

# BartholoNews



26 March 2013

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## THE SPRING TERM

Term ends on Thursday 28 March, which is a normal school day, 8.40 - 3.30pm.

The spring term has been remarkably short and tremendously busy!

Students have had a wealth of opportunities in and beyond the classroom, so extensive that I can only highlight a selection.

World Book Day was marked with great enthusiasm, as students and staff were linked by notable literary place names. Students in Years 7 & 8 enjoyed our Author Visit, and we welcomed Year 6 pupils from our feeder primary schools. Mathematical talent came to the fore through the maths challenge.

Linguistic skills were further developed as record numbers of students participated in the language exchanges with France, Germany and Spain. The China Challenge is set for Year 8 students who will be travelling to China at Easter.

House plays were exceptionally strong this year. And so many students have made the most of Dance, Drama and Music opportunities, many linked to professional companies and performers.

Our students have excelled in a range of sporting activities, including Rugby in the West Berks Rugby Floodlit League, performing superbly in the Lacrosse Nationals and the Junior West Lacrosse Rally. Cross country, netball, football and even polo have all seen students achieving of their best. We welcomed Lesley Owusu, the international athlete, to work with our Key Stage 4 students.

The school site has been enhanced, not only with the provision of Eton Fives courts but in terms of the natural environment with a unique bird feeding station and the planting of the Arboretum.

Most importantly, students have been supported in and beyond their lessons to complete coursework and to prepare for their examinations. Practical examinations are already well underway and the Easter period will be a time for all students in exam groups to focus on their revision; the Revision programme for Easter is already heavily subscribed.

Wishing everyone a peaceful and Happy Easter.

**Mrs C I Haddrill, Headteacher**



## TERM DATES

The term ends at 3.30pm on Thursday 28 March.

Monday 15 April is a staff training day.

Summer term begins for all students on Tuesday 16 April 2013, with registration at 8.40am.

May Bank Holiday is Monday 6 May.

Half Term 27-31 May.

Staff Training Day 3 July



The weekly newsletter of St Bartholomew's School.

## BIRD BOX CITY

The Horticulture team made a large number of bird boxes last week as the rain put paid to our outdoor aspirations.

We hope that they can be put up in time to provide shelter for birds to nest this season.



The small hole nest boxes are designed for blue, great and coal tits, the large hole nest boxes are for sparrows and the open fronted ones are designed for robins and pied wagtails. Thank you for the kind offers of nettles following last week's appeal. We have now received many nettle plants to establish our nettle area.

**Dr Fitter and the Horticulture Team**



## Photography Club Competition

The Easter holidays are coming up so why not use the time to see what you can come up with!

## SUMMER(1) COMPETITION THEME

### “ PATTERNS “

**Deadline is 12 noon Wednesday  
15 May 2013**

**Entries by email to Mrs Gibbs :  
[agibbs@stbarts.co.uk](mailto:agibbs@stbarts.co.uk)**

One photo per person. Please keep entries no larger than 1.5 MB. You may use Photoshop to adjust brightness, contrast or colour of the image but NOT to add or remove parts of the image.

## SCHOOL SCIENCE CHALLENGE ST BART'S TEAM WINS

The School Science Challenge is a University Challenge style event with Year 9 level scientific questions. Schools from all over Berkshire and Surrey entered this year. The St Bart's team: **Elin Bevan 9C3, David Goldberg 9D2, Emma Lalande 9C3 and Izzy Loxton 9P1** proved to have greater breadth and depth of scientific knowledge than the others and emerged as worthy champions.



Each of their pool matches was won by large margins, beating Emmbrook School by 80 points to 20, Hightown by 75 to 30 and Tomlinscote by 80 to 40. The semi-final against Heathland proved to be straightforward, the final score being 125 to 35. They faced a now quite intimidated Tomlinscote team again in the final, eventually winning by 85 points to 60. Apart from their scientific knowledge the students worked brilliantly as a team and were a credit to the school throughout.

**Dr Costambeys**

## St Bart's Food Festival and Fete

### It's Fete time again!

We are looking for donations of bric-a-brac, books, plants, toiletries, bottles and so on.

Please leave your donations in the school reception

We are always looking for helpers and stallholders so please contact me as below

Fete organiser: Ginette Higgs  
[ginette.higgs@gmail.com](mailto:ginette.higgs@gmail.com)

## PI DAY

A number of activities and competitions were organised for Pi day. Year 7 were involved in solving Pi Dingbats in the Maths Breakout area, Years 11 to 13 baked cakes around Pi theme, see pictures. George Davis from Year 11 won this competition with a Pi Perfectly baked Pi cake, well done to Christian Pearce for the digits of Pi cake, but the most competitive



competition took place at activity time where we had '**How many digits of Pi do you know?**' A number of students from Year 10 to 13 took part in this competition along with Mr Bell, first and second place were highly contested with 1 digit between them, second place went to Luke Gregory Year 12 with an amazing 140 decimal place, however the overall winner was Ollie Da Silva Year 12 with an astonishing Pi perfect 141 decimals places, an amazing achievement Ollie! You are the 2013 Pi Champion and will be awarded with the Pi Tie shortly. Well done to everyone who took part, including Matt Parkes Year 11 who managed 87 decimals places and Travis McMichael in Year 10 who managed 53.

**Mrs McDowell**



Winning cakes 1<sup>st</sup> place George Davis, second place Christian Pearce



Pi digits winner Ollie Da Silva with the other contenders



## YOUNG FESTIVAL CRITICS SCHEME

Free Tickets for reviewers and a chance to win £100

The scheme allows anyone between the ages of 16 and 30 years to attend various Newbury Spring Festival performances for FREE in return for a review. Anyone keen on the arts, drama and music as well as budding journalists or photographers can find out more from Mr Grant or at [http://www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk/young\\_festival\\_critics.htm](http://www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk/young_festival_critics.htm)

## KEY STAGE 4 REWARDS - '15 CLUB'

Once again, increased numbers of Year 10 and 11 received certificates for reaching an average mark of 15 or above for their hard work across GCSE and BTec subjects. 66 Year 11 students reached this mark, with 37 students making at least two points of progress – certificates were also awarded to these students.

Winners of the third prize draw recently held, were: Mimi Oluwande and Ella Robinson (Year 11) and Oliver Harris, Abbie Dixon (Year 10).

The next award at Easter will be the last for Year 11, with totals linking to the Graduation Celebration on Friday 10 May.

**Mr N Cook Assistant Headteacher  
Years 7-11**



## OFF ON AN ADVENTURE WITH CHINA CHALLENGE!

The start of the Easter holidays will see 21 of our Year 8 students heading off on a trip of a lifetime to Shanghai accompanied by Mrs Fisher, Miss Midgley and Mr Peacock. Together they will not only be visiting some amazing sights, they will also be spending time at our Chinese link school – Aurora Middle School – where they will meet with local school children and take part in some of their daily routines and lessons. Another highlight will be an opportunity to spend some time with the Chinese students and their families.



Prior to their departure the students have been fundraising for the trip and have been involved in special cultural evenings where they have presented on topics such as the Olympics, Food and Fashion and History comparing them in terms of the cultural, social and geographical differences between our two countries.



This will be the second China Challenge “Easter Study Tour”, the first having taken place last year. Students will be sharing their experiences with the rest of the school on their return.

## ALL AGE GROUPS UNDEFEATED IN THE RUGBY FLOODLIT LEAGUES

It happens very rarely, but this year the St Bart's rugby players have excelled themselves by winning every age group in the Newbury and District Floodlit Rugby League competition.

Matches are contested over the winter months at Year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and Sixth Form, and in all matches played this year St Bart's teams were undefeated winning all their games, many by considerable margins, and drawing just one.

This caps an impressive rugby season for the school with the big majority of the matches being won, including a large number of Saturday fixtures against good quality opposition.

At the same time, the Year 7 boys finished 6<sup>th</sup> out of 42 teams in the County Festival, Year 8 boys narrowly lost in the County Final and the Year 9 boys were losing semi finalists in the same competition. The Year 10 boys were impressive in the national Daily Mail Cup Competition reaching the fourth round of the main competition before suffering a defeat which was their only loss of an otherwise unbeaten season.

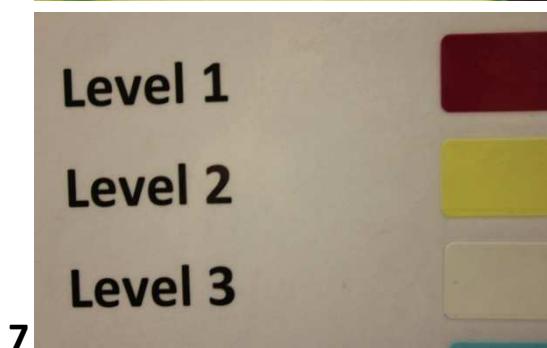
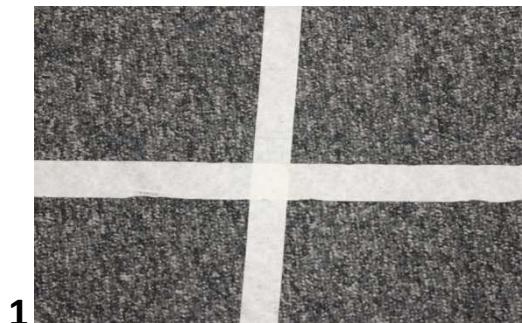


*Picture shows captains and other representatives from each of the school rugby teams.*

Success such as this is hard-earned and is achieved as a result of regular training, good quality coaching and a willingness on the part of the boys to make a full commitment in support of their undoubtedly talent and ability.

## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW ST BART'S?

The following pictures have all been taken in or around our school. Can you identify where they have been taken? There is a prize for the student who most accurately describes where all 8 images are from! **Written entries to Mrs Gibbs in E130 by 1.30pm on Wednesday 17 April.**





## EVERS HOUSE NEWS

Evers students continue to show their commitment to raising money for our House charity, West Berkshire Mencap, and other important causes.

On Tuesday 19 March, all the students in **7E2** delighted their teachers by completing a sponsored silence ... never an easy task! Equipped with small whiteboards and marker pens, the students found clever ways of communicating in their lessons without speaking. For a whole day! We await the final sum raised. But in the meantime our congratulations to all the students involved (and thanks to their teachers for being so understanding!).

On Red Nose Day, Friday 15 March, students in **10E2** baked cakes to sell at morning break, raising over £100. Once again, the delicious assortment of cakes flew off the shelves – well done to all involved!

In House Assembly on Tuesday, Mr Rose announced the winner of our World Book Day competition – congratulations to **Amy Boliter** and **Heidi Hughes** (12E2) who received a £10 book token for spotting all but one of the books hidden in the story.

Tutor group House representatives from all years met for an Evers House Council meeting on Wednesday 20 March. We discussed ideas to improve school life for Evers students and began to plan activities for the Fete this summer. The next meeting is on Wednesday 27 March.

Finally, we wish all Evers students and families a happy and pleasant Easter break.

**Mr Rose, Ms Evans and Mrs Willcox**

## ATTENDANCE HOTLINE



If your child is absent from school please ring the hotline number  
**01635 576372**

Leave a message with the following details:

- Your child's name and tutor group
- Reason for absence
- Likely date of return
- Contact telephone number

## Fives @

### St Bart's

You have already heard that the new Fives courts are ready and now you can learn to play the game!

There are **three ways** students can get involved:

1. Sixth formers will run **introductory sessions for students in Years 7 and 8**
  - Sessions will be available **Mon-Thu 12.45-1.15pm**
  - Sessions will commence week commencing **Mon 22 April**
  - Booking through Mr Turner or Mrs Gibbs in E130 is required a **week in advance, deadline Thursdays 1pm**
2. A qualified coach will offer **introductory sessions for Years 9, 10 & 11**

Sessions will be **Fri activity time 12.35-1.00pm and 1.00-1.25pm**

  - These sessions will commence in the Summer Term – exact start date to follow
  - Booking through Mr Turner or Mrs Gibbs in E130 is required a **week in advance, deadline Thursdays 1pm**
3. Friday after school **coaching sessions for Years 7-13**
  - Sessions will be **3.30-4.30pm or 4.30-5.30pm**
  - These will cost £50 for a 10 week block starting **Fri 26 April**
  - Booking through Mr Turner or Mrs Gibbs in E130 is required by **Mon 22 April**
  - Payment to be made through Finance Office



All you will need is a pair of trainers – gloves and balls will be provided.

In addition there will be organised matches at home and away!

Visit **OpenHive - Clubs - Fives**

## CURNOCK NEWS

The second half of this term has flown by so fast that many of us have only just registered we're back from half term! Despite this we have managed to pack a lot in such a short space of time.

House Dance was well supported by all year groups and we were delighted when the Y10-13 group won the Prop Dance with their interpretation of 'The Lady is a Tramp'. Curnock came overall second which was a great result and reflected the hard work put in by our Dance Captain, Lucie Dale who was ably assisted by Becca Craig, Sam Farquhar, Maddie Hill, Mimi Oluwande and Paige Pope. Many thanks to all of them.

Our students have been busy participating in various sporting events and we are eagerly awaiting the final results from House Football, Lacrosse and Dodgeball.

Congratulations to Josh Waters 11C2 who was awarded his black belt in Karate. This was following an intense three day course at Guildford which included a written exam where some answers had to have phonetic Japanese responses! Josh and his sister Eleanor Waters 8C1 subsequently competed in the British WIKF Karate championships in Leicester where between them they won seven medals including a Gold for Eleanor and two Golds for Josh. Perhaps we should see whether we could start a House Karate competition whilst we still have the Waters in Curnock!

Euan Lindsay and Stephen Ansell 9C3 recently held a barn dance to help raise funds for their World Challenge and also Curnock House Charity. The dance was a huge success and much enjoyed by all who went. An initial count up indicates that, minus expenses, the boys have raised about £1,400 and anticipate donating £400 towards the House charity. A really fantastic achievement.

William Wood 7C3 has also been raising money for our charity with the sale of his Sucker Stand – the ultimate accessory for your mobile phone. So far he has raised £29.80 which is a great effort working on his own. A number of sponsorship forms have recently been handed out and we look forward to hearing of the successful completion of these ideas.

A reminder to our older students to take every advantage of the Easter Revision School and although it is hard to work in a school holiday, one last determined effort can make such a difference to your overall results.

Hopefully this cold weather will soon pass and we can enjoy a break with warm sunshine, daffodils and newborn lambs which will confirm that winter has really gone. A very Happy Easter to you all.

**Mrs Mounsey and Mrs Kempster**

## GIRLS' PE

### Year 7 Netball Tournament

On Tuesday 12 March, Year 7 took part in the Area Tournament at Kennet. They began playing against Kennet and won the match 4-0. They then played St Gabriel's and again won 4-0. The third match against Trinity was a win, 7-1. St Bart's played their final match against Theale winning 8-3 which took the girls through to the final.

Playing Downe House in the final was a tricky match and unfortunately they lost 7-1. This put them in runners up position and the team arrived home with silver medals.

Thank you, especially to Miss Jones, and well done to Year 7.



Team – Izzie Lainsbury, Lauren Bell, Naimh Watson, Beth Pinfold, Sophie Harrop, Emma Street, Alice Points, Alex Earle and Emily Carr.

### Year 7 and 8 Girls Football

Well done to the U13 girls' football team who beat Little Heath 4-2 in the semi final of the county cup. They will play in the final after Easter.

Lauren Bell scored all four goals and was awarded player of the match.



Squad – Emily McDonagh, Lauren Bell, Beth Mitchell, Millie Pope, Anna Williams, Hannah Perry, Emily Harrison, Fiona Paus, Imogen Harding, Rhian Stanton, Anna Yule, Charlotte Cooper, Abi Beamish, Eleanor Rollinson and Sky Harkness.

## **HOUSE LACROSSE Accounts from Year 7 Students**

The atmosphere surrounding House lacrosse was excellent, with the sun shining for the first time and spirits from everyone playing at a high. Whilst we were all playing we could hear the support from our teams to give us a boost in confidence! For some it was their first time to play in a team sport and what a great day for it to be on! Curnock were doing exceptionally, however nerves were still there for our final game, we won and thoroughly enjoyed the experience! As a team player it was nice to involve our entire House and support our friends through each game.

**Sophie Harrop**



The teams were full of spirit and the subs were chanting for their houses. We were luckier than every other year group with beautiful weather and no sign of frosty conditions! Everyone had a great time playing and enjoyed the whole competitive experience. It was nice to see each House in colour and mass support for everyone involved. Big mention to the goalies, they were brave in their kit, looking intimidating and scary!

**Lauren Bell**

### **RUN (OR WALK) MEL'S MILE With the GB Olympic Hockey Medalist Alex Danson**

In aid of Prostate Cancer Research at the RBH and Newbury Cancer Trust  
On Saturday 4 May  
At St Bart's, Fifth Road  
Six separate mile runs (walks) starting at 9am  
Further information from  
Mel on 07889 699907

## **Girls' Indoor Athletics County Competition**

Following on from an impressive first round earlier in the year when St Bart's finished in first place, the team went through to the county final on 1 March at Bracknell. The girls were determined to work hard and achieve well, and they did not disappoint. There were some excellent performances in both the track and field events and they completed the competition in first place. They will now go on to the regional final in the summer term.

Congratulations to all those who took part, this was a superb team achievement.

Team - I Sanderson, A Mangan, T Sonubi, G Sanderson, C Bell, M Pope, S Drake, F Eva  
**Mrs L Leach**



## **U12 and U13 Junior West Lacrosse Rally 2013**

A couple of weekends ago the Year 7 and 8 lacrosse teams braved the weather to play at the U12 and U13 Junior West Lacrosse Rally. The Year 7 girls were runners up of the whole tournament, second out of ten schools. They had some good results in the morning matches to then get to play in the premiership in the afternoon where they beat Queen Anne's and Godolphin, drew with St Mary's Calne and just lost out to Downe House. This is the best a Year 7 team has done at this tournament for a few years; the team is coached by Miss Jones.

The Year 8 team, coached by Miss McGreevey, also had a good day. They were in Division One for their afternoon matches and won this Division, finishing 6<sup>th</sup> out of 13 schools. They beat St Helen's & St Catherine's in an exciting game .