

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

Assistant Headteachers: Miss H Banks & Mrs R Christie-Davies



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Date: 13/01/23

Dear Parents and Carers,

School News

Happy New Year

Happy New Year to you all! We hope that you all had a restful break although I know there was quite a lot illness about for both staff and families. Hopefully everyone is on the mend now!

Thank you to those of you who gave staff end of term cards and gifts. They are definitely not necessary, especially when times are so hard. However, I know they are all appreciated and valued. Kind words in a card can mean so much.

Royal Pavilion Trip

Pangolins and Red Pandas enjoyed a wonderful morning at The Royal Pavilion, in the last week of term. We learnt a lot about the history of Brighton's most famous landmark and we also got an amazing insight into the luxurious life of King George IV. We are so lucky to be able to easily access a wide array of free resources that our fantastic city has to offer, here at St Bartholomew's. Thanks to Mr Beggs and Mr Mills for organising the trip, and to all of the staff and parents that attended.



Hobgoblin Theatre Show

Our children in Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 had a fabulous start to 2023 with a wonderful theatre performance last Friday. It was an absolute treat and the sound of joy from the hall was wonderful! The team from Hobgoblin told the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and the children (and staff!) loved it!

"They tried to make the cow be a circus cow and it didn't work and it was just SO funny!" Abe, Penguin Class

"I liked the bit where he said 'I will grind his bones to make my bread'" Theo, Penguin Class

"It was AMAZING! My favourite part was when he said 'Fe, Fi, Fo, Fum'" Zuzana, Penguin Class



Thank you to all the staff involved in organising this and all of the parents who have paid for it. Unfortunately, we are still missing quite a lot of parental contributions for this event as 42 parents/carers still have not paid. This is £252 which the school will have to pay from the budget. Of course, this means that money won't be available for other resources or opportunities for your children.

ParentPay is still open to pay for this and will remain so until the end of January. We do recognise that paying for things at this time can be very difficult but we do want to provide fun and exciting opportunities for the children. If you think you will struggle to pay the full amount by the end of January, please talk to Mrs Foster or myself, who can make arrangements to support you with this.

'Let Your Light Shine' (Matthew 5:16)

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Gully's Health Squad



Our Gully's Health Squad programme has come to an end for now, but not without a visit from Gully last Friday morning to give out certificates and medals to all the participants!

This has been a great programme for all involved and we hope that Albion in the Community will come in to do this again one day!

Church School

Our Ark Display

As you may remember, we had a wonderful Ark Week back in September. We now have a fabulous display of all things Ark related, including some of the brilliant work the children did during Ark Week. Our prayer Ark is also available for children to put a prayer in for anything they are thankful or sorry for, or something they are hopeful for.



Reminders and Notices

Attendance

Pupil attendance is a key focus for our school. We have too many pupils missing too much school at the moment. On the ScholarPack Parents app, you will be able to see attendance data for your child. All children need to be aiming for **95% attendance or over** – this is considered good attendance.

If your child's attendance is **BELOW 90%** they are considered a **persistent absentee**. This means our Attendance Officer may become involved but more importantly, your child is missing a day of school EVERY fortnight. This is TOO much learning and friendship to be missing.

However, we do appreciate there was a lot of illness around before Christmas and we do understand that sometimes children will be too ill to come to school, for example if they are being sick. But now, we are all going to work really hard together to get GREAT attendance this term.

Each day a class has a FULL HOUSE (all pupils being educated in a school setting), they will get class points which add up to result in a class reward! Please ensure your child comes to school as much as they can so they can learn and make friends!

Any problems, please do talk to your child's class teacher or a member of SLT.

PTFA

Our PTFA (Parent, Teachers and Friends Association) work together to create fundraising and fun opportunities for the school and its pupils. Our next meeting is on MONDAY at 2.30pm. Please come along and join us if you feel you can help out.

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Lunchboxes and Snacks

Children will be keeping their lunch on the lunchbox trolleys and their snack in their classroom, rather than in the cloakroom. This was what we always did before the pandemic but it is one of the things that changed for a while. However, having less things in the cloakroom works much better during the school day so we will be changing back to our original system. Therefore, it is REALLY important that your child's lunchbox, water bottle, tubs etc are clearly named.

Governors

We are looking to appoint new Parent Governor but also have vacancies for Foundation Governors. Parent Governors need to be parents/carers of children who are currently in school and Foundation Governors can be parents/carers or anyone else who follows the Christian faith. We would also be interested in appointed Governors who reflect the diverse makeup of our school body.

Governors attend 6-8 meetings a year in the evenings and also take a role in monitoring school improvement. It can be a challenging role but it is also very interesting and rewarding. There is a great video here - <https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/jobs/volunteering/become-school-governor> - that will tell you more. However, you can also talk to myself or Father Ben Eadon if you are interested.

If we have more than one volunteer for Parent Governor, the parent body are asked to vote for who they think would best represent them. If you are interested in either roles, please email the school office by Friday 20th January.

Clubs

There are some great clubs in the local area for primary age children that your child might be interested in. These tend to be more affordable and offer a variety of activities. Most of these clubs are now up and running as normal!

- For girls age 5+ - Rainbows, Brownies and Guides - <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/> or speak to Ms Blood or Mrs Pacey
- For girls age 4+ - Girls' Brigade <http://www.girlsb.org.uk/be-part-of-it-32/> or see Mrs Barnett
- For boys and girls age 6+ - Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts and Scouts - <http://scouts.org.uk/home/>
- For boys and girls age 10+ - Sea Cadets - <https://www.sea-cadets.org/join-us>
- For boys age 5+ - Boys' Brigade <https://boys-brigade.org.uk/>
- For everyone, birth to adult – Woodcraft Folk - <https://woodcraft.org.uk/>

If you know of any similar clubs that would welcome children, please let us know.

Kind Regards

Katie Blood

Katie Blood
Headteacher

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Calendar Dates

Please note that these dates are subject to change

January	February
16 th – PTFA Meeting 23 rd – Parent Forum (2pm)	3 rd – Film Night 10 th – Non-Uniform Day – School Fund 10 th – Last day of half term 20 th – Pupils return 27 th – 3 rd Book Week
March	April
6 th – Parent Forum (2.00) 7 th – Year 5 Parents Meeting PGL (2.15) 17 th – Sport Relief 17 th – Film Night (TBC) 21 st – Parents' Evening (3.30 – 5.30) 23 rd – Parents' Evening (3.30 – 7.00) 27/28/29 th – Year 5/6 Residential 29 th – Non Uniform Day – Connor Saunders Foundation 30 th – Easter Parade 30 th – Last day of Term for pupils 31 st – INSET Day	17 th – Pupils return
May	June
8 th – Year 4/5 Parents meeting for Y5 Residential (2.30) W/B 8 th – Year 6 tests 19 th – Pangolin Class Assembly 19 th – Film Night 23 rd – Parent Forum (2.00) 26 th – Penguin Class Assembly 26 th – Non School Uniform – School Fund 26 th – Last day of half term	5 th – INSET Day 6 th – Pupils return 16 th – Koala Class Assembly 21 st – New Reception Children visit with Parents (9.15 – 10.15) 27 th – Sports Day 28 th – New Reception Children Visit & Parents Meeting (9.15 – 10.15) 30 th – Red Panda Class Assembly 30 th – Summer Party (2.30 – 4.30)
July	
5 th – New Reception Children Visit & Parents Meeting (9.15 – 10.15) 6 th – Reports out 7 th – Year 6 transition day 13 th – Report drop-in 14 th – Bumblebee Class Assembly (2pm) 14 th – Year 6 Leaver's Disco (2.30 – 4.00) 17 th – St Bart's Got Talent (2.00 – 2.45) 19 th – Non Uniform Day - Food Bank 20 th – Jaguar Class Leaver's Assembly (2.00pm) 21 st – Last day of term	