

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 20th October 2017

"Living & Learning together" www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk



Our School Christian Values are Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion.

Reminders

Dates

Friday 3rd November

Parents in Year 1 to join us
for Celebration Assembly
at 9.00am

Thursday 9th November

2018 Reception intake
Open Morning 9:30am

Friday 17th November

Parents in Year 2 to join us
for Celebration Assembly
at 9.00am

Tuesday 21st November

2018 Reception intake
Open Morning 9:30am

Tuesday 21st November

Year 6 Shakespeare
Performance
Trinity Theatre

Friday 24th November

Parents in Reception to
join us for Celebration
Assembly at 9.00am

Attendance

As a whole school we have an attendance target of 97% to achieve.
Here is the breakdown for each class:

Acorn	99.2%
Willow	95.4%
Beech	92.4%
Maple	96.6%
Chestnut	98.0%
Lilac	97.5%
Oak	99.0%



This week in School:

This week has been consultation week and it has been good to discuss the progress and next steps for your children. If you have not seen your child's teacher yet please do make an appointment in the school office.

The weather has been very changeable but we still have children without coats. Please can we ask that everyone has a coat and more importantly that their coat is named!

Children from Key Stage 2 have been taking part in two Cross Country races. Miss Edmed informed me that the children performed amazingly and for some, there was an improvement on their times from the previous year.

On Thursday we had a Maths Consultant come into school to see how we teach Maths. It was a positive visit which is always wonderful to have. One area of the Maths curriculum we did discuss was the importance of our children knowing their number facts and times tables. Do look at your child's class page on the school website to see what facts they are learning this term.



Class News

Acorn News

Acorn Class have been busy recognising the 'n' sound this week. They learnt the jolly phonics song and action for this sound. They made 'night-sky' pictures, 'nests' and 'necklaces'. Some children attempted to write words with the initial 'n' sound. The class used 'sound fans' to create words with the sounds they have learnt, so far. In Maths they worked hard recognising, ordering and writing the numbers 1-10. The children spent time looking at how each digit is formed and writing the numbers. During their 'Plan, Learn, Review' time they have been busy making 'books', dressing up (with necklaces!), building castles, playing imaginatively with the 'character hats' and using the outdoor classroom. Have a lovely half term.

Willow News

This week in Maths, the children have been solving problems involving subtraction. We have investigated number bonds for 10 and practised writing number sentences to represent what we found. The children have also been developing counting skills through songs and been working on writing their numbers correctly. In English, the children have been writing lists and we have talked about how commas can be used to separate items in lists. In Phonics we have been revisiting some letter sounds and tricky words. The children have also learnt to read some new tricky words (would, should, could) and used them in sentences. The children have been working with the adults to assess their phonics knowledge and will be starting to get spellings to practise each week from November. In Science work, we have been investigating the properties of different materials and whether they are flexible, strong and waterproof. In PE the children have been working in teams developing different ways of moving (running, jogging, skipping, hopping, jumping).

Beech News

In English, we have been investigating the work of Samuel Pepys. Pepys wrote an account of his life in London in the late 17th Century so his writing is really useful to us to find out more about what London was like at the time of the Great Fire of London. This week we have been creating a diary entry from Pepys' point of view. We started by using the and/but/because connectives to create extended action sentences. Then we explored how adjectives and question sentences could be used to enhance our writing. In Maths, we continued to develop our skills of addition and subtraction. We started the week by using a hundred-square to help add and subtract multiples of 10. Next, we learned how to use place value grids and the expanded vertical addition method to solve addition and subtraction calculations. In ICT, we used the repeat function to turn geometric shapes into intricate patterns. In PE, we worked in pairs to create combined balances. Then we worked hard to invent smooth transitions to turn these balances into gymnastic routines.

We had a fabulous end to our Creation topic in RE today, writing a newspaper article on 'How Christians believe the world is made'. In Art we will be using sticks to etch out our Scraffito pictures. These use 2 layers of wax, light at the bottom and darker on top. A few of Beech Class join Mrs Banner and Mrs Johnson for Wildlife and Wellies on a Thursday. We have been clearing the garden and are hoping to plant bulbs after our week off. If anyone has any extra bulbs they don't need we would really appreciate them on Thursday 2nd November. Hope you have a wonderful week of holiday.

Maple News

This week in Maple Class, we have been learning about Stonehenge. We have been finding out about when it was built, how large the stones were and how they were transported. The children have independently researched Stonehenge, taken notes and then created some wonderful information leaflets.

In Maths, we have been working on subtracting one and two digit numbers from three digit numbers. We've also been learning a song to help us remember our 4 times tables.

Chestnut News

The children have produced some fantastic amulets based on ancient Egyptian designs. Their clay pieces are currently drying and we are looking forward to painting, varnishing and mounting them after the half-term break. We should end up with a very impressive Chestnut Class museum exhibit.

After researching ancient Egyptian gods and goddesses, we have started to produce non-chronological reports. As part of the process, we have worked on reading, comprehending and highlighting key parts of text. We have created spider diagrams to collate information, drafted general introductions and moved on to used subheadings to organise the rest of our writing.

The children have really focused on aspects of numbers this term. As a result they have really increased their confidence and basic skills. They have been pulling numbers apart to see what they are made of, rounded to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000 and worked out rules for ordering 4 digit numbers. At the same time, they have consolidated their understanding of the 3, 4 and 8 times tables and begun to work on this year's targets of knowing the 6, 7 and 9 times tables.

In RE, we have finished our unit on Creation, by thinking about the key aspects that Christians learn from Genesis.

Lilac News

In Maths this week, Lilac Class have been rounding and estimating numbers and working through problems using the inverse to check our answers. We have also been using addition and subtraction to solve multi-step problems. In English, we have been planning and writing a non-chronological report entitled 'Rainforests as a Habitat'. We have explored in more detail the main features of non-chronological report writing and have ensured that we have applied this to our own writing. In Science, we finished our work about the different phases of the Moon and have been learning about why day and night occur. In RE, we have written a final draft of our psalms about what being loving, caring or holy means to us, connecting this to what God teaches us in the Bible. We have also talked about the importance of forgiveness and saying sorry and have related this to Christians and Confession. In DT, we finished off our Mayan people using a range of different materials. In History, we continued our work about the religious beliefs of the Ancient Mayan Civilisation and examined in more depth the important Mayan gods and the afterlife that the Mayans believed in. We have been focusing on basketball skills in PE this week by developing our co-ordination and ability to mark a partner. In Music, we have been thinking about what instruments we could use to accompany our space songs and identifying repeated rhythmic patterns.

Oak News

Oak Class were very lucky to have some visitors from the Assembly Hall this week. They learnt about the story of Aladdin and designed a picture of the story to be shown when the pantomime is playing. They have also been looking at prime numbers in Maths. In English they have been changing sentences from the active voice to the passive voice.

In Maths we have been using known facts to solve problems. We have enjoyed being creative to design our own front cover for English. In Science we have carried out an experiment finding out how the number of batteries affects the brightness of a bulb.

Online Safety

With our Half term about to start a timely reminder about keeping safe online. Parental controls are software and tools which you can install on phones or tablets, games consoles or laptops – and even your home broadband.

You can also use them to help you block or filter the content your child sees when searching online. And family-friendly public WiFi can help when you're out and about.

Parental controls are also available to help you to:

- plan what time of day your child can go online and how long for
- stop them from downloading apps they're too young for
- manage the content different members of the family can see.

So whatever your child is doing online, there's a way that you can help keep them safe.

Below is a link to a useful website with guides about a variety of apps and a printable PDF guide

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/How-to-guides/>

All Soul's Lamps of Remembrance at St Barnabas' Church

At the time of the commemoration of all Souls, we pray for our departed loved ones and friends. Lamps of Remembrance are a meaningful way to remember departed loved ones on All Soul's Day and during the following week. Each lamp will bear a memorial inscription with the name of the person being commemorated. The lamps will be lit in the church on All Souls' day and will be burn continuously for the next even days.

If you would like to purchase one or more lamps, they are available for £4 each. A form came home this week in the children's bags.

Something to think about



Was the pen the most important invention?

Do remember the clocks go back on 29th October.

Have a lovely Autumn Half Term and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 30th October.

With best wishes
Moirá Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW