



Friday 17th March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had the chance to read our letter from Ofsted and I am sure you will feel as proud of our achievements as we all do. My fondest memory of the inspection was towards the end of the day when the inspector told us that she thought our school was so lovely she wished she was coming back again the next day! You will have realised that we were inspected under section 8 of the Ofsted framework which means that the inspection lasts for only one day and its purpose is to confirm that our provision remains 'good'. The inspector was impressed with our self-evaluation and told us that it confirmed we know our school's strengths and weaknesses. Our Early Years provision and behaviour, safety and welfare of the children remain outstanding and our leadership of teaching and learning has been strengthened at all levels with a brilliant new Deputy Head Teacher, highly effective Inclusion leader and a dynamic team of phase and subject leaders. All teaching observed was good or outstanding and the work in children's books really shone through. The inspector was very impressed with our school's governors who have led the strategic vision and development of our school successfully since the last inspection in 2013. I am immensely proud of our children, staff and governing body and would like to thank each and every one of you for your continued support of our excellent school. If you have not seen the letter from the Ofsted inspector yet, you can find it here

<http://www.stbartholomews.surrey.sch.uk/page/?title=OFSTED&pid=37>

## EYFS

The children have spent their week as gardeners; planting seeds, looking at bulbs and flowers, watering and learning what plants need to survive. They have learnt to write labels, sequence and order. In Maths, they have been learning about subtraction and how to write a subtraction sentence. They have also been drawing, painting and sketching flowers and learning to really look carefully, not draw what they imagine a flower looks like. As they have enjoyed the Growing topic so much, we have been making the most of working outdoors and still have lots to learn, we have decided to extend the topic for another week, with an emphasis on life cycles, pond dipping and human growth. Many thanks to Mrs Clayton for the frogspawn which the children have been truly fascinated in watching and recording developments.

## KS1

In Year One, the children were very interested in learning about David Attenborough and wrote some excellent reports on his life. In Maths, they have been exploring and practising the challenging topic of telling the time. They have been planting up their flower bed with gladioli and learning to identify the parts of plants and bulbs. Next week, they will be learning about the life of Queen Victoria and looking at and making some Victorian toys. Year Two children have also enjoyed learning about David Attenborough and writing interesting and detailed fact files about his life. This will lead on to writing facts and reports about animals next week. In Maths, they have had fun making 3D shapes out of cocktail sticks and clay, learning all about vertices and properties of shape. Through their RE topic of "It's Not Fair", they have decided to organise a fundraising event for Red Nose Day – more details to follow.



## LKS2

LKS2 have had a very busy fortnight. On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March they had a visit from Dan from Haslemere Library. He introduced the Surrey Library Competition, which St Bart's is taking part in as one of ten champion schools. For the next few weeks, the children will be able to read, study and work on the five shortlisted books that have been nominated for this national award. In early May, we will vote for the winner. Dan also told the children about Haslemere Library and the benefits of membership before going on to tell them what it is like to



work for a library and the duties and responsibilities that come with this job. To help us mark British Science Week, Dr Annalisa Alexander of Imperial College, London, came in on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March. Along with a colleague, she ran science workshops for each of the classes in the Phase. The children wore mini lab coats to feel like little scientists. They did two activities – Jelly Worms, in which they mixed sodium alginate and calcium chloride to make simple polymers, and Lava Lamps, in which they learned about differential density in a fun and engaging way. On Wednesday this week, the Phase visited Fishbourne Roman Palace, just outside Chichester, to deepen their learning about the Romans. They were able to see the fabulous Roman mosaics uncovered at the site for themselves, as well as attending workshops about the Romans with hands on activities including building arches and spinning wool. There was a further workshop in the museum where they learned about hygiene and make-up, including what the sponge on the stick was used for.



## UKS2

It's been another fantastic fortnight in years 5 and 6. The children have been working hard on their Viking topic and specifically in the design and construction of their Viking longboats. Children are learning and utilising teamwork skills in design-drawing, measuring, adapting, cutting with saws, gluing, sewing and using a range of materials to produce replicas based on what we know about longboats. Our Viking learning reached a peak with our visit to Butser Farm where the children engaged in 4 great activities: finding out about history through archaeology, weaving, fence building and writing in runes. We also had the pleasure of having the author CS Clifford present a workshop and visit our classes. He talked to the children in KS2 about his love of reading and writing as well as how he became a writer. He also discussed themes in the stories he has written including travelling in time to other places and worlds. The children were captivated by his enthusiasm and had a chance to write with him in special workshops throughout the day. CS Clifford even stayed behind at the end of the day to sign copies of his books for the children. From his visit, the children wrote a powerful piece of writing set in a distant dystopian future in which their character was only one of a few human beings remaining. On a lighter note, Year 6 had the pleasure of Mock SATs week in which the children did themselves proud.



## NETBALL REPORT – *Written by Elsie Prothero, Year 5*

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March, St Bartholomew's and nine other schools played at Rodborough Secondary for a Year 5 netball tournament. At 1 o'clock all schools left to meet the home schools PE teacher and were given their bibs. After all the schools had arrived, we started "positions please", the umpire shouted! We played four matches each, against 10 schools. After we all played, it was the moment of truth – who had got to the semi-finals...All the teachers were pleased with their players and were given lots of support during the matches. St Bart's drew one, won two and lost one, but overall did extremely well and we almost got through to the semi finals.

## DT AND COOKERY

A group of LKS2 pupils spent the morning making fresh soup and then enjoyed sharing it with the wider St Barts community at a Lent Lunch in the Link recently. Thank you to Mrs Butter and Mrs Mason for their support with this activity.



## THE TRAVELLING BOOK FAIR

As I am sure you are aware, last week we had a travelling book fair in the library. The fair lasted all week and was very well supported by the parents and families of the children at our school. As a consequence of your support we made over £600 for the school. All of which will be spent on new books to encourage and inspire your children to read more. Thank you to all the parents and families that supported this event.

## HASLEMERE FOOD BANK

Thank you for your continued support to Haslemere Food Bank. We have a collection box in reception for any donations that you may wish to give. This month's requests are as follows:- **URGENTLY NEEDED PREFERABLY SMALL ITEMS. NOT FAMILY PACKS & NON-PERISHABLES ONLY PLEASE.** **Tinned Fruit, Tinned stew, Tinned potatoes, Tinned rice pudding, Tinned custard, Tinned spaghetti, Tinned pasta (ravioli etc.), Jars of Jam, Marmalade, Pasta Sauce, Small tins drinking chocolate, Long life milk, Sugar.** Thanks to the previous donations we DON'T NEED at the moment: Biscuits, sweets, crisps, dried pasta, tin soup.

## BOOST OUR SCHOOL FUNDING

Part of the schools funding is based on the number of pupils who are eligible for free school meals. If you think you may be eligible for free meals for your child, please complete the form attached to the newsletter and return to the school office as soon as possible. All forms are checked through a safe and secure website. To qualify for free meals, a parent should be in receipt of one of the following:

- Income support
- Income based Job Seeker's Allowance (IBJSA)
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA)
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999
- The Guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit, provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have a gross income that does not exceed £16,190
- Working tax credit 'run-on' paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.
- Universal Credit
- Either or both parents members of HM Armed Forces or in receipt of a child pension from the Ministry of Defence
- Has your child been adopted (e.g. from Local Authority Care) or is your child under special guardianship, child arrangement or a residence order?
- Has your child been looked after by Social Care for at least 1 day?

## LUNCH MONEY

**This terms payments are now due, please ensure payments are made as soon as possible. School lunches now cost £2.20 per day, or £11.00 per week.** If you require a lunch for your child, please advise the school office by 9.30am on the day. If your child brings a packed lunch when they normally have a school lunch, please also let the office know: the kitchen cooks the number of meals advised to them each morning, and therefore you will be charged if we do not know that a lunch was not required. School lunches should be paid for using the online system, or by cheque (payable to Surrey County Council) or cash.

First half term - £ 61.60  
Second half term - £ 63.80  
Total for Spring term - £125.40

(Pupils in Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a universal free school meal, pupil lunches from year 3 onwards should be paid for unless you qualify for free school meals).

Yours faithfully,

*C. D. Beckerson*

Charles Beckerson  
HEADTEACHER