

St Bartholomew's News



6th December 2024

“Excellent attendance is vital for children to flourish and achieve”

Worship – Our current theme is **compassion** and this week we read the story of Moses and how the pharaoh's daughter showed great compassion, risking her own life to help Moses.

We also reflected on our Big Question, **‘who does showing compassion make happy?’** We agreed that it makes the person who is kind and compassionate feel happy and the person they are helping.

We also talked about the **British Values** we promote by being compassionate and kind. We show respect, tolerance, and liberty by making the choice to be kind and compassionate.

We have also discussed our attribute, **‘Drive’** and how in school we all have the drive to do things better and to achieve in different ways.

Governors Update – One of the new parent governors came in to school this week. He had a tour of the school, he was impressed and talked to Mrs Wainwright about his new role.

REMINDERS/UPDATES

- The last Celebration assembly was today. They will start again on the week after the holidays, KS1 will be on Friday 10th January, followed by KS2 on the 17th.

I would like to thank all the parents who have attended one of our Celebrations. It was a new idea we started in September and it has been fantastic to see so many of you attend.

- **CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES** – if you are attending one of the events over the next few weeks please remember if you arrive after the time given, you will not be allowed to come in once the performance has started.
- **Coats/Jumpers** – make sure you label your child's clothing, if you want us to do this just ask. We are finding a lot of clothes we cannot identify.
- **Christmas Cards** – If your child wants to send cards, they can take them to class. We do not have a central post box.
- **Payments** – From January, we will no longer be accepting cash in school, our method of payments will be ParentPay or card, if you need help setting up ParentPay please call in at the office and we will help you.
- **School Gateway App** – Reminder we need everyone to download the school gateway app, as this will be how messages are sent out to parents/carers. Please make sure you have your notifications turned on so you do not miss any messages.



Card Payments – Due to increasing costs, we will no longer be accepting any card payments under £5.

PUNCTUALITY – Is becoming a significant issue. We have a high number of children arriving late and it is impacting their learning and the running of school. Every time a child is late, they are missing their learning and have to enter a lesson that has started which can be very upsetting for them.

It also means school staff have to stop working with children to support them and other children are missing out. If they are EYFS or KS1, someone from the office has to take them or a member of staff has to leave class to collect them. Make sure your child comes to school every day and on time. 8.30am for Nursery, 12.30pm in the afternoon and by 8.50am for the rest of school.

Also, remember regular lateness may result in the withdrawal of their ASC place if they have one. We are not providing after school childcare for parents who do not get their children in on time.



Christmas Dinner will be served on Friday 13th December. If you want your child to have a dinner that day and they usually have packed lunch, it can be ordered at the office and let us know of any allergies by **Monday 9th December** the cost is £2.10 for Nursery and £2.20 Year 3-6 and can be paid by ParentPay or cash. You can see the menu on our website and in the noticeboards.



Milk - We will be providing children in Years 1-6 with the opportunity to have milk in school for the spring term. Nursery and Reception children already receive it free of charge. For children entitled to benefit related free school meals this will be free but you must still complete a form for the spring term requesting this for your child, for all others it must be ordered and paid for in advance for the term. The cost for the spring term will be £18.00. Forms can be collected from the office from Monday 9th December. **All forms must be completed and returned to the office by Monday 16th December. Payments can be made by ParentPay or card at the office, if you would like to pay by ParentPay, please call or message the office to let us know then we can add it to your account. We cannot accept late payments, as we need to order the milk in advance. Once this has been paid, we cannot provide refunds.**

Cluster Drop In – Thursday 12th December 9am, come and meet the cluster staff to find out what support is on offer for you and children.



Primary School Application - If your child is due to start Reception in September 2025, you can now apply online. Please make sure, you complete the online application on or before 15th January 2025. If you require any help with your application, please contact Mrs Drake in the school office as soon as possible.



Christmas Jumper Day - Thursday 12th December sees the return of the ever-popular Christmas Jumper Day. Children can wear their favourite Christmas jumper (or anything Christmassy) for the day. Failing that just wear non-uniform. This is an opportunity to show compassion by raising money for Save The Children, so we are asking for a £1 voluntary contribution. There will be opportunity to have their noses painted like Rudolph and win prizes for their jumper. Prizes will be for the best/funniest jumper and best homemade jumper for EYFS, KS1 and KS2. We look forward to seeing all your creations.

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Attendance - There are currently many winter illnesses and we appreciate that if your child has a temperature and is too unwell they must stay at home but they must return as soon as well enough and their siblings if well must come to school. On Friday the 20th December, we will be drawing the attendance raffles for: Friday attendance, being in school every day of the last week and over 96% attendance this half term. We will also be giving out attendance certificates and prizes for great attendance and those who have made the most improvement. If you have any questions about attendance or need any support please come and ask and we will do all we can to support you and your child.

Last week's attendance

Nursery: 93.4%

Reception: 88.8%

Year 1 to Year 6: 94.8%



Attendance Winners for last week: KS1 Class 6 - 96.7%

KS2 – Class 15 -97.4%



Well done to the best classes: KS1 – Class 3

KS2 – Class 9



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

Class 7 Murtaza

Class 7 Toro

Class 8 Callum

Class 8 Noah

Class 9 Andrzej

Class 9 Ava

Class 10 Mehak

Class 10 Ethan

Class 11 Noble

Class 11 Nacy

Class 12 Ayana

Class 12 Zak

Class 13 Jamie

Class 13 Alicia

Class 14 Sofia

Class 14 Niko

Class 15 Ojie

Class 15 Durr E Sameen

Class 16 Peter

Class 16 Gohar

Weekly Round Up

Nursery –This week we had some unexpected visitors in our Nursery. When we opened the doors to our groups, we found a mess of flour and crumbles biscuits on the floor. Later we found out that the mess had been left by gingerbread men that run away from our bakery. The children were really excited about the visitors and loved making little gingerbread men out of playdough and paper. We have opened little bakery too and the children really enjoyed being the baker and selling cookies, cakes and bread. This week we have also baked our own ginger biscuits and decorated them. The children were all involved in mixing, adding ingredients and cutting out their own gingerbread man. In Maths this week, we have been adding buttons to the cookies. Our story of the week has been 'The gingerbread man'.

Reception – This week in Reception, we have continued to talk about celebrations. We have listened to the story 'the scarecrows wedding'. We have talked about how weddings are celebrated around the world and in different cultures. In Maths, we have been looking at the number 5. We have sang lots of different counting songs and explored composition of 5 using counters. We have been working really hard with our Christmas concert and cannot wait to perform it for parents and carers next week.

Year 1 & 2 - This week in Year 1, the children have enjoyed their PSHE lessons. They have been learning about keeping safe and about appropriate and inappropriate touch following the NSPCC PANTS rules. Children watched the video about a character called Pantosaurus and then thought about good touches such as holding hands and bad touches such as hitting and how these make us feel.

In Year 2 in PSHE this week, the children have been learning about road safety and about how to cross roads safely. They have looked at places such as zebra crossings and how these help us cross busy roads safely. Children learnt the rules for crossing roads - Stop, Look, Listen, Wait, Look, Listen, and Cross.

Year 3 & 4 - This week, Years 3 and 4 have been looking at the advantages and disadvantages of living in a big city in Geography. In Science, we have been classifying and investigating different types of soil and why some plants grow better in different types. In DT, we have started to create our photo frames, using skills such as sawing and measuring. In French, we have been looking at Christmas traditions and how they are similar and differ to our own. We also have had some trips this week. Classes 9 and 10 enjoyed the Coal Mining Museum, where we learned more about rocks and fossils, as well as taking an underground tour of the mines. Class 7 also enjoyed the theatre show of 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. Next week, Years 3 and 4 will be going on a local walk on Tuesday. We will be doing a treasure hunt. Please see Mr Waters if you have any questions.

Year 5 & 6 – Swimming - Children have completed their swimming assessments this week. Next week will be the last swimming lessons of the term. There will be no swimming lessons in the last week of term (week beginning 16th December). Swimming lessons will start again in the second week of the Spring Term (week beginning 13th January).

Lessons- In Design and Technology, we have continued to develop our sewing skills by using the running stitch, back stitch and blanket stitch to create coasters. In Science, we have enjoyed learning about invertebrates and classifying them. In French, we have enjoyed translating directions from French into English.

Year 6 SATs Week - A reminder that Year 6 SATs week will begin on Monday 12th May 2025. It is vital that all children in Year 6 attend school that week. The test timetable will be as follows:

- Monday 12th May: Grammar, punctuation & spelling
- Tuesday 13th May: Reading
- Wednesday 14th May: Arithmetic & Reasoning
- Thursday 15th May: Reasoning

School Dates 2024-2025:

Friday 20th December 2024

School Closes at 3.30pm

Monday 6th January 2025

School Opens at 8.30am

Friday 14th February 2025

School Closes at 3.30pm

Monday 24th February 2025

School Opens at 8.30am

Friday 21st March 2025

Training Day - No Children in School

Friday 4th April 2025

School Closes at 3.30pm

Tuesday 22nd April 2025

School Opens at 8.30am

Monday 5th May 2025

School Closed May Bank Holiday

Friday 23rd May 2025

School Closes at 3.30pm

Monday 2nd June 2025

School Opens at 8.30am

Friday 13th June 2025

Training Day – No Children in School

Friday 18th July 2025

School Closes at 3.30pm