



St Bartholomew's Primary School

Newsletter No 1

Autumn Term 2026



Dear families,

Welcome back!... we have had a fantastic first couple of weeks... even rain at drop-off and collection time :-)! I'm sure you will join me though in welcoming those families new to St Bartholomew's, with children joining our Foundation Stage this Autumn.

SNACK-TEMBER

At the end of the summer term, I had shared with you, my concerns regarding children's snacks.

A large proportion of our children are consistently bringing in crisps and chocolate - and sometimes multiple snacks for one break-time.

As a primary school, we are required - and I think should - support healthier eating/ options - MORE INFO TO FOLLOW

NEW POLICIES

Please look out for school's new updated guidance concerning:

Allergy and Anaphylaxis

Pupils are now required to have two epi-pens in school and, where relevant, we have new procedures in place to help support children with this .

Mobile Phones

Further to the DfE's new stance that all schools should be 'mobile phone-free' environments - update to follow.

LOST AND FOUND

As we enter into the new academic year, it would be great to reduce our lost property - usually it helps as the weather changes (and the children are keen to keep layers on) but the most helpful thing for us and yourselves - I can't stress enough - is...

PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING...

NAME IT

NAME IT

ATTENDANCE

New term dates

We are waiting for the Local Authority to finalise dates for the county terms for what will be 2027 - '28... watch this space!

Request for leave

Reminder... there is a 'Request for leave of absence' form to complete - *pls ask at the office* - should you be considering time out in term-time.

Daily contact - please bear in mind we are required to contact you when your child/ ren is not in school.

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

Red Kites	Green Owls	Blue Falcons	Golden Eagles
Awaiting Half term Count			

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.

'Give your best'

7th September 2026



THINKING SPACE

... is a local and national scheme of learning, through stories, that addresses equality, diversity and inclusion.

Each half term a different theme is opened with a focus assembly and followed up in-class through a related children's book.

Diary Dates

Parent's Evenings

FS & KS1

Week commencing
05.10.26

KS2

Week commencing
12.10.26
(Details to follow)

Harvest Festival

(St Bart's Church)
15th October

Half Term

19.10.26-23.10.26



Hair

For Health and safety reasons, we ask that all children with shoulder length (and longer) hair, have their hair tied up and back for the school day.

We will also ask that some longer styles (not quite of that length) are also tied up and/ or back, for particular activities - largely, but not exclusive to, PE sessions (alice/ sports bands can be great for this).

We have already had a very significant incident and injury, through no fault of the child's or others, but which has highlighted the importance of re-establishing this at this early stage.

Many thanks in advance.

Asthma

This time of year - with the transition to the onset of cold, damp weather - can often be challenging for children with asthma.

Parents please make sure - inhalers...

- and spacers are named;
- are in date;
- are in school every day.

Also, that...

- Forms and Asthma UK cards are filled in and returned to the school office.

If your child has recently been diagnosed with Asthma, please call in at the school office to have this recorded and to collect the forms.



Hand Hygiene

Regular hand-washing/ sanitizing is still key to keeping us safe and well in school.

We ask that unless your child has a specific skin condition, that you **do not** send them in with their own hand sanitiser. We have plenty of anti-bacterial gel around school as well as regular opportunities for children to wash their hands with warm water and soap. If, for a medical reason, your child needs separate gel / soap, please drop their class teacher an email or speak to a member of the school office.



Thank you.

Nut Allergies

Please ensure that any food brought into school does not contain nuts as we have many children who are allergic to nuts of any type.

Nuts and peanuts can cause allergic reactions, which are sometimes *severe* and can be life-threatening. Allergic reactions are not always caused by the child eating nuts; close proximity to nuts can cause a reaction.

So please be aware of foods such as Nutella and B-Ready bars which contain hazel nuts.



Help us to keep all of our children safe by remaining NUT-FREE.

Parking

Your co-operation is needed if you deliver and collect your children from school in the car.

The safety of all children is paramount!

Parents are asked **NOT** to park in the shaded areas on this plan.

Do not park on the corners of junctions, on the pavements and on double yellow lines or zig zags. They are there for the children's safety.

PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE INTO WILLOWCROFT.

Parking in the school car park is for staff and disabled drivers only.

NO PARKING please on the school car park when dropping off and picking up for school clubs

	Sand hills		The Deep-way		
		Warwick Avenue		Warwick Avenue	
			Willowcroft		Beacon Avenue
			Front gate		
			SCHOOL	Back Gate to the	

No Dogs

Please do not bring dogs onto our school site and do not leave them tethered and unattended at either the front or back school gates.

Thank you



Please **walk with wheels** in the school grounds for everyone's safety.

Thank you

School Lunch/Packed Lunches

Our school lunch menu can be found on our school

Website:

<http://www.st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk/page/?title=School+Dinners&pid=35>

As a Healthy School, we actively encourage our children to eat healthily. **Please ensure that you are sending your child to school with a nutritious and balanced packed lunch, trying also to avoid any chocolate or sweets for snack time.**

Please also remember to send water as a drink and not juices of any kind.

Thank you.

Sarah Oakland (Assistant Headteacher)

REMINDER – WE HAVE A STRICT
‘NO NUT’ POLICY

WELCOME

*This term we welcome a new staff member to the St Bart's Team.
I'm sure you will join me in wishing Mrs Cannaby (Y6 teacher) a warm
welcome to the school.*

Mr Clark



Staggered Timings



'School day' timings - from Autumn 2026

	Morning	Afternoon
	Mon – Friday	Mon – Thu`
	Classrooms open:	Collection time:
Foundation Stage & Key Stage 1 (Yr 1, 2)	8.30am	3.15pm
Key Stage 2 (Yr 3, 4, 5, 6)	8.40am	3.25pm
		Fridays
	Foundation Stage & Key Stage 1 (Yr 1, 2)	2.00pm
	Key Stage 2 (Yr 3, 4, 5, 6)	2.10pm



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

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

For anyone wishing to contact our Governing Body please email on:

governors@st-bartholomews.leics.sch.uk

School Dinner Money

The current cost of a school dinner for children in Key Stage 2 is £2.90 a day / £14.50 a week. Parents/carers are required to pay in advance for school meals through their child's dinner money account on Parentpay. We no longer accept cash or cheque for payment of school dinners. If you require a Parentpay log in then please contact the school and we can arrange this for you.



Free School Meals

All children in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 currently get a free school lunch under the governments, Universal Infant Free School Meals Scheme,

Some parents will also qualify for Free School Meals, details below :

From Autumn 2026 the following changes have been made to **Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility**. These updates mean that **more families may now qualify** for support, even if they were not eligible before.

Under the revised criteria, families may be entitled to Free School Meals if they receive one of the following:

- **Universal Credit**
- **Income Support** or **Income based Jobseeker's Allowance**
- **Child Tax Credit without Working Tax Credit**

Other qualifying benefits as outlined by the Department for Education

If you believe your circumstances may now meet the new criteria, we strongly encourage you to **submit an application**, even if your child is in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 and already receives Universal Infant Free School Meals.

If you would like to enquire as to whether you qualify please apply via the Parent Portal on Leicestershire County Councils website. The link to this is below but is also available on the schools website under the School Dinners section.

Parent Portal : <https://leicestershire.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/Synergy/>

Office Opening Hours

St Bartholomew's C of E Primary School



School Office Opening Hours (Term Time Only)

Monday 8.15am till 3.45pm

Tuesday 8.15am till 3.45pm

Wednesday 8.15am till 3.45pm

Thursday 8.15am till 3.45pm

Friday 8.15am till 2.45pm

Babies Fortnight

Leicestershire Children & Families Department and Rutland's Living Well Rutland Service are pleased to be celebrating 'Babies' across our Baby Fortnight in a series of workshops across two weeks delivered by

[Baby Fortnight 2026 by LLR Safeguarding Children Partnerships | Eventbrite](#)





YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Dear Parent/Carer,

My name is Paula René. I am a qualified Education Welfare Officer (EWO) from Children's Attendance Welfare Services, (CAWS). I have been commissioned by the school to address their attendance and welfare concerns.

I check the school's registers regularly, specifically concentrating on any child whose attendance falls below 95% where patterns have emerged, where a leave of absence has been taken without agreement of the school, where there is a high level of illness or where a substantiated reason or evidence has not been provided. In these instances I may write to you if your child falls into one or more of these categories.

My letter will:

- ✦ Highlight your child's attendance with a request for you to contact me.
- ✦ Inform you that your child's attendance will be monitored closely until their attendance meets an agreed target.
- ✦ If necessary, include an appointment for you to meet with me to address the issues which you feel may be preventing your child from attending school regularly; this is with a view to offering support and solutions to bring about change.

A child, whose attendance falls below 90%, is deemed to be a "Persistent Absence" pupil as set out by the Department for Education (DfE). Should your child fall into this category, you **WILL** be required to provide the school with evidence to support any further absences, this is to enable the school to determine whether the absence can be authorised.

THE EDUCATION ACT 1996, SECTION 444 STATES:

"If a child of compulsory school age, who is a registered pupil at a school, fails to attend regularly at the school, his parent is guilty of an offence".

In view of the above, I seek your support in ensuring your child attends school regularly and on time, as failure to do so means you place yourself at risk of legal action in the form of a Penalty Notice and/or Prosecution through the Magistrates Court.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding your child's attendance, or the contents of this letter, I invite you to contact me, either by:

EMAIL: paula@childrensattendance.co.uk

PHONE: 0116 277 6721

Yours sincerely

Paula René
SENIOR EDUCATION WELFARE OFFICER

**Children's Attendance
Welfare Services Ltd**

E paula@childrensattendance.co.uk
T 0116 277 6721
W childrensattendance.co.uk

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & CARERS

The law states that a parent/carer is responsible for ensuring their child attends school regularly and on time. Failure to do so renders the parent/carer guilty of an offence.

- ✂ Compulsory school age is from 5 years to 16 years of age.
- ✂ Ideally a child's overall attendance should be above 96%.
- ✂ Parents/carers are expected to inform the school on the first day of their child's absence to give the reason why their child is not in school. Failure to do this means the school may code the absences as **UNAUTHORISED**. Prolonged non-contact from the parent could lead to a "Safe and Well Check" being initiated on the grounds of safeguarding, (this can if deemed necessary involve Social Services or the Police).
- ✂ A child's absence from school is either recorded as authorised or unauthorised by the school. Parents/carers **CANNOT** authorise their child's absence.
- ✂ School can request supporting evidence from parents/carers, this allows the school to determine whether the absence can be recorded as authorised.
- ✂ School will discuss with and may refer cases where appropriate, to their Education Welfare Officer, should a child's attendance become a concern or fall below 95%.
- ✂ The Department for Education (DfE) considers a child, whose attendance falls below 90%, as a "persistent absent" child. Schools are expected to address attendance at this level and refrain from authorising any further absences unless it can be substantiated or supporting evidence provided.
- ✂ Children are expected to attend school for 190 days per academic year; the other 175 days are spent at home with you 😊
- ✂ The regulations regarding holidays in term time changed on the 1st September 2013. These regulations prevent Head Teachers from authorising holidays in term time except in exceptional circumstances. **PARENTS ARE STRONGLY ADVISED NOT TO BOOK HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME WITHOUT FIRST SPEAKING TO THE SCHOOL OR EWO.**
- ✂ As of the 19th August 2024 a new national framework for penalty notices came into force regarding unauthorised absences. This means if your child accrues 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised absences you may be liable for a penalty notice.
- ✂ In line with the new national framework there have also been changes to how the local authority issue penalty notices and proceed with prosecutions.

FIRST OFFENCE

Parents will be issued with a penalty notice of £80 per parent, per child this must be paid within 21 days, if not paid the amount will double to £160 per parent per child to be paid within 7 days. Payment is required in full and failure to pay will result in the local authority submitting the matter for prosecution through the magistrates' court.

SECOND OFFENCE

Parents will be issued with a penalty notice of £160 per parent per child, this will not be discounted. Payment is required in full and failure to pay will result in the local authority submitting the matter for prosecution through the magistrates' court.

THIRD / FURTHER OFFENCES

Parents will be **NOT** be issued with a penalty notice and the matter will proceed directly to the magistrates' court, if found guilty a parent could be fined up to £2500 per parent, per child and / or receive a prison sentence not exceeding 3 months.

NB. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THIS IS AN OFFENCE OF FAILING TO SAFEGUARD A CHILD'S EDUCATION AND IF FOUND GUILTY THIS COULD SHOW UP ON DBS CHECKS, BACKGROUND CHECKS BY EMPLOYERS, INSURANCE COMPANIES, FINANCIAL SERVICES ETC. WHICH COULD POTENTIALLY HAVE REPERCUSSIONS FOR YOU.

Paula René
SENIOR EDUCATION WELFARE OFFICER

Children's Attendance
Welfare Services Ltd

E paula@childrensattendance.co.uk
T 0116 277 6721
W childrensattendance.co.uk

LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND

RUN FOR LIFE



SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY LEAGUE 2026

RUN • COMPETE • MAKE FRIENDS • BELONG



YEARS 3-13

PRIMARY & SECONDARY PUPILS

PROMOTING PARTICIPATION, HEALTH AND ENJOYMENT
THROUGH SCHOOL RUNNING

THREE GREAT RACES
ONE FANTASTIC LEAGUE!



RACE 1
SATURDAY
3 OCTOBER 2026



RACE 2
SATURDAY
31 OCTOBER 2026



RACE 3 & LEAGUE FINAL
SATURDAY
28 NOVEMBER 2026



VENUE:
HEREWOODE ACADEMY

Glenfield Road,
Leicester, LE3 6DN



MORE THAN JUST A RACE



MEDALS AT EACH RACE
Celebrate your achievement every time



PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATES
For everyone taking part



RECOGNITION ACROSS THE ABILITY RANGE
Every runner. Every step.
Every improvement.



REPRESENT YOUR SCHOOL
Individual and team competition



JUNIOR LEADERS
Top young athletes helping with warm-ups, supporting runners and presenting prizes



REPRESENT YOUR SCHOOL – BE PART OF SOMETHING GREAT!

TEAM SPIRIT • PERSONAL BESTS • LIFELONG MEMORIES



OPEN TO ALL SCHOOLS

Primary & Secondary
Pupils Welcome



AWARDS FOR
INDIVIDUALS
& TEAMS

Celebrate participation
and achievement



EVERYONE
WELCOME

All abilities.
All encouraged.
All valued.



SAFE, FUN &
INCLUSIVE

A positive environment
for all young runners



FOR INFORMATION & ENTRIES:
runforlifeleague2026@outlook.com

FOLLOW US



**RUN
FOR
LIFE**
INSPIRING YOUNG LIVES

RUN FOR FUN. RUN FOR HEALTH. RUN FOR LIFE.



HAPPY'S CIRCUS

**10TH
OCTOBER**

ROLL-UP & ENJOY A FAMILY-
FRIENDLY SPECTACULAR
SHOW, INCLUDES
ACROBATICS, AERIALISTS,
MAGIC & MUCH MORE!

2.00 PM
PRE-SHOW 1.30 PM
GATES OPEN 12.15PM

**BURTON ON THE WOLDS PRIMARY
SCHOOL PLAYING FIELD**



SCAN THE QR CODE OR USE THE
LINK BELOW TO BE TAKEN
DIRECTLY TO TICKET SELECTION
WWW.TRYBOOKING.COM/UK/GCGF

INDIVIDUAL: £15 FAMILY OF 4: £55 FAMILY OF 5: £68

UNDER 2'S FREE WHEN SAT ON ADULTS KNEE

FACE PAINTING ★ HALF-TIME INTERVAL ★ FOOD & DRINK AVAILABLE

