



Friday 19th January 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

A belated Happy New Year to you all from me, as I have returned to school following two weeks of paternity leave. Our beautiful daughter, Aurora Rose, was born on New Years Day and has brought us unbelievable joy and happiness ever since. This week our phase leaders had their termly meeting with parent reps. As usual, the meeting was very useful to answer any questions about year groups. Thank you to all our parents reps for their ongoing work to support 2 way communication between the school and parents. I am delighted to attach an article about our school which was recently published by Optimus Education in the spring term edition of their Insight magazine. The article focuses on our inset day at St Bart's which was held on 20th October 2017 with a focus on teaching and learning. I hope you enjoy the article.

EYFS

We have very been busy in Early Years learning all about people who help us, so busy in fact we have decided to continue with the topic for another week. We have been learning all about emergency services, caring professions, families, teachers and vets to name but a few. Role play has played a major part of their learning, with the children writing lists, making telephone calls, solving crimes, following clues, making maps and following directions. We have started guided reading this week, which is when the children read with the teacher in a small group. Next week we are expecting a visit from fire fighters with their fire engine (as long as there are no emergencies in Haslemere!). We will also be posting letters, so please look out for the homework this week which is addressing an envelope. We have been delighted with how confidently the children have been coming into school in the mornings. Thank you for your support with this.



KS1

Both year groups have been studying a fantastic book called The Day the Crayons Quit. Year 1 have been using it as a stimulus for guided reading and have been writing letters as if they are a crayon themselves. Year 2 have been writing persuasive letters with thought-provoking results: "Dear White, Even though you are blank you make me feel relaxed, calm and peaceful," Tilly Atkinson "Dear Blue Crayon, Don't give up. Without you the squids in my picture would be dark. You are my favourite colour," Joseph Rios. Year 1 pupils have been learning to tell the time to o'clock and half past this week in maths, and next week will be counting, reading and writing numbers and learning about place value. In RE they are learning about who Jesus was and in computing they will be using the laptops to build on their word processing skills by changing font and colour. Year 2 pupils will be learning about floating and sinking in science and in RE they will be learning about stories Jesus told linked to their own favourite stories. In maths they will be learning division.



LKS2

Years 3 and 4 had a fantastic start to their topic on fairy tales when they held a special day on Wednesday last week. Everyone came in dressed as a fairy tale character and the children immersed themselves in learning that reflected the topic. This included making magic potions in year 4 and unscrambling mixed up fairy tales in year 3. Since then, the children have been learning more about fairy tales, identifying the key features and inventing their own openings and endings to the formulaic fairy tale ones. In maths, year 3 have been learning methods to multiply and divide. Year 4 have been learning to read scales and convert measurements for length, capacity and weight.



Both year groups continue to focus on learning times tables and improving the speed of recall of tables facts. Please continue to practise tables with your children at home. In science, year 3 have started a unit on rocks and fossils. The focus this week has been on rocks and their properties and what they can be used for based on these properties. Year 4 have started a unit on sound. They have learned how different musical instruments produce sounds this week and now have a two week homework project to make their own musical instruments. In computing, year 3 have been touch typing. They can practise at home on a free website – www.typingclub.com. Year 4 have been learning about the history of animation and how computers have revolutionised this art form.

UKS2

The first two weeks into 2018 have been very busy for UKS2. Our topic is 'Networks' which focuses on communication and trade. Year 5 have begun to study rivers, considering what the key features of rivers are and how they have been used. Year 6 have begun learning about the history of communication and how this has changed over time. We have gone way back to looking at ancient cave paintings and asking questions as to why our ancestors decided to draw them. We have also studied the surprising but important role that pigeons have played in communication, particularly in war time, as a means of communication. From this we learnt about codes, encrypted messages and made our own codes using a 'Caesar Cipher.' In science Year 5 have begun their fantastic topic on Earth and Space from which they have begun to research the planets and their properties. Linked to communication both year 5 and year 6 children have really enjoyed writing letters in English. In year 5 they are in the process of writing to famous people and in year 6 they have written a letter of complaint for a character who had the misfortune of staying at Fawltly Towers. We have also written persuasive letter to a person of influence about an issue or concern that we have. Both year groups have also started our art unit of work on Matisse and the world of impressionism.

COOKERY

Year 2 have recently enjoyed chopping a rainbow of vegetables, picking some from the school allotment, to make healthy soup to eat with their own bread rolls and freshly made butter.



OH NO THEY DIDN'T!

Just before Christmas the staff at St Bart's put on a staff pantomime for the children. This was written and created by our wonderful English leader, Mr Glover. The children really enjoyed watching the staff try their hand at a bit of acting. Some teachers enjoyed the dressing up a little too much!



NYABONDO SCHOOL, KENYA

With the fundraising efforts from St Bart's and the other schools within our confederation we are delighted that the Nyabondo School in Kenya have been able to fund the building of a cow shed and purchase two cows which will mean that the children now have access to fresh milk at school.



PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION RESULT

We would like to congratulate Sophie Graham-Godet on being re-elected as our parent governor. As many of you will already know, Sophie is highly passionate about and committed to our school. She chairs the resources committee and plays a key role in the leadership of St Bart's.

"I am a half-french working mum to Amelie (USA Year 4), Florence (South Africa Year 2), and Louis who starts in 2019. With my husband Martin, we have lived in Haslemere since 2008, and are active members of our community, participating in activities like Haslemere Hockey Club, St Bartholomew's Church and Haslemere Events. Prior to becoming school governor, I gained useful experience as a charity Trustee.

Since January 2014, I have served as your parent governor in a range of roles: as the schools strategy lead, and currently as Chair of the Resources Committee, overseeing the school finances, buildings and staff. My most challenging experience as Resource Chair was being interviewed by the Ofsted inspector last academic year. We are very lucky to have motivated, dedicated governors and staff whom I have enjoyed working with to support our children's progress.

I'd love to continue my active work in the school and make improvements in the areas we still need to target for our children's and St Bart's successful future. I recently suggested to the board that governors explore ways to actively engage with parents and I'd commit to make that happen, if I were re-elected in January 2018".

HASLEMERE FOOD BANK

Please see below the current requests from Haslemere Food Bank, along with thanks for the donations already received from St Bartholomew's. There is a collection box in the reception area if you wish to donate. They currently require (all non perishables please):-

Tinned spaghetti/pasta
Tinned potatoes
Tinned peas & carrots

Tinned custard
Drinking chocolate
Small packets of sugar

Shampoo

No other items are required at present. Thank you for your continued support.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

School lunches now cost £2.25 per day, or £11.25 per week. If you require a lunch for your child, please advise the school office by 9.30am on the day. School lunches should be paid for using the online system, or by cheque (payable to Surrey County Council) or cash. **Please ensure payment is made as soon as possible.** (Pupils in Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 qualify for a universal free school meal and therefore payment is not required).

First half term - £ 56.25

Second half term - £ 65.25

Total for Spring term - £121.50

Please ensure that you have made your payments for the autumn term if you have not done so already.

The Surrey Commercial Services menu for this term is attached for you to look at with your child. If you wish to order a vegetarian meal or take the option of a jacket potato, please log into your SCOpay account and make your choice. **Please note jacket potatoes are not available on Wednesdays.** If you have not chosen one of the options, your child will receive the main option meal. Should you require a reminder of your SCOpay login, please contact the office. A reminder that if your child is having a “one-off” meal, you should inform the school office by 9.30am in order for the correct numbers to be sent to the kitchen.

Yours faithfully,

C. D. Beckerson

Charles Beckerson
HEADTEACHER