

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 28th September 2017

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



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

Reminders

We have had several complaints from the residents at the back of our school regarding parent parking.

Please make sure you are not blocking any fire exits. Thank you.

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Dates

Monday 2nd October

Under the Sea
Year R- 3

Friday 6th October

Harvest Festival 9:30am
St Barnabas Church

Friday 13th October

Parents in Year 5 welcome
to join us at Celebration
Assembly, 9.30am in the
school hall

Wednesday 18th October

Parent Consultations

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Attendance

As a whole school we have an attendance target of 97% to achieve. Here is the breakdown for each class:

Acorn	100%
Willow	94.5%
Beech	93.5%
Maple	96.5%
Chestnut	96.7%
Lilac	90.4%
Oak	97.2%



This week in School:



We are very lucky to have Mrs Watkins come in and help keep our garden areas looking tidy, bright and clourful. This week at the Royal Tunbridge Wells in Bloom Competition we were thrilled to receive a Silver Award! Emily, Charlotte and their Mum went to represent the school and to collect our award with Mrs Watkins. They were excellent ambassadors and our thanks go to Mrs Watkins.

On Wednesday we held an Able Writers day for a group of Year 5 and 6 children from four different schools. The theme was poetry and we had a published poet lead the session with the children writing some amazing poems. Please see the website for more information.



Class News

Acorn News

Acorn Class have had an amazing week. They have been working hard learning the sound 'a'. They listened to a story about this sound and learnt the Jolly Phonics song linked to 'a'. The children made some wonderful 'apple prints' using paint, real apples and letters. Additionally they used large paper to practise writing the letter, they made apples using play dough and they hunted for magnetic letters. The Class have continued to use 'Write Dance' to work on their gross and fine motor skills (this week working on creating lines and circles). In Maths the children have focussed on the numbers 0-10. They have been counting different objects, working hard matching 'Numicon' to digits, building towers of 10 and searching for digits in the sand. During our 'Plan, Learn, Review' sessions the children have been playing imaginatively in the 'Ice Cream Parlour', building with Lego, drawing and cutting, using the outdoor classroom to explore fruits and vegetables, water, sand and chalk, as well as using the bikes and scooters. Acorn Class made their first visit to St Barnabas' Church and were given a tour by Father John! The children really enjoyed this, they had the opportunity to ask questions and explore different features of the building. On Wednesday afternoon the children enjoyed their first RE lesson, thinking about how something is given life and linking this to The Bible. This week the children have listened to numerous stories (including some classics such as 'The Tiger Who Came To Tea'), they also experienced their first library session; choosing and sharing books! What a busy week!

Willow News

This week in English, Willow Class have planned and written the story of the 3 Little Pigs and a character description of the Big Bad Wolf. In Phonics this week we have learnt about the 'aw', 'wh', 'oe' and 'ph' sounds. The children have been reading words and writing sentences using the new spelling patterns. In Maths sequencing numbers up to 20 and saying which number are more than, less than or equal to other numbers. The children have been developing their throwing, catching and ball control skills during PE. As part of our work on different seasons, the children have been talking about what changes they can see as autumn sets in and did some leaf printing and used autumn colours in Art. In RE we have been talking about what makes us happy and saying sorry when you do something wrong.

Beech News

In Literacy, we have been exploring how to use different versions of the past tense to add variety to our descriptive writing. First, we compared and contrasted verbs written in the past simple and past continuous tenses. Next, we experimented with these tenses and created action sentences for our writing. Then, we selected our favourite sentences and added description and question sentences to create our completed pieces of writing. In Maths, we continued to develop our understanding of place value. We used a 100 bead to practise counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. Next, we used 0-100 number-lines to sequence and record 2-digit numbers. Finally, we explored how number-lines could help us to add and subtract multiples of 10. In ICT, we continued to develop our programming skills in order to create regular and irregular 4-sided shapes. In our Topic time, we analysed 3 different pieces of primary source material from the time of The Great Fire of London. We used these sources to make historical discoveries and ask further historical questions. In RE we verbally retold the story of Creation and used pictures to record the story in the correct order. In Art this week we are making clay pots and relief tiles, using the textures of leaves and inspiration of nature. Hopefully we will be able to paint them next week and bring them home for you all to see.

Maple News

In Maple Class we have continued our adventures in the Stone Age. For English we have planned a story based around the Stone Age boy with us as the main character. We worked in pairs to brainstorm ideas and have begun putting the beginning of our stories together. We used a thesaurus to help find some exciting adjectives and adverbs.

In Topic we have been looking at the burial rituals of the Stone Age and have been detectives trying to work out what the items can tell us about the person. In Maths we have really enjoyed playing "zap the number". We are confident adding/subtracting units, tens and hundreds from a target number now. We can also find the position of numbers up to a thousand on a number line. We have been practicing counting in 25s.

Chestnut News

This week in Maths, we have been breaking numbers apart and revising our understanding of place value. We have also started learning our times tables targets for this year: 6, 7 and 9. We have enjoyed finding lots of intriguing patterns in the 9 times table. We have planned our own versions of the Egyptian Cinderella by changing particular elements of the story. We have shared ideas and created written story plans. To add richness to our writing, we have created character sketches and descriptions to bring the stories to life. We will be writing and editing stories over the next week.

In Science, we learned about components of a circuit and open and closed switches. We also learned about how a circuit can be altered by the addition of more bulbs, the lengthening of wires and including motors.

We have continued to learn about the Christian story of Creation by our study of Genesis. We discussed what was seen as 'good' and how we can all contribute to the world being a good place. We will talk about our ideas and pledges next week.

Lilac News

In Maths this week, Lilac Class have been rounding numbers to the nearest 10, 100, 1000, 10,000 and 100,000. We have taken this further and have been solving word problems in pairs about rounding numbers and writing explanations about mathematical statements. In Lilac Class we have also been developing our knowledge about Roman Numerals. In English, we have been working very hard at levelling up our extended writing about being a Spanish Conquistador in 1519, where our focus is describing the setting of the exploration of the tropical rainforests. We have also been improving our use of punctuation and thinking about how we can write more sophisticated subordinate clauses and expanded noun phrases. In Science, we have been continuing with our research about our Solar System. In RE, we have been looking carefully at selected texts from the Bible and thinking about how they show that God is Loving and Holy. As a class, we focused on specific words and phrases that showed this. In History, we have thought about how artefacts tell us about the way the Mayan people lived and we have also been studying a time line that tells us the key events that took place during the period when the Mayan Civilisation was in existence. In Art, we have been learning about Mayan works of art and the patterns and colours that they used. We have used these to inspire our own Mayan designs using oil pastels, In DT, we have been continuing with our Mayan people. In PE, we have continued to improve our large ball skills and how we can work as a team.

Oak News

Oak Class have been looking at multiplication, using it to solve reasoning questions. They then moved on to looking at short division, using all these skills to play Countdown. In English they have been looking at relative clauses and extracting information from a film clip to write introductory paragraphs. They have also been very busy practicing Macbeth and meeting their new Acorn buddies.



On a Friday morning, we have our Celebration Assembly where the School comes together to share success and highlight those children who have shown our School Values. These children have been nominated by their peers and adults of the school. We would like to invite you to attend these Acts of Worship which run from 9am- 9:30 on a Friday morning, except for 6th October which is at 9.30am in the Church.

If you can attend please come and sign in at the School Office and join us in the hall:

Friday 6 th October	Parents in Year 4 – in the Church at 9.30am
Friday 13 th October	Parents in Year 5
Friday 20 th October	Parents in Year 6
Friday 3 rd November	Parents in Year 1
Friday 17 th November	Parents in Year 2
Friday 24 th November	Parents in Reception

Something to think about



Can a fly see a skyscraper?

Parents Sports Committee

Miss Edmed recently invited parents to a meeting to discuss forming a Parents Sports Committee. Not everybody who was interested was able to attend on the day, so another meeting has been arranged for Tuesday 31st October at 2.30pm. We hope to see you there.

If you cannot make this meeting either but are interested in helping, or have some ideas, please speak to Miss Edmed.

And lastly.....

Have a lovely weekend

With best wishes

Moiria Duncombe

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