



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE:

A warm welcome back to everyone following the Christmas break. We are looking forward to another busy term of hard work and exciting opportunities... [read more.](#)

CALENDAR:

Y12 Vodafone Practice Assessment Day, Y11 Interviews - Internal Candidates, Y10/Y11 Tate Britain, Art Visit, CCF Sunday Walk 2, German Exchange Parents' Information Evening, Y13 Practice Exams Begin, Y8 and Y9 - Reports Issued and Y11 Subject Parents' Evening.

CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES:

Work Experience at The Watermill

FOOTBALL TOUR TO ST GEORGE'S PARK

Students from Years 10 and 11 went on a three-day inspirational Football tour of St George's Park, home to England's 24 national teams.



ST BART'S STUDENTS ON PINEWOOD STUDIOS COURSE:

The Film and Media Department are celebrating again, as four students have been accepted on a highly sought-after short course run by the British Film Institute.

STUDENTS' WORK EXHIBITED:

Congratulations to several students who had work selected by the curators at The Base for an exhibition of students' work from secondary schools and colleges across the local area.



CAROL CONCERT RAISES SPIRITS AND FUNDS!:

Thank you to all the members of St Bart's community who joined us at our annual Christmas Carol Concert in the beautiful setting of the historic St Nicolas Church.



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Year 9 parents/carers are invited to learn about, and to gain confidence to talk about, issues that may affect young people.

SAFETY SESSION FOR PARENTS/CARERS:

Paul Graham, Health and Wellbeing in Schools Coordinator, will be speaking on the subject of E Safety just before the Parents' Association meeting on 24 January.

NATIONAL SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR CHRIS:

Chris (12C1) recently took part in the Swim England Winter National Championships.

PE:

Football Activators



LOST PROPERTY:

There are numerous unnamed lost property items from last term still waiting to be reunited with their owners.

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

A warm welcome back to everyone following the Christmas break. We are looking forward to another busy term of hard work and exciting opportunities. As you will have read in the letter from Mr Bastable earlier this week, we are having a big focus on students getting the basics right. As he outlined in the letter, the way in which the vast majority of our students meet our high standards and expectations is fantastic at St Bart's, but there is always room for improvement. Please support us with this by making sure your child arrives at school on time, in the correct uniform and with the correct equipment. We have two shorter half terms this spring and so it is essential that your child throws themselves into their learning, as well as the other exciting opportunities on offer at St Bart's. This will ensure that they put themselves in the best position to be as successful as they can be, setting themselves up to thrive in the world beyond school.



I am proud to report that we remain fully staffed, which is so important in ensuring that your child is taught by a subject specialist in their lessons. This is quite an achievement given the current recruitment climate for schools. I am pleased to welcome our new members of teaching staff: Miss Howes, Teacher of Science, Ms Kawada, Teacher of Maths, and Mr Pearce, Teacher of History.

I know that many of you will have enjoyed the fantastic whole school production of Oliver! which ran for three evenings before Christmas and showcased the talents of so many of our students. We have several more headline events this term, such as House Film and the two House Evenings in February, and I look forward to seeing many of you there.

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Calendar

Y12 Vodafone Practice Assessment Day	Wednesday 10 January	Vodafone HQ, All day
Y11 Interviews - Internal Candidates	Wednesday 10 January	P4/P5, (Session 1 of 4)
Y10/Y11 Tate Britain, Art Visit	Thursday 11 January	8.50am-4.00pm
Y11 Interviews - Internal Candidates	Friday 12 January	P4/P5 (Session 2 of 4)
CCF Sunday Walk 2	Sunday 14 January	8.30am-2.00pm
German Exchange Parents' Information Evening	Monday 15 January	WCC, 5.00pm
Y13 Practice Exams Begin	Tuesday 16 January	(End 19 January)
Y8 and Y9 - Reports Issued	Tuesday 16 January	
Y11 Subject Parents' Evening	Tuesday 16 January	Remote, 4.30-7.00pm

[View all school events in our online calendar. Click here to go straight there](#)

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CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

SPOTLIGHT: Work Experience at The Watermill Theatre

The Watermill Theatre is a producing theatre, meaning it produces all its own work on site. If you're interested in set/costume design, wardrobe, stage management, tech, casting, community outreach, marketing or development then this placement is for you. The Watermill offers up to 4 day placements, with the flexibility for you to choose which areas of theatre you're interested in.

Applications close on **19 January 2024**. If you require a work experience placement between March and August 2024, please apply via [The Watermill website](#) to be considered.

St Bart's Careers Education Programme is delivered through PSHE lessons, assemblies and a portfolio of careers events. [More information on the programme can be found on our website](#). You will also find on our website a [Careers Opportunities page](#), which features news the school is sent on Apprenticeship Courses and Programmes, University Workshops and Schemes, Industry Webinars, Careers Resources for Parents and Carers and much more. The opportunities on this page are updated weekly. [Please click](#) to view the latest information.

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FOOTBALL TOUR TO ST GEORGE'S PARK

At the start of the Christmas holidays, students from Years 10 and 11 on a went on three-day inspirational Football tour of St George's Park, home to England's 24 national teams and England Football Learning, set in 330 acres of Staffordshire countryside. Here's how they got on:



We arrived just before noon and went straight into the hotel on site for lunch. The hotel food proved to be extremely popular with both students and staff throughout the tour as it was amazing. Many students (and staff!) went up numerous times!

After lunch, the students got to experience a two and a half hour coaching session and a tour of the facilities at St George's Park, including the England Boot Room, which is where all the players put their boots on before training. Students then trained on the indoor pitch, which the professionals use whilst being coached by FA qualified coaches.

Once the session had finished, one group went to check-in to their rooms, whilst the other group experienced the hydrotherapy pool. Players will go here after training or matches, and if they're injured, for some recovery. The students used two pools, one a normal temperature where they could play water polo and one that was 16 degrees (which seems warm - it was not!), also known as 'freezing cold' and that led to a jacuzzi where it was

much warmer. The groups then swapped over before dinner. In the evening, the students took part in *St Bart's' Got Talent* but unfortunately not much talent was on show, though we must mention Scarlett, the magician, and the dancing Santas, who won the best two acts on the night. A quiz of the year then took place before going to bed after a very long, but exciting day.

The following morning, we all met for breakfast before participating in another coaching session, which took place on the David Beckham pitch. This happens to be Miss Ostinelli's favourite player ever, so she was extremely excited to get a picture there.



We then got on the coach to the University of Derby where we played another school in a fixture. We had three teams, an U16 boys' team, an U15 boys' team and an U16 girls' team. Each team played a team from De Ferrers Academy in Derby. All three teams lost their games but played brilliantly and enjoyed the whole experience. Unfortunately, it poured down throughout the afternoon whilst playing, so it was back to the hotel to change, have dinner and recharge before going out again in the evening. After dinner, we went bowling and had a great time - some high scores were achieved, with a few students getting higher than the staff!

On the final morning, everybody had breakfast before the last, which was the use of a conti pitch, 5-a-side size and very similar to a 4G pitch. We organised a tournament between ourselves but it was extremely windy, so the conditions were very difficult to play in. On the way home on the coach, we handed out our Tour Awards. Each team had three awards up for grabs: Player of the Tour, Person of the Tour and Funniest Moment of the Tour. Congratulations to all winners below:

U16 Boys: Joe, Elliott and Alex

U16 Girls: Scarlett, Evie and Anna

U15 Boys: Max, Kobi and Patrick

Overall, it was an incredible experience, with so much fun had by all. The students were a huge credit to the school, behaved impeccably and represented us with pride. A huge thank you to Miss Bilcliff, Miss Ostinelli, Mr Bandy and Mr Fry for giving up their time to take the students on the tour.

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ST BART'S STUDENTS ON PINEWOOD STUDIOS COURSE

The Film and Media Department are celebrating again as four students (Amelia, Jenny and Laura - all Year 12 Film Studies students, and Elliott who studied Film GCSE and is studying Media A-level in Year 13) have been accepted to a highly sought-after short course run by the British Film Institute.

The course - for 16-19 year olds, which runs every Saturday for the first six weeks of the year, is led by industry professionals and will result in the students collaborating to make their own short film. Perhaps best of all, the course is hosted at the world-famous Pinewood Studios in Buckinghamshire (soon to be the biggest studio in the world), where filming takes place for the Bond and Mission:Impossible films, Star Wars and recent live action Disney films like Beauty and the Beast, as well as many other smaller productions.



Mr Roberts said "Over 200 students from across the South East applied and only 50 made it to the interview stage, yet St Bart's has four through to the actual course. We're so proud of all them and it'll certainly be a big boost for their future careers in the industry to have this experience."

Laura said, "In the first session of the BFI Academy, we had talks from some guest

speakers, including the founder of resource productions who is a professional producer. This was a great opportunity to see different ways in which we can enter the industry and the different jobs available. We also had an exclusive tour of the studios, where we saw lots sound stages, including the Sean Connery stage, the underwater stage and the paddock tank. This academy is a once in a life time opportunity and I'm so grateful to be a part of this."

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STUDENTS' WORK EXHIBITED

Congratulations to Elsa, Millie and Isabel (who are studying Art), Alex and Pavlo (Photography) and Callum and Ed (Graphic Communication) and Nyle and Grace (Textiles), who all had work selected by the curators at The Base for an exhibition of students' work from secondary schools and colleges across the local area.

The students and their families have been invited to attend the Private View on Thursday evening and the Generate exhibition runs until 28 January at The Base, Greenham, and admission is free.



Ed



Millie



Nyle



Pablo

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CAROL CONCERT RAISES SPIRITS AND FUNDS!

Thank you to all the St Bart's community who joined us at our annual Christmas Carol Concert on Tuesday 19 December in the beautiful setting of the historic St Nicolas Church. It was a magnificent way to bring to a close the busy Autumn Term. The service included excellent and joyful performances by the talented School Orchestra, Senior Band and School Choir, as well as smaller ensembles. The evening concluded with a unanimous standing ovation from the packed venue for our very talented students. Of particular note was Miriam with her excellent solo and conducting, Ed for his confident leadership and audience direction of 'O Little Town', Charlotte for her strings ensemble arrangement and Astrid for her orchestral leader role. Thank you to all those involved in performing or supporting the evening.



The evening raised £312.10 and these monies will be split 50/50 between Naomi House Charity and St Nicolas Church.

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RISKING IT ALL – PARENT PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITY



On Monday 5 February, Year 9 students will attend a performance of 'Risking It All' in the school hall. This performance is part of an innovative programme of educational theatre, focusing on risk-taking behaviour and sponsored by West Berkshire Council, Building Communities Together Partnership and the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB). The interactive performance and workshop touches on many of the issues looked at in PDP lessons, such as exploitation, unhealthy relationships and drugs and alcohol.

As part of the programme, parents/carers are also invited to attend a free showing of this performance at the Arlington Arts Centre on Tuesday 6 February at 7.30pm. This is a great opportunity to learn about and to gain confidence to talk about issues that may affect young people. Professionals will be attending the performance in order to talk to parents about these issues. [Tickets can be booked here.](#)

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SAFETY SESSION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Wednesday 24 January (6.00 - 6.45pm)

We look forward to welcoming Paul Graham, Health and Wellbeing in Schools Coordinator for West Berkshire, to St Bart's on Wednesday 24 January. Paul will be speaking to parents/carers just before the Parents' Association meeting in the Wormestall Conference Centre from 6.00 - 6.45pm on the subject of E Safety.

The session will be an opportunity to signpost resources and look at how to start positive conversations around e safety. We will also consider principles and guides from trusted sources on how to support young people in this ever-changing landscape. If you are interested in attending this session, we would be hugely grateful if you could indicate on this [form](#) which year group your child is in (or one of your children). This is so that we may get a sense of numbers attending. Please note you can still attend if you have not completed the form.

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NATIONAL SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR CHRIS

Chris (12C1) headed to Ponds Forge in Sheffield for the Swim England Winter National Championships. The competition was held between 14-17 December for the top swimmers from across England. Chris, who swims for Abingdon Vale Swimming Club, qualified for three events, 50m and 100m Freestyle and the 100m Individual Medley. It was an amazing experience for Chris to compete in his first National Competition and he was able to get results close to his personal bests, which will hopefully lead to further success during 2024.

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PE

Football Activators

Congratulations to these girls who have completed their Barclays Game on Go Lead Football Leadership course.



Isla, Eloise, Beth, Amelie and Matilda have taken part in a number of classroom sessions where they have learnt about coaching and media skills and have put this into action by promoting and running a Year 7 & 8 girls' football tournament earlier in the term and have since been helping to run the Year 7 & 8 girls' Football Club on a Tuesday after school.

Girls, you have been superb! A huge thank you to you all for all your help and support and we look forward to having your support in this new term.

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LOST PROPERTY

There are numerous unnamed lost property items from last term still waiting to be reunited with their owners. If your child has lost something, please ask them to come along to Reception during their break/lunchtime or after school on Wednesday 10 January until Friday 12 January where all lost property will be on display.

We have:

- School shoes/trainers
- PE kits/bags
- Blazers/coats
- Drinks bottles/glasses/keys/ jewellery
- School trousers/skirts/tops

Parents are also welcome to come and see us in Reception - we are happy to help.

The Reception Team

Click and find us:



facebook

Live Parent webinar

Year 8/9: Choosing GCSE Options



An opportunity to discuss the varying GCSE options available to Year 8/9 students and what this could mean for students going forward in their career journey.

Run by our qualified careers advisers via Zoom.

Wednesday 10th January 2024

6 – 7pm

Please book via the Adviza Portal under 'Events' or scan the QR code.

Cost: FREE | Suitable for Year 8/9 students

For more information please email careersguidance@adviza.org.uk





Industry Webinar: Environmental Health

Environmental practitioners all have the same common goal: to protect human health by minimising risks, and eliminating dangers, in the natural and built environments.

Presented by Mark Elliot
President of the Chartered Institute of
Environmental Health

Tuesday 16th January
6 - 7pm

Please book via the Adviza Portal under 'Events'
Cost: FREE | Suitable for all ages

For more information please email
careersguidance@adviza.org.uk



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Chartered Institute of
Environmental Health

