

# St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

**Newsletter Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

*"Living & Learning together"* [www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](http://www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk)



Our School Christian Values are Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion.  
This week we found out about Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

## Reminders

Please remember to book with the school office at least 24 hours in advance if you require After School Club.

^^

## PTFA

Acorn Cake Stall  
Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March

Easter Hop  
Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March

## NO CLUBS NEXT WEEK

(except Drama Club)

End of Term Mass  
Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March  
9.30am  
St Barnabas Church

Everybody welcome

Please note correction of date.

## Year 6 residential

Year 6 parents your next instalment for the residential trip is needed. Please see Mrs Scammell in the office.

## Attendance Challenge

*As a whole school we have an attendance target of 96% to achieve. Here is the breakdown for each class:*

Acorn	98.7%
Willow	94.7 %
<b>Beech</b>	<b>99.3 %</b>
Maple	98.7%
Chestnut	95.9 %
Lilac	98.6 %
Oak	97.2 %



## This Week in School

Well done to Year 5 and members of the choir who sang at the Assembly Hall on Wednesday night. The children joined children from other schools to sing a range of songs including one on their own. Year 2 also had an opportunity to sing with other schools during the afternoon and sang with gusto- our thanks go to Dr Charles and all the staff for taking the children to this wonderful event.

This week we had our KS1 Mother's Day lunch and over 45 special people joined us. It was very cosy but it was lovely to see everyone together. Next week it is the KS2 Lunch and we ask that those of you who have signed up to join us arrive just before 12:30pm- we look forward to seeing you there!

Next week is our Easter Hop so please make sure your sponsor forms are back with us on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> when the school will be jumping!!

A huge thank you for wearing red today and raising money for Red Nose Day.

## **This week in class:**

### **Acorn**

This week we have been learning the or digraph and the igh trigraph in Phonics. We have been writing around the theme of Mother's Day and we have been describing our mums in simple sentences. In Maths, we have been learning about money and we have begun to use 2p and 1p coins to pay for items under 10p. We have been making moving dinosaurs with paper plates and split pins and have been continuing with our dance about Easter.

### **Willow**

It has been a busy week in Willow Class. The week started with the class attending the Rhyme Rocket workshop. The children enjoyed the session and it inspired some of our English work for the rest of the week. Throughout the week we have been looking at how to use rhyming words and alliteration in sentences and poems. In Maths the children have been learning about measures and particularly length. This has involved using rulers to measure different objects in the classroom, comparing the length of different objects and using reasoning skills to answer questions. In Science the children have been learning about the different categories which animals belong to (mammals, fish, birds, reptiles, etc) and sorted animal pictures onto a chart.

### **Beech**

In English, we continued to tell the story of Sir Alwen's Quest. First, we expanded our understanding of connectives by using when/if/because/that to create complex sentences - first orally and then using white boards. Next, we used and applied these skills to tell a part of the quest. Finally, we reflected upon our writing and used teacher feedback to edit and improve it. In Maths, we focused our attention on interpreting scales. We used our ability to count in the 2, 5 and 10 times tables to interpret a range of different scales. Finally, we applied our calculation skills to find totals and differences from the values we interpreted. On Wednesday, we were lucky enough to take part in a fantastic music workshop at the Assembly Hall. Pupils from all over Tunbridge Wells gathered together to sing and develop their understanding of rhyme, rhythm and call and response patterns. We had a fantastic time and the pupils' behaviour was a credit to the school.

In RE we made Easter Fish! Yes really we did. Fish are a symbol of Christianity and we wrote on the fish what we know about Jesus and what we think about him

### **Maple**

We have really enjoyed sharing the homework projects we have completed. Children were asked to research an aspect of life in Roman Britain and create a response to it. There have been some amazing models (one edible!), posters and booklets created over the last two weeks. Well done Maple.

In Maths we have been busy with tenths. We have worked on explaining our understanding of objects divided into tens and solving problems involving shape and the language of fractions. A huge well done for such hard work and enthusiasm.

This week we have focused on writing speech in English. We have read and enjoyed texts including speech, prepared conversations using speech bubbles and worked out how to write it as direct speech using inverted commas. As part of our learning we have talked about the illustration in one of the books, and next week we will be completing some artwork based on that.

I am looking forward to meeting with parents next week to talk about what we have been doing in class and the progress made this term.

### **Chestnut**

This week Chestnut Class have continued their learning about fractions. Covering reducing fractions to their simplest form, adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator. The class have been looking at complex sentences and the type of writing when these would be appropriate. They have written very detailed descriptions about different aspects of Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. They then compared the style of writing from their descriptions to the style they would need in a factual report.

The children planned an argument for/against school uniform. They thought carefully about how to include persuasive techniques. In Science the children investigated how a chemical reaction can produce a gas. They watched the effects of a reaction between baking soda and vinegar and how the gas produced inflated a balloon.

### **Lilac**

In Maths this week in Lilac Class we have been converting decimals and fractions into percentages. We have also been solving problems about percentages. In English this week, we have been thinking about how parenthesis - the use of brackets, commas and dashes - develops and embellishes our writing. In Science, we have been drawing on the hands-on activities from our visit to the Science Centre and Observatory at Hertsmonceux. Our focus has been to compare weight and mass and to think about how we measure gravity. We have been using Newton Metres to measure the weight of objects. In Music, we have composed space music, working in groups. We used a variety of instruments and dynamics to describe planets and different aspects of our universe. On Wednesday, Lilac Class and Sophie, Dolly, Reya and Emily from Oak Class represented the school at the Tunbridge Wells Assembly Hall by performing in the Tunbridge Wells Singing Festival. It was a brilliant evening and Aseem was one of a selection of children across the schools who read out an unusual space fact to the huge audience! As a school choir, we sang our individual item, 'I Can See Clearly Now' beautifully and with such confidence. Well done!

### **Oak**

In our Maths sessions this week, we have revisited percentages, ratio and fractions. We have also worked in groups on a Maths reasoning paper.

Our English work this week has been continuing our writing based on the short animation 'Replay'. The children have been writing from a character's perspective. They have also been trying to include a variety of punctuation in their writing.

In our Grammar work, we have worked on antonyms and synonyms as well as passive voice and relative clauses.

The class has continued to work on Macbeth and have been rehearsing short scenes from the play. We have some excellent performers in Oak Class!

Our mountain sculptures are underway and are looking very impressive.



Something to think about:

When you comb your hair is it  
art?

Well done to Lilac Class who achieved  
this week's Caretaker Award!

### \*\*\*\*\*Prize Alert\*\*\*\*\*

Sponsor Mrs Tompsett for the London Marathon before Sunday 23rd April (marathon day!) and you will be entered into a prize draw for a free pass to Bedgebury Pinetum to use whenever you want.

No minimum sponsorship required but please make sure you put your full name so I can add you to the draw.

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-web/fundraiser/showFundraiserPage.action?userUrl=KateTompsett&pageUrl>

And lastly.....

'Live Biking' are running Easter Holiday Mountain Biking sessions for Primary and Secondary school children in Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells (Bedgebury Forest). Please visit [www.livebiking.co.uk](http://www.livebiking.co.uk) or contact Andrew Goodwin directly for further details.

With best wishes  
*Moira Duncombe*

@StBarnabasSchoolTW