

# The Lantern

St. Boniface said of St. Bede that 'he shone forth like a lantern.'



## Dear Everyone

Last Saturday afternoon, I found myself strolling round Brentwood in a t-shirt with my children and then today, I was driving in the snow to get to school! Certainly, a week of contrasting weather.

I have now had an opportunity to look at the children's spring test results in reading and maths. Results in Y6 and Y2 are good overall. Children in these years, will take their formal government exams in May. In our other year groups, spring test results are closer now to what they were pre-Covid—this is encouraging. My thanks to children, staff and parents for their continued efforts. Results will be shared with you at the forthcoming parent/ teacher consultations. Following the consultations, if you have any further questions regarding your child, please do email me.

I am conscious that a number of our school community have struggled this term with illness, bereavement or pressures on family finances. Prayers are said in school for all those who are in need of daily support. When we return after the break, I would very much like to include on our newsletter any intentions that people feel able to share with me – we are a community in Christ and we are here to support one another when we need that help. My father, David, now 87, is a resident of a care home on the edge of the New forest. Throughout my life, whenever I have faced difficulties, he has always said the same thing to me, 'Son, you will get through this'. There have been two occasions in my life when, on hearing this, I genuinely thought he was wrong. But although on each of these two occasions, I counted my recovery in years, not months, I did come through—it was then that I reflected upon his words and came to realise that the Lord was working through him in order to help me. The Lord will do the same for you, of that I have no doubt.

God Bless

Gary

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## Next Term

We have some exciting things planned for next term. We have trips/ events for most year groups. All parents are asked to sign up to our cashless payment system (Scopay Tucasi); if you receive fee remission by being in receipt of the income related benefit of free school meals, you are still asked to register as we now request consent for trips/ events via this system. Any family who has not signed up to our cashless system will receive a sign up letter with a unique code. We have a shortcut to this system at the bottom of the school homepage. We will email you further details relating to your child's planned activities.



## Cultural Celebration Day—31st March

Wow! What a fantastic day we had yesterday celebrating everyone's cultures and seeing children and staff dressed in their national outfits or colours of their country's flag. Our diversity is one of our blessings, which we so enjoy celebrating as a community together.



## Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who ordered a book from our fair. Your child will come home with their ordered book today. This has raised valuable credits for future book purchases for the school. Thank you for your support.

## Easter Story—Y4

Year 4 retold the Easter Story beautifully on Wednesday. Our thanks to all those involved in this. This has reminded us of how very special Easter is to Christians around the world, who come together to worship during this time.



## Assessment Papers: KS2

Following the recent assessment week, parents of pupils in years 3-6 may request their child's completed assessment paper(s) by emailing the office. My thanks to a parent for this suggestion. This will help you analyse what extra support you would like to provide at home, working in partnership with us.

## School Emails

We send important reminders and updates via email through Groupcall. Please let the office know if your email address or mobile number has changed as we would not want you to miss out on anything important. You can download the Groupcall Expressions app which will provide you with a push notification when a communication has been sent through.



## Year 4 Art Club

Miss Brady has kindly offered to run a lunchtime art club for ten year 4 pupils. As so many were interested in this club, names were selected from a hat. We will aim to have a changeover of those attending at half term. Our thanks to Miss Brady for running this club.



### **PA fundraising**

The PA held another fabulous doughnut sale on Wednesday which raised a massive £262. Well done to all involved and thank you for your continued support.

The PA also kindly provided an Easter treat for each child to enjoy.

### **Summer Fete—2nd July**

The PA is holding it's summer fete at school on 2nd July. They would appreciate help from as many volunteers as possible—even for a small amount of time to help set up, run a stall or help tidy up at the end. For all those interested, please complete this e-form:

<https://forms.office.com/r/MCyMDVgqkT>

Please see the latest PA newsletter on Frontier.

### **Nursery Open Morning**

Nursery parents were welcomed into Nursery this morning to see where their child is learning. A warm welcome was extended to all those who came along. It was great to so many parents able to join us.

### **Watches**

Watches may be worn from Year 3 onwards. We ask that only watches that are analogue or digital are worn—not smart watches. Wearing a watch that has a full clock face on it (analogue) encourages the skill of being able to tell the time properly. Thank you for your support with this.



### **Readathon**

Well done to all families who helped us with the recent Readathon. We await to hear if we have been one of the recipients of a voucher. What a brilliant initiative this has been and what team work! Please continue to log your child's reading on the Go Read app.

## Interested in becoming a Foundation Governor at our School?

We currently have a vacancy for a Foundation Governor at St Bede's. Being a Foundation Governor is very rewarding and a great way to live out your faith in serving our school & parish community. As a Foundation Governor, you are a member of the governing body which works with the Head teacher to set high expectations and drive school improvement, preserving and developing the Catholic ethos of our school.

You must be over 18 and a practising Catholic. Expertise or life experience which will contribute to the success of the school is useful, but most important is a passion for school improvement to enable every child to reach their potential and a commitment to playing an active part while working as part of the team.

If you are interested in becoming a Foundation Governor at St Bede's, we would love to hear from you. Please complete an application form and return to [patricia.lawlor@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:patricia.lawlor@redbridge.gov.uk) or drop your completed form into the School Office.

More information and the application form is available to view on the school website (About Us/ Governors).

activities.



## Y6 Residential 2022

Our Year 6 pupils are really looking forward to going on their week long residential trip to the Isle of Wight at the start of June! It is a fantastic experience for all pupils where life long memories are made.

## Week beginning Tuesday 19th April –no tutoring

There are no tutoring sessions the first week back after Easter but clubs will resume as usual on 19th April for all those who have been attending recently.

Pupils return to school for the Summer term on Tuesday 19th April. Pupils return in Summer Uniform (please see the website for information).

We return to a new school lunch menu after Easter (see School Meals on website).

I leave you with a final picture. It wasn't only children who enjoyed celebrating their home culture yesterday– staff did too. Here is Mrs Boyce, who wanted the school to know just how proud she is of her heritage! Now that is what I call a sense of fun!



Have a lovely holiday.

God Bless

Gary

# PUPIL CELEBRATIONS!

## **Friday's Top Table Dining**

The following pupils joined Mrs Roberts and me at the 'Top Table' for their lunch:

Year 1 – Aarav—for working really hard especially with his phonics

Year 2— Ethan—for always giving things a go and being super enthusiastic about his English work this term

Year 3—Bozhidara—for always giving her all

Year 4—Michael D—for striving for his best in his work

Year 5 - Gabriella—being a fantastic help to her peers

Year 6 - Gia M—being a fantastic helper and just generally being wonderful

Well done to all of you!

## **Lantern Certificates – youngest to oldest**

Evanjes; Joshua A; Lorena; Georgia; Christian; Anwulika; Michal; Benjamin G; Isla; Oliver C; Jack; Marcel; Ifeoma; Gabrielle; Amani; April; Zachariah H; Martine; Amanda M; Zikorchidi; Joshua O; Antonia; Eesa; Debra; Maliah; Ryan A; Gabriela; Dumebi; Lota; Sofia T; Demi; Kian C; Riley; Nivain; Kehinde; Kevin; Kammalunna; Chelsea S; Ethan E

## **Head teacher Awards**

Gracelyn and Jhamal

## **Birthdays To Celebrate**

Victoria, Grace, Stacey, Carlos, Romario, Chetanna, Sienna-Rose and Yi-Yu.

## **This week's 'Shout Out'**

This week's 'shout out' goes to Samuel K in Year 3 who has been helping Mr Nott each lunchtime with his computer skills.

## Weekly Reflection, with Mrs Mackie

This week we have been celebrating Holy Week, when Jesus died and rose. There are so many different parts to this week and throughout the school we celebrated them from the triumph of Palm Sunday, to the sorrow of Good Friday, to the glory of the Resurrection.

Each of the events evoke different emotions and the children in the school have talked about and reflected on each of them.

I personally experience a mixture of feelings when teaching this Great Week.

The Stations of the Cross, which Year 4 so beautifully portrayed on Wednesday always makes me feel a mixture of sorrow and guilt. We have a powerful song by a great composer called John Borland which I use throughout the school: it is called 'Lord by your Cross', and the words sum up the simple but powerful message of Good Friday :

'Lord by your cross you set us free you are the Saviour of the World, Lord by your Love you set us free you are the Saviour of the World'.

The ultimate act of self-sacrifice for us all.

In St Bede's, we have a Way of the Cross displayed in our corridors. Year 6 Guardian Angels shared the journey with KS1 wonderfully yesterday. It takes us from Gethsemane to the Resurrection. I have put the slides and the 'Lord By Your Cross' song on the reflection page on Fronter to give you an opportunity to share the final journey of Jesus with your families during Holy Week.

A prayer from Sharon,

Father in Heaven,

We pray that people all around the world will have your special peace and joy. Help those who are in wars that we don't know are occurring and we pray that the people suffering in Ukraine and Russia—from hunger or no parents or a home—will find whatever they need. We pray that those who are fleeing from Ukraine or Russia will soon have a better future and they will not be worried or scared when leaving their former homes.

Lord in your mercy,

Amen

I wish you and your families a happy and holy Easter

Mrs Mackie



## Famous Mathematicians



Did you know...

Born in London, in 1912, Alan Turing's mathematical skills were noticed early on in his life, whilst at school. From equations to tough concepts, he managed to understand things which even adults found challenging.

After finishing school, he attended Cambridge University to study Maths, before inventing the Universal Machine; this can be understood as one of the world's earliest computers, which managed to read simple codes. During the Second World War, Turing then worked at Bletchley Park. This was the home of the Government Code and Cipher School (GC&CS). Thanks to Alan's understanding of code and his Universal Machine, he was able to decipher secret messages of enemy forces, such as Germany. With his team, Alan could work out where and when the enemy was planning to attack. He shared this information with the government and British army, so they could prepare.

Without Turing's amazing discoveries and understanding of code, the Second World War could have lasted much longer, and many more people could have died. In this sense, he can be seen as an inspiring figure who used Maths and Science to save lives.

Rightly so, he received an honorary OBE (Order of the British Empire) in 1946.

He died rather young, at just 42. This prompts the question, what more could he have achieved if he lived longer?

Mrs Roberts