



## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Thank you and well done to everyone for their hard work and support over this term. The term was marked by the visit from Ofsted and we were pleased that the inspection team saw what a great school St Bart's is and judged the behaviour and safety of the students as outstanding, stated that lessons were well planned and teaching across the school is typically good and some even better. We will now continue to build on the excellent school we have and fully address the areas for further improvement to be outstanding in every respect.

It has also been pleasing to see so many students involved in the vast range of activities across the school and many of these have featured in BartholoNews this term. It is impossible to highlight all the activities but this term the House drama, won by Davis, House dance, won by Evers and the Easter concert have all showcased the exceptional talents of our students. I also personally enjoyed my visit to see all our CCF cadets in action at Bramley at their biennial inspection and the Commodore was very complimentary about our students.

Red Nose Day also saw all the school supporting the theme and staff and students raised the tremendous total of £1,787.06. Students have also taken part in World Book Day, Pi Day and British Science Week, demonstrating their literacy, mathematical and scientific talent. Student participation in this way is a real strength of the school, and so congratulations to all of the students on their involvement and successes.

This term students' final applications to universities were made and they have now received many offers. It was particularly rewarding to see eight of our students gain

Oxbridge offers and two more gain places for medicine to date, and we now wish them well in securing these places through success in their final examinations. We have also offered 260 places to Year 6 students to join us in September and visits to primary schools to meet them and support their transition are already underway. We look forward to welcoming them to St Bart's.

Last week it was also good to welcome back past students for the ONA lacrosse, netball and football matches and to see that they have not lost their competitive edge!

As we move towards the main external examination season, may I ask that you encourage students in examination groups to make use of the Easter period to focus on their revision and attend the Easter revision sessions that we have put on, as appropriate, to ensure that they will achieve their true potential in the forthcoming examinations.

Over Easter the school will also be seeing further improvements being made to our facilities with the refurbishment of the library. The area is being developed to give more space and a greater variety of working and reading areas for our students' benefit.

After Easter Miss Boggett, teacher of music and German, and Ms Durand are returning from their maternity leave and therefore may I take the opportunity to thank Mrs Williams and Mrs Robertson who have covered part of their timetables, for all their hard work, as they will be leaving St Bart's for a few months before returning to take up further posts later this year.

Lastly, may I wish everyone a happy and restful Easter break and I look forward to seeing everyone back ready for a successful and productive summer term.

**Ms J Mortimore**

## BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

Recently, many British scientists applied for a chance to go into space on the Mars One mission. Last week, some St Bart's students also had a chance to find out what it feels like to go into space – without ever leaving the school hall. The Explorer Dome was part of a very special week for St Bart's as we enjoyed a fantastic week of science-related activities to celebrate British Science Week, from the chemistry Whizz Bang Show to dissection fun!

My highlights of the week were definitely the pig head dissection and the visit from Zoolab. Many of the students were revolted at the gruesome sight of a creature's head being cut up into small pieces; I was really interested to find out how it all worked. It is hard to imagine how much is inside a head, but the scientist talked us through it all as she did the dissection, so we learned a lot about anatomy. A scalpel was used to cut around the eyes so we could see that amazing structure really clearly. The membrane was then cut so it was easier to access. My favourite part was when cutting the optic nerve it was described as being just like cutting rope!



Zoolab was fascinating too because we got a chance to get up close and personal with lots of different animals and find out what they do. I was especially interested in the White's Tree Frog. Although it's called white, it's actually rather green – the name comes from the scientist who discovered it. He looked very much like Jeremy Fisher in Beatrix Potter after eating all the flies. Less cute was the tarantula. We learned that it was very furry but that if she got scared she could flick her hairs off as a defence mechanism and these could irritate your eyes. That is why we weren't allowed to hold it.

All in all this was a fantastic week; we learnt a lot and we were left with some great memories.

**Rebecca Lane 7C3**



### EXPLORER DOME

The Explorer Dome was great, it was like another world inside.

The dissections were cool, but disgusting.

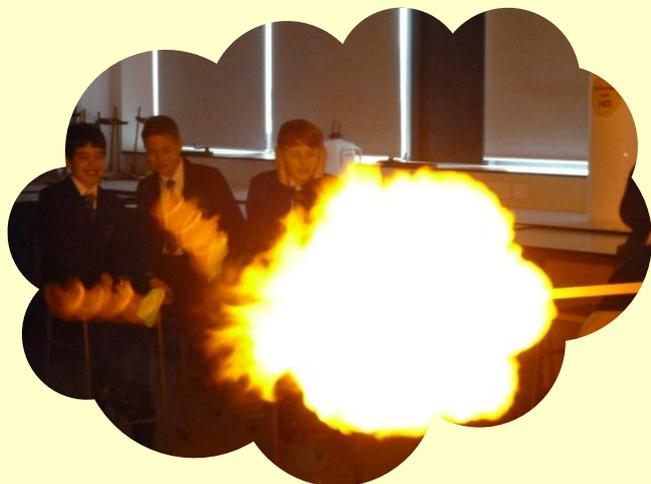
It was a great week.

**Riley Seamons 8P1**

## IGNITING ENTHUSIASM

The science faculty would like to thank all the students who took part in British Science Week events. We had a lot of fun hosting the events, and hope that the whole week re-ignited the students' enthusiasm for science.

**Dr R Costambeys**



## BIG BANG FAIR

The Year 8 and 9 science trip to the NEC in Birmingham was a definite success. The minute we reached the car park everyone was already chatting away enthusiastically about the positive reviews that we had already received about our destination. Having the freedom to explore completely different aspects of science comfortably and in our own time really made the subject more fascinating.

Projects from the science of avalanches to how taste buds react to Oreos, all were included in the massive event.

Careers advice was also available for all those considering future options in science. Speaking to experts about our different choices was extremely helpful.

**Bethany Pinfold 9E2**

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### TERM ENDS

Term ends for the Easter holidays at **3.30pm** on **Thursday 2 April.**

### Summer Term

There is a staff training day on Monday 20 April and the summer term begins for all students at 8.40am on Tuesday 21 April.

### DIARY DATES

Mon 20 Apr Staff Training Day  
Tues 21 Apr Student Term Begins  
Thur 23 Apr Shakespeare Day  
Mon 27 Apr Y8 Parents' Information Evening – WW1 Study Tour, Hall, 6pm



## CURNOCK NEWS

Curnock was delighted to welcome back a special guest to their recent assembly. Mike Hart, former Head of House, came in his new role as a representative of our House charity, Newbury & District Cancer Care Trust, to collect a cheque for the funds raised last year.

Our House Captains, Dan Cox and Joe Lukehurst, handed over a cheque for £2,738.55. Mr Hart told the House that this meant over the past 35 years Curnock has raised over £75,000 in total, which is a great achievement. He reminded us that this represents thousands of miles of sponsored bike rides, hours of sponsored silences, tons of baked cakes and many other fund raising activities. No matter how small they may seem, they all add up and every penny we raise makes a difference.

Following Mr Hart's inspiring talk, Jess Watts, Callum O'Neill and Mimi Oluwande, told the House of the plans made by our House Council to run a whole House cake sale on Friday 27 March. In addition they will run Easter egg treasure map and we are grateful to local shops that provided some prizes for this. At the time of going to print this event has not happened but we will report back on how it went and the money raised in a later edition of BartholoNews.

### Debating

We were extremely proud of our senior debating team who were the overall winners. The team comprised, Dan Cox, Harriet Wilson, Harriet Penna and Mimi Oluwande. Mrs Lane reported that the level of their debating skills was outstanding. Our junior team also tried their best and although they did not win we were really pleased with their efforts. The team was comprised Isaac Fernandes, Sam Harris, Rebecca Lane and Will Oretti.

### House Sport

The results of House lacrosse and football are also in and Curnock has done well in both these categories. We are still in the lead in the overall sport championship so keep up the good work. Next term it will be the summer sports to concentrate on.

### Dance

House dance was not our greatest success but congratulations to our Year 9- Year 13 dancers who won their section. Well done also to all our other students who took part and ensured that the Curnock principle of 'No Gaps' was adhered to.

### Student Success



Once again we are delighted to report another success in karate by Eleanor Waters 10C1. Despite having been out of action for some time, due

to injury, Eleanor successfully helped win gold for 14-15 year female team event, silver in the mixed age/gender team and, saving the best for last, the silver medal for the individual competition. She was only narrowly beaten by her Irish opponent in the last seven seconds! As a result of this Eleanor has been selected to represent England at the European Championships, Denmark in September. Well done Ellie, we are all extremely proud of you!

### Happy Easter

Finally it just remains to wish you all a very Happy Easter break. Best wishes to our Year 11, 12 and 13 students with their revision timetables. Remember to take breaks in your studies, get plenty of exercise and sleep and small amounts of chocolate are bound to help the brain cells! You are on the home stretch now so keep up the momentum.

We look forward to seeing all of you again next term.

**Mrs Mounsey, Mrs Kempster, Mrs Palmer and Mrs Hamblin**

## SIGNED ENGLAND RUGBY POLO SHIRT RAFFLE

A signed England rugby team polo shirt is being raffled to raise money for Evers House charity, West Berkshire Mencap. The shirt has been signed by most of the England squad and was worn by England player Jonathan Joseph (JJ), who plays outside centre, at the after-party of the six nations match on Saturday 21 March. Jonathan's brother, William is in 8E1, and he was at the match cheering on the England team.



*William Joseph in his brother's England polo shirt being raffled for charity*

Tickets are £1 each and available from Evers House Office or 8E1's tutor group in D116. Parents and the local community can purchase tickets from reception. The draw will be made during the whole school assembly on 1 April.



## BRASS BAND COMPETITION

Four St Bart's students took part in the London and Southern Counties Regional Brass Band Competition with Cold Ash Brass Band on Saturday 21 March. The band came second out of 16 and as one of the top two this means they go to represent the region at the National Brass Finals in September 2015. The four students were Henry Hutchins, Alice MacAulay, James Murrell and Rhian Stanton.

## MATHS FEAST COMPETITION

Congratulations to Susie Drake, Max Hersh, Ben Loosen and James Read who took part in the Year 10 Maths Feast competition on Monday 23 March. The competition was organised by the further maths support programme and took place at The Downs School.

The team was competing against other local schools and the day involved a range of problem solving and mathematical challenges. The St Bart's team was highly commended for their team work. They won two rounds – algebraic expressions and the origami round. The picture shows the team's Columbus Cubes.



**Miss I Sudbury**



## DAVIS DIARY

The Easter break is now upon us and we wish you all a very Happy Easter. Congratulations to Emily Beck 10D3 who has been offered a place at Youth Music Theatre. Emily has been cast in their newly written musical 'The Midnight Flower Press' in Plymouth's Barbican Theatre and will be performing during August. Applications for House Colours for Years 10 and 12 are now open. Please get your application forms from the House office. The deadline for applications is 24 April 2015. We are well on our way to reaching our target of £3000 for our House (Prostate Cancer). Total raised to date is £2,692.99. Thank you everyone for your contributions thus far. Have a super break!

**Mrs Hodgkin, Miss Thorne and Mrs Lee**

# Oliver!

## STUDENTS IN OLIVER!

During the Easter holidays five students from St Bart's have been cast in a local production of Oliver Twist showing at The Corn Exchange.

Well done to those taking part – Sam Prentice as Noah, Eloise Trumper as Charlotte, Jasmine Danbury as Bet, Hollie Coghlan as Nancy and Billy Wild as The Artful Dodger. The school enjoyed a taste of the show when these students sang at last week's assembly.

The show runs from 7 to 11 April. Tickets £12.50 for concessions and £14.40 for adults.



### The preferred method of making payments to St Bartholomew's School

ParentPay is an online payment system we offer so parents can pay securely online for a range of items using debit/credit card. ParentPay is easy to use and offers parents the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever they are.

Paying online gives peace of mind that money has reached the school safely and is used for its intended purpose.

ParentPay can be used for:

- Trips
- Lunch Money
- Revision School
- Revision Guides
- Text Books
- Year 7 Contributions
- House Evenings/House Plays
- and much more...

If you have lost or forgotten your login and password, or need more information about how you can use ParentPay, please contact the Finance Office, [finance@stbarts.co.uk](mailto:finance@stbarts.co.uk)



## AUDITIONS AT THE WATERMILL Oliver!

In a completely different production of Oliver to that at The Corn Exchange over Easter, auditions are taking place for the summer musical at The Watermill. This is a rare chance for students to perform alongside a professional cast.

The deadline to return audition forms is 8 April

More details from Mrs Norris in Expressive Arts or The Watermill Theatre on 01635 570927, email [beth@watermill.org.uk](mailto:beth@watermill.org.uk)

## GIRLS' PE

### Netball v Trinity

In their latest netball fixtures the Year 10 team beat Trinity 20-6. Annabel Mangan was awarded player of the match. The Year 11 team also beat Trinity 23-10 and Rosie Stanton was awarded player of the match.

### Netball v Park House

The Year 10 netball team lost 26-11 against Park House in a league fixture. Freya Eva and Georgie Sanderson were awarded players of the match.

### ONA Netball

1<sup>st</sup> team v ONA lost 22-10 Becky Nicholls awarded player of the match by the ONA

2<sup>nd</sup> team v ONA won 22-7 Issi Sanderson awarded player of the match by the ONA

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

This was the last fixture of the season for the senior netball squad. Throughout this season the girls have worked hard and had some excellent results winning all their fixtures in the league and coming a creditable third in the recent area tournament.

As always, the ONA team was strong and with only one shooter for the school the game was to be a little challenging. The game was played in superb spirit and it is always a special occasion when the old girls are back in action, clearly demonstrating that they still have the skills and fitness.

The school fought hard with some excellent defending and interceptions from Elin and Lottie holding the ONA to a narrow margin in the first quarter. The second quarter saw the ONA pull away with some excellent shooting, but in the third quarter the school held their own and played well to draw in this quarter. Despite their superb efforts and some excellent play from the school the ONA managed to secure a convincing and very well deserved victory.



Congratulations to all players. It really was an excellent game from both sides.

**Mrs L Leach**

### ONA Lacrosse Matches

1<sup>st</sup> team v ONA      lost 11-4, Yvette Pinder awarded player of the match by the ONA

2<sup>nd</sup> team v ONA      won 8-4 Jenny Alston awarded player of the match by the ONA

