

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 28th February 2025

Each child is uniquely created and loved by God.

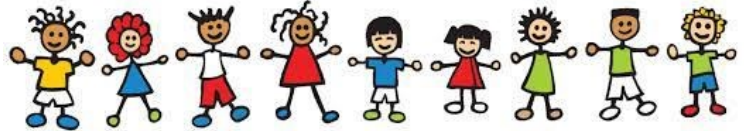
www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk



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

We found out about the parable of the lost sheep.

Attendance



We continue to work hard to achieve the Attendance expectations from the Department for Education.

Our School gates open at 8:30am every day and School starts at 8:45am. Whole School attendance was again 94%.

This week our Local Authority Attendance Officer visited the school to discuss the attendance and percentage of absence. Do remember you can see your child's attendance in Arbor.

This Week...

Welcome back to Term 4! I do hope you all had a restful half term and are ready for the new term ahead! This week the children have settled back into their learning which has been lovely to see. The weather has again been very varied but we have tried to be outside as much as possible. Can we remind all families that children should have their PE kits in school every day, especially the correct footwear.

Our thanks go to everyone supporting us in trying to make our snacks at breaktime healthy choices. We would love to share any snack ideas so do let us know as it would be good to pass these on.

Next week we are going to church to mark Ash Wednesday. The Mass begins at 9am and everyone is welcome to join us.

Today we say goodbye to Mrs Chavush who is retiring after working at St Barnabas for over 23 years. We wish her well and thank her for all her kindness shown to everyone at St Barnabas.

World Book Day Thursday 6th March.

At St Barnabas School we celebrate books and reading all year round. However, it is always nice to pay special attention to books, reading and literature and World Book Day offers a great chance for us to do this as a school community. This year, each class will be celebrating World Book Day with some specially designed classroom activities which celebrate a love of reading. Pupils are also invited to bring in a copy of a favourite book and/or dress as a favourite book character.



Please note, dressing up for World Book Day is totally optional. There is no pressure from school to dress up and we do not want this to be an added expense. You are more than welcome to dress children in things they already have; this could involve a full costume or just a prop or hat etc, relating to a favourite book or character. However, if you do choose to dress up, please use books and book characters as your inspiration rather than characters taken from computer games, TV or film. Please remember, the whole point of the day is to celebrate and inspire a love of reading.

Breaktime Snacks

Did you know that Change4Life has launched a new campaign all about snacking!

Did you know half the sugar kids eat comes from unhealthy snacks and sugary drinks? Too much sugar can lead to harmful fat building up inside and serious health problems, and also painful tooth decay.

To help you reduce the amount of sugar your children are consuming, remember fruit and veg are always the best snack, and count towards your child's 5 A Day. But if you are giving your children packaged snacks, stick to two a day max!

As a school we have been talking about the snacks that we can eat at break time. As you are aware all our children in KS1 have snack provided by the NHS as part of the Free Fruit and Vegetables scheme.

In KS2 children can bring in a small healthy snack from home which could include:

- * Rice cakes or bread sticks
- * A piece of fruit or vegetable sticks
- * Cream crackers
- * Malt loaf
- * **Small** packet of crisps
- * Plain popcorn
- * Dried fruit

Please can we remind you that we are a nut free school and sweets and chocolate should only be a special treat in packed lunch boxes.



Date list:

Wednesday 5th March

Ash Wednesday Mass @ 9am



Year R Hearing Screening

Thursday 6th March

World Book Day

Monday 17th– Wednesday 19th March

Parent Consultations

Wednesday 19th March

Year 5 trip

Friday 21st March

Red Nose Day

Monday 24th – Wednesday 26th March

Year 6 residential

Friday 28th March

Sponsored Walk

Friday 4th April

End of term

Tuesday 22nd April

Term 5 begins

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:

Stars of the Week: Lena-Mae, Gianluca, Audrey, Omer, Salah, Shania, Tilly, Debbie, Aser, Vrishank, Kimmy, Aimee and Lola.

Congratulations to Luke for achieving his next level in Karate – the Orange and white stripe.

Team Points winner: Disciples.

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

Willow: willow@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Beech: beech@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Maple: maple@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Chestnut: chestnut@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Lilac: lilac@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Oak: 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

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 child has to wear earrings please can we ask that they are small and not hooped.

And finally...

We are looking to add to our cleaning team. If you are interested in this role which would be cleaning after school from 3:30– 5:30pm, please contact the school office.

With best wishes,

Moira Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW