



ST. BEN'S BULLETIN: 27th September 2024

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**

GOOD ATTENDERS FLOURISH AT ST. BEN'S!

As you may have heard in the news, the government is focusing on attendance at schools and cracking down on absence. This means that we will not be able to authorise many of your requests for absence.

It is so important that your child attends school regularly and every year the message has been the same – children with better attendance have better rates of attainment. If a child misses school, it takes time for them to re-adjust and they have gaps in their learning.

If your child's attendance is below 90%, this is counted as persistently absent and will be challenged. This is the equivalent of a day off every other week and means your child is missing huge amounts of learning. Allowing your child to miss this much school is affecting their education and their prospects in life.

We are aware of the challenges facing families who struggle to afford holidays in school breaks, and we are sympathetic (school staff face the same issues) but unfortunately the government line is very clear that unless your absence is for genuine illness or exceptional reasons (and could not be taken at any other time), it will not be authorised and you run the risk of a fine.

There is now greater pressure on schools to take action in these cases. Please know that as a school we aim to communicate clearly with you and support our school community in what we know are challenging times.

Days Absent By End of Year.	Equal to Absence Percentage	Overall Attendance Percentage by the End of Year
1	0.5%	99.50%
5	2.5%	97.50%
10	5%	95%
20	10%	90%
30	15%	85%

Did You Know....?



For every day of school missed by a pupil it will reduce their attendance by 0.5%.

Ten whole days of school has been missed if your child has 95% attendance.

Twenty whole days of school has been missed if a pupils attendance is 90%.

By the time a pupil is persistently absent (85% attendance) they have missed 6 weeks or half a term of schooling.

LATENESS: Did you know that being 15 minutes late each day is the same as missing two weeks of school over the year. Lateness is just as serious as non-attendance and could lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice. The start of the school day is an important time for children to develop their social skills with their peers as well as preparing them for their learning. We start teaching from 8:50am and 'late' children miss out on vital skills such as spelling and or basic number work.

ACHIEVEMENTS and AWARDS

<u>Class:</u>	<u>Headteacher's Award</u>	<u>Teacher's Award</u>
Cats:	Lillie: for always putting 100% effort into her work and presentation.	Harrison: for impressing the teacher with his word class knowledge!
Unicorns:	Saoirse: for being so enthusiastic in all of her learning.	Bethany: for being a super reader and super quizzer.
Chameleons:	Holly: for always explaining her thinking so clearly and for super drama skills.	Lily: for always listening carefully and being resilient.
Owls:	Aliza: for super contributions to class discussions.	Louie: for fantastic focus in lessons particularly maths.
Spiders:	Sam: for being an excellent Year 5 role model in and out of class.	Sadie: for an outstanding report about William Shakespeare.
Tortoises:	Mia: for resilience.	Saimum: for lovely participation in music this week.
Leopards:	Annabelle: for always being a presentation peacock!	Theo: for excellent maths work – he has become a master in long division.
Peacocks:	Nathan: for excellent contributions in maths lessons.	Jessica: for excellent effort with applying her times table knowledge.
<u>Class Dojo Champs</u>	This week's champions are Unicorn Class with 20.6 points per child and they get an extra break next week. Well done, Unicorns!	
<u>Attendance Champs</u>	This week's champions are Owl Class with 98.7% attendance. Well done Owls, you get an extra break next week!	
<u>Book Battle Champs</u>	This week the following % of children managed to read 4 x a week at home: Cat – 86% Unicorn - 77% , Owl - 73% , Chameleon - 90 % Tortoise –86% , Spider – 92% , Leopard - 92% , Peacock - 86% Meaning that this week's champs are Spider and Leopard classes!	
<u>Values' Award:</u>	Kara: for showing kindness and community to class mates. Libby: for being a supportive team member and showing kindness to all.	
<u>Other Awards</u>	Special Beehive Awards to Holly and Imogen (Y3) and to Aliza for completing her ELSA sessions.	

What are you up to?

Our weekly focus on what our wonderful pupils are up to outside of school.

This week, we feature Year 6 Jasper who plays for Street FC and put in a player of the match performance in his side's 5-2 win last weekend. Well done, Jasper! Also, a huge well done to Kara W in Year 4 who has bagged an incredible trophy for her amazing dancing skills at the South West School of Dance in Street.



INSPIRE WORKSHOPS – HOLD THE DATE

Each year we run Inspire Workshops to give parents/carers the opportunity to come in and work with their child and learn all about the year ahead. We share information and expectations for the year and you will get to tackle a task linked to your child's curriculum.

Please try to join us. All sessions will be in the School Hall. Save the date:

Owl Class: Mon 7th Oct at 9am

Peacock Class: Wed 16th Oct at 9am

Spider Class: Wed 23rd Oct at 9am

Cat Class: Wed 6th Nov at 2pm

Chameleon Class: Fri 11th Oct at 9am

Leopard Class: Thurs 17th Oct at 9am

Tortoise Class: Thurs 24th Oct at 9am

Unicorn Class: Thurs 7th Nov at 2pm

FORMER PUPIL WINS BBC AWARD

We are very proud of former pupil, Ethan Smith after he won the carer's category at BBC Radio Somerset's 'Make a Difference Awards'. Ethan and his proud parents, Kirsty and Mike, along with brother Sol, attended the awards ceremony on Sunday and were delighted to see Ethan recognised for his caring. Well done from all at St. Ben's, Ethan – you really deserve this accolade!



GOVERNORS WANTED!

Could you be a governor at St. Benedict's? We have a wonderful team of governors who help to monitor, challenge and oversee the school. Meetings are generally in the early evening (5pm – 7pm) and are engaging and always aimed at helping the school to be the best it can for our pupils. There is always tea and biscuits (and sometimes cake!). It is such a rewarding, enjoyable role that really makes a difference to your community and to our school. Please call the office or Mr Ranger (01458 831811) if you might be interested.

NEW PTFA TEAM COULD IT BE YOU?

We are aiming to create a new PTFA team this year; if you wish to be part of it, please don't miss our PTFA Meeting at 2pm on **Thursday 10th October** (this is a change from the previously advertised 2nd Oct).

Dates for your diary:

Date:	Event/Activity:
Mon 7 th and Fr 11 th Oct	Owl Class Inspire Workshop and Chameleon Class Inspire Workshop
Wed 10 th October: 2pm	PTFA Annual General Meeting – all welcome
Wed 23 rd October: 2pm	Harvest Festival at St. Benedict's Church – parents and carers welcome
Friday 25 th October	Break up for half term
Monday 4 th November	INSET Day: School closed
Tuesday 5 th November	Pupils return to school.

The wonderful Maxine Ridout, who runs our school Drama Club, is celebrating the 10th anniversary of her out-of-school Drama Club, 'Taking the Space', which has been a forum for our young people to create original theatre. Maxine invites you to join her at the United Reform Church, Glastonbury, tomorrow, Saturday, 28th September. See below for details...



***TAKING-THE-SPACE 10TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION ***

FREE EXHIBITION, SCREENINGS AND DRAMA WORKSHOPS 🎭

On September 28th September 2024 at Glastonbury United Reformed Church Taking-The-Space will be celebrating 10 years of providing high quality drama classes and acting tuition and making original theatre with the young people of our local community

There will be a Free Exhibition of Show photos and memorabilia from 12 – 6pm

Free Film Screenings

12.30pm – A double bill of two short films (approx 20mins)

CONNECTING & AN ANIMAL REVOLUTION

12.30pm – A double bill of two short films (approx 20mins)

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM – THE WAKING (Approx. 45 mins)

AND FREE DRAMA WORKSHOPS 🧑🎭

2.30 – 3.15 – (6 -10 years)

3.30 – 4.15 – (11 -13 years)

4.30 - 5.15 14 years + (including Adults)

To find out more or book drama sessions call

Maxine 07850445540

In the summer term, a group of pupils were involved in creating artwork for the 'As Old as the Hills' exhibition. This exhibition will be running at the Red Brick Building from 21st Sept – 6th October and you are all welcome to attend the Exhibition Launch tomorrow, Saturday 21st Sept. See poster below for details...

As Old as the Hills



Community Art Project
Exhibition & Events

Curated by Fiona Campbell & Jan Ollis

Madi Acharya Baskerville
Nikki Allford
Duncan Cameron
Fiona Campbell
David Kefford
Di Milstein
Penelope O'Gara
Jan Ollis
Catriona Robertson
Richard Tomlinson

21 September-6 October 10-5pm daily

Zig Zag Building, Morland Road, Northover, Glastonbury BA6 9FT

VENUE
45

Exhibition Launch with special events: Sat 21 Sept, 10am-5pm, dance, performance, talks and after-party 5pm onwards

Artists in Conversation Tues 24 Sept, 6.30pm, £5

Layered books Workshop with Penelope O'Gara & Fiona Campbell, Sat 28 Sept, 2-4pm, £12

Workshop: Found feathers, owl pellets, riverweed pressings with Duncan Cameron, Sun 29 Sept, 2-4pm, £12

'Living on the Edge' Talk by Zig Zag owner Chris Black, blurring boundaries between urban & rural, Sun 29 Sept, 6pm, £10

To book email: fionacampbell-art@sky.com

@as.old.as.the.hills



AS OLD AS THE HILLS
EXHIBITION WORKSHOPS
RESIDENCIES AT THE ZIGZAG



SAW
someset
art works