



ST. BEN'S BULLETIN: 9th Sept 2022

Please see our PTFA Facebook Page

Contact school: school164@stbens.school

Website: stbenedictscovevajuniorsschoolglastonbury.co.uk/

St. Ben's School Christian Values for this term: *Community and Peace*

Farewell Your Majesty

Pupils and staff came together for a special Collective Worship on Friday 9th September to reflect on the passing of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. After the sad news came through on Thursday evening, it was lovely to share the positive memories of her life and of the celebrations we have had in her honour, including last May's Platinum Jubilee Garden Party that we held. Over the weekend, we are considering ways in which we can mark this momentous occasion and celebrate her life. If you have any ideas, please contact us.



Welcome Back

It has been wonderful to welcome back our pupils this week and they have settled beautifully into their new classes and routines – despite some challenging weather!

A reminder re collection that Year 6 leave via the front and Years 3-5 via the back. If you are a parent/carer of a Year 3 or Year 4 pupil, please come down onto the playground to meet your child at the end of the day.

I know there have been some teething problems with St. John's change of timings, but please remember that our playground is open in the morning from 8:30am and the playground is staffed from this time, so a good solution may be to drop your child at St. Benedict's at 8:30am before getting to St. John's by 8:40am.

HELP NEEDED!

From **Monday 19th – Friday 23rd September** we will be creating our new Peace Garden (phase 2 of our World Garden) on the school field. Our Groundsman, Rich Daniels, will be overseeing the project but he desperately needs help with labouring. Staff members may be able to help with the odd day, but we'd love some parents too! **If you are fit, able and enthusiastic and are able to volunteer anything from one day to all five days**, please let the office know on (01458) 831811. Thanks in advance for your support.

Clubs start on 19th Sept

Our Autumn Term Clubs' letter went out this week. Please sign your child up for their desired clubs and return your slip by next Tuesday so that we can set up registers for clubs.

Despite the various pressures on our staff, we are very proud to be offering an incredibly wide range of clubs, including Art, Gardening, Football, Netball, Glee, Choir, Junior Duke (see page 2 for more info), Cross Country and Spanish. We also have Drama Club on Tuesdays – see separate letter – which I am hoping will be packed this year!

ACHIEVEMENTS and AWARDS

<u>Class:</u>	<u>Headteacher's Award</u>	<u>Teacher's Award</u>
Cats:	Willow: a fantastic start at St Ben's! She has been a team Bee wanting to earn lots of Dojo's for Cat Class!	Sam: being really helpful around the classroom and having a great start to Year 3!
Unicorns:	Nellie: using all of the ELLI animals to impress me this week.	Unicorn Class: for a fantastic start to St Ben's.
Chameleons:	Echo: an excellent start to Year 4 super focus and great work.	Xahli: an excellent start to Year 4. Great job as our weatherman!
Owls:	Jake: some lovely sparkly answers.	Mason B: for a great start to the year!
Spiders:	Lucian: a confident, cheery, positive start to St Ben's.	Nazar: a fantastic first week – trying his hardest with everything he does.
Tortoises:	Harry: asking great questions – Cat and making connections – Spider.	All of Tortoise Class: for settling in well and having a fantastic first week!
Leopards:	Lily H: an enthusiastic attitude and participation in English.	Rhiley: for a 'not giving up' attitude in PE.
Peacocks:	Freya: being an independent Leopard and taking responsibility for her learning.	Aimee: for showing great maturity in her approach to school.
<u>Dojo Points Champs</u>		Starting next week!
<u>Attendance Champs</u>		Starting next week!

Drama Workshops Spark the Imagination

On Thursday this week, every class got to take part in a Drama Workshop, run by our very own Drama Guru, Maxine Ridout-Prime. Maxine will, once again, be running Drama Club after school on Tuesdays. I have seen the impact of Maxine's work in the past and seen pupils who were shy and retiring transform in confidence and really develop their personal presentation skills.

Please remember that we will be subsidising Drama Club and



Music lessons for any pupils in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant. Please see right for more details and contact the office for more information.

PUPIL PREMIUM GRANT

The Pupil Premium Grant is government funding available to schools for any eligible pupils. Approximately 35% of our current pupils are already eligible, but we want to make sure that as many children can benefit as possible. The money is paid to the school and allows us to subsidise many things at school including trips, uniform, events and activities. It may also mean your child can access extra support with academic and cultural opportunities. We are aware that circumstances are changing for many families. If you think you may be eligible, we'd love to hear from you; please call the office, or Mr Ranger for an application form (this is one side of A4 and very simple to complete!).

Dates for your diary:

Date:	Event/Activity:
Monday 19 th Oct	After School Clubs begin – please see clubs' letter.
20 th Sept 9am	Spider Class INSPIRE workshop – parents in to work with pupils
22 nd Sept 9am	Tortoise Class INSPIRE workshop – parents in to work with pupils
11 th October 9am	Owl Class INSPIRE workshop – parents in to work with pupils
12 th October 9am	Chameleon Class INSPIRE workshop – parents in to work with pupils
13 th October 9am	Leopard Class INSPIRE workshop – parents in to work with pupils
14 th October 9am	Peacock Class INSPIRE workshop – parents in to work with pupils
20 th October 9am	Year 3 INSPIRE workshop – parents in to work with pupils
Friday 21 st Oct	INSET Day: School closed to pupils.

What are you up to?

This week our focus is on a Year 6 swimmer. Harry in Peacock Class has achieved his 25m award from Strode Swimming Club, where he attends lessons. Well done, Harry – a great achievement! We also heard from Nathan in Year 4 who showed great resilience at his Holiday Club during the Summer Holidays; a photo will appear in next week's newsletter.



The BIG Question

Each week, Mr Ranger will introduce a BIG Question in Collective Worship on Monday. The aim is for the school community – pupils, parents and staff – to discuss and debate this BIG question during the week and decide what their own answers are. Last Monday, our first BIG question was, “If you could ask the universe anything and it had to answer, what would you ask it?”

Tortoise Class had great fun discussing the question and asked questions such as,

“Why are there spiders?”

“Is there life on other planets?”

“Why do we have money?”

Aisha in Year 6 asked,

“Where does water come from?”

Other questions included,

“What happens when we die?” and

“If God created the universe, who created God?”

We'd love to know any questions from home...

Mr Ranger is now going home to ponder next week's BIG question!!