

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 28th September

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



Our **School Christian Values** are Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion. We have discussed our hidden talents.

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

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

Key dates coming up

Thursday 4th October
Harvest Festival 9:30am

Friday 5th October
Exhilarate 3-5pm

Wednesday 17th October
Year 6 CPR session

Thursday 18th October
New entrant morning

Monday 22nd– 26th October
Half term

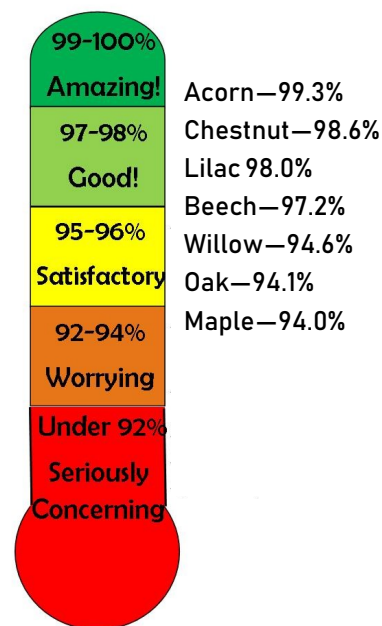
Attendance

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

Overall attendance last week:

Last week our attendance was 96.6%

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



This Week



Our Acorn Class are now attending school full time and have settled in well; it has been lovely to see them enjoying their school lunches and also meeting their buddies.

On Monday we had our first Full Governing Body meeting of the year and Fr. John was elected as Chair – please see his message later in this newsletter.

We have had to change our Harvest Festival to Thursday 4th October. Please can we ask that the children bring in something for our Harvest boxes which will go to the local Foodbank. You are of course very welcome to join us in the church.

Years 5 & 6 parents we do still have places available for Young Voices 2019—see further on in the newsletter & check Parentmail.

Please do check your ParentMail regularly as this is our main form of communication.

Governor News



This last Monday, our school's Governing Body elected me to the position of Chair. Many of you will know me through my role as Vicar of S Barnabas' parish, and I hope you will feel free to discuss my role as Chair. As Chair, I have the responsibility to work with our Governors and school leaders to develop strategy and policy which will continue to build over the progress in recent years. I come into this position with over fifteen years combined governance experience, and I have chaired a school in London from 'Good' to Outstanding'. As you will know, our school is a priority to me, and I will do everything I can to ensure that every one of our children receives the best education possible, grounded in the values which are so important to our whole school community.

Our Vice Chair, Mike Thompson, and I will be in the hall for informal coffee mornings the next two Tuesdays (2nd and 9th October from 8.45 to 9.30). You are all welcome to join us and to get to know us better.

Regards, Fr. John Caster

Something to think about



Sam works 8 hours a day. How many hours does Sam work in 9 days?

A 72

B 64

C 73

D 74

St Barnabas School is going to Young Voices 2019!

We are very excited to announce that in January, we will be taking a group of 30 pupils to the O2 Arena in London to take part in Young Voices 2019.

Young Voices is the largest school choir performance in the world, with between 5000 and 8000 children taking part in each performance. The music is selected specially to create a diverse musical repertoire all with the intention to introduce children to the widest possible spectrum of music. This year's selection of songs includes music from Coldplay, Blondie, Kylie, The Bangles, Moana and a finale from The Greatest Showman. The performance will include a mixture of contemporary and classic music, with some fabulous special guests – Tony Hadley (Spandau Ballet) and Beau Dermott (Britain's Got Talent).

We would encourage any child who wishes to experience a massive, live music concert to consider joining us. At the moment participation is open to Years 5 & 6 and you can sign up via Parentmail (all Year 5 & 6 parents have been sent a Parentmail).





Class News



Acorn News

The children have really enjoyed their first full week at school and are all very tired! We have played some listening games in preparation for starting our phonic sounds next week. During choosing time, lots of us enjoyed wrapping up 'presents' for our parents, we enjoyed playing on the bikes and making lots of different things using the large construction parts. Lots of us enjoyed showing off our numbers skills, a few of us can add two numbers together! We also enjoyed meeting our buddies and spending time getting to know them. Well done to our 'star of the week', Jake, who got to take Nick the Monkey home!

Phonics workshop - Thursday 4th October

Please see our class newsletter sent separately.

Willow News

This week in English, Willow Class have been sequencing the story of the Three Little Pigs, acting out the story and writing descriptions of the characters using adjectives. In Phonics this week we have learnt about the 'ir' and 'ue' sounds and have been reading tricky words. In Maths, the children have learnt about using the greater than, less than and equals signs. The children have also started learning about ordinal numbers and what they look like (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, etc). In Science we have been talking about Seasons, particularly Autumn, and the class drew Autumn pictures. In RE, the class heard the story of The Lost Sheep and wrote about something they would like help with. In PE the class have been playing games involving throwing, catching or kicking a ball.

Beech News

In Art this week we used Clay and Plasticine to model thumb pots and relief tiles. We used inspiration from our Wilderness Wood trip to decorate our clay and we hope to paint them next week.

Maple News

This week in Maple Class we have been continuing to explore the Stone Age. We have been using 'Stone Age Boy' to think about the thoughts, feelings and actions of being in a reindeer hunt and we have been using alliteration to help us find ways to describe a deep, dank, cold, clammy cave. In Maths we have been moving from ways to represent and reason with 3 digit numbers using objects to using problems using 3 digit numbers. In Science we have been studying how fossils are formed. And in Topic we have been finding out about how Stonehenge was built and about the neolithic farmers and fishermen of Skara Brae in the Orkney Islands.

Oak News

It's been another busy week in Oak Class. After researching our significant figures from World War II, we are now beginning to draft our biographical reports. We have been focusing on sentence structure in order to make our writing as interesting as possible for the reader, and have set ourselves the challenge to include simple, compound and complex sentences in our work. Additionally, we have looked at active and passive sentences and experimented with changing between the two.

In Maths, we began by revisiting column subtraction and have now moved on to long multiplication, with the aim of being able to multiply two, three and four digit numbers. There can be a lot to remember with long multiplication but the class have persevered and are now beginning to use it to solve multi-step problems.

In Science, we are still on our topic of evolution and have been looking at how fossils can give us clues to how animals have evolved over time. We have also had a go at making our own fossils embedded in rock and hope to have a go at excavating them next week.

One of the best things about this week was that we finally got to go and meet our buddies in Acorn. We had a great time reading to them and getting to know them better.

Chestnut News

In English this week, we have been writing descriptive accounts of the stage of a volcanic eruption. We will be using this work when we write our own stories. We have been re-telling the story 'Escape from Pompeii' and writing story maps to ensure that we are familiar with the structure of the story. We have broken it down into sections and have begun to plan the changes we will make when we write our own stories. The children are really stretching themselves with vocabulary and I am looking forward to some exciting extended writing next week.

We have been working with number lines from 0-10,000 in Maths. We have looked at ways to help ourselves mark out blank number lines using our knowledge of place value. We have also looked at number lines starting and ending at different intervals and using our skills to problem solve.

In Topic work, we have been learning about the Roman army. We thought about how the empire could have spread from such small beginnings to take over parts of Europe and Africa. We have also started to study Roman mosaics and will be designing and creating our own shortly.

In our Science unit 'sound', we have been learning about the structure of the ear. We have also been thinking about animals that have very good hearing, how they move their ears and how the shape and size of their ears is important.

Thank you to children who have brought in some lovely autumnal finds for our nature table!

Lilac News

In Maths this week we completed our objective about rounding numbers by working in pairs to solve problems. We then moved onto our new objective about counting forwards and backwards in powers of ten. We had to complete number sequences and use our reasoning skills to explain why mathematical statements were wrong and why we thought this was the case. In English, we started our next piece of extended writing. Our focus is to describe setting where we are writing about what our character, (a Spanish Conquistador in 1519) saw, heard, smelt and felt when he travelled through the tropical rainforest of Mesoamerica and discovered the ancient Mayan ruins. This week, not only did we brainstorm ideas as a whole class but we also created in pairs mind maps in preparation for our draft writing next week. We have also been using a thesaurus to build our brilliant vocabulary and develop our language.

In Science this week, we started to make power points about an aspect of our Solar System that we wanted to find out more about. Some of us chose one of the planets as a topic and others chose the Sun, Moon and Asteroid Belt. In RE, we have been reading selected texts from the Bible and thinking about what they say about God. We have then connected these to our key words we are exploring at the moment: Omnipotent, Omniscient, Eternal, Loving and Holy. Father John came in to talk to us in more detail about these texts and how they relate to these words. In Topic, we have continued with our work about Mayan artefacts and what they tell us about Mayan life. We have also been examining Mayan art and have used them as inspiration for our own Mayan designs, using oil pastels. We found out that Mayan art is very colourful and the Sun and animals can often be found in their art work. In PE this week, we have continued to practise our football skills.

Just a reminder to say that our class trip to The Science Observatory at Herstmonceux is on Wednesday 31st October. Thank you so much to the parents who have already responded to the Parentmail.



Special Menu on Thursday 4th October!



First Communion

This Autumn Fr. John will begin First Communion classes in school for pupils who wish to be admitted at the Whole School Mass before the Christmas break.

If your child is in Year 3 or older and would like to make their first communion, feel free to speak with Fr. John. A letter will be sent out with further details next week.

Informal ASD 'Drop-in' for parents and carers

(Your child/young person does not need a diagnosis in order for you to attend)

Outreach Services



Date and Time	Time	Venue Address:
Tuesday 25 September 2018	1-3pm	Sunrise Children's Centre London Road Southborough, Tunbridge Wells Kent. TN4 0RJ
Tuesday 20 November 2018	1-3pm	
Tuesday 22 January 2019	1-3pm	
Tuesday 26 March 2019	1-3pm	
Tuesday 14 May 2019	1-3pm	
Tuesday 16 July 2019	1-3pm	

These sessions enable you to:

- Meet professionals who may be able to support you and your child. These may include: a Specialist Teacher, a representative from the Kent Autistic Trust, an Educational Psychologist and a representative from IASK (Information, Advice and Support Kent) and Independent Support Kent.
- Ask questions: learn more about ASD and the support and information you can access through a range of services and recommended reading.
- Consider your next steps.
- Meet other parents (refreshments are provided).
- Please feel free to bring along a friend.

If you have any questions please telephone Broomhill Bank Outreach Services: 01892 502466

Have a wonderful weekend.

With best wishes

Moirá Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW