



# St Bartholomew's Primary School

## Newsletter No 4

### Autumn Term 2025



*Dear families,*

So, we'll soon be signing off for the Christmas break... and like you, I'm sure, the children and staff team are ready for a break.

Thank you so much for your support. We continue to work to improve communication and listen to how you feel the school could develop.



**You said, we did!**

As a starting point, you may or not have noticed the tunnel area is now that bit more welcoming (and a lot less gloomy) with a 'starry' feel...!

**Bikeability**

We recently received a lovely e-mail from someone passing-by and taking the time to write in.

It read along the lines of 'polite and sensible', in relation to our Year 6 children, during their 'bikeability' week.

**But also... Hi-vis** was a key message! The writer was concerned, as are we, that children can be seen as the gloomier weather and darker late afternoons set in. **Please be mindful that your young walkers and bikers can be seen.**

**Winter Mini Reading Challenge is Back!**

Encourage your child to keep reading through the winter months with the **Winter Mini Reading Challenge**, running from **Monday 1 December to Friday 20 February**.

This year's theme is **'Story Garden'**, designed to inspire children to explore nature and the outdoors through reading. Follow **Leicestershire Libraries** on Facebook and Instagram for updates and ideas. Find out more about the Winter Mini Challenge:

<https://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/libraries/books-and-reading/winter-mini-challenge>

Very sadly... but exciting, go them (and their next adventures ) we are saying goodbye to:

Mrs Jane Barrass (Teacher)

Mrs Rebecca Moody (member of support staff) - to pastures new!

Glenn James (Computer Consultant) - to pastures new!

Mrs Kate Waller (Lunchtime Manager/ Supervisor)

Janette Armstrong (Lunchtime Supervisor)

Tracey Harrison (Admin support)

Happy retirement Jane, Kate, Janette and Tracey.

**'Give your best'**  
19th December 2025

**THINKING SPACE**

SYMBOLS was the theme for our church service and whether angels, candles, stars or gifts, are meaningful to you as a Christian or simply someone celebrating the true 'joy' of Christmas, the children's messages of...

Hope

Light

Love

...are good reminders for us all. **Wishing everyone a peaceful time.**

**Diary Dates**

**School Opens**  
Tuesday 6th January

**Young Voices**  
Tuesday 13th January

Many thanks for your continued support, the St Bart's team

Red Kites	Green Owls	Blue Falcons	Golden Eagles
1460	1391	1680	1456

**Arbor—Please check your details**

Please can parents check their child's details on the Arbor app including Medical and Dietary conditions to check they are correct and up to date.

**Please also note that the school's text service has come to an end, we shall now communicate with you through the in-app message service on Arbor.**



Arbor



Thank you very much.



## Key Stage 2—Cross Country Race

Children from Key Stage 2 represented our school at Herewoode Academy in the latest cross-country fixture. There were some awesome performances - in the drizzly, cold conditions - with many children either running competitively for the first time or making great improvements from their last race.

### Year 3

Ferne 11<sup>th</sup>

Matilda 28<sup>th</sup>

Felix 38<sup>th</sup>

### Year 4

Eli 6<sup>th</sup>

Theo 2<sup>nd</sup>

### Year 5

Elodie 23<sup>rd</sup>

### Year 6

Belle 13<sup>th</sup>

Florence 24<sup>th</sup>

Annabella 18<sup>th</sup>

Harriet 15<sup>th</sup>

Eddie 43<sup>rd</sup>

Reuben 38<sup>th</sup>



### Next fixture:

- 17<sup>th</sup> January (Year 3/4) at Herewoode Academy

**Please note: There may not be any members of school staff present at these events.**

Contact [pcodd@st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk](mailto:pcodd@st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk) for more information.

## Roblox—Parent Guide

Roblox games reflect imaginative play that you might see in the playground. Players can make up games, decide on the rules and the group decides how to have fun together. **Scan the QR code opposite or click the link (title) to find out all about Roblox.**

*This is the first of a series of information updates to support your understanding of children's e'safety at home.*



# Year 5 Ukraine Project

Some of our Year 5 children have been working on an exciting project supported by the British Council. As part of this initiative, they have been corresponding with children from the Zaporizhzhia region of Ukraine. The project aims to develop shared learning and enhance cultural awareness.

The Ukrainian children are living in very challenging circumstances, with most of their schooling taking place online at home and weekly meetings held in a safe underground room. We are incredibly proud of our pupils who contributed small gifts, which were gratefully received and brought much joy.

We look forward to continuing this project after Christmas and learning more about the children and their country. Next term, we hope to develop some work based on reading to deepen this cultural exchange.

## Christmas and New Year in Ukraine Amid Resilience

Despite the ongoing challenges, the heart of Ukraine beats strong with festive spirit. Ukrainians gather around the festive trees which symbolise enduring hope and tradition.

Even amidst air raid alarms and the ongoing conflict, celebrations continue, reflecting the unwavering spirit of the people.



Mrs Campbell

# Outdoor Learning

Over the Autumn Term a group of Year 6 children have been engaging in outdoor learning. They have been studying the nature in St Bart's grounds – identify and mapping species of trees and looking for evidence of insects, birds and animals that frequent our school. The children also found footprints and took plaster casts; enabling them to identify what species are present.

The children were lucky enough to find evidence of a plethora of animals including; slug eggs, newts, frogs, shield beetles, foxes, hedgehogs, badgers and squirrels.

As we approached winter, the group decided to research, design and build things that could support these animals through the winter months.

Working together, they have built the following items, which you may see positioned around the school grounds.

**Hedgehog hibernation and feeding station**



**Hibernaculum** - to keep the reptiles warm and cosy



Research conducted, ensured they dug the correct size and depth hole and included tubes for the reptiles to enter and exit this warm retreat.

**Bug Hotel** – using recycled materials

The children were very creative and drilled holes into wood, used piping and even built a 'rope' lift for bugs to crawl up and down and move from floor to floor of this 5\* Hotel.



They children worked hard and were very proud of the great designs and builds they made to care for the nature that we are so lucky to have at St Barts.

Well Done

# Bake Sale—Thank you

EVENT  
IN SUPPORT  
OF LOROS HOSPICE

**LOROS**

Hospice Care for Leicestershire, Leicestershire & Rutland

Registered Charity No. 506120

# THANK YOU

St. Barts

Together we raised an amazing

£434





HANFORD SPORTS CLUBS  
AND CAMPS LTD



# HALF TERM & SUMMER CAMPS

@ Barrow upon Soar - Hall Orchard  
CE Primary School 8:30-3:30

@ Kegworth - Kegworth Primary  
School 8:30-3:30

@ Watermead - Dunelm 8:30-3:30

20-24  
OCT 2025

22-23/29-30  
DEC 2025

16-20  
FEB 2026

30-10  
MAR/APR 2026

25-29  
MAY 2026

13-20  
JULY/AUG 2026

Sibling  
Discount

Full Week  
Discount

FUN & CREATIVE INDOOR & OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES FOR BOYS & GIRLS  
4-12 YEARS OLD

**Activities include:** Sports, Arts and Crafts Storytelling Drawing & painting  
Forest Schools Dance STEM activities Nature field trips Community Projects

More Information [www.hanfordsports.com](http://www.hanfordsports.com)



## Story Crafters

Story Crafters ran for the first time last half term here at St Bartholomew's and I can safely say, the children loved it!

Whether your child loves writing or not, this is a great way to channel their creativity. We spend a few weeks creating characters, thinking about a setting and conjuring up some great vocabulary to use in our stories. Children work as a group to create their story which also develops their social skills, ability to compromise and work as a team.

The last few sessions are about pulling their story together, with equipment, to bring their stories to life, which they then act out to the parents in the last week. This term we are lucky enough to be able to show our stories to Foundation Stage.

A few quotes from the children...

"I thought we would be writing all the time but I've had so much fun! I can't wait for the next block!"

"Story Crafters is the highlight of my week!"

If this is something your child would like to take part in, bookings are now open for next half term.

See the attached flyer for details.



# Story Crafters

## Creative Writing Club

Running for 6 weeks, our Story Crafter sessions aim to:

- Inspire a love for storytelling
- Empower your child to become a confident storyteller
- Explore their imagination and creativity through activities and games

Thursday  
3:25-4:45  
Years 3-6  
(KS2)



## School Uniform

Please clearly label all school uniform, so if it is lost we can deliver it back to the right child.

If secondhand items are purchased from FOSBA, please ensure that you update the name in the clothing with the new owner.

Thank you.



**PLEASE LABEL ALL CLOTHING CLEARLY WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME**



## St Bartholomew's CARES

- C** - Co-operate kindly with others.
- A** - Aware that everyone is important and individual.
- R** - Respect others and take responsibility for our actions.
- E** - Enjoy school and be enthusiastic.
- S** - achieve Success through challenging ourselves to...

**GIVE OUR BEST.**



Our school website  
[www.st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk](http://www.st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk)

**Copies of this newsletter will be sent via email.**  
**A paper copy will be sent home for those parents who require one.**  
A larger print version for this newsletter is available from the school office.  
This can also be accessed our website at [www.st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk](http://www.st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk)

**For anyone wishing to contact our Governing Body please email on:**  
[governors@st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk](mailto:governors@st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk)