

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 18th January

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



Our School Christian Values are Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion. This week we have found out about the water of life.

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

Monday 21st January
Year 5 Class Mass
postponed

Wednesday 23rd January
Year 6 Mass

Monday 28th January
O2 Performance

Tuesday 29th January
Year 4 Mass

Wednesday 30th January
Year 3 Mass

Tuesday 5th February
Safer Internet Day

Wednesday 6th February
Year 1 Mass

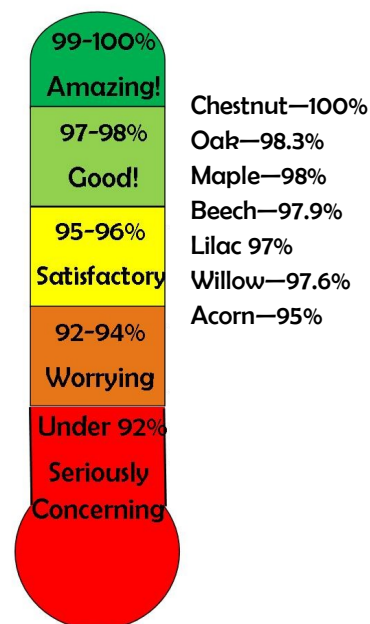
Tuesday 12th February
TW Music Festival

Attendance

As a whole school we have an attendance target of 97% to achieve. Last week our attendance was 97.7%

Overall attendance last week:

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



This Week

This week the weather has become colder and changeable and I think we even had snow yesterday! The children in their PE lessons have been working hard on their ball skills and teamwork.

Some of the children in Years 4, 5 and 6 are preparing to perform at the O2 at the end of the month and are busy learning their songs and dance moves!! We will be singing with lots of different schools and I am sure it will be a fabulous evening. Year 5 are also preparing songs to sing at the Tunbridge Wells Music Festival with other local schools. Music is definitely part of St Barnabas life!

We are working hard on learning our times tables and also number bonds to try and challenge ourselves to be more accurate and also quick!

Another busy week.



Class News



Acorn News

This week in Phonics we have started Phase 3 and have learnt the sounds j v w and x. We have enjoyed making words, listening for the initial sounds in words, been on a word treasure hunt and used the ipads to play sound games. In Maths we have been learning about subtraction and how when we take one number away from another number it makes a smaller number. In PE we enjoyed demonstrating different balls skills. We also visited the school library for the first time and everybody borrowed a book to take home! During our own learning time, some of Acorn class have enjoyed writing their own stories, using a variety of junk modelling resources and looking for letters in the jelly. Many of the children have been interested in the Ancient Egyptians and we have heard some fantastic helicopter stories all about mummies, Pharaohs and sarcophagi! Well done to our 'Star of the Week' Danny for showing a huge improvement in his independence when getting changed for PE!

Willow News

It has been another busy week for Willow Class. This week the children have been learning how to add the 'ing' suffixes onto verbs and have been using these words to write super sentences in English and Topic work. They have also been using the other features of sentences which we have learnt about in previous weeks (such as finger spaces and punctuation) and trying to use cursive writing. The class have also designed and written about a superhero this week. On Thursday, Willow Class started planning a superhero story which they will write next week.

In Maths, the children have been learning about subtraction and have used number lines, Numicon and counters to help them solve some maths problems. We have also been practising recall number bonds for 10 and 20 and worked through some maths questions to develop the children's reasoning skills. In Art, the children have been painted winter scene backgrounds and colourful rectangle pictures. They have also cut out a paper polar bear to use.

In RE the children heard how one of Jesus' disciples was a tax collector and disliked by lots of people. The children discussed how Christians believe Jesus is a friend to the friendless and that God forgives those who are truly sorry. In PE the children played a 3-a-side hockey tournament and learnt about the importance of using a hockey stick safely and listening careful to instructions. Mr Luckhurst, who leads the PE lessons, has been very impressed with how all the children's skills are developing.

Beech News

In English, we completed our pieces of instruction writing. We added sequencing vocabulary and adverbs to add more detail to each instruction. Finally, we used question and command sentences to create an introductory paragraph for our writing. In Maths, we focussed on arrays and multiplication. First, we explored how we could make different arrays for the same product. Next, we explored how we could use words and symbols to record our arrays. Finally, we practised using sorting circles and counting skills to solve multiplication problems. If you want to practise these multiplication skills at home, we have added a post to our blog which will help. In Science, we explored the vocabulary related to dissolving and played a game of dissolving bingo. As part of our Knights and Castles topic, we designed an imaginary kingdom and inhabited it with good and bad characters. We then set about creating the plot for a story set in our kingdom.

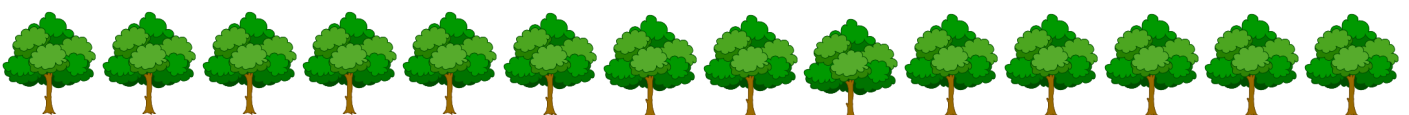
In Design Technology we made a labelled design of our chosen castle mechanism. Next week we will start to create these mechanisms in our box castles. In R.E. we are talking about how Christians trust God and believe he wants to give us good things. We decorated cards with different aspects of our world and ordered them in how they are important to us

Maple News

In Maple Class this week we have been carrying on learning about ancient Egypt. Our learning is still based around 'The Egyptian Cinderella' one of the oldest versions of the Cinderella story. Rhodopis, the heroine of the story loses her slipper like Cinderella & then becomes queen; we have thought about how she must have felt in her early life when she was stolen by pirates from her parents and sold as a slave; how unhappy she would have felt when the Egyptian servant girls teased her for having fair hair and rosy-red cheeks, and how miserable she would have been when one of her rose-gold slippers, the only special thing she owned, was stolen by a falcon. We have used comparative conjunctions like, 'but', 'however', and 'although' to help us describe how Pharaoh travelled the land of Egypt searching for the owner of the rose-gold slipper that had been dropped into his lap from the sky. We have weighed up whether it would be good or bad to be a queen of Egypt, particularly if no one asked you first.

We have been discovering about the life of ordinary people in ancient Egypt. We have learned how and what they farmed and why the river Nile flooding every year was so important to them. We considered what they ate and drank and how their lives were different to those of rich people like scribes. We have also found out what their houses were like.

In science we have been thinking about light, how it travels in rays that go in straight lines and how, when it hits something, a shadow is formed behind it. In Maths we have been using repeated addition to solve problems multiplying two digit numbers by one digit numbers, after persevering, we have started to become quite proficient at it.





Class News



Chestnut News

In English, we have continued to work on strategies to improve our writing. We have been identifying different types of noun, and finding and using pronouns to avoid repetition of nouns in sentences. In addition, we have been identifying adverbial phrases in sentences and moving them to the front of a sentence. We have made sure to add a comma after the adverbial when it has been turned into a fronted adverbial!

We have begun a unit on measure in Maths, with a specific focus on length and perimeter. We have been converting metres and kilometres and attempted some very challenging problems to apply our skills. We have also thought about how to carefully draw rectangles with a given perimeter and to accurately calculate perimeter.

As part of our topic work, we have been creating some fact files on all the continents and thinking about population size compared to land mass.

We interviewed Father John in RE to finish off our unit on Incarnation. We asked him various questions relating to the Trinity and how his belief in God impacts on how he lives. Many of the children asked really insightful questions and demonstrated deep thinking.

In Science, we learned the components of an electrical circuit and how to represent them in a diagram. We learned about what is necessary for a circuit to be complete and function. We are looking forward to creating simple circuits with bulbs and buzzers in our next lesson.

Lilac News

In Maths this week, Lilac Class have been learning more about common factors and have shown the factors and common factors of numbers using a Venn diagram. We then moved onto sorting numbers into prime and composite numbers using our knowledge of factors. In English, we have started to draft our new piece of extended writing based on Berlie Doherty's 'Street Child'. We re-wrote Chapter One entitled 'The Shilling Pie' in the first person and from the perspective of the main character, Jim Jarvis. We explored his thoughts and feelings, drawing on our whole class ideas and mind maps that we created in pairs. Our main task was to develop 'brilliant vocabulary' using a dictionary and a thesaurus. In RE, we continued our work about Moses and the salvation of the Hebrew people. This week, we focused on why it was so important to save 'God's people' and free the Jewish slaves.

In Science, we are conducting a whole class experiment about materials and insulation. This week we predicted what material we believed would be the best and worst insulator and why. We also had to think carefully about why the experiment is a fair test. Next session we will actually conduct the experiment that will answer the question: Which material will be best at keeping Dr Charles's tea warm? In Topic, we found out facts about Queen Victoria's life after Prince Albert died and the impact this had on her until the end of her reign in 1901. In Art, we have started to create our frieze of Jim Jarvis's London using reference books about the Victorian period to give us ideas. In Music, we have been busy practising our songs for the Tunbridge Wells Singing festival that will take place on Tuesday the 12th of February. It will be held at the Tunbridge Wells Assembly Halls in the evening. Details with a permission slip will be sent out shortly.

Oak News

In Maths, we began the week by using division to solve decimal problems. We then moved on to converting between decimals to fractions and vice versa. In addition to this, we have worked on strategies to add and subtract decimals mentally.

In English, we have started our new topic of Ancient Greece. This week we are researching the three great ages of Ancient Greece: the Archaic Age, the Classical Age and the Hellenistic Age. We have found out many fascinating facts such as when the first Olympics took place, the battles between Athens and Sparta and the conquests of Alexander the Great. We plan to use our research to create information posters next week.

In PE, we have been playing hockey. Mr Luckhurst has been teaching us the rules of the game and we have played small matches in groups of three, concentrating on shooting and dribbling. Later in the year, we hope to play a proper match against another school.

In French, we have been learning how adjectives change according to whether the noun they are describing is masculine or feminine. So far, we are working on colours but we hope to move onto other adjectives later in the year.

Finally, in Science we are continuing with our topic of electricity. This week we have been learning about the difference electricity has made to our lives and the people responsible for electrical innovations, such as Tesla and Volta.



Something to think about



Write five thousand and one as a number.

A 5101

B 5100

C 5010

D 5001



Starships

A club for children with additional needs and their siblings aged 6-11 to play, have fun and make friends

Thursdays, fortnightly Term Time only
From 5:00-6:30pm
£4 donation per session

17th & 31st January, 14th & 28th February, 14th & 28th March 2019

Held at: St Philip's Church, Salisbury Road, Tonbridge, TN10 4PA

For more information, contact Vicky at clubs@space2beme.org.uk or call her on 01622 764566 or 07872 060456

Registered charity no. 1140764

Space2beme.org.uk

info@space2beme.org.uk

Tel 01622 764566



Wednesday 30th January

Skinner's Kent Academy

The Skinner's Kent Academy will be holding tours for prospective parents, once a month from February to June 2019. The tours will be taking place on the below dates and they are currently available to book onto via the Academy website using the following link <https://www.skinnerkentacademy.org.uk/academy-tours.html>

Tuesday 12th February
Monday 29th April

Tuesday 26th March
Thursday 23rd May

From Our School PTFA

Do you have any fun ideas for events or activities that we can do for Easter & raise some funds for our school? All ideas are welcome & any support that you can give to the PTFA help organise or run our fundraising activities is very much appreciated. It would be great to us to try some new activities and fundraisers in 2019! Please add your comments to the PTFA Facebook page or drop a note into the PTFA envelope in the School Entrance.

Have a lovely weekend and keep warm!

With best wishes

Moiria Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW