

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 26th May 2017

"Living & Learning together" www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk



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

This week we have continued our theme of peace.

Reminders

Don't forget, we have an inset day on Monday 5th June and the school will be closed.

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DATES

Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June
Half term- School Closed

Monday 5th June
INSET day- School Closed

Week of 12th June
Phonic Screening for Year 1

Monday 12th June
Class Photographs

Week beginning 19th June Arts Week

Wednesday 28th – 30th June
Year 6 residential

Saturday 8th July
Summer Fayre

Tuesday 11th July
Year 4 trip

Thursday 13th July
Provisional Sports day
(KS2 am/ KS1 pm)

Friday 14th July
Reserve Sports day

Thursday 20th July
Last day of term

Friday 21st July
INSET day



This Week in School

This week we had our School Attendance Officer visit us to review our attendance data. Our whole school attendance stands at 95.7% but we do have several families who are consistently late. Please do remember that we ring the bell at 8:45am. The Local Authority Attendance Officer will be joining us the gate in June to see how many families are late - so please be aware!

On Tuesday we had a Safeguarding review from a member of the Local authority Safeguarding team. She reviewed our paperwork, procedures and school site and I am pleased to say she was very positive in what we do here. I would like to draw your attention to the ParentMail that was sent today about school visitors and entering the school building.

Our Year 2 class have finished their SATs assessments and have shown excellent attitude and resilience to what has been expected of them and my thanks go to the Year 2 team.

Another busy week!

Attendance Challenge

Well done to Isla B, Emily B, Oscar B, Holby, Redford, Jessica CBF, Melanie CBF, Chloe D, Jake D, Albert E, Freya F, Harsha G, Frazer G, Thomas H, Samuel K, Eirini M, Evie R, Grace R, Mary S, Harry S, Lilyanna S & Ryan W who have achieved 100% attendance since starting this academic year!! You will be invited to a special Headteacher tea when we get back!

As a whole school we have an attendance target of 96% to achieve. Here is the breakdown for each class:

Acorn	92.41 %
Willow	94.67 %
Beech	95.00%
Maple	95.00%
Chestnut	94.07 %
Lilac	96.90%
Oak	94.48 %



Class News

Acorn Class News:

This week we have been learning to read and write complex words with the ee, oo, oi and or digraphs in Phonics. We have been continuing to write our ladybird information books in English. In Maths, we have been learning to solve problems by using clues to guess the number or shape that someone is thinking of. We have been on lots of bug hunts this week and the children have been fascinated by all of the insects they have found. They really enjoyed our Bedtime Stories afternoon yesterday, and the children spent the afternoon reading books with their friends and teddies before watching The Gruffalo (one of our favourite class stories!)

Willow Class News:

This week the children in Willow Class have been busy writing a range of poems and a story linked to our topic of toys. They have been using rhyming words, adjectives and similes to make their writing more interesting. In Phonics, the children have been practising the u-e split digraph and been reading real and nonsense words using the letters sounds to practise for Phonics Screening in June. In Maths, the children have been learning about money. They have been learning to recognise coins, make different totals and have been finding the difference between two amounts. In Art and DT this week, Willow Class have been doing still life drawing of toys and started to paint their clay animals.

Beech Class News:

Our last day of tennis involved practicing all the skills we have learnt. Fabulous serves, volleys and rallies! In R.E. we looked at the 1 Corinthians ch 13 v 4-7 passage which talks about love being patient, kind, generous, forgiving, just and honest. Then in small groups we acted out a scenario to show these values. At the end of a very hot and busy day they all worked brilliantly as a team. Fantastic learning this term Beech Class, we are very proud of you all.

Maple Class News:

This week we have worked on a variety of skills in our English lessons. The children have used dictionary and thesaurus skills to edit the persuasive letters they wrote last week. They have also amended punctuation to shorten over-long sentences and added conjunctions to extend others. We have also used artwork by Georges Seurat and Jacques Louis David as inspiration for writing pieces featuring prepositions, noun phrases and direct speech. I have been very impressed with the quality of their writing.

As part of our learning in Maths, we have been identifying right angles, acute angles and obtuse angles. We are constantly working on our times tables, so please keep on learning x3, x4 and x8 over the holidays. We use that knowledge in many areas of Maths.

In Science, we have looked at food groups and the foods that fall into the categories of carbohydrates, proteins, fats and sugars. We have created illustrations of balanced meals using examples from those food groups. We have also begun studying skeletons, learning why we have them, and labelling diagrams using our own model.

Chestnut Class News:

This week in Chestnut Class we have been looking at decimals and their equivalent fractions, learning how to round decimals up to the nearest number and using these skills to solve problems. In English we thought about someone famous that we really admire and wrote a dialogue as if we were being interviewed by them, we then used this to write an autobiography. We have also looked at extending noun phrases to add interest to our writing. As part of our topic the children have worked very hard over the last couple of weeks by designing, making and decorating their own Egyptian pots.

The class have been writing the final draft of their story about a 'Mysterious Parcel'. The children have used a wide range of techniques, to keep the audience interested. In Maths the children used their skills to plot coordinates in the second quadrant. In Science the class researched creatures living in our immediate environment and took part in a survey on our school grounds. In RE the class learnt about a Jewish wedding ceremony.

Lilac Class News:

In Maths this week, Lilac Class have been converting different units of metric measurement; we have also focused on the relationship between imperial and metric units of measurement. In English, we have been looking at prefixes that have meaning, for example, auto, bi, anti and super. We have developed our dictionary skills by looking up words that begin with these prefixes. We have also been revisiting parenthesis, using commas, dashes and brackets in our sentences. In Science, we have been learning about the different parts of a flower and wind and insect pollination. In Geography, we moved on from rivers to the sea this week. We looked at sea erosion and how caves, arches and stacks are formed and compared cliffs and coastlines from two different areas of Britain. In RE, we are coming to the end of our work about Atonement and Salvation and thought about why sacrifice is a gift. We looked at the story of Abraham and Isaac to illustrate this idea. In PE, we have been practising our javelin skills, thinking about technique and precision. In Art, we started our big sea frieze of the Titanic, using a range of different materials.

Oak Class News:

This week in our English work, the children have been writing a newspaper report about the outbreak of the Second World War. We listened to Neville Chamberlain's broadcast and looked at examples of newspaper headlines from the days after the announcement.

In Maths, the children have continued to work on their group projects. This week they have been concentrating on creating an information leaflet and working out the running costs of their theme park.

In our topic work, we have been finding out about rationing and the 'Dig for Victory' campaign. The children then designed their own World War Two garden.



Online After School Club Bookings

We are excited to tell you that St Barnabas After School Club bookings are now going online!

In order to make bookings from Term 6 onwards, it is essential that you register with our new system. Please do this at: <https://libacura.co.uk/register/stbarnabas>

All bookings from the beginning of Term 6 will be made online, so please ensure you are ready to do this. We also strongly encourage you to make online payment via this new system.

You will be able to access your balance, bookings and statement at any time through the website and statements will be sent to you on a monthly basis.

Please do feedback to us with any thoughts or issues.

Online Uniform Orders

You can now also order all your school uniform online via the Tesco website. Go to www.tesco.com/ues, search for our school and place your order. You can choose from Click and Collect or home delivery and if you have a Clubcard, you can use that too. Also, the school get a 5% donation for every purchase and this money will go straight back into resources for the school.

We do still hold a small stock of uniform at the school which we are selling off. If there is something you need, please come to the school office and see if we have it available. Once the current stock is gone we will not be ordering any more.



Challenge:

Can you decipher these codes:

8 T on a O

29 D in F in a L Y

27 B in the N T

365 D in a Y

18 H on a G C 18 holes on a Golf Course

5 T on a F 5 toes on a foot

3 W on a T 3 wheels on a tricycle

Message from Dave:
CreativeWeek help:

Do you have...

- Succulents / cuttings
- Wooden Pegs (not plastic ones)
- Fine Sand
- Gravel
- shallow trays / dishes any materials they should be 3cm deep minimum
- Buttons
- any old picture frames
- corks



Please remember in this sunny weather to make sure you have applied sun cream to your child before they come to school, and make sure they have a hat and a water bottle with them. Thank you!

**Mass for The Institution of Father John Caster as Vicar of St Barnabas' Church
Friday 16th June at 7:30 pm**

On Friday 16th June at 7:30 there will be a very special service held at St Barnabas' Church.

After 5 years of being the Priest in Charge, Father John is finally being made the permanent vicar of our parish.

Father John is not only a governor of our school and our parish priest but he also provides support, pastoral care and often cakes & biscuits to many people involved with our school, be that staff, children or extended families.

If you are able to attend, this is a fantastic opportunity for us to show our appreciation and to thank Father John for the tireless work he does for our school. Bishop Norman, who has visited our school recently and Bishop James, The Bishop of Rochester, will both be attending this special Mass along with many other notable dignitaries.

It's rumoured that there may be adult refreshments for later too....

And lastly.....

On Thursday the school stopped at 11am to remember the awful events this week. Here is the prayer that we shared in our KS2 Act of Worship:

God of compassion, you hear the cries of all who are in trouble or distress; we pray especially for those suddenly facing a future without a loved one or who are in distress. Grant them perseverance and courage to face the future, and be to them a firm foundation on which to build their lives. Amen

Have a lovely May break and I hope the weather stays sunny and we look forward to seeing on Tuesday 6th June

With best wishes
Moira Duncombe

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