

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 24th May 2019

"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 pilgrimage.

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

^^

Dates for the Diary

Friday 24th May
Acorn Cake Sale

27th May– 31st May
Half term

Monday 3rd June
INSET
No children

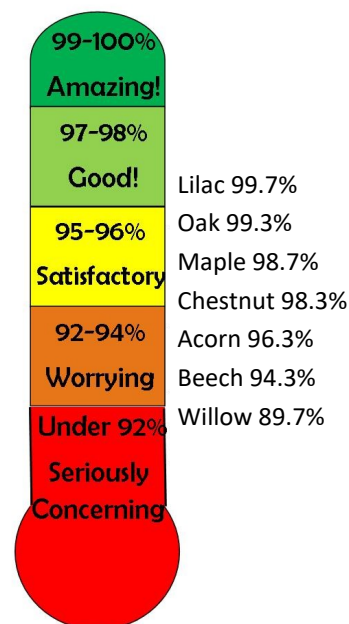
Thursday 27th June
Sports day
KS2 – am
KS1 – pm

Attendance

As a whole school we have an attendance target of 97% to achieve. Last week our attendance was 97.9%

Overall attendance last week:

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



This Week in School



We finished last week with our PTFA discos and they were certainly a great success. Over 135 children joined us and over £400 was raised for the school – a huge thank you to everyone involved.

On Wednesday Years R and 1 went to Trinity Theatre to see The Very Hungry Caterpillar. It was a lovely performance and the children were captivated with all the different puppets. Our thanks to the PTFA who have helped to subsidise the event.

Our Year 2 children have been busy completing their end of Key Stage tests this week and have all tried their best.



Class News



Oak News

The SATs may be over but it's still busy in Oak Class.

In English, we have been writing up our finished dual narratives on the Hunter/Hunted theme. The aim was to persuade the reader to take sides by using long, descriptive sentences for the 'hunted' character and short, concise sentences for the 'hunter'. There have been some really original takes on the idea, as well as some truly chilling tales with plenty of tension. Miss Mercer is hoping she doesn't have nightmares! In addition to this, we have started gathering information for a set of instruction on how to climb Mount Everest.

We have begun our Young Enterprise projects this week! Teams have been decided and we have been exploring what 'enterprise' actually means and working on teamwork. The groups have been brainstorming ideas and, after half term, they can start building their business plans and preparing a pitch for the judges.

Today, we held auditions for the year six leaver's production that will take place at TWGGS Performing Arts Centre on Tuesday 9th July - more details to follow. It was incredibly difficult to make casting decisions as everyone that auditioned did so brilliantly. Hopefully, everyone is pleased with the role that they have been given and is looking forward to starting rehearsals next term. Homework over the half term is to go over the play so they are familiar with it and start learning lines and songs.

Lilac News

In Maths this week, we have come to the end of our work about fractions. We have been learning about how to find 'a fraction of an amount' using our knowledge of multiplication and division. In English, we started to lay the ground work for our next piece of extended writing, a newspaper article. We will be writing our own newspaper articles about the sinking of the Titanic using real front pages from the time of the tragedy, for inspiration. We looked at how information was laid out and the use of headlines and subheadings. We have been thoroughly enjoying our whole class guided reading text, 'Shackleton's Journey' by William Gill. We are now up to the part when Shackleton sets off for his expedition. We have been making predictions as to whether he will be successful or not and why we believe this to be the case, drawing on evidence from the text. In RE, we read a story about Mohammad's friend Bilal and how he stood up for what he believed in and never gave up, no matter what he was put through.

In Science, we have been learning important words used in relation to food chains. For example, predator, consumer, producer, scavenger, decomposer, herbivore, carnivore and omnivore. In Topic, we have been labelling a diagram of a river using the key vocabulary that we have learnt so far. We found out that the mouth of a river can have both a delta and an estuary. In Art, we finished our frieze depicting the sinking of the Titanic and our pastel drawings of shells. In French, we have been learning some more important phrases to develop our conversational French and have revised our numbers to ten and the days of the week. We have also been learning the French words for colours. In PE, we have continued to practise our athletic skills in preparation for Sports Day.

Chestnut News

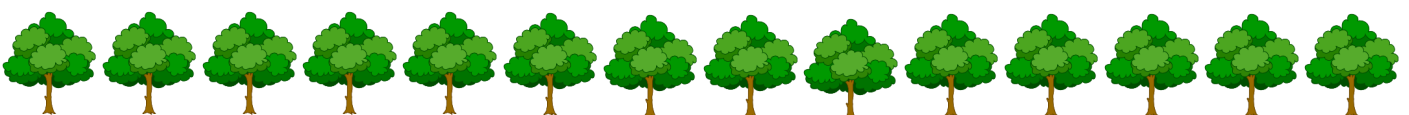
We have enjoyed a very busy last week of school and I am sure the children are looking forward to the break! Our focus in English has been the editing, improving and publishing of our hero myths. I was so impressed with quality of the children's work in terms of both narrative and language features. They should be very proud of all the work they put into them. They have been working on correcting spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as improving some of their descriptive language. For their homework last week, they designed book covers and now have their own books.

We have again had a very positive series of Maths lessons involving fractions. We have worked on adding and subtracting fractions using a variety of methods. We have used paper strips folded into quarters and eighths, bar models and number lines as visual and physical assistance with calculations. The children have really engaged with this area of learning have made great progress.

In RE we have been focusing on what Hindu people believe about God. We first thought about the different aspects to our own lives and how people see us in different ways according to how we relate to each other. The children made a diagram with themselves in the centre and thought about all the people who see them in a particular role. This led to us listening to the story of the blind men and the elephant. They all felt different parts of the elephant and compared it to different things (eg one man felt the tail and thought it was a rope). This helped lead into our discussion about what Hindu people believe about God. We also learned the concept of Brahman and how belief in that affects how Hindu people live their lives.

We have moved on to discussing the Anglo Saxons as settlers in our Topic session. We thought about what natural features were important when choosing a site to settle. After the initial brainstorm, we sorted various suggestions into categories with a focus on natural features, such as woodland, a water supply and some defensive elements.

On Thursday we had a very engaging and informative talk about fire safety from the Fire Service. The children demonstrated lots of existing knowledge and we learned about how often to test a fire alarm and making escape plans at home. They were sent home with booklets to look at and hopefully they will share those with you!





Class News



Acorn News

This week in Phonics, some of us have recapped the digraphs qu, ch and sh. We learnt the high frequency words with, that and for. We practised using these words and writing words with these digraphs in. Some of us have recapped the sounds u and r and the phase 2 tricky words I. We also played sound snap and went on a sound treasure hunt. In Maths, we have continued learning about 3D shapes and using the special words to describe them. We did an experiment to see which shapes rolled and which slid down the ramp, we found out that they would roll if they had a curved face. We also sorted real life objects into which 3D shapes they were.

In RE, we read the story of The Jealous brothers. Joseph had received a multi-coloured coat from his Dad but his 11 brothers thought it was unfair that they hadn't got one. Miss Traviss gave one child a crown to wear which we thought was really unfair. We enjoyed walking to the theatre to watch The Very Hungry Caterpillar. Well done to Scott our 'star of the week' for an improvement in his confidence in school. Hope you all have a great half term!

Willow News

We have had a busy week reading and finding out about different books written by Eric Carle. On Wednesday we went to the theatre to see a production based on three of the stories and had a fabulous time. We wrote a recount of our trip and were very pleased to share this with Mrs Tompsett on Thursday.

Also on Thursday we had some Firefighters come and talk to us about fire safety and the children listened well. In our Maths we continued to find out about fractions and developed our confidence looking closely at halves and quarters.

Please can we ask that toys are not brought into school as they can get lost or broken – thank you in advance. We hope you all have a lovely May half term and that Mrs Pring is feeling lots better.

Beech News

This week Beech Class have been working hard to complete their SATs papers. They have all been superstars and we are extremely proud of them. In Topic lessons, we have been completing a local habitat project. First, we drew maps and used a key to identify significant locations. Next, we completed field sketches and considered how local plants and animals have adapted to suit their environments.

They have also been designing a potato family and making up stories about them.

Maple News

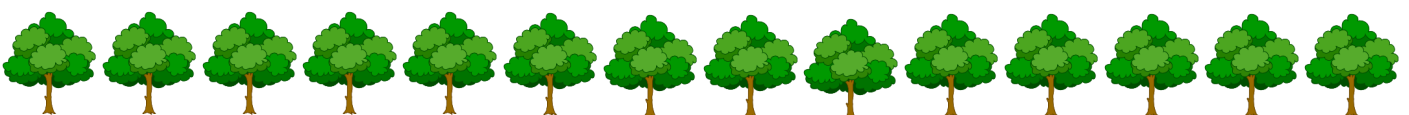
This week Maple have been finishing writing their retelling of Edward Lear's poem "The Jumblies" as a narrative story. We have been working hard to use adjectives and adverbs to describe things and how we perform actions. We have also remembered how to write speech, punctuating it correctly (with 66s and 99s), and how to use connectives to join shorter phrases into longer, more interesting sentences.

In Maths we have finished looking at fractions and begun thinking about how to tell the time. We have thought about the difference between normal and leap years and how leap years come one in every four. We have thought about how to tell the time by counting in 5s to help us remember how minutes work and how the hour hand on a clock can give us clues about what the minute hand might look like.

In Geography, we have researched where the mountain ranges of the world are and what they are called by using atlases we were surprised to discover a mountain range in Africa called the Atlas Mountains.

In Science we have been looking at the way that seeds are dispersed. Plants use a variety of interesting ways to spread their seeds.

We are all looking forward to a well earned rest and hope everyone has a restful half term break.



Something to think about



How much liquid is in the cylinder?

A 550 ml

B 600 ml

C 625 ml

D 650 ml

Please make sure your child/ren come in to school with a waterproof jacket and, on sunny days, have sunscreen applied at home before school. Children should have a named water bottle with them every day of the week. This should be only water and not juice or squash.

PTFA News

Thank you to Acorn Class for providing cakes for the cake sale today.

Crazy Jeans Soap Box Event – Saturday 8th June at Dunorlan Park

The PTFA have been given a discount for tickets for this exciting event in June.

General Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/crazy-jeans-soapbox-race-2019-racers-code-for-friends-and-family-general-tickets-tickets-57699433559>

Family Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/crazy-jeans-soapbox-race-2019-racers-code-for-friends-and-family-family-tickets-tickets-56108841054>

Have a lovely half term break and hopefully the sun will stay with us! We have INSET on the 3rd June so look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 4th June. Remember, the gates do not open now until 8:25am.

With best wishes

Moiria Duncombe