



# Belgrave St. Bartholomew's Academy



## September 2020 Newsletter

### Welcome Back!

We would like to say a very warm welcome back to school! We are so happy to have everyone back. A huge welcome to all of the new families that have joined us this year too. The children have settled in beautifully and there is a fantastic buzz around school and in lessons. Thank you for your support in ensuring the children look smart in their correct uniform and well done to all of the children for coming back with fantastic attitudes towards their learning.

I would like to tell you how incredibly proud we are of all of the children for the way they have adapted to the new changes put in place in school. They have taken it all in their stride and continue to be a credit to you. Well done everyone!

### ABC Club

Just a reminder that we have spaces available at our before and after school club. The club runs from 7.30 until 8.30am and from 3:00 until 5.30pm. The cost of this is £4 for a morning session, £7 for the afternoon session. There is a discount for more than one child from the same family attending. If parents want to use both sessions for the whole week, the cost is £50. For a registration pack, please contact the school office or ask your child's class teacher.

### Attendance

Attendance continues to be as important as ever and we are continuing to work proactively with our families to ensure that pupils attend school. As per the government guidance, pupils were expected to return to school, full time, from September 1st 2020.

It is vitally important that parents/carers keep us informed if their child or children are unwell or are unable to attend school. **Please call the school office 235523 by 8.45 am to report a child's absence with the reason why.** This will ensure that the right code is used for your child/children on the register, with absences either being authorised or unauthorised. Our school attendance policy was updated at the start of September and this is available on the school website, please ensure that you read this. Please note that in line with our updated policy, that no extended leaves of absence are being authorised this academic year and fixed penalty fines will be issued for any extended leaves exceeding 5 school days. We continue to follow government and public health guidance with regards to any Covid related absences. We thank you for your continued support and if you have any questions regarding attendance please contact Mrs Martin or a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

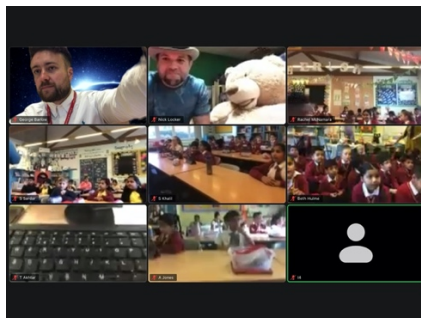
### Technology and learning

On returning to school in September children have continued to use the iPads in KS1 and KS2 to enhance their learning. The iPads allow the children to have all the knowledge they need at their fingertips. The use of apps such as Google maps have allowed the children to explore the World. Children in Year 2 labelled human and physical features around our school with children in Year 5 exploring Europe and the continents. The iPads have also allowed the children to capture magical learning opportunities in Science where Year 4 described the digestive system! We continue to make learning as engaging and exciting as possible for all the children- being the best that we can be, together.



### Worship

Although we can't meet together in the hall, our weekly whole school worship has continued. Reverend Angela meets with us online each week which has been lovely. We read stories from the Bible, enjoy listening to music and songs and pray together. These sessions are enjoyed by all and brighten up our Monday mornings! The technology in school has allowed us to continue to deliver our whole school celebration worship every Friday morning. Covid will not stop us connecting as a whole school!



### Harvest

We take great pride in supporting the Stoke on Trent Foodbank each year for Harvest and are always astounded by your generosity. Once again, we are asking for donations for this fantastic cause.

Please send any non perishable foods into school by Wednesday 14th October to help others less fortunate than yourselves. As always, thank you for your support.

### RSE

We would like to say thank you to everyone who attended our consultation meetings in the Spring term to help develop our RSE curriculum. It was very useful to hear your feedback, opinions and concerns.

If you would like to see an overview of what your child will be learning in PSHE and RSE lessons, please visit our school website and look in the Curriculum section. This half term we are focussing on joining our new class, feeling safe, belonging, actions and consequences and rights and responsibilities.

### PE Kit

Please remember to send your child into school in their full PE kit on their PE day. Nursery do not need to come in their PE kits this half term.

Reception – Thursday

Y1 – Monday

Y2 – Thursday

Y3 – Friday

Y4 – Thursday

Y5 – Tuesday

Y6 – Monday

### Tempest Photography

Tempest will be coming in to school on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020** to take individual photographs of the children. Due to Covid-19 and keeping safe within their bubbles, unfortunately there will be **no** family photos this time and sibling photos will only be of children who attend school. The photos will take place during the school day so only clean, smart uniform is needed along with big smiles 😊

**Year 1 and Year 6 only**- As Year 1 and Year 6 have PE on Mondays, **only** for Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October (photographs day) please could the children come in to school in their school uniform. PE kits will need to be brought in a named bag along with the children in the morning, which they can change into after they have had their photograph taken. Thank you for your understanding.

## Behaviour

We continue to promote positive behaviour and encourage all pupils to take personal responsibility for their own conduct. To promote a culture of good behaviour, all staff have been ensuring that the children have settled back into school and spent extra time focussing on pupil wellbeing over the last few weeks.

Following changes made to the policy last year, we are informing parents and carers of any significant behaviour incidents via an SMS message. A text will be sent to the number you have provided. As always, you are welcome to speak to a member of staff regarding any incidents at the end of the school day.

Please inform the school of any changes in contact numbers so this form of communication is consistent and you are up-to-date of any incidents involving your child.

If you wish to know more, our current behaviour policy is available on our school website. The Senior Leadership Team are available if you have any questions regarding the policy. Thank you for your continued support.

## After School Clubs

We are hoping to start up our after school club provision after October half term. Letters will be sent out in the next couple of weeks for you to select a club for your child. We have had to restrict the club provision to year groups to reduce unnecessary mixing of bubbles so your child will not have the choice of clubs that they have been used to. It is essential that you arrange childcare for any siblings who are not in clubs as they will not be allowed to join brothers and/or sisters in their club. Any children not collected will be placed in ABC club and a charge will be made to you.

## Uniform

Uniform on the whole is looking fantastic! Ties and Belgrave book bags are now available from the school office - £5.00 for a school tie and £5.50 for a school bag. Could I just remind you of the following expectations regarding school uniform;

- **No hair styles** with shaved patterns or lines are acceptable. Parents will be asked to take their child to a barber to remove the lines before being allowed to return to school.
- **Long hair should be tied** up and **plain** headbands should be in school colours.
- **Ankle boots are allowed** but knee high boots are not part of the uniform. All boots should be plain in style and should be flat, with no heel.
- **Head scarves** must be plain black, grey or burgundy and shoulder length (no longer)

**Any incorrect uniform will be challenged.** Full details are available on the school website.

## The St Bart's Family

As you know we are part of the St Bart's Multi Academy Trust. This means we are part of a family of schools who work together to ensure the very best outcomes for our children. The St Bart's Trust have been hugely helpful in supporting us as a school as we navigate through the complex challenges brought by Covid. For more information on the Trust visit [sbmat.org](http://sbmat.org)

## Finally...

A huge thank you to everyone who has been adhering to the routines we have had to put in place to keep our children, staff and the community safe. Please remember to only drop off and collect at the times given and please ensure you maintain 2 metre distance from each other when waiting on the playground. As a courtesy to us and each other, we ask that you wear a face covering whilst on school grounds where 2m distancing cannot be observed. We know the end of the day is busy and face coverings do provide a level of safety for everyone so please do support us in doing this. Thank you.

## Prayer Corner

A prayer for the start of the new school year;

*Our Lord Jesus Christ,*



*Thank you for bringing us all back safely to school where we can learn, play, worship and enjoy being with each other. Thank you for being there for us and help us to remember that you are always there for us, even when things seem really tough. Help us to untangle all the knots we have which give us worries and help us to start the year by feeling positive and give us the strength to believe in ourselves.*

*We ask this Lord in your name, Amen.*

## Dates for your diary

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