



GERMAN EXCHANGE 2024

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CALENDAR:

Curnock & Patterson House Evening - REHEARSAL, Y10-12 Spanish Immersion Trip, Curnock & Patterson House Evening, Ukraine Anniversary Event, CCF Sunday Walk 4, Y11 DofE Silver Canoe Training Day, Y11/12 CCF (RN) Firefighting Trip, NYJO Jazz Workshop, House Film Winners Screening and Theatre Performance.

CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES:

Industry Webinar: Radiology

VACANCIES:

House Office Manager

JOHN KING:

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of John King, a long serving teacher at St Bart's who gave 48 years of devoted service to the School.

THRISHATHI IS JUNIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR!:

Thrishathi (10D1) has been awarded Junior Citizen of the Year by West Berkshire Council in a ceremony earlier this month at Shaw House.



Photo from Newbury Weekly News

ENGLISH UPDATE:

The English Faculty have had a busy first half of the year. Here they update us on some of their activities.

PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY:

Parents have been notified that nominations are invited for a Parent Governor Election.

EVERS & DAVIS HOUSE EVENING:

Before half term Evers and Davis Houses regaled us with a plethora of fabulous performances in their annual House Evening.



PROFESSIONAL MUSICIAN INSPIRES STUDENTS:

Before half term, the Music department welcomed guest speaker Alex Aitken.



DEXTER DONATES HOLOCAUST BOOK:

In recent issues of BartholoNews we have spoken of our partnership with the Centre of Holocaust Education at UCL as a Beacon School...

OPEN STUDIOS SHOWCASE:

St Bart's students are once again featured in an online exhibition of their work on the Open Studios website.

RHODIUM READING CHALLENGE:

Congratulations to Hanika Prashanth Kundar, Talha Irfan and Elsie Smith (Year 8) and Sophie Thomas (Year 10) for completing the Rhodium Reading Challenge.



PE:

[Badminton Festival](#)
[Year 8 Football](#)
[Year 9 Football](#)



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visit to the Lindt chocolate factory in Aachen and the opportunity to try traditional waffles with cherries. The German exchange partners will be visiting their St Barts partners in June. Students stayed in host families in Monheim and some of their comments are here below:

"The past 7 days in Monheim have been amazing. I got to know new German people and made friends with my partner's friends. We had lots of fun together and we did things like bowling and laser tag"

Chris Broadfoot, Year 9

"Lots of opportunities to make long-term friends, a very enjoyable experience. I loved every minute."

Chloe Johnson, Year 9

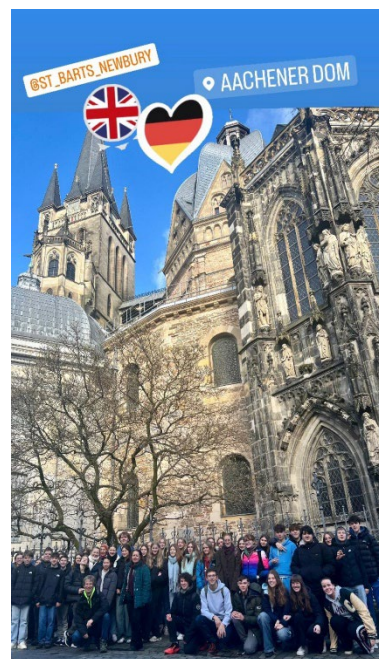
"At first I was nervous, but when I arrived at Emma's house they were really nice and welcoming. The food in Germany is very different to here and they love drinking sparkling water, which is strange!"

Hazel Cook, Year 9

"In school we worked with younger students and helped them in English lessons. I liked meeting the students there and they were very welcoming- as well as everyone in my partner's family. I was shocked at how early they finish school - 1.50pm! My favourite part was probably going to the chocolate museum and the hardest part was waking up so early."

Millie Taylor, Year 9

"The German exchange was an intense week! It was great to get to know a family from a different country and the people that I stayed with were amazing hosts. We learned a lot about both history and day-to-day life in Germany. All in all it was an incredible and unforgettable experience."



Lucy Heelan Year 12

"Going on the German exchange definitely helped with my confidence when speaking German...My exchange family were very patient with my attempts to speak German and helped me when they could."

El Prescott, Year 12

Calendar

Curnock & Patterson House Evening - REHEARSAL	Wednesday 21 February	Hall, 3.30pm
Y10-12 Spanish Immersion Trip	Thursday 22 February	(returning Mon 26 February)
Curnock & Patterson House Evening	Thursday 22 February	Hall, 6.30 – 8.30pm
Ukraine Anniversary Event	Friday 23 February	Heritage Garden
CCF Sunday Walk 4	Sunday 25 February	8.30am-4.00pm
Y11 DofE Silver Canoe Training Day	Sunday 25 February	9.00am-4.00pm
Y11/12 CCF (RN) Firefighting Trip	Monday 26 February	HMS Excellent. All day.
NYJO Jazz Workshop	Tuesday 27 February	Hall, P1-5
House Film Winners Screening	Tuesday 27 February	Vue Cinema, Newbury
Theatre Performance - German - selected students Y8, Y9, Y10.	Wednesday 28 February	Hall, period 5

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

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CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

SPOTLIGHT: Industry Webinar: Radiology

Tuesday 5 March 2024. This webinar is suitable for all year groups and anyone, students, parents/carers and staff, is welcome to join in. If you require any further details, please email: careersguidance@adviza.org.uk
Bookings are free and can be made via the Events page on the Careers Portal now.

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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VACANCIES

HOUSE OFFICE MANAGER

We are looking for a House Office Manager to join us on 11 March 2024 or as soon as possible after, on a permanent basis.



We are looking for someone to support one of our four Houses in the smooth running of the House Office and all related administration duties. You will work with the Head of House and House Achievement/Progress Leader to support students in their wellbeing and overall achievement. We are seeking applicants with good educational qualifications and organisational ability, who have empathy with students.

HOURS: 35 hours per week, Monday to Friday, term-time only, plus 5 training days pro rata.

SALARY: £25979.00 - £27803.00 gross pa (£13.47 - £14.41 per hour), pro rata for part-time, term-time. Starting salary equates to £21066.88 gross pa.

To find out more details and to apply, please go to <https://www.tes.com/jobs/vacancy/house-office-manager-west-berkshire-2004171>.

Closing date: Monday 26 February 2024

All applicants shortlisted will be subject to an online search. Successful candidates will be subject to a DBS enhanced check along with other relevant employment checks.

Tel: 01635 521255 email: recruitment@stbarts.co.uk

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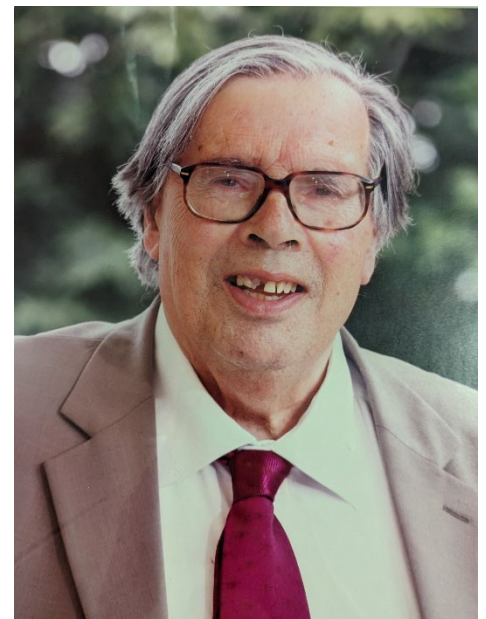
JOHN KING

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of John King, a long serving teacher at St Bart's who gave 48 years of devoted service to the school without a single day of absence.

He had been in Newbury as a small boy, since his father had been a curate of St John's during World War II. After completing his degree at Manchester, in a sense, he 'came home'.

A brilliant and intuitive teacher of History and Politics, John was able to transfer his great love of his subject to countless generations of students in such a way that they in turn shared his passion as they benefitted enormously from his unique style of teaching.

One former student commented, "He always held the attention of our sometimes overenthusiastic A Level History class, without ever raising his voice. He was such a kind man, a perfect Head of House for Patterson."



Staff member and long-time friend, Howard Paynter, said, "It was as a parent I first met John 30 years ago. Our friendship flourished as time passed, particularly as I admired Arsene Wenger. John was a truly marvellous man, who never spoke ill of anybody. He must have touched the lives of many generations of pupils. 'Requiescat in pace'."

He gave his life to the school in so many other ways as well; through the RAF section of the CCF where he spent countless hours training and organising groups on Dartmoor in preparation for walking the challenging Ten Tors event, which he instigated at the school and similarly for the annual Adventurous Training; training and coaching sports teams in rugby, football and cricket, whilst at all times giving selflessly of his time and unbounded enthusiasm.

Upon his retirement in 2012, John was awarded the British Empire Medal for services to the community. At the time Deputy Head Teacher, Maureen Sims, said: "We're all absolutely delighted for him. John is a very special person to us and has been to the students over the years."

John King is an icon of St Bart's in every facet of his teaching career and is a genuine legend in the school's illustrious history. He will be sorely missed by all who were privileged to know him and those students lucky enough to experience his memorable teaching and knowledge.

We are grateful for the contributions to this tribute from former colleagues and friends including Mike Hart, John Harris and Derek Carruthers.

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THRISHATHI IS JUNIOR CITIZEN OF THE YEAR!

Thrishathi (10D1) has been awarded Junior Citizen of the Year by West Berkshire Council in a ceremony earlier this month at Shaw House.

Thrishathi starting teaching children during the pandemic. She began by helping family friends but this quickly widened to include more children. Thrishathi donates the money she raises to Swings & Smiles in Thatcham, her house (Davis) charity.



Photo from Newbury Weekly News

Alongside Thrishathi, Sixth Former, Milla (12P7) was also highly commended by the awards. As a young leader at Newbury's Waterside Centre, Milla encourages younger participants to gain self-confidence by attempting new activities. She gives her time on a voluntary basis.

We were delighted to hear that Thrishathi and Milla have been recognised in this way. Congratulations to them both!

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Photo from Newbury Weekly News

ENGLISH UPDATE

The English Faculty are incredibly proud of the range of opportunities we are able to provide for students, both in lessons and beyond the classroom. So far this year, we have particularly focused on integrating technology into lessons - Chromebooks in Years 7-9 and students' own devices in Year 12. We have been impressed by students' enthusiasm for these and their determination to ensure they are being used to enhance their learning. Students across all years seem to appreciate well-organised Google Classrooms and the increased independence that comes from being able to access resources at their own pace, both in lessons and at home.

For the past few years, we have made efforts to ensure our curriculum is diverse and inclusive, so students can see literature both as a 'window' and a 'mirror'. Good stories, whatever their form, should allow us to see other people's experiences and lives, but should also allow us to reflect our own understanding of the world around us. As a faculty, this year we have been continuing to integrate short stories from the English and Media Centre's 'Diverse Shorts' collection into our lessons across the school, in addition to teaching the 'Worlds and Lives' Cluster to some students in Year 10. In both cases, we have been impressed by how students have engaged and enjoyed the stories and texts.



Once again, there have been lots of opportunities for students beyond lessons. The touring theatre company 'Box Clever' has visited the school twice this year, performing and leading workshops on 'A Christmas Carol' for Year 8 and 'Macbeth' for Year 11. They will come in twice more this term, performing 'Romeo and Juliet' for Year 9 and 'Macbeth' for Year 10. We took the whole of Year 11 to Stratford-Upon-Avon to see 'Macbeth' at the RSC in September. Some of them also went to 'Poetry Live!' in Oxford last month - students in Evers and Patterson will do the same in Reading later this month. We brought you news in the last issue of the Year 10 trip to OUP and the Bodleian Library. Some Sixth Form English Language students spent a day in London in October at the British Library and Dr Johnson's House, and others went to a workshop at the Globe in November to support their English Literature studies.

Our Patron of Reading - Peter Murray - has visited the school twice so far this year. He has spoken to students in Year 8 about his new short story collection 'The Darker Side of Wight' and to Year 9 students about his World War One-inspired novel 'Poppy Warrior'. He will visit the school again in March when we celebrate World Book Day.

Whilst impossible to measure, we are confident that these experiences bring so much to students' learning and memories of school - these are the things that stick in our minds many years and decades later! It is because we recognise their value that so many members of staff give up their time to make these opportunities possible. If you have a child studying 'An Inspector Calls' in Year 10, you will already know that we have plans to take that year group to see the play in Southampton in January 2025.



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PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

Parents have been notified that nominations are invited for a Parent Governor Election.

Broadly, the role of the Governing Body is to set the strategic direction and ensure the educational performance, management and financial health of St. Bart's. Individual governors are members of the Governing Body and contribute to ensure high standards of achievement for all. As St Bart's is an academy trust, the governors are also directors and trustees and are subject to company and charity law.

In addition to the fresh perspectives that new governors bring, the Governing Board has identified that there is a need for skills and expertise in the areas of secondary education, human resource management and finance. As a result we would be particularly delighted to hear from applicants who can bring any of these qualities.

In terms of time commitment, individual governors normally attend at least four evening meetings a term. Governors may be members of more than one committee and will also usually have a "link" role with a particular faculty or function which will require a little time during the day. Very occasionally there are some additional activities that are scheduled during the day so some flexibility would be an advantage. Governors are also encouraged to support the celebrations of achievement, such as awards evenings, and performances such as House Music, Dance and Film.

Anyone who has parental responsibility for a student currently attending St Bart's is eligible to stand for election, subject to the clauses detailed in the Governors' Declaration which can be found on the Governors' page of the website. Terms of office are for four years; governors may continue to serve the remainder of their term once their child leaves the School.

If you would like to find out more without any obligation, please do get in touch (hsutherland@stbarts.co.uk). Nominations close next Tuesday at 3.00pm.

Mrs H Sutherland, Clerk to the Governors

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EVERS & DAVIS HOUSE EVENING



Before half term, Evers and Davis Houses regaled us with a plethora of fabulous performances in their annual House Evening.

From Elodie and Lenka who began the evening dancing to 'Rolling in the Deep', to Andrea Wong stunning everyone with her Chopin rendition on the piano and the Year 9 students' alternative "Romeo and Juliet" sketch, it was clear that there is a lot of talent in Evers and Davis.

One of the highlights of the evening for many was the 7D1 Lip Sync Battle in which we saw students competing against teachers and staff. The Evers and Davis team were joined by Assistant Head Teacher, Miss Thorne, amusing us with their Spice Girls performance, complete with costumes.

Several other tutor groups also performed en masse, including 7E1 with their 'Dragons' Den' sketch, 8D3's rap and 7E2&3 joined together to present 'Call me Maybe'.

Amongst the many musical acts we heard from a jazz group who brilliantly performed the standard 'Take Five', Callum and Eleanor with a soulful 'Just the two of us' and group 'White Noise' rounded off the evening with an energetic Blur medley that many of the students joined them on the floor to bounce along to.



Well done to the Evers and Davis teams for putting on such a great evening. Thanks also to Mr Weller and supporting students for their sound, lighting and backstage expertise. Finally, thank you to all who attended and helped raise more than £700 for the House Charities, West Berkshire Mencap and Swings & Smiles.

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PROFESSIONAL MUSICIAN INSPIRES STUDENTS

Before half term, the music department welcomed guest speaker, Alex Aitken. Alex most recently spent three years as Children's Musical Director and Cover Conductor on the London Production of *Mary Poppins*. In addition to his work with schools, Alex is also a Music Director with the National Youth Music Theatre, the Assistant Musical Director at MK Chorale, a coach with The Oxford and Cambridge Singing School and accompanist to The National Children's Choir of Great Britain, Oxford Pro Musica, and The Military Wives Choir. St Bart's were therefore delighted that Alex was able to give our students a whole day of his busy schedule.



The morning kicked off with an A Level music conference, during which Alex extended his expertise as an Edexcel examiner to provide some insights and top tips on preparing for the course components. The students were able to ask lots of questions and gained an even deeper understanding of how to aim for the top marks, as well as some useful notes and materials for review in the weeks to come.

During the afternoon session, Alex then lead a conducting workshop with our young conductors. Whilst sharing his own experiences as a West End conductor, Alex inspired and tutored each of our students in developing their own skills to be able to lead and direct the ensemble, which we hope is just the beginning of their conducting journey.

Thank you to Alex for a really inspiring day and to the students for their engagement, contributions and making the most of this valuable opportunity.

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DEXTER DONATES HOLOCAUST BOOK

In recent issues of BartholoNews we have spoken of our partnership with the Centre of Holocaust Education at UCL as a Beacon School and about how the school marked Holocaust Memorial Day (27 January) with a series of assemblies designed to enhance teaching and learning about the Holocaust. We asked members of our community to share their stories and we were delighted to hear from Dexter (7C3) who recently visited the National Holocaust Centre and Museum in Nottinghamshire to hear a talk by Holocaust survivor, Arek Hersh.

Born in Poland, Arek was imprisoned in Łódź ghetto and later at Auschwitz-Birkenau. Arek survived a death march before finally being liberated from Theresienstadt in 1945. He was then sent to Britain as one of the “Windermere Boys”. Arek speaks with people of all ages about his experiences during the Holocaust, educating them about the dangers of intolerance and prejudice.



Dexter said: “The main reason we visited the National Holocaust Centre and Museum was to hear Arek’s talk. My parents took me to listen to Arek, as they felt it was important for me to hear his story. Looking around the Museum was a very powerful and inspirational experience”

Dexter was given a signed copy of Arek’s book ‘A Detail of History’ and he has chosen to donate the book to our school library, so that all students can have a chance to learn from Arek’s experiences. Our thanks to Dexter for this very important addition to our library and for sharing his experience with us.

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OPEN STUDIOS SHOWCASE

St Bart’s students are once again featured in an [online exhibition](#) of their work on the Open Studios website. Open Studios West Berkshire and North Hampshire runs in association with the Newbury Spring Festival, encouraging and promoting accessibility to art and artists.

Ceramics, digital art, drawing and painting, graphic art, mixed media, photography, printmaking, sculpture, textiles pieces are showcased, celebrating the work of our fantastic GCSE and A Level students. The images on the website will be changed regularly in order to feature more of our students’ work. As in previous years, at the end of the Summer Term, we will have our online exhibition, showcasing students’ final exam outcomes.



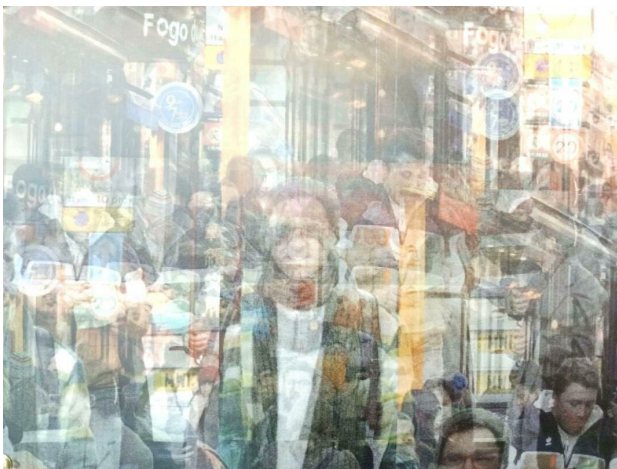
Bea, A Level Photography



Ava, GCSE Textiles



Jennina, A Level Fine Art



Gregor, A Level Photography



Danielle, A Level Fine Art

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RHODIUM READING CHALLENGE



Congratulations to Hanika Prashanth Kunder, Talha Irfan and Elsie Smith (Year 8) and Sophie Thomas (Year 10) for completing the Rhodium Reading Challenge, meaning these students have read at least 57 books across the five Reading Challenge levels! In recognition of this fantastic achievement, Hanika, Talha, Elsie and Sophie each recently received a hamper of book goodies from our librarian, Mrs Hewetson. If any student would like to discuss or learn more about the Reading Challenges, please do ask at the Library. Happy reading!

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PE

Badminton Festival



Before half term, John O'Gaunt School hosted two Badminton festivals. On Tuesday, We took 16 students from Years 9-11 who all played fantastically. The following day, we took 15 students from Years 7 and 8 with many of them representing the school for the first time. A hugely successful festival with doubles, mixed doubles and singles all being played against Trinity School and John O'Gaunt. Well done to all involved!

Year 8 Football

Year 8 boys' Football had a league game against Kennet School before half term. The boys came back from conceding 3 early goals with the final score being 5-4 to Kennet. Players of the match were Eli Bodin and Harry Clark-Lee.



Year 9 Football

Well done to the Year 9 Football team who beat Kennet School, 2-1, in a highly competitive game. Both sides played some brilliant football and scored some great well-worked goals. Goal scorers for St Bart's were James and Josh. Player of the match was Sidney!

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