

# The Lantern

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



## Dear Everyone

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter.

The weather was lovely and the children have been telling me this week what they got up to. Whilst eating my lunch at Top Table today, Abigail asked me how my children were—such a nice thing to say.



Here I am with two of them over the holidays at the UK's largest circus—**Circus Extreme**. During the interval I bumped in to Lainey and her sisters and mum, and we were leaving, we saw Mrs Spinks and Ben. Nice to see St Bede's in the Big Top!

We have had a great first week back in school: the children have settled well and have been fun to work with. School life is always busy, but there is no time busier than the summer. For the first time in 3 years, children in Y6 and Y2 will have SATs in May; children in Y4 will have times table screening; and children in Y1, will have a phonics check. There are a number of other events scheduled, Sports Days and Leavers' Mass, to mention just two. We will be encouraging the children to make the most of every day: to learn, laugh and play.

## COVID 19

Now that we have been asked to return to living life as we were prior to COVID, the school's risk assessment has now been archived. I will issue next week information as to how - as a school—we are now learning to live with COVID as one of many viruses that circulate in the community.

## Parent/ Teacher Consultations

Many of you were involved in video calls with the teachers last evening, which I hope were useful. The second evening of the two is next Thursday, 28th April—4.00-7.00pm. I am told that a number of parents who had booked video appointments last night, did not log on. Far more failed to show than when we last held face-to-face parents teacher consultations in the spring of 2019. As a parent myself, I typically prefer to talk to my three children's teachers by video call, but that could be because each is in a different school and I work school hours. If last night's take-up rate indicates that a majority of parents would prefer to come into school to meet with staff, then I will talk with the staff team with a view to reinstating this approach from next school year. Please email me at [gary.nott@redbridge.gov.uk](mailto:gary.nott@redbridge.gov.uk) if you have a view you would like me to hear. I would be grateful.

## **This Term**

As mentioned, we have some exciting things planned for this term for some of our 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 need to register as we now request mandatory consent for trips/events via this system. Any family who has not signed up to our cashless system has been sent a sign up letter with a unique code. We have a shortcut to this system at the bottom of the school homepage.

## **Website**

I am delighted to say that we have today launched our new website. At any one time, we would aim for it to be 90% up-to-date. There will always be a small amount of content that is being reworked. I would want to thank all those who have helped to give the school a great new look. If you have a minute this weekend, please do take a look and let us know what you think, [www.st-bedes.redbridge.sch.uk](http://www.st-bedes.redbridge.sch.uk)

One of the great new features is an option which allows you to message your child's teacher directly via the Contact page, should you have a question or comment about your child's learning, behaviour or wellbeing. Please continue to tell the office staff rather than the teacher about day-to-day matters, such as pick-up arrangements, absence etc.

## **OFSTED**

As you know, we are due to be inspected. This will be a great opportunity to have what we do evaluated by external folk who are in and out of schools on a weekly basis, seeing the very best in action. We are hoping that they will be encouraged by some of what we do and can suggest ways in which we can develop further. We hope to be judged a good school. We are working hard and consider that we are doing our best.

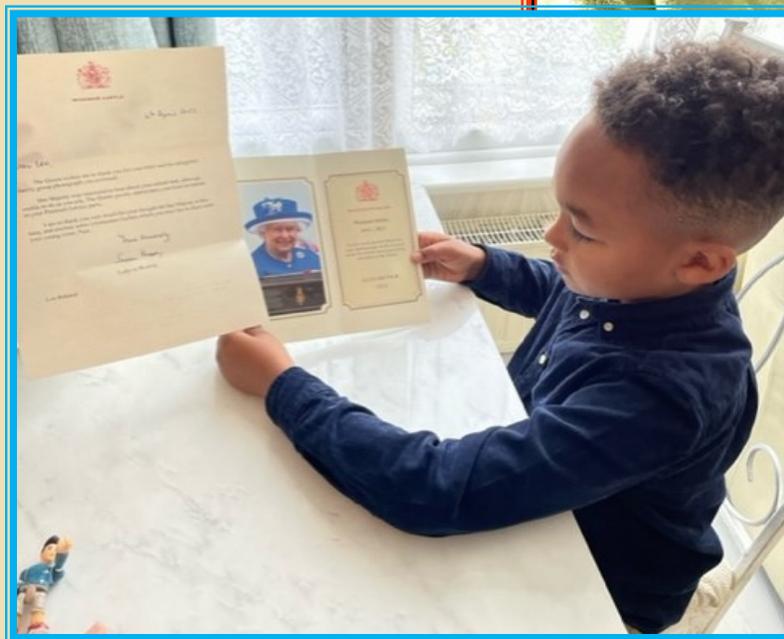
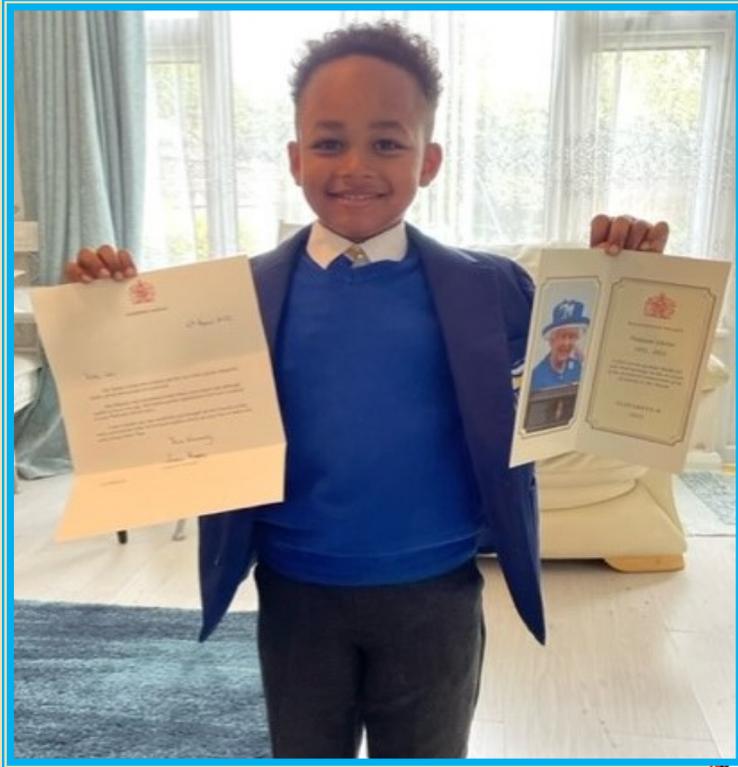
We will be given a few hours' notice. I am now thinking the two day inspection will be in September. Now I have said that, they will probably now come next Tuesday!

## **School Uniform**

You may know that new legally-binding guidance was published on 19th November last year requiring schools to make uniform affordable for all. You can read the guidance, which comes into force from September, here: <https://www.gov.uk/governments/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms> Our governing body have planned for some time to survey parents regarding their views around school uniform. I am hopeful that this review will take place before half-term with St Bede's approach to uniform being updated. In hindsight, given the cost of living crisis, I should probably have given a choice as to whether summer or winter uniform was worn for the remainder of this school year. I apologise if this has caused unnecessary anxiety. I continue to think the children will be more comfortable in summer uniform as the weather warms, but if a child comes to school in winter uniform, it will not be queried.

## Jubilee Celebration News!

We received an email from the dad of Leo in 1S telling us about some very exciting news. Leo had an idea to write a letter to the Her Majesty the Queen inviting her to our school jubilee celebrations. Her Majesty's Lady in Waiting replied to thank him for his letter but confirmed that Her Majesty is unable to attend. I guess she has lots of celebrating with her own family and the Nation at large. Well done to Leo for writing such a fabulous letter. We are very proud of you.



## **PA fundraising**

The PA are holding a coffee morning on 24th April 2022 at St Bede's church hall after 9am and 11am Masses. A warm welcome awaits you.



## **Summer Fete—2nd July**

The PA is again holding a summer fete at school—it will be on 2nd July. They would appreciate help from as many volunteers as possible—even for a small amount of time in order to help set up, run a stall or help tidy up at the end. For all those able to do, please complete this e-form: <https://forms.office.com/r/MCyMDVgqkT>

## **Book Giveaway!**

As part of updating our Reading Corners and Scheme Reading Books we have books that still have plenty of life to continue being loved at home.

On Monday 25th April at the back gate (after school) we will have some tables set up with books that would love to come home and fill your bookshelves. Please bring a bag and take as many books as you'd like – they're FREE!

## **Water Bottles**

A reminder that all pupils are encouraged to bring in a filled water bottle each day. Only water should be in the bottle (no squash, juice or milk please). No glass bottles please. We will ask school staff to contact parents of those pupils who are not regularly bringing a bottle to school.

## **Fronter**

Access can now be found on the 'Learning' tab on the new website or via the 'Pupil Quick Links' at the top left of the page.

## **SEND**

Mrs Clarke, our SENDCO, is giving us a new initiative. Following parent/ teacher consultations, teachers will offer an additional video meeting with those parents of children identified with Special Educational Needs or Disability. If these prove popular, we will make them a permanent feature. Mrs Clarke will join each call—our thanks to her for such a positive move.

## **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.

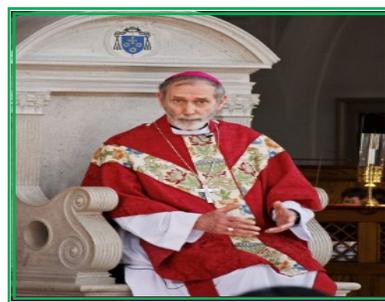
You must be over 18 and a practising Catholic. Expertise or life experience which will contribute to the success of the school is useful, but most important is a passion for school improvement to enable every child to reach their potential and a commitment to playing an active part while working as part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

### **Bishop Alan Easter Reflection**

You may enjoy Bishop Alan's Easter Reflection, first broadcast on BBC Essex and now loaded on the diocesan website as Soundcloud audio: 'Look for life in the midst of death'

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/news/look-for-life-in-the-midst-of-death/>



### **Hayfever**

A reminder if your child has hayfever, please ensure they have taken their medication before arriving at school. We will ask school staff to remind those pupils to wash their hands and faces when returning from playtime/PE.

### **Birthday Treats**

Now that restrictions have eased, we will allow birthday treats to come in via class. Only items that are wrapped are allowed and no slices of birthday cake as this is prone to be quite messy.

### **Week beginning Tuesday 26th April —tutoring**

Tutoring sessions recommence from Tuesday 26th April for those pupils who attended before Easter.

### **And finally...**

Today we must say goodbye to Mrs Melder, the school's business manager. Mrs Melder has worked at the school for near on seventeen years. By any standards, this shows impeccable commitment to a school and its community. She is a consummate professional and I have never worked with anyone more efficient than she. I have another great compliment for her. I have never known her to approach a task without wanting to do her very best—not once! We shall miss her terribly, but I know children, parents, staff and governors will wish to join me in wishing her every success as she returns to work in the city.

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Mrs Roberts and I hope you have a lovely weekend.

God Bless

# PUPIL CELEBRATIONS!

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

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

Year 1 – Maya – for her hard work and for always listening to instructions. Always trying her best.

Year 2 – Maximos – for being so kind and putting others before himself. Always polite and hard working.

Year 3 – Seamus – fantastic explanations in English.

Year 4 – Abigail D1 – great contributions during PSHE.

Year 5 – Fleur – being herself and not letting others influence her.

Year 6 - Grace J – really trying in all her work. Always positive with her learning.

Well done to all of you!

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

Mya-Renee; Lilly B; Noe; Alaia; Chidi (David); Bryan; Jamie; Bozhidara; Kamsiyonna A; Zaine; Stacey; Amelie; Eadie; Francesca; Damilola; Obinna A; Darcy; Tanvee; Natalie M

## **Headteacher Awards from youngest to oldest**

Michael A; Arminas; Abigail Dk; Latisha; Aiden T; Gia

## **Birthdays To Celebrate**

Iyonuoluwa, Sochima, Sofia, Dylan, Rebecca and Aiden

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

### **Our new Head Boy and Girl**

Kyle and Darcy

## Weekly Reflection, with Mrs Mackie

Happy Easter!

Alleluia! Jesus is risen!

This week we celebrated Jesus' resurrection and the joy that brings. After the sorrow of Good Friday, this is replaced by the glory of Jesus rising from the dead. In Nursery, the children made Alleluia flowers and created an Alleluia garden; the children were happy thinking about Jesus rising from the dead and sang a song about Jesus giving us new life.

Eastertide lasts for fifty days, so over the next few Sundays we will hear different witness accounts of those who saw the risen Jesus and the children will hear about the different experience and emotions of the apostles.

This Sunday is all about peace.

Jesus visits his apostles and three times he greets his apostles with the words, 'Peace be with you'. At the moment, that word peace is paramount in all our minds with the war in the Ukraine and praying for peace to resume in that country.

Equally, we can also try to bring peace in our own lives. We can help those who need our help. We can try to make things right when we have argued with a friend or a family member. We can try to talk to people calmly when something upsets us or makes us angry, rather than shouting and being unkind.

So this week let's try to be more confident in our faith, sure of God's love for us and to be peaceful with those around us.

Lord,

Help us in time of need and have mercy on those who are facing loss and grief due to war, fighting and hardship.

Lord in your mercy Francesca – 5G

Blessings and prayers for this week

Mrs Mackie



## Famous Mathematicians



Did you know...

Johann Carl Friedrich Gauss (30 April 1777 – 23 February 1855) was a German mathematician who contributed significantly to many fields, including number theory, algebra, statistics, analysis, differential geometry, geodesy, geophysics, mechanics, electrostatics, astronomy, matrix theory and optics.

Sometimes referred to as the 'Princeps mathematicorum' (Latin, "the foremost of mathematicians") and "greatest mathematician since antiquity", Gauss had an exceptional influence in many fields of mathematics and science and is ranked as one of history's most influential mathematicians.

There are several stories of his early genius...

According to one, his gifts became very apparent at the age of three when he corrected, mentally and without fault in his calculations, an error his father had made on paper while calculating finances.

Another story has it that in primary school after the young Gauss misbehaved, his teacher, J.G. Büttner, gave him a task: add a list of integers in arithmetic progression; as the story is most often told, these were the numbers from 1 to 100. The young Gauss reputedly produced the correct answer within seconds, to the astonishment of his teacher.

The year 1796 was most productive for both Gauss and number theory. He discovered a construction of the heptadecagon on 30 March. He further advanced modular arithmetic, greatly simplifying manipulations in number theory. On 8 April he became the first to prove the quadratic reciprocity law. This remarkably general law allows mathematicians to determine the solvability of any quadratic equation in modular arithmetic. The prime number theorem, conjectured on 31 May, gives a good understanding of how the prime numbers are distributed among the integers.

Mrs Roberts