

St Bartholomew's Primary School Newsletter



St. Bartholomew's Church of England Primary School
Ann Street, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 4GP

Telephone: 01273 692463 Fax: 01273 645239
Email: admin@st-bartholomews.brighton-hove.sch.uk
Website: www.st-bartholomews.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Headteacher: Ms K Blood
Deputy Headteacher: Miss F Keeling



Date: 04/12/20

Dear Parents and Carers,

School News

Children in Need

Just to let you know that your amazing children, with the help of some adults, raised over £165 for Children in Need – we are VERY proud of them all. Thank you to all of you that were able to support this.

Anti-Bullying Week



This amazing display of work completed during Anti-Bullying Week is in our hall – it is something bright and colourful to look at during lunchtime – thanks Ms Soar!

Building Work

As you may have noticed, we are having some building work done. This is fully funded by the Local Authority who will be paying us for the use of the space once the work is finished. The new area will be used as a provision to support pupils who are currently not in school, so that they can return to school – either to St Bartholomew's or another school. This is a brand new provision and each child's learning package will be bespoke to them so it is hard to know exactly what will happen in the space each day. However, I have been involved in the project from the very beginning so will continue to champion the needs of our school as the conversations continue. It is a very exciting opportunity for us and also a much needed source of income. We have been clear that there are times we need the space for toddlers and hopefully for after school club if Starfish can return. We will continue to work together with the Local Authority collaboratively to insure it works well for all stakeholders.

Koala and Puffin Class

From January 2021, the children in Puffin Class and Koala Class will be taught together as one class. Mrs Allaway and Miss Beavis will be the teachers and unfortunately we are unable to extend Miss Rhodes' contract so she will be leaving us at Christmas. I know many members of our school community will be sorry to see her go.

It is possible that we will have more mixed age classes over the next few years if budgets and pupil numbers continue to be as low as they are now. Across the country, lots of children are taught in mixed age classes so it is not unusual but it is new for us.

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Church School

Christmas at St Bartholomew's Church

Christmas services

The schedule of Christmas services this year is:

Saturday 19 December

Carol Service at 4.00pm

Christmas Eve

Crib Service at 4.00pm

Midnight Mass at 10.30pm

Christmas Day

Solemn Mass at 10.30am

Also, please be aware that all these services are ticketed. Tickets are free but you must book in advance. Tickets can be booked here - <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/st-bartholomews-church-brighton-31922990581>

Bible Verse

Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6:35

Reminders and Notices

Coronavirus Update

We are now in Tier 2 where strict distancing rules still apply. In Tier 2, households **cannot mix indoors**, apart from support bubbles. A maximum of six people can meet outdoors. Please familiarise yourself with the guidance to help keep yourself and others safe - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tier-2-high-alert>.

Thank you to everyone who is wearing a face covering in the playground – we really appreciate it. Certainly, in the run up to Christmas we ask that EVERYONE who can, makes a concerted effort to wear one. There are some parents who have stickers or lanyards to show they are exempt which is really useful – it means that staff won't challenge them. You can download your own exemption card here –

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own> but exemption cards are not compulsory. Also, we are aware of some parents who are exempt but are trying their best to wear a covering – we know this isn't possible for everyone but we really appreciate those who are managing this.

Food Bank

Our food bank is still up and running – please do ask a member of staff if you need some food provided for your family. We have plenty to share and we understand that it can be very difficult for families at this time.

Uniform

Please can I remind parents that PE Kit should be in school colours where possible. Certainly, ALL children should be wearing a PE t-shirt in the correct team colour – ideally with the logo. These can be ordered from the uniform shop - <https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/StBartholomewsCOFPrimarySchoolBrightonBN14GP>

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Pupils are allowed to wear non-uniform when it is their birthday. However, what they wear must still be safe and practical for school and no jewellery except small studs if they have their ears pierced.

Missing Necklace

We still have a necklace that has gone missing in school – please check children's pockets, bedrooms etc. to see if it has come home by accident and return it to school ASAP. We are continuing to search at school.

Watches

Some children have been wearing smart watches to school. Like all items in school, please do not send in anything too valuable as we cannot be held responsible for them if they become lost or damaged. It is also important that any watches do not have the facility to take photos – this is a data protection issue. The watches should not connect to the Internet and should not be able to send or receive calls or messages.

Punctuality

Lately, we have seen an increase in children arriving late to school. Please can we remind all parents that you are required to make sure that your children arrive at school before registration at 8.55am. We have a 'soft start' to the school day, which means that children can go in to their classrooms from 8.45am. The learning begins at 8.45am.

Even if you are just a few minutes late to school, this can have a real impact on your child's learning, and on their day. Being late means your child can miss out on important instructions, find it harder to settle and it disrupts the rest of the class. And these minutes add up - for instance, being 15 minutes late every day would mean losing two whole weeks of learning by the end of the school year.

ParentPay

Dinner and Breakfast Club payments MUST be paid for in advance. Do not wait to pay in arrears AFTER dinner has been had. Please regularly check (once a week at least) that your ParentPay account is up to date.

If you will not be able to make a payment for ANY reason, please telephone the school office and we can set up a payment plan. Dinner and Breakfast Club attendance for the week is added to ParentPay on a Friday so please check on a Friday afternoon.

Please remember that the school has to cover any debts, meaning that we have less money to spend on your child's education. The amount of admin time it takes to chase debts also costs the school and means that we have to spend a significant amount of time in the office contacting parents to ask them to pay dinner money, Breakfast Club fees and for school trips. Please help us by paying for things in advance and on time or letting us know that you need support with this.

If you are regularly in debt on ParentPay for School Dinners and/or Breakfast Club, you will be asked to come in for a meeting to discuss it with me.

Kind Regards

Katie Blood

Katie Blood
Headteacher

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Calendar Dates

Please note that these dates are subject to change dependent on coronavirus guidance

December 18 th – Non Uniform Day – School Fund 18 th – Last day of term	January 4 th – INSET day 5 th – INSET day 6 th – Pupils return 13 th – Open Session for new Reception parents (9.15 – 10.15)
February 12 th – Non Uniform Day – World Wildlife Fund 12 th – Last day of term	March 4 th – World Book Day 16 th – Year 5 Parents Meeting – PGL (2.15pm) 19 th – Comic Relief 23 rd – Parent Consultations (3.30 – 5.30pm) 25 th – Parent Consultations (3.30 – 7pm)
April 1 st – Non Uniform Day – Connor Saunders Foundation 1 st – Easter Parade and Mass 1 st Last day of term 19 th – Pupils return 26 th – Attendance Awards Activities	May 7 th – Pangolin Class Assembly 18 th – Red Panda Class Assembly 21 st – Penguin Class Assembly 28 th – Non Uniform Day – School Fund 28 th – Last day of half term
June 7 th – INSET Day 8 th – Pupils return 18 th – Koala Class Assembly 25 th – Puffin Class Assembly 29 th – Sports Day (2pm) 30 th – Reserve Sports Day (2pm)	July 2 nd – Bumblebee Class Assembly 6 th – New Reception Children Visit with Parents (9.15 – 10.15am) 7 th – Reports out 9 th – Summer Party (3.15 – 5pm) 13 th – New Reception Children Visit and parents meeting (9.15 – 10.15am) 13 th – Shuffle through session (11-12) 16 th – Shuffle through session (11-12) 19 th – Non Uniform Day – Food Bank 14 th – Report drop-in 16 th – Year 6 Leaver's Disco (2.30 – 4pm) 20 th – New Reception Children visit (9.15 – 10.15am) 22 nd – Leavers' Assembly 23 rd – Last day of term