

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 15th December 2017

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



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

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 boxes

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Dates

Friday 15th December

KS2 Christmas @ 6:00pm

St Barnabas Church

Tuesday 19th December

School Christmas Dinner

If you would like to wear a Christmas Jumper/ Hat/ Decoration over your school uniform on Tuesday you would be very welcome!

Wednesday 20th December

9:15am Christmas School Mass at St Barnabas Church

3:00pm End of term

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Term 4 begins

Monday 8th January

Attendance

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

Acorn 88.3%

Willow 89.3%

Beech 94.3%

Maple 98.3%

Chestnut 94.8%

Lilac 94.3%

Oak 97.7%



This week in School:

Wow what a week! Sunday saw our PTFA Christmas Bingo and what an afternoon it was! The weather was very wet and dull but inside the hall there was much fun and cheer. Our thanks go to all those who helped and of course to everyone who came. Just under £1,000 was raised for the school, so a HUGE thank you!

On Wednesday and Thursday KS1 performed their Nativity play, 'Christmas Counts' and they were amazing! Well done to everyone who took part and my thanks to the KS1 team. We are looking forward to the KS2 Celebration tonight at St Barnabas Church. Each class in turn are telling a part of the Christmas story. A joyful way to prepare for Christmas.

Over the last two days our new trim trail has been installed. It was a long and very cold process and we need to wait for a day or two for the cement to set. This has been funded by the PTFA and the School Council agreed the layout. Another huge thank you for funding this wonderful resource – the children can't wait to use it!

What a wonderful week!



Class News

Acorn News

Acorn Class have been learning the following sounds this week: 'f,l,ff,ll and ss'. They have looked at how to read and write each sound. Following this they, have been writing words that include these sounds. In Maths the children have been revising 2D shapes. They have taken part in a range of games to secure their knowledge of these flat shapes. In Plan Learn Review, the children have been busy in the 'Christmas Post Office'. They have been wrapping presents, sending letters and dressing up as post people! They have also been creating Christmas cards and drawing Christmas-inspired pictures. Some children have been building using the construction materials and others have been exploring the outdoor classroom. The children enjoyed dressing up for their Christmas performance, this week. They worked so hard, learning the songs and actions. The Acorn Team are extremely proud of them all.

Willow News

This week the children have been using bead strings and Numicon to investigate how many tens and ones are in 2 digit numbers. The children have been solving number problems involving numbers from 1 to 20. They have been comparing groups of objects and using the vocabulary 'more than', 'less than' and 'equal to' when recording their answers. We have also been practising number bonds for 10 and counting backwards in 1s from 20. In English we have been writing sentences and stories about Christmas. In Phonics we have been recapping the letters & sounds we have learnt, and identifying different digraphs that make the same sound (e.g. at, ai, a-e). Lots of our time this week has been taken up preparing for and performing our Christmas Nativity play 'Christmas Counts'. The children have worked very hard learning the songs and it has been lovely watching them perform and getting excited about dressing up.

Beech News

Beech Class have written some stunning shape poems using the theme of winter. They listened so carefully, forming the poems beautifully on the page and they expressed so much creativity in the words they chose to use. Hopefully we will have squeezed in a little Christmas Art by the time you read this, but I won't go into detail in case any of it is meant to be a surprise. As I won't be here on your last 3 days next week I want to wish you all a peaceful Christmas, love from Mrs Banner.

Maple News

The children have been preparing for their Christmas carol service this week. They have been working really hard, learning the words to many new carols and their singing has been excellent. They have also been baking Christmas biscuits with Miss Link which all of the children thoroughly enjoyed. We have been creating our Christmas cards using lots of green paint and glitter glue! The cards are coming along well and you will be able to see their efforts soon.

Chestnut News

We have been working very hard on our carols for the service on Friday evening. We are really looking forward to seeing you all then! The elves have been busy with all sorts of craft materials making cards and decorations. It has been lovely seeing the children work in different groups - they are quite determined that we will have created the largest paper chain ever! We are very much looking forward to our class party on Monday afternoon. Each child has brought a note home about bringing in a change of clothes and some snacks. Well done Chestnut Class for your lovely singing in rehearsals this week - we are very proud of you!

Lilac News

In Lilac Class this week we have concentrated on our carol singing for the key stage two performance and our class carol singing to the residents of the Tunbridge Wells Care Home. We have also been doing lots of Christmas activities in class and have designed Christmas folders and Christmas cards. In Maths, we finished our fluency work about factors and common factors of numbers, where we are now becoming far quicker at identifying these numbers and recognising the patterns of multiples. In English, we created our own books about the Nativity Story, building on our RE work where we have been examining texts that describe the scene. In Science, we completed our experiments about mass and weight where we initially made predictions about what we thought our results may be and why, using our scientific knowledge. We discovered that objects with the greatest mass (measured in kilograms) have the greatest weight (measured in Newtons) because the larger the mass the more gravitational force. We also considered why a ball would not bounce on the Moon, but float and why there is less gravity on the Moon. For Topic this week, we finished our work about the Mayans in the form of a 'Fact File' poster. We brought together all the facts that we have learnt about the Ancient Mayan Civilisation. In PE, we continued to improve our personal bests for both long jump and triple jump.

Oak News

This week Oak Class have been busy getting ready for Christmas. They have been using the Maths skills they have learnt so far this year to solve the mystery of the missing reindeer bells. Oak Class also finished some writing on the life of an evacuee, and have started making Nativity silhouettes that they will finish next week. We have been continuing our times table challenges in Maths. In Science we have been investigating opaque, translucent and transparent materials.



Something to think about

"Christmas gift suggestions: To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect."

-- *Oren Arnold*

Online applications for a Reception Place in September 2018 close on 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.

We look forward to singing carols tonight at the Church and all are very welcome. Have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes

Moira Duncombe

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