



## St Bartholomew's CE Primary School



**"Let your light shine"**

***News in school***

***7.2.25***

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

### **Mental Health**

Mental health is crucial in primary schools because it directly impacts a child's ability to learn, develop healthy relationships, cope with challenges, and build resilience, laying the foundation for their overall well-being and future success as adults; a positive mental state in young children allows them to engage effectively in learning, manage stress, and build social skills within the classroom environment.

### **Academic Performance:**

Good mental health enables children to focus better, retain information, and participate actively in class, leading to improved academic outcomes.

### **Social Development:**

Children with positive mental health are better equipped to build healthy friendships, manage conflicts, and navigate social situations.

### **Emotional Regulation:**

Learning coping mechanisms for emotions like frustration, anxiety, and sadness at a young age helps children develop emotional intelligence and self-regulation skills.

### **Resilience Building:**

Early exposure to strategies for managing stress and challenges fosters resilience, allowing children to bounce back from setbacks.

### **Early Intervention:**

Identifying and addressing mental health concerns early in childhood can prevent more severe issues later in life.

### **Positive School Climate:**

A supportive and inclusive school environment where mental health is prioritised can benefit all students by promoting a sense of belonging and safety.

With this in mind, we will now be starting each day and the first 10 minutes after lunch, with a mindfulness activity, breathing activities, Yoga or meditation. Look out for our mindfulness page on our website which will be coming soon! We also have our ELSA page which has great top tips for helping your children deal with anxieties and friendships.

### **Supervision in the Park**

Although the park is next door to school, we are not responsible for the children whilst they are there outside of school hours. We have been made aware of a number of physical incidents that have taken place recently. Please can I urge you to ensure that all children are supervised when at the park. Thank you.

### **Level 1 & 2 Bikeability Training**

This week was the turn of the Year 5 children to take part in their Level 1 & 2 Bikeability training. I hope you stay safe as you continue to put your new skills into practice and don't forget to wear your helmet.

We have been fortunate to receive funding for a Learn to Ride training course that will take place in June for our Year 1s as well as a Level 1 Bikeability training course for our Year 3 children, which will take place in November.

### **Pancakes in the Church Hall**

The Church Hall Committee will be serving the community pancakes from 3pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025. They have kindly agreed to serve our children a pancake each earlier in the day. All children will visit the church hall even if they do not wish to eat a pancake. Please complete the parent consent form that can be found on ParentMail and send in 50p, in a named envelope, for the pancake. This money can be sent in any time before Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

### **New Panic Alarm System**

This week we have had a new panic alarm system installed. This system sounds different from our fire alarm and allows us to have a clear system in places for In-vac procedures, should there be an intruder on the school grounds. We will be practising this with the children in the next week.

### **World Book Day – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

Please see the email sent via ParentMail regarding our World Book Day events. On Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, the children will be taking part in an 'Alice in Wonderland' inspired workshop. The cost of this workshop is £6.70 per child and payment can be made via ParentMail (payments, shop). On World Book Day itself, the children are invited to come to school in comfy clothes. Parents are invited to join us at 2.30pm to look at what your children have been learning throughout the day and to read with your child.

Take care  
Miss Ingle

## ***Bible verse of the week***

Hebrews 13:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

## ***School worship***

Fill my heart with joy, my mind with peace, and my spirit with energy to embrace each day. Guide my steps, bless my work, and help me to spread kindness and positivity wherever I go. With you by my side, I know this week will be filled with purpose and joy. In Jesus' name, I pray.

**Amen**

## ***Church News***

**Thirsty on a Thursday:** The Church is open every Thursday between 9.30—11am for you to drop in any time for tea/coffee and a chat.

**Snowdrop Weekend:** St Bartholomew's Church, West Pinchbeck Annual Snowdrop Weekend will be held this weekend (8th/9th February). Everyone is welcome to wander around the Churchyard to see the glorious display of Snowdrops, and the Church will be open each afternoon, 1-4pm for light refreshments. Tea, Coffee and Cake.

There will be a selection of Books and Plants on sale. All proceeds to St Bartholomew's Church. Details from Wendy Houghton 01775 640296. If anyone is available to help with refreshments at any time, please contact Wendy.

**Shrove Tuesday:** Pancakes in the Village Hall on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March, 3-6pm. Further details to follow: For more information: Wendy 01775 640296.

## Attendance winner of the week

Darwin are the attendance winners for w/c 27.1.25 and have won a trip to the park with Gerald during playtime one day next week.

### *Celebrated this week in Collective Worship*

W/E 7.2.25	Fantastic Award	Excellence Award
Dahl	Finley M	Evelyn B
Nightingale	Felicity	Elliott I
Darwin	Harriett P R	Florrie
Franklin	Harry	Evie-Mae

## Any Other Information/Reminders

### Severe Weather/Snow Closure

In the event of severe weather, we will always strive to ensure that the school remains open, but in the event that extreme weather conditions necessitate the closure of the school we will advise you of this in a number of ways. We will notify parents via email via ParentMail, update the school website and advise Lincs FM and BBC Lincolnshire radio stations so listen out to their broadcasts or log onto their websites. We will also post a message on the school's Facebook page.

### Book Wish List

We are constantly trying to update our school Library so the child have the opportunity to read new and exciting books. With this in mind, Mrs Szydowski has sourced a 'Book Wish List'. It has been created by our local book shop 'Bookmark' in Spalding. They have been extremely kind and made an area on their website where you can click on a book and purchase it online and have also offered us a discount. We felt it was not only important to purchase new books for our children but also support a local small business. When a few books have been purchased they will then contact Mrs Szydowski to go and collect them. If you feel you would like to purchase a book for our Library, or know someone that would like to, then please follow this link:

<https://uk.bookshop.org/lists/st-bartholomew-s-ce-primary-school-wishlist?>



Bookmark have informed us that if you select a book from our list on their website and buy via the website then a delivery cost will be added. If you see a book you would like to purchase please email them directly or call the shop. They will then have the books delivered to the shop for free and it will be collected from them.

### Health Care Plans

In order that we can provide the necessary care required to those children who have on-going health care needs, we require parents to complete a 'Health Care Plan' form via ParentMail. This document is used to detail the on-going health issues and, if applicable, the medication that each child requires. If you haven't done so already and your child has health care needs, please complete the form via ParentMail. Thank you to those parents who have already completed their child's Health Care Plan.

### PE Timetable Term 3:

	Indoor PE	Outdoor PE
Dahl	Wednesday	Monday
Nightingale	Monday	Wednesday
Darwin	Wednesday	Tuesday
Franklin	Friday	Thursday

### Attendance

All schools are expected to keep their attendance over 96%, and our Year to Date attendance sits at 96.09%. If you need any help with attendance, please come and speak to us as we will help in any way that we can. Dr Chris Whitty released this statement via the DfE: *"It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above."*

**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

"From the first day of term to the last, the small moments in a school day make a real difference to your child.  
#AttendanceCounts"

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### School Mobile Phone

We now have a school mobile for afterschool care. The number is: **07396725986** It will be turned off during the school day. It will only be available for parents who have children attending afterschool care during afterschool care hours.  
**PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE FIRST IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES.**

### Pencil Cases

Please remember to ask your child regularly if they require anything replenishing, especially glue sticks, which are frequently used items.

### After School Kids Club

Please be aware that if parents/carers/guardians are more than 10 minutes late collecting from after school clubs at 4pm there will be a charge of a full hour, per child, childcare cost.

### School Opening

Our school office is open from 8.30am to 3.15pm, Monday to Friday. If you wish to contact the school out of these hours, please call 01775 640357 and leave a message on our answerphone or alternatively email [enquiries@stbartholomews.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@stbartholomews.lincs.sch.uk).

## Attendance

### Supporting you to understand the new rules

A National Framework for Penalty Notices for school absences, including unauthorised leave of absences in Term Time, is being introduced following changes to the law. These new government regulations will come into effect from **19th August 2024**.

**What are these changes?**

If a pupil has **10 unauthorised sessions**, which is equal to **5 school days**, within a **10 week period**, a penalty notice may be issued. This will come under 3 categories: First, Second, and Third offence.

**First Offence**  
The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time leave or unauthorised absences the amount will be:  
**£160** per parent, per child if paid within **28 days**, reduced to **£80** per parent, per child if paid within **21 days**.

**Second Offence**  
The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time leave or unauthorised absences the amount will be:  
**£160** per parent, per child to be paid within **28 days**. No reduced rate will be offered.

**Third offence and any further offences (within 3 years)**  
The third time an offence is committed for Term Time leave or unauthorised absences a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates Court.

Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on a Parents future DBS certificate, due to failure to safeguard a child's education.

For any further inquiries about school attendance please visit:  
[www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-attendance](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-attendance)

**Lincolnshire**  
COUNTY COUNCIL  
*Working for a better future*



**PTFA Easy Fundraising** is a great source of funds for the school which could raise £££s for the PTFA. A range of retailers, holiday companies, Ebay, Tesco and many more donate a percentage of money spent when parents / carers / guardians spend money. It costs the consumer absolutely nothing at all. Parents/carers/guardians need to click on the easy fundraising link:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/panel/>

- Register an email and password
- Nominate your cause
- Download a reminder tool to browser so when purchases are made through a partner a reminder is sent.

Make the purchase and a percentage goes to St Barts!

## Dates for Your Diary

All calendar dates/events can be found on our school website by clicking on the link below which will take you to the 'calendar' tab. If you wish to add an event to your own calendar, you can do so by clicking on the event and pressing the 'addo calendar' button.

[Events from January 6 – April 4 – St Bartholomew's](#)

# SNOWDROP WEEKEND

## St Bartholomew's Church West Pinchbeck

8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>  
Feb

1pm -  
4pm

Car  
Park

*See the snowdrops*

*Enjoy refreshments*

Call 01775 640296 for details



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCAMS AND FAKE NEWS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

"Fake news" refers to falsified or misleading material presented as a legitimate account of events. It's often used by malicious actors online to push an agenda, or even by criminals as a way of making scams more persuasive. Scammers can trick us into handing over personal information, security details and even our hard-earned cash.

## "CLICKBAIT" PHISHING SCAMS

A message arrives saying "Have you seen this video of yourself?" or you might be sent an attention-grabbing headline about a celebrity that's been shared on social media. This kind of "bait" is produced by scammers to drive us to click on an unsafe link, where malware could be downloaded to our devices. These scams rely on our curiosity and our "need-to-know" instinct.

## SALES, DEALS & DISCOUNTS

Some scams appear as adverts, offering a chance to buy something – such as designer products, expensive gadgets or tickets to a popular show – at a reduced price. Such plays often include a time limit or countdown, urging us to hurry so we don't miss out on the deal. This pressure encourages us to input personal details or payment information before pausing to check if it's legitimate.

## YOU'RE A WINNER!

This kind of scam involves fake giveaways, opportunities or freebies. It could be a message saying we've won a prize draw or competition. Or it could be a gift, free trial, bonus credit, and suchlike. It might claim that a package or refund is waiting. All these techniques are used to prompt us to share our personal information, thinking that there's something to be gained by doing so.

## FALSE FRIENDSHIPS

Scammers often pretend to be someone they're not to gain their victims' trust. They might attempt to convince any children they connect with that they're a child of similar age with shared interests. Warning signs include a high volume of messages (often with an intense tone), secrecy, inappropriate levels of intimacy, guilt tripping, emotional manipulation, threats or blackmail.

## PANIC MODE

To trigger a sense of panic, scammers may claim that a child's account has been hacked, or a virus has been installed on their device, or any number of other scary scenarios. They may claim to be able to fix the problem or offer a solution – if the child hands over control of the device or sensitive information. Similar scams involve impersonating a friend or relative, claiming that they're in trouble and need help.

## FAKE CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS

Impersonating influential people online is a common tactic for scammers, who can use technology to create fake photos, audio and even videos that look authentic. These can be used to convince us, for example, to buy products, sign up for so-called "business opportunities" or invest in cryptocurrency schemes – all of which are fake or otherwise malicious. Many scams also involve the impersonation of popular companies' social media accounts, as well as those of individuals.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### STAY INFORMED

Stay up to date with the latest information and best practice on cyber-security. See what scam stories are reported in the news and make note of what tactics were used. Keep up with young people's digital lives: talk about what they're doing online and use properly endorsed resources to learn what risks certain sites and apps pose to their younger users.

### ENCOURAGE HEALTHY SCEPTICISM

Most scams rely on emotional or psychological manipulation, tapping into our human instincts – whether that's to keep ourselves safe, help others, find answers, make friends, avoid losing out or to secure something we really want. Encourage children to recognise that pressure to act and to always consult with an adult – especially if what's on offer sounds too good to be true.

### TALK TOGETHER

Chat often and openly with young people about fake news, online scams and how they both work. Encourage them to talk to you about anything they're unsure of or worried about online. If a child claims to have been scammed, don't pass judgement. Blaming the victim may deter young people from asking you for help. Remember: adults are scammed just as often, if not more.

### BE PROACTIVE

Children increasingly use digital devices for education, socialising, shopping and play. Don't wait for a problem to arise before you discuss the risk of scams, false information and fake news. Highlight what to look out for and clearly communicate under what circumstances the child ought to speak to an adult. Finally, ensure that they're aware of the support services that are available to them (such as Childline).

## Meet Our Expert

Dr Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading expert in digital safety, media law and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit [OnlineMediaLaw.co.uk](https://OnlineMediaLaw.co.uk) for more.



Source: See full reference list on guide/page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/fake-news-and-scams>



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