



St Bartholomew's C of E (Aided) Primary School  
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Headteacher: Mr C Beckerson BA(QTS) Hons

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

### A VERY SPECIAL TRIBUTE

This morning, we held the official opening to our new music school at St Bart's. The building was dedicated to our beloved pupil, Rafe Larby and a commemorative plaque was unveiled on the external wall of the building. We were honoured to be joined by Rafe's parents, Charlie and Georgina Larby, his brothers, Ryder and Kit, his uncle and aunty, Kate and Tim and his cousins, Banjo and Elvie. Also in attendance were Rafe's classmates and his teacher Mrs Lynch with his learning support assistants, Mrs Wagstaff and Mrs Sully.



After an introduction led by Mr Beckerson, Charlie said some beautiful words about Rafe and encouraged us all to 'let our imaginations run wild' as this is how Rafe lived his life to the full each and every day.



Following this, we held a minute of noise to reflect on Rafe's life and how much he meant to us all. As the song 'Feels like something's changing' by St Bart's choir was playing, we all joined in with percussion instruments and as much collective emotional energy as we could muster.

The music school is now open to the community and it will be a centre of creativity and excellence that Rafe would have absolutely loved, so we intend to keep his spirit alive as we set about making our music of the future.

Following the opening of the music school, we made our way to the spiritual garden where we planted a cherry tree in memory of Rafe. Mrs Lynch led an emotional and moving tribute to Rafe and encouraged each of his classmates to plant a bulb in the ground to form a circle of support around the tree. Prayers were said by Mrs Lynch and many of the children and we concluded by singing an energised rendition of one of Rafe's favourite songs from assemblies – Be Bold Be Strong.

We were joined by a BBC film crew who will be broadcasting highlights of the event on **BBC South Today (BBC 1) this evening at 6.30pm**. Also, tomorrow morning at 9.10am, Mr Beckerson will be interviewed about the memorial service and the opening of the music school on BBC Radio Surrey/Sussex.



The Larby family are incredibly honoured that our music school has been dedicated to Rafe and want it to be a huge success. If you, your children or anybody else you know is interested in talking up lessons in ukulele, guitar, drums, vocals, music technology or band skills then please sign up for a free lesson [www.themusicworks.co/freelesson](http://www.themusicworks.co/freelesson)

## COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

This week in Worship we have been looking at our value 'Achieve' with a particular focus on perseverance. In classes we have looked at times we have had to show perseverance in order to achieve something. We discussed the importance of never giving up and how important it is to keep trying. Next week is Harvest and we will be thinking about how we can help others who are less fortunate than ourselves. This year we are asking for money to be donated to the Haslemere Food Bank, rather than bringing food items in to school.

### **Our Vision**

*Inspired by Jesus' promise in the Bible (John 10:10) "that they shall have life; life in all its fullness", we provide a caring learning community to enable everyone to live happy, fulfilling lives and make positive contributions to our world. Our vision for St Bart's is to be an excellent school where outstanding practice, personalised learning, social development and spiritual growth are nurtured through a rich and dynamic curriculum which inspires every child to achieve success.*



## EYFS

The children have had a lovely week with our birthday topic. It started by having a party for Mrs Burton's birthday which has inspired them to make their own parties and celebrations. They have been giving out invitations, making cards, wrapping presents, making paper chains and making playdough birthday cakes. This has helped them to practise writing numbers and counting up to 5. The children had their first phonics lessons this week and so far they have learnt to say and write the sounds s, a and t. We use the Jolly Phonics scheme to teach phonics. Next week our topic will be We're Going on a Bear Hunt so we are looking forward to plenty of story-telling, positional language, exploring onomatopoeia and talking about size through the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears.

## KS1

Year 2 have been getting ready for the launch of their exciting new topic Beachcombers by learning about seaside habitats. They have started to learn the wonderful story of the Snail and the Whale, and next week will be visiting West Wittering beach. In Maths they have finished 3 weeks on Number and Place value and will be moving onto addition and subtraction. In English they have been revisiting sentence structure and adjectives, practising cursive handwriting daily and learning how to independently change their reading books. In RE they have written their class prayers. In Art Namibia have produced some wonderful wax relief patterns with silhouettes of African animals and Uganda are creating colourful animal masks. We have also started our self portraits!

## LKS2

Over the last two weeks, Year 3 have been enjoying the adventure story "Stig of the Dump". They have used this as a starting point to write some adventure stories of their own and have been thinking how to make these exciting by using short sentences and exciting words. In maths, the children are coming to the end of their learning about place value and have been ordering and comparing 3-digit numbers this week. They have experienced what it is like being an archaeologist by going on a dig in the wildlife garden, and have also made their own stone age tools. They will move their learning forwards a few thousand years next week as we find out how people evolved during the Bronze Age. In year 4, the children have started the unit Burps, Bottoms and Bile, a title which caused a few giggles and generated interest in what is, in fact, learning about the digestive system. They started by learning about teeth, their different types and their different functions. They have carried out a week long investigation into the effect of different liquids on egg shells and were

excited to discover what had happened to the eggs each day. They also learned the importance of looking after their teeth – looking at photos of tooth decay produced gasps of horror. This week, they have started to learn about what happens to food once it is swallowed. Everyone was fully engaged in watching as Mrs Hope-Gill and Mrs Eden used a food processor, beans, bread, vinegar and a pair of tights to demonstrate how some food goes into the body whilst the waste is expelled. In English, they have been revising word classes and writing sentences that start with adverbial phrases. In maths, they have continued to work on extending their understanding of place value in 4-digit numbers.



## **UKS2**

Year 5 have been very busy with their Arabian Nights unit of work and have been developing their understanding of Ancient Baghdad by investigating primary and secondary sources of evidence and considering why the Islamic Civilisation was an important period to study. Linked to the fabulous Arabian Nights stories the children have written their own Sinbad the Sailor adventure stories, creating descriptions of their own mythical creatures. In the process, the children have also edited using a thesaurus, used parenthesis, relative clauses and subordinate clauses. Linked to the unit, in RE the children have been learning about the Five Pillars of Islam and in art the children have explored Islamic art. In science, the children have investigated into magnets and looked at how magnets are used in everyday life. Year 6 have been really enjoying their Child's War unit of work. The children have investigated into some of the causes as to why WW2 came about and have made timelines of some of the key events and battles in the war, as well as researched into the Allied and Axis powers and their leaders. They have sent letters to each other in role of child evacuees and have replied to each other's letters in the role of the parents. Children have learnt all about the Blitz, identified why certain cities were bombed in the war and drew effective charcoal pictures of The Blitz. On Friday, the children gave moving and professional presentations to the class from research on their own family roles and experiences during the war. The children have also begun to learn about Anne Frank and have read inspirational extracts from her famous diary and gained insights into what life was like having to hide in occupied Europe.

## **SPORTY ST BART'S**

**DAILY RUN** - This year we are running around the world visiting each of the capital cities of our class countries. The total number of miles to be run is 45,886. We are starting with by running from Haslemere to Edinburgh, then to Belfast, Cardiff and then to London. The total for each class is recorded on our Run Around The World board outside the library.

**HOCKEY** - We are developing our links with Haslemere Hockey club and year 4 are receiving this coaching. Rudy B who attends the club demonstrated what he'd learnt and all the children had a great time. Please find attached a flyer outlining training provided by the club, it is free until the end of September. Find out more at; <https://www.haslemerehockey.com/taster>

**OUTDOOR LEARNING** - There has been many different curriculum areas covered in our regular outdoor sessions. Year 5 have created the five pillars of Islam and Roman numerals. Year 4 have been developing their spelling and maths skills. Year 1 have been on a scavenger hunt. The children have really enjoyed being outside. Please ensure your child has a coat in school to ensure that they can fully participate in all activities.

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance so far this year has been very good despite the coronavirus pandemic. We are very understanding of the difficulties families are facing in getting tests for children when they have any of the coronavirus symptoms. Please just continue to follow the government's guidance and ensure that if a child has symptoms of coronavirus they obtain a test as quick as possible. Work will be continue to be provided by the school for siblings who have to self-isolate as a result of a family member being tested. To ensure your child comes into minimal contact with people outside their year group bubble, please ensure that they are punctual every day.

## LUNCHES

From the 5<sup>th</sup> October our catering staff will be providing a hot takeaway lunch for children and the packed lunches will stop. There will be a choice of main or vegetarian and you can make your choice using the following codes M=Main V=Vegetarian. The menu is attached and begins in **week 3**. Please could we request that choices for the week beginning 5<sup>th</sup> October are made by Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September to allow the catering staff to place their orders for delivery.

**The cost of lunches for children in year 3 – 6 are £2.40 per day, £12.00 per week, and should be made in advance through your Scopy account.**

## WONDERFUL MUSIC TALENT AT ST BART'S

Ren was recently selected as part of The Music Works 'Student Spotlight', where we celebrate students who have gone above and beyond in their practice to perform a song really well! We love seeing our students excelling at music and Ren is a great example, showing what you can do when you work hard and enjoy playing your instrument. Ren's teacher Alex had these words to say:

*'Every now and then you get a student that performs above and beyond your expectations. Ren is one of those students! I have been teaching her since the start of this year starting off in groups and moving on to 1 on 1 lessons. Ren has come on in leaps and bounds since we began learning together and this is evident by her completion of the hardest and final song in The Music Works Ukulele book, Highly Strung, which she is playing in this video.*

*Not only is she a talented singer and ukulele player, Ren also has a strong song writing ability and has shown impressive aptitude when learning new songwriting concepts. Recently, we have been learning some diminished chords and how we can use them properly; if only I had that ability at her age!*

*To top it all off, check out the smile at the end of her performance! That's what teaching is all about.'*

*Great job Ren and Alex, from your fans at The Music Works!*

To view Ren's wonderful performance of Highly Strung, the final song in The Music Works Grade Debut Ukulele book, please click on the following link - <http://tiny.cc/tmw-ren>

If you would like your child to have the same opportunity as Ren please sign up for a free taster lesson at <https://www.themusicworks.co/freelesson>

## FAMILIES MAGAZINE

We are pleased to be able to send you the Sep/Oct issue of Families magazine. It is full of resources and ideas to help you and your family make the most of the Autumn term. You can read the magazine here. <https://bit.ly/33eiofk>



## HARVEST FESTIVAL – WEDNESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER



We are celebrating Harvest Festival next Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> September in School and we will be supporting the Haslemere Food Bank. Instead of food donations children are invited to bring in a monetary donation which will be collected as they arrive into school on

Wednesday morning where each entrance gate will have its own collection bucket. We suggest a donation of £1.00 per child but you are welcome to donate any amount you feel suitable. When it is safe for us to count the money we will let you know the results and this will be transferred to Haslemere Food Bank to spend on food for the families in our community who, more than ever during this pandemic, are being supported by the Haslemere Food Bank. Please Do NOT bring in any food donations this year as we will be unable to handle them.

Yours faithfully,

*C. D. Beckerson*

Charles Beckerson  
HEAD TEACHER