

ROCKET SCIENCE

Rocket science has come to school as St Bart's is taking part in Tim Peake's space seed Rocket Science experiment.



The rocket seeds and information pack have arrived

Over the next five weeks 13 students in the Year 7/8 science club, assisted by two Year 12 students, will be taking part in a mass national experiment to grow salad leaf rocket seeds. These seeds have been on the space station with Tim Peake for six months and were returned to Earth in March for schools to run their investigations.



Preparing the seed trays



Seed trays ready

The students are all very excited about this opportunity and one aim is to learn about the effects of weightlessness and radiation so that plant varieties can be developed to be grown on long space missions thus providing astronauts with fresh food to enjoy.

Seeds all watered and ready to be monitored



The student scientists will be monitoring the seedling growth and recording the data which will be analysed by professional statisticians. This experiment is being coordinated by the Royal Horticultural Society's Campaign for School Gardening and the UK Space Agency.



SHAKESPEARE DAY

William Shakespeare's 452nd birthday was marked in style when, on Friday 22 April, the Luker Hub was transformed into The Globe Theatre and students took to the stage to perform monologues and duologues from Shakespeare's plays.

There were plenty of other events to celebrate the great Bard's birthday including a treasure hunt, a whole school quiz and the Bard's Birthday Cake Competition.

The Shakespeare Day is now in its second year at St Bart's and creates a great buzz among students. Students across all age groups have been truly inspired.

Mr M Edens



DAVIS DIARY

At the end of last term Davis House said farewell to Mrs Evans, and this term we have welcomed Miss Miles who will continue the good work as Davis Progress and Achievement Leaders. Miss Miles is an English teacher who is already familiar with many Davis students and is looking forward to meeting more as the term progresses.

Congratulations to the following Sixth Form students who have been appointed School Officers for 2016-2017:

Anna Dean and David Goldberg – Davis House Captains

Gabriel Foley, Lauren Marshall and Harriet Denton – Deputy House Captains

Rory McNeill – Head Boy.

This term Davis will continue fund raising events to raise money for our House charity, Alopecia UK.

Mrs Hodgkin, Miss Miles and Mrs Humphreys

SCHOOL OFFICERS 2016 – 2017

The newly appointed Sixth Form School Officers were announced last week. They overlap with the outgoing team in Year 13 for a few weeks before going on their training weekend in early June. Following that they return after exams to take up full responsibility for their roles. Congratulations to the students appointed as follows.

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Head Girl | Bethany Edwards |
| Head Boy | Rory McNeill |
| Deputy Head Girl | Amy Bowen |
| Deputy Head Boy | Aidan O'Neill |
| Curnock House Captains | Emma Lalande Ruby Mitchell |
| Deputies | Shauna Barker Elin Bevan Jordan Hole |
| Davis House Captains | Anna Dean David Goldberg |
| Deputies | Harriet Denton Gabriel Foley Lauren Marshall |
| Evers House Captains | Stan Dooley Becca Wilshaw |
| Deputies | James Du Toit Bethany Williams-Moss |
| Patterson House Captains | Alex Jarman Sam Jarman |
| Deputies | Annie Jackson Matt King Saffron Langley |



TWITTER

Be the first to get the news and follow us.

@St_Barts_School

@curnock_barts

@davis_barts

@evers_barts

@patterson_barts



FOREIGN LANGUAGE SPELLING BEE COMPETITION – YEAR 7

For the third year running our Year 7 students have taken part in the National Foreign Language Spelling Bee competition in either French or German. In the autumn term all students in Year 7 were given a list of 50 words in either French or German and their first challenge was to learn the alphabet in the foreign language and then spell these words out correctly, completing as many as possible in one minute.

At the end of the autumn term, the winners from each tutor group were chosen to go onto the whole school stage and given 50 more words to learn. The whole school part of the competition took place at the end of February, with the students being tested on all 100 words.

The top three students were then selected to represent the school. **Rhiannon Evans 7D2** for French and **Guillermo Aguilar 7P1** and **Alexandra Gould 7E2** for German. With the help of two of our A Level language students, Jocelyn O'Brien 13C2 and Abbie Dixon 13D2, they practised regularly to be ready for the competition.



Guillermo Aguilar, Alex Gould, Rhiannon Evans

On Wednesday 20 April they went to the Regional Finals at the University of Brighton, where they competed against other schools from the South East region, this time being tested on a selection from 150 words. They all performed exceptionally well under pressure in front of an audience of other competitors and their teachers. Despite the pressure of performing they all enjoyed the day.

Success in Regional Finals

Particular congratulations go to Alexandra Gould 7E2 who gained 2nd position in German and was awarded with a certificate and a medal. She has now earned a place in the National Final which will take place in July in Cambridge.

This is the third year that a St Bart's student has made it through to the National Final. We wish her luck as she practises 200 words for the competition in July.

Miss Collinson, MFL Faculty



Foster NOW

WEST BERKSHIRE FOSTERING

Fostering is looking after children who cannot live with their families. This could range from a few days to several months or be a long term arrangement.

Short break care gives children with special educational needs and disabilities a positive experience with another family while providing their families with a break.

You could do it too:

- Single, married, cohabiting
- In a same sex relationship
- Any ethnicity, religion or culture
- Have a room available
- Have children or not
- Can offer a secure, stable environment

Information Evenings run monthly, details at westberks.gov.uk/fostering or ring 01635 503155

TRANSIT OF MERCURY

Ever wanted to see a planet nearer to the Sun than the Earth?
Missed the opportunity to see Venus transit the Sun in 2012?
Well, now is your chance to see Mercury transit the Sun.....

Monday 9 May 2016 between 5.30pm and 6.30pm

See below for more details.

REMEMBER if you are planning to see this for yourselves at home, do not look directly at the Sun.
Better still, come to the school field and use the equipment there instead.

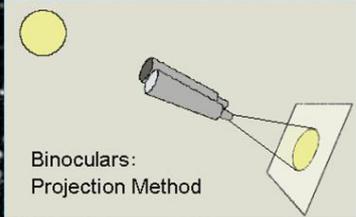
All welcome.

For more details see Ms H Thomson in the Science department.

hthomson

Mercury Transit – 9 May 2016

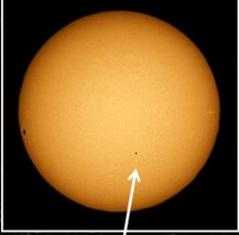
- Between 17:30 and 18:30 on 9 May we hope to observe the transit of Mercury across the disk of the Sun
- If the weather allows we'll have a projection of the Sun's disk set up on the West side of the school, and there may also be a solar telescope from the Newbury Astronomical Society
- If it's wet/cloudy, we'll use the hall; try to find a web-stream of the event; and we'll have a few pictures of other transit events to intrigue you



Binoculars:
Projection Method



CORONADO
P.S.T.



Mercury

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT



Please be aware that MindEd for Families at <http://minded.e-lfh.org.uk/families/index.html> was launched recently to provide expert information that families with concerns about their children's mental health can trust, free of charge. The resources have been developed as a partnership between parents and mental health experts.

It is well worth a visit.

Mrs M Sims, Deputy Headteacher

Ofsted OFSTED ENGAGEMENT EVENT

Listening to Parents in the South East Region

Ofsted is committed to improving engagement with parents on how they work and what they find. Parents with school aged children are invited to attend a webinar on Wednesday 4 May from 7.30pm – 8.30pm.

Register online at <http://bit.ly/23WkvxE>

During the webinar inspectors will outline

- Ofsted's current approach to inspection
- Priorities for schools in the region
- How inspections try to get to the heard of what is going on in schools.

The webinar is also an opportunity for parents to share their views.

Please note this is not a session for raising concerns about individual schools, but for raising more general issues.

ALL SCHOOL LEAVERS - SUMMER 2016

Lunch Card Accounts & additional purchased printing credits

Please can you check the balance on your child's lunch card and additional purchased printing credits before your son/daughter leaves St Bartholomew's School.

Print credits: If extra credits have been purchased please check your remaining balance on the printers for any credit remaining over and above the weekly allocated 30p.

Lunch card balance: Where lunch card accounts are in debit and therefore money is owing to the school, please pay using Parentpay, or pay Mrs A Billingham in the kitchen between 8.00am and 8.30am, or in the Facilities Office between 2.00pm and 2.30pm by **Friday 6 May**; overdrafts won't be increased after this date. Alternatively, the money can be left in a clearly labelled envelope at the school reception.

Where lunch accounts are in credit, monies can be refunded to students:

- i) at the times noted above from the kitchen and Facilities office,
- ii) transferred to a sibling remaining at St Bart's by e-mailing to finance@stbarts.co.uk
- iii) or if deposits have been paid by Parentpay, the final balance can be requested to be refunded by Parentpay by e-mailing finance@stbarts.co.uk.

The lunch cards remain in operation throughout the exam period and refunds or payments can be made up to the 20th July; however, any monies remaining on accounts in credit at the end of the summer term 2016 i.e. 21 July 2016, will be taken as kindly donated to the school.

All School Property (including all school books)

Reminder - Please return all school property by **Monday 27 June**, including all school books which must be taken to the school library.



DRAMA NEWS

The drama department has been receiving good news following auditions. Lilia Norman 10E2 has been successful in her audition for The National Youth Theatre. She has also informed the school that her brother Oli, who left St Bart's after A Levels last summer, is currently being called for auditions at several of the major acting schools.

Also, Joe Lukehurst who left after A Levels last year, has now finished his Foundation year and is being called to auditions at top acting schools and has at least one firm offer.

Finally, Eloise Trumper 13P1 has received multiple offers to drama schools and is hoping to gain a place on a scholarship programme.

Congratulations everyone for achieving such success in a very challenging field.

Mrs K Norris, Drama Department



DIARY DATES

Wed 4 May Parents' Association Meeting
R1, 7.00pm

Fri 13 May Graduation Day for Y11

Mon 16 May GCSE/AS Exams Start
Y12 Study Leave begins
Y11 Revision Lesson
Programme begins

Mon 23 May Y9 Practice Exam Week

Fri 27 May Y13 Last Day of Formal
Teaching

Half Term – Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June

Revision School – Tuesday 31 May to Friday
3 June

Mon 6 June Y13 Study Leave begins