

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

Newsletter Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016

*"Living & Learning together"*

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

## Dates and Reminders

Monday 26<sup>th</sup>

September

Macmillan Coffee

Morning

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>

October

Wild West Menu

(for the children)

£2.30

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>

October

Parent

Consultations

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October

End of Term 1

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### Reminder

Can we please ask that at the end of the day children do not go into Acorn or Willow's outside area and play.

Staff will be preparing this area for the next day of teaching

**Attendance** - We are challenging all our classes to have 100% attendance. Well done to Chestnut who had 97% attendance. Who will it be next week?



## This week in school...

We have had a very busy week and it has been wonderful to go into the classrooms and see our children learning their times tables and Phonics.

Our Acorn children have stayed all morning and on Thursday had a special talk about how we teach Phonics. Today they are having their class picnic. The children have settled in well and we are looking forward to seeing them with us all day from next Monday.

Fr. John came in on Wednesday to talk about St Matthew and we found out about St Matthew's life. The children sang beautifully and it is always wonderful to hear our school sing.

A quick reminder that if you have had some medical forms from Mrs Bullen, please fill them in as soon as you can and return to the office. Thank you in advance.

Thank you for your donations for the Roald Dahl Dress up Day, we raised £150 which is going to Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's charity.

## Secondary Transfer 2017

Today in Year 6 the children will be bringing home a leaflet about choosing their secondary schools. It gives you a useful guide in choosing your next school. Please see back page for secondary school open days.

Please remember that the closing date is the 31<sup>st</sup> October and you can apply online at [www.kent.gov.uk/ola](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ola)

## **This week in class:**

### **Acorn**

This week we have been learning the s phoneme. We have been making spotty snakes, listening for this phoneme at the beginning of words and trying to write the s grapheme. We had lots of fun in our first Write Dance lesson, making s shapes in the air with long ribbons. In Maths, we have been working on our counting skills by playing counting games together and singing some counting songs. We have been very busy making new friends and we have settled very well into our lunchtime routines and have enjoyed having school dinners this week!

### **Willow**

This week Willow Class have been discussing and using adjectives to describe a sea scene and sea creatures. The children have started to draw their own story board for the story of 'Finding Nemo' and have made a cover for their topic books. In RE we have been discussing things that we are grateful for and thinking about what type of world we would create. In PE the children have been practising chest passes and finding different ways to move. In Maths the children have been finding number bonds for 10 using 10 grids and been describing and naming 3D shapes. The children have been learning to log onto the laptops using their own login and have also been using Mathletics. The children are continuing to practice writing their numbers round the right way, particularly 2 digit numbers.

### **Beech**

Beech Class have are now settled in well. They are learning about what caused the Great Fire of London. The children have worked really hard at practising their handwriting and we can already see an improvement!

We had a fabulous RE trip to St Barnabas' Church yesterday learning about the font, lectern, pulpit and altar. Beech Class asked some very thoughtful and challenging questions. In English we have started reading 'George and the Dragon'. They wrote some exciting sentences using different adjectives to describe the dragon. A fierce, scaly, red, powerful dragon!

### **Maple**

This week, we have been enjoying the book 'I'll take you to Mrs Cole' by Nigel Gray and Michael Foreman. The children have been creating lists of things they could imagine being in Mrs Cole's cellar... some very vivid pictures! They have also been working on adding suffixes to words ending in 'e', based on some of the vocabulary in the book.

In Maths, we have been adding 1-digit numbers to 2-digit numbers using known number facts, and working hard on our times tables as usual!

As part of our Science topic, Rocks, Fossils and Soil, we have been learning about the 3 different rock types: igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic. We also sorted natural and man-made rocks and looked at their uses. Thank you to Evie and Grace for bringing in an impressive ammonite to show us.

As we settle into Year 3, we are focusing on listening skills and co-operation. On Wednesday we managed to pass a hoop round a circle of 30 without dropping hands. Well done Team Maple!

### **Chestnut**

Chestnut Class have had an exciting week starting our main topic 'How to Train Your Dragon'. We have been using our imaginations to think up different ways to catch a dragon and writing instructions to help others catch a dragon. In Maths we have continued to look at place value and ordering numbers, helping us to solve problems with the facts that we have learnt. As a class we started reading the book 'How to Train Your Dragon' by Cressida Cowell. The story is set around a Viking named Hiccup. We have been looking at the British history timeline and seeing where the Vikings and Anglo-Saxons fit in. We have been imagining what it would be like to live in those times and how we would feel with invaders/settlers entering our land. It has been a busy few days.

### **Lilac**

In Maths this week Lilac Class have been solving problems about money using addition and subtraction. We have also been working with numbers that are up to three decimal places. In English we have been continuing our reading of 'Street Child' and have been working in groups discussing why characters behave the way they do. We have presented our ideas to the class. Our work about the Victorians this week has been about the differences between the lives of the rich and the poor and we have also been looking at child labour and the hard lives that poor children had in the Victorian times. In Science we have been focusing on scientific language associated with classifying the properties of materials. In Music we have been singing songs from the musical Oliver! In RE we have been continuing our work about the Five Pillars of Islam.

### **Oak**

In Oak Class this week, we have been reading Perseus and Medusa. The children then wrote some amazing, vivid descriptions of Medusa.

In Maths, we have continued to work on multiplication. The children also worked on an arithmetic test and some Maths investigations. In Maths the children were focusing on identifying large numbers and rounding them to 2 and 3 decimal places. In our topic work, we created a timeline of Ancient Greece. We also looked at Greek pottery and the children began to design their own vases.

Oak Class wrote persuasive letters from Pandora to Zeus, begging him to undo the evils that were unleashed from the box. The children made their own boxes, filled with 'poverty, sadness, sickness and death' and not forgetting 'hope'. In RE the class examined the trinity and had some expert input from Father John.

*Notes from Dave:*

*Parent Coffee on a Monday* - Do come into the school hall after drop off and have a cup of tea or coffee. It is a chance to get to know other parents at the school and find out more about what is happening- it would be lovely to see you there!

*Macmillan Coffee Morning*- Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September-. Please bring a cake (homemade or shop bought) and help us raise money for this worthy cause. Surplus cake will be sold after school.

*PTFA dates coming up...*

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October School Disco  
Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November PTFA AGM @ 9am  
Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November Craft Workshop  
Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November PTFA Christmas  
Fayre 11- 2pm  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> February Lantern Parade

**St Gregory's Catholic School  
Open Events For Entry in September  
2017**

**OPEN MORNINGS**

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>  
September**

**9.00 am - 11.00 am (Last tour is at  
10.00 am)**

**Tours finish with coffee in the library  
and an informal talk by the  
Headteacher**

**OPEN EVENING**

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September from 6.30 pm  
Headteacher talks at 6.30 & 8.00 pm**

**We welcome all faiths as well as non-  
practising children whose families  
support the ethos of the school**

**No need to book, please just turn up  
Parking available on site  
Reynolds Lane, Tunbridge Wells TN4  
9XL Tel: 01892 527444**

**Something to think about:**

**Are thoughts and memories the same thing?**

**Information for Year 6 Parents...**

**SKA Open evening- Thursday 6th October 4- 7:30pm**

**Bennett Memorial- Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September/ Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October All from 6pm.**

Have a lovely weekend. I will be trying to do some baking for Monday!

Moira Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW

Have you signed up to the PTFA Facebook page... StBarnabasPTFA