



St Bartholomew's CE Primary School

News in School – Friday 10th February 2017

Dear Parents / carers,

January saw us welcome the latest (and hopefully the last for some time!) member to the school teaching team. Mrs Davison has settled well into the school life and it already seems like she is part of the furniture. Thank you all for making her so welcome. She is already having an extremely positive impact on Oak class and their learning.

Apple Class

As I am sure you are aware, Apple class have been experimenting with different potions as part of their 'Wizards, Witches and Potions' topic. They have learnt all about different stories along this theme and have real-hands on experiences with their learning. If you have a child in Apple class, please do visit 'tapestry' as this is updated weekly (if not on a daily basis!).



This photo shows children in Apple class dressing up as witches and wizards.

Palm Class

Palm class have also been using the theme 'Witches, Wizards and Potions' to enhance their learning. They have dramatised familiar stories, written different narratives and created their own potions by investigating capacity. This topic has really captured the children's imagination, they even managed to perform a spell to shrink Gerald the giraffe!

As part of the children's learning in English, the children acted out a section of Room on the Broom. They were able to use props to engage the audience and retold the story in their own words. They were able to describe sequences of familiar stories and adapted this to their own learning.



This photo was taken whilst acting out a section of Room on the Broom

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Oak Class

Oak class have been studying Ancient Egypt. They are learning all about the importance of the river Nile, Egyptian gods, clothing, pyramids and pharaohs. In particular they have written some fabulous stories that link to this topic. I was extremely impressed with their range of vocabulary, sentence structure and imagination.

As part of Maths, Oak class have been investigating shapes and their properties. They set a range of investigations and had to use their 'mastery' skills to find answers.



This photo shows a group of year 3 children investigating the properties of shape.

Willow Class

Willow class have been very busy investigating the importance of the heart this term and conducting their own scientific investigations. They have been learning how the heart pumps oxygen to different organs of the body and the differing pulse rates dependent on the level of activity.

In English, Willow class continues to focus on grammar and punctuation features within writing and applying these across the curriculum. Curriculum 2014 has a heavy emphasis on grammar, punctuation and spelling and children have to be taught to apply these to a range of writing across a range of subjects.

As well as this, Willow have been learning to play the ukulele in their music lessons on Thursday afternoons.



Willow class during their music lessons.

Finance Manager

I am delighted to announce the appointment of Mrs Rachel Cox as our new Finance Manager and welcome her to the team.

Topic day 20th February

Our topic day will be on Monday 20th February, where the children will be looking at the works of different children's authors. They will investigate characters, study the author and read extracts from some of the books, whilst also being read to.

Film Club

The next Film Club will be on 23rd February showing 'Finding Dory'. We hope that your child(ren) can join us. Refreshments are 30p each.

Pancake Day

The St Bartholomew's Church ladies will be serving pancakes on Tuesday 28th February. Please send the school office 50p if you wish your child take part.

Parents Evenings – Tuesday and Wednesday 14th and 15th March

Parents evening appointments will be available to book at the main school entrance from Monday 27th February. (They will be held from 3.30pm until 6pm).

Easter Performance by Oak class

Oak class will be producing an Easter Performance on the 29th (evening) and 30th March (afternoon). All parents / carers are welcome to attend this. Details regarding tickets will be issued following the half term break.

Palm Class Assembly

Palm class will be presenting their class assembly on Wednesday 22nd March at 9am.

Easter Service Friday 31st March at 1.30pm

The annual Easter service will take place in St. Bartholomew's church at 1.30pm. Please join us for this special occasion.

Sainsbury's Active School Vouchers

We would be grateful to receive any Active School Vouchers you collect. Please send them into class or post into the collection box at the main office .These will go towards purchasing P.E equipment for the school. Many thanks.

Hot School Lunches

Farm kitchen have asked us to let you know: Please note that from 21st February, all school meals orders will close the previous Tuesday at 3pm. Therefore, orders for meals for the week beginning the 27th February need to be made by 3pm on 21st February.

Sickness and diarrhoea

Unfortunately, we have a virus doing the rounds (as do most schools). Please can I remind you that if your child has physically been sick, they should be absent from school for 48 hours. If they are ill but haven't been physically sick, then the school recommends that they be absent for 24hours.

Can I politely ask that you do communicate with the school each day that your child is off (even if you have told us the day before) as we have a safeguarding duty to check on a daily basis. If we do not have a message regarding a child's absence and cannot get in touch, it is school policy to carry out a house visit. Thank you.

The Pond Project

We are excited about developing our pond area into a 'science zone'. As part of this development, the school would like to appeal for any help and make this into a real community project. If you feel you (or anybody you know, such as a friend or relative) are able to help with this (eg digging, clearing shrubbery etc) and can give up some time such as a Saturday morning, then please complete the reply slip at the bottom of this letter. We would like to try and begin this work after the Easter holidays and once I have any replies we can set an initial date.

Medication in school

If your child needs prescribed medication in school, we ask that the medication is clearly named, is within date and written instructions about how often and the amount of medicine are given. Thank you for your understanding.

School Terms 2016-17

For those of you who are thinking well ahead for your holiday arrangements, please find below the term dates for 2016-17.

	Term Starts	Term ends
Term 3	Wednesday 4 th January	Friday 10 th February
Term 4	Monday 20 th February	Friday 31 st March
Term 5	Tuesday 18 th April	Friday 26 th May
Term 6	Monday 5 th June	Wednesday 19 th July

If you have any queries about anything within this letter or you need assistance in regard to any other school matter, please do not hesitate to contact us. *Please remember if you like what we do, please tell others, if you do not – please tell us.* We are eager to support you in the education of your child, if you have any concerns or queries please contact your child's teacher in the first instance.

Yours sincerely,

James Shawley
Head Teacher

The Pond Project

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would be willing to help with the Pond Project.

Dates available:

(please return your reply slip to the school office by Monday 6th March)