



Designed by Gauravi Deegwal (9C1)

## GERMAN WEEK AT ST BART’S

Last week, St Bart’s was one of [numerous schools](#) to take part in the prestigious [#ShoutOutForGerman](#) campaign, a week-long, national celebration of German language in the UK. Organised by the German Embassy, the Goethe-Institut UK and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the campaign aims to pay tribute to "all the schools, teachers and champions of German inside and outside of classrooms who work tirelessly to encourage and strengthen the case for language learning".  
... [read more.](#)



<b><u>CALENDAR:</u></b>	Spring Concert and rehearsal, Y8 Deadline for return of Y9 Curriculum Choice, Y10 CCF Field Day - Navy only, Sixth Form Tanzania Trip departs, KS3/KS4 - selected students - non-school uniform (reward), German Exchange - parent meeting, Y9 Immunisations + catch up for other years, House Drama, Y12 & Y13 History/German Trip to Berlin departs, Y8-11 Football Tour, Y10-Y13 CCF Easter Adventure Training and END OF TERM.
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<b><u>CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES:</u></b>	Easter STEM Work Experience with Spectris PLC
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<b><u>VACANCIES:</u></b>	Governor Vacancy
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<b><u>KEW GARDENS TRIPS:</u></b>	A few weeks ago, our Year 9 Geographers visited Kew Gardens in London as part of their new topic ‘Fragile Ecosystems’.
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<b><u>AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR VISIT:</u></b>	The award-winning author Ele Fountain visited us last Thursday to meet Year 7 and Year 8 students.
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<b><u>YEAR 12 DESTINATIONS FAIR:</u></b>	Year 12 students had the opportunity to attend a destinations fair in the school hall, to gather information and talk to a range of post-18 providers
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<b><u>CORE SKILLS SUPPORT CANCER RESEARCH:</u></b>	Well done to our Year 10 Core Skills students who organised and ran a very successful charity event for Cancer Research.
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<b><u>SCHOOL LUNCH COMPETITION RESULTS:</u></b>	Congratulations Martim (8E2) on winning the School Lunch Recipe Competition!
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<b><u>FOOD SCIENCE FASCINATES ASSEMBLY:</u></b>	In this assembly we looked at the fascinating world of food science with some experiments that demonstrated the incredible properties of everyday foods.
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<b><u>SIXTH FORM STRATFORD TRIP:</u></b>	Last week, Year 12 Geography students visited Stratford and the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park to look at different places characteristics and approaches to regeneration
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<b><u>OVER £1,500 RAISED FOR COMIC RELIEF:</u></b>	Thank you to everyone who supported St Bart’s efforts in aid of Red Nose Day for Comic Relief last Friday.
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<b><u>A GREAT NIGHT WITH THE PA:</u></b>	Thank you to everyone who took part in the Parents’ Association Quiz and Chips Evening that took place last Friday.
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<b><u>ULAFU SECONDARY, KENYA UPDATE:</u></b>	We recently had a Zoom meeting with our partnership school, Ulafu Secondary in Kenya, deepening our collaboration to address key issues affecting the students and community.
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<b><u>AQA UNIT AWARD SCHEME:</u></b>	Congratulations to Hala Alharbat who has been awarded an AQA Unit Award Skill in Personal Organisation.
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<b><u>PE:</u></b>	<a href="#">Berkshire School Games</a> <a href="#">Year 7 Girls’ Rugby Development</a> <a href="#">Year 7 Netball</a> <a href="#">Year 9 Netball</a> <a href="#">Year 8 Football</a>
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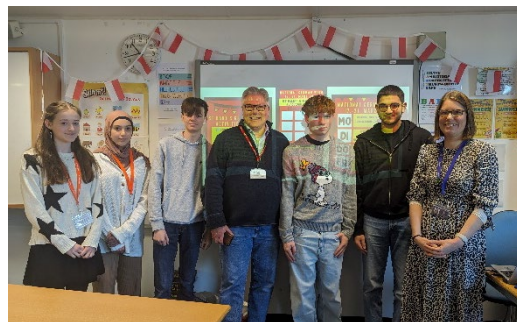
Organised by the German Embassy, the Goethe-Institut UK and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the campaign aims to pay tribute to "all the schools, teachers and champions of German inside and outside of classrooms who work tirelessly to encourage and strengthen the case for language learning". It is part of the embassy's wider work, [Making the case for German](#).

The German department at St Bart's organised a myriad of engaging activities, including visiting speakers, competitions, clubs and films. Events took place in lessons, activities times, and after-school throughout the week. German books were also available in the library, and the canteen laid on German delicacies including Bratwurst and Strudel at lunchtime.

The school was lucky enough to host a number of top-class guest speakers. A highlight was a visit from senior figures at the German Embassy and the Goethe-Institut UK to see how we were celebrating all things German. On Thursday, Susanne Frane, Head of Culture and Education at the German Embassy, and Andrea Pfeil, Deputy Director and Head of Language Department, North West Europe at the Goethe-Institut London, met the headteacher, Dr Fitter. They also visited a Year 12 German class, and joined Year 9s completing a German quiz around the MFL department.

Other speakers included Dr Ian Ellison, a post- doctoral researcher on the Kafka's Transformative Communities Project at the University of Oxford and a Visiting Fellow at Wadham College; Wayne Morse, a recruitment specialist from BMW; Gregor Kleinknecht, founder partner at MEUM Law in London; and Anna Bawden, Health and Social Affairs Correspondent at the Guardian.

Read more about our German Week activities [here...](#)



## Calendar

Spring Concert - (rehearsal all day)	Wednesday 26 March	
Spring Concert	Wednesday 26 March	Hall, 7.00pm
Y8 Deadline for return of Y9 Curriculum Choice	Thursday 27 March	9.00am
Y10 CCF Field Day - Navy only	Friday 28 March	Portsmouth, 8.30am-4.30pm
Sixth Form Tanzania Trip departs	Friday 28 March	Returns 13 April
KS3/KS4 - selected students - non-school uniform (reward)	Monday 31 March	
German Exchange - parent meeting	Monday 31 March	R1, 5.00pm
Y9 Immunisations + catch up for other years	Tuesday 1 April	Gym, 8.30am.
House Drama	Tuesday 1 April	Hall, 6.30-9.00pm. See below.
Y12 & 13 History/German Trip to Berlin departs	Wednesday 2 April	Returns Saturday 5 April
Y8-11 Football Tour	Thursday 3 April	Munich, Germany. Returns Monday 7 April
Y10-Y13 CCF Easter Adventure Training	Friday 4 April	Returns Thursday 10 April, 12.30pm

**Friday 4 April - END OF TERM – school day finishes 12.30pm**

<b>Summer Term Begins</b>	<b>Tuesday 22 April</b>	<b>8.30am for all year groups</b>
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[View all school events in our online calendar. Click here to go straight there](#)

### House Drama - Tuesday 1 April, Hall, 6.30-9.00pm

This annual competition sees the Houses battle it out to impress a school hall audience with their theatre productions. Each House will perform a piece written by our Year 12 students who are also responsible for directing our Year 8 and Year 10 actors. Students have been busy rehearsing at lunch and after school. Can Curnock retain their 2024 title?

We are delighted to also announce that joining us in the judge's chair is Nick Sutton - Head of Drama from Park House; thank you to him for his support. Snacks and drinks will be available in the interval/before the show.



Tickets can be purchased now on [ParentPay](#) for £2

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## Save the Date for Prom!

Year 11 – Tuesday 24 June

Year 13 – Friday 20 June

As you can see, 'Prom Season' is fast approaching. We're aware that this is potentially a costly activity for many families, so we're bringing you a series of tips for those planning to go to the Prom on a budget!

Dresses often need costly alterations, but online store [JJ's House](#) offers a huge range of dresses at reasonable prices, which can be made to measure at no extra cost. Watch their measuring video to make sure all measurements are accurate. Note that custom dresses are non-returnable, so it's best to use their 'try on at home' service to choose your style and colour.

Please do get in touch with us at [bartholonews@stbarts.co.uk](mailto:bartholonews@stbarts.co.uk) if you can help with more tips.



## CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

### SPOTLIGHT: Easter STEM Work Experience with Spectris PLC

Virtual Engineering and Science Experience Day Wednesday 16 April, 9.00am – 3.00pm. A very rare and unique opportunity for students in Y11, Y12 and Y13 to hear from one of the largest Science and Engineering firms in the world. Take part in case studies around STEM topics, enjoy a live lab tour at one of their sites and meet with top scientists and engineers. [Register here.](#)

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 [Careers Guidance](#) and [Further Resources](#) on our website in addition to information about how parents, carers and local businesses can [get involved](#) in our careers events.

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## GOVERNOR VACANCY

St Bartholomew's School Governing Body is looking for new Governors to enhance their team.

- Are you passionate about education?
- Do you have skills and experience in finance?
- Are you enthusiastic, confident and able to work collaboratively?
- Can you commit to three or four evening meetings per term, plus an occasional daytime visit?

If so, why not join our team of volunteers and make a valued contribution to school life.

The Governing Body sets the strategic direction and ensures the educational performance, management and financial health of St Bartholomew's School.

You don't need to be a St Bart's parent to be one of our Governors – we welcome applications from a range of people in the local community.



If you would like to find out more about becoming a Governor at St Bart's, please contact the Clerk to the Governors, Abi Layton at [alayton@stbarts.co.uk](mailto:alayton@stbarts.co.uk) or leave a message at St Bart's Reception on 01635 521255 by 9.00am on Monday 28 April

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

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## KEW GARDENS TRIPS



A few weeks ago, our Year 9 Geographers visited Kew Gardens in London, exploring the Palm House, Temperate House and Princess of Wales House as part of their new topic 'Fragile Ecosystems'.

Throughout the day, students discovered the life-saving capabilities of plants, got a birds-eye view of the plant acrobatics of the rainforest and gained a better understanding of the threats humans are posing to our ecosystems. They even exemplified our 'Brave' value as they scaled the dizzy heights of the Treetop Walkway and collected questionnaire data from willing members of the public. All of this forms part of a fieldwork enquiry that students have continued in lessons.



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## AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR VISIT

The award-winning author Ele Fountain visited us last Thursday to meet Year 7 and Year 8 students. Ele's books explore subjects such as friendship, family, hope and loss. Boy 87 relates to themes students study in English, such as headlines in journalism, as well as being connected to other subjects such as Geography, History and Citizenship Studies. This was a wonderful opportunity to see how reading can directly support the curriculum as well as being a chance to celebrate reading.

Ele has a real gift for weaving real-world issues into genuinely thrilling adventure stories and she kept us all riveted as she talked about Boy 87, explained how she



came to write the book, why she is an author and how she writes a book. There was time for a Question and Answer session at the end, and our St Bart's students asked some very insightful questions! We were very proud of how well-behaved and invested our students were.

Librarian, Mrs Hewetson, said: *"Ele's visit was inspirational for our students and really helped to bring her book, Boy 87, alive. She covered so many topics, from the book's themes, asking the students to put themselves in the characters' shoes, discussing her writing process and talking about authors in general. It was wonderful to see the students fascinated by different aspects of the talk and to understand how anyone can be a writer."*

After the talks, students who wanted a Boy 87 book were treated to a book-signing session in the Library with the author. Ele said, *"I spent a wonderful day with Year 7 and Year 8. They were engaged, inquisitive, and asked so many wonderful questions!"*

Sofiia (7P2) said, *"When I came into the hall to listen to Ele Fountain's talk I was nervous because I had never met an author before. I am not a person that loves books a lot, but when Ele read the first few pages of her book I knew that this was one that I wanted to read. I have already started it and I love it. I really enjoyed meeting Ele Fountain last week."*

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## YEAR 12 DESTINATIONS FAIR

On March 19, all of our Year 12 students had the opportunity to attend a destinations fair in the school hall. Students were able to gather information and talk to a range of post-18 providers, both University and Apprenticeship, about different course options and the application process. This event was part of our careers program to support students in their next steps, alongside our Vodafone apprenticeship day and the UCAS Fair, which all Year 12 students will attend in April. Thank you to the organisations who supported our destinations fair: AWE, David Wilson Homes, Gardner Leader, Jones Robinson, New College Swindon, NHS radiography, Oxford Brookes University, Pathway CTM, Portsmouth University, Royal Holloway - University of London, University Centre Sparsholt, University of Reading and University of Winchester.



Ellie Evans, a former St Bart's student who is now part of the AWE apprenticeship programme, said: *"I had the pleasure of returning to my Sixth Form at St Bart's to support a STEM Careers Event. It was a fantastic opportunity to engage with students and aspiring early careers, sharing insights about my own career and how they too can become part of AWE's mission. It was great to reconnect with many of my former teachers and fellow career representatives too".*



If you work for a post-18 provider, or know someone who does, who would be interested in supporting our careers program and meeting St Bart's students at future events, please contact St Bart's Career Lead, Mrs Seward – [dseward@stbarts.co.uk](mailto:dseward@stbarts.co.uk)

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ST BARTHOLOMEW'S SCHOOL  
LUMINARIES  
ALUMNI, STAFF, PARENTS AND FRIENDS  
AD LUCEM - TOWARDS THE LIGHT



### CORE SKILLS SUPPORT CANCER RESEARCH

Well done to our Year 10 Core Skills students Hala, Adham, Lucas, Esmee and Ciara who, with Mrs Van Dyk's guidance, organised and ran a very successful charity event for Cancer Research at the end of last term, raising £49.70 from delicious bakes and Ciara's beautiful handmade jewellery.

Ciara said, "my great-nan had cancer, so it felt good to help others having similar experiences." Esmee added, "we also learnt new skills organising all the elements of the sale."

Congratulations to them all.

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### SCHOOL LUNCH RECIPE COMPETITION RESULTS



Congratulations Martim (8E2) on winning the School Lunch Recipe Competition!

Over 150 students came to the Bart's Bites kiosk at the end of February to taste both selected recipes, Chicken Briyani by Andrew (7P3) and Martim's Chicken a Bras. They voted for their favourite dish. Both dishes were delicious and everyone enjoyed them; it was a very close match.

Their achievement will be celebrated in assembly and Chicken a Bras features on the school lunch menu this week allowing all students to experience the joy of this dish!

Well done to all those students who submitted recipes to the competition, they demonstrated much



creativity, we hope they will all keep going with their culinary interests.

Thank you the school Catering team for supporting the competition, especially Angela and Michaela for judging and preparing both dishes for tasting.

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## FOOD SCIENCE FASCINATES ASSEMBLY

In this assembly we looked at the fascinating world of food science with some experiments that demonstrated the incredible properties of everyday foods. I was assisted by Ash (8E1) and Josie (8C3) to make ice cream using milk, ice cubes and salt. Whilst they took turns to shake a very cold bag, Alice (8D2) came on stage to help me with a second experiment.

We put a raw egg in a measuring jug and covered it with white vinegar. Alice described the white film that appeared immediately over the surface of the egg. This film was actually very small bubbles of carbon dioxide gas. As this experiment takes several days, I had two eggs that I had prepared earlier.

What we observed was remarkable. The vinegar, which is an acid, (acetic acid), had dissolved the calcium carbonate found in the eggshell. The shell, which usually protects the egg, dissolved away entirely, leaving behind only a soft, translucent membrane. I think everyone agreed that the residue left in the vinegar was pretty yukky! I could see how rubbery the egg was.

We also recreated a volcano using bicarbonate of soda and vinegar, which for effect I had coloured with food colouring. Again, it was carbon dioxide that was the star of the show, with a bubbling mass of 'lava'.

Alice helped make a bowl of Oobleck, which the students correctly identified as a non-Newtonian fluid, otherwise known as cornflour and water mixed in the correct proportions to produce a solid. Alice was able to mould in her hand then pour it back into the bowl.



Meanwhile Ash and Josie were getting very cold hands but unfortunately, the experiment was not successful, as the milk did not freeze as expected. I do hope they enjoyed trying however.

The assembly ended with me experimenting how strong the rubbery egg was and Year 8 certainly enjoyed seeing that it wasn't as bouncy as it looked as it smashed on the floor, creating a bit of a mess. I particularly enjoyed hearing the suggestion by one of the students as he left, that I should have dropped the egg into the Oobleck to see it would protect the egg. What a show of enthusiasm and involvement!



*Mrs Wenlock  
Head of Food*

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## SIXTH FORM STRATFORD TRIP

Last week, Year 12 Geography students visited Stratford and the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park to look at different places' characteristics and approaches to regeneration as part of their Unit 2 Changing Spaces topic. Students tried a range of fieldwork techniques including pedestrian observations and land use tallies.

Rory said, "It was really interesting to see how the rebranding of the area had affected places differently and to better understand why some areas were opposed to the regeneration project."

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## OVER £1,500 RAISED FOR COMIC RELIEF

Thank you to everyone who supported St Bart's efforts in aid of Red Nose Day for Comic Relief last Friday. Lots of students took time to cheer on their House in the hotly contested House Staff Netball, with Curnock being crowned victorious! Alongside Non-School Uniform donations, the House Bake Sale was also a brilliant success and we are most grateful to all those who brought in yummy contributions. In total, the amount raised by the school, including Gift Aid, was **£1,555.77**. Remember, if you have not had a chance to do so there is still time to donate as the [donation page](#) will stay live for another week.



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## A GREAT NIGHT WITH THE PA

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Parents' Association Quiz and Chips Evening that took place last Friday. The event was hosted by Quiz Masters, Miss Brenton (Head of Humanities) and Mr Langton (Head of Citizenship and Politics), who took time out of teaching students to test parents' knowledge over a series of 6 rounds, including a music round. The event was won by team 'Ste Lin the answers'. Teams were fuelled by an excellent bar and some delicious Fish & Chips provided by Skippers. Thank you to everyone who entered a team and who supported the raffle on the night. A huge thank you also to our Quiz Masters, the Site team and Mr Weller who helped with hall and AV set up, and of course our brilliant Parents' Association volunteers who organised a superb evening.



If you would like to get involved with the Parents Association - whether joining the committee, organising or helping at events or even just keeping in touch with our news – please visit: [Parents' Association – St Bart's School](#)

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## ULAFU SECONDARY, KENYA UPDATE

We recently had a Zoom meeting with our partnership school, Ulafu Secondary in Kenya, deepening our collaboration to address key issues affecting the students and community.

The group has grown significantly, however one of the key areas the students of Ulafu are focusing on is gender inequality, a critical issue within their community. Although the group has been male-dominated, both schools are committed to addressing this imbalance by raising awareness and brainstorming solutions to promote gender equality.



Last year, the partnership group raised an impressive 165,470 Kenyan Shillings (£988) through various fundraising activities. Kennedy, the lead teacher, and the Ulafu Secondary students expressed their heartfelt gratitude for the generous donation, which has had a significant impact on their school and community. The funds have been used to purchase gardening tools, plant trees and provide food for meals, directly benefiting both students and local families.

This contribution has also played a role in supporting Ulafu Secondary's sustainable projects. With the aid of the donation, the school was able to establish a kitchen garden and buy seeds and tools needed to cultivate crops.

Kennedy shared that the school had recently faced the challenges of a drought, but thankfully, the rains have returned, enabling the school to continue their agricultural work. Alongside farming, the students have begun producing soaps and mats, which they sell to raise additional funds for the school. These initiatives not only provide financial support but also help develop valuable skills among the students.

Moving forward, Ulafu Secondary School is focused on sustainable development goals with a particular focus on zero hunger as well as gender inequality, which remains a priority.

St. Bart's is proud to support Ulafu Secondary in their efforts to build a brighter future for all students, and both schools look forward to continuing their collaboration in the coming year. Through mutual dedication and ongoing support, the schools are committed to making a positive impact, one that empowers young people to create meaningful change in their communities.

A special thank you goes out to everyone who supported the various activities last year. Your contributions have truly made a difference.

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## AQA UNIT AWARD SCHEME

Congratulations to Hala Alharbat who has been awarded an AQA Unit Award Skill in Personal Organisation. This new and exciting AQA Unit Award Scheme provides an opportunity for all students at St' Bart's to evidence



their academic skills, and develop their own personal interests. This scheme also aims to build students' confidence, increase engagement, and be rewarded for academic progress.

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*Miss Marshall*

## PE

### Berkshire School Games

Once again we hosted the Berkshire Schools Primary Athletics Competition on 7 March. We had schools from across Berkshire in Years 3 and 4 in the morning and Years 5 and 6 in the afternoon competing for medals.



Our Year 10 Sports Leaders arrived bright and early to help set up and get a feel of what was involved in the competition, having a go at the obstacle course, speed bounce and format of the relay which they would later be demonstrating!

The Year 11 Sports Leaders gave their support in the afternoon, and having had experience with this competition last year they were familiar with the format. Both groups of Sports Leaders were excellent and took on their roles and responsibilities with pride, ensuring the Primary students competed to their highest level. It would not be possible to run an event like this without the support of the Sports Leaders to whom we are very grateful for all their hard work on the day. You were excellent Ambassadors for our school - well done and thank you!

### Year 7 Girls' Rugby Development Afternoon

15 of our Year 7 girls recently took part in a Rugby Development afternoon at Newbury Rugby Football Club. A bitterly cold afternoon did not deter the girls from enjoying the opportunity to learn and develop Rugby skills with experienced Rugby coaches from the club. Skills included passing, tackling and game play in various formats. We look forward to you being part of our school club and hopefully also working with Newbury Rugby Football Club.

Well done to the following girls who were involved in the developmental afternoon.

Katie Evans, Ruby Green, Flo Hook, Amelia Brooke-Taylor, Teegan Brown, Lucie Davey, Laura Arnold, Eleanor Macleod, Albie Axten, Olivia Cooper, Imogen Taylor, Summer Wrzsenski, Lillia Haynes, Sophia Lawrence, Ellie-May Caunt.

### Year 7 Netball

Well done to the Year 7 netball teams who played very competitive league games against Kennet School. The A team lost, 9-8. Tilly Clare and Katie Piner were the Players of the Match. The B team lost, 6-5 Molly Clark-Lee and Flora Johnson were the Players of the Match.



## Year 9 Netball

Year 9 played the last of their league fixtures last week with excellent wins from the A team, beating Park House School in a very close game, 8-6. Bella and Sasha were awarded Players of the Match.

They then won, 19-1 against Trinity School with Bella and Ellie taking Players of the Match.



Their last game

was against The Willink School and they gained another convincing win beating them 14-1. Holly and Caitlin were awarded Players of the Match.

Success was also on the cards for the B team. They took a win off John O'Gaunt, a 4 all draw against Kennet School B and a great win of 11-3 against The Downs School. Players of the Match were awarded to May, Maya and Berivan. We wait to find out where we finished over all!

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## Year 8 Football

County Cup vs Furze Platt

Well done to the Year 8 boys' football team who won, 9-1, against Furze Platt School in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of the County Cup. St Bart's started to the game well taking an early lead. The strong start continued until half time with the score being 6-0 going into the break. The start of the second half was more evenly contested with Furze Platt scoring the first goal of the half. However, St Bart's regained control and scored three more goals to win the match 9-1. Goals were scored by Tommy (x3), Adam (x2), Zach, Alex, Evan and Tyler. Player of the Match was awarded to Adam for his constant pressing and for scoring two goals.



Click and find us:







## VENUE

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S  
SCHOOL  
NEWBURY RG14 6LP

Join us for a **FUN** filled day, find out  
about how you can add  
**SUSTAINABILITY** to your life.

Find **LOCAL** suppliers to  
help you make a difference.  
**INSPIRE** you to take your own  
steps to help local wildlife.  
Be part of the **COMMUNITY**  
celebrating and creating  
a sustainable eco friendly

**WEST BERKSHIRE**

with our neighbours.

**ENJOY** amazing local food  
from eco conscious vendors.

**FACEBOOK**



SCAN ME

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SCAN ME

**TIKTOK**



SCAN ME

**WEBSITE**



SCAN ME