

ST BARTHOLOMEW'S NEWS

15th September 2023

The end of our second week and what a fantastic start to the new school year we have had.

Worship – Our current theme is **Thankfulness** and this week we have started to talk about the people in school we have to be thankful for and why. Our worship is based on a quote from the bible, 'Always be thankful'. Please encourage your children to think about the people at home they need to be thankful for. With this newsletter, you will receive our Worship and Visions Quick Guides. These are also on our website.

What we have done to make things better over the summer holidays - The council have started the long process of replacing our roof. We have had a new non-slip floor fitted in the main corridor where the children eat. Mr Tumilty has been busy including painting some areas of school. The cleaners worked hard to give the school a deep clean. Thank you to all the staff who worked hard this holiday.

The Library - We are very lucky to now have a school library. This has taken a lot of hard work from design to filling it with books. Mrs Dixon has put a lot of effort into making sure it has a great range of books, which the children will love, and some that match their topics in class. Books are very expensive and we ask you encourage your children to take great care of them. We are looking forward to the opening later this month. Please see the letter about the library and sign the Library Contract if you want your child to start bringing books home. Thank you

Attendance -

AMAZING! AMAZING! AMAZING!

What a fantastic first week in school it was. Attendance was 96.8% for the whole school and this included Nursery, which is the best attendance they have had for a week. Thank you as attendance at school is so important, the children have to be here to learn. This includes being here on time and not missing the start of the day.

Let us keep this up and have the best ever attendance this year.

It is fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold, but if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.

Reminders:

- Please return your data collection sheets, we should check your information every year and should always have two contacts for every child. Remember the children get 100 Trackit points when this is returned and you go in the Asda voucher drawer.
- Photo day is Thursday 21st September

Parent Governor – We now have a vacancy for a parent governor who can join our governing body this year. A letter explaining the role and what you need to do if you are interested will go out on Monday.

Personal Attributes Award – In addition to the weekly Headteacher's Award, there will be a new weekly attributes award. This will be given to one child from every class who has worked hard to show this attribute in school, as we want confident, independent British citizens, who will be positive role models in society and demonstrate the following attributes:

- **Ambition** – always aiming to better themselves.
- **Courage** - they will not be afraid to try new things.
- **Commitment** - they will work hard.
- **Willpower** – they will strive to be the best they can be.
- **Integrity** – they will tell the truth at all times.
- **Drive** – they want to better themselves at every opportunity.
- **Patience** – they will accept that some things take time.
- **Resilience** – they will always keep trying.
- **Optimism** – **they know that good things will happen to them if they work hard.**

This half term's attribute we are encouraging is '**Optimism**' something we want all our school family to have especially at the beginning of a new school year.

Something Mrs Wainwright has enjoyed this week is seeing how well the children have settled into their new classes. Walking round the children are happy and keen to tell me what they have been learning so far. Seeing the children in their uniforms is great, if you need help with this we have a small stock of uniform that has been passed on to us.



Headteachers Awards – Well done to the children who have had a great week in school.

The teachers in school have decided these children have worked particularly hard this week and should receive a special mention and certificate, presented on a Friday afternoon in our assembly. Well done!

<i>Class 1 Willow</i>	<i>Class 2 Airah</i>	<i>Class 3 Amna</i>	<i>Class 4 Zakes</i>	<i>Class 5 Toro</i>
<i>Class 6 Noah</i>	<i>Class 7 Sebastian</i>	<i>Class 8 Elita</i>	<i>Class 9 Esa</i>	<i>Class 10 Bilal</i>
<i>Class 11 Zoriana</i>	<i>Class 12 Aayana</i>	<i>Class 13 Timi</i>	<i>Class 14 Peter</i>	<i>Class 15 Hamzah</i>
<i>Class 16 Hasan</i>	<i>Class 17 Nina</i>			

Best Classes in School- These classes worked well this week and together earned the most points for their work and behaviour. **KS1 – Class 5** **KS2 – Class 16**



Attendance Winners for last week:

KS1 - Class 5 – 99.2% **KS2 – Class 12 – 99.7%**



Whole School Attendance for last week: Nursery: 97.6% **Reception to Year 6: 96.8%**

Weekly Round Up

Nursery - It has been wonderful to welcome our Nursery children and their families. The children have been settling in really well. We have been exploring both indoor and outdoor areas of the Nursery and getting to know each other. The children really enjoyed painting, making sandcastles, moulding the dough as well as playing instruments or riding the bikes. We would like to thank the parents who sent in family photographs and filled 'All about me' forms so far and we cannot wait to receive some more.

Reception – The children have settled really well into Reception and are already making some excellent friendships. We have been exploring the environment this week, selecting our own resources for tasks and working hard to tidy up when we have finished. We are using a little saying to help us remember to keep our classrooms tidy, 'choose it, use it, put it away'. We have been reading lots of different stories about what makes us unique and have been looking in the mirror and talking about similarities and differences. We have enjoyed creating self-portraits and have tried hard to use the correct shapes for our face, eyes, nose and mouth. We have enjoyed talking about where we live and whom we live with. We would love some photos of the children and their families to put in our home corner. Please send any photos in with your child upload to Learning Journals or email to Reception@stbartsleeds.org.uk .

Year 1 & 2 –What a flying start we have had to the new school year. All children have settled in superbly and have impressed us all with their fantastic learning attitudes. Last week the Years 1 and 2 newsletter went home with children so hopefully parents and carers are all aware of our homework procedures and opportunities. Please see a member of staff if you still have any questions as there is always a lot to remember at the start of term. We would also like to remind everyone that on PE day's children need to come to school in PE kit. This should include trainers in order to keep children safe when they are running and that jewellery, skirts and dresses should not be worn on these days. Year 1 have really enjoyed their first book of the year - The Highway Rat by Julia Donaldson. The children have loved writing about him and playing in the Highway Rat's Bakery. In Year 2, children have started their work on castles and learning about the Normans. Children have learnt some really tricky vocabulary to describe the different parts of a castle and have used these to label their castle diagrams. Can we end by saying a huge thankyou to all parents and carers who have sent their children to school with their reading book every day. This has really helped us when hearing children read.

Year 3 & 4 - This week, Years 3 and 4 have been reading the story 'Oliver Twist' by Charles Dickens. This links with our History topic all about the Victorians, which we are currently learning about. We have been looking at living conditions and various diseases that made people ill during this time. In our French lessons, we have been learning about classroom commands in year 3 and body parts in year 4. Year 3 have also started their ukulele lessons. Last term, we sent out a letter of interest about the children going to see the 'Oliver Twist' musical at the West Yorkshire Playhouse. We are very excited to tell parents that we have managed to secure a grant for the cost of this, so the trip will be free for families! Thanks to all of the parents who sent a reply in, and a permission letter will be coming out nearer the time.

Year 5 & 6 – Lessons - In English, children have been writing from the perspective of the sea when the Titanic sank. In Science, children have been learning about the Solar System, the eight planets and facts about them. In History, children have enjoyed learning about the Magna Carta and if it is a significant historical document.

Year 6 SATs Week - A reminder that Year 6 SATs week will begin on Monday 13th May 2024. It is vital that all children in Year 6 attend school that week. The test timetable will be as follows:

- Monday 13th May: Grammar, punctuation & spelling
- Tuesday 14th May: Reading
- Wednesday 15th May: Arithmetic & reasoning
- Thursday 16th May: Reasoning

High School Applications - High school applications for children in Year 6 are now open (closing date is 31st October 2023) – an information pack has been sent home and there is information on the school website (in the news section at the top of the home page). If you need any, help with applying online for a high school – please contact Mr Needham.

School Dates:

Friday 27 th October 2023	School Closes at 3.30pm
Monday 6 th November 2023	School Opens at 8.30am
Friday 24th November 2023	Training Day- No Children in School
Friday 22 nd December 2023	School Closes at 3.30pm
Tuesday 8 th January 2024	School Opens at 8.30am
Friday 26th January 2024	Training Day- No Children in School
Friday 9 th February 2024	School Closes at 3.30pm
Monday 19 th February 2024	School Opens at 8.30am
Thursday 28 th March 2024	School Closes at 3.30pm
Monday 15 th April 2024	School Opens at 8.30am
Friday 3 rd May 2024	School Closes at 3.30pm
Tuesday 7 th May 2024	School Opens at 8.30am
Friday 24 th May 2024	School Closes at 3.30pm
Monday 3 rd June 2024	School Opens at 8.30am
Friday 14th June 2024	Training Day- No Children in School
Friday 19 th July 2024	School Closes Summer Break at 3.30pm