

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 17th November 2017

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



Our **School Christian Values** are Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion. This week we have continued to look at the importance of Remembrance.

Reminders

Please can we ask that we have no chocolate nut spread in sandwiches as we have children who are allergic to nuts in school.

Chocolate should be in moderation and we ask that the children do not have other sweets in their packed lunch.

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Dates

Monday 20th November

Shakespeare Week: see back page

Friday 24th November

Parents in Reception invited to Act of Worship @ 9.00am

Friday 1st December

PTFA AGM @ 9.00am
School Disco

Saturday 9th December

Carol singing 11- 12pm
Royal Victoria Place

Sunday 10th December

PTFA Christmas Bingo,
2-5pm

Wednesday 13th and

Thursday 14th December
KS1 Nativity @ 2.00pm

Friday 15th December

KS2 Christmas @ 6.00pm

Attendance

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

Acorn	94.8%
Willow	94.8%
Beech	88%
Maple	98.6%
Chestnut	97.9%
Lilac	97.9%
Oak	95.7%



This week in School:

Well done to everyone who represented their uniformed organisation on Sunday and to Brandon who represented the School at St Barnabas' Mass.

Year 6 have continued to work hard on their rehearsals for their Shakespeare play and I know they are looking forward to performing next week at the Trinity Theatre.

It has been lovely to have Dave back and I know he has been very appreciative of the kind words and texts he has received.

Thank you for your kind donations for Children in Need – we have raised £170

Online applications for a Reception Place in September 2018 open with Kent County Council on 6th November until 15th January. If you are applying for a sibling place you still need to apply online through KCC. www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions.

If you need assistance with completing the online form please do get in touch with the School Office who will be only too happy to assist.



Class News

Acorn News

Acorn Class have been busy learning the new sounds 'ck' and 'd'. They made 'caterpillars' with corks and paint, they looked carefully at how to form the new sounds and they used the new sounds to create words. We also introduced a new tricky word 'the' and they have been building and reading sentences. In maths the children have looked at the formation of numbers 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9 (and some have gone further). They have been writing these numbers in glittery sand, on white boards and on paper. We read 'The Paper Bag Princess' and this inspired some children to make 'Paper Clothes' during our Plan, Learn, Review sessions. Other children enjoyed drawing and making books, some played on the bikes and scooters and others were busy with the construction materials. We have also been listening to rhymes and poems, as well as learning the Christmas songs for this year's production!

Willow News

This week Willow Class have been planning and writing stories based around the story of 'The Frog Prince' and the story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. The children have been using their sentence writing skills and knowledge of plural words in their independent writing. In Maths, the children have been solving adding and subtracting number problems where they have been given some information and have to work out the missing parts. The children have also been practised counting in 1s, 2s and 10s. In RE, the children sequenced pictures to help retell the Christmas story. We have started practising our Christmas play and the children are learning words and signs for the songs. In PE the children have been working in groups developing their ball and teamwork skills.

Beech News

In English we started our 'Letter Writing' unit of work. We have continued to use The Great Fire of London as our inspiration, so we decided to start writing a letter to Samuel Pepys. We started by exploring how we could use the and/but/because connectives to create information sentences about London, houses and the Great Fire of London. Next, we composed question sentences to question Pepys about his experiences of these three subjects. In Maths, we completed a reasoning activity and worked hard to explain our thinking clearly. Next, we explored how we could use a number-line to find the difference between two values. In Science, we used a sorting diagram to sort materials according to two different properties. We also used precise scientific vocabulary to describe these properties. On Wednesday and Friday afternoon we started to rehearse for our KS1 Nativity – Christmas Counts. We have decided not to give out any homework this week so children can focus on learning their lines. Please make time to practise with your child and help them say their lines with fluency. In RE this week we looked at the different characteristics that Jesus showed and how we might see these gifts and qualities in each other. We are continuing Nativity rehearsals with gusto accompanied by some excellent singing. Children in Need is always a time to think of others around us and their needs. Hopefully we will have raised lots of money. Thank you for your donations!

Maple News

This week in Maple Class we have been continuing our work on the Stone Age. The children have been looking at the types of food that would have been eaten and whether they were hunted or gathered. We have also been comparing modern and Stone Age needs and wants. The children discussed which things were the same as now and which were different. In English, the children have written some very detailed non-chronological reports about their creatures that they designed last week. We have also been doing some work on verbs. In Maths, the children have been learning about division and dividing by 3. We have also carried a Science investigation this week. We looked at different soil types using magnifying glasses to see if we could discover what was in the soil. We then added water to the soil samples to see if we could decide what type of soil it was. The children made some excellent observations.

Chestnut News

On Tuesday, we visited the church for our year group Mass. The children were very impressive in their attention, interest and superb behaviour. A huge thank you to Father John for welcoming us. We have been continuing our work on play scripts this week. Using a prose text (the story of Osiris and Seth) we have focused on breaking it down into scenes. We have looked at where each scene would be set and the characters who would appear in it. In order to deepen our understanding of stage directions, we have worked on using appropriate adverbs for lines in the play. We have had a shared writing session to create the first scene, using all the children's ideas. The next stage was to write scene 2 independently! In Maths, we have moved on to adding 2 lots of 4-digit numbers. Our first step was to add numbers with no carrying over, and we have moved on to tackling carrying. We began with 2 digit numbers and progressed to 3 and 4 digit numbers. We have continued our twice weekly times table tests and all the children are improving each time. These are aimed to help them improve their score as a personal challenge and results are not shared with anyone else. Keep up the work on 6, 7 and 9 times tables in short bursts! The clay amulets the children made are now displayed in our Chestnut Class Museum. They look fantastic. As part of our topic learning this week, we have looked at the process of mummification. Next week, we will be visiting the Tunbridge Wells Museum for a hands-on session – they have a wonderful collection of artefacts from ancient Greece, Rome and Egypt. It will be a great opportunity for the class to handle incredible items that will bring the past to life. The session will take place during normal school hours and you will receive a ParentMail letter about this.

Lilac News

This week in Maths, Lilac Class have been drawing line graphs and focusing on reading and interpreting tables to obtain information. In English, we finally levelled up our extended piece of persuasive writing in the form of an article for a travel brochure, promoting why people should visit Belize. We will be designing leaflets for our writing next week. In RE, we examined texts from Matthew Chapters 1 and 2 about the birth of Jesus and identified as a class key words and phrases that describe the Messiah. In Science, we made sundials and predicted what would happen to the movement of the shadow during the day. We based our predictions on our knowledge from the work we have covered and research we have done about the Sun, in addition to what we learnt on our trip to Herstmonceux. In our Topic this week, we have been studying the lives of the ordinary Mayan people. We found out that they could make chocolate but were not allowed to eat it, as they were not important enough and that they also made colourful clothes but could not wear them for the same reason! In PE, we have continued to create our own large ball games based on shooting, passing and defending. In Art/DT, we started to paint our clay tiles engraved with original Mayan patterns. In Music, we listened to Mars and Venus from Gustav Holst's The Planet Suite. We compared the pieces and talked about the different use of instrumentation and dynamics.

Oak News

Oak Class have been looking at fractions this week in Maths. We have been busy rehearsing for Macbeth and getting our costumes ready.

Events coming up!

Shakespeare Week

Wednesday 21st November - Bring all your coppers!! How far can we make our 1p and 2p coins travel around the school?

Friday 24th November- Dress up day as a Shakespeare character or wear something purple. Children pay £1.

ZUMBATHON!

Friday 24th November 7:30 - 9:30pm at St Barnabas' School Hall £7.50.

This year, students in year six are fortunate enough to be taking part in the national Shakespeare Schools Festival. They have been working really hard rehearsing for their version of Macbeth, which they will be performing at Trinity Theatre in front of a paying audience.

This fantastic opportunity really helps to develop skills such as teamwork and public speaking, as well as being a fantastic confidence-builder. Unfortunately, it is very expensive and in order to enable future classes to take part, we need to raise as much money as possible to help with funding.

So...come and join us! You'll be keeping fit, raising money for a good cause and having a jolly old time!

Save the Date!



St Barnabas Christmas Bingo

Mulled wine + hot food
Bottle tombola + Raffle prizes
Festive craft activities and more to be announced!!

Prize for the best Christmas jumper!

Sunday 10th December 2-5pm

FREE ENTRY

Fun for all the family!



St Barnabas CEP School, Quarry Road, TN1 2EY

Something to think about



Is there more future or past?

Have a lovely weekend. Please do check your child's head for headlice. There are many ways of treating this condition and regular checking can help keep them at bay.

With best wishes

Moir Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW