

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

Newsletter Friday 11th May

"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 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

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

## Dates

Half term Monday 28th  
May- Friday 1st June

INSET day- no children  
Monday 4th June

Monday 11th June  
School Photographs

Week beginning 11th June  
Year 1 Phonic Assessment

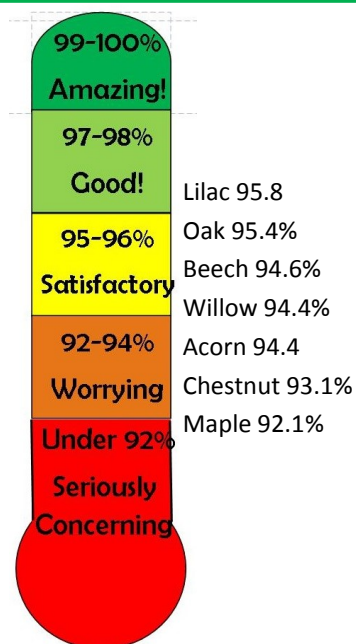
Sports day  
Thursday 21st June tbc  
am: KS2 pm: KS1

## Attendance

As a whole school we have an attendance target of 97% to achieve.

**Overall attendance last week: 94.32%**

Do remember we start school every-day at 8:45am.



## This week in school

For Oak Class this week has been very busy with the children completing their Year 6 assessments. The children took each assessment with determination and a real sense of purpose. You were all amazing and I hope you have a fabulous weekend- you have certainly earned it! Thank you to the other classes in Key Stage 2 especially those who had had to move classes and be very quiet.

We have been finding out more about GDPR and how this might change how we do things at St Barnabas. Have a look at the next page of this newsletter.



A plea.... We would like to start up our Chess Club but need someone to lead it. Do you play chess? Do you have a couple of hours each week? Please see Mrs Duncombe for more information.

## **General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)**

You may be aware that data protection regulations are changing on May 25th. We are currently working with an expert data protection company to ensure that we have everything in place to be fully compliant with the new regulations and will be issuing you with a new Privacy Notice shortly, which will explain the data we hold on you and your child and how and why we hold it.

We need to hold personal information about your child on our computer system and in paper records to help us with their educational needs. As Headteacher, I am responsible for their accuracy and safe-keeping. Please help to keep your child's records up to date by informing us of any change of circumstances.

School staff have access to your child's records to enable them to do their jobs. From time to time information may be shared with others involved in your child's care, if it is necessary. Anyone with access to your child's records is properly trained in confidentiality issues and is governed by a legal duty to keep their details secure, accurate and up to date.

All information about your child is held securely and appropriate safeguards are in place to prevent accidental loss.

In some circumstance we may be required by law to release your child's details to statutory or other official bodies. In other circumstances, you may be required to give written consent before any information is released. To ensure your child's privacy, we will not disclose information over the phone unless we are sure we are talking to you, the parent/carer.

Further information regarding our new privacy notice will be sent out shortly. It will inform you about the data we request and how it is used.

### **What is a voluntary contribution?**

The cost of a school trip is worked out as the cost of entry plus the cost of the coach, divided by the total number of pupils in the class (adult places are usually free). As a mainstream school, we are obliged to say that this is voluntary.

However, as you can imagine, if parents do not contribute, then the trips will need to be cancelled as unfortunately, the school does not have the money in our budget to cover these costs. Times have changed and our budgets are being squeezed more and more. If you are having trouble paying for the trip or have to pay for more than one child at the same time, then do speak to me. I am happy to discuss with you.

When you receive the letter regarding your child's school trip, please can I encourage you to return the permission slip promptly and also to pay your contribution.



## Class News



### Acorn News

Acorn have had a super week. On Tuesday the Class enjoyed a 'Teddy Bear's Picnic', on the field. The weather was glorious and the children had fun. We have started thinking about zoo animals, particularly 'Big Cats'. The roleplay area has been transformed into a 'zoo'. The children have been writing about cats: describing big cats, writing cat fact sheets and comparing domestic cats to their larger relatives. The children have learnt the tricky words 'little', 'when' and 'one'. In Maths they have been thinking about subtraction and using manipulatives to support their understanding.

In Plan, Learn, Review the Class have been writing and drawing, using the iPads, using the outdoor area and making models using the construction materials.

### Willow News

It has been a busy week for Willow Class. The children have enjoyed the opportunity to go to the field for PE to practise their athletics skills. On Monday they practised running in lanes; on Tuesday it was going over the hurdles and throwing the foam javelins. They also honed their running technique on Thursday.

In Maths this week, the children have been learning about finding a half and a quarter of a group of objects. Later in the week, the children moved on to learning direction. They learnt about turns (quarter turn, half turn, full turn) and have been practising using these skills in Maths activities.

In English, the children have been learning about writing instructions and the things that you need to include to help people know what to do. The children have written instructions about how to make a paper boat, how to plant a seed and how to make a sandwich.

In RE, the children have continued to learn about stories from other faiths and this week they heard about the Muslim story of The Crying Camel. The message of the story was about caring for God's creatures. The children wrote about how they would care for the camel.

### Beech News

In English, we focussed on developing our reading comprehension skills. We read a range of different texts and explored how we could answer comprehension, definition and inference questions. In Maths, we continued to revisit some of the main learning points that we have covered so far this year. We started the week by exploring fractions. We focussed on finding fractions of shapes and amounts. Next, we revisited our learning on money, data handling and shape. Finally, we reviewed all of the different addition and subtraction skills that we have developed this year. Beech Class have worked extremely hard this week and made excellent progress.

In RE this week we are studying the stories of Moses in the Torah. We have acted out the stories, drawn pictures and reflected on the meaning of these events for the Jewish people. We also looked at the leadership qualities that Moses needed to help God's people. In Art we used different media to create 'Moses and the burning bush'. As a whole Class we are trying to spend a little time each Friday in our garden, planting and watering seeds, looking after the potatoes, building dens and cleaning our pond. It is wonderful to see such creativity and enthusiasm in enjoying and looking after nature.

### Maple News

We have been getting to grips with the 24 hour clock and moving on to using this for Time problems. In Art we have continued to work on our dotty pictures and have been investigating different paints and techniques. We completed some excellent work using fronted adverbials too!

### Chestnut News

We have been on the move this week! In order to allow Year 6 students to have space and peace to sit their SATs tests, we have spent time over in the hall. It has been a lovely opportunity to learn and rehearse some songs and play the larger musical instruments we have in school.

We have also been busy editing our stories in 'editing pairs'. This has been a really valuable experience for the children who have been responsible for correcting their spelling and punctuation themselves, and also ensuring their work contains all the target features.

In our Topic sessions we have been learning about how artefacts help us uncover the past. We have used lists of questions to help us 'squeeze' information out of an object. With each object studied, we ultimately thought about what it told us about Anglo-Saxon life.

### Lilac News

This week in Maths, Lilac Class have been ordering and comparing decimals and also ordering and comparing a combination of mixed numbers, fractions and decimals. In English, we developed our knowledge of homophones and have put the finishing touches to our Titanic recounts. In RE, we have focused on a selection of ten words from the ninety-nine words for Allah, thinking about what these different words mean and what it tells us about Allah. In Science, we have continued with our work about food chains using the key words we learnt last week, such as producer, consumer, predator and prey. For Topic this week, we have looked carefully at an atlas and have labelled on a world map many important rivers in Europe, Africa, India, China and North and South America. In Art, we have been working on our class frieze of the Titanic and the iceberg in the North Atlantic Ocean. As it has been SATs week we have had the opportunity to team up with Chestnut Class and be involved in a block of practical musical activities in the school hall. We have learnt a selection of songs about nature and the sea and accompanied these using a variety of pitched and unpitched percussion. We have also been learning about the difference between rhythm and pulse and the meaning of traditional Italian musical terms, for example, ostinato, crescendo and diminuendo. We have also been singing songs in two parts in the form of a round. In PE, we have been practising our sprinting and relay skills in preparation for Sports Day after half term.

### Oak News

A huge congratulations to you all for your hard work and dedication this week. It has been tough but you have all been stars!



# EASY PEASY

and it's  
**free**

Help us by collecting **FREE donations** every time you shop online. Follow these three easy steps...



**1. Join**  
Head to easyfundraising, search for us to start raising.



**2. Shop**  
There are nearly 3,000 retailers on board, so pick the one you want and start shopping.



**3. Raise**  
After you've made your purchase, the retailer will make a donation to us at no extra cost whatsoever!

amazon.co.uk John Lewis ebay TESCO Sainsbury's Booking.com Argos

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stbarnabascevprimary/](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stbarnabascevprimary/)

If you haven't already done so, please sign up to 'easyfundraising'.

Just by shopping online you can earn money for St Barnabas at no cost to you.

**1. Register on**

[www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk)

**2. Select St Barnabas CE VA Primary School as your chosen charity.**

**3. Start shopping!**

Please take a look and sign up today!

## Baby News!

Congratulations to  
Mrs Atkinson and her  
family on the arrival  
of their new baby  
boy!

Please remember that dogs are **not** allowed on the school playground, even if they are being carried.

## Something to think about!



Doc, Happy, and Bashful ate three  
burgers each.

How many did they eat altogether?

Have a wonderful weekend.

With best wishes

Moirá Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW