

# St Bartholomew's News



**25th January 2024**

Something Mrs Wainwright has enjoyed this week was going swimming with class 14 and having two new children move up to my group well done Oscar and Dante.

**Worship** – Our current themes are **Perseverance** and **Resilience**, this week we have been thinking about people around the world, who like Mary and Joseph, have had to leave their home to keep safe. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the innocent people currently affected by conflicts around the world who have had to leave their homes.

**What we are doing to make things better** - Now we have a new working space upstairs where the cloakroom used to be, we are planning to improve this space with new flooring.

**Measles** – There is an increase in the number of cases of measles in the UK. Please be vigilant and seek medical advice if you are concerned that your child may have measles. See the link below for more guidance from the NHS. If you have any questions about whether your child has been vaccinated ask your GP.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/01/22/what-to-do-if-you-think-your-child-has-measles-and-when-to-keep-them-off-school/?>

**Menu Change**- Next Thursday there is a change to the menu we will be serving Turkey instead of Gammon.

## **Is my child eligible for free school meals?**

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Income - Related Employment & Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

If you are eligible for free school meals this could save you £420.00 per year. To apply for free school meals you can follow the link below:

<https://www.leeds.gov.uk/schools-and-education/apply-for-free-school-meals>

## **Play Scheme – we will be offering this on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the half term.**

Spaces are very limited and will be offered to those who really need it, starting with parents who did not have a place allocated in the last play scheme because we were full. You must ask at the office if you need a form for this, they are available from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January or call them and they can email it to you. We are no longer sending them out to all families as we are trying to save money and the planet! The deadline for returning your letters of interest is Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February and you will be told if you have a place on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February.

**Nursery** – If you have a child who turns three from February 2024 to August 2024 and have not already registered them for Nursery please call at the office for an application.

**Whole School Attendance for last week: Nursery: 91.2%**

**Reception to Year 6: 95.8%**



Please bring your children to school every day including if they have a cold and sniffle.

Well done and thank you to all the children, supported by their parents and carers who come to school every day unless they are really unwell and have fantastic attendance.

We are concerned about the number of children not in school on certain days, including Fridays when attendance drops, (It is not the weekend! I wish it was!) and when the weather is poor, including very cold, rainy and windy. We need to prepare our children for their future where they will not be able to just stay off work because of the weather or because it is Friday. Please help us with this as children can only learn when in school on time and absences affects their learning and can impact their mental wellbeing.

### **Weekly Round Up**

**Nursery** - In Nursery this week, we have continued with our topic of winter and arctic animals. Our book of the week has been 'Polar Bear Polar Bear what do you hear?' and we have sung a new song: '5 little polar bears'. In Maths we have learnt the words describing the positions of objects (in, on, behind, next to, under). In phonics, we identified animal sounds and played silly soup game focussing on rhyming words. We are really impressed with children who can recognise the rhyme in some of the words. Next week we will continue with our Polar Bear book and rhyming words.

**Reception** – This week in Reception, we have been learning more about the London landmarks. We have enjoyed learning about Tower Bridge, Big Ben, Buckingham Palace and the London Eye. One of our favourite parts of the week was working with a partner to build a bridge over a river on the carpet. We had to talk to each other and work out the best way to do it. There was some excellent teamwork in both classes! We made the most of the weather this week and were using powder paints outside to explore colour mixing. When it was windy, we made kites and enjoyed making them fly in the outdoor area.

**Year 1 & 2** - This week children in Year 1 have studied the Antarctic Expedition by Robert Falcon Scott and have sequenced the different events of the journey. They learned that there was a man called Captain Oates on the expedition who was from Leeds and there is a memorial dedicated to him in Meanwood Park. Children in Year 2 have continued to investigate The Great Fire of London. They have identified the conditions needed at the time for the fire to spread so quickly and have discussed their opinions about which they think was the most important factor. We have some exciting experiences planned this half term: Year 1 are having a workshop delivered by Dan-tastic Education where they will be having a Polar Explorer's Workshop. Year 2 are going back in time to the Great Fire of London and will be participating in an exciting workshop where they meet Sir William Petty (a person from 1666) and will look at investigating the Great Fire of London. We would really appreciate the £3 contribution towards these workshops, as without them the day wouldn't be possible. Thank you so much to those parents who have already sent their contribution into school!

**Year 3 & 4** – This week, Year 4 have started writing our own adventure story, based on Kensuke's Kingdom. Year 4 have started to read Stig of the dump, and comparing the main character to Stone Age Boy. In PSHE, we have been looking at Fairtrade foods, and how they help the people who make these products. In History, we enjoyed investigating a site near Scarborough, where lots of Stone Age artifacts were once found. In Science, we created a graph to show the results from last week's experiment where we tested how quickly ice melted.

**Year 5 & 6 – Lessons** - In History, we have looked into the reasons why the Vikings settled in England. In English, we completed work on present, perfect tense and plan a non-chronological report on the Vikings. In Science, we have been planning an investigation on how salt affects ice.

**Homework** - A reminder that homework is now set on a Monday and the deadline for completing homework will be the following Monday. Children who do not complete their homework will be expected to attend Homework Club on a Monday lunchtime.

**Year 6 SATs briefing** - We will be holding a SATs information evening for parents/carers on Wednesday 31st January. The event will start at 6pm and will last no longer than one hour.

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

- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May: Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling
- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May: Reading
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May: Arithmetic & Reasoning
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May: Reasoning

**School Dates 2023 - 2024:**

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

**Training Day- No Children in School**

School Closes at 3.30pm

School Opens at 8.30am

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**Training Day- No Children in School**

School Closes Summer Break at 3.30pm