



Barty Bugle

13TH FEBRUARY 2026

MESSAGE FROM THE TEAM

Dear St Bartholomew's community,

We've officially survived the first half of the spring term. Time flies when it's fuelled by the enthusiasm of children and staff who enjoy being at school.

Little Acorns have had a wonderful and busy week! We began by learning the story of The Great Race and exploring how people celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year. On Thursday, we enjoyed a special Chinese Day where the children tasted noodles, made lanterns, decorated biscuits, and finished with an exciting dragon dance around the classroom!

In English, **Acorn Class** have been making posters and writing letters of advice to Beegu, the friendly yellow alien who crash-landed in our playground. In maths, we have been exploring the composition of numbers 6–10, learning how each can be seen as "5 and a bit."

In RE, we explored the story of The Lost Coin and talked about how Christians believe each person is valued by God.

Oak Class have had a fun-filled week to end this half term! In maths, some children have begun multiplication work by looking at the multiples of 3 and 6, while Year 3 pupils have been developing mental strategies for addition and subtraction.

In English, the children have been working hard on writing their own sequels to Frindleswyld—we can't wait to see what happens when he returns!

Joining together, Acorn and Oak classes recognised Children's Mental Health Week and Safer Internet Day. They created their own personal islands as their "Place to Be." We explored the idea of belonging and also learned about AI and assistive voice technology, discussing how to use these tools safely and responsibly.

During PE the children combined travelling, poses and jumping as we worked with the equipment.

As part of their D&T topic work, the children took a trip to Morrisons in Buxton to buy ingredients to make their own pizzas. Once back at school, Acorn class followed their own design plans and made their pizzas using their chosen toppings and Oak class let their imagination run wild! We hope they enjoyed eating them when they got home – they smelt delicious!

Finally, we are delighted to share the wonderful news that Mrs Pantev is expecting a baby, with her due date anticipated for mid-June. We know you will join us in congratulating her and wishing her all the best during this exciting time.

We will keep you informed about plans for classroom continuity and support to ensure a smooth transition for all pupils.

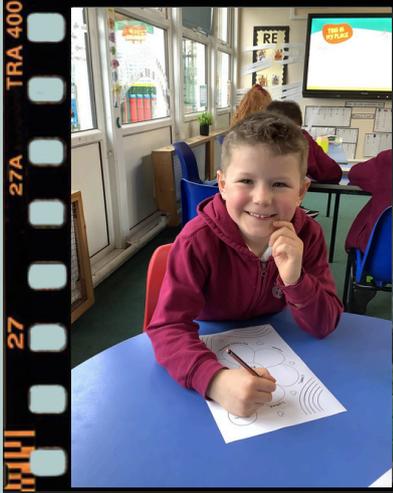
Have a fabulous half term break and we'll see everyone back in school on Monday 23rd February.

Team Barty

ATTENDANCE

National Target: 95%

School Attendance: 95.27%





WEEKLY AWARDS

WELL DONE TO ALL OF THIS WEEK'S AWARD WINNERS!



MENU

Spring / Summer 2025-26



WEEK ONE

WEEK TWO

WEEK THREE

MONDAY
TUESDAY
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY
FRIDAY

Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V)
Veg of the Day
Chocolate & Vanilla Swirl Cookie (Ve)

Classic Mac & Cheese (V)
Veg of the Day
Cinnamon Apple Cake (V)

Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy
Veg of the Day
Fruity Jelly (Ve)

Homestyle Sausage Roll with Mash & Gravy
Veg of the Day
Banana-Topped Strawberry Mousse (V)

Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips
Veg of the Day
Chocolate Brownie (Ve)

23/2/26, 16/3/26, 6/4/26, 27/4/26,
18/5/26, 8/6/26, 29/6/26

Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V)
Veg of the Day
Vanilla Snap (Ve)

Spring Turkey Bow Tie Pasta
Veg of the Day
Flagjack (Ve)

Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy
Veg of the Day
Fruity Jelly (Ve)

Chicken Stir-Fry Rice
Veg of the Day
Banana-Topped Strawberry Mousse (V)

Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips
Veg of the Day
Chocolate Brownie (Ve)

2/3/26, 23/3/26, 13/4/26, 4/5/26,
25/5/26, 15/6/26, 6/7/26

Margherita Pizza with Jacket Wedges (V)
Veg of the Day
Lemon Biscuit (Ve)

Sausage with Mash & Gravy
Veg of the Day
Choco Krispie Bite (Ve)

Roast of the Day with Roasties & Gravy
Veg of the Day
Fruity Jelly (Ve)

Penne with Beef Bolognese
Veg of the Day
Banana-Topped Strawberry Mousse (V)

Fish Fingers or Salmon Fish Fingers with Chips
Veg of the Day
Chocolate Brownie (Ve)

9/3/26, 30/3/26, 20/4/26, 11/5/26,
1/6/26, 22/6/26, 13/7/26

V - Vegetarian - Ve - Vegan

Choice of Filled Jacket Potatoes and Sandwiches (including V/Ve options)

are also available daily along with freshly baked bread, salad, fresh fruit, jelly (Ve), yoghurts (V) and fresh drinking water.

Week commencing 23rd February we will be on week one of the menu

WORLD BOOK DAY

Children are bringing home World Book Day tokens today - the tokens can be spent from now up until 15th March 2026.

Why not check you the [World Book Day](#) website to see what books are **FREE** at participating retailers!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

These are the dates that we have planned in at the moment - please keep an eye out each week for new dates and any changes. Items in **bold** have been added since the last news letter.

- 16th to 20th February - Half term break
- 23rd February - Return to school
- 23rd February - Change to Spring/Summer menu (see below)
- 5th March - World Book Day
- 30th March to 10th April - Easter break
- 4th May - Early May Bank holiday
- 25th May to 29th May - Half term break
- 1st June - Inset day (school closed to children)



SAFEGUARDING

#WakeUpWednesday from The National College aims to equip every trusted adult with the knowledge and skills they need to keep up with the latest information, implement best practice and heighten their awareness of issues around three core topics; online safety, mental health & wellbeing; and climate change & sustainability.

This week's topic is focused on fostering a sense of belonging

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING

Helping children feel like they belong is vital for their emotional wellbeing, academic success, and overall development. A true sense of belonging reduces anxiety, builds confidence, and supports resilience. These ten tips are designed to help parents and educators create inclusive, caring environments where children feel accepted, safe, and valued.

1 USE EVERYDAY MOMENTS

Belonging is built in the small moments. Use daily routines such as meals, school drop-offs, or quiet times, to check in, offer praise, or listen. These interactions don't need to be lengthy to be meaningful. Consistent gestures of connection and warmth show children they are important, making them feel seen, appreciated, and truly part of the home or classroom community.

2 INVOLVE THEM IN RULE-MAKING

Inviting children to help create rules or routines gives them a sense of shared ownership and responsibility. When their voices are heard, they feel respected and included in the decision-making process. This empowers children, fosters cooperation, and reduces resistance. Whether at home or school, co-created expectations are more likely to be followed because they come from a place of mutual respect.

3 VALIDATE ALL EMOTIONS

Acknowledging a child's emotions, whether positive or challenging, helps them feel accepted as they are. Validating statements like "I can see that made you upset," or "That sounds really exciting," support emotional expression and connection. Children who feel emotionally safe are more likely to seek help, participate openly, and trust the adults around them – all of which contribute to a sense of belonging.

4 HIGHLIGHT HIDDEN STRENGTHS

Go beyond academic success or good behaviour and take time to recognise a child's less visible qualities, such as thoughtfulness, resilience, or humour. Noticing these strengths sends a powerful message that they are valued for who they are, not just for what they do. This boosts self-esteem and helps children feel accepted in a world that often focuses on external achievements.

5 SHOW CURIOSITY ABOUT CULTURE

Ask respectful, open questions about a child's cultural backgrounds, family customs, or celebrations. These conversations create opportunities for children to share what matters to them and to feel proud of their identity. Whether at home or in school, valuing cultural experiences helps all children feel that their heritage is respected, and that they belong in a diverse, inclusive environment where every voice counts.

6 BELONGING BUDDIES

Pairing children with a peer they might not typically choose can foster new connections and break down social barriers. Assigning short projects, games, or shared responsibilities gives them a reason to interact. Buddy systems help quieter or less confident children feel included and supported. Over time, these intentional connections can develop into meaningful friendships, strengthening the wider sense of community and inclusion.

7 AVOID LABELS AND COMPARISONS

Avoid labelling children by behaviour or comparing them to others, as this can damage self-esteem and foster exclusion. Statements like "Why can't you be more like..." may unintentionally make a child feel less worthy. Instead, focus on individual progress and strengths. Encouraging children to celebrate their own achievements, however small, helps them develop confidence and feel valued for being themselves.

8 MAKE TIME FOR ONE-TO-ONES

Spending regular one-to-one time with a child shows that they matter on an individual level. These moments can be as simple as reading a book together or chatting during a walk. Focused attention, free from distraction, builds trust and emotional connection. It lets the child know they are important and cared for, which is crucial for developing a strong sense of belonging.

9 REFLECT THEIR INTERESTS

Whether at home or in school, including children's interests in daily life reinforces their importance. Display their artwork, talk about their favourite books, or include their hobbies in family activities or lesson plans. Seeing their identity reflected in their environment tells children they belong. It shows that their passions, preferences, and contributions are valued and that they have a place in the group.

10 EMPHASISE 'WE' OVER 'THEY'

Use inclusive language that reinforces unity and shared identity. Phrases like "let's figure it out together," or "We all help each other here," promote collective responsibility and connection. Avoiding divisive terms like "those children," or "that class" helps children feel part of a supportive group. Language shapes experience, and inclusive language fosters environments where every child feels safe, welcomed, and included.

Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

See full reference list on our website

 @wake_up_weds

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#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

OUR SCHOOL

Are you looking for a nursery or school place? Come and see what makes St Bartholomew's such a special place to learn, grow, and thrive. Please call or email the school office if you would like to pop along and see our school in action.

We are proud to offer:

- A supportive, inclusive environment where every child is known, valued, and encouraged to shine.
- High quality teaching that nurtures curiosity, confidence, and a love of learning.
- A broad, engaging curriculum designed to stretch children academically while giving them space to explore their interests.
- Strong pastoral care to support children's wellbeing and personal development.
- Opportunities beyond the classroom that help children discover new passions.
- A smooth transition process for families joining mid year or from other settings.

St Bartholomew's CE Primary,
Buxton Road, Longnor, SK17 0NZ

www.st-bartholomews-longnor.org.uk



NURSERY AND SCHOOL PLACES AVAILABLE

Catering for pupils from 2 to 11 years

Empowering education through lived experiences and learning beyond the classroom

✓ Happy children

✓ Inclusive community

✓ Nurturing environment

✓ Wraparound care

✓ Passionate staff

✓ Personalised Learning



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AT THE
HEART OF
THE
COMMUNITY

HALF TERM ACTIVITIES

FOX FINDS LOVE story and Craft Session

Friday 20th Feb 10.30am

Leek Library

Come along and meet author Roselyn Barks as she reads from her story 'Fox Finds Love'

In Roselyn's gorgeously illustrated book, we hear the story of Fox, who searches the woods for love. Fox Finds Love displays the author's deep love for illustrated books, foxes, and nature. This beautiful story is for all those who love connecting with nature and stunning illustrations. This special story time session will be followed by a craft activity aligned to the story.



FREE – Booking essential

Ages 6+ ideally – although slightly younger siblings are very welcome too



Staffordshire
County Council

YOUR
LIBRARY



COMMUNITY

The next session of Tea and Tots Too takes place on Monday 9th March
If you know anyone who would like to come along, please let them know!



Tea & Tots Too



Stay and play,
chat and
make new friends

When: Second Monday of
every month
10:30am to 12pm

Where: St Bartholomew's Nursery,
Longnor, SK17 0NZ
(Please use the rear entrance at the back of the school)

Who: For families and
children age 0-4 years

Join us for a brew, cake,
squash and biscuits

For more information please email:
office@st-bartholomews.staffs.sch.uk

**Suggested
donation £2
per family**

Supported by Longnor Parish Council

COMMUNITY

The next Forest Friends session will take place on Monday 6th April 2026. Sessions are free but must be booked via the “Events” page of the **Staffordshire Wildlife Trust** website. Use the keyword search on the left of the page to search for sessions in Longnor.

Forest Friends

Outdoor stay and play

St Bartholomew's Primary School,
Longnor, SK17 0NZ



**Staffordshire
Wildlife Trust**

f @swtactivities

@StaffsWildlife

@staffswt

Following the Forest School ethos we'll use nature as our guide and see where our curiosity leads us as we play and explore outdoors!

*First Monday of the month
10.30am - 12pm*

6 April

4 May

1 June

6 July

Free but Booking Essential

For more info and to book visit
www.staffs-wildlife.org.uk/events



Free thanks to funding from The Staffordshire Freemasons

For more details contact getwild@staffs-wildlife.org.uk