

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 4th October 2019

Each child is uniquely created and loved by God.

" www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk



Our School Christian Values are Aspiration Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion. We have found out about Samuel.

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.

If your child cannot attend a club session please do let us know so we are not contacting you.

Parent coffee mornings are starting up again in the hall on Monday mornings from 8.45 to 9.30. Everyone is welcome and tea, coffee and biscuits are provided

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Dates

Friday 11th October

Harvest Festival

also

School Disco

(KS1- Yrs R, 1, 2) 4.15-5.30pm

(KS2—Yrs 3—6) 5.45-7.00pm

Thursday 17th October

Parent Consultations

21st – 25th October

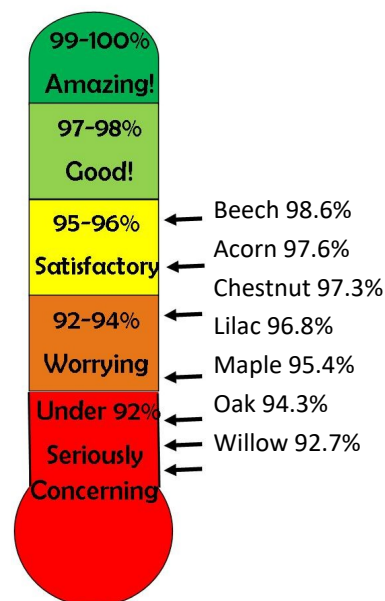
Half Term

Attendance

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

Overall attendance last week: 96.1%

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



This Week

We have certainly felt the colder weather this week. We do try and get our children out to play every day so please can all children have a named coat with them in school.

Our Booktober has started well and we are impressed with the amount of books being read. We have asked the children to make sure they have truly read the book when they come and share with the adults each week.

Today some of our junior children are representing us at a local Rugby Festival. They were given the country of Fiji and you might have seen them leave wearing blue wigs... We hope to bring you photos next week.

Next Friday is our Harvest Festival and you are welcome to join us in the church at 9:30am. We will be collecting donations of tinned goods, nappies, packet soup, pasta, shampoo etc. which will be included in the Church collection for our local food bank.



Class News



Acorn Class

This week in Phonics, we have been using our voices to make noises and have been playing rhyming games. In Maths, we have been sorting, we have sorted a variety of objects in different ways. For example, we had two squares, one of the squares had children with glasses in, other square had children with no glasses in. The class had to guess how Miss Traviss had sorted the children. In RE, we reminded ourselves of the creation story and talked about who God was. We decided God was a special person to Christians and learnt that Christians have a some place they go to called the church. We got changed for PE for the first time and the staff were very impressed with how well everyone did. They all tried and asked if they needed help.

We have trialled having a selection of activities out for choosing time to encourage us to 'choose it, use it, put it away' as we have struggled with this over the past week. We have then slowly introduced new activities into the class when we thought we had got better at tidying up. Congratulations to Macie, our star of the week who got to take home Nick the monkey!

Willow News

In English this week, Willow Class have been taking part in activities around the story of The Three Little Pigs. This has included acting the story out in groups, sequencing the story and writing sentences about what happened. Our focus for this week has been using different words to start our sentences and continuing to put clear finger spaces between words. In Phonics we have learnt some new letter sounds (ph, wh, ew) and have been reading and writing words using these letter sounds. In Maths this week, the children have been using a number line to order numbers and have solved maths problems involving more than and less than. The children have also been using scales and maths resources to find which combinations of numbers are the same ($5=2+3$) and use a part whole model to add numbers. On Wednesday afternoon the children used the school laptops as part of our ICT time. They are learning how to log on and off correctly and enjoyed exploring some activities on Purple Mash. In RE we talked about how Christians think of God as a forgiving Father and about how our parents care for us. In PE, the children have been developing their coordination by moving in different ways and developing their throwing and catching skills.

Beech News

Beech Class have been busy this week! In English this week, we wrote a first draft for our Samuel Pepys diary entry. We selected simple sentences and used conjunctions to add additional clauses. Finally, we considered how we could use different techniques to show our audience how Samuel Pepys felt. In Maths, we practised counting in multiples of 10. Then we used this skill to solve empty box calculations. In Topic, we used our understanding of houses from the 17th Century to build model houses from a range of everyday materials.

Maple News

This week Maple Class have been demonstrating excellent rugby skills in PE. We have been learning to play tag Rugby, inspired by the Rugby World Cup in Japan. Maple Class's ability to organize themselves into teams of four or five to run forwards and pass backwards was really impressive.

In English, we have been starting to think about adapting the story of Stone Age Boy; changing it and adding our own ideas. We have thought about who our character is and where they are when they find themselves going back in time. We have considered what details of Stone Age life would add interest to our story: maybe how to make fire and cook, or how to make spears or tools by flint knapping, or what food to gather from the coastline - perhaps whelks or razor clams with sea kale. We also tried to imagine a really exciting episode: learning to spear fish, riding a mammoth, or hunting a sabre-toothed tiger (smilodon). In Stone Age Boy he is taken to a special place by his friend, Om. In the story the special place is a cave with paintings on its walls, in our stories the special places might be a cliff, a mystical lake, or a secret clearing in the forest.

Our Topic work has supported English this week. We have been carrying on exploring Skara Brae, the Stone Age village on the Orkney Islands that is one of the best preserved in Europe. We have wondered what a day for a child around our age, who lived in Skara Brae would be like. Would you be able to play? Would you have to do chores around the house? Would you go out hunting, or gathering berries, shellfish and plants? Trying to imagine what it would have been like gave us an insight into Stone Age life.

In Maths, we have been adding and subtracting using three digit numbers. We have slowly been moving from lining up Diennes blocks or drawings of them, to lining up the numbers we are working with in columns. The column method is a very clever tool to help us do our Maths because it makes us remember our place value and allows us to break a difficult problem down into manageable parts to help us find the solution.





Class News



Chestnut News

We have focused on all things volcano in English this week! We have done some work on scene setting in preparation for writing our own stories. We thought about how buildings would be affected by earth tremors and described this using powerful verbs and adverbs. We also considered how the mood of the characters changed at a particular point in the story. Using a section of text, we picked out clues that the situation in Pompeii was about to change dramatically. We used drama to explore the feelings of the main characters. Finally, we studied the section of text that describes the eruption of Vesuvius. We ordered phrases and also picked out verbs, nouns and adjectives. We then wrote our own sentences to describe the process of the eruption. We have had some fascinating discussions about volcanoes and learned today that Popocatepetl has erupted 14 times in the last 24 hours.....We hope we didn't cause that!

In Maths we continued to work with number lines to 10,000. We have also thought about adding or subtracting 1,000 from a number and which digits will be affected. We have used this understanding to solve problems involving missing numbers. We talked about how to look at the numbers we do have in order to spot the pattern. At the end of the week, we had 2 lessons on solving problems involving comparison of 4 digit numbers. We are working on using a systematic approach to find a solution, especially when there are many possible answers. Well done Chestnut for your enthusiastic approach.

We have continued to think about the text of Genesis in RE. We thought about the instructions it contains for human beings in looking after God's Creation. We looked at a range of ideas about what the text might mean and choose the most likely and the least likely.

As part of our topic When in Rome, we have been designing and making our own mosaics using small paper squares. We have had to draft and assess the practicality of our designs. They have produced some lovely final pieces.

Lilac News

In Maths this week, Lilac Class have been reading, writing and representing numbers to 1,000,000. We have been looking at how numbers are represented with counters on a place value grid, as a bar model and as a part-whole model. We then moved onto counting in powers of 10 where we completed and identified number sequences. We also found mistakes in number sequences and corrected them.

In English this week, we have been busy drafting our final section of our story about being the Conquistador Hernan Cortes in 1519. This concluding section was about the moment that the Conquistadors discovered the abandoned temples and palaces of the Ancient Mayan Civilisation. We used our mind maps and photos of these buildings as stimulus and initially planned and recorded our ideas for our extended writing with our talk partners.

In RE, we have based our learning on what Father John talked to us about last week. We re-read and selected phrases from Psalms of David, Isaiah and John and linked them to our key words about God: Loving, Omnipotent, Omniscient, Eternal, Spirit and Holy. We found that many of the phrases encompassed more than one of these important words.

In Science, we learnt detailed facts about the Sun. For example, our Sun is just one star amongst billions of others in our Universe and it is over a million times bigger than the Earth and 300,000 times heavier! In Topic, using our photos of a wide selection of artefacts, we sorted out information about the lives of the Ancient Mayans into either being true, false or unknown. In Art, we have finished our Mayan designs using oil pastels and are now decorating our Mayan people. In PE, we have been playing tag rugby and practising our throwing and catching skills.

Thank you to all parents/carers who have now given their permission and paid for our trip to the Science Observatory at Herstmonceux that will take place on Thursday 17th October.

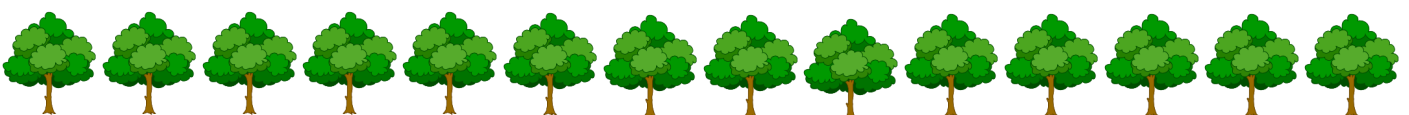
Oak News

This week in Oak Class, we have been tackling division in all its different forms. We began with short division, moved on to division using factors and are currently learning long division. Long division is something that many children (and adults) find tricky, so Miss Mercer and Miss Stephens have been really impressed with everyone's effort and determination. Well done Oak Class!

English this week has been all about SPaG. We have looked at modal verbs and relative clauses, as well as the different uses for commas and how to improve our writing using expanded noun phrases. We have also been working our way through the class book, 'Who Let the Gods Out?' which is getting very exciting. We can't wait to find out what happens next.

In Science, we have been learning about human evolution, exploring the different theories that have been built upon over the years. We also found out some really interesting facts about DNA. Did you know that we share 50% of our DNA with a banana?

In RE we have been discussing how the Christian beliefs about creation, as told in Genesis, and how they fit with current thinking on evolution.



From St Barnabas Church regarding the Barna-Bus Pre-school

You may have seen in the local press that the Barna-Bus Pre-school is going to close and relocate.

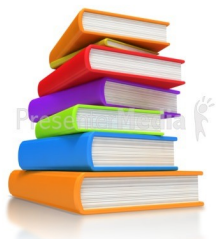
A spokesperson for St Barnabas Church, Tunbridge Wells said:

“St. Barnabas Church is privileged to be able to welcome a number of external groups and organisations to use our church hall. The terms on which The Barna-Bus Pre-School were offered to continue their hire of the hall from September 2019 brought them in line with the many other groups who currently use our facilities. We have been in discussions with the pre-school for some time.

While we regret that The Barna-Bus Pre-School are unable to continue on these terms, both sides have worked together to ensure that there is sufficient time for alternative arrangements to be made, and we wish them well for the future.

We of course appreciate that the departure of the pre-school from the hall will be disappointing and upsetting for many families, however, St Barnabas Church looks forward to continuing to welcome families through the many other groups and activities that take place within the hall.”

Booktober Reading Challenge



This is a ‘reading for enjoyment and understanding’ challenge. We would like as many children as possible to join in, in order to see how many books your child can read throughout October (including half term).

All you and your child have to do, is read a book as normal, have a chat about the story or information in the book afterwards (to aid their understanding). Then, bring the book into school on a Tuesday, or Thursday. At 2.30 on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Mrs Delaney, Mrs Cullimore and Mrs Yates will be available to chat to your child about their book throughout October. Then the teachers will credit your child’s score sheet with each book successfully read. If your child is not yet an independent reader, , no problem, just read the book to/with your child and then chat about the book afterwards. At the end of October we will see how many books your child has read during ‘Booktober’.



Something to think about

How many faces does a cube have?

A 9

B 4

C 5

D 6

Friday 18th October 9am till 12 midday

Coffee, Cake, Chat & Craft

courtesy of the Craftivist Collective

Come along and 'Dare to Dream'

20 places available (on a first come basis)

to book contact Dave 07966190428

dprodick@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

or via the school office.

More info can be found on

www.craftivist-collective.com

Church of Christ, Commercial Road (5mins from school)

All materials are free, coffee and cake on a donation basis.

Tag Rugby Tournament

This morning our Year 4 Tag Rugby Squad represented our school at the Tonbridge & West Kent School Sports Partnership Tag Rugby Tournament at Tonbridge Juddians Rugby Club.

18 schools throughout the partnership enjoyed a combination of skills sessions prior to our non-competitive group of matches.

In our matches we won one match, drew another and narrowly lost two more, scoring 7 tries along the way.

This was a brilliant morning and has provided a great introduction to Tag Rugby for the squad. This will, of course, be of benefit for the competitive tournaments that are scheduled for later in the school year.

A big well done to Lara, Hollie, Olivia, Adeline, Josh, Alfie, Bartosz, and Nikhil.

Have a wonderful weekend
With best wishes

Moirá Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW