

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

**Newsletter Friday 14th March 2025**

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

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

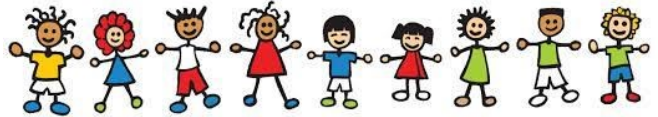


Our **School Christian Values** are Aspiration, Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion.

We heard a story about a girl called Nora!

## 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 95.8% this week.

## This Week...

On Tuesday we were delighted to welcome Michael De Souza to our school to work with a group of our Year 2 children as well as children from St Peter's, Hilden Oaks, Brenchley & Matfield and Claremont Primary schools.

Michael De Souza is the author of Rastamouse (yes, that Rastamouse!) so we were all very excited to meet him and he didn't disappoint! The children had a great time and loved creating their own rhymes.

On Tuesday and Wednesday a small group of Year 6 battled through all weathers to achieve their Level 1 and Level 2 Bike ability. These sessions were quite intensive so a huge congratulations to Alexis, Charlie, Hayden, Jake, Oscar and Rowan.



Over the past two Fridays Mr Mackinnon has run Parent Workshops for children in Year 1 and 2 to give practical ideas to support Maths. Those involved found the sessions very informative and we look forward to hearing about your experiences.

Acorn Class are currently looking at People Who Help Us as their topic. They were asked what they would like to be when they grow up. There were lots of ideas which included:

*A Motorbike rider (Grayson), Elsa Impersonator (Dyuthi), Doctor ( Rohullah and Demi) and Pirate Impersonator ( Ryan)!*

Next week is Parent Consultations so please do book on Arbor to see your child's teacher so that we can share together their learning this year.

What a busy week!



GET READY FOR...

**FUN FRIDAY!**

SPRING SPONSORED WALK

+

ICE CREAM SALE

+

MOVIE NIGHT (£2.50)

**FRIDAY 28TH MARCH**



## School Sponsored Walk



Exciting news! Spring is finally here. And what better way to celebrate the changing of the season than with an exciting, new, whole-school sponsored event?

On **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March**, every child in the school will be getting out of the classroom, putting on their walking shoes and completing a Spring Sponsored Walk to raise money for the Year 3 and 4 Show-in-a-Week production of Alice in Wonderland.

Acorn and Year 1 will complete a 1.5km route.

Years 2 to 6 will complete a 3km route.

We desperately need to raise funds to make sure that the show-in-a-week concept can continue and become a regular part of the school calendar. So please, get involved and start raising sponsorship money straight away!

We kindly ask that you approach family members, friends and neighbours and ask them to pledge money in support of your child's walk. Sponsors could pledge a total amount for the entire walk or choose to pledge an amount per km.

A sponsor form went home last week however, if you require a paper copy, please collect one from the school office.

We kindly ask that all sponsorship money is collected and handed in to school no later than Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April. Sponsorship raised in cash can be handed in to the school office in a named envelope. Sponsorship payments can also be made using the School Shop in Arbor.

If you would like to join us on our walk and become an additional adult helper, please contact the school office and register your interest.

If you have any questions regarding the sponsored walk, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Mackinnon directly.

## Red Nose Day

As you will be aware, next Friday is Red Nose Day and we would like to help raise money for this worthy cause. This year, the event will focus on supporting those in need during the current living crisis, focusing on issues like lack of food and homelessness.

We are conscious that many of you have just paid for World Book Day costumes and so we would like to keep things simple: next Friday will be an Own Clothes Day in return for a donation to Comic Relief (you can pay in cash on the day or through the School Shop in Arbor). If children want to, they can wear something red and/or spotty. Additionally, it is the 40th anniversary of Red Nose Day, so children could also dress up as something related to 1985 but we are just as happy to see them in their own clothes!

## 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: Ted, Vedasharee, Kyza, Zaviyar, Tunmise, Joe, Mila, Rayannash, Cansu, Saanvi, Aiyana and Phoebe.

Team Point winner: Saints.

Special mentions to Nikola for her Yellow karate belt, Molly for her drama award and Tunmise for her Piano and Reading awards from the Tunbridge Wells Art festival.

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

## Dates:

**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

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

## And finally...

With best wishes and I hope the sun continues to shine!

Moira Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW