

BartholoNews



14 January 2014

www.stbarts.co.uk

Issue No: 709



NEW YEAR MESSAGE

I hope that you have enjoyed a refreshing and peaceful Christmas and New Year and that students have returned to school prepared and looking forward to achieving more this term.

I am delighted to be taking on the responsibility for St Bart's. It is a real privilege to be entrusted with the leadership of such a successful and well regarded school, and I look forward to taking it on to greater success in an ever changing educational environment.

My delayed return from New York, which now seems to be local news, has certainly not stopped the term starting with earnest, and we are already celebrating the success of our Year 11 students in their November examinations. Over 80% of the students gained an A* - C grade, which is excellent and our congratulations go to all of them.

Over the next few weeks my priority is to get to know the school and its community, to understand its strengths and weaknesses. As such, I will be meeting with students, staff and governors to hear what they have to say and learn from their knowledge. I will also be visiting a lot of lessons, so please let me hear of your views, as I value everyone's opinions.

I am also looking forward to working with you, the parents. You have entrusted us with the safety, happiness, academic and social success of your children and it is important that we work in partnership to ensure that they

reach their true potential, wherever their talent lies. I hope to meet you at one of the various evening events the school organises over the rest of this year.

As I have informed all students in assembly last week, learning is at the heart of all we do and nothing must get in the way of this. Every child only gets one chance and it is important that they get it right; hence we ensure they all have high aspirations and work hard to achieve these. To promote your child's success and achieve this may I ask that you:

- Ensure your child comes to school appropriately dressed and equipped to work and with the right attitude towards learning.
- Ensure your child attends at all times. At all the schools I have worked in I have been struck by the strength of the connection between students' attendance and their attainment. Students with 100% attendance are almost always among the highest achievers; students with attendance below 97% often find it difficult to keep up. Clearly children are sometimes too ill to come to school; however those that do struggle in usually outperform those that do not.
- Thirdly, there really is substitute for hard work. Students who routinely complete their homework and who are in the habit of independent study always do well, so please support and encourage this.

Continued on page 2



This term we welcome a number of new staff.
 Mr Keith Breakspear, Minibus Driver
 Mrs Samantha Clover, Technician Science
 Mr Brian Hughes, Teacher of Art
 Mrs Tracey Jones, Teacher of Art
 Mr Andrew Mitchell, Head of Film Studies
 Mrs Catherine Robinson, Teaching Assistant
 Mr Edgar Weekes, Teaching Assistant Maths

Finally, I am very excited at the prospect of the coming terms and may I thank you in advance for your support in ensuring students here at St Bart's secure their true potential.

Ms J A Mortimore, Headteacher

NOTICE OF PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

The Governing Body of St Bartholomew's School has a vacancy for a Parent Governor. Nominations are invited from parents of St Bartholomew's students to stand for election to these positions. This is an opportunity to participate in the governance of the school and to learn how it works from the inside.

If you are interested in becoming a School Governor and would like to discuss this further, please email me (hsutherland@stbarts.co.uk) or leave your details with Reception (01635 521255) and I will contact you.

Should you wish to enter a nomination please read the declaration available in the Governors' section of the School's website, complete and ensure that you return the nomination form (also available on the website) to me, in school, by 4 pm on Tuesday 21st January, 2014. Please contact Reception should you require a paper copy of the relevant forms.

Please be aware that notice of election is being sent with BartholoNews today.

Mrs H Sutherland

Clerk to the Governors and Returning Officer

YEAR 12 AND YEAR 13 PRACTICE EXAMS 2014

Tue 14 Jan	A2 Practice Exams
Wed 15 Jan	A2 Practice Exams
Thurs 16 Jan	AS Practice Exams
Fri 17 Jan	AS Practice Exams



YEAR 7

Introducing

THE FAMILY ENTERPRISE EXPERIENCE 2014

Bring a parent, an aunt or uncle, or a grandparent ... along to a morning of Family Enterprise at St Bart's



**Saturday 8 February OR
 Saturday 1 March OR
 Saturday 8 March**
10am to 1pm in the Robinson Rooms
 Places limited!

(one family adult per student please)

Fun Challenges & Games

Will your family team be the best?

How do I apply?

Pick up a letter to take home from

Mrs Gibbs in E130 or, visit Enterprise on OpenHive





MFL KARAOKE COMPETITION

The end of the Christmas term saw the final of the year's Modern Languages Karaoke Competition. The number of entries was significantly up on last year, and so the final was held over two Activity Time slots to allow as many students as possible to perform.

Songs were sung in French, German, Spanish and Chinese and the overall standard was also much higher than 12 months ago, which made for a close competition and a tricky decision for the judge, Mr Clive Grant, Head of Expressive Arts.

It was lovely to see students from every year group represented in the final, as well as a couple of members of staff who also sang.

Songs given the St Bart's treatment ranged from French children's songs to ABBA hits sung in German, to Mandopop, rap and standards such as 'Feliz Navidad' and 'Padam Padam'. In total over 400 students were involved in submitting performances, of whom just under 200 performed in the final.

This year's winners were:

Best solo performance – Emily Carr 8E2 who sang 'On s'attache'

Best group performance - 8T Spanish S, directed by Mrs Johnson with their version of 'Call me maybe'.

Many thanks to all who entered the competition and to members of staff who helped train classes and assisted on the day.

Mrs M Wood



PA DISCO Years 7/8

**Friday 24 January 2014
7pm – 9pm, Hall**

**£3 on the door
Refreshments available for sale**

RAF NEWS

A few RAF cadets went flying at 612 VGS at RAF Abingdon in November 2013. Cadets are flown in a small two seater plane with an RAF trained pilot who explains and demonstrates the use of the controls before the cadet takes control of the aircraft. It was, as always, a fantastic day out and the weather was very kind to us.

G109B/Vigilant T1



CALENDAR AMENDMENTS

Please note the following amendment to the calendar.

Tuesday 21 January, GCSE Set Dance P121/P120 all day will now take place on Wednesday 29 January.

Please note the following addition to the calendar

Monday 27 January, Y10/Y11 GCSE Music students visit to Royal Festival Hall, London, all day.

KEY STAGE 5 AWARDS

The A Level certificates and prizes were presented to last year's Year 13 students at the annual Key Stage 5 Awards Evening on 19 December 2013. The address and presentations were made by Mr Peter Gale. Peter joined St Bart's in 1972 as a pupil, was educated during the school's transition to a comprehensive and was appointed a deputy head boy. His studies in French and German continued at Goldsmiths and, after having taught in Bexleyheath, he was tempted back to his old school as a teacher and then Deputy House Head of Davis. In 1996 he moved to Mary Hare School where he will take over as Principal in September.



PRESENTATION OF ADVANCED LEVEL PRIZES:

Art	Antonia Chandler
Biology	Robert Conway
Business Studies	Mads Bjornsbo
Business Studies (BTEC)	Wiranchana Narongpun
Chemistry	Tilly Roberts
Classical Civilisation	Millie Guille
Computing	Kwok (Jacky) Kan
Dance	Alicia Hobbs
Economics	Bethany Andrews
English Language	Lauren Counsell
English Literature	Phoebe Coleman
English Language & Literature	Reanna Lupton
Film Studies	Christopher Turner
Food Technology	Harriet Palmer
French	Ellena Sanderson
Further Mathematics	Hester Careless
Geography	Conor O'Neill
General Studies	Megan Prudden
German	Rachael O'Brien
Graphic Design	Matthew Jefferies
Health and Social Care (BTEC)	Jessica Dore
History	Robert Canniffe
Mathematics	Phoebe Dace
Media Studies	Lucy Mugford
Music	Freya Daws
Music Technology	Dexter Roy
P.E.	Naomi Reay
Philosophy & Ethics	Annie Magee
Physics	Louise Parkes
Politics	Daniel Bestwick
Product Design	Jamie Rusbridge

Psychology	Molly Alder
Science (BTEC)	Rachel Elms
Sociology	Lally Duncan
Spanish	Emily Fisher
Sport BTEC	Alisha Bradford
Textiles	Jessica Mursell
Theatre Arts	Lucy Woodham

SPECIAL PRIZES FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AT ADVANCED LEVEL:

Molly Alder	Victoria Duncan	Naomi Reay
Bethany Andrews	Amy Graham	Samuel Rendell
Robin Bloomfield	James Hostford	Tilly Roberts
Hester Careless	Guy Leonard	Ellena Sanderson
Phoebe Coleman	Alex MacIver	Cameron Smith
Robert Conway	Annie Magee	Karl Steinborn-Busse
Lauren Counsell	Sarah Neely	Sophie Uden
Phoebe Dace	Rachael O'Brien	Jonathon Ventham
Freya Daws	Louise Parkes	

SPECIAL PRIZES FOR PROGRESS SHOWN FROM KS4 TO KS5:

Curnock:	Davis:	Evers:	Patterson:
Nathan Richardson	Jessica Mursell	Kwame Asembo	Reanna Lupton
Harry Kitchin		Olivia Shotliff	Samantha Grice

OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AT ADVANCED LEVEL:

The Pembroke College Oxford Prize:	Phoebe Coleman
------------------------------------	----------------

SPECIAL SUBJECT PRIZES

The Donald Brown Memorial Prize for Biology:	Freya Daws
Tim Dennis Trophy for Drama:	Sara McGrath
Drake Cup for Drama:	Samuel Boreham
Handicraft Prize & Fritz Cup for Design:	Jamie Rusbridge
The Lee Memorial Prize for Modern Languages:	Emily Fisher
G H Keen Memorial Prize for Music:	Rachael O'Brien
The Pinter Prize for English:	Bethany Andrews

OTHER MAJOR AWARDS

The Combined Cadet Force – Army:	Oliver Radburn
The Combined Cadet Force – Navy:	Ben Dowle
The Combined Cadet Force – RAF:	Alexander Weekes
Mike Hart Trophy:	Ben Hicks
Ann Capewell Cup:	Naomi Reay
Bill Slatter Trophy:	William Barnes
The John King Prize:	Annie Magee
David Candy Prize:	Alison Doidge
The Mermagen Prize:	Michael Hooper
Elizabeth Axford Rosebowl:	Alex MacIver
Side Prize for Leadership:	Amy Graham
Cooper Prize for Leadership:	Robert Conway
The House Academic Shield:	Evers
The House Sports Shield:	Curnock
The House Citizenship Shield:	Curnock
The House Championship Cup:	Curnock



EVERS NEWS

Happy New Year to all Evers students, families and friends!

Carol Singing

Before Christmas, an enthusiastic group of Evers students from all years joined staff at Tesco for carols to raise money for West Berkshire Mencap, our House charity. Thanks to some hearty singing and generous members of the public, we raised a phenomenal £235 in an hour and a half! Thank you to all who braved the weather and took part.

More Charity Fundraising

Congratulations to students in **8E3** who ran a cake sale in school before Christmas and raised a fantastic £65 towards our Mencap appeal. Well done!

And thank you to students in **9E2** who raised £78 for Mencap with a chocolate raffle before Christmas.

Judo News

Congratulations to **Jacob Aldridge** (9E1) following his success at the British National Judo Championships on the 7th December 2013.

Jacob was competing in the Under 18 years division U55kg weight. Jacob was the youngest entry to win a medal (and this despite having stitches in his ear following an injury which had prevented him training for two weeks prior to the event). Well done Jacob – a tremendous result!

Good Work Prizes

Congratulations to **Molly Tucker** and **Charlie Tibbenham** (7E2), **Ben Potter** and **Poom Narongpum** (7E1), **Oliver Barnes** (8E3) on achieving a Good Work Prize. Keep up the good work!

Mr Rose, Ms Evans and Mrs Willcox

The Well-Being and Health for Learning Programme



WELL-BEING AND HEALTH FOR LEARNING VALIDATION REPORT

Congratulations to everyone involved in achieving a really positive validation report for the *Well-Being and Health for Learning Programme (WBHLP)*. The programme provides a structured framework and process

to help improve the well-being and health of the whole school community.

Included below are a few highlights from the validation report completed by **Graham Paton** an Associate Consultant.

“The strong impression gained on the validation day was that St Bart’s is a school community that strives to function successfully on a human level, and in which the WBHLP’s values of care for and nurture of individual wellbeing are well embedded. Such an ethos can only be maintained with a collective commitment, from senior leadership and across the whole body of the staff, and the climate set in the school reflects credit on all. Particular and notable contributions have been made by the Key Stage Leaders for the Personal Development Programme, **Lisa Boggett** and **Sarah Davies**, who have devoted a great deal of time and energy to understanding how the PDP can best reflect the needs of the young people themselves and also maximise the skills of the teaching staff delivering it. Their work on developing and reshaping the programme content, and on supporting students’ progression by an imaginative application of the principles of assessment for learning, has given the programme a solid foundation and a strong sense of direction for the future.

Spending time in St Bart's, one quickly gains the sense that this is a school where students are given, and positively embrace, wide ranging opportunities to participate and take responsibilities in the life of the school community. Representing this aspect of the school's life on the validation day were Y13 students **Hollie Randall, Nikki Silvester** and **Olivia Skarin-Smith**. They spoke persuasively and with pride about the role they and their sixth form colleagues take on as School Officers, and especially about the range of ways in which they work to support the integration of all students within the community and to counteract all forms of bullying or alienation which may prevent individuals getting the best out of their school life."

"Notable highlights that emerged on the validation visit include the following:

- The collaborative work with sixth form students to devise a sequence of lesson plans addressing the real concerns about physical and emotional health raised by issues of body image and eating disorders – a striking example of a peer-led approach to young people's health needs
- The work carried out on shaping and drafting a Social Networking Policy, which reflects a recognition of, and attention to, the real-world lives and needs of students and staff alike
- The very significant steps taken to promote and enhance students' learning in PSHE, through training and support for tutors, through the review and impressive development of the scheme of work for PDP, and through the Milestones scheme, involving students themselves in reviewing their learning and personal development against clear success criteria
- The planning and instigation of the 'In Focus' series of seminars, giving expression to the school's determination to understand and address the ways in which emotional and mental health impacts on learning, and cooperating in this endeavour with other local schools
- The scope given to the students to engage actively and positively in the life of the school, and the enthusiastic and enterprising ways in which the students embrace these opportunities
- The underlying school ethos, which conforms so well with the aims of the WBHLP, of recognising, valuing and supporting all pupils as individuals – exemplified, for instance, in the use of the house system and the physical layout of the school's fine new buildings to create a sense of belonging within human scale units, and in significant touches such as the display of flags representing the countries of birth of all the members of the school community."

"I am very pleased to recommend the award of the Wellbeing and Health for Learning Programme's certificate for the Emotional/Mental layer and I congratulate St Bart's on the dedicated and enterprising work that has gone into this achievement. "

BOYS' PE

Reading Grammar School v St Bartholomew's School Year 9 Match Report

Result: 15-17 to St Barts in a thrilling game at Reading.

It was a great morning for rugby as we travelled over to Reading Grammar School. We kicked off with the usual team, plus Henry Paynter and Luke Davies who both gained starting positions following excellent recent form this season. From the word go the intensity was at a high and continued this way all the way through the match with both teams showing a solid defence and a ruthless attack. On the attack we were particularly strong with numerous runs (all breaking the gain line) from Tom Webster and Tom Allum, not to disregard the rest of the forwards who all showed very good supporting runs and were key at the breakdown to keep vital possession for the backs.

However, there had to be a breakthrough and Reading Grammar showed they had definitely turned up with a well worked try in the corner the following tries were 'ping-ponged' across the board with an excellent run from Luke Davies, weaving in and out the defenders to score under the posts. In the last play of the game they scored and needed the conversion to win... their kicker had looked on the ball all-day and looked as if he would get the kick to level the scores at 17-17 but the intensity was too much and with great pressure from the runners he missed. We had won 15-17 a great win for a great team.

Written by Oliver Harvey and Max Hayman

Since the Reading Grammar game the boys have now also played all of their matches in the floodlit league, and have been crowned champions for another successive season. The Year 9 B team have also been in action against other local schools' A teams, winning one match against Clere and coming a very close second against John O'Gaunt and Trinity. This shows the strength and depth of quality and commitment that the year group have demonstrated this season, with more than 40 Year 9 boys representing the school. Congratulations to the whole squad on a very successful term.



Victorious Year 9 Rugby Team v Reading Grammar

From left to right:

Back row: Nick Haynes, Max Carnel, Oscar Day, Tommy Webster, Tom Allum, Matt Grey, Arty Blake, Henry Paynter, Luke Davies, Jacob Aldridge, May Hayman.

Front row: Bukunmi Oluwande, Joe Seward, Sam Barrett, Max Hayman, Oliver Smithson, Tom Murrell, Harry King, Oliver Harvey.

Mr Bateman