

# BartholoNews



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## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE



Firstly, may I thank everyone for their support, hard work and involvement throughout this academic year. It has been another successful and busy year in which we were recognised in March by the Minister of State for School Standards as being amongst the top state-funded schools for our students' very high standard of achievement in the English Baccalaureate in 2016. This is a testament to our students' continuous hard work and achievements, of which we are very proud.

### A Successful Year

This year has seen St Bart's celebrating many successes and significant events including the many House activities: House Music, House Drama, House Dance and the traditional House Evenings which all showcase the great talent of our students. We have also celebrated Science Week, Comic Relief Day, on which we raised £800 for this charity and £800 for The Rosemary Appeal. We have recognised many national awareness weeks and events such as Mental Health Week, when we planted a 'positivitree', Christian Aid Week, Mock Elections and most recently Refugee Week this term which was co-ordinated by the Sixth Form.

### End of Term Events

The term has ended with some enjoyable events: Sports Days, our annual Founder's Day, Proms for Years 11 and 13, the PA Summer Fete which returned with great success to the traditional Saturday afternoon time and

was opened by the Mayor of Newbury who also judged the Ready Steady Cook House competition. The annual Art Exhibition and the Curriculum Days also took place in July. We have also seen Year 13 and Year 11 leave and graduate with huge smiles on their faces, and a few tears, and now we look forward to celebrating their examination results in August.

### Enhancing Communication

This year we have also been focusing on how we can further enhance our communication with our community and it is tremendous to see our Twitter feed growing in followers. We also now have a Facebook page and we are looking to give our website a face lift for the new academic year. Lastly, we have also set up a new alumni, hopefully to engage more past students with the school, as their experiences are so often valuable to our current students. Therefore, if you know past students who would be willing to be part of our alumni, please ask them to contact us via <https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/former-student/stbartholomews>

### School Uniform and Equipment

Can I also ask that whilst the students are on their summer break, that your son/daughter has the required equipment for school and correct uniform ready to be worn appropriately for September so that high standards can be set from the beginning of term and we can focus all our energies on learning.



## House Teams in September

In September there are a number of changes in the House teams, as Mr Brennan, Head of Patterson House, has stepped down after 11 years of leading Patterson House, but we are pleased that he is remaining at St Bart's as a Teacher of History. Mrs Hodgkin has also decided to retire from her position of Head of Davis House, after 12 years' service to the House, but again we are pleased that she is staying at St Bart's in a part time Receptionist role. However, I know they will be missed by their Houses and many families, and we thank them for all their hard work and support they have given students over the years.

The new House teams from September will be:

<b>Curnock</b>	
<b>Head of House</b>	Mrs Hodges
<b>House Achievement/ Progress Leader</b>	Mr Brooker
<b>House Administrative/Progress Manager</b>	Mrs Hamblin

<b>Davis</b>	
<b>Head of House</b>	Miss Miles
<b>House Achievement/ Progress Leader</b>	Mr Sutherland
<b>School House Administrative/Progress Manager &amp; Lead Attendance Officer</b>	Mrs Jelley

<b>Evers</b>	
<b>Head of House</b>	Miss Thorne
<b>House Achievement/ Progress Leader</b>	Mr Sullivan
<b>House Administrative/Progress Manager</b>	Mrs Willcox

<b>Patterson</b>	
<b>Head of House</b>	Mr Lawes
<b>House Achievement/ Progress Leader</b>	Miss Midgley
<b>House Administrative/Progress Manager</b>	Mrs Codling

## Farewells

We are saying farewell to several members of staff at the end of term. Four members of our support staff are retiring; Mrs O'Farrell, afternoon Receptionist, is retiring after ten years, Mrs Gore, PA to Deputy Headteacher, is leaving after eight years, Mrs Vince, Teaching Assistant, who has been in post for nearly 21 years and Mr Manners, Site Supervisor, after nearly nine years. Their contribution to the school has been considerable and they will be missed. We wish them all well for the future.

We are also saying goodbye to Miss Oxner, Teacher of English, Mrs Norris, Head of Drama, Mr Forth, Head of Business, Computing & Society Faculty, who are taking up promotional posts in other schools and to Mr Carolan, Teacher of English, Mrs Uden, Teacher of Mathematics, Mr Crook, Head of Computing, Miss Jones, Teacher of Science, Mr Crampton, Assistant Teacher and Mrs Tate and Mr Allison, Teaching Assistants, who are all taking up new opportunities. We would like to thank them all for all they have done to support the school during their time with us and wish them the best for the future.

I would like to wish you all an enjoyable and safe summer break, and we look forward to the summer results and welcoming all our new students in September.

**Ms J Mortimore, Headteacher**

**TERM ENDS**  
**Friday 21 July 2017**  
**At 12.05pm**

## START OF AUTUMN TERM

Monday 4 September, Staff Training Day  
Tuesday 5 September, Staff Training Day  
Wednesday 6 September, Student Term Begins (Y7-Y12)

11.00am Y12 new to St Bart's report to the Sixth Form Area

11.15am Y7 students report to the Hall

12.15pm Y8 – Y12 Report to Tutor Rooms

Thursday 7 September, Y13 Report to Tutor Rooms at 8.30am to receive timetables

## AN UPDATE FROM THE PARENTS' ASSOCIATION



### Summer Fete

A huge thank you to all parents, staff and students who came along on the day, helped on a

stall or donated items to sell.

We raised around £2500 and we hope that matched funding will increase this amount to around £4000, so special thanks to those volunteers who offered to apply for matched funding on our behalf. If your company has a similar scheme and you could offer to help at one of our events in the future, please contact us at [stbartspa@gmail.com](mailto:stbartspa@gmail.com)

### Bids Meeting

Each year we ask faculties within the school to apply for PA funds via a bids meeting so that any monies raised get ploughed back into the school reasonably quickly. We can be clear exactly where the funds you help us raise go and our aim is always to support a wide range of applications and as many students across the school as possible. Projects/items we agreed to support from September are as follows - hopefully you'll agree it's a wide and varied list!

**More photos from the fete on page 10.**

<b>House awards</b>	Bronze, silver, gold badges
<b>Sixth form awards</b>	School scarves
<b>Mathematics</b>	Take part in Greenpower LET Formula 24 Competition in which students build their own Formula 24 car
<b>Mathematics</b>	Online maths revision licenses
<b>English</b>	Contribution to spend on visits to plays, performance workshops and revision sessions for GCSE students
<b>Science: Physics</b>	Purchase of equipment for practical work or demonstration for the new GCSE Science specification
<b>Modern Foreign Languages</b>	French, German and Spanish dictionaries for classroom use
<b>Art</b>	12 easels
<b>CCF</b>	Waterproof jackets and trousers, rucksacks
<b>DT Food:</b>	4 digital cameras with rechargeable batteries and memory cards (to use for coursework evidence)
<b>Psychology</b>	Model of the human brain
<b>Chess club</b>	Chess badges
<b>Curnock House</b>	Breakfast for Brilliance scheme
<b>Knit 'n' Natter Club</b>	Loyalty badges and awards
<b>Music</b>	New sheet music for all extra-curricular clubs and summer music tour
<b>Health and Social Care</b>	Bean bag seating for weekly Mindfulness sessions
<b>DT: Textiles</b>	Resources for a textile art club for KS3 students
<b>Expressive arts: Graphics</b>	New graphic design and illustration reference books
<b>English</b>	Visualisers for use by staff to develop new ways of assessing work and modelling best practice
<b>Horticulture/Biology</b>	Signage for the Nature Reserve
<b>Horticulture/Geography</b>	Rocks/pebbles to create a river in the Nature Reserve
<b>Humanities</b>	2 display cabinets for artefacts and celebrating students' work

<b>Humanities: Geography</b>	World map rug to increase engagement and interaction
<b>Science: STEM club</b>	Equipment to build simple machines including working seismograph to help investigate topics linked to new KS4 syllabus
<b>Theatre Tech Club</b>	Wheeled flats, stage make-up, HD projections for shows
<b>School officers bid</b>	Emergency first aid training for 80 students from across the school
<b>Mathematics</b>	20-25 board/card games for new club starting in September
<b>Library</b>	A3 posters and 200 colour-in bookmarks
<b>Photography (as part of extra KS4 provision)</b>	Two DSLR cameras, tripods etc.
<b>Debating society</b>	Badges for new society

## READY STEADY COOK COMPETITION At the Fete

The “Ready Steady Cook” competition took place once more at the school fete on Saturday 8 July. Teams of two Year 7 students representing each house: Adam Turner and Thanvi Sasikumar for Curnock; Cameron Fritz and Dillon Gerhardt McLeish for Davis; Emily Tucker and Lily Whitby for Evers; and Ellie Louise Walsh and Izzy Smithson for Patterson.

The competitors prepared seasonal salads using a wide range of ingredients from the characteristic carrier bags, presenting them most attractively. The ingredients were kindly sponsored by Sainsbury and Tesco. Each team designed and made a delicious dressing, which added to the uniqueness of each salad.

The salads were judged by our Newbury Mayor and his wife Mr and Mrs Fenn, who were most impressed with the skill and enthusiasm of the competitors. The winning team were Thanvi and Adam for Curnock, who were each presented with a cookery book, and a winner’s certificate, as well as the Ready Steady Cook trophy. The runners up also received cookery books and certificates.



I would like to express my sincere thanks to Lorraine Beck and Mel Booth from the Parents’ Association.

Well done to all who participated in this most enjoyable event.

**Mrs L Eastman**  
**Head of Design & Technology**

## SUMMER FETE PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 'Capturing the Spirit of the Day'

The PA Summer Fete is all about getting involved and we received a number of photographs to capture the spirit of the day.

Simone Jardine

Patterson old and new. The school fete offers the perfect opportunity to touch base with people you haven't seen in a while. It's time to slow down, gossip and catch up.



Mrs Hamblin

[Mr Brooker] helping my daughter Abi and [Mr Edwards] with her friend Leon, having their first go at paintballing. Abi loved it and had been looking forward to having a go all week.



Mrs Tucker

Music and Cake delights



Mrs Eastman

The Ready Steady Cook competition involving students -and the Mayor!



I am pleased to say that we have joint winners in the adult category: Mrs Eastman with her Ready, Steady, Cook participants (and the Mayor) and Mrs Hamblin with her daughter, Abi, (and her friend, Leon) having a go at paintball for the first time!

They will be receiving a prize (made of chocolate) courtesy of the Parents' Association soon.



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### DIARY DATES

Fri 21 July	Term Ends, 12.05pm
Mon 4 Sept	Staff Training Day
Tues 5 Sept	Staff Training Day
Wed 6 Sept	Term Begins
Thurs 7 Sept	Y12 Information Evening for Parents, Hall, 7pm

Tues 12 Sept	Y13 Exams
Wed 13 Sept	Y13 Exams
Thurs 14 Sept	Y13 Exams
Fri 15 Sept	Y13 Exams
Mon 19 Sept	Open Evening for New Entrants to Y7 Sept 2018

## SPANISH EXCHANGE RETURN TRIP

On Thursday 30 June a group of Y9 and Y10 St Bart's students greeted their Spanish guests from our Spanish partner school, the Elizabeth School, in Salou. The Spanish students spent a week experiencing family life in Britain and had a wonderful time.



The students enjoyed group days out to Salisbury, Bath and Oxford where they had a tour of Salisbury cathedral, visited the Roman Baths and a walking tour around Oxford University. They were also treated to days out with their host families - some even being lucky enough to spend a day at Harry Potter World!



Thank you to all of our families involved who accommodated our visitors and who went to considerable efforts to ensure that our Spanish guests had an enjoyable, authentic and rewarding stay. I know they have gone back to Salou with fond memories and feel very appreciative for the care and attention they received.

## ALUMNI NETWORK



Were you a student at St Bart's? Would you like to make a difference to the lives of current students?

We are developing an alumni network with a national education charity, Future First, with the aim of encouraging and enabling former students to play a more active role in the ongoing life of the school.

These plans have been shared with the ONA and they see them as complementary to their network.

If you'd like to give something back to your old school, or even just stay in touch and attend a reunion, then all you need to do is sign up to our former student network at <https://networks.futurefirst.org.uk/former-student/stbartholomews>

## ONWARDS AND UPWARDS



News about former students is coming in and we congratulate them on their successes.

Emma Tindall has been awarded the Drama Prize from Loughborough University for achieving the highest grade in her final year. Joseph McNeil has been awarded a First Class Honours BSc degree in Geology from the University of London.



## CHINESE LESSONS

I am now recruiting students for the new Beginners Chinese class which will start in September. Classes run after school on a Thursday from 3.20pm - 4.20pm and are open to all students. Classes learn Mandarin Chinese and can take the subject through to GCSE, if desired. For further details please take a letter from the MFL department or email me on [mwood@stbarts.co.uk](mailto:mwood@stbarts.co.uk)

**Mrs M Wood**

## **DAVIS DIARY**

At the end of this term I shall be leaving my position as Head of Davis House to take up a part-time role in Reception. I am delighted to announce that Miss Miles will be taking over as Head of Davis House and Mr Sutherland will be taking over as Progress and Achievement Leader. Mrs Jelley will continue to be Davis Progress Manager & Lead Attendance Officer. I am confident that I am leaving an excellent team to lead Davis House and I'm sure you will be able to give your continued support to my colleagues.

It has been a privilege being part of Davis House for the past twelve years, working with such enthusiastic students, staff and supportive parents. I take with me many pleasant memories and experiences and would like to thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Hodgkin, Head of Davis House

We offer our congratulations to Miss Miles who is getting married over the summer and will return in September as Mrs Mckeown.

Davis House also says farewell at the end of this term to Mrs Norris and Mr Crook who have been Davis tutors. We wish them both well in their new positions.

## **House Dance**

Huge congratulations to all Davis students who were involved in House Dance. Davis won! Thanks in particular to the excellent leadership skills of House Dance Captains Olivia Barr and Annabelle Bowey. Well done Davis.



## **Fundraising**

We thank Annabelle and Megan Bowey and her family for raising an incredible £203.14 by running two coffee mornings for Davis House charity. We are grateful to Mr Bowey who has arranged some matched funding from his company which doubles this amount for Alopecia UK.

This week Davis House will be handing over a cheque for £4,108 to Alopecia UK for money raised by Davis House and we thank everyone who has put in efforts to raise money for the charity. In September students will be given the opportunity to nominate a new House charity.

## **House Chess**

Well done to Juan Lim, Lucas Price, Alfie McNeil, Sam Cheney, Harry Clarkson and Alex Somerville who represented Davis in House Chess resulting in Davis coming second.

Davis House team thanks you for your support over the last academic year and we wish you all an enjoyable summer break.

## **Davis House Team**

## **THATCHAM FESTIVAL PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION**

The theme for this year's Thatcham Festival Photography Competition is The Natural World. Deadline for entry 22 September. There are three age groups – under 10 years, 11-13 years and 14-17 years and entrants have to live or study within 10 miles of Thatcham. The competition is run by Thatcham Photographic Club in collaboration with Thatcham Town Council and Newbury & Thatcham Observer. Email [chairman@thatchamphotoclub.com](mailto:chairman@thatchamphotoclub.com) for details.

## PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

### Pictures on the Theme of Light

This time we have had lots of entries and I am really pleased that we can have winners in all three categories so I will start with 'well done' to all entrants.

	<p>Sanskriti Sahoo 9E2 in her own words ...</p> <p>I took this in Plaka, Athens, Greece. The light peeks out from behind the clouds showing light in times of darkness. You can notice the graffiti on the sides and the corrugated roofs showing poverty, but this too has a soft glow, lit by the winter sun. It tells us that light will always shine for those in darkness.</p>
	<p>Isabelle Lloyd 11P1 in her own words ...</p> <p>I chose this picture to enter into the competition because I loved how the light hits the sea and makes it shine, and also how it creates these really extraordinary negative spaces where the people are, as if they have been cut out of the photo. It sets them apart from the sparkling landscape and adds a touch of the surreal to this Cornish beach.</p>
	<p>Mrs Kempster (parent)</p> <p>An alternative take on the word light, this time meaning 'not heavy'! The bee is searching for nectar, moving all over the delicate flower, and yet the bloom itself, perched on its slender stem, hardly moves. Nature has evolved such that both plant and animal are beautifully matched: each one provides the other with a means to develop progeny!</p>
	<p>Jamie Brown 13E1</p> <p>A wonderful juxtaposition of ideas here: plants need light to grow and yet we have a tree blocking the light. The light is strong enough to damage our eyes (and camera!) but the tree prevents that. These 'beams of light' are known as crepuscular rays and this powerful backlight has highlighted the tree trunk in the middle distance by making it a silhouette against a slightly 'washed out' background. Coupled with a dimly lit foreground giving us some colour we are almost there with Jamie, looking at early morning woodland scene in late autumn.</p>

	<p>Taylor Corderoy 10P3 Sunrise and the eye of the eye of the storm from my window. The image from Taylor has such texture in the clouds; coupled with the far off sun adding a hint of yellow and the trees in the middle distance giving a sense of scale to the whole image, we see the clouds again, as storm clouds, looming over us.</p>
	<p>Ms Thomson ... in her own words [This image] is of an oil refinery on the coast in the North Sea between The Netherlands and Belgium. I took it with the shutter open from the Aurora cruise ship. The green squiggles are the buoys in the water and the wave effect is due to the motion of the boat.</p>
	<p>Abi Sinar 12D2 A lovely shot showing a feather falling. The image captures light (as a feather) as well as light (highlighting the gentle curves of the feather). The simple composition is what gives us the lighter-than-air feeling but Abi told me that the feather was actually resting on a black surface! The exposure was carried out carefully to keep the blacks black and the white feather white.</p>
	<p>Alistair Jardine 8P1 The Scottish Lowlands seen here gives us another take on the theme of light, this time the fading light due to the coming storm. We have a dark and gloomy sky with silhouettes of grass adding some foreground detail. The storm looks as though it is about to break and we get a feeling of impending doom!</p>
	<p>Jaime Little 7D2 A delightful early summer scene showing shadows, sky and serenity. The path stretches out in front of us and not a soul can be seen; we can enjoy the feeling not only of light, but also of space in this lovely image.</p>

In the Y7-9 category the winner is Jaime Little who has captured a light, and airy, feeling in her picture. In the 10-11 category Isabelle Lloyd's winning image showing good use of light, shadow and composition and in the Y12+ category (and overall winner) Jaimie Brown has given us a thoughtful and well executed shot capturing 'light beams'. **Mr P Turner**

## MATHS MASTERCLASS

The Royal Institution runs mathematics master classes for students in Year 9. I was selected to participate, along with Sanskriti Sahoo and Sophie Barrett. The six sessions were held on Saturday mornings and each was led by different speakers who came in and gave a talk or lead an activity.

The first master class was especially interesting to me; it was all about infinities. The others were also intriguing and covered a wide variety of topics which meant no-one was left bored although everyone probably had a favourite. The final session was by a group of university/college students that led a session on trading. Most of the session was a stock trading game, where we used maths and the 'news' to predict the economy and worth of barrels of oil.

The sessions gave an opportunity to use maths outside the classroom and work with other people on a wider range of topics which maths is relevant to.

**Lawrence Baker, 9E1**



## ROUNDERS

The Year 7 rounders team had a very convincing win against John O'Gaunt on a gorgeous sunny afternoon on 5 July. They batted well with rounders being tallied up by Katie McGall, Poppy Muckleston

(best batter) and Annabel Gibson. However, they truly excelled in their fielding denying John O'Gaunt the chance to get into their rhythm with a fantastic partnership from backstop Alice Rawlins (best fielder) to first base Eva Dijksman who stumped the first three batters out in a row. Further good fielding by all, catches from Charlotte Swanson and Polly Hassell-Collins saw the final result a win 8 – ½. Well done.

## PICTURE GALLERY FROM THE SUMMER FETE

