

# St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 8th February 2019

"Living & Learning together" [www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](http://www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk)



Our School Christian Values are Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion. This week we have found out about being a good shepherd.

## 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 11th February**  
If anyone can help with sorting School Archives please let Dave know

**Tuesday 12th February**  
TW Music Festival

**Friday 1st March**  
Exhilarate

**Week Beginning 18th March**  
Book Week

**Monday 1st April**  
Parent Consultations

**Friday 5th April**  
End of term

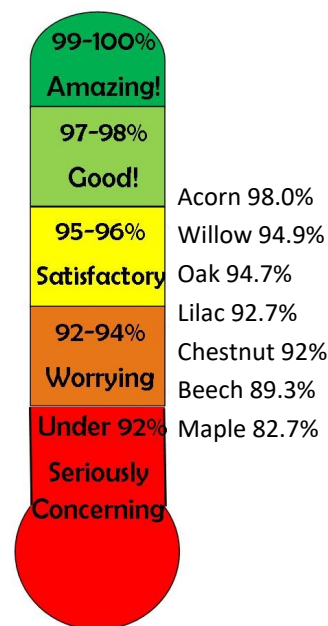
**Tuesday 23rd April**  
Start of term 5  
9:30 School Mass

## Attendance

As a whole school we have an attendance target of 97% to achieve. Last week our attendance was 92%

### Overall attendance last week:

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



## This Week at School

This week has been a wild and windy week with the weather and it has been good to see the children ready and prepared for all eventualities.

On Tuesday the whole school explored being safe online and thinking about how to behave online and what to do if they feel unsafe or unsure. If you would like to know more do check the BBC Newsround website for more information about keeping safe. We have also a page on our school website of useful information.

Next Friday we will be saying 'Farewell and good luck' to Mrs Banner who will be leaving us to start her maternity leave. We wish her and her family all the best and hope we get to meet the new arrival soon! The Year 2 team will be taking on her teaching commitment.

We have a large collection of jumpers and coats in our lost property bin.... Do have a look!!



## Class News



### Acorn News

This week in Phonics we have learnt the three new digraphs (digraphs are two letters making one sound) ng, ai and ee. We practised using our new sound when writing and reading words. In Maths we have learnt about the number 10 and put the numbers in the correct order. Most of us ordered numbers to 20 which was fantastic, some of us ordered numbers to 10 and others to 30! Some children have been writing their own stories as they were inspired by 'Helicopter Stories'. Some of us built a skate park using the large construction resources outside! We have been using the numicon to add two pieces together to find a total. We ran out of sellotape and had to find different ways to join our junk modelling together, some of us used glue and string. We have all enjoyed playing hangman in choosing time and when we have 5 minutes to spare. The children are becoming really good at guessing the words even when all of the letters are not there. Well done to our 'Star of the Week' Oscar who has shown an improvement in the use of his indoors voice and showing us he is ready to learn.

### Willow News

It's been a very busy week in Willow Class. In Maths we started looking at measurements and comparing lengths. We used cubes and rulers to find out the length or height of objects and discussed the differences. Some of the children measured each other and the adults in the class! In English we have been working on writing instructions to help us with practical projects. We used the instructions to help us to make jam sandwiches early in the week and the children really enjoyed eating their projects! We are now working on instructions to build a rocket.

We have been looking at the life of Neil Armstrong in topic - a real life hero - and have been sharing knowledge about space. In PE we have continued our work on Hockey and also played some football. Mr Luckhurst is always very impressed with Year 1.

We also attended a special class mass with Father John. The children behaved beautifully and had some very interesting questions for Father John.

### Beech News

In English, we have been describing the characters in our class quest. We used the sentence structures and descriptive techniques that we learned last week to write paragraphs to describe The Dragon and Princess Clara. We are all really proud of our writing, so if you would like to come and read your child's work, please feel free to pop in after school one day next week. In Maths, we continued to learn about fractions. We used bar models, sorting circles and our counting skills to focus on problems with large dividends. Finally, we explored how the  $>$   $<$  and  $=$  symbols could be used to compare fractions of amounts. In Science, we completed our scientific conclusions for our dissolving investigations.

### Maple News

Maple Class have been excited this week learning to stay SMART on the internet. We learned that SMART stands for: stay SAFE, Don't arrange to MEET, be careful ACCEPTING emails from people you don't know, make sure your information is RELIABLE, and TELL a trusted adult if something worries you. We made posters to remind everyone how important this is.

We have been carrying on researching Ancient Egypt, using the internet (and staying SMART) to discover how and why pyramids were built, that they were tombs for Egyptian Pharaohs and that the great Pyramids at Giza took over 20 years to build! We imagined what it would be like to be a pyramid builder. We have been finishing off writing our own stories based on the Egyptian Cinderella and begun using the stories to help us make shadow puppets to be able to retell the story in a shadow theatre. We have used our knowledge of science to help us. Knowing how shadows are formed, what happens when an object is nearer or further from a light source, and why the paths that light travels in is important. We are looking forward to telling our Egyptian Cinderella stories to each other next week.

In Maths we have been using all of the knowledge we have gained thinking about multiplying and dividing numbers to help us solve problems. We have been remembering all the resources we can use to help us and all the written methods we have learned in order to find answers





## Class News



### Chestnut News

In whole class reading this week, we read the final chapter of the Iron Man. It has been an excellent book to study in terms of the language choices made by the author. The children have really started to notice the effect that repetition of a word or phrase can make to a text. Next term we will be having a poetry focus during this session and will begin with some of Ted Hughes' work.

We have continued our work on persuasive writing in English. Following on from our posters, we are planning a much more detailed magazine style article based on raising awareness of the threats to rainforests. We have carried out further research so that we can provide detailed factual information to back up our arguments. We have been working on structuring the information into well-organised paragraphs.

In our topic work we have been locating the major rainforests on a world map and thought about their proximity to the Equator. In addition, we have learned about the different types of forest that exist, these being temperate, tropical and cloud. We have begun work on art based on Aboriginal dot paintings. We first encountered these when we read "Where the forest meets the sea", a story based on the Daintree Rainforest in Australia. The children have worked with great care and we look forward to seeing them all on display soon.

Our Maths theme is now multiplication and division. We have been refreshing our place value knowledge and multiplying whole numbers by 10 and 100.

On Tuesday it was Safer Internet Day. In our class, we focused on being SMART (information you should keep SAFE, what you should do if someone wants to MEET, ACCEPTING messages and attachments, checking whether information is RELIABLE and who to TELL if you are upset or worried by messages). We picked one of those themes each and wrote a postcard to a friend explaining a situation and how to stay safe and enjoy the internet

### Lilac News

In Maths this week, Lilac Class have been measuring and calculating the perimeter of rectilinear compound shapes. This has proved to be quite tricky when we have had to work out the length of a particular side. When calculating an unknown side we have had to think logically and 'outside the box!' In English, we have continued with our new extended writing task about life in the workhouse stimulated by Berlie Doherty's 'Street Child', videos and photographs. We have been busy levelling up our writing using expanded noun phrases and adverbs to really capture the reader's attention. In RE, we have been learning about the Ten Plagues of Egypt and have considered the Pharaoh's and Moses's 'conscience'. Would they have doubted themselves at anytime and if so, why?

In Science, we conducted our experiment to find out what material was the best insulator and would keep Dr Charles's tea the warmest. Foil proved to be the best material for the job. We found out that the thickest material (in our case, it was wool) was not the best insulator. We recorded on a table the temperature of each mug that was either covered with wool, foil, cling film or newspaper every fifteen minutes. Our task this week was to look at our predictions that we made and to analyse the results, thinking about why we got them. In Art, we have been finishing our paintings inspired by the Victorian landscape painters and in DT, we have continued with our sewing, making Victorian pin cushions. We have used both cross stitch and running stitch. In Music, we are still practising our songs for the Singing Festival on Tuesday February 12th. In PE, we have been taking turns refereeing our mini hockey matches. It was Internet Safety Day on Tuesday and we thought about how we use the internet in our lives and what devices we use. We learnt how to use the internet safely by watching videos, power points and completing worksheets. It was emphasised to us that we must always tell an adult if something pops up on our screen that asks us for our personal details.

Thank you for all your support with your child's homework. The research, in particular, has been of a very high standard and has enriched our topic lessons

### Oak News

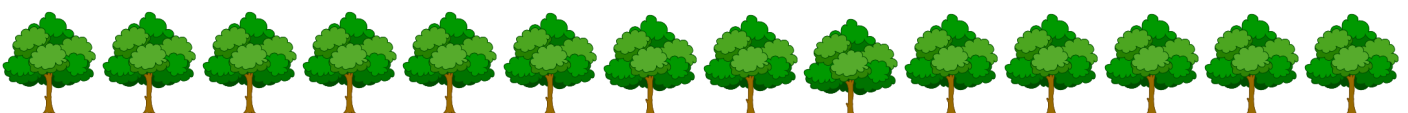
In Maths, we are continuing our topic of algebra. We began by thinking about how we could represent algebraic problems using concrete objects; moved on to writing these problems as formula; and finally wrote word problems to match. We then put this learning into reverse to help us solve word problems containing algebra.

In English, we have been writing diary entries from the perspective of Ancient Greeks. Children could choose whether they wanted to be Spartans or Athenians and considered how their gender would affect what they were allowed to do in Ancient Greece. Most of the girls decided that life as an Athenian girl would be quite restrictive but several boys liked the idea of training to be Spartan warriors!

In French, we are learning about the shops and building in an average French town and have used this to label our own map. Next week, we will be using this to learn how to give and understand directions.

Finally, in Art we made our own Greek urns from clay. We followed the instructions from a video and, although it was quite tricky to make them smooth and even, they are looking fantastic! We are really looking forward to painting them with our designs next week!

Keep trying hard at your spellings and times tables!



## Something to think about



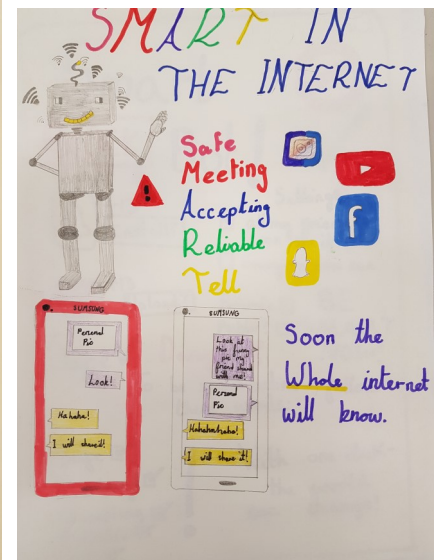
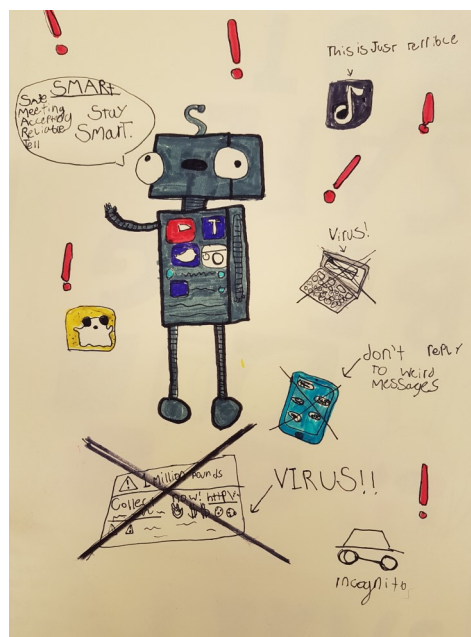
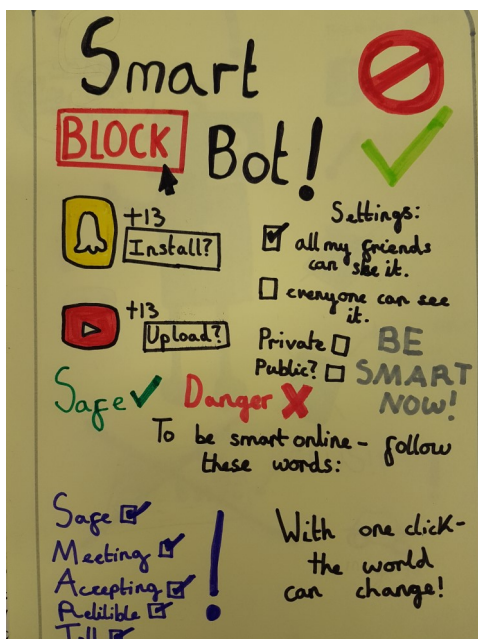
3764

5718

2049

3675

Which of the four numbers has the smallest digit in the Units place?



A message from John regarding dropping off children in the mornings. Please make sure you have parked safely and not on the white zigzag lines next to the school. This is a hazard and you could be fined.

Have a lovely weekend and hopefully not too wet. Have fun if you are going to the Lantern parade.

With best wishes

Moirá Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW