

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

**Newsletter Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

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



Our School Christian Values are Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion.  
This week we found out about Epiphany.

## Dates and Reminders

Please remember to book with the school office at least 24 hours in advance if you require After School Club.

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## Dates

*Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January*  
1:30pm Year 6 Class Mass

*Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January*  
9:30am Acorn Class Mass

*Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January*  
1:30pm Year 5 Class Mass

*Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January*  
1:30pm Year 4 Class Mass

*Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January*  
1:30pm Year 3 Class Mass

*Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January*  
1:30pm Year 6 Class Mass

*Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January*  
1:30pm Year 1 Class Mass

*Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March*  
9:30am Whole School Mass  
Ash Wednesday

You are very welcome to attend!

## Attendance Challenge

*We are challenging the school again to strive for 96% attendance.*



## This Week in School

Happy New Year! Welcome back to the start of Term 3. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break and are ready for the term ahead.

### Welcome

This term we welcome Mr Mackinnon and Mrs Grogan to our team. Mr Mackinnon will be teaching in Year 2 alongside Mrs Banner and Mrs Grogan is our new lead in our After School Club. It is also lovely to see Dr Charles back with us in Year 5.

### PE Kits

Can I please remind families that the children should have their PE kit in school every day and with the cooler weather a pair of tracksuit bottoms/ leggings would be useful to have in their kitbag too!

### Jewellery

Can I also remind families that no jewellery should be worn in school. I have noticed some of the children wearing necklaces and bracelets- please can I ask that they are kept at home. Nail varnish is also not allowed in school.

### Congratulations

To Dave Prodrick our school FLO who has been recognised in the So Magazine New Years Honours list. Well done Dave- to have a look click [here](#).

We look forward to a great term!

**THE CONTRACT DINING COMPANY**

*Jolly January Winter Warmer*

**19th January 2017**

*Spot Prizes available to be won on the day*

**Menu**

Chicken Strips (1,2) with Barbeque Sauce (8)  
 Quorn Sausages (1,2,3&4)  
 Sauté Potatoes, Sweetcorn, Baked Beans  
 Chocolate Sponge and Chocolate Sauce (1,2,3,4)  
 Fruit Pots, Yoghurts (3)

**Cost: £2.30**

**Free for Reception, Year 1 & 2**  
(Details of allergens can be found on the current menu or on our website.)

**Please return slip by Monday 16th January 2017**

**Winter Warmer**

Childs Name ..... Class .....

Amount £ ..... ☐ I have paid Online **Free for Reception, Year 1 & 2**

☐ I have paid by cheque (made payable to Contract Dining Company)

☐ My child is in Year R,1 or 2 and entitled to Free School Meals ☐ My child is in Year 3, 4, 5 or 6 and is entitled to Free School Meals

Special Diet .....

**THE CONTRACT DINING COMPANY**

## Lantern Parade 4<sup>th</sup> February @5:30pm

This year the theme is Children's Characters. The workshops at school are on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> January from 10am- 3pm. (The last Lantern being started at 2pm.)

Tea lights are free but electric lights incur a charge. See Dave for more information

### Free School Meals

The way in which schools are funded has changed and it is therefore important for the school to record children who are eligible for free school meals accurately. If you receive one of the following benefits you may qualify for free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income based Jobseekers Allowance
- Child Tax credit (not including Working Tax Credit) if the household income is below £16,190
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Income related Employment and Support Allowance.

You can apply easily using this website:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/kent/apply>

Even if your child is in Year R, 1, 2 and so receiving free school meals under the Universal Offer, we would still kindly ask you to complete the form above. The information will remain confidential.



### Keeping safe online

You might have seen yesterday the report about keeping safe online. We will be sharing tips and information through the School Newsletter and Website.

# Have you checked the safety features on any new technology received over Christmas?

## **This week in class:**

### **Acorn**

This week we have been learning the 'o' and 'l' phonemes. We have been busy writing lots of words and making octopus crafts! In Maths, we have been learning to talk about and compare the length of objects. We have also been working on our counting skills and trying to count backwards from 20. We have started gymnastic lessons in PE and the children were very excited to try out the equipment for the first time. This week, we were learning how to use the equipment safely and how to land safely when jumping off the apparatus. The children have also enjoyed playing in our Post Office role play area; they have been writing lots of cards and letters to each other!

### **Willow**

It has been lovely to see the children back at school this week and they have enjoyed sharing their news about the holidays. Our Maths topic for the next couple of weeks is time and the children have already been finding o'clock and half past times on clocks. We have looked at analogue clocks this week and matching clocks to written times. The children have also been practising their counting skills. In English we have been looking at sentence structure and thinking about when to use different punctuation to end a sentence. The children have started exploring good places to use exclamation marks in their sentences. In RE we have talked about the Bible and will be learning about some Old Testament stories over the next couple of weeks. In our topic work we have been thinking about what qualities a hero needs and have started preparing the cover for our new topic books.

### **Beech**

Happy New Year! Beech Class are entering the exciting topic of 'Time Detectives'! We wrote about our Christmas holidays using time vocabulary and set our writing in the past tense. In Maths we reminded ourselves of lots of time facts and practiced telling the time in 5 minute blocks. RE led us to look at Jesus' character, discuss who he is and what Christians believe is special about him. We read and acted out the story of Jesus and the storm. Beech created a very loud whirling and crashing storm, thank goodness we had Jesus to tell them all to "hush"!

### **Maple**

The children have made a great start to their learning in 2017! We have worked on writing recounts of the holidays. We began by talking and sharing our news. Next we looked at the key features of a recount and worked on writing past tense verbs. We planned our writing by organising information into paragraphs, before writing the recounts. One of our targets this year is to edit and improve our writing, so we finished off the week by working on these skills.

Keep up the good work with learning times tables. This year we are working on the 3, 4 and 8 times tables, to add to 2, 5 and 10.

You will be receiving an information sheet on handy tips for learning spellings at home, and also a letter informing you of the topics we will be covering this term. They will be in homework books next week.

### **Chestnut**

The class discussed the idea of 'New Year's Resolutions' and thought of their own, personal resolution for the year. In English the children looked at how dictionaries can help to support their written work and enable them to be more independent. In Maths the class reviewed their knowledge of 'time' and started to solve time problems.

### **Lilac**

Welcome back to Lilac Class and a very Happy New Year! It is so lovely to be back and the children are really looking after me! They are certainly refreshed and ready to learn. We have started our Science Topic about Earth and Space and I am so impressed with the knowledge they already have and their enthusiasm for the subject. We have also started to learn our space songs for the Tunbridge Wells Singing Festival in March. Our individual item will be 'I Can See Clearly Now' and so many of the children know this song already and can sing it beautifully. In RE this week we have been thinking about true and false facts related to the Bible and have been thinking about what the Bible means to us, as individuals. Our main topic this term will be about the Ancient Mayans and we will start this next week.

### **Oak**

This week we have started our new topic 'Into the Death Zone' by locating on a map the main mountain ranges of the world. Linked to this, in our English work, we have been researching the seven highest summits and beginning to plan a report.

We have been drawing nets of 3-D shapes in our Maths work and we have also been revisiting decimals.



Something to think about:

When you comb your hair is it art?

### Term dates

Term 3: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January- Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February

Half Term: Monday 13<sup>th</sup>- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February

Term 4: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February- Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

Term 5: Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May

Half Term: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June

Term 6: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June- Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July

### Water at School

Research has found that drinking water is an effective way to refresh the brain and help with learning. All our children have access to water and in KS1 we are trialling a new water cooler which has its own bottles, rather than cups, which is better for the environment.

With this in mind each child will be given their own water bottle and we ask that these are the only bottles used in school.

School Clubs start week beginning the 16<sup>th</sup> of January. The forms will be out early next week. Please remember that parents **MUST** sign consent forms to enable your child to have a place.

With best wishes

Moira Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW