

# BartholoNews



28 March 2018

[www.stbarts.co.uk](http://www.stbarts.co.uk)

Issue No: 863

## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE



Firstly, can I thank everyone who responded to the Ofsted questionnaires this week. The inspection team were impressed with the large response and very appreciative of it, as were we. Overall, we were proud of everyone's efforts and we expect the outcome of the inspection at the beginning of May.

This term we have celebrated our success in winning the Active Secondary School Award in the Get Berkshire Active Awards for the second year running. This recognises all the activities available to our students and their participation in them, which is tremendous. We were also delighted to get recognition for the excellent performance of our students at A level, which has been within the top 25% nationally over the last three years by ALPS, a national organisation which looks at the performance of 2,980 schools and colleges.

There have been many highlights this term, although over the last few weeks, in addition to our Ofsted inspection, the snow brought additional challenges for a couple of days, but it was good to see the students enjoying the snow in school. Thank you to everyone for your understanding during this period.

Last week, it was great to see our students and staff join together in our activities to raise money for Sport Relief, and I personally enjoyed running the mile with Year 7 and those who were more adventurous and did it as a three-legged challenge. It has also been pleasing to see so many students involved in many activities across the school this term. Many of those have featured in BartholoNews

and assemblies this term, including Science Week, when we all witnessed science demonstrations in the Hub, BBC School Report Day, Young Enterprise, the school production, 'Beauty and the Beast' and House Debating and House Drama which takes place tonight. It always makes me so proud to see the exceptional talent and achievements of our students that contribute to the great school we are.

This term, students' final applications to universities have been made and they have now received many offers. This has been an exceptionally successful year for our students, with 10 students gaining Oxbridge and Medical university offers. We have also offered 270 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.

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.

Lastly, can I thank everyone who also returned their Kirkland Rowell survey to us, from which we will now use the findings, along with those from Ofsted, to further improve the school.

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

## ST BART'S TO DEBATE IN NATIONAL EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT

On Monday 19 March nine Y12s, Mrs Miller and Mr Castel went to the Oxford Union for European Youth Parliament.

We spent the day the debating with various schools from the Thames Valley area. St Bart's had much to contribute on debate topics such as Security and Defence, Civil Liberties and Constitutional Affairs and narrowly (by just 5 votes) missed victory in the main debate on the Environment. It was a lot of fun to be able to debate among talented individuals across the area. *Marc Jenner, 12C1*



Having done a lot of preparation in the previous weeks it was great to go up against some very talented teams. It was clear that we all got more

confident as the day progressed. For me personally, it was a big moment when I had to stand up at the front to deliver a speech to the whole audience, and I definitely gained a lot from it. Throughout all of the debates we were pushed to think on our feet, sharing ideas quickly to make sure everyone contributed. It was especially lovely to hear at the end of the day that the judges were impressed with how well the St Bart's team had worked together. Through the guidance we got from Mr Castel, Mrs Miller and Mr King in the run up to the competition and the success of some of our speeches and responses on the day, we were announced as being one of the winning teams and so now have the chance to go on to represent St Bart's in the national round in Liverpool! *Emily Carr, 12E2*

### TERM ENDS

Thursday 29 March at 3.20pm

The **summer term** begins Monday 16 April, registration at 8.40am.

### DIARY DATES

End of term	Thurs 29 Mar	
Y12/13 Ski Trip To Austria	Sat 31 Mar	Return 7 Apr
Revision School	Mon 9 Apr to Fri 13 Apr	
Start of Summer Term	Mon 16 Apr	

## ST BART'S 'BEATZ' DANCE TROUPE PERFORM AT THE CORN EXCHANGE



For the fourth year in a row 'Beatz' dance troupe from St Bart's put on a tremendous performance as part of Spring Equinox at the Corn Exchange this week. The super talented and committed dancers performed an original piece of choreography called 'Youth' to a packed auditorium. A combination of lyrical contemporary with a few urban tricks thrown in, the dancers filled the stage with reckless magic!

## CHINESE EXCHANGE 2018-2019



The Chinese Exchange will be running again this year. In October students from St Bart's will visit

Beijing for 3 days before travelling on to our partner school in Qingdao, Shandong Province, for a further week.

Whilst in Beijing, trips are organised to the Great Wall, the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, the Temple of Heaven and we fit in an acrobatics show as well as a roast duck dinner. In Qingdao, activities are arranged by our partner school and usually include some time in the school itself as well as trips to places such as the holy mountain of Laoshan.

The exchange is open to all students in year 9 and above. You do not have to be learning Chinese to participate. Partners from the Chinese school will complete the return leg of the exchange in July 2019. For further details, please collect a letter from Mrs Wood in the MFL office.

## ST BART'S ALUMNI



Next term we shall be launching a new newsletter for members of our alumni. Are you in touch with past students who have not yet signed up to our alumni network through Future First? Please point them in the right direction so that they can receive the newsletter too. The portal is at: <http://bit.ly/2E2N4FL>

## PE

### Football

All of the school's league football matches have been played, and we are waiting to find out which schools we will face in the semi-finals. Some recent football highlights:

Year 7 won 8-0 v. John O'Gaunt

Year 8 A won 6-1 v. Mary Hare

Year 8 A won 5-2 v. John O'Gaunt

Year 8 A won 3-2 v. Park House

Year 8B won 2-1 v. Park House B

Year 9 won 4-0 v. Park House

Year 10 won 4-3 v. The Downs

Year 11 won 1-0 v. Trinity



## Year 10 “Living for Sport” group at Primary Schools Cross Country Event



Congratulations to the Y10 Living for Sport group who were a credit to the school whilst officiating at the recent Primary Schools Cross Country event at Newbury Showground. The boys worked tirelessly throughout the afternoon to support, officiate and encourage the young students as they were running the course.

## Berkshire School Games County Finals, Wednesday 21 March at Bisham Abbey



A fantastic result for both our boys’ and girls’ Y7/8 indoor athletics teams who competed at the School Games County Finals at Bisham Abbey. Our athletes competed to a high level throughout the afternoon and their efforts were justly rewarded at the end of the competition as both the girls’ team and the boys’ teams finished in a very impressive 3<sup>rd</sup> place out of 16 schools.

Well done and thank you to all involved in these events.

Find us:



facebook

## School Uniform and PE Kit

Outgrown it? Lost it? Torn it? Need a spare?

### Visit the Parents’ Association Second-hand Uniform Shop

just inside the Students’ Entrance on the right.



Open on  
Fridays during  
term time from

**3pm to  
3.45pm**

Prices range from  
**50p to £10**

**All donations welcome (but no white shirts please!)**  
either at the shop on Friday afternoons, or any time  
via the main reception desk in a clearly marked bag.

*Help raise funds for your school!*



## Digital Photography Workshops

**Want to use your camera on  
more than just ‘auto’?  
Want to take more striking  
images?**

Why not sign up for this course of **four**  
digital ‘beginners’ photography  
workshops?

Tuesday evenings 5.45-7.00 pm  
starting **24 April** at a cost of £45 per  
person

Open to adults and students alike

**Get more information  
from Mr Turner in E130  
or email [pturner@stbarts.co.uk](mailto:pturner@stbarts.co.uk)**