologne. After a couple of hours, some stress with passports and the control of hand luggage, students and teachers are on the plane to Heathrow - safely. Already at that point everybody asks themselves what they will do in their family and if they will understand each other. Two hours later there is an exciting atmosphere when meeting the English exchange partners and the rest of their families in front of *St Bartholomew's School*; everybody is looking forward to spending the next days in England.



The second day started with a great trip to **Winchester**. We started with a guided tour led by a very nice lady who told us everything about the history of the town. After this we were allowed to go shopping in the nice old part of the town. For the rest of the day we got to spend even more time with our host families and get to know each other better.

At the weekend everybody did different activities with their exchange partners and some of the German friends – a family trip to the English coast, a shopping trip to London, a barbecue in the garden, going to Newbury's public swimming pool.

On Monday, all German students were in Windsor to see the impressive **Windsor Castle**.



Everybody got an audio guide to be able to listen to information about the different rooms in the castle. After this - and a few funny photos with the guard - we could go shopping and buy some souvenirs for friends and family back home. The rest of the day we spent in our host families.



Tuesday was the big day! Finally we went to **London**, the amazing capital of England. First, we drove across *Tower Bridge* and saw the *Tower of London*. After this we went to the *Globe Theatre* to listen to a funny actor guide and watch some rehearsal on stage of one of Shakespeare's



Ben and Westminster Abbey. Of course, we had a look at *Buckingham Palace* after this and strolled through the attractive St. James's Park on the way to the Palace. The trip ended with an hour of free time on *Oxford Street* before the coach brought us back to St Bart's.

fantastic works. Then, after crossing the *River Thames* again across *Millennium Bridge*, we went along the river to *The Houses of Parliament*, *Big*



“Wednesday will be so boring!”, “I will hate Wednesday!” These were the most common predictions of the German students before we spent a day in lessons at **St Bart's**. Nobody wanted to be lost in English school lessons

but at the end of the school day everyone said that it was way more interesting than expected and everyone really had the chance to speak a lot in the foreign language. The rest of the day the Germans did activities with their exchange partners.



On Thursday, the final full day of our exchange, we went on our last trip - to **Oxford** this time. First, we could spend some free time until we visited **Oxford Castle** where we had a guided tour up the tower and down into the underground parts of the castle – scary! Then the guide showed us the jails before we strolled through the rest of Oxford and visited the location of some scenes from the *Harry Potter* films at *Christ Church College*. After a few more minutes of free time, we left Oxford and spent one last day in our host families.

Our last day started with a breakfast with the English exchange partners in St Bart's school canteen. After the English partners had gone to their lessons for two more hours, the German students gave feedback on the complete exchange to their German teachers – on what was great and what might be improved for the next years. Then all of the English partners already came to say goodbye to us and we boarded the coach for Heathrow.



It was a great time with you. We all hope that we'll see each other again. It was a really great experience for all of us!

Thank you, England. Thank you, Newbury. Thanks to all of you.

Yannic Müller, Year 9, OHG

ABLE AND GIFTED LINGUISTS AFTERNOON

On the afternoon of 11 July 45 Year 10 students were invited to join the MFL department for an Able and Gifted Linguist afternoon. Students had been selected by their teachers and invitations had gone out in advance. The aim of the afternoon was to enable students to find out about how they could use their languages in their future careers and how useful an A Level or degree level language could be to them.

The session started with a lunch where students were treated to French, German, Spanish and Arabic snacks. This was then followed by five different talks by local business people who have used, or are currently using, languages in their career and the opportunities they feel have opened up to them due to their linguistic abilities. The personal stories really added an extra element of interest for the students and showed the range of jobs in which languages can be useful.



The final part of the afternoon involved students having a taster session in a completely new language. This enabled them to see how the language skills they have already developed can help them to understand a new language quicker.

Comments from the students about the afternoon included:

“I didn't realise how many jobs could use languages”

“It has given me an idea of career options”

“I see how beneficial they can be”

“Before I didn't even consider it but now I think I'll study a language for A Level”

“I didn't know having a language was liked so much by employers”



EVERS HOUSE NEWS

What a scorching end to the school year! Not only has the temperature been reaching new highs recently, but Evers students have also been hitting the heights with their achievements across the school. We are very proud of all of our students who have worked so hard this year. In our last House assembly, Junior House Colours were awarded to Zack Dove, Rachel Tominey and Charlotte Bullock (all 10E2). Many of our Year 10 students helped out at the Evers stall at the PA Fete, and we are very grateful for their support. Thank you!

Awards!

Congratulations to the following students on their achievement:

Bronze Awards:

Davina Emetulu (7E1)

Megan Bailey, Sarah Clarke, Alex Earle, Jack Graham, Anna Kersley, Beth Mitchell, Lucy Morris, Elsa Oakes, Niamh Watson, Thomas Williams (7E1)

Skye Harkness, Weronika Wiegulus (8E1)

Theo Canes (9E2)

Silver Awards:

Georgia Davenport, Eleanor Davis, Rhian Stanton, Dhanya Thomas, Michelle Wilmer (8E1)

Charlie Knight, Shemar Pettet (9E1)

Lyndon Darling, Oliver Evans, Peter Guille, Becca Wilshaw (9E2)

Bayleigh Angel, Ollie Pizzey (9E3)

Gold Awards:

Fergus Bailey, Grady Beckett, Jamie Brown, Thomas Carr, Oliver Davenport, Stan Dooley, Michael Hanafin, Izabela Kapelewska, Abigail Lee, Jack McDonald, Leoni Morris, Angela Patrone, Rosie Stanton, Adam Taylor, Divya Thomas, Beth Williams-Moss, Michael van der Zwaluw (9E1)

James Glen, Henry Hutchins, Victoria Knights (9E2)

Eden Hemphill, Imogen Jones, Iona Samaraweera, Ciara Wilton (9E3)

MENCAP

We were recently visited by Zoe Dobson and her team from West Berkshire MENCAP – our local House charity. Zoe gave a presentation about volunteering opportunities at MENCAP to our students (some of whom already volunteer there). If you would like to get involved this summer, and you are over 14 years of age, please contact Zoe on 01635 569875 or

childrenso@WestBerkshireMencap.org.

Farewells

After 34 years of service to the school and to Evers House (and over 60 years of association to Evers), we said a fond farewell to Mr Wade as he retires. Mr Wade, currently co-tutor of 8E1, is a teacher and tutor whom the students know they can rely on and trust, and his support of so many House activities over the years has been unstinting – in particular, House Evenings would not have been as successful as they have been without the tremendous work backstage that Mr Wade has done. Thank you, and our best wishes for a long and happy retirement!

We would like to thank all Evers students and their families for their tremendous hard work and support this year – and we wish everyone a happy and restful summer. We look forward to seeing you all in September!

Mr Rose, Ms Evans and Mrs Willcox



CHINESE CLASSES' MEAL

Last month, the extra-curricular Chinese classes celebrated the end of another successful year with a meal at Chenz Chinese restaurant in Newbury. Students tried a wide range of dishes, including Beijing roast duck, beef with ginger and spring onions, and fried tofu. All the food was washed down with as much Chinese tea as we could drink. Everyone ate with chopsticks, some more successfully than others, but no one went hungry!

Mrs Wood



CHINESE LESSONS

Any student wishing to start Chinese lessons in September should collect a letter from the modern languages office. Classes take place on Thursdays after school. Those currently learning Chinese will be automatically re-enrolled in September, unless they have notified Mrs Wood to the contrary. Further details can also be obtained by email:

mwood@stbarts.co.uk



ADVICE AFTER EXAM RESULTS

The A Level results date is 15 August and GCSE results date is 22 August. Mr Robbins, Head of Sixth Form, and other members of staff, will be available to offer advice and support on the following days:

A2 Results and UCAS

15 August 10am – 2pm

16 August 10am – 2pm

GCSE and Sixth Form Options

22 August 10am – 1pm

23 August 10am – 2pm

The Sixth Form office will be open during these times. This will enable appointments to be made by ringing 01635 576368 (Sixth Form Office) or emailing sixthform@stbarts.co.uk



ONWARD AND UPWARDS

News has reached St Bart's about the success of former students.

Rebecca Hunter has finished her final year at Fitzwilliam College, University of Cambridge with a First Class result in Politics, Psychology and Sociology, Part IIB.

Also, David Clemo has graduated from The University of Warwick with an Upper Second Class with Honours in Biomedical Science.



DIARY DATES

- Tues 10 Sep Y12 Information Evening for Parents, Hall 7pm
- Thurs 12 Sep Y7 Parents' Information Evening: How to support your child with KS3 courses and meet Parents' Association, Hall 7pm
- Fri 13 Sep Y7/8 Davis Charity Disco, Hall 7-9pm
- Wed 18 Sep Parents' Association, AGM R1/R2, 7pm

OLD LADY DISCOVERED IN OFFICE CUPBOARD

Dr Fitter was excited to discover that Mrs Tyson had an Old Lady in the cupboard of her office. Unfortunately, it was dead!



The Old Lady moth (*Mormo Maura*) is a large brown moth which is not often seen. We have added it to the growing list of moths that we have seen on the school site through moth club.

TERM DATES AND INSET DAYS - 2013-2014

TERM DATES 2013-14	
Term 1	Wednesday 4 September 2013 – Thursday 24 October 2013
Autumn Half Term	Friday 25 October 2013 – Friday 1 November 2013
Term 2	Monday 4 November 2013 – Friday 20 December 2013
Christmas Holiday	Monday 23 December 2013 – Friday 3 January 2014
Term 3	Monday 6 January 2014 – Friday 14 February 2014
Spring Half Term	Monday 17 February 2014 – Friday 21 February 2014
Term 4	Monday 24 February 2014 – Friday 4 April 2014
Easter Holiday	Monday 7 April 2014 – Tuesday 22 April 2014
Term 5	Wednesday 23 April 2014 – Friday 23 May 2014
Summer Half Term	Monday 26 May 2014 – Friday 30 May 2014
Term 6	Monday 2 June 2014 – Tuesday 22 July 2014

INSET DAYS
Monday 2 September 2013
Tuesday 3 September 2013
Friday 25 October 2013
Tuesday 4 February 2014
Tuesday 22 April 2014