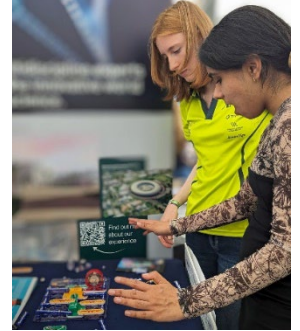




## YEAR 12 TRIP TO RAL HARWELL

On Wednesday 26 June, we took 22 Computer Science and Physics students to Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (RAL), Harwell, to take part in their open week. RAL welcomed 2400 students over the course of two days, opening up their facilities for the students to take part in workshops, talks, and tours.

It was a very enjoyable and insightful trip, bringing the wonder of STEM subjects and careers to life...[read more.](#)



## CALENDAR:

Inclusion Coffee Morning, Senior Music Festival, Sports Day, Y12 History Trip, CCF Summer Camp, Isle of Wight (return 20 July), Art and Design Exhibition GCSE/A Level, Y8 and Y10 Reports Issued, House Dance Rehearsal, House Dance and PE SPOTY Evening.

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

UCL STEM & Medical Sciences Work Experience

## BART'S 4 BEES TRIP:

Barts 4 Bees took a small group out on our first trip out to a working apiary last week.



## GAMECRAFT SCHOOL COMPETITION:

On 26 June, St Bart's proudly hosted the inaugural Gamecraft Interschool Competition.



## BIOLOGY FIELD TRIP:

The Biology field trip was a great experience for all of us, full of long days of fieldwork, learning about different areas of ecology.

## ST BART'S SUSTAINABILITY LEAD:

My name is Anna Barrett and I am thrilled to introduce myself as the new Sustainability Lead at St Bart's.



## YEAR 9 IBM CAREERS TALK:

Year 9 Computing students attended an enlightening talk by alumnus, Dale Lane, award-winning software developer and current Chief Software Architect at IBM



## RHODIUM READING CHALLENGE CHAMPIONS:

We are delighted to add two more names to the Rhodium Reading Challenge roll of honour! Congratulations Asmi and Imogen.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM UPDATE:

Our uniform suppliers have provided us with information of summer promotions and discounts. Plus, the Parents' Association will open their second hand shop during these holiday slots...

## PE:

[Year 9 Girls' Football Activators](#)  
[Tennis Festival](#)  
[Year 7 Rounders](#)

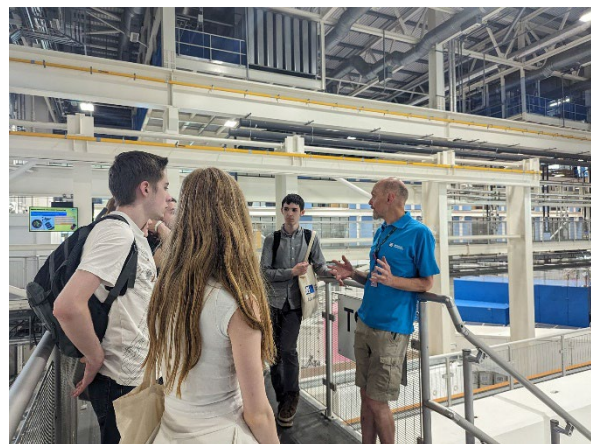




## YEAR 12 TRIP TO RAL HARWELL

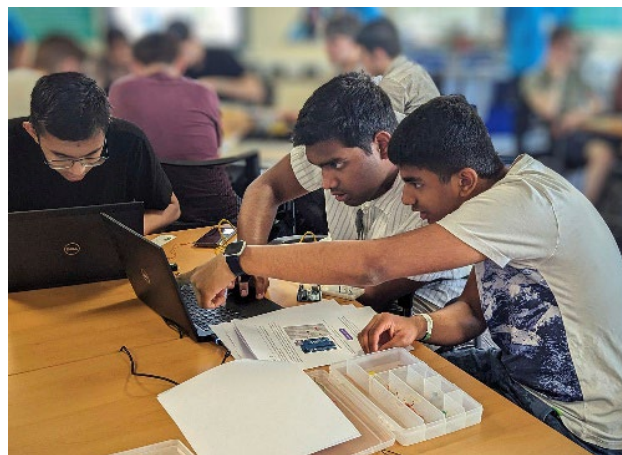
On Wednesday 26 June, we took 22 Computer Science and Physics students to Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (RAL), Harwell, to take part in their open week. RAL welcomed 2400 students over the course of two days, opening up their facilities for the students to take part in workshops, talks, and tours.

We arrived at 10.45 and went straight into a talk on the Boulby Underground Mine and their search for dark matter. The live feed with a member of the lab team was incredibly interesting, as they discussed the various experiments undertaken at the mine, including the Rosalind Franklin Rover, Nuclear Security in conjunction with the AWE and the use of muons as an early tsunami warning indicator.



After lunch, we were given a tour of the ISIS Neutron and Muon Source, where we saw their high-energy particle accelerators and discussed different projects they had undertaken, including the scanning of the hominin skull ‘Little Foot’ – the most complete Australopithecine fossil ever recovered. Verity said “I particularly enjoyed the tour of the ISIS Neutron and Muon Source, and learning about the ways in which the site operates and the many complex and important uses of the equipment that are helping advance our knowledge of the world around us every day.” Upon exiting ISIS, the students had the opportunity to manipulate a large mechanical robotic arm to pick up a rubber duck!

Next up was our computing and electronics workshop. The students were set a challenge to repair the Ada Lovelace, an imaginary spaceship that had damaged critical hardware and software systems following a solar flare. The students had to design and implement hardware and software solution using Arduino microcontrollers and TinkerCAD.



Our final stop was the Wonder Marquee, where the students got hands-on experience with various STEM technologies,

including a PlaySeat, VR headsets and a Hot Wheels accelerator. The students were incredibly positive about the experience, with the overwhelming majority rating the tour of the ISIS Neutron and Muon Source as their favourite part of the trip. Vipul said “The Harwell trip enabled us, as students, to explore the different aspects of applied Physics and Computer Science in solving real world problems and using resources effectively. I particularly enjoyed the ISIS Muon and Neutron Source tour, which was intriguing. It added to the current understanding of the contemporary applications of Neutrons and helped to further develop a deeper understanding of Muon sources.”



It was a very enjoyable and insightful trip, bringing the wonder of STEM subjects and careers to life. See more photos from the trip [on our website](#).

## Calendar

Inclusion Coffee Morning	Thursday 11 July	WCC, 8.30 – 10.00am
Senior Music Festival	Thursday 11 July	The Hexagon, Reading, 7.00pm
Sports Day	Friday 12 July	
Y12 History Trip	Friday 12 July	Hampton Court, 8.30 – 4.00pm
CCF Summer Camp, Isle of Wight	Saturday 13 July	(return 20 July)
GCSE/A Level Art and Design Exhibition	Monday 15 July	Art Department, 4.00-6.00pm See page 11
Y8 and Y10 Reports Issued	Tuesday 16 July	
House Dance Rehearsal	Tuesday 16 July	Hall, all day.
House Dance	Tuesday 16 July	Hall, 6.30pm
PE 'Sports' Personality of the Year' (SPOTY) Evening	Wednesday 17 July	Hall, 6.30pm

[View all school events in our online calendar. Click here to go straight there](#)

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## CAREERS OPPORTUNITIES

### SPOTLIGHT: UCL STEM & Medical Sciences Work Experience

Register now for a unique opportunity to work alongside experienced engineers, doctors, psychologists, vets and others. Programmes for ages 12-18. [Click here for more information.](#)

St Bart's Careers Education Programme is delivered through PSHE lessons, assemblies and a portfolio of careers events. [More information on the programme can be found on our website.](#) You will also find on our website a [Careers Opportunities page](#), which features news the school is sent on Apprenticeship Courses and Programmes, University Workshops and Schemes, Industry Webinars, Careers Resources for Parents and Carers and much more. The opportunities on this page are updated weekly. [Please click](#) to view the latest information.

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## BARTS 4 BEES TRIP

Barts 4 Bees took a small group out on our first trip to a working apiary last week. Once we were all dressed up in our safety suits, we were shown around by our beekeeping mentor, Stephen. Some of the students were a little apprehensive about being around the open hives but were so fascinated by these charismatic insects getting on with their work that the nerves soon disappeared. All the students were brave enough to hold a frame of bees and get up close to see all the nectar and pollen they had collected along with the brood cells full



of developing baby bees! We even spotted the queen (marked with a blue dot) surrounded by her attendant bees.

It was a great experience and certainly captured the interest of the students - the number of 'wows' that were heard as the frames full of bees came out of the hive was brilliant. The students were impeccably behaved and a credit to us, but my favourite bit of the trip was listening to them congratulating themselves and each other on their bravery - what a fabulous demonstration of our BARTS values! Barts 4 Bees club meets every week after school on a Thursday and is open to all years - come along!



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## GAMECRAFT SCHOOL COMPETITION

On the 26 June, St Bart's proudly hosted the inaugural Gamecraft Interschool Competition. This exciting event provided Year 7 and 8 students with a unique opportunity to showcase their programming skills by developing the best possible games on a randomly assigned topic. Teams of students received an AI-generated theme, "Dragon Wasteland," and had one day to create their games.

The competition saw students produce some truly amazing games, demonstrating their impressive programming abilities. Dale Lane, IBM's Chief Software Architect and the developer of Machine Learning for Kids, a machine learning add on for Scratch programming, was invited to judge the entries.







In the end, the trophy for the best game in Year 7 was awarded to St Bart's students Alex Yazaki-Montes and Ethan Mearkle-Mist. For Year 8, Elsie Whiting and Finlay Lewis from The Hurst School took the top prize. An honorable mention goes to St Bart's students, Wilf Busby and Nikolai O'Keeffe, who represented our school proudly and created a fantastic game.

The event was a huge success, with all participants displaying brilliance and creativity. We look forward to continuing the Gamecraft Interschool Competition next year and witnessing more incredible talent from our students.

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## BIOLOGY FIELD TRIP

The Biology field trip was a great experience for all of us, full of long days of fieldwork learning about different areas of ecology. Each day consisted of a morning lecture, then a day out on either the sand dunes, the river, or the rocky shore. This was followed by an evening lecture, as well as a fun activity some nights. On Tuesday night, we got the opportunity to go on a bat walk with the local bat group, who helped us to spot several of them overhead. Overall, the trip allowed us to realise the importance of our many interactions with nature and how our actions can trigger alarming rates of disasters (such as climate change). After this trip, we all have a new determination to limit the impact of our actions, so we can continue to enjoy our relationship with nature.



*Emily Gabriel (12P5)*

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## ST BART'S SUSTAINABILITY LEAD

I am thrilled to introduce myself as the new Sustainability Lead at St Bart's. My name is Anna Barrett, and I have been passionate about the natural world and sustainability for as long as I can remember. I am eager to bring my knowledge and enthusiasm to our school, working together to create a more sustainable future for everyone.

Sustainability is multifaceted and can be extraordinarily fun and deeply rewarding, and it starts with noticing and caring for where you are. My goal is to engage staff, students, and parents in caring for each other and our planet, transforming St Bart's into a hub of sustainability within our community.



My background is in Horticulture and Plant Science, which I studied for my bachelor's degree at The Eden Project, a fantastic place that you should try to visit if you can! After that, I completed a Master's in Management and Corporate Sustainability at Cranfield University, focusing particularly on biodiversity. Beyond my academic qualifications, I've had the opportunity to work hands-on within my local community on various sustainability initiatives. Through these projects, I've tackled a range of environmental and social issues, promoting eco-friendly practices and making a positive impact.

I'm excited about the many opportunities we have to integrate sustainability into our daily lives at St Bart's. Here are just some initiatives to look forward to:

- **Clothes Swap** before the End of Summer Term. Do you have clothes that no longer spark joy? Ready to refresh your wardrobe with something new (to you)? Let's make our wardrobes more sustainable, one swap at a time. Join us for the St Bart's Clothes Swap Extravaganza!
- **Nature Watch** column in BartholoNews: Featuring updates on local wildlife, including our very own Socks the Fox. Stay tuned for fascinating insights!
- **New Clubs** Starting Next Year:
  - The Kintsugi Club:** The Kintsugi Club is inspired by the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery with gold, highlighting the beauty in imperfections. Our mission is to foster a culture of repair and reuse within our school. We believe that items can become even more beautiful and valuable after being mended. From workshops on fixing everyday items to creative upcycling projects, we'll encourage everyone to see the potential in what might otherwise be discarded.
  - Join the **Mycelium Resistance!**: Like the intricate network of mycelium that supports and nourishes ecosystems, our group will work together to promote eco-friendly practices, reduce waste, and create a greener environment. We'll be the driving force behind positive environmental change at our school.

I look forward to working with all of you to make St Bart's a model of sustainability. Please do reach out if you have any ideas for what we can do. Let's embark on this exciting journey together!

### **Nature Watch:**

Have you ever lost just one shoe and thought to yourself, "Who loses just one shoe? How on earth did that happen?" Or perhaps you've wandered around the school grounds, spotted a lone shoe, and wondered, "Why is there just one shoe lying on the grass? Where the heck did that come from?" Well, the answer to both of these questions you have definitely asked yourself, is Socks the Fox, our resident school fox.

While shoe stealing is a known behaviour in foxes, it's still relatively rare. We reached out to the UK's leading expert on Fox Behaviour and Urban Ecology, Dawn Scott, who said: "We have noted them take shoes before, typically they are leather, smelly, or just by chance left outside people's houses, so the smell and texture do interest them. We have vixens also bring back toys and other items to cub dens for them to play with or explore."



Dawn has generously lent St Bart's a wildlife camera, allowing us to investigate Socks' behaviour



further. So far, we've captured some fascinating pictures, which you can see below. Dawn has also agreed to an online Q&A session with students about foxes in the new academic year, so keep your eyes peeled for that!



We believe there are at least two foxes: one is a cub, seen below majestically-staring-off-into-the-distance-contemplating-the-earth's-secrets, and the other photo is of Socks the Fox, our vixen. We've started collecting the shoes that Socks has stolen for us and hope to create a fun project with them someday. If you have any questions, comments, or insights about Socks, please do get in touch!

(It, of course, goes without saying, but we have named her Socks because she has socks, but is constantly looking for the perfect shoe).

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## INSPIRING FUTURE INNOVATORS: YEAR 9 IBM CAREERS TALK

On 26 June, two Year 9 Computing groups had the privilege of attending an enlightening and engaging talk by St Bartholomew's alumnus, Dale Lane. Dale, an award-winning software developer and currently a Chief Software Architect at IBM, returned to St Bartholomew's to share his extensive knowledge and passion for technology.

During his presentation, Dale delved into the vast and ever-evolving world of technology, offering students a glimpse into the exciting possibilities and rewarding career paths in the tech industry. He discussed how students can embark on a journey into tech, highlighting the experiences and opportunities that await those who pursue this dynamic field.

The session was not just informative but also highly interactive. Students eagerly participated in a lively Q&A session, posing a wide range of questions to Dale. Topics ranged from the best pathways to enter the tech industry to the potential risks associated with artificial intelligence. Dale's responses were both insightful and thought-provoking, providing a deeper understanding of the technological foundations we often take for granted.

Overall, Dale's visit was an inspiring experience for our Year 9 students, igniting their curiosity and enthusiasm for technology. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Dale for taking the time to invest in the future of our students and for being such an inspiring role model.



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## RHODIUM READING CHALLENGE CHAMPIONS

As the end of the school year draws ever closer, we are delighted to announce that the honour roll of those students to complete the St Bart's Rhodium Reading Challenge in 2023/2024 gains yet two more names!

Congratulations to Year 7 student Asmi (pictured) and Year 9 student, Imogen, who have each read at least 57 books across the five challenges in order to complete the final award in the school's Reading Challenge. In recognition of their achievement and this impressive dedication to reading, both were congratulated by Dr Fitter, Headteacher, and Mrs Hewetson, St Bart's librarian. They also take home a hamper of goodies to enjoy, including books and their rare Rhodium Badge to be worn with pride. Congratulations Asmi and Imogen!



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## SCHOOL UNIFORM UPDATE



Our uniform suppliers are ready for a busy summer holiday and have provided us with summer information. [Skoolkit](#) is running an online order promotion and [West Berkshire Clothing](#) has a discount month running until the end of July. Both advise that online orders are made in good time to allow for delivery before the start of the new term.

Our suppliers have provided us with information about summer opening times, which includes times and dates when they will be at St Bart's to coincide with the new Year 7 Summer School.

**West Berkshire Clothing** will be operating a pop-up shop in school on Monday 29 July, Tuesday 30 July and Wednesday 31 July from 9.00am to 11.00am. This is open to all parents/carers at these times.

**Skoolkit's** shop in Parkway, Newbury, is open during their normal business hours. Please allow plenty of time as the shop can be busy. Skoolkit will also be represented at St Bart's during Summer School, but will not be selling uniform from school. You can get information from them in school on 29, 30 and 31 July, 8.30am to 9.30am, and from 2.30pm to 3.30pm.

The **Parents' Association** will open their second-hand shop during the holidays on Monday 29 July from 9.00am to 11.00am and on Wednesday 31 July from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. This is open to all parents/carers at these times. The PA shop stocks a wide range of good quality second-hand uniform at very reasonable prices.

St Bart's uniform is detailed in the [Parents' Handbook](#).

In September, we will complete our regular uniform checks to maintain our high standards; the vast majority of students wear the school uniform with pride and we hope that this continues next academic year.

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Visit the Parents' Association  
**Second-hand Uniform Shop**



Just inside the Students' Entrance on the right

**Usual opening times**  
**Fridays during term time from 2.45pm to 3.30pm**

**Have you finished with your  
uniform or PE kit?**

**Donations welcome** - at the shop on Friday afternoons or any time via school reception (no white shirts, please).

Volunteers are needed to help in the shop, for one hour on a Friday afternoon (term time).  
Once a month or once a term, it's up to you.

Please contact us at [stbartspa@gmail.com](mailto:stbartspa@gmail.com)

**Help raise funds for your school!**

## PE

### Year 9 Girls Football Activators



Congratulations to the following Year 9 girls who have taken part in several sessions of training to become Barclays Game On Football Activators. The girls have developed their leadership and organisational skills as well their knowledge of football and learnt how to set up a variety of skills and a small festival, which they ran for Year 7 girls.

The aim is to give all girls access to football and encourage participation either, recreationally or competitively.

The football activators, now trained, will help to support our KS3 after school girls' football clubs and festivals. We very much look forward to working with them.

### Tennis Festival

Well done to the 20 Year 9 and 10 students who took part in a West Berkshire tennis festival at St Bart's. They played appropriately 10 matches each against other students from Park House School and Kennet School.

The festival had a real Wimbledon feel to it. Great fun was had by all, plus some valuable competition evidence was logged by GCSE PE students.



### Year 7 Rounders

The A and B Year 7 rounders teams played West Berkshire rounders league fixtures at Trinity School.

The results were:

St Bart's A beat St Bart's B: 14½ - 7½

St Bart's A beat St Gabriel's School B: 15½ - 7

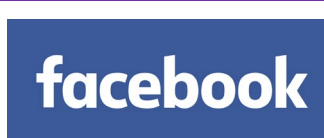
St Bart's B beat Trinity School: 11½ - 9½

Freya, Summer, Rosie and Esther were the players of the day. Well done to all who played.



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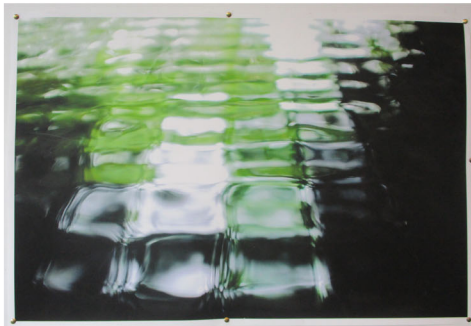
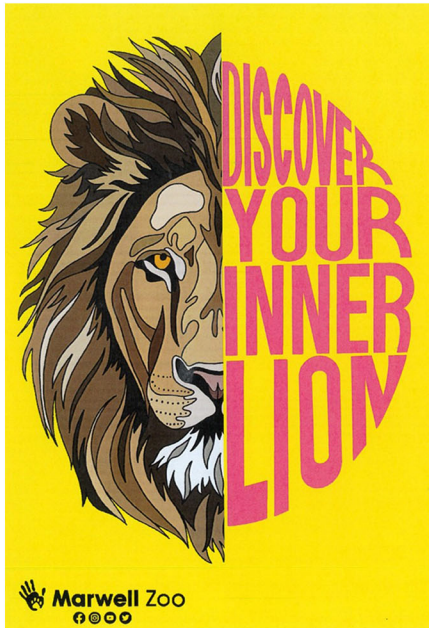
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# St Bartholomew's School

## GCSE and A Level Art and Design



GRAPHICS PHOTOGRAPHY FINE ART TEXTILES 3D DESIGN

# EXHIBITION 2024

Monday 15th July 4pm-6pm