

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 9th November

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



Our School Christian Values are Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion. This week we have been discussing remembering

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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Key dates next week

Children in Need

Friday 16th November

Next week is Children in Need and we would like all children to come in their own clothes (a traditional non-uniform day) on Friday and donate £1 to this charity.

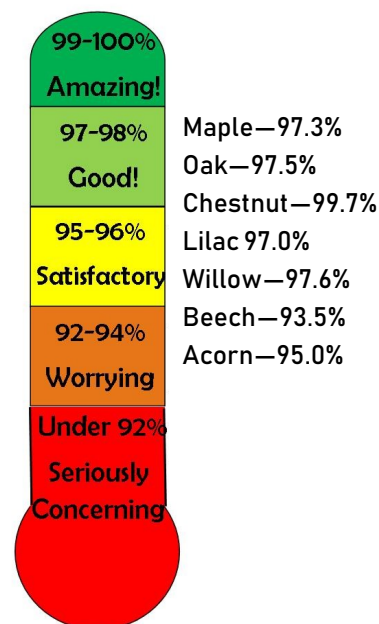
Please note that wheelies are not allowed nor is coloured hair.

Attendance

As a whole school we have an attendance target of 97% to achieve. Last week our attendance was 96.8%

Overall attendance last week:

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



This Week

It has been a thoughtful week with the children finding out about the importance of Remembrance and the anniversary of the 100 years since the end of World War 1.

On Tuesday we had a member of the West End Schools team come into school to bring some of the poems from WW1 to life. Each class acted out a part of the war from life at home to the Battle of the Somme and the end of the war.

Emily and Thomas have been going around with our poppy collections and we thank you if you have donated. On Sunday both Emily and Thomas will represent the school and will be laying a wreath on our behalf.

Today we had our own school Remembrance at 11am with the whole school joining together. Some of our Year 6 children read out their own poems linked to WW1.

It has been good to see so many parents at the parent-teacher consultations this week; if you have not yet made an appointment please speak to your child's teacher.



Class News



Acorn News

We have had lots of exciting things happening this week! We were all really excited to talk about the fireworks we had seen at the weekend and some of us painted pictures of fireworks. We had a lady called Kat take us for a drama workshop about Poppies and remembrance. We also talked about why Remembrance is important and the reason why lots of us are wearing Poppies. Mrs Duncombe was very pleased with how well we stood on the playground for a two minute silence. We had lots of fun on our Park trip with our buddies, looking for the signs of Autumn. A lovely lady called Jackie weighed us on the scales and measured how tall we were. We have learnt the sounds r, h and b, remember to keep looking for objects or words that start with these sounds! Well done to our 'star of the week' Zoe who always gets changed independently for PE!

Please also see the class newsletter.

Willow News

There has been lots happening around school and in Willow Class this week. On Tuesday the class took part in a WW1 poetry workshop and impressed the lady leading it with their great listening and participation. It was our first spelling test this week and the children tried really hard to spell the words they had been learning. It has been lovely to see some children talking about our spelling words when they spot them in books. In Phonics we have been practising read and write Phase 4 and 5 tricky words and have been looking at different ways to make vowel sounds. In English, the children have been identifying and using onomatopoeia words in their writing about fireworks and Going on a Bear Hunt. In Maths, the children have been subtracting numbers from 10, counting in 1s and 2s, using bead strings to do paired subtraction work and using their reasoning skills to solve Maths problems. We have been talking about Remembrance Day and Bonfire Night in class. The children have completed several pieces of art this week including firework pictures and decorating a poppy template. They also made a safety poster to remind people how to be safe when watching fireworks.

Beech News

In English, we finished off our Samuel Pepys diary entries. We used the plans that we have been making and improving for the last two weeks to create a final draft. Then, we introduced our next genre of writing. Over the next few weeks, we are going to focus on creating a piece of information writing all about the materials that houses were built from in 1666. We started by revisiting an activity we completed a few weeks ago which analysed the properties of wood, straw, pitch and glass. Next, we used a writing frame to create pairs of information sentences about these materials. I have added an article on the Class Blog so children can practise these writing skills at home if they wish. In Maths, we focused on developing and then using our counting skills. We practised adding and subtracting 1 from 2-digit numbers. Then, we explored how these skills could be used to help add and subtract 2 and 3 as well. Finally, we applied these skills to solve addition and subtraction problems in context. In ICT, we used the 'repeat' function to programme repeated sets of instructions. Then, we learned how this repeat function could be used to create regular 2D shapes.

Maple News

In Maple this week we have been carrying on learning to write instructions by looking at 'How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth'. We have thought about other prehistoric animals to write about like: woolly rhinoceroses, mastodons, megatheriums, and sabre-toothed cats.

We have carried on learning to use the column method to add and subtract three digit numbers, looking at base ten counters and Diennes blocks to help us if we need to regroup, and remembering to line our ones, tens and hundreds up when we write our work as numbers.

In PE we are carrying on learning about passing games and learning the rules of tag rugby.

We have learned why we wear poppies for Remembrance, how they grew after battles like a symbol of hope and how wearing them shows our respect for those who gave their lives. We have made our own poppy art and used Purple Mash on the computers to write about Remembrance Day.





Class News



Chestnut News

We were very lucky to take part in a workshop on Tuesday to explore the First World War through drama. Our year group theme was recruitment and we looked at propaganda posters. As part of the final performance we did some freeze frames to represent some of the propaganda posters of the time. Homework this week is to research and create our own.

In English, we have continued to work on instruction texts. To understand the importance of accurate instructions, we made our own edible Roman roads. The children made sure they fully understood all steps of the process and also demonstrated really good teamwork skills. We have also worked on some homophones that can catch them out in their writing. These are: your and you're, two, to and too and where and wear.

We have been starting to add two 4-digit numbers using place value charts and counter working on missing number questions and used bar models to represent calculations.

As part of our preparation for Remembrance Day, we have been learning about the A-Z of WWI. We have particularly thought about what life was like for children 100 years ago and their contribution to the war effort. We created a beautiful garland of poppies using collage.

Lilac News

In Maths this week in Lilac Class we have been finishing off our work about estimation and approximation and using the inverse to check our addition and subtraction calculations. We have worked through a lot of problem solving activities in pairs and then sharing the strategies we used with the whole class. In English, we started our next extended piece of writing. We are now focusing on persuasive writing and have looked at a variety of travel and tourism sites about visiting Belize in Mesoamerica. We looked carefully at the text that accompanied the photographs and videos and selected specific words and phrases that were examples of persuasive language. In RE, we have been learning about penance, forgiveness and Catholicism. We wrote our own prayer about forgiveness and answered questions about how saying sorry and forgiving someone makes us feel.

In Science, we have been learning about how day and night occur, using the facts we learnt from our Herstmonceux trip. We also gave our own explanations as to why it appears that the sun is moving around the Earth, rather than the other way round. For History this week, we focused on Remembrance and the centenary of the end of the First World War. We took part in a poetry drama workshop. Lilac Class acted out some scenes from The Battle of the Somme and read out extracts from newspaper articles from 1916 and some lines from Wilfred Owen's Dulce et Decorum Est. In class, we have been exploring why the war started and how people's attitudes towards the war changed as time went on and the reasons why this happened. In PE, we have continued to develop our large ball skills, concentrating on tackling and defending.

Oak News

On Tuesday, Oak Class were lucky enough to take part in a drama and poetry workshop on the theme of Remembrance. They studied poems by Siegfried Sassoon and John Macrae, which dealt with the terror of battle and the joy when the WW1 ended. The children did brilliantly well and gave a fantastic performance at the end of the day.

Continuing on the topic of WW1 poetry, the class delved more deeply into the poems from the workshop, focusing on the language used and the way it made them feel, and used what they had learned to create their own poems. The children achieved some beautiful imagery and were able to use a variety of figurative language. After looking at the different ways in which war poems can be illustrated, they then came up with artwork that would complement their poems. The results were stunning.

In Maths, the class have continued on their topic of fractions. They began the week by comparing them by the denominator, moved on to converting fractions into decimals and percentages, and then finished the week by adding and subtracting fractions and mixed numbers.

In Science, the class finished the topic of adaptation by investigating how finches in the Galapagos Islands have been subject to evolution. This took the form of an experiment: the children were asked to pick up different types of food, such as rice, seeds and jelly worms, using a variety of tools (tweezers, chopsticks, spoons, cocktail sticks and straws) and record their results in a table. This helped them to understand how different finches beaks had evolved according to the foodstuff available on their island.



Something to think about



Which is correct?

(">" means "greater than")

A $\frac{4}{16} > \frac{5}{10} > \frac{3}{9}$

B $\frac{5}{10} > \frac{4}{16} > \frac{3}{9}$

C $\frac{5}{10} > \frac{3}{9} > \frac{4}{16}$

D $\frac{3}{9} > \frac{4}{16} > \frac{5}{10}$

Fr. John has asked me to say that First Communion applications will be closed next Friday and he will then make contact. The First Communion form is attached to the Parentmail.

With best wishes