St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 8th September 2023

Each child is uniquely created and loved by God. www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Our **School Christian Values** are Aspiration, Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion. This week we welcomed our new year.

Attendance

We are always challenged to have the best attendance we can and our target this year is 97%.

Do remember that we close our gates at 8:45am everyday and we finish at 3pm.

Did you know:

10 minutes late each day = 6.5 days lost! 15 minutes late each day = 10 days lost! 20 minutes late each day = 13 days lost! 30 minutes late each day = 19 days lost!



Welcome back!

Welcome back after the summer break and I hope everyone had a restful summer. The weather this week has been glorious, but dare I say a little too hot??

I can't believe that we have completed the first full week of our new academic year and the children have settled so well back into school routines. It is lovely to start to get to know our Acorn children. This week some of our Year 6 children sat their PESE (11+) tests and they completed them with confidence.

On Wednesday our Year 3 started their swimming lessons. Swimming is part of the National Curriculum and the class were superb in being independent in getting ready and also listening to what was being asked of them.

What a great start to a new term!



Our Bishop, the Rt Revd Norman Banks, will be visiting St Barnabas' Church on Sunday 24th September for the Parish Mass at 11am—please come along if you can to say goodbye to Bishop Norman before his retirement.

You also should have received an email regarding Confirmations, First Communions and Baptisms; please let Fr John know, asap, if you are interested in any of these.

School Uniform and PE kit

We are very lucky to have Mr Luckhurst supporting our teaching of PE in School. Our children need to have their named kit in school every day. With our changing weather, please can we ask that children bring a named hat or cap. Then, as the weather cools, they will also need to have a coat as we will continue to go outside throughout the day to support our learning.

Please can everything be named!

Jewellery

Please can we remind everyone that long hair should be tied back and earrings, if needed to be worn, should be small studs and not hoops or dangling.

Information for our Year 6.

I am aware that you have only just started Year 6 but here are the key dates to help you in applying for secondary school:

Thursday	Online application process opens. Go to www.kent.gov.uk/ola to
1 September 2022	register and apply. Information about secondary schools will be available from our website. School open evenings begin, and details can be found
	on each school's website.
Thursday 8 September 2022	Children in Kent who registered take the Kent Test (11+).
By Tuesday 18 October 2022	Kent Test (11+) assessment decisions sent to parents after 4pm.
Monday 31 October 2022	Online application process closes for the main round. Any amendments after this date must be emailed to <u>kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk</u>
Wednesday 1 March 2023	Offers of school places sent to parents via email after 4pm.
By Wednesday 15 March 2023	Parents should contact the school to accept/refuse the place that has been offered. Parents should also fill out the waiting list form from the link in the offer email to be added to the waiting list of schools named on the original application.
By Tuesday 28 March 2023	Appeals need to be lodged by this date to be heard before September – appeals information can be found at <u>www.kent.gov.uk/schoolappeals</u> . You can only appeal for schools that were named on the SCAF.
Tuesday 25 April 2023	Offer day for the second round of applications (known as reallocation). After this date waiting lists will be maintained by the schools and they will send out offers for any places that may become available. Parents that have received an offer of a school place from KCC can approach schools directly for alternative places.
April to June 2023	Admission appeals held.
September 2023	Children start in year 7 at secondary school.

We will be sending more information as we receive it.



Friday Worship

On a Friday our worship is all about celebration. We share our stars of the week, children who are in our Golden books for showing our School Values, team points and any other celebrations from our School community:

Olivia, Eren, Lacie, Dylan, Brijesh, Liliana, Evie, Lois, Kolus, Nellie and Ekansh.

Well done to Lois who has been given her handwriting award.

Congratulations to our House Captains: Daisie, Roland, Xian, Sai, Ayda, Izabella, Alana and Nihal. Well done everyone for a wonderful week back.

Keeping in contact

If you would like to contact your child's class teacher here are the class email addresses.

If it is an urgent matter please contact the School office.

Acorn: acorn@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk Willow: willow@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Beech: beech@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk Maple: maple@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Chestnut: chestnut@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Lilac: lilac@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Oak: oak@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Safeguarding Concerns

Please can we remind everyone that the School Designated Safeguard leads are Mrs Duncombe and Mrs Pring. If you have any concerns do contact us.

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

Have a lovely weekend – hopefully it won't be too hot!

With best wishes

Moira Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW