

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

**Newsletter Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 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.

## Reminders

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

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### DATES

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June  
Half term- School Closed

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June  
INSET day- School Closed

Week of 12<sup>th</sup> June  
Phonic Screening for Year 1

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June  
Class Photographs

Week beginning 19<sup>th</sup> June Arts Week

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> June  
Year 6 residential

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July  
Summer Fayre

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July  
Year 4 trip

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July  
Provisional Sports day  
( KS2 am/ KS1 pm)

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July  
Reserve Sports day

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July  
Last day of term

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July  
INSET day

## Attendance Challenge

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

Acorn	88.75 %
Willow	<b>98.33 %</b>
Beech	96.25%
<b>Maple</b>	<b>98.33%</b>
Chestnut	95.37 %
Lilac	97.41 %
Oak	94.83 %

## PARKING PARKING PARKING

We have had several complaints from our neighbours about parking. Please can we be considerate of our neighbours and park in designated spaces and not in front of drives including the EDF drive next to the school. Thank you for your support.



## This Week in School

Well done to all our Year 6 children who completed their KS2 Assessments. They have taken each test with positivity and with a real determination to do their best. Our thanks go to all the teaching staff and Governors who helped to make sure the tests flowed so well. We shall have to wait until July to find out their results.

I have been incredibly impressed with the poetry writing that the children in Maple have been producing this week. They have certainly got the poetry bug and really explored the use of figurative language.

Acorn class have started their Forest School adventures again and we look forward to hearing about what they are doing.



## **Class News**

### **Acorn Class News:**

This week we have been learning the “air” trigraph in Phonics. We have also begun Phase 4 of the Letters and Sounds programme which involves reading trickier words such as champ and chest. In English, we have been writing lifecycle diagrams to show the lifecycle of a frog. We have been extending our learning by adding 'time words' such as first, next, then and later to our labels. In Maths, we have been learning pairs of numbers that add together to make 10. We call these “number bonds to 10”. We have been writing these number bonds as number sentences e.g.  $4+6=10$ . In PE, we have been learning to throw and catch bean bags in preparation for Sports Day.

### **Willow Class News:**

This week Willow class have been learning about the prefix 'un' and have been used words with this prefix in our writing. Our book of the week has been 'The Everywhere Bear' by Julia Donaldson and Rebecca Cobb, and the children have been writing letters and postcards based on the story. In Maths, the children have been continuing to learn about place value. They have been using known number facts (like number bonds for 10) to help solve word problems and to complete adding number sentences. In Phonics we have been learning about alternative pronunciation for 'u' and 'ow'. In Art we have been adding lines and colour to our pictures and designed our own postcards.

### **Beech Class News:**

In English we have been combining our knowledge of Vietnam with our ability to create different types of sentence to produce some information texts which compare Tunbridge Wells to Vietnam. We used and/but/because connectives to create comparative statements and even used command and exclamation sentences to finish off each paragraph. Finally, we edited and improved our paragraphs so they were ready to be turned into information texts next week. In Maths, we revisited and expanded upon our division skills. We explored two different methods of solving division problems: one involving sharing into equal groups, the other using our counting skills to count on in equal groups. We then used these methods to solve a range of division problems in context. We finished the week by improving our understanding and solving problems involving fractions. In ICT, we used the 2Simple programme to design a setting and characters. We then experimented with animation to add movement to our characters.

### **Maple Class News:**

This week we have used our knowledge of fractions to solve some practical problems. Well done to everyone - you have applied your learning so well!

Continuing with the sea theme, we have written some beautiful poems to turn into calligrams. Everyone has chosen a theme, researched it and created a short poem. They have then carefully planned an appropriate shape to present it in and worked on varying the size of the text. The work has created a beautiful display.

As part of our topic, we have been researching the life of people who live in the Arctic and the major deserts. We have discovered some fascinating facts and look forward to learning more about survival skills as we continue with our topic.

### **Chestnut Class News:**

This week Chestnut Class have started to look at biographies and autobiographies - we have been looking at the different features and how Roald Dahl in Boy turns text into dialogue. In Maths we have continued investigating decimals and how to order them, using problem solving to help our learning. We finished making our water clocks and they are all ready to test next week.

The children have been working hard on self-editing in English. They looked at how to improve a character description and they made a final draft. Also in Maths the children worked on plotting coordinates on a grid in the second quadrant. In Science the children examined a selection of insects, making careful drawings and discovering new facts. In RE the children looked at 'The Story of Moses' and prepared a play based on this.

### **Lilac Class News:**

In Lilac Class this week we have particularly focused on Music. We listened to and drew pictures about Rimsky-Korsakov's “Scheherazade: The Sea and Sinbad's Ship” and also created our own group compositions about the sea. We played a range of classroom musical instruments using different dynamics. We thought about musical structure and how to record our ideas with graphic symbols. In Maths this week, we have continued our work on geometry, using the properties of rectangles to find out missing lengths and angles. We have also started to distinguish between regular and irregular polygons based on reasoning about equal sides and angles. In English, we have started to draft a newspaper article about the sinking of the Titanic. We have been looking at real headlines from newspaper cuttings from the day and have used these to inspire us. We have thought about the features of report writing and the use of sub-headings. In RE this week, we have continued our work about Atonement and Salvation and have been thinking about what a 'rescuer' is and exploring the meaning of a hero.

### **Oak Class News:**

Well done Year Six - we are incredibly proud of all of all of you this week. They have worked extremely hard and showed such determination and resilience. Thank you to everyone who has supported them, both at school and at home.



**Challenge:**

Can you decipher these codes:

26 = L of the A

7 = W of the A W



Message from Dave:

CreativeWeek help:

Do you have...

- Succulents / cuttings
- Wooden Pegs (not plastic ones)
- Fine Sand
- Gravel
- shallow trays / dishes any materials they should be 3cm deep minimum
- Buttons

And lastly.....

Please remember all Book Club orders need to be in by next Wednesday. Also please can you remember to bring in your Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers.

Please can all visitors to the school, and pupils who are arriving late or leaving early make sure they sign in/out at the school office.

Have a lovely weekend - hopefully it will not be too wet!

With best wishes

*Moirá Duncombe* @StBarnabasSchoolTW