

NEWS FROM ST JOHN'S SCHOOL



St John's School continues to go from strength to strength with all sorts of exciting projects taking place. These include taking part in the Wiltshire Schools Dance Festival, St John's Got Talent. Bake sales, World Book Day and Comic Relief, just to mention a few.

As part of Fairtrade Fortnight, Patrick Kaberia, a Fairtrade tea farmer from Kenya, led Collective Worship and then gave a talk to all the Keystage 2 children. Afterwards, the children presented Patrick with school sweatshirts for his three children, and also, the cross from their Assembly table for him to give to his children's school.

A new venture is the establishment of a Spirituality Council. Members represent each class in the school. The council's brief is to consider the Christian ethos of the school.

We were lucky to receive a visit from the Very Reverend Alan Jeans, Archdeacon of Wiltshire, who led a Collective Worship on prayer. He was somewhat startled to be given a written evaluation of his talk at the end. Luckily, the children were inspired by what he had to say and the only criticism offered was that he should have held his 'props' up a bit higher, because they couldn't all see at the back.

As a result of that visit, the Council requested some guidance on praying. ("How do you do it?") The Reverend Martin Weymont and Sheelagh Wurr ran, at the children's request, a Prayer Workshop to demonstrate some methods and examples of prayer.

"Open the Book" continues to take place fortnightly and Years 3 and 4 will be taking part in an "Easter Experience" in church at the end of term.

On the final day of term, the whole school will come into church for an Easter service.

PARISH OF BISHOPSTROW AND BOREHAM

www.bishopstrowandboreham.org

Contact the Parish Office on 01985 213000

EASTER 2017



A Message from the Churchwarden

We are now in the season of Lent, preparing to celebrate Easter on 16 April. Lent is traditionally a period of reflection, contemplation and preparation, looking forward to the joy of the Easter message.

This year we can also look forward to the arrival of our new priest, the Reverend David Prescott, who was appointed by the Bishop in mid-February. David and his wife, Susan, will join us in the early summer and this will be an exciting and interesting time for us all, not just in terms of welcoming them to Bishopstrow and Boreham, but also the creation of the new River Were Benefice which comprises the parishes of Minster St Denys, Upton Scudamore, and Bishopstrow and Boreham.

None of this would have been possible without the hard work and continual support of the church officers, the PCC and, of course, our team of retired clergy, who have served and led us so well. The assistant churchwardens and I are immensely grateful to everyone for all that has been achieved, and we can be confident that David has a strong team to support him and a parish that will welcome him and his wife, Susan, and the ministry and pastoral care that he brings.

It is important for us all to understand that, although David's role will be as our priest, someone for us to turn to for ministry and guidance, the vacancy has brought some changes. First, David is not appointed as a full time priest. He will lead us in worship week-to-week, and work in the parish two days a week, but his other commitment is as Chaplain to Warminster School, and David will have a role to play in the new River Were Benefice.

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NOTICES

Coffee, Cakes and Friendship

A new group for the recently bereaved, will meet in St John's Church Hall on the third Tuesday of each month
10.30—12.00

All welcome. No need to book but if you would like more details, telephone Elaine on 01985 211403.



Could you help?

We are in need of more volunteers to help with cutting the grass and keeping St John's churchyard in good order.

If you think you could help in this way, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please telephone the parish office on 01985 213000.



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This is the second change we must acknowledge, that we will be part of a wider benefice. Although it will take some time for the details of what that means in practice to emerge, the point to note is that we will be able to call on support from a much larger team of both clergy and laity. That has to be to our benefit; David will be part of a team, not just one person on his own.

This means that the experience we have gained from running the parish during the vacancy can continue to be used to good effect and that the life of the parish can go on developing and growing.

With all good wishes for Easter

Alex Alderson

BISHOPSTROW AND BOREHAM

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

HOLY WEEK

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 10th, 11th, 12th April,
7.30pm at the Minster Church:

Service of Compline with an address or reflection

Maundy Thursday

13th April 11.00 am Chrism Eucharist at Salisbury Cathedral
7.30 pm Maundy Thursday Liturgy followed by
the Watch at the Minster Church

Good Friday

14th April 10.30am Walk of Witness (see below)
2.30pm Service at St Aldhelm's

Saturday

15th April 8.30pm The Easter Vigil & Easter
Liturgy at the Minster Church

Easter Day

16th April 8.00am Holy Communion St John's
9.30am Eucharist St John's
9.30am Eucharist St Aldhelm's



Good Friday Walk of Witness

Churches in Warminster will join together for a Walk of Witness, starting at the Baptist Church at 10.30am. All are warmly welcomed to join in for some or all of the walk.