

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

**Newsletter Friday 6th September 2024**

*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.

We discussed our School Values and a fresh start.

## Attendance

As we start our new year together we have new attendance expectations from the Department for Education.



Our School gates open at 8:30am every day and School starts at 8:45am.

## This Week...

I do hope you all had a fabulous summer holiday and were able to enjoy the sunshine. The weather was very changeable and that pattern seems to be continuing this week! Yesterday there was an abundance of rain during the afternoon and we had several children without coats! Please can we ask that your child brings in their coat every day as we do try and get the children outside during their break times.

Over the summer our school was deep cleaned and you might have noticed that the Outside Classroom was painted and the soft play surface was repaired. I spoke to the children on Wednesday about the importance of keeping our school clean and tidy and how it is the responsibility of us all.

Today we welcome our Acorn children for their first school session and we look forward to getting to know them over the next few weeks. We also welcome Miss Evans as our new Acorn teacher too.

Our school website has been updated and can be found at [www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](http://www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk). This is one of main points of contact from school and where you can find your child's class blog. Do have a look!

What a super start to the term.

# Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing!

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024.

## Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

## 5 consecutive days of term time leave

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days. Inset training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.

## 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

## First offence

The first Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

## Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child to be paid within 28 days.

## Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.



As part of the **Tunbridge Wells Puppetry Festival** we will be hosting a **FREE** Family Workshop on the 26th September 3.15 - 5pm in the School Hall, with refreshments courtesy of Charlie's Angels (Camden Road).

The workshop will be to decorate Rhino Heads to wear in the Puppetry Festival Parade on the 13th October (more details later). So come and join us and create your own unique Rhino Head, your only limit is your imagination.

Spaces are limited, so to book contact Dave on 07966190428 or [dprodrick@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](mailto:dprodrick@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk) or speak to me on the playground. I will also be on the playground with a Rhino Head and sign up sheet after school on Monday 9th September.

### Heritage Open Day

The school will be open as part of the Heritage Open Day on Saturday 14th September from 10am to 3pm. There is no need to book, just come along! For more details of the Heritage Open Days, go to [www.heritageopendays.org.uk](http://www.heritageopendays.org.uk)



**We are very pleased to be welcoming back to school** the Emotional Wellbeing Team (EWT). The team are offering support when needed and finding out your ideas about how we can all work together to support the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children at school name.

Please find enclosed a leaflet which tells you all about the Emotional Wellbeing Team. You can also find out more by watching this short animation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=duXLsp5wFRE>

### ***How does my child access this support? How do I access this support?***

Your child may be included in whole school initiatives, for example, assemblies and classroom-based activities that raise awareness about emotional wellbeing and mental health. In addition, children with a specific identified emotional wellbeing need (e.g., worry) may be invited to join a group or workshop, and you will be informed if your child is included. Groups and workshops for parents (e.g., 'Understanding your child's behaviour') will be advertised by school.

The team also provide online support, information which can be found on the next page.

If you would like to discuss any of the above information, please contact Mrs Duncombe or Dave for further information.



Online Support and Intervention for Child Anxiety



NELFT NHS Foundation Trust

## OSI - ONLINE SUPPORT FOR PARENTS AROUND CHILDHOOD ANXIETY

Being away from caregivers ← General worries → School worries

**DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE PROBLEMS WITH ANXIETY?**

Bedtime fears → Social worries → Phobias (e.g. spiders, dogs, injections) & more

OSI (Online Support and Intervention) is an online platform designed to help parents to learn tools and techniques to help their child (aged 5 to 12 years old) to overcome difficulties with anxiety.

Parents work through weekly online modules that contain videos, quizzes, and interactive worksheets. Parents are also supported by a weekly telephone/video call appointment with a practitioner.

You can access OSI at a convenient time for you using any electronic device!

Best care by the best people



Online Support and Intervention for Child Anxiety



NELFT NHS Foundation Trust

## OSI - ONLINE SUPPORT FOR PARENTS AROUND CHILDHOOD ANXIETY

### FEEDBACK FROM PARENTS/CARERS

“My son’s anxiety has noticeably declined, and I feel much more confident...we worked together on a specific goal and I have to say it was life changing. I even used it for my daughter about a fear she had and again, I can say that it worked for her too.”

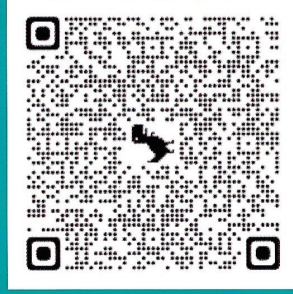
“It has been tremendously worthwhile for us, and I have a happier child now as a result.”

### GET IN TOUCH:

Scan the QR code for more information on OSI.

If your child attends one of our schools, and you are interested in learning more about OSI and whether this is the right support for you, please email our team at:

[EWandESTenquiries@nelft.nhs.uk](mailto:EWandESTenquiries@nelft.nhs.uk)



Best care by the best people



## Celebration

In our Friday 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:

All our children have settled in well to the new school year– well done everyone!

*Please do let us know if you are awarded any achievement outside school– we would love to celebrate!*

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

## 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.*

*Please make sure children are dressed in the correct uniform and have a named water bottle everyday. If your*

## And finally...

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and hopefully we will see some sunshine!

With best wishes,

*Moira Duncombe*

@StBarnabasSchoolTW @stbarnabas.office