

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

**Newsletter Friday 20<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 Love.

## 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 23rd January*

1:30 Year 3 Class Mass

*Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January*

1:30pm Year 2 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!

## School Open Afternoon

*Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February*

@2:30pm

Come and visit your child's classroom and look at their amazing work!

## Attendance Challenge

*As a whole school we have an attendance target of 96% to achieve. Last week the school was quite poorly, the best class was Chestnut-let's hope we are all on the way to being well!*

*Here is the breakdown for each class:*

Acorn	95 %
Willow	90.7%
Beech	95.0 %
Maple	94.7 %
Chestnut	95.1 %
Lilac	92.4 %
Oak	94.8 %



## This Week in School

Another bracing week with the cold starts to the day although we have been spoilt with the winter sunshine!

Two of our classes have attended their Class Mass this week and Fr. John on both occasions has returned to let me know of the amazing questions being asked. In fact he had to return to Year 5 to continue their conversations!

Tonight is our PTFA quiz and I know the evening should be a fun event, my thanks go to everyone who has organised this.

Some of our Year 1 and 2 children took part in their Inter-School Agility challenges yesterday. They were very excited and really tried their best-please see later in this newsletter.

Looking ahead we have our new School Nurse joining us for coffee on Monday. Do come along at our usual Parent Coffee Morning just after drop off.

Can we ask that if your child is having a dentist or doctors appointment during the school day that you let the school office know and show them a copy of the appointment letter.

## A note from Dave:

A call out for the following to help with the Lantern Parade on the 4th Feb, we need people to prepare, cook, and serve food at the end of the parade. All profits go to the PTFA.

**CREATE** also needs volunteer stewards for the parade - if you know of anyone who might want to help please let me know.

Finally on the morning of the parade we need some help putting up the festoon lights all around the playground.

Any help gratefully received - contact Dave on 07966190428 or [dprodrick@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](mailto:dprodrick@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk),

Thank you.

## Kent Games News



Last week a group of year 5 and 6s took part in the county sports hall athletics tournament in Tonbridge. The children took part in a range of indoor track and field events and did brilliantly. We are very proud of them all, especially the way they encouraged and supported each other and the other schools.

This week saw a group of year 1 and 2 children take part in an infant agility competition. The children took part in bounce tests, long jump and skittles to name a few. We have some very talented athletes! As a bonus we all got to meet Toby the Tiger!



**Safer Internet Day 2017** will take place on Tuesday 7th February with the theme 'Be the change: Unite for a better internet'.

Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre the celebration sees hundreds of schools and organisations join together to raise awareness of online safety issues and also to run events and activities right across the UK.

As a result of our collective action, Safer Internet Day 2016 reached 2.8 million UK children and 2.5 million UK parents.

As a school we will be involved and if you would like to know more please see: [www.saferinternetday.org.uk](http://www.saferinternetday.org.uk) #SID2017.

# St. Gregory's Multi-Sports Camp

If your child is between 6 and 11 years of age and enjoys a range of sports such as football, tennis, netball, rounders, cricket, basketball, badminton, hockey and more, perhaps he/she would like to come and join us at St. Gregory's Multi-sports camp.

## WHERE?

St Gregory's School, Reynolds Lane, TN4 9XL

## WHEN?

Wednesday 15th Feb

Thursday 16th Feb

Friday 17th Feb

If you would like to book some dates please email me and I will pencil them in. Paper work will follow at the end of the week.

**TIME?** 10 am – 3 pm

## HOW MUCH?

£15 per day. If 2 or more siblings then £12.50 each per day. Please make cheques payable to "Mrs. K. Bradbury" and return with this completed slip to: 33 Holden Park Road, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 0ER

## WHAT TO BRING?

A packed lunch, plenty of fluids and snacks for throughout the day. It's also advisable to pack some sun cream and a sun hat.

## WHAT NEXT?

If you are interested in enrolling your child, please complete and sign the reverse. You will receive booking confirmation of your child's place via the phone.

Please book early to avoid disappointment - places are limited.

CONTACTS - Noel Bradbury [nbradbury@sgschool.org.uk](mailto:nbradbury@sgschool.org.uk)

(If you have any queries or further questions)

## Can you help?

You might have seen in the news about a little girl from Speldhurst who's family are trying to raise money to take her to the States to have surgery, as part of her on-going battle with cancer.

Despite 20 rounds of chemo, doctors here have told the family that it is too dangerous to remove the tumour and there is nothing more they can do.

The Jacksons are now seeking advice from a top neuroblastoma surgeon in New York. His name is Dr Michael. P. La Quaglia (feel free to Google him) and he has a fantastic record of successfully treating cancer patients with cases similar to Florence; cases that other doctors have given up hope on.

[www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/Flosfight](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/Flosfight)

## **This week in class:**

### **Acorn**

This week we have been learning the f and v phonemes. We have been working on reading and writing words with more confidence and the children really enjoyed visiting the library this week, the staff in the library commented on how well behaved we all were. In Maths, we have been learning about the 'teen' numbers; we have been learning about how these numbers are made up (e.g.  $10+2=12$ ). In RE we have been learning about the stories Jesus would have been told when he was a boy. We saw some very funny pictures of Mrs Johnson when she was a little girl and we talked about the fact that she liked to do the same things that we like doing; playing with toys, games with our friends and listening to stories. We then heard the story of baby Moses in the bulrushes and talked about the fact that Jesus would have been told this story too when he was a little boy.

In their play, the children have been exploring the frost and ice and looking at all the lovely patterns that the frost makes. We have also been listening to story CDs, doing lots of colouring, playing on the bikes and scooters and, following on from our PE sessions, doing lots of yoga and dance.

We are hoping to all be feeling a bit healthier next week and that Miss Williams will be back with us after a bad case of the lurgies.

### **Willow**

This week Willow Class have been learning about rhyming words, writing in the past tense and been retelling the story of 'Superworm' by Julia Donaldson. We have also been re-reading the story of 'Supertato Veggies Assemble' by Sue Hendra. In Science the children have been helping Supertato find a good material for a crash mat for Tommy Tomato who keeps falling off of the conveyor belt in the supermarket. In RE the children have been learning about the story of Moses and the Ten Commandments. They have also been thinking about rules that they have to follow. In Maths the children have been sequencing events in a day, answering word questions about time and completed a Maths quiz about measuring things in a zoo. It has been a busy week!

### **Beech**

We have been extremely busy in Beech Class this week. In Literacy, we used our imagination to visualise and explore the inside of the Great Hall of a medieval castle. We then used prepositional phrases and adjectives to create some fantastic descriptive sentences. We were also very careful to use capital letters, commas and full stops to punctuate our work accurately. In Numeracy, we expanded our understanding of place value and used this to help add 2 digit numbers. First, we explored how 2 digit numbers could be partitioned in a variety of ways. Then, we utilised our partition skills to add tens and ones separately. In Science, we deepened our understanding of the parts of a plant. First, we learned a range of scientific vocabulary. Then, we used these words to help explain the jobs of each part of the plant. In PE, we developed a range of different balances before using them to create gymnastic routines.

Beech Class excelled themselves on Thursday, using awesome adjectives to describe objects you might find in a castle. They also included the use of commas, prepositional phrases and pronoun verbs. In Maths, they have continued to add 2 digit numbers together, looking at the tens and ones, in the vertical partition method and using a number line. In Art this week we are looking at 'Scraffito', which involves a layer of light colour, a layer of darker colour over the top and then scratching your picture through. If you have time try some at the weekend!

### **Maple**

We have been inspired by the book 'The Ink Garden of Brother Theophane' to produce our own natural dyes. In small groups we cut and prepared ingredients, before boiling them to extract the colour. We have a range of dyes made from red cabbage, turmeric, carrots and tea! We will be using the experience to write an explanation, and have already been looking at the features of these kinds of texts. We have also been getting to grips with using apostrophes to show plural possession.

We brushed up on our History and Geography skills when we investigated the growth and eventual decline of the Roman Empire. The children were fantastic at spotting changes over time and raised some really interesting questions about the invasion of Britain.

In RE we read the story of Moses and the Burning Bush and discussed our own feelings of awe and wonder. We looked at pictures of some spectacular natural sights and lots of us had our breath taken away!

It is wonderful having everyone in class joining in with PE. We are so lucky to have experts come in to help us with ball skills and gymnastics. Both sessions are thoroughly enjoyed by the children.

### **Chestnut**

This week Chestnut Class have been exploring proclamations some more. We have created our own from the Gods to create a display in our classroom. In Maths we have been looking at multiplying by 0,1 and dividing by 1. Moving on to multiplying 3 numbers together and using these skills to solve problems. On Wednesday afternoon we were lucky enough to visit the church for our own Class Mass.

The class have been planning and writing explanations, using examples to support their writing. They have focussed on editing and improving the different paragraphs. In Maths the class identified which multiplication table they needed to focus on and used different strategies to help them remember the facts. They continued to focus on time conversion problems, making sure they remembered important time facts. In Science the children looked at the history of electricity (very interesting!). They then created electrical circuits and tested different materials to see if they were conductors or insulators. In RE the class read the 'Parable of the Unmerciful Servant'. They then reflected on acts of kindness and what it means to be forgiven.

### **Lilac**

In Maths this week, we have been continuing our work about fractions. We have been converting mixed numbers into improper fractions and improper fractions into mixed numbers. We have also been focusing on mathematical reasoning and explaining why various statements are true or false and whether we agree with them or not. In English, we have linked our topic work with the Ancient Mayans and are working on a diary account of a Spanish Conquistador. We are working on describing setting by thinking about how we felt, what we saw, smelt and heard as we travelled through the tropical rainforests of Mesoamerica and then discovered the ancient ruins of the Mayans. In Science, Lilac Class have been studying the Moon and why it changes shape. We have also been learning about the movement of the Sun, Moon and the Earth. In Music, we have been listening to The Planets Suite composed by Holst. We designed posters about what the pieces entitled Venus and Mars made us feel and the dynamics and instruments we heard. In RE, Lilac Class have continued our work about the books in the Bible and we have discussed how reading them helps us live our lives. Fr John followed up the Year 5 Mass, that was held on Monday afternoon, by coming into our class and answering further questions about the parish of St Barnabas' and St Barnabas' Church.

### **Oak**

During our English work this week, we have been editing, improving and re-writing our mountain reports. The children are now in the process of using Publisher and Word to transform their written reports into a leaflet.

In Maths, we have been improving our division skills, symmetry and accurately reflecting shapes.

We have been learning how to spell words ending in 'cial' and 'tial' in our spelling work while in Science we have been finding out about how species adapt to suit their environments,



Something to think about:

How many bricks is a wall?

#### Event news

Mrs Tompsett and Miss Stephens are organising a Zumbathon to raise money for Mrs Tompsett's marathon charity ARC.

You do not need to have any experience or be particularly fit. Come along and join in when you fancy, take as many breaks as you need or dance your way through the whole 2 hours. All are welcome the main aim is to have fun, get a bit sweaty and raise some money for a brilliant cause.

When: Friday 3rd Feb 7.30-9.30

Where: St Barnabas' School Hall

How much: £7.50

We look forward to seeing you, regulars and newbies.

And lastly.....

Can I remind families that at the end of the day the site needs to be cleared by 3:15pm so that our After School Club can use the playground.

With best wishes

*Moirá Duncombe*

@StBarnabasSchoolTW