

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 12th January 2024

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 have found out about the Gospels.

Attendance

We are always challenged to have the best attendance we can and our target this year is 97%. This week our attendance is 92.88%.



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

This Week...

Our first full week back of 2024 and it has certainly been busy! Our first worship of 2024 with Father John saw the whole school outside for its Epiphany blessing. When you come to the reception entrance you can see the chalk blessing with the initials of the Three Wise Men and the date.

This week we have battled the ice and a little snow and the children have adapted to changes of routines well.



On Wednesday we were lucky to have a drama event run by the Drama Geezers as part of a January Challenge. Those involved had a great time dressing up and eating lots of cake! We look forward to the Drama Geezers coming back in term 4 to work with us on another exciting project.

Yesterday some of our Year 5 and 6 children took part in a cluster athletics event and although it was very cold the team showed excellent sportsmanship. Thank you to Ayda for being an excellent captain for the event.

Please can I remind all our families who cross the road outside the school to make sure that they use the crossing rather than going across the road at the junction with Western Road.

The Winter Mini Challenge is continuing...

From 1st December 2023, children will be able to take part for free via the Reading Agency's dedicated children's website, wintermini.org.uk, and gain online rewards for reading and re-viewing books!

The Reading Agency are teaming up with Youth Sport Trust once more and the Ready, Set, Read superstar team are back for another awesome reading challenge. The theme is sports and games – put simply, we're all ready to have fun and keep active!



All children have to do is read at least three books between **1 December 2023 and 19 February 2024**. They can choose any books they like! Fact books, fiction, joke books, picture books, eBooks, audio books, the choice is theirs and all of these can be reserved and borrowed for free from any Kent library with a child's library card!

Once they've read a book, [add it to their website profile](#) (over on the Reading Agency's website) and write a review to let everyone know what you thought. Remember to also log their books online to unlock virtual rewards too!

Read and add just 3 books (or more) to complete the Winter Mini Challenge!



Last call for Acorn Class 2024!

If you have a child born between 1st September 2019 - 31st August 2020, due to start school next September applications close at midnight on Monday 15 January 2024. should be made online via KCC:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places>

Friday Worship

In our Friday 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.

Well done to: Alfie-Lee, Charlotte, Steven, Arlo, Zayn, Darius, Cody, Nyla, Anas, Hanvika, Oscar, Eliska, Xian, Om and Tia.

Also, well done to the whole of Acorn Class who joined us for the first time.

Congratulations to Saints for the most team points this week!

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.

Thank you again for your kindness at Christmas. Have a lovely weekend and hopefully it's not too cold.

With best wishes
Moira Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW