

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

**Newsletter Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February 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 continued to find 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

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

You are very welcome to attend!

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## Lunch Menu

Please note that the Monday and Tuesday main meal for the first week after Half Term will be switched, so on Monday there will be sausages and on Tuesday spaghetti.

We have noticed that children who are having packed lunch are having lots of sweetness. Please do try and make sure that packed lunches are healthy and varied!

**Well done to Lilac Class who achieved our first Caretaker Award!!**

## Attendance Challenge

*As a whole school we have an attendance target of 96% to achieve. Well done to Beech Class who had the best attendance last week. Well done to the over 80 children who achieved 100% this term.*

*Here is the breakdown for each class:*

Acorn	95.67 %
Willow	94.67 %
Beech	98.00 %
Maple	97.00 %
Chestnut	95.36 %
Lilac	96.42 %
Oak	94.48 %



## This Week in School

The Lantern Parade was a great success and I know the school was very full and our thanks go to the team who managed the food for the event. Special thanks go to John and Dave who were on site the whole time.

Thursday saw our school open to parents, it was lovely to see so many of you coming to see the school in operation. There were so many positive comments and our children were very proud to show their work to you.



Today we say goodbye to Mrs Millen who has been working in Willow Class as a Teaching Assistant. We wish her well in her new job and thank her for all her hard work. We know she will be fantastic!

Today is Chestnut's last swimming session and I know they have tried hard to improve their swimming skills. I look forward to hearing how Year 3 get on next term.

A short but busy Term 3!

### **This week in class:**

#### **Acorn**

This week we have been learning the 'qu' and 'x' phonemes in phonics. Our story for this week has been 'The Queen's Knickers' and we designed our own knickers for the Queen to wear! We have also been making rhyming sentences and playing around with silly words to make rhymes. We have written some amazing rhyming sentences - the children are making such fantastic progress! In Maths, we have been learning to add to numbers up to 20 and have been making and writing our own number sentences. In PE, we acted out a Star Wars story using yoga poses and we have also been learning about how to stay safe when using the internet as part of 'Safer Internet Day'. In our play, we have been building some amazing castles that are getting more and more elaborate each day. We have also loved playing lots of board games this week, learning the rules and learning to take turns with each other.

#### **Willow**

In English this week Willow Class have been planning and writing their own story about a wolf. This has been inspired by a story we read about a kind wolf who wanted to have a party for the other animals. We have been talking about good ways to start a story. In Maths we have been solving maths word puzzles and been working with money to explore tens and ones. In Science we talked about our investigation to find a new cape for Supertato and have started talking about the basic structure of plants and what happens to them at different times of the year. In RE we have been learning about the story of Ruth and the children have painted a picture about one of the stories we have talked about this term. The children have enjoyed using the big climbing apparatus in PE and playing team games.

#### **Beech**

In English, we continued to develop our descriptive writing skills. We applied our understanding of prepositional (where) phrases and adjectives to create descriptive sentences about the villain in our class narrative. We then shared ideas relating to possible events and problems which could occur in our story. In Maths, we turned our attention towards multiplication and division. We completed a range of different counting activities to help secure our understanding of the 2, 5 and 10 times tables. We also used visual representations and our own jottings to solve multiplication and division problems in real life contexts. Finally, we used arrays to deepen our understanding of the inverse relationship between multiplication and division. In Science, we made scientific observations of the plants that we have been growing in class. We also made predictions about what we thought might happen next in the plant's development. During our ICT time, we marked 'Internet Safety Day' by sharing our ideas on how to keep the internet safe. We also used programming software to design and create regular 2D shapes.

#### **Maple**

We have had a very busy last week of term in Maple Class!

On Tuesday it was 'Safer Internet Day' as we explored the issues around sharing images on social media. The children looked at some photos of their teachers when they were younger and thought about the difference in how photos are now stored. We looked at a series of images showing children and talked about what our first impressions were. We soon realised that all the pictures could be viewed from different perspectives!

Our wonderful explanation texts are now on display in the classroom. The children are rightly proud of this piece of writing and visitors to the class have commented on the quality of their work.

In RE we have been looking at the character of David in the Old Testament, and the responsibility placed on him. Samuel chose him to be the next king. We thought about responsibilities we have as we get older, particularly helping at home and at school.

We have produced some beautiful mosaics as part of our Romans topic. The children have worked on designing them and then reproducing them with tiny paper squares, carefully considering the colours they would use.

Our focus in Science is Light, and we have set up experiments to test the reflective properties of various materials. We made predictions and tested things ranging from thick cardboard through to Mrs Bullen's Fire Marshall jacket! The children will use their findings to design a book bag that will help them stay safe in the dark.

Have a very happy half term holiday!

#### **Chestnut**

Chestnut Class have been looking at using formal methods for multiplication this week. We have been practicing multiplying two and three digit numbers by a one digit number. In English we finished reading the book 'Mouse Bird Snake Wolf' and had a long discussion about what we thought the meaning behind the book was. We then made our own graphic novel versions of the book which look really good.

The children worked on a science assessment, in groups, testing their knowledge of electricity, thinking about conductors, insulators, circuits, switches and electrical safety. In English the children wrote a detailed explanation about 'How Volcanoes Erupt'. To help with their understanding of this, they looked at famous volcanoes around the world....they were very interested in Mount Vesuvius and the city of Pompeii.

#### **Lilac**

In Maths this week, we have been converting decimals into fractions and vice versa. Mrs Duncombe also came in to work with us. In English, we are now working on non-chronological report writing and this week we took notes whilst being taken through a power point about tropical rainforests. These notes formed the basis of the information texts we were writing. To develop our note taking skills, we concentrated on only writing down the key facts in each section of the power point and we discussed what these were. When drafting our non-chronological reports, we focused on the use of subheadings, formal language, sentence openers and conjunctions to begin our subordinate clauses. In RE, we have been looking at and comparing the Gospels. We have also been thinking about how we could share good news with others around the world. For History, we have been learning about the religious beliefs and rituals of the Ancient Mayan civilisation. In Art and Design, we have continued our work about Mayan art, designing our own pictures in the style of the Mayan artists, using oil pastels. We have been thinking about the colours and common themes that the Mayans used in their artwork. In Science, we have set up an experiment to measure the movement of the sun by designing our own sundials. We have predicted what we think will happen and why

#### **Oak**

The children have been working very hard this week attempting both a SPaG and a Reading paper. In our English work, we have been writing the final drafts of our stories in neat.

We have been focusing on time in Maths, working on 12 and 24 hour clock conversion. We have also been finding out how to calculate the mean of a set of data.

On Tuesday it was 'Safer Internet Day' so we discussed how to stay safe online and some of the things we need to think about before posting images of ourselves or others. We went on to make posters which we hope to display in the ICT room and the classroom.



### Internet Safety

This week we had International Safer Internet Day but being safe online is important every day. Do look at the CBBC webpage on their coverage which includes quizzes and a report on Minecraft.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/curations/safer-internet-day>

### Contract Dining Newsletter

Healthy eating, when children eat better they do better, that's how we see it.

All our menus are checked and approved by The Children's Food Trust. A balanced diet consists of starchy foods, fruit and vegetables, meat, fish, eggs, beans and non-dairy sources of protein, milk and dairy. With the emphasis on limited foods high in fat and sugar.

Here is a quick guide to how the week looks much healthier for your child:

'Fried potatoes' only twice a week, so this means your roast on Wednesday and chips on a Friday.

Pastry dishes limited to twice a week.

Fruit based deserts of at least 50% fresh fruit to be provided twice a week along with fresh fruit as a daily choice.

Wholegrain rice and pasta, along with the addition of 50% in our homemade bread and cakes is used to get the children taking in more fibre.

WE DO NOT USE SALT in any of our homemade dishes.

PACKED LUNCH children, if you think you might like school lunches but are unsure, check with your school to see if you can come to lunch for one day as a taster, that way you can pick the day you like the most and hopefully try something different.



**Something to think about:**

**Can you stand on the same beach twice?**

And lastly.....

Have a wonderful Half Term

With best wishes

*Moira Duncombe*

@StBarnabasSchoolTW