

TWO NEW GARDENS CREATED

The Horticulture Team in Year 11 has revamped the two gardens that lie between the Davis and Evers blocks. The task involved a great deal of digging to remove the woody plants and weeds, laying of weed membrane, cementing in a course of bricks to edge the gardens and finally to add a layer of decorative bark over the top.



We are very grateful for the generous support given by the Parents' Association to enable this project to go ahead, and the time given by staff to help with the digging. One of the beds (pictured left) is being planted as an edible garden. There are already a set of everyday herbs,

which are routinely used by the Food Technology Department. These will shortly be joined by figs, mulberries and walnuts. The final stage will include some more unusual varieties such as the Blue Sausage Tree!

The other bed (right) is being planted up as a classification garden to showcase the different types of plants and provide an educational resource for students.

Dr D Fitter, Deputy Headteacher



OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD

Huge congratulations to all of the Year 13 Theatre Arts students on their fantastic production of 'Our Country's Good' by Timberlake Wertenbaker. The students were guided in realising their interpretation of this play by Mr Edens. In their final exam, students will have to write about their interpretation of the play. Students taking part commented that actually having the chance to perform the play has helped them in preparing for their exam.



The performance was of a very high standard which demonstrated the amount of talent on the course.



SHAKESPEARE DAY

As BartholoNews was going to press, the school was marking Shakespeare's 452nd birthday in style. Look out for more in next week's issue.

BRITISH PHYSICS OLYMPIAD COMPETITION

In Year 12 congratulations go to Dominic Bortlic, Grady Becket, James Glen, Oliver Evans, Amy Bowen, Juliette Besson, Jemima Croggon, Ben Irwin, Zoe Hopkinson, David Goldberg, Alex Forsyth and Sam Nightingale who sat the AS Physics Challenge papers.



In Year 11 congratulations go to Max Leftley, Max Hersh, Hasan Ahmad, and Matthew Pudney. There were two Silver Awards, and many Bronze Awards.

This was a “bumper” year with students supporting and challenging one another, and enjoying the experience.

Many Year 12 students are keen to continue, so we will be meeting after school on Thursdays on even numbered weeks. The sessions will help any A Level Physics students who might be interested in applying for Engineering, Sciences (especially Physics), Medicine, and Maths as the emphasis is on developing problem solving skills.

Y12 UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS FOR STEM SUBJECTS

There are an increasing number of online sources to help students prepare for university interview. For example, for engineers <http://i-want-to-study-engineering.org/> and for students applying for Physics degrees <https://isaacphysics.org/>. In addition universities who require students to sit an aptitude test have advice and past papers on their websites.

The second half of the summer term is an excellent time to use these sites to help prepare for university interviews, many of which happen in the busy autumn term, when there is less time to focus on developing these skills.



ACCELERATED READER MILLIONAIRES

We are on to our third lot of awards for millionaires on Accelerated Reader and I've been so impressed with the counts of many of our Year 7 students. Unless already awarded, students have received 50 Vivos for 1 million words, 75 Vivos for 2 million and 100 Vivos for 3 million. Students who have achieved the lofty heights of four and five million will be receiving books. Excellent work Year 7 - keep reading!

Benjamin Cutts - 5.2 million 7P1 books awarded

George Chapman 4.2 million 7C1 books awarded

Taran Dulai - 3.8 million 7C2 100 vivos

Rhiannon Evans 3.1 million 7D2 100 vivos

Molly Robbins 3 million 7C1 100 vivos

Guillermo Aguilar 7P1 1.6 million 50 vivos

Kaiya Higgins 7D2 1.3 million 50 vivos

Nina Faithful 7P2 1.3 million 50 vivos

Maria Yule 7E1 1.3 million 50 vivos

Ella McCarthy 7E1 1.2 million 50 vivos

Amy Jarvill 7P2 1.2 million 50 vivos

Albert Di Piazza 7E3 1 million 50 vivos



YEAR 11 KS4 REWARDS

Congratulations to all those 142 students who, at the end of the spring term, were members of the '15' Club. All of these students are working particularly hard and have received certificates reflecting their efforts during GCSE and BTEC courses.

During Year 11 assembly on Friday 15 April three students from this group were runners up and winner of the '15' Club prize draw. Annabel Mangan and Ella Joyce received £10 Love to Shop vouchers, whilst winner Chloe Wragg won £20 of vouchers.

Mr N Cook, Assistant Headteacher



YOUR SCHOOL NEEDS YOU! – Parent Governor Vacancies

Notice of the Parent Governor Election was sent out on Friday. As a reminder, the Governing Body of St Bartholomew's School are inviting nominations to fill three Parent Governor vacancies.

Should you wish to stand for election, please return your nomination form by midday on Friday 29 April 2016.

Broadly, the role of the Governing Board is to set the strategic direction and ensure the educational performance, management and financial health of St Bart's. Individual governors are members of the Governing Board and contribute to ensure high standards of achievement for all. As St Bart's is an academy trust, the governors are also directors and trustees and are subject to company and charity law.

New governors can be confident of joining a friendly, supportive and professional team. We were inspected by Ofsted last year and the inspectors commented that 'Governors give a strong lead to the direction of the school and provide a good balance of challenge and support. They are fully involved in the life of the school and ensure that the skills of all governors are used fully in checking the quality of all aspects of the school's work'.

That's not to say that we're complacent, however, and we have a clear plan to further improve our own contribution. In addition to the fresh perspectives that new governors bring, the Governing Board has identified that there is a need for skills and expertise in the areas of human resource management, digital and finance. As a result we would be particularly delighted to hear from applicants who can bring any of these qualities.

The time commitment is very reasonable: individual governors normally attend at least

three evening meetings a term. Governors may be members of more than one committee and will also usually have a "link" role with a particular faculty or function which will require a little time during the day. Very occasionally there are some additional activities that are scheduled during the day so some flexibility would be an advantage. Governors are also encouraged to support the celebrations of achievement, such as Key Stage evenings, and performances such as House Music, Dance and Plays.

Successful candidates will be given every support to become quickly integrated and effective via a tailored induction plan and will benefit from ongoing training. The role is unpaid though a governor expenses scheme is in place.

Anyone who has parental responsibility for a student currently attending St Bart's is eligible to stand for election, subject to the clauses detailed in the Governors' Declaration which can be found on the Governors' page of the website. Terms of office are for four years; governors may continue to serve the remainder of their term once their child leaves the School.

I'd love to hear from you if you're interested in becoming a governor at St Bart's or would simply like to find out more without any obligation. Please do get in touch; this is your opportunity to make a positive difference to St Bart's and the broader community – most governors say that they have learnt something new and enjoy being part of a successful team. Please email me (hsutherland@stbarts.co.uk) or leave your details with Reception (01635 521255) and I will contact you.

Mrs H Sutherland
Clerk to the Governors



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DIARY DATES

Mon 2 May May Bank Holiday

Wed 4 May Parents' Association Meeting
R1, 7.00pm

Fri 13 May Graduation Day for Y11

Mon 16 May GCSE/AS Exams Start



BERKSHIRE SCHOOLS GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP SUCCESS

Andrew Mead 10D2 and Jack Graham 10E1 represented St Bart's in the Berkshire Schools Golf Championship at Winter Hill Golf Club during the Easter holidays. They both played well in the 36 hole competition and St Bart's won the handicap team event. Jack also won the first individual handicap prize with Andrew coming second.

A few days later Andrew was a member of the winning Berkshire Schools team in a match against Surrey Schools. Andrew has subsequently been selected to play in the South East England Schools Championship at Canterbury Golf Club in May.



CALENDAR UPDATE

Please note the following additions to the calendar.

Thursday 28 April, Year 7 and Year 8 Junior Maths Challenge, Hall, morning.

Tuesday 24 May and Thursday 9 June

PDP Conference, 1.30pm-4.00pm, venue tbc



BOYS' PE

Y8 Beat Trinity 2-1 in Football League Final

St Bart's won 2-1. Scorers were Ben Djekic and Callum Rosier. Man of the match, Arham Khalid.

Y11 Beat Kennet in Football League Semi Final

This was a very good performance from the team, especially the defence which included some outstanding saves from Max Hayman and joint man of the match performance from the two centre backs, Ollie Smithson and Arty Blake. Year 11 successfully reached the schools' area final drawing 1-1 and then won on penalties.

Y9 Football Win League Final 2-1

On 20 April the Year 9 boys played against Park House in the football cup final. In the first half St Bart's was the dominant team controlling possession and passing the ball nicely. About half way through St Bart's had a goal disallowed due to the officials believing it had left play before it was crossed in. The first half ended goalless. Early in the second half an unfortunate mistake at the back led to St Bart's conceding and going 1-0 down. But they kept their heads up and after some competitive football found themselves with a free kick; the ball was whipped in and cut back across goal towards Dan Stevenson who bulleted a header off the post and in – 1-1. St Bart's boys upped their game and with five minutes left were piling the pressure onto Park House. Desperate for the winning goal the team kept pushing until the ball fell to Calum Meechan who hit an absolute rocket into the far corner within the last minute to put St Bart's 2-1 in front. This was an amazing comeback to win the final. Jake Ford was awarded man of the match.



GIRLS' PE Rounders

The Sixth Form and Year 11 rounders teams played a friendly triangular fixture against Park House and Kennet to prepare for their Area Rounders Tournaments which take place over the coming weeks.

Scores and players of the match were:

Y11 v PH 6th form, PH won 6-5, Laura Kirk

6th form v PH 6th form, St Bart's won 3½ - ½ Millie Calkin

6th form v Kennet 6th form, St Bart's won

3 ½ - 1 Yasmin Ryder