

# BartholoNews



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## NATIONAL CIPHER CHALLENGE

A mathematical national cipher challenge created by Southampton University was entered by two students in 8D1, Bethany Sirianni and Sophia Tucker, and their achievements were extremely impressive. Fortnightly coded messages of two parts needed to be deciphered with increasing difficulty over the autumn term and the results were ranked due to their accuracy and speed of response. Over 1500 teams entered from all over the country from a mixture of schools and colleges. Bethany and Sophia achieved joint 1<sup>st</sup> in Challenge A and 122<sup>nd</sup> in Challenge B which placed them overall in the top 10% of entries. Both girls had to use techniques such as Caesar shifts, frequency analysis, affine ciphers and modular inverses, all of which they had to learn and research themselves. This makes their achievement even more impressive. Congratulations to both students.

**Mr P Amblin, Maths Teacher**



## KEY STAGE 4 REWARDS January 2017

Over 110 students are now part of the '15 Club' with signed certificates to recognise ongoing hard work as we approach GCSE examinations in the summer term. Winners of the prize draw in the Year 11 assembly were Lottie Abell Roberts and Will Denton who each received £10 vouchers, and Molly Overend who was awarded a £20 voucher.

**Mr N Cook, Assistant Headteacher, Progress and Achievement Years 7 -11**

## DIARY DATES

Fri 27 Jan Curnock House Evening, Hall, 7pm  
Sat 4 Feb PA 70s/80s/90s Disco  
Parents & Adults Only, 8-11pm  
Half Term – Monday 13 February to Monday 17 February



## CALENDAR UPDATES

Please note the following additions to the calendar:  
Tuesday 21 February and Wednesday 22 February, Y7 Gamelan workshop in the Hall, all day.  
Friday 17 March – Y13 English Language visit to the British Library, London.





## STUDENT, PARENT AND STAFF QUESTIONNAIRES

As part of our aim to include feedback from all members of our school community on the strengths of St Bart's and areas for further improvement, students, parents and staff have been asked to complete questionnaires. As we have done for a number of years, we have worked with a company called Kirkland Rowell, who have a client base of over 2,000 schools throughout the country, to produce these questionnaires and the feedback received will be evaluated against the very large bank of comparative data which the company has. We will also be making comparisons with the results of the 2016 survey in order to evaluate the change which has taken place in the last year.

Students completed the questionnaire during the normal full school assembly slot on Wednesday 18 January and parents will receive their questionnaires in envelopes sent home with their children by the end of this week. We would encourage all parents please to complete the questionnaires, which should take no longer than 15 minutes, and to return these in envelopes with their child by Wednesday 8 February at the latest. They will then be sent to Kirkland Rowell for collation and analysis. The feedback received will then be used as part of our school improvement planning and a summary of this feedback will be published in BartholoNews.

**Mr J P Sharpe, Deputy Headteacher**



## THANK YOU FROM THE NEWBURY WEEKLY NEWS, OVER 80s CHRISTMAS PARCELS FUND

We have received a thank you letter from the Newbury Weekly News for the school's contribution to helping deliver the Christmas parcels to the over 80s in December.

The newspaper has received so many letters of gratitude and thanks from local elderly recipients expressing their appreciation for their parcels.



## DAVIS DIARY

A belated Happy New Year to you all!

**Davis House Charity – Alopecia UK**

Well done and thank you to the McNeill family who raised £155 carol singing in their village. The McNeill's have raised money for various Davis charities every Christmas since 2006 and we are grateful for their contributions.

Thank you also to:

Jay Chammings raised £38 selling Christmas decorations.

Daniel O'Connell donated £30 from money raised coaching football.

Davis students raised £56 carol singing outside Sainsbury's before Christmas.

Well done to Gerhardt McLeish who has claimed a **Vivo prize**.

Congratulations to the following students who achieved the top scores in the **school quiz**:

Charlie Crampton (Year 7), Rhiannon Evans (Year 8), Daniel Price (Year 9), Alex Morrison (Year 10),

Holly Shaw (Year 11), Harry Bodin (Year 12), Andrew Green (Year 13).

### Davis Diary Dates:

w/c 30 January – House Debating

w/c 9 February – House Football (Girls)/Hockey (Boys)

24 February – Davis Disco

w/c 14 March - House Lacrosse/Football

**Mrs Hodgkin, Miss Miles, Mrs Humphreys and Mrs Palmer**

**Davis House Office**



## DRIVE START

Over half term West Berkshire Council is running Drive Start, a day's car experience for young

people aged 16-19 years.

It will be at Madejski Stadium on Friday 17 February. To book go to

<http://www.drivestart.co.uk/book/> or ring 01635 519984

## PARENTS' DISCO

A parents' disco is being organised by the Parents' Association on Saturday 4 February from 8pm – 11pm in the school Hall. There will be a cash bar and tickets, costing £5 each, can be purchased online in advance from [www.stbartspa.co.uk](http://www.stbartspa.co.uk). Bring your friends and come along to a great evening whilst supporting St Bart's.



## LACROSSE

The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> team played away at St Mary's Calne in a mini tournament. Results and players of the match follow.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Team

v St Mary's Calne lost 13-1 Laura Kirk  
v Sherborne won 7-3 Millie Pope  
v Cheltenham Ladies College won 4-3

### 2<sup>nd</sup> team

v St Mary's Calne lost 6-0 Ellie Fell  
v Sherborne lost 5-2 Amber Layton  
v Cheltenham Ladies College lost 6-3 Amber Layton

## NETBALL

Well done to the Sixth Form netball team who beat The Downs in a league fixture 26-19. Olivia Lockyear was awarded player of the match.

## POLO NEWS

Former St Bart's School student Sam Boreham was picked to play in the British Schools and Universities Polo Association (SUPA) polo team playing for the International Intercollegiate Challenge Cup against a team from the United States Polo Association in Phoenix, Arizona on 15 January. The British team pictured right comprised Robin Ormerod (Captain, University of Bristol), Sam Boreham (Nottingham Trent University), Toby Small (RAU Cirencester) and Minnie Kerr-Dineen (University of Nottingham).



The team flew out to Arizona last Thursday, avoiding a baggage handlers' strike and flight cancellations due to snow, and arrived in the early hours of Friday our time. On the same flight was an England team to play a USA team for the Townsend Cup, which took place at the same venue on the previous day.

With two days to acclimatise, do some practice and get to know the differences in the rules (!) the teams lined up. In a very closely fought contest the USA came out on top 15-13, with their last two goals coming in the last minute of the final chukka.

The Most Valuable Player was awarded to well-deserving Robin Ormerod and the USA team's Dalton Woodfin received the Sportsmanship Award. Charles Smith, Chairman of USPA Polo Development, remarked that the horsemanship he witnessed in the game was impressive and commendable.

Sam started playing Polo when at St Bart's, which remains the only non-private school in the country to have a Polo team. In 2007 a St Bart's team made history by becoming the first state school to win a SUPA tournament.