



ST. BEN'S BULLETIN: 1st December 2023

Please see our PTFA Facebook Page

Contact school: school164@stbens.school

Website: stbenedictscofevajuniorschoolglastonbury.co.uk/

St. Ben's School Christian Values: **Community, Resilience and Kindness**

PUPILS SEND CLEAR ANTI-BULLYING MESSAGE

Last week's BIG Question was delivered by Year 6 pupils, Zahan, Luka, Stacey and Alex, on the theme of Anti-Bullying and the whole-school discussed the issue throughout the week. The message was, if you are aware of bullying, MAKE SOME NOISE! Here's what our pupils thought:

"Bullying is when someone is mean to someone over and over again." Raphael

"If someone isn't nice to you, tell them off; if they don't listen, tell a teacher." Jasmine

"Talk about it to a trusted adult." Alex

"If you see bullying, make sure you stop it." Yuliia



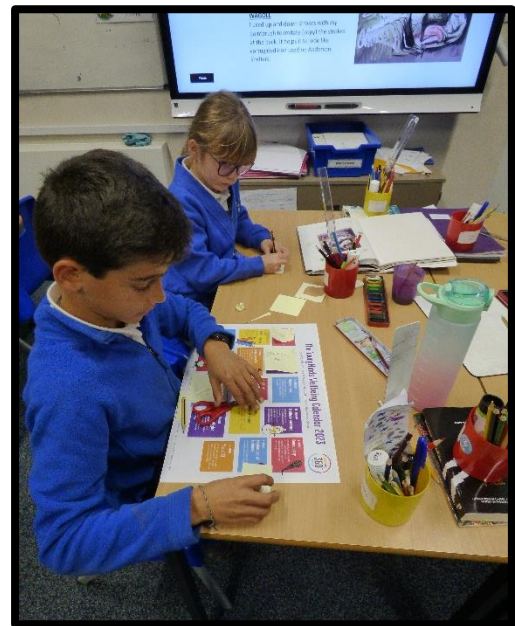
"Instead of watching, go and get a teacher to sort it out." Courtney

"Tell them to stop and tell the teacher. Make sure they're ok." Willow

"Talk to your friends, but if it gets worse, tell your parents or a teacher." Harry

WELLBEING CHAMPIONS CREATE CLASS CALENDARS

This week, Miss Switzer and Miss Murphy met with Wellbeing Champions from each class to create special advent calendars for each classroom. Every day for the rest of term each class will have a fresh activity or challenge to promote wellbeing and mindfulness in their day. The first window was opened today – we look forward to discovering lots of ways to improve our wellbeing over the festive season.



ATTENDANCE

We are really proud of our strong attendance (currently 95.6% as a school). Please help us to keep it this way by ensuring your child does not miss any school, other than emergencies or genuine illness. Please be aware that we may fine for holidays taken during term time.



CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

We are now entering the festive season – a few reminders:

Our festive post-box will be open for action from Monday 4th December. Children may bring in cards and post them in the box which will be situated outside the Hall; they will then be delivered each afternoon by Year 6 elves! Please make sure the envelope clearly states the recipient's first and last name and their class, e.g. **Mary Christmas, Elf Class.**

On Monday and Tuesday we have the wonderful Visiting Christians delivering Christmas Story workshops for each class and on the last week of term, we celebrate Christmas with our Nativity (Tuesday 12th December) and our Christmas Carol Service on Wednesday 13th December.

Also on 13th December, Year 6 will be part of the Cutting of the Holy Thorn ceremony and we have our whole school Christmas Lunch (generously funded by the Glastonbury Festival Team). On this day children may wear their Christmas Jumper to school (we ask for a donation to the 'Save the Children'). Please note that we have vouchers for any pupils in receipt of Free School Meals – this will be for £10 per week of the holidays (so £20 per child in total). We will contact you next week if this applies to you.

Please don't forget our School Pantry – this is full of stock-cupboard items, but we'll try to add a few Christmassy treats, too, so keep an eye on the school foyer. Please help yourself at any time.



GIRLS' TEAM WINS SEMI

St. Ben's 4 Walton 0

On Tuesday, the Girls' team took on Walton in the play-offs semi-finals. The girls, unbeaten in their group stage matches and yet to concede a goal, began confidently and it was not long before they took the lead through Morrison. The St. Ben's midfield was dominant with Casey-Sharp and Chapman controlling the game with energy and skill. The effervescent Morrison was a constant threat and striker Salter peppered the Walton goal with shots, which the Walton keeper repelled. Salter would not be denied, though and soon put St. Ben's 2-0 up with a crisp shot. Sharp, Zharuk and Sander-Jackson injected energy into the team and St. Ben's went from strength to strength with the occasional Walton foray kept at bay by the outstanding Pizlo and Daine.

The second half was a more even affair. With keeper Harrison-Lowndes increasingly called into action, but an exceptional passing move ended with another super strike by Salter and Morrison added to her tally to make the final score 4-0 to St. Ben's.

St. Ben's now face the mighty Brookside in next Tuesday's final. Thanks to Mr Lintell and Mr Ranger for coaching and to the excellent St. Ben's fan-club.



What are you up to?

Our weekly focus on what our wonderful pupils are up to out of school hours. This week, we feature three boys who have achieved great things. First, Marshall in Year 4 who has bagged himself a Blue Peter Badge inspired by a newsletter feature last year, when we showcased the new Quentin Blake reading badge. We also feature Sol for the second week running – this week, he has a special well done certificate from Burcott Stables: after a long time struggling to hold the reins, he's finally mastered it! Finally we shine a light on Bowie from Year 3 who has earned himself the coveted 'Player of the Week' award from Tor Rugby. Well done boys, we're proud of you all!



MAKING HISTORY: HAVE YOUR SAY

We will soon be ordering a World History timeline for the playground and we have the opportunity to add up to 8 local events/landmarks or people.

Who or what do you think should feature on our timeline?

Let us know your thoughts by next Friday (8th December).



PTFA SUCCESS AT FROST FAYRE

Our fabulous PTFA put in a full day at the Frost Fayre last Saturday, cooking and selling tasty burgers and hotdogs on the BBQ, as well as hot and cold drinks. The PTFA team were delighted with the support from parents, staff, governors and friends of the school, including ex-teachers and TAs. Thank you so much for giving your time and a special thanks to the PTFA for organising and running the stalls.

We made an impressive **£1458.18** which will be put towards our new play area project. We are always looking for more parents and friends of the school to join our PTFA: if you can help, we'd love to hear from you – it's a great team!



ACHIEVEMENTS and AWARDS

<u>Class:</u>	<u>Headteacher's Award</u>	<u>Teacher's Award</u>
Cats:	Eleana: for beginning to show more resilience when doing her assessments!	Penelope: for always being a happy, cheerful member of Cat Class!
Unicorns:	Amber: determination to improve in maths and with a smile on her face!	Libby: for being a presentation peacock.
Chameleons:	Eli: brilliant knowledge of the Romans; researching extra information at home.	Aliya: for beautifully descriptive writing using personification.
Owls:	Marshall: for being an independent leopard making a fantastic Roman shield.	Yuliia: for being a curious cat learning about the Roman Army.
Spiders:	Mason B: for enthusiasm and pride when completion his maths work.	Jake: for helping other children during our fractions learning.
Tortoises:	Kyle: for fantastic description of a scary creature.	Eve: for lovely descriptive writing.
Leopards:	Harry: for great contributions across the wider curriculum.	Victoria: for putting more effort into her handwriting.
Peacocks:	Ethan W: for consistently showing a good work ethic.	Eaden: for showing resilience in maths.
<u>Class Dojo Champs</u>	This week's champions are Peacock Class with 23.8 points per child and they get an extra break next week. Well done, Peacocks!	
<u>Attendance Champs</u>	Our attendance champs this week are Spider Class with 99.2%! Well done, Spiders, you get a well-deserved extra break next week.	
<u>Reading Champs</u>	<p>This week the following % of children managed to read 4 x a week at home:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Cat - 81%, Unicorn - 80%, Owl - 70%, Chameleon - 81% Tortoise - 80%, Spider - 70%, Leopard - 68%, Peacock - 93%</p> <p>Meaning that this week's champs are Peacock Class! Well done to Tortoise and Chameleon Classes for big improvements this week!</p>	
<u>Other awards:</u>	<p>Accelerated Reader Target Master awards for Eli, Honi and Molly (Y3); Jasmine (Y5) and Alex (Y6). Star Pointer: Courtney. Values awards for Cave and Django for kindness and looking out for others. Bronze awards: Chiyewo and Honi (Y3); Raphael and Sophia (Y4); Flora, Theo and Owen (Y5); Alex (Y6).</p>	

CAREERING AHEAD: PSHE Lead, Miss Murphy reporting...

As announced on Class Dojo, we are delighted that our school has been selected to take part in the 'Start Small, Dream Big' careers' related project which aims to:

- **Increase awareness and aspirations** amongst primary aged children of the range of jobs and career pathways available to them in the future
- show children the opportunities are endless by exposing them to a **wide range of experiences**, and encouraging them to understand that they can be anything they want, regardless of their gender, ethnicity or where they live.
- Provide children with a **forward looking, realistic view of the jobs** and the way we work.
- Develop understanding amongst children of **the link between what they learn in school, skills and the world of work.**
- **Increase parental engagement** in supporting children to think broadly about future careers.

You can help with this by volunteering to share your skills and knowledge of the workplace with the children. If you feel that this is something you would like to do, please contact us. Thanks for your support.

Dates for your diary:

Date:	Event/Activity:
Mon 4 th and Tues 5 th Dec	Christmas Story workshops in Church (during the school day)
Tues 5 th Dec	Year 4 to Strode Sports Hall for Multi-Sports Festival (10am – 12pm). PE kits please!
Tues 5 th Dec	Football League Play-off afternoon – 1pm – 3pm at Strode Pitches
Mon 5 th Dec	No after school clubs in the last week of term. Please collect your child at the usual time. Ben's Den will run until Thursday 14 th December, but will not be available on Friday 15 th December.
Tues 12 th Dec	Year 3 Nativity at St. Benedict's Church – 2pm afternoon performance to school, 6pm to parents and carers (please bring your child to school at 5:45pm, then take your seat in the church).
Tues 13 th Dec	Wear your Christmas Jumper to School Day (please bring in a donation towards Save the Children – recommended £1). Cutting of the Holy Thorn – Year 6 School Christmas Lunch Christmas Carols Service – 2pm: at St. Benedict's Church
Fri 15 th Dec	Break up for Christmas Holiday
2 nd January '24	Return to school after Christmas Holidays.

Strode Theatre Productions
Presents



ALEX in WONDERLAND

A Pantomime Adventure : RELOADED

Fri 22 – Sun 31 Dec 2023



Box office: 01458 442846
www.strodetheatre.org.uk

60 STRODE
THEATRE
CELEBRATING 60 YEARS