



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

The summer term is now upon us and it is good to see students quickly settle back into their studies after the Easter break.

We wish all students sitting external examinations this term every success. This year we had a record number of students attend the revision seminars over the holiday, which was excellent.

The visits to Berlin, Los Angeles and China during the Easter break were very successful and our students were a credit to themselves and the school.

This term we have welcomed Miss Lizzie Reeves to teach art and Ms Linda Brittain to teach music, as Miss Boggett has now taken her maternity leave.

At St Bart's we are very proud of our students and their achievements; the school is a pillar in the Newbury community. I have reminded students in assembly of this and that it is therefore important that they always make the right decisions and give the right impression to everyone so that this tradition continues. This means that all students arrive to school on time, with the correct equipment, wearing the uniform in the right way and engage themselves fully in their learning. I would ask that you please reinforce this with your children.

Concerns over traffic and car parking around the entrance to the school at the beginning and end of the school day have again led to a number of complaints. Can I therefore ask that parents/carers dropping off and collecting students from school do not block our neighbours' driveways.

For health and safety reasons there does need to be a clear thoroughfare through the school driveway to enable any emergency vehicles, if required, and coaches to gain access as necessary.

Lastly, I look forward to seeing tutor groups in Years 7 – 10 fully embracing our World Cup competition which we are combining with support for our link to Ghana over the next term. All tutor groups have drawn their country and should now be researching it and creating displays which we will judge together as a community.

Ms J Mortimore, Headteacher

NEWS FROM GHANA

We have received an email from our partner school in Ghana expressing their thanks and appreciation for the books we sent to them.



They have informed us school life is currently very busy, especially for the final year pupils who are preparing for their Basic Education Certificate Examination.





YEAR 11 GRADUATION

We look forward to this year's cohort graduating, and receiving certificates for their efforts.

Students should be completing their Passports to graduate, or to graduate with Merit or Distinction. All passports should be signed by tutors and given to House Heads before Friday 2 May. Each student who has done this will receive a personalised certificate, signed by the Headteacher.

These achievements, and others, will be recognised at a special celebration assembly during the morning of **Friday 9 May 2014 in the Hall**. As it is a special day, uniform is not required. The dress code for the day is smart, business dress, with the best dressed receiving a discount on their Prom tickets. **Students should not spend money on clothing for Graduation Day**. Students may bring a shirt or leaving book into school for signing on the day.

As we look towards the GCSE examination period, and students aim to perform to the best of their abilities, the following are targets for all Year 11 students:

- Completion of all coursework
- Full attendance at all lessons and revision sessions
- Full commitment to study, both at school and at home
- 100% attendance and punctuality for all exams
- Full school uniform to be worn to all lessons, revision sessions and exams
- Respectful behaviour towards other students, staff and school property
- Return of any books to the library not required for exams, and thereafter all texts
- Completion of any outstanding sanctions such as detentions

Students who meet all of these requirements can look forward to a successful series of examinations followed by:

- Entry to Sixth Form
- Access to Further Education or employment supported by positive references
- An enjoyable Prom – **tickets for the event on Wednesday 25 June will be on sale after half-term.**

Mr N Cook – Assistant Headteacher Years 7-11

DANCE

Well done to all of the GCSE and A Level dancers who have now completed all of their practical work for their exams. The students have worked very hard, and got there in the end!

Elevate and Escalate

All of the dancers in the Elevate and Escalate Dance Company performed in Spring Equinox on Tuesday 25 March. Congratulations to everyone for a brilliant and professional performance. Spring Equinox is a celebration of dance performed by West Berkshire schools, dance companies and community groups and it was a privilege to be invited to take part. There was a wealth of young dance talent from Newbury and the surrounding area and St Bart's had students taking part from Years 7 – 12. Thank you to all of the dancers and their parents in supporting the event.



NATIONAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING WEEK

In recognition of National Science and Engineering Week, I did a few of my favourite demonstrations, assisted by Josh, Rob and Rory. The crushing can demonstration never fails to get an “ooh!”, as it seems implausible that the air around us can completely squash a drinks can.



We created a water fountain by first pumping air out of a flask, and expanded a marshmallow to three times its usual size. If your chip pan catches fire, it is tempting to put water on it. We illustrated just what a bad idea that is, with a

plume of flames erupting out of the crucible.



Finally you can see a plasma ball energising an ordinary fluorescent light tube.

My thanks to all the science technicians for their help.

Mrs Baker

SIX INTREPID STUDENTS TAKE ON THE CHALLENGE OF THE BRITISH PHYSICS OLYMPIAD

Congratulations to Ed Peppitt, Joanne Willmer and Will Seath from Year 11, and to Rob Peacock, Rory Geeson and Josh Waters from Year 12 who put themselves through the very tough papers. They had only a modest amount of preparation and gave up their time. Four bronze awards were achieved, two at the higher level. The paper for Year 11 students seemed particularly difficult this year.



The Olympiad aims to encourage the study of Physics, and to show students the real-world problem-solving potential of Physics. Now a benchmark has been set, the challenge is on for Years 11, 12 and 13 to beat this tally next year.

www.physics.ox.ac.uk/olympiad

Mrs Baker

DIARY DATES

Wed 30 April Y11/Sixth Form Year photographs, 12.10pm
 Mon 5 May May Bank Holiday
 Fri 9 May Graduation Day for Year 11
 Mon 12 May GCSE/AS Exams Start
 Y12 Study Leave Begins



Calendar Updates

Please note the following additions to the calendar:

Thursday 22 May – A Level and GCSE Art Exhibition Private View, top floor of Curnock/Davis/Evers blocks 5-7pm

Tuesday 15 July – Y10 MFL Able Linguists’ Day, 12.30-3.30pm

BIG BREW UP

At the end of last term the School Officers organised a Big Brew Up and book sale in the Sixth Form area in aid of charity.

Year 11 students were also invited to the event and took advantage of the second hand GCSE revision books available to buy.



School Officers had baked a huge quantity of cakes and biscuits which they sold, together with cups of tea and coffee. A total of £116.25 was raised.



MATHS TEAM CHALLENGES

Congratulations to Bethany Edwards, Dominic Bortlick, Isabel Loxton and Tom Carr who came third in the regional heats of the Year 10 Maths Team Challenge competing against 18 other schools.

Also, congratulations to Emily Carr, Fergus Kelly, Susie Drake and James Read who came fifth out of 32 teams in the Year 8/9 team challenge.

Maths Challenge

The following students all took part in the next stages of the Maths Challenge having achieved Gold in the first round.

Year 11 – Nathan Curtis, Oliver Overend, Junming Liu, Sophie Ings

Year 10 – Dominic Bortlik, Isabel Loxton, Tom Carr

Year 9 – Susie Drake, James Read, Ties Abram, Molly Herne, Ben Loosen, Arun Bhandrai, Michael Seath and Max Hersh



DAVIS DIARY

Welcome back! We hope that you all had a good break over Easter.

We start by congratulating the following students who have been awarded Senior House Colours:

William Barrett
Jennifer Dickson
Camilla Dickson
Emma Pavier

and to Ffion Godwin who gets a Good Work Prize.

Congratulations to Jay Chamings and Ffion Godwin the winners of the Internet Safety Poster competition.

Charity News

Thank you to 7D2 who raised £108.57 in their Easter Fayre and busking.

Our bag packers at Sports Relief raised £124 in total (£62 for Davis Charity).

Camilla and Jenny Dickson's cake sale £70.85
8D2 cake sale £11.60

We have set a target for each tutor group to raise £50 for the Charity Water Aid. Please save all your coins and pennies for this very worthy cause.

A huge thank you; keep up the good work everyone.

Mrs Hodgkin, Miss Thorne and Mrs Lee

EVERS NEWS

Well done to Jacob Aldridge 9E1 for competing at the Northern Ireland Open on 22 March where he won a silver medal in the Cadet U60kg division for under 18 years.



Gemma Gibbons, who won a silver medal in Judo at the Olympics, was also competing. She won gold in her weight. It was great for Jacob to see her compete.

ST BART'S WINS IN ETON FIVES LADIES' CHAMPIONSHIPS

The newly revived sport of Eton Fives at St Bart's has already produced winners with Sixth Form students bringing home the trophy from the Marsh National Schools Championships Ladies Fives Festival which took place on 29 March at Eton.

Winning in straight sets, Tamara Yeung and Cicely Colthurst, scored 12-8, 12-6. The girls were joined by Annie Cave and Ayesha Yeung who reached the quarter finals of the same championships.

All four girls also played in the Ladies' National Championships, a separate competition on Friday 28 March, and celebrated success. Out of 29 pairs playing Annie and Ayesha won their plate and Tamara and Cicely were placed 6th.



Cicely Colthurst and Tamara Yeung with the winning trophy awarded in the Marsh National School Championships Ladies Fives Festival.

The girls played exceptionally well in these major Eton Fives competitions dominated by independent schools. They have only been playing the sport for four months, with professional coaching once a week, and are to be congratulated.

RAF SECTION 6AEF FLYING

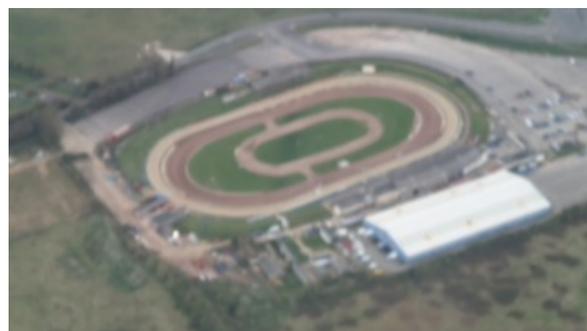
On 4 April 2014 Mr Burbea and Flt Lt Howes accompanied 13 cadets from Years 11-13 on a visit to RAF Benson which is a front line support helicopter base



working within the Joint Helicopter Command (JHC). Located in South Oxfordshire, the Station is home to Puma helicopters of 33 and 230 Squadrons, Merlin HC3 and HC3a helicopters of 28 (AC) and 78 Squadrons, and the Tutor T1 Aircraft (pictured) of Oxford University Air Squadron and 6 Air Experience Flight. (6AEF)



Upon arrival at the station all cadets were instructed on safety and shown around the aircraft in the hangar before getting into their flying suits and taking to the skies above Abingdon and Didcot.



PHYSICS ENGINEERING COURSE

A specially designed Physics in Engineering residential course held in March, hosted by the Physics Department at The University of Warwick, was attended by James Glen 10E2.

Organised by The Smallpeice Trust students aged 14 and 15 had the opportunity to learn about physics in engineering through a series of presentations and practical exercises.

James thoroughly enjoyed this opportunity and benefited from the masterclasses and workshops.

BOYS' PE

Year 9 Boys' Football Team Through to the League Final

Final League Match v John O'Gaunt

St Bart's Year 9 recently continued their winning streak against John O'Gaunt. Playing away from home with the semi-finals at stake, the boys produced a magnificent performance to run out 6-0 victors. Notable mention to Mark Davies coming off the bench and scoring twice.

Semi-Finals v Kennet

The Year 9 team's confidence was running high after a comfortable demolition of John O'Gaunt. They took their momentum on to the pitch taking an early lead through Archie Perks. They quickly doubled their lead when Mark Davies met a cross from Harry Jones. At half time the score looked good against a strong, battling Kennet side. Mark Davies made it three after half time however Kennet were sharp to reply. The St Bart's boys were not rattled and responded soon after, through a Sam Young stike from 35 yards. This put the tie to bed as they ran out eventual winners 4-2.

By Jamie Maughan and Archie Perks

Year 10 Sevens at HCS, Hampshire Collegiate School (15 March)

In our group we had to play the hosts HCS, Robert Clack from Essex and Windsor boys. First up against HCS we played with pace and power from the start. Thanks to us moving the ball well and making them work hard in defence we were able to put two early tries past them and another two after half time, without them posing a serious threat to our defence. Next we played Robert Clack, where after a slightly shaky start we got back into our patterns and scored some great team tries to win 21-14. In our final group game we played against Windsor who had beaten us at 15s earlier in the season. So, with revenge in our minds, we kept our discipline and applied pressure to go in 0-0 at half time, which allowed us to come out firing and scored 3 tries in the second half to leave the score 21-0 at full-time, leaving us top of our group.

So, we went on to the quarter-final where we played Perrins and quickly built up a lead so that when they scored a try at the end of the game it didn't matter and we held on to win 19-14. In the semi-final we faced Brighton College, who are renowned for being one of the top 7s teams in the country with the prospect of playing Millfield in the final. After a strong performance we pushed them to the limit but came just short, losing 22-17, but finishing as the highest placing state school in the tournament. The squad was; Ollie Hassel-Collins, Ollie Pizzey, Luke Parkes, John Stopher, Callum Hambrecht, Alex Forsyth, Rhys Williams, Matt van Zyl, Gvidas Piscikas, Stephen Ansell, Adam Barnes and Alex Zenda.

Stephen Ansell

GIRLS' PE

Netball

At the end of last term the Year 10 netball teams completed their league games with two good wins. They beat Trinity 13-4 and then park House 18-6.

Bobbi Lainsbury was awarded player of the match against Trinity and Saffron Langley was awarded player of the match against Park House.