

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: 14/02/20

Dear Parents and Carers,

School News

Pangolins Yoga

Last week, Pangolin Class were offered a wonderful opportunity to participate in a Mindful Warriors Yoga workshop as part of Children's Mental Health Week. The Mayor of Brighton and Hove, Cllr Alexandra Phillips, also came along and joined in!

Mindful Warriors said 'it was wonderful to visit St Bartholomew's Primary School and deliver our yoga and mindfulness session to your students to celebrate Children's Mental Health Week. It was such a fantastic session and the Mayor also had a wonderful time.'



'It was nice and calm. Better than I expected!' – Mohammed

'It was good and calming and the teacher was lovely!' – Jayda

'It was very relaxing and I thought it was very nice.' – Solomon

'It was good – it hurt my muscles after! I think it is supposed to hurt your muscles as it's a good stretch.' – Paul

Thank you so much to Mrs Paton for arranging this.

Film Night

Thank you once again to our wonderful PTFA for organising a Film Night last Friday. It was a lovely event – great snacks, great film and great behaviour! We raised around £200 towards the school fund so we appreciate all your donations for this.

Attendance

It is our responsibility as a school to make you aware of the impact that poor school attendance will have upon your child's learning. There is a clear link between poor attendance and low attainment. If your child is not attending school **on time, every day** they will be unable to keep up with the rest of the class and their learning will be affected.

Being late to school can have a considerable impact over the whole school year:

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5 minutes late every day = 3 days of school lost a year
10 minutes late every day = 6.5 days of school lost a year
15 minutes late every day = 10 days of school lost a year
20 minutes late every day = 13 days of school lost a year
30 minutes late every day = 19 days of school lost a year

If your child arrives after the close of registers at 9.30am, they will receive an 'unauthorised' late mark – this is the same as an 'unauthorised absence'. If your child has six of these in any six week period, you will be referred to the Local Authority for a Fixed Penalty Notice.

If there are issues preventing your child coming to school, or making it difficult for your child to come to school on time, then please do make an appointment to speak to me about this. Once we know what these issues are, we can then try and work together to address them.

In Bumblebee Class in particular, children are learning phonics from the moment school starts at 8.55am. If they arrive after 9.15am, they miss most of their phonics learning for the day. If they miss these essential parts of learning, they will fall behind as they progress through the school.

Fire Safety Lessons

Pangolin Class and Koala Class had Fire lessons this week and very much enjoyed them. They learnt about a range of ways of keeping safe. One suggestion is that you make a home fire escape plan as a family, so everyone knows what to do in the unlikely event of a fire. Have a look here for further help and support - <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Staying-safe/Preparedness/Escape-planning>.

Remember, if you are unsure how fire safe your home is, please visit <https://www.esfrs.org/your-safety/home-safety-visits/> for more support and advice.

Church School

Christian Values

Next term, we will be focussing on being disciplined as our Christian Value. This is not so much focussing on behaviour but more about being self-disciplined and focussed. Hopefully, we will be able to explore this a little more over the next half term.

Bible Verse

And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples. John 13:34-35 GNT

Reminders and Notices

School Mass

Our next School Mass will be on Thursday 27th February – please do come and join us. Meet us in the school office just after 9am and walk down with your child's class. Koala Class may be doing Scooter Training at this time so may not participate in School Mass on this occasion – more details after the holiday!

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Own It App + Mobile Phones

Please can we remind parents that your child should only be bringing in a mobile phone to school if they are in Years 5 and 6 and are making their own way to or from school. If your child is younger, there is no need for them to have their phone in school.

The BBC have introduced the 'Own It' app – a software application that your child can download onto their smartphone, designed to support their digital wellbeing and help them to make smarter and better informed choices. Using a combination of self-reporting and 'machine learning', the app builds up a picture of your child's digital wellbeing and serves relevant content, information and interventions designed to help your child understand the impact that their online behaviours can have on themselves, and on others.

For more information, visit <https://www.bbc.com/ownit/take-control/own-it-app>.

Coronavirus information

We spoke to the children this week about the importance of continuing with good hygiene - washing hands regularly and catching sneezes etc. in tissues. For further information, visit www.gov.uk/coronavirus. The school is receiving regular updates from Public Health England with appropriate advice.

There are also some great videos here to help children (and adults) to understand the risks surrounding the coronavirus: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/51342366>.

The Big Pedal

We are taking part in the Big Pedal competition once again this year.

Between the dates of 22/4/20 and 05/05/20 (inclusive) we will be counting how many pupils, staff AND parents are travelling to school or their place of work by scooter, cycle or by simply walking. Every day, our Bike-It crew will collect the data from each class and will enter it on The Big Pedal Website, which will hopefully lead to us winning some fantastic prizes for the school.

We hope you take part in as many of the 2 weeks as you can. Please remember that if you live a distance away, you can participate by parking up a little away from the school or getting off a stop early on your bus, and walking / scooting / cycling the rest of the way!

Taking part is a great way to do your bit to improve the environment, as pollution from cars is one of the biggest contributors to climate change. It also affects the health of all of us. As such a green and environmentally conscious city, I know we want our children to breathe cleaner air.

To celebrate those taking part, all pupils who come to school in an active way for the **whole** of the Big Pedal will receive a special medal!

We hope you choose to take part.

Local Opportunities

Dark Skies Festival

The South Downs National Park is hosting a Dark Skies Festival until Sunday 23rd February with activities and events taking place across the National Park. For more information,

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visit www.southdowns.gov.uk/darkskiesfestival.

Stargazing South Downs will take place on **Saturday 15th February at Steyning Grammar School** and **Thursday 20th February at The Town Hall, Lewes**. There will be a wide range of activities for budding astronomers and space enthusiasts, including indoor planetarium shows, virtual reality experiences, advice on setting up telescopes and astronaut selfie stands.

FREE Discovery Day at the Booth Museum

During the half term, Miss Charlton will be helping at this event - do come and say hello if you do pop along!

Friday 21st February – Discovery Day – ‘Nature’s Grand Designs’ (free, drop-in)

Discover the most extraordinary designs in nature. See miniature homes under the microscope, make your own bird's nest with RSPB, find out about plans to restore the Sussex kelp forest to its former glory with Brighton Dolphin Project and chat with our curators to discover the strangest home invaders.

Spring Term Calendar Dates

February

24th – INSET Day
25th – Pupils return

March

3rd – Parent Consultations (3.30 – 5.30pm)
5th – Parent Consultations (3.30 – 7pm)
W/B 9th – Let's Dance! (TBC)
10th – PTFA Meeting (2.30pm)
17th – Parent Forum (2.30pm)
20th – Year 2 Class Assembly (9.15 – 10am)
24th – Year 5 Parents Meeting – PGL (2.30pm)
27th – PTFA Film Night (TBC)
27th – Non-Uniform Day

April

2nd – Easter Parade and Mass (AM)
3rd – Last Day of Term
20th – Pupils return
20th, 21st and 22nd – Year 5 Residential to PGL

Kind Regards

Katie Blood

Katie Blood
Headteacher