

BARTLEY C.E. JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Will Hodge



Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Dear parents and carers,

It is an absolute honour to introduce myself as the new Headteacher of Bartley Church of England Junior School. I am incredibly excited to begin this role at our school and I am passionate about getting it right for each and every child who attends Bartley.

I know that I am not a new face to you – but I do have a new position, a new responsibility and a new opportunity to lead this school on an exciting journey both onwards and upwards.

I am eager to collaborate with as many of you as possible so that we can help make our school even better. Over the last two terms, I have spent a lot of time going into other schools, meeting both new and experienced Headteachers and gaining new insights into what makes different schools excellent in specific areas. I am on a constant learning journey myself and will ensure that my approach to school improvement and development is rooted in strong research.

Every child should get what they need to succeed. I want to bring excitement and joy into your child's education so that your child's learning is as positive and as rich as possible. I want your child to have experiences, opportunities and challenges that help build them into young people who have the skills to equip themselves for their future endeavours.

I will be communicating to you all soon so that you can share both the strengths and the things we can do better to make Bartley the best school it can be. Your insights and experiences are invaluable as we strive to enhance our school culture and the educational experience we offer.

Our Christian values foster love for ourselves and each other – and this is certainly an area that we will also continue to develop at a time in our world when it seems especially important.

I cannot wait to get started.

Many thanks,
Will Hodge



Bartley Good Times Easter Edition 2025

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Thank You and Goodbye



For my very last newsletter, there are no Bible quotes, no references, just me saying a massive thank you to everyone who has been part of my Bartley family for the last 25 years. I was at three other schools before coming here and I loved being a part of every single one of them, but none have been as special as Bartley, otherwise I wouldn't have stayed so long!

It has been a pleasure to work with some fantastic parents and grandparents over the years, who have gone that extra mile to support the children in the school. Whether it is through the PTA, supporting events, helping on trips, or just those kind words to a member of staff – it has meant so much to know that you are there supporting and working with us. I have really appreciated all that you have done in the past and I know that you will continue to do.

In my time at Bartley and other schools, I can never get over how much time and care the Governors give to the life of the school in a voluntary capacity. Again, it has been a delight to work alongside such committed and dedicated people and I know that the present combination of Governors is simply great and will continue to support Mr Hodge and the school brilliantly.

And so, to the staff. To work in a school, in any capacity, you have to care, and all of the people who work at Bartley love, respect and value the children they work with in the most dedicated way. On a daily basis, I marvel at their capacity to show empathy, patience and unwavering support to all of the children. It is a joy to witness and be part of outstanding teaching and see children happy, thriving and developing their confidence to be the best versions of themselves. I have been asked many times recently what my legacy to the school will be (which is not really for me to say), but if it is anything at all, it is leaving an extraordinary bunch of people to take care of our children.

It was a lucky day for Bartley when Mr Hodge was appointed as Deputy and then as Headteacher. I know that he will be an amazing Headteacher and has all the qualities to lead the school and all the children in it to an exciting and progressive next stage of the school life.

One of my gifts to the school is a 'Lest we Forget' bench, which has poppies and a dove for peace. The school was opened in 1939 and has a strong association with the British Legion and I taught

abroad in an army school. It also has the school uniform colours, which seemed appropriate. It is going in the front of the school, where the parents stand, so everyone can enjoy it.

It is not going to be easy to walk out the door for the last time, but I want to thank you all for trusting and supporting me to be the Headteacher of such a phenomenal school. It has been an honour and a privilege and I wish you love, happiness and joy for whatever the future holds for you.

Miss Stonehouse, Headteacher. 2000 - 2025

A Message from Mr Hodge about Miss Stonehouse

On behalf of all the people at Bartley who have had the pleasure of working alongside Miss Stonehouse over the past 25 years, can I just start by saying what an absolute legacy you have built here.

What struck me as soon as I came here was the heart and the care that Miss Stonehouse emanates in everything she does. If anyone has needed help - be that a child, parent or member of staff - you always felt incredibly lucky to have her on your side. She is relentless in her determination to make sure that people get what they need. From a personal perspective, when my son was very sick in my 2nd year at the school and my life turned upside down with oncology life, Miss Stonehouse was by my side throughout and she ensured that I had the time and the support to allow me to focus on what was needed. My family will forever be thankful for this. And I know looking around this school, others would feel a similar sense of gratitude and fortune to have her as the boss - but more importantly as a friend.

Miss Stonehouse is great company and the various friends who she has picked up on her travels around this country and beyond is testament to this. She remembers details like no other - names, dates, appointments, how you take your tea...But beyond these personal connections and qualities, what she has done as a leader is something we can all look up to and I will certainly be taking on board as I take over the Headship after Easter.

She has such a steadfast approach which centres so much on making sure we are only doing the things that will positively impact the children at our school. Fads and ideas constantly come your way but she always asks the questions about whether these will make improvements to our children - and if they don't - they can get in the bin. She gives great trust and autonomy to staff to allow them to grow and develop. Her high standards in all areas of school life mean that the children at our school feel proud, a fantastic sense of belonging and take the qualities onto whatever their future brings.

We have been incredibly lucky to have had Miss Stonehouse as the headteacher of Bartley for the past 25 years and she can retire knowing that she will have made such a huge difference to so many children.

Can we please give three cheers for all you have done in an incredible career and may your retirement bring you great happiness and an enormous sense of achievement.

Thank you for everything, Mr Hodge

A Conversation with Miss Stonehouse

Miss Stonehouse has been headteacher longer than any of use here have been alive (well, out of the children) and so we wanted to ask her a few questions before she leaves us to enjoy her retirement. Known for her beautiful handwriting, high standards of manners, great sense of humour and caring nature please read on to find out more about the lovely: Miss Stonehouse.

Oliver: How did you feel about Taking on the role of headteacher here?

Miss Stonehouse: Excited but scared. I looked forward to making lots of changes but keeping Bartley spirit.

Evalyn: What is one memory you love or remember about your time at this school?

Miss Stonehouse: Too many but always the children. They bring me joy.

Oliver: What has been the most rewarding part of your role as headteacher?

Miss Stonehouse: Seeing the progress and confidence grow over the few years they are here.

Evalyn: What was one of the proudest moments during your time here?

Miss Stonehouse: I don't know. There are too many to mention

Oliver: How do you feel the school has changed during your time here?

Miss Stonehouse: Lots of different things. Staff changes and grounds have changed.

Memories of Miss Stonehouse

With such a huge part of the Bartley family leaving at the end of the Spring term, we wanted to speak to the staff at school to find out about their favourite memories with Miss Stonehouse and also what they love most about her.

Mrs Cooper – “She always keeps all of her chocolates in a pink pig jar in her office and always knows when we need a pick-me-up and she always makes her lovely, famous cornflake cakes.” Mrs Cooper confessed she was unsure how anybody including her, will do any work without the sugar rush provided by Miss Stonehouse.

Ms Lindsay- “She has a caravan by the seaside and very kindly let my family stay there. It was so kind of her and showcases her extremely generous nature.”

Mrs Philo – “ I worked in a challenging school for a year when I was very new to teaching. Miss Stonehouse and the deputy at the time came to my school to observe me teaching. After my interview, back at Bartley, she said ‘Let’s get you back where you belong.’ This sums up the family feel that Miss Stonehouse has nurtured throughout her time at Bartley. ”

Ali – “She is always very kind and is always very happy and she always seem to know every ones name. Although I have only been here for a year, I have tried out her amazing chocolate cornflake cake and it tasted like heaven.”

Mrs Lang - “I Love it when Miss Stonehouse gets the giggles and she just cant stop. My favourite memory with Miss Stonehouse was a time in Brenscombe when we took a walk with the students. When we went over the stile on the fence, I became stuck (I was pregnant at the time) and then Miss Stonehouse just stood there and laughed at me and whilst she was laughing I was laughing too – A LOT.”

Miss Cron - “What I love about Miss Stonehouse is that she knows everyone's names and that she cares for them.” She also wonders if Miss Stonehouse could send the cornflake cakes through the post.

Mrs Poole – “Once I saw her jogging across the field – I don’t know why but she looked like she was in a hurry for something – I found it quite funny. One time, we went to the pub – and she bought free drinks for everyone! I found that really kind of her.”

Mrs Pannell – “I was the first person to meet her when she came for an interview to become deputy head and I thought how interesting and kind she was. I made cream slices for her and her friends and she asked me to make more cream slices for when she or them went away.”

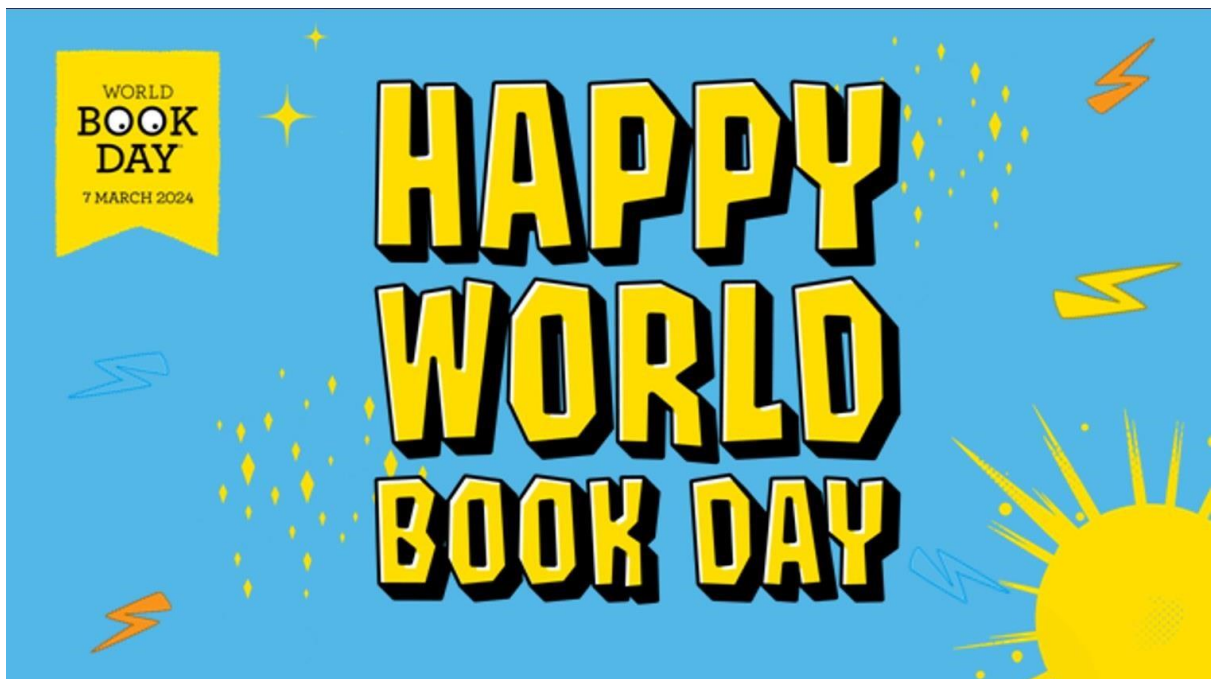
Mrs Back – I love talking to her about her dogs. She doesn't want any brown dogs or spotted dogs, just black and white ones. She is very knowledgeable, well-travelled, hard working and to tell you, she puts her life and soul into the running of the school to make sure that staff and pupils are all happy. It is a huge responsibility to run a school and she puts in so many hours in work and also takes her work home with her."

Overall, all the teachers will miss Miss Stonehouse and can't even think of a headteacher that is better than her.

**Sorry that some of the teachers weren't interviewed because we didn't have enough time to do them all.

Article by Finn Lincoln and Will Game.

World Book Day



Every year people all over the world celebrate reading and books. This year it was on Thursday 6th March and to celebrate here at Bartley we dressed up for the first time ever or wore our pyjamas to school so of course everyone was excited. Here I have some quotes from people about dressing up:

"I think it was good and that they should continue to do it every year"- Fred young 5L.

"I think that it was really fun how we got to dress up as our favourite book character!" Emily fuller 6EL

Well people enjoyed dressing up but who wouldn't? I know you'll want to see some photos so please enjoy a selection from the day.

Wow those outfits were incredible! I think everyone did a great job on them.

Another part of Bartley's world book day is the book fair where we bring in money and buy any book we want! There was an amazing selection including popular titles like Dog Man and Diary of a Wimpy Kid but also phonics books, notebooks and even a unicorn puzzle book.

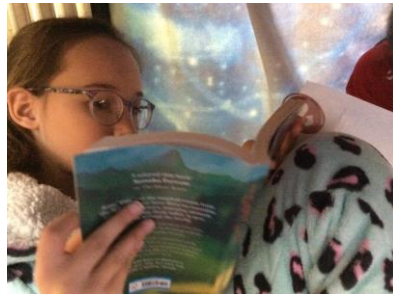
So as you see we had a lot of options. In classes we made dens with:

Tables, blankets and cushions as the theme was all about reading anywhere you liked but getting cosy and enjoying your book. We read our books and talked. Some year groups made book marks or redesigned book covers. In 6BP, we played charades in teams based on our favourite books and characters.

In the afternoon, we went to the hall and Mrs Andrews led a super fun worship where a pupil from year three, four, five and six represented each house along with a staff member. Quotes were shown from famous books and authors and they had to guess which book it was from and which author wrote it. Bengal Tigers (led by Mrs Philo) won. Their prize was 100 extra house points but don't worry every team got their points added to their house points! It was a super fun day and I hope all future world book days will be just as good or even better!

Article by Mary Swaffer









Red Nose Day



Comic Relief

Hi again, its me. This article is kind of different from my previous ones because, my past pieces have mainly been on what's going on in the school, with the exception of my Taylor Swift Article. But this one is based on a day that many celebrate, a day that is preparing to celebrate a 40-year anniversary. So, without further ado, everything you need to know about red nose day/comic relief!

Who created comic relief?

Comic relief is a British charity founded by Comedian Sir Lenny Henry and Richard Curtis In 1985.

What does comic relief do?

Comic relief asks for donations and they give those donations to baby banks, community food centres and ensure safe passage for people escaping danger.

How do red noses represent comic relief?

Red nose day is about coming together to end child poverty, one nose at a time. The money they are given from the sale of red noses is what they donate.

40 years of Comic Relief <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VmtRt083Tf4>

There are many types of red noses. A few are:

- The plain one
- The cupcake one
- The hug one
- The geek one
- The bauble one
- The dinosaur one

All of these fun noses showcase that everyone is different.

As you may already know, our school celebrated red nose day by coming in and wearing something red and we are very lucky as we raised a total of £472!

Thank you for reading yet another article of mine. You must be getting pretty bored of me by now huh?

Hope you enjoyed knowing some insider facts about red nose day and if you want to know more, just click on the link below.

<https://donation.comicrelief.com/?cartId=rnd25-ppc-gran>

Article by Evie Hedges

Fat Thursday



Fat Thursday is a tradition that dates back to the Middle Ages! It's a thing that some countries in Europe celebrate, including Spain, Italy, Greece and Germany it's celebrated with sweets and candy which isn't tradition but in Poland it's celebrated with age old nonwhole doughnuts (in Poland known as 'Pączki') meaning Poland is the only country sticking to tradition. It has the same reasons behind as Shrove Tuesday, you use all the things in your house to make doughnuts but it wasn't really like that in the beginning. They would have a big feast and don't think that I was wrong about the doughnuts because I wasn't, doughnuts were part of the feast, just they weren't the doughnuts you expect. These ones were **LITERALLY MADE OF HAM AND SOMETIMES BACON!?!** These days it's too much work to do so they just left half the tradition.

Article by Albert Skrzynski

Photos from the Year 3 Hillier's Trip











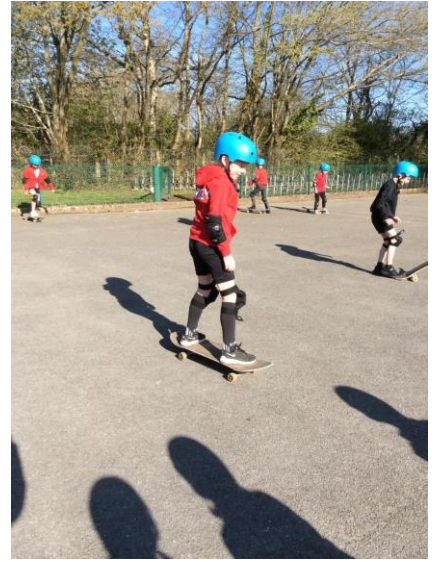
Skateboarding Workshops

This week we have been lucky enough to have Adam from Rubicon back to teach all of the children the basics of skateboarding and even work on some tricks with children who knew the basics. Lots of our older children remembered their workshop from last year and were thrilled to be outside learning a new skill again.

It was absolutely brilliant getting to learn new skills. My favourite part was landing the pancake 180 trick - Blake Tupper







KIDS ZONE!



Harry Potter



We wanted to write an article all about Harry Potter because we absolutely love it!

If you were wondering about what Harry Potter is then you've come to the right place because we're going to tell you everything from the start. The founders of Hogwarts were called Godric Gryffindor, Rowena Ravenclaw, Salazar Slytherin and Helga Hufflepuff. The house Gryffindor resembles BRAVERY from when Harry pulled the sword out of the sorting hat in Harry Potter and the chamber of secrets.

The characters:

There are loads to explain too many in fact but I will explain some of the main ones:

Harry Potter – The main one and he is brave, kind and a Gryffindor.

Hermione Granger – Another main one but she is knowledgeable, shows off a lot and her house is Gryffindor.

Ronald Weasley – Also a main Character but he is a bit shy, but kind off stands up for himself and his friends his house is

Dobby- He is Hufflepuff also a house elf he likes helping people and yeah just kind in general!

Professor Severus Snape – Severus Snape was head of Slytherin hose potions master and Harry's least favourite teacher

Professor Albus Dumbledore – He is Head of Gryffindor, he is wise clever and he is a highlight to the series

Professor Minerva McGonagall – She is Gryffindor and she is another highlight to the series and she is also Wise, Strict, Clever.

There are lots more but these were some of the main ones.

Article by Millie Batten and Alice White

Dog Man: A Review



No spoilers

The movie lasts 1 hour and 30 minutes and spreads across the first 3 books (dog man, dog man unleashed , dog a tale of 2 kitties) and a couple more .

My favourite part is the end because it is quite a surprise . There is lots of weird parts and bits that will make you laugh . The story of the movie is Dog Man and Lil Petey are created and Flippy is the bad guy.

Tom G from year 5 reported that he loved the film saying: “It was very cool and there was a lot of action The big fight with flippy. 10/10”

If you can go and watch it go there are lots of jocks and it is family friendly.

Article by Theo Snow

Dates for Diaries



Friday 4th April - Last day of term

Monday 7th April - Friday 18th April - Easter Holidays

Monday 21st April - Easter Monday - school closed

Monday 28th April - Wednesday 30th April - Year 4 Osmington Bay Residential School Trip

Monday 12th May - Thursday 15th May - KS2 SATS week

Monday 19th May - Friday 23rd May - Year 6 Bikeability

Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May - Half Term

Tuesday 3rd June - Year 6 Swimming

Wednesday 4th June - 6EL Paulton's Park Trip

Thursday 5th June - 6B Paulton's Park Trip

Friday 6th June - 6BP Paulton's Park Trip

Tuesday 10th June - Year 6 swimming

Friday 13th June - Sports Day

Tuesday 17th June - Year 6 swimming

Thursday 19th June - Year 6 Winchester Cathedral trip

Saturday 28th June - PTA Summer Fair

Tuesday 1st July - Year 6 swimming

Thursday 3rd July - Friday 4th July - Induction days

Tuesday 8th July - Year 6 swimming

Friday 11th July - Year 6 Leavers' Disco

Tuesday 15th July - Year 3, 4 and 5 disco

Tuesday 15th July - Helpers tea party

Friday 18th July - Last Day of Academic Year

Monday 21st July & Tuesday 22nd July - INSET DAYS