

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: 24/09/21

Dear Parents and Carers,

School News

Welcome Back

It's lovely to have everyone back at school and we are trying to get everything back to normal as much as we can! We are impressed with how resilient the children have been and how well they have got back into the swing of things after 2 very disruptive years.

There is quite a lot of information in this Newsletter – please take your time to read it carefully and please do speak to your child's class teacher if you have any queries.

Jaguar Class Fabrica Visit

Jaguar Class were lucky enough to visit Fabrica Art Gallery and take part in some free art activities last week. They had a tremendous time and represented the school well - well done Jaguar Class!



Red Panda Class Trip to Stanmer Park

Red Panda Class had a very special day out at this term as the guest class at the launch of the new Stanmer Learning Project at Stanmer Park. The children took part in a range of outdoor activities and particularly enjoyed a sensory trail in the woods. The children were brilliantly behaved and impressed the important visitors with their good behaviour! We are really proud of you, Red Panda Class.

If you want to find out more of what is available for families at Stanmer Park, please have a look here <https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/family-learning-adventures-stanmer-park-and-home> for more details. Stanmer Park is easily accessible by train and public transport and is a beautiful place to visit.

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

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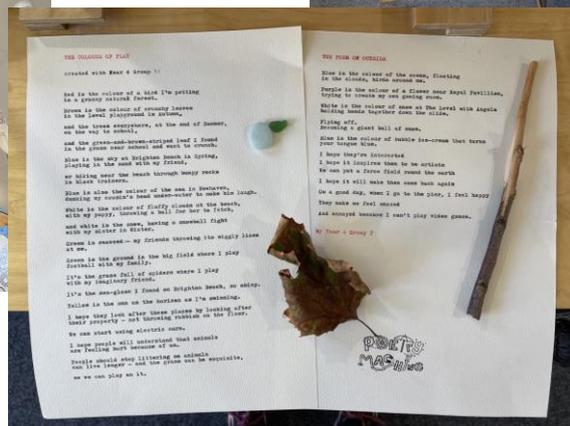
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Year 4 Poetry Workshop

Year 4 were lucky enough to take part in a poetry workshop with Beth and her Poetry machine. They worked together in small groups to create a poem together which Beth then produced in her machine! It was a great morning of exploring ideas and vocabulary to describe the local area. We have attached the two poems to this message so you can read them if you would like to!



Year 5 Swimming

Year 5 have started swimming this term and will continue until February half term. Mr Beggs is a qualified swimming teacher so he goes with them whilst Mr Mills teaches Penguin Class, with some year 4s working as Sports Leaders with the year 1 pupils.

If you have not yet paid for swimming, please do so as soon as possible. If you have any concerns regarding payment, please talk to Mrs Foster or Ms Blood for support.

School Mass

We attended our first School Mass for over 18 months to day and it was SO lovely to be back!

Currently, Jaguar Class, Pangolin Class, Red Panda Class and Koala Class are joining us in church. They were all super well behaved this morning and participated well. Thank you so much to the parents who accompanied us this morning – it is lovely to have the community worshipping together. Father Ben provides everyone with a booklet to follow for the Mass so even if it's unfamiliar, you will be able to join in! Plus, the Mass is new to all of us so we are all learning – it would be a good time to join us!

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Mass will take place on these Thursdays at 9.10am unless stated otherwise:

- 23rd September
- 21st October (Harvest - please bring tinned/packet food to donate)
- 11th November (Remembrance)
- 2nd December
- 16th December (Christmas Carol Service. 2pm start TBC)

If your child cannot attend Mass in the church for Religious reasons, please email or drop a letter into the school office for the attention of the myself and the governors and your request will be considered. We do encourage all of our pupils to attend church wherever possible as we are a Church of England school. This is to give children the experience of faith that they can draw on later in life if they want to or need to.



Top Playground

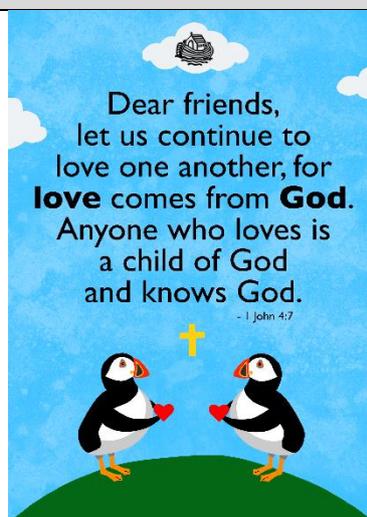
We are VERY lucky that the resurfacing works on the top playground were completed early and we have been able to use it from the beginning of term. The drainage is SO much better (far fewer puddles in the rain!) and the surface no longer has any holes in it! We are very grateful to the City Council for funding this for us. We are hoping to replace the markings soon.

Church School

News

We said goodbye to Father Philip at the beginning of term as he has secured a new post as a vicar in Lavender Hill, London. We wish him lots of luck. Father Nick Archer will be joining the church as Associate Vicar later this year. Next year, Thomas Cotterill will be joining the church as curate. We look forward to welcoming them as part of our school community. The church are also looking to appoint a new Director of Music who will hopefully be involved in music activities in the school.

Bible Verse



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Reminders and Notices

Walk to School Week

Next month, pupils across Brighton and Hove are encouraged to come to school in an 'active way' for one week. The week we have chosen is the final week of this half term: Monday 18th October – Friday 22nd October.

Despite the name of the week, pupils are not restricted to just walking to school. If pupils prefer, and have permission from home, they can also scoot, skate or cycle to school (as long as they wear a helmet). The aim of the week is simply to encourage pupils to be even more active and to make even healthier lifestyle choices.

For those pupils who, because of the distance they live from school, cannot walk from home, they can still participate by getting the bus and walking from their stop. Those who are really keen might even get off a stop earlier, so they walk that little bit further, if parents and carers have allowed this. Those who travel by car can take part by getting dropped off a little further than usual from school and walking the rest of the way.

All pupils who come to school in an active way for **all 5 of the days** will be entered into a **special draw**. Each class will receive two book vouchers and two cycling goody bags. Names of all active participants will be picked from a hat, by their class teacher.

We hope that your child will be able to participate in this event and we wish them the best of luck in the prize draw!

Illness

If you OR your child have **ANY** of these 3 symptoms:

1. Cough
2. Temperature
3. Change in sense of taste or smell

you must stay at home and arrange a Covid-19 test. Please inform the school office as soon as possible on 01273 692463 if this is the case. LFT test are **ONLY** for use if you have **NO** symptoms. If you have symptoms, you **MUST** arrange a PCR test.

We understand that at this time of year, children get colds. They are fine to come to school if they have a cold - just not if they have a temperature or a new, persistent cough.

For more information about coronavirus in children, visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

The following website also provides government coronavirus guidance translated into a number of different languages: <https://www.doctorsoftheworld.org.uk/coronavirus-information/>

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Absence

If your child is unwell, it is your responsibility to call the office by 9.30am to give reasons for absence. If you do not call, we will try to contact you. If no contact is made, we will record the absence as unauthorised. If your child has 3 unauthorised absences in a 6 week period, you are likely to be referred for Fixed Penalty Notice which results in a £60 fine per child per parent.

We understand how difficult routine appointments are to get at the moment but children should not miss school for routine dentist, optician etc. appointments. If they need to see a GP but are well enough to come to school, these appointments should also be made outside school hours.

If your child does have an unavoidable appointment that must be taken in school time, please email or call the school office at least 24 hours in advance and show evidence of the appointment, such as the letter or text received. Please try to ensure your child is in school for the register at 8.55am and at 1.30pm, even if they do have an appointment.

Asthma Card

If your child has asthma, they must have an in-date asthma pump in school and you must complete an Asthma Card which is available to download from the school website - https://www.st-bartholomews.brighton-hove.sch.uk/web/asthma_card/509838. If you are unable to print this yourself, please call the school office who will send a printed one home with your child. It is a requirement that you complete one of these.

Lunches

School dinners are available for every child and are prepared in a Covid-safe environment. The cost of meals is £2.20 per day and must be paid for through ParentPay. All children in Bumblebee, Puffin and Koala Class are entitled to free school meals every day. If you are in receipt of certain benefits, your child may be entitled to free school meals – please visit <https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/children-and-education/schools/free-school-meals> for more information and to apply. It's important to do this even if your child is in the infants as it also entitles your child to additional funding in school. If you need help applying, please email the school office on admin@st-bartholomews.brighton-hove.sch.uk.

If your child does bring a packed lunch in, please remember:

- Food should be part of a healthy, balanced diet
- No sweets or chocolate
- No nuts in any form
- No glass bottles or containers
- No fizzy drinks, including fizzy water.

We usually encourage children to bring their rubbish home in their lunchbox as you can then see what they have eaten. We understand that it can make for a messy lunchbox but it's important you know what they have and haven't eaten each day.

Fidget Toys

Children should not be bringing anything in from home to school, including fidget toys. Only children who have approval from Mrs Christie Davies should have a fidget toy in school. This fidget toy should be small, non-distracting to others and fit in the child's tray. Any fidget toys or other home belongings that are brought into school without permission may be confiscated for the remainder of the day. If items are confiscated, they will be kept with a member of the Senior Leadership Team and can only be collected by a parent/carer at the end of the day.

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SchoolPing

SchoolPing is our main method of communicating with parents. You will receive information about trips, visits, school events, newsletter and even occasional messages from your child's teacher about something they have done well!

Almost all parents are signed up to this service – thank you. However, only 55% of Pings that we send are actually read. Therefore, there are parents who are missing out on vital information and sometimes their children miss out too.

If you need help with SchoolPing, please contact the school office who may be able to guide you.

One thing we have noticed with SchoolPing is that depending on your phone settings, it MAY not send a notification every time a message is sent. It is therefore worth checking your settings and also checking a couple of times a day for messages.

Nasal Flu Vaccinations

Our flu vaccinations will take place on 15/10/21. You have been sent information and instructions on how to complete the online consent form for your child's flu vaccination via SchoolPing. If you have any difficulties completing the online form, please contact the Immunisation team by calling 01273 696011 ext. 3789.

To consent, or refuse consent, visit www.susseximmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu_2. Our school code is **SX114538**.

School Uniform

Please remember that we no longer sell NEW uniform in school – if you would like uniform with the school logo on, this can be purchased via the link below, but it is not essential. Any grey or yellow jumper is fine!

<https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/StBartholomewsCOfePrimarySchoolBrightonBN14GP>

We will be holding a preloved uniform event in the playground after school on Wednesday 29th September. If you can donate some money in exchange for second hand uniform, that's great but if not, you can just take what you need. We send a HUGE thank you again to Katie Cragg who has sorted, washed and ironed the HUGE pile of unnamed lost property ready for the sale. We still welcome any donations of uniform that you no longer need – just pop it into the school office

We have had quite a few uniform items and coats go missing this term already. Most of these have been unnamed. PLEASE, if you want an item of clothing back, you MUST name it. Any named items that are found around school are returned to the owner.

Children should wear PE Kit to school when they have PE. This should be a t-shirt in their team colour and black sports shorts or trousers. They also need trainers or pumps.

Kind Regards

Katie Blood
Headteacher

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Calendar Dates

Please note that these dates are subject to change

October	November
1 st – 31 st Black History Month 18 th – 22 nd Walk to School Week 19 th Open Session for potential Reception parents (9.15 – 10.15) 19 th Parents Consultation Evening (3.30 – 5.30) 21 st Harvest Celebration (9.15) 21 st Parents Consultation Evening (3.30 – 7.00) 22 nd Non Uniform Day – WWF 22 nd Last day of half term	1 st Pupils return 15 th – 19 th Anti Bullying Week 16 th Open Session for potential Reception parents (11.00-12.00) 17 th Potential Parents Presentation (6.30)
December	January
1 st Open Session for potential Reception parents (9.15 – 10.15) 9 th Red Panda and Pangolin Christmas Performance (9.15) 14 th Bumble Bee, Penguin and Koala Christmas Performance (9.30 and (1.30) 16 th Carol Service at Church led by Jaguar Class (2.00) 17 th Non Uniform Day – School Fund 17 th Last day of term	4 th INSET DAY 5 th Pupils return 10 th Open Session for potential Reception parents (11.00-12.00) 24 th Parent Forum (2.00)