

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: 15/02/19

Dear Parents and Carers,

Year 4 Class Assembly

Last Wednesday, we were treated to a fabulous assembly from Year 4 based on travels around France. There was some super acting a fabulous rendition of the Status Quo classic, Rocking all over the World! Well done to Year 4, Mr Beggs and all the staff who worked hard to produce such a great assembly. Thank you to all the parents and families who were able to come to watch and I am sure you all enjoyed the French food that was available after the assembly.



"I liked it because our families came and enjoyed food with us at the end." CJ
"My favourite part was at the end when I got to give my Mum a croissant." Solomon
"I found it fun." Paul
"We all played an instrument." Liam



Year 4 Cooking

Our Year 4 class have enjoyed a fabulous opportunity to take part in some cooking sessions at the Community Kitchen on Queens Road. Over the past month, half the class have participated in 3 sessions and have cooked a range of foods. The second half of Year 4 will be going in March. This has been a totally free event and we are very grateful for the opportunity our children have been given.

"I like the staff there. We have made cakes, soup, pizza, omelettes and flatbreads. I liked the flatbreads best and made them at home." Paul
"At home we made the soup again and it was still good but we had to change the ingredients. My favourite was the omelettes." Liam



Breakfast Club

You may have heard some exciting talk about bagels over the past fortnight! We are lucky enough to be part of the Magic Breakfast scheme which enables us to provide all pupils with breakfast for free. They provide us with plenty of bagels and then our outstanding Breakfast Club team do a fantastic job of cooking a vast number of them, every morning by 8.45am – we are really lucky to have the team otherwise this would not be possible. The bagels are available in each classroom for children in the morning but of course, nobody has to have one. The bagels are plain, served with no toppings.

"They're nice." Lucas, Year 2
"They are really good and thank you for getting them." Theo, Year 2
"Sometimes people don't have time to eat breakfast so it good for them." Martha, Year 5
"They are good" Jack, Year 5
"They are really good. Sometimes I don't have time to have breakfast and I'm hungry so I have a bagel and its great!" Davey, Year 5
"They are delicious. Sometimes you aren't full up at school." Keira, Year 5
"They are so yummy!" Nurjahan, Year 5
"They are delicious!" Freddy, Year 5
"I like them." Poppy, Year 1
"I think they are really nice." Vasilios, Year 5



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Working Together

It is really important that if your child is unhappy or worried about something at school that you encourage them to talk to a member of staff about it, or you make an appointment to see your child's class teacher. In the unlikely event that you are not satisfied with the response, you can then make an appointment with either myself or Miss Keeling to discuss the matter further. Please remember that we can only discuss your child with you and we cannot discuss how we are supporting other children or what their needs are.

Whilst we appreciate there may be concerns about some children in school (like any school), please remember that they are still children (until they are 18) and are still someone else's child. If you have concerns that **your child** is upset or worried by **ANY** other child in school and it cannot be resolved by you talking your child through the situation, please do come in to see us. Thank you to those parents who have spoken to us and have been reassured about how we can support their child. We care about **ALL** of your children and we want them all to be happy and thrive at our school. Thank you to those of you who demonstrate empathy every day to all of our families.

Below is an extract from a blog which sums up how it might feel to be the parents of "that child." There are also 2 links to other websites with some other thoughts on the matter, including a teacher's point of view – if you can spare the time, they are certainly worth a read. They are thought-provoking and may bring a tear to your eye, as they did mine.

<http://missnightmutterers.com/2014/11/dear-parent-about-that-kid.html>

<https://lemonlimeadventures.com/what-you-dont-know-about-that-kid/>

<http://www.essentialkids.com.au/education/school/primary-school/a-note-from-the-mother-of-that-child-20170125-gty8rs>

Dear mamas in the schoolyard,

I want to write you this letter in the hope that it may help you to understand. I am writing it on behalf of the mother of the child who has a behaviour issue. The one who whose child may be in your child's classroom. The one whose child may at times be disruptive and need lots of attention from the teacher. The one that no doubt, the whole class will already know about!

Did you know that this mother has probably cried an ocean of tears for her child? She has probably been through more than you or I could ever imagine. Maybe her child has a formal diagnosis like Autism or ADHD, but that really shouldn't matter anyway. Maybe she is still grieving for the fact that her child may face so many more challenges in their life than yours.

She is still a mother, like you and I, who just always wants the very best for her child. Did you know that she hears your whispers and feels your disapproving looks? She knows all too well that you do not want your child to interact with hers in any way because of their behaviour.

Did you know that she holds her child tightly as they sob because they have yet again not been invited to a party? Later that night when they are fast asleep, she also cries with sadness for her child and a pain in her heart that she cannot make go away.

Did you know that most days she holds her phone close and is filled with anxiety as she expects the school to call and say that there has been yet another incident at school with her child. She can't relax and enjoy the time to herself. You probably

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couldn't know that by now she has very few friends in her life anymore. Having a child with such high needs has meant many appointments, social skills groups and therapies. It has also meant she is left exhausted and wiped out each and every day, and barely has enough energy for her family, let alone even attempting to reach out to one of her few friends left who understand.

And if you took the time to actually get to know her she might share with you that even members of her own family make her feel like it is her fault. That she is a bad parent and responsible for her child's behaviour. Most events or outings that she attempts often end in disaster. People have stopped inviting them now. It will probably break your heart to hear that she has had to seek therapy and medication to cope with the stresses of her daily life.

I want to also let you know that your child cannot catch a behaviour issue from being associated with this family. They do not have a contagious disease. What you and your child can learn by being friends with them is a very valuable lesson in life. You can teach your child how to have empathy and compassion for other individuals who have challenges. You can teach your child to lead the way in showing kindness and acceptance to the children who need it most. You can do this by leading by example.

That lovely mother needs more than anyone else in your life – a friend. Someone to listen to her and show support, without judgement. Even just a simple smile or hello could lift her spirits immensely. We teach our students that 'excluding' is a form of bullying, yet other parents seem to do this to each other all of the time.

Yes there may be times when you are together that issues may arise, but you can handle that. You are after all, a mother - and together women are a force to be reckoned with!

Love Chrissie. xx

School Uniform

Our school uniform is now available to buy online via:

<https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/StBartholomewsCOfePrimarySchoolBrightonBN14GP>. We **no longer sell uniform in school** and so if you would like to purchase jumpers with the school logo on, this has to be done via the link above. There is also other uniform available from the site. You do not have to buy jumpers/cardigans with the school logo on – plain grey or yellow jumpers/cardigans are also fine to wear to school. The school does receive a small profit on any item that you buy.

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations are on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th March. After half term, you will be able to sign up for appointments via the school office – please do make sure you sign up to find out about your child's progress. We also hope to have the CGP work books available again for you to order, so you can support your child at home.

Church Watching

St Bartholomew's Church is looking for volunteers to be there when the church is open during the day to chat to visitors and tourists. If you would be interested in the role, please let the school office know and we will put you in touch with someone from the church.

Toddler Group

We do have a toddler group that runs here every Wednesday from 9.15am in the community room. Please come in through the main office so that you sign in. See Mrs Barnett (Y4) for more information.

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Online Safety

Please remember to monitor your children's activity online – we are still getting reports of inappropriate content and children accessing sites and games that they are not old enough for. Parents of children in Year 5 and Year 6 are invited to an Internet Safety Workshop on Thursday 28th February at 9am in the hall – you should have all received a letter about this last week. Please let us know if you will be coming to this.

Non-uniform days

We have some non-uniform days coming up:

Friday 15th March – children can wear non-uniform for a £1 donation to Comic Relief.

Monday 25th March - (Connor Saunders' Birthday) children can wear blue and also donate £1 to the Connor Saunders Foundation who recently visited our older classes and donated a Defibrillator to the school so we are now Heart Safe.

World Book Day

World Book Day is coming up in March and will be organised for each class by their teachers. They will let you know if you need to help your child prepare anything at home.

Positive Parenting Programme (Triple P)

Triple P talks and courses offer a range of advice, support and positive parenting strategies for parents. There are a number of talks, workshops and courses coming up over the next few months that you may find helpful. For further information, please visit <https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/children-and-education/childcare-and-family-support/parenting-team>. You can also contact the Triple P team directly via triplep.parenting@brighton-hove.gov.uk or 01273 294471.

The following workshops are running in March/April for parents/carers with children aged 2 - 7 years (including under 8s):

Roundabout Children's Centre is running a free Triple P Parenting Workshop on Friday 1 March, 10.00-12.15pm. The subject of this workshop is **Managing Fighting and Aggression**. Limited crèche places. To book a place please call Lisa or Ruth on 01273 290300.

Hollingdean Children's Centre is running a free Triple P Parenting Workshop on Wednesday 6 March, 12.15-2.30pm. The subject of this workshop is **Dealing with Disobedience**. Limited crèche places. To book a place please call Natalie on 01273 296700 or Tina on 01273 296356.

Hangleton Park Children's Centre is running a free Triple P Parenting Workshop on Wednesday 27 March, 12.30-2.30pm. The subject of this workshop is **Bedtime Routines and Sleep Habits**. Limited crèche places. To book a place please call Lin on 01273 294062 or Tina on 01273 296356.

Tarner Children's Centre is running a free Triple P Parenting Workshop on Saturday 6 April, 10.00-12.15pm. The subject of this workshop is **Dealing with Disobedience**. To book a place please call Natalie on 01273 296700 or Tina on 01273 296356.

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First Aid

Please remember to sign up for the Parents' First Aid Course on Thursday 28th March. There is a cost of £20 or it is free if you are in receipt of certain benefits. Application forms are available from the school office.

Science Activities in Half Term

There are some great Science Events happening in half term. Please see <http://www.brightonscience.com/events/> for further details. Blast Science, who did some workshops for us last year, are doing a Family Science Show on Tuesday 19th Feb at the Walrus, Ship St. 11am and 2pm. Book now! <http://www.brightonscience.com/events/the-blast-science-extravaganza-science-show-2/>

Chomp

Chomp helps low income families during school holidays and term time by providing a free nutritious meal for all the family alongside activities to increase social engagement and confidence with peers. Each club offers a range of fun activities, snacks, time for parents to chat, and a hot, healthy lunch prepared on the day. Please see the table below for details of Chomp clubs happening over the February half term – if you would like to attend any of the sessions, please make sure to register beforehand via <https://chompbrighton.co.uk/register/>.

Where	When (all sessions run from 11am – 1pm)
Benfield Benfield Primary School, 255 Old Shoreham Rd, Portslade, BN41 1XS	Monday 18 th and Thursday 21 st February
Bevendean Salvation Army, Leybourne Road, Bevendean, BN2 4LT	Thursday 21 st February
Coldean St Mary Magdalen Church, Coldean Lane, Coldean, BN1 9GE	Friday 22 nd February
Fabrica Fabrica Art Gallery, Duke Street, BN1 1AG	Friday 22 nd February
Gloucester Place (city centre) One Church Brighton, Gloucester Place, BN1 4AA	Monday 18 th and Tuesday 19 th February
Hove Hove Methodist Church, Portland Road, Hove, BN3 5DR	Tuesday 19 th February
Moulsecoomb Hillview Good News Centre, Hodshrove Lane, BN2 4SB	Monday 18 th and Wednesday 20 th February
Whitehawk St. Davids Hall, Whitehawk Road, BN2 5FH	Wednesday 20 th and Friday 22 nd February
West Blatchington West Blatchington Primary School, Hangleton Way, BN3 8BN	Wednesday 20 th and Friday 22 nd February

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Calendar Dates

February - April

Monday 25th February – INSET DAY
Tuesday 26th February – Pupils return to school
Thursday 28th February, 9am – Internet Safety Workshop in the hall for Year 5 & Year 6 parents
Wednesday 6th March, 3.45 – 6.35pm – Parent Consultations
Thursday 7th March, 3.45 – 6.45pm – Parent Consultations
Tuesday 12th March – Let's Dance at the Dome (Details TBC)
Thursday 14th March, 2.30pm – SATS Meeting for Year 2 Parents
Thursday 14th March, 6pm – SATS Meeting for Year 6 Parents
Friday 15th March – Non-uniform day for Comic Relief
Friday 15th March, 9.15am – Year 2 Class Assembly
Friday 15th March, 2.30pm – PTFA Meeting
Tuesday 19th March – SEN Parent Coffee Morning
Monday 25th March – Non-uniform day for the Connor Saunders Foundation
Thursday 28th March, 9.15 – 12.15am – First Aid for Babies and Children course
Friday 29th March – INSET DAY
Tuesday 2nd April, 2.30pm – Year 5 Parents Meeting regarding Residential
Monday 8th April – Easter Parade and Mass
Tuesday 9th April – Last day of Term
Tuesday 23rd April – INSET DAY
Wednesday 24th April – Pupils return to school
Monday 29th April–Wednesday 1st May – Year 5 Residential