

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

**Newsletter Friday 10th September 2021**

*Each child is uniquely created and loved by God.*

*" [www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](http://www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk)*



Our **School Christian Values** are Aspiration, Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion.

This week we looked at what is collective worship and the importance of being together.

## Attendance

We are always challenged to have the best attendance we can and our target this year is 97%. Do remember that we close our gates at 8:50am everyday and we finish at 3pm.



## Welcome back!

Welcome back after the summer break. I can't believe that we are only on day 6 of our new academic year as the children have settled so well back into school routines and it is lovely to start to get to know our Acorn children. This week we have been getting used to routines and also being together for our worship. The children have started to sing together in assembly and it has been lovely to hear their voices.

## Summer Work

During the summer we have had a variety of work completed and this included:

- updating some of our drains
- a deep clean of the whole school
- new shed roof
- the clearing of our garden space in preparation for a new design– thank you to everyone who helped so far
- the painting of our library

## Staffing

With the start of the new term we welcome Mrs Smallcombe as our Maple class teacher, Mrs Johnson is our HLTA and Mrs Fowler has also joined us as a Teaching Support Assistant. We are planning opportunities this term for our teaching team to meet our families. Do look at the class blogs/Year 6 Google classroom for more information.

## School Clubs and Communications

Have you seen our ParentPay message about the clubs for this term? We have a wide range of clubs, with some spaces still available, and I thank all our staff for leading these different opportunities. Letters will be coming home about this term's learning and also home learning expectations. Do make sure you keep a look out for ParentPay messages.

## Uniform

We are very lucky to have Mr Luckhurst supporting the teaching of PE in school. Our children need to have their named kit in school every day. With our changing weather they will also need to have a coat as we will continue to go outside throughout the day to support our learning.

## Friday Worship

On a Friday our worship is all about celebration. We share our stars of the week, children who are in our golden books for showing our school values, team points and any other celebrations from our school community. Today was our first online worship and well done to the following for being our first stars of the academic year:

Cody, Ted, Billy, Zachery, all of Maple Class, all of Chestnut Class, Ruben, Rose-Aliyah, Ivy, Eleanor and Panashe

Well done everyone for a wonderful week back and well done to Kingdom for the most team points this week!

## Keeping in contact

If you would like to contact your child's class teacher here are the class email addresses. If it is an urgent matter please contact the School office.

Acorn: [acorn@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](mailto:acorn@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk) Willow: [willow@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](mailto:willow@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk)

Beech: [beech@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](mailto:beech@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk) Maple: [maple@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](mailto:maple@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk)

Chestnut: [chestnut@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](mailto:chestnut@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk)

Lilac: [lilac@st-st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](mailto:lilac@st-st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk)

Oak: [oak@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](mailto:oak@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk)

## Safeguarding Concerns

Please can we remind everyone that the School Designated Safeguard leads are Mrs Duncombe and Mrs Pring. If you have any concerns do contact us.

## Something to think about



How many spots does a ladybird have?

## 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**

Have a lovely weekend and hopefully it's not too wet!

With best wishes

*Moira Duncombe*

@StBarnabasSchoolTW

## **Term Dates 2021-2022**

### **No children in school on staff development days**

#### **Term 1**

Wednesday 1st September - staff development day (no children in school)

Thursday 2nd September - staff development day (no children in school)

Friday 3rd September - term starts for Years 1-6

Wednesday 8th September - term starts for Year R

Friday 22nd October - term ends

Monday 25th October – Friday 29th October - half term holiday

#### **Term 2**

Monday 1st November - term starts

Friday 17th December - term ends

Monday 20th December – Monday 3rd January – Christmas holiday

#### **Term 3**

Tuesday 4th January - staff development day (no children in school)

Wednesday 5th January - term starts

Friday 11th February - term ends

Monday 14th February – Friday 18th February – half term holiday

#### **Term 4**

Monday 21st February - term starts

Friday 1st April - term ends

Monday 4th April – Monday 18th April – Easter holiday

#### **Term 5**

Tuesday 19th April - term starts

Monday 2nd May - Bank Holiday

Friday 27th May - term ends

Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June – half term holiday

#### **Term 6**

Monday 6th June - staff development day (no children in school)

Tuesday 7th June - term starts

Thursday 21st July - term ends

Friday 22nd July - staff development day (no children in school)





## HERITAGE OPEN DAYS 2021 AND THE FRIENDS OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS AND RUSTHALL COMMONS

This year the FoC has joined forces with the National Heritage Open Days Project to provide a fab programme of 8 events on Tunbridge Wells & Rusthall Commons which are open to the public and which we hope you, your family and friends will enjoy. All events are based on the wonderful Commons and all are free of charge. We are grateful to the Friends for your generous support, without which this project couldn't have happened. A note of thanks is also due to the tour leaders, guides and the FoC behind-the-scenes organisers and volunteers.

### GUIDED WALK WITH THE COMMONS WARDEN

**Tunbridge Wells Common**  
On Saturday 11th September  
Meet at the car park, Fir Tree Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN4 8AH at 2pm  
Maximum number: 25 for this tour.

A Friendly Guided Tour of Tunbridge Wells Common with Steve Budden, Warden of the Commons. Discover the rocks, the racecourse, the avenues, the ponds, hear about the latest discoveries and just maybe you will see a deer! All welcome. Children are welcome with their adults.

Steve has been the full time Warden for the Commons since 1992, when he was employed to implement the first 10-year Management Plan. He is the sort of all-rounder who knows the Commons knowledge and along with his faithful dog Moody, Steve is usually found walking the paths and tracks of the Commons. He is always happy to answer your questions and queries, especially if there is a compliment in there about the fantastic job he's doing!

There's nothing Steve doesn't know about the Commons, and he's always happy to show people around on his famous guided walks. Join Steve for one (or both) of his friendly guided warden walks, suitable for all ages and for those who can manage the Commons terrain. Wear suitable clothing for walking the Commons.

### ARCHAEOLOGY RUSTHALL COMMON

**Saturday 11th September**

At 10.30am  
Full Archaeology Tour - Meet at entrance to St Pauls Church, Rusthall

A guided tour of Rusthall Common highlighting a series of archaeological sites going back thousands of years. Many new to the historical record in our part of West Kent.

Guide and information provided by independent researcher Nigel Stappell of WWDArchaeology who has been working the sites on Rusthall Common for several years with his team of volunteers. Duration: 2-3 hours

Suitable for: Adults and young people accompanied by an adult.

Due to the rocky, winding, uneven, hilly and muddy terrain on these sites on the Commons unfortunately this tour is unsuitable for people with mobility needs.

Wear suitable clothing for climbing!

### WILD CHILD! FOREST SCHOOL PLAY SESSIONS

**Saturday 11th September**

Tunbridge Wells Common. Look for signage from the car park in Fir Tree Road  
Morning session: 10-12 Noon. Afternoon session 1-3pm

With a team of trained Forest School leaders, Kent High Wild Partnership will be leading our fantastic Wild Child! Forest School sessions on Tunbridge Wells Common. This is something children will love.

When we did this a couple of years ago and they were brilliant and very popular. Join in the fun in a woodland environment, where we have supervised hundreds of children the lighting, whittling, finding insects and bugs, making dens, hammocks, playing with mud kitchens, painting bark, printing leaves, making pendents and not forgetting cooking courses! Our practice allows the children to see their environment as a sensory playground and within this playground they learn confidence, resilience and ways and means of communicating effectively with others. Many of them surprise themselves with their own capabilities, and have fun. Suitable for children accompanied by an adult.  
(Wear clothing for play in the woodland setting)



### ARCHAEOLOGY RUSTHALL COMMON

**Sunday 12th September**  
Meet at the sandpit by Road Rock, Harmony Street 10.30am  
Mini Archaeology Tour for families with younger children.  
Meet at Road Rock, by the 'sand pit' Harmony Street

A short, guided overview of selected archaeological sites on Rusthall Common. This tour is suitable for families with younger children. Discover sites going back thousands of years, below the 'olden days' and imagine what life was like for the people and animals living here!

Guide and information provided by independent researcher Nigel Stappell of WWDArchaeology who has been working the sites on Rusthall Common with his team of volunteers for several years.

Duration: 1-2 Hours

Suitable for families with younger children.

Due to the rocky, winding, uneven, hilly and muddy terrain the tour is unsuitable for mobility needs.

### Guided Walk with the Commons Warden, Rusthall Common

**Sunday 12th September**

Meet at St Pauls Church, Langdon Rd.  
Time: 2pm for approximately 20 minutes.  
Maximum number: 25 for this tour.

A Friendly Guided Tour of Rusthall Common with Steve Budden, Warden of the Commons. Discover Road Rock, Bulls Hollow, Happy Valley and the 105 Steps, the ponds, hear about the latest discoveries and just maybe you will see a deer!

All welcome. Children are welcome with their adults. Steve has been the full time Warden for the Commons since 1992, when he was employed to implement the first 10-year Management Plan. He is the sort of all-rounder who knows the Commons knowledge and along with his faithful dog Moody, Steve is usually found walking the paths and tracks of the Commons. He is always happy to answer your questions and queries, especially if there is a compliment in there about the fantastic job he's doing! There's nothing Steve doesn't know about the Commons, and he's always happy to show people around on his famous guided walks. Join Steve for one (or both) of his friendly guided warden walks, suitable for all ages and for those who can manage the Commons terrain. Wear suitable clothing for the weather and walking the Commons.

### WILD CHILD! FOREST SCHOOL PLAY SESSIONS

**Sunday 12th September**

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Morning session 10-12 noon and the afternoon session 1-3pm.

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Booking: not needed  
Suitable for children accompanied by an adult.  
Wear: clothing for play in the woodland setting.