

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 22nd November 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 continued to find out about different Proverbs.

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.

^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^^

Dates

Friday 29 November

Own Clothes day in exchange for a bottle for the Christmas Fair tombola

Sunday 1 December

School Christmas Fair
12- 2pm

Tuesday 10 December

KS2 Christmas Celebration
6pm at the church

Wednesday 11 December

KS1 Nativity 2pm

Thursday 12 December

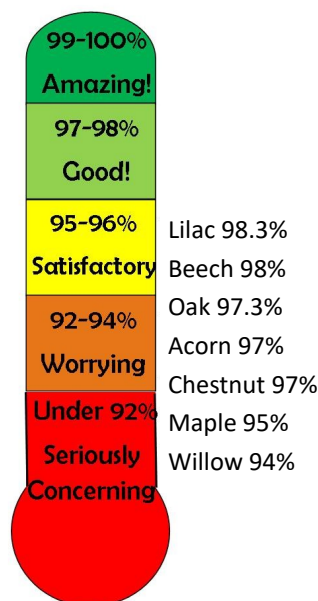
KS1 Nativity 9.30am
(ticketed events, see Parent-Mail)

Attendance

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

Overall attendance last week: 96.7%

Do remember we start school everyday at 8:45.



This week

We ended last week with celebrating Children in Need and raised £191.55 for the charity. Thank you for your support. Our cross-country team were amazing and a report about the event can be found in this newsletter.

This week Years 1 and 2 had an enjoyable time hearing from Captain Safety about Road Safety. They had a great time and walked to and from the Assembly Hall confidently and of course safely.

We recently sent out information about becoming a Parent Governor. Could this be you? Please come and have a chat if you have any questions! We're looking forward to your nominations.

We are counting down to our Christmas Fair and it has been exciting to see the Christmas Hampers developing and also the different Jolly Jars. If you have not signed up to help do look out the staffing list in the front office or email ptfa@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk.

A very busy week!!



Coffee Morning Every Monday Morning

8.45 - 9.30

In The School Hall

Parents, Grandparents, Carers

Everybody Welcome

Drop in, Chill out, Eat Biscuits

Parent Governor

We now have a vacancy on our Governing Body for a Parent representative. The role of governor has steadily risen in responsibility over the last few years but I can assure you it is very rewarding, and will greatly enhance your understanding of the school and increase your involvement in the local community.

Sports News

Last Friday we attended the Run 4 Life cross country event at Dunorlan Park which was arranged by TWKSSP

On a wet and very muddy day all the pupils were outstanding.

Results:

Year 5/6 Girls Beginners category

Leylani 8th, Clara 9th, Rishmitha 11th, Aliyah 14th, Freya 16th

Year 5/6 Beginners Boys category

Oscar 1st, Albert S 7th, Charlie 11th, Jake 18th, Jan 22nd

Year 5&6 Girls Intermediate category

Grace 1st, Melanie 4th, Lilyanna 18th, Elsie 20th, Crystal retired injured

Year 5&6 intermediate Boys

Albert M 7th, Teo 16th, Efe 18th, Mujataba 19th

Really excellent results and to have two first place finishes in 4 races was a wonderful achievement.



Have you brought in your class hamper item? Last day Monday



Class News



Acorn Class

This week in Phonics, we have recapped the sounds learnt so far and learnt the sounds c (as in cat) and k (as in king) and the tricky word I. Tricky words are words we can't sound out and we have to learn how they look. We have played various games to help us remember our sounds and some children have begun using magnetic letters to create words. In Maths, we have been learning about number 4. We practised counting 4 objects ensuring we have said one number name for each object. We also talked about the addition number sentences that equal 4, $1+1+1+1$, $2+2$ and $3+1$. In RE, we have introduced the Christmas story and started singing sounds ready for the Nativity. In PE, we have continued our gymnastics work and have been looking at different stretches and ways of moving.

During our child initiated learning, we have been creating shops. We talked about our shops needed a sign to show what we are selling and the children enjoyed playing with the tills. We have been really impressed with the children's efforts with their writing recently and are beginning to have a go at forming letters and sound out words. We have also been decorating our hamper box using different types of red paper. We have cut and ripped these to create a collage. Well done to Farisa who got to take home Nick the monkey this week.

Willow News

This week in English, Willow Class have been learning about the different rules for changing singular nouns into plurals. The children have learnt a different rule each day and have applied this in their sentence writing. On Thursday they made their own little booklet using plural nouns. On Tuesday we went to the Assembly Hall to watch Captain Safety's road safety workshop and the class behaved incredibly well during the trip. On Tuesday afternoon they designed their own road safety poster telling people what to do. In Maths the class has been learning about place value and how to write 2 digit numbers correctly using tens and ones. On Monday the children also filled in missing numbers on a number line and on Thursday the children worked in pairs and used Dienes blocks to show different numbers. In RE the children talked about who wrote the gospels in The Bible and came up with questions about Jesus and his life. We started practising our Christmas Nativity this week and will be learning lots of songs over the next few weeks.

Beech News

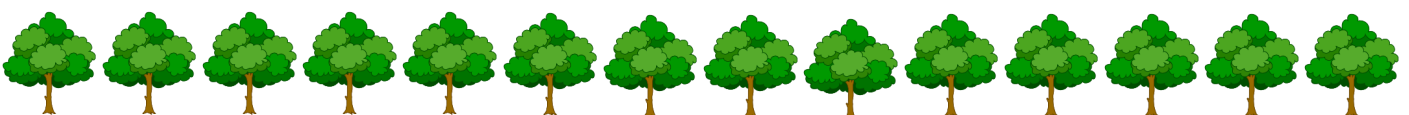
Beech class spent Monday morning looking at a clip of the frost fair to help with their writing. This gave them lots of new ideas for different phrases to use in their first person diary writing. In English, we also edited and improved the piece of diary writing that we produced last week. We then set about creating a new piece completely independently. We aimed to use all the different writing skills and techniques that we have learned this term. In Maths, we focussed on using the 'find the difference' technique to solve subtraction problems. First, we used practical objects to help illustrate the difference between two values. Then we used bar models and blank number lines to represent our thinking. In art, we took a sketch that we produced last week and added a range of different media to it to produce a finished piece of work.

Maple News

Maple class have begun to look at division in maths this week. To start with, we shared out the dividend - the large number- between the divisor - the number we are dividing by. This worked well if the dividend was small, but as it got bigger sharing out became more difficult. So, we used the times tables to count up to the number we were dividing. We began by using Cuisenaire rods to guide us but now we have become so proficient that we can use our times tables knowledge to help us. Although it might seem strange using times tables to go up to a number, it is a way that many grown ups use to find division answers and it finds the same answer as sharing while being easier.

We began our English instruction writing this week by looking at the job that prepositions do in sentences. Prepositions don't tell us what things are or what they do. Instead they tell us where or how things are related to each other. Prepositions can be words or phrases like: in, on, next to, until, while, around, or, under. They are really useful when we are writing instructions because they help us show what to do and how to do it.

Our science this week has been revisiting volcanoes. We have learned about the structure of the Earth and why volcanoes are found where they are; at the edges of continents and over ocean hotspots. We remembered that volcanoes can be active, dormant or extinct. Also, that volcanoes are one of three main types. Cinder cones are often steep conical hills, which when they erupt explode and scatter small pieces of lava or ash. Shield volcanoes (that look a bit like a shield lying flat) are built from frequent lava flows. Some of the largest volcanoes in the world are shield volcanoes. Lava domes are typically small and grow slowly. As they grow their outer surface cools and hardens, then shatters, spilling loose fragments down their sides, making lava domes rugged and crumbly. Maple class are making their own volcanoes, ours will be made of paper mache not lava, but they will still be able to help us to experiment with making eruptions when they are finished.





Class News



Chestnut News

In English we have been working on nouns and pronouns in order to improve our writing. We have also continued to research for our gladiator instructional text. We chose the type of gladiator we would write it for and found out about the armour and weapons specific to them. We looked at a model set of instructions and highlighted all the features it included, such as imperative verbs, adverbs, numbered steps, prepositions and a list of equipment. We have now begun to plan our own 6 step set of instructions.

We completed our work on the addition of 2 4-digit numbers. The children did an excellent job. We have now moved onto subtraction of 4-digit numbers. We first made sure we were familiar with the method where there is no exchange and then moved on to subtraction with exchange. This was challenging and we will practise further before we move forward.

In our topic lesson we learned about Roman bathhouses. We discovered that they had many social functions and were not just a place to wash!

This week in Science, we carried out an investigation into conductors and resistors. We used our learning from last week and constructed a simple circuit to light a bulb. We then collected a range of materials and predicted whether or not they would conduct electricity and thus allow the circuit to function. We then had great fun testing these items and seeing how accurate our predictions had been.

In RE we have continued to learn about the Trinity. Father John came in to talk to us about the 4 different accounts of the Gospel with a particular focus on John. The children were able to ask many of the excellent questions they had posed last week when they first encountered John 1.

Finally, a huge thank you for all the white items that children have brought in for our class hamper! There is still time to contribute if you haven't already. Your generosity is much appreciated. We used the text of John 1:1-14 as the basis of our discussions in RE this week. We looked back to the text we studied in Genesis and picked out the language that features in both of them. The text of John 1 is very challenging and over the next few weeks we will be discussing what it means in relation to the Trinity and how it compares to the other accounts of the Gospel.

Lilac News

In Maths this week in Lilac Class, we have been busy solving multi-step problems. We discovered that you can use several different methods to solve a multi-step problem and that the use of the inverse operation could often be applied. We also started our new block of learning entitled 'Statistics'. We learnt to read and interpret line graphs and to identify the x and y axis. In English, we planned our writing for a travel brochure or website where we are persuading the reader to visit Belize. As a class, we looked at a range of travel sites and picked out the persuasive language that the writers used in relation to the places you could visit and activities you could do. We then created our own whole class word bank to use in our writing. In RE, we discussed whether Jesus fulfilled the expectations written in the New Testament at the time of his birth. We considered what kind of leader he was and why he was a special person.

In Science, we started a sundial experiment using our sundials that we made last week. Based on what we have learnt so far about the Sun and Earth, we wrote a prediction about what would happen to the shadow every hour on our sundial. We then had to give reasons for our predictions. In Topic, we have been learning about the everyday life of the ordinary Mayan people. We found out that the walls of their houses were made of mud and clay and the roofs were thatched and steep. These houses consisted of one room and had no windows! We also found out that the Mayans did not use wheels or metal and made sharp tools out of volcanic glass. In Art, we finished designing our Mayan tiles and in music we continued to create space compositions in groups using a range of musical instruments.

Oak News

This week in maths, we have been consolidating our learning on adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions. It can sometimes be difficult to remember all the different methods involved in a subject and revisiting them regularly really helps to cement them in the mind. We then moved on to calculating fractions of amounts, after discussing how this knowledge can help us in the real world (I pointed out it's especially useful in the sales!) we first set out the question as a bar model, then used this to help us work out the calculations. For example, if I wanted to find out $\frac{4}{6}$ of 30, I would first divide 30 into 6 parts to find out $\frac{1}{6}$, then multiply my answer by 4 to work out $\frac{4}{6}$. We will finish our unit on fractions next week.

In English, we have been making our fact files on Ancient Greek gods and goddesses. The children have thought hard about the theme and layout of their work and have produced some beautiful pieces that include Ancient Greek lettering and artwork. We have also been studying some Greek myths, such as Perseus and Medusa, and Demeter and Persophone, to get us used to their plots and structures. Next week, we will be beginning work on writing our own Greek myth. This is always one of the highlights of the Ancient Greece unit as the children get to let their imaginations run wild, inventing hideous monsters, daring heroes and complex plots. I can't wait to get started!

In science, we have been looking at the various subcategories of vertebrates and invertebrates, such as mammals, crustaceans and annelids. We have investigated the characteristics of animals in each category and used this to classify animals such as starfish, rabbits and snails. We also identified animals that can be difficult to classify; for example, a duck-billed platypus has characteristics common to mammals, birds and reptiles! Finally, we came up with our own unique creatures, listing some of their characteristics so our partner could classify them.



Update from the PTFA

We've been busy planning the Christmas Fair and need your help with a couple of things:

- ◇ **Own clothes day on Friday 29th November in exchange for a bottle for the Christmas Fair tombola!** This can be a bottle of ANYTHING! Bubble bath, fruit juice, wine, fizzy drink, body lotion...
- ◇ Don't forget to bring in your decorated sweetie jars on Monday 25th / Tuesday 26th November. A member of the PTFA team will be in the playground at morning drop off to collect your donations.
- ◇ Keep selling your raffle tickets to friends and family, if you need more they can be found in main reception. Look at our amazing prizes...

2-night stay in a caravan near Whitstable (sleeps 6 in 3 bedrooms)

£25 meat voucher from Camden Butchers

£30 voucher from Giggling Squid

Backpack and goodies from Paperchase

£10 Cook gift card

Free game voucher for a Group of 4 at Hollywood bowl

Family portrait experience worth £115 at Paul Barsby photography

Lunch for two at Kai's Kitchen

The Body Shop pamper party for six

£20 Fenwicks voucher

£10 Creams gift voucher

Cookbooks from Wagamama

Tickets for a family of 4 to see the Peter Pan pantomime at The Assembly Hall Theatre

3 x Photographic Experience at Images Unlimited

£20 M&S voucher

Fruit box from Locality

And more to be announced soon!!

Your support is greatly appreciated and many thanks to the parents, carers, teachers and pupils who have offered to help on the day. Please arrive at the times you specified on the sheet and we will allocate you a role.

The venue for the Social evening on Friday 6th December is Gusta on Camden Road. We will be there from 7:30pm, hope to see you there!

Best wishes, St Barnabas' CEP School PTFA



Trip to see the Christmas Lights– note from Dave

I am planning a trip to London on the 7th December to see the Christmas lights (most likely Regent Street, Carnaby Street, Covent Garden & Trafalgar Square) with a stop for a hot drink etc. The tour will be led by Mario Beneventi (parent, governor, knowledgeable of all things London) of 'Mario's City Strolls' who is giving us this tour for free, so there will be plenty of interesting facts coming your way. We will be able to get a group rate on the train but until we have numbers, I cannot give you a price now. We would plan to leave Tunbridge Wells about 2pm and leave London to come home about 6pm.

If you are interested in coming along could you email, text, or phone me with the following details by Wednesday 27th of November.

My contact details are Dave Prodrick 07966190428 dprodrick@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk



Reception class 2020-2021

The application process is now open online with KCC for a Reception Place in September 2020. This process is open until 15th January 2020. There is no advantage in applying early.

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places>

REMEMBER: You must still apply for a Reception place through KCC if you have a pre school child who has an older sibling in the school. Sibling rights apply and are part of the admissions criteria but you still have to apply for that place. Your older child must be in current YR to Y5 when applying for September 2020.

Have a wonderful weekend. With best wishes

Moira Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW