

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 6th October 2017

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



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

Reminders

Please can we ask that we have no chocolate nut spread in sandwiches as we have children who are allergic to nuts in school.

Chocolate should be in moderation and we ask that the children do not have other sweets in their pack lunch boxes.

Children should only bring water to school, not squash or juice.

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Dates

Monday 9th October
School photos to be returned to Class

Friday 13th October
Parents in Year 5 welcome to join us at Celebration Assembly, 9am in the 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	96.5%
Willow	95.2%
Beech	89.7%
Maple	99%
Chestnut	91.7%
Lilac	98.2%
Oak	85.9%



This week in School:

As I write this newsletter the Autumn weather is definitely with us. Please can we ask that the children have a coat with them everyday as we try and use the outside environment in all that we do.



During a Headteacher meeting on Tuesday I had two messages to inform me that John had been awarded his 20 Year Service badge as a member of School Crossing Patrol - in fact he has been a member for 22 years!! We congratulate John and thank him for his service. Can we also remind you that if your child (or you) are on a bike or scooter you must dismount before using the crossing.

At our first Full Governing Body meeting of the year we discussed our aims for the coming year and also elected a new Chair of Governors - Mr Ivan Goodsell. He is a very experienced Governor and we welcome him to our Governing Body. Do have a look at our website for information linked to our Governors and what they do.

Thank you for all your gifts for our School Harvest Festival today which will be going to the local foodbank.



Class News

Acorn News

The children took part in a workshop on Monday, with an 'Under the Sea' theme. They really enjoyed the role play and drama skills involved in this session. Acorn Class have continued to work on the 'Write Dance' Programme; this week they were 'robots' and they focused on straight and square movements. They worked hard transferring these skills onto paper.

This week, we have been learning the phoneme 't'. We have read The Tiger Who Came to Tea and made tiger masks. We have drawn food beginning with 't' that the tiger may have liked to eat, we acted the story out and searched for 't' in the magnetic letters. We have also been learning all about 2d shapes; squares, circles, rectangles and triangles. We have extended to pentagons, hexagons and octagons. We have hunted for the shapes in the playground and used chalk and paintbrushes to draw the shapes. Another productive and busy week!

Willow News

This week in English, Willow Class have been listening to Autumn poems and using adjectives in their own poems about Autumn and Harvest. In Phonics we have learnt about the 'ew', 'au' and 'a-e' sounds and have practised reading and writing words with these sounds in. In Maths, the children have adding single digit numbers together and have been working out number bonds for different numbers up to 10. The children have also been developing their reasoning skills in number sequencing activities. In Science work, we have been talking about manmade and natural materials and the children used their knowledge of materials to sort pictures into the correct category. In RE we have learnt about the story of Jonah and talked about saying sorry.

Beech News

In Art we painted our Relief tiles and Clay thumb pots. They look absolutely stunning with their beautiful designs using the world around us. In RE we are reflecting on Harvest Festival, looking at how Christians use it as a way to say thank you.

Maple News

In Maple we have been looking at the bar method for Maths. We created posters for the working wall and have been testing each other with addition problems.

For English we have been writing command sentences in our instructions for "How to clean a woolly mammoth". We then spent time improving our sentences with fronted adverbials.

For Topic we have designed Celtic brooches and begun to make them. We have been practicing Celtic knotwork and learning about all the different types of knot.

Chestnut News

This week has seen Chestnut Class hard at work with their writing. We have planned our own versions of the Egyptian Cinderella and spent the week writing and editing our stories. Our writing has included targets such as authentic story setting, show-not-tell feelings descriptions and action sections. The children have revised all the skills they need to use dictionaries and thesaurus to edit and improve their writing.

In Maths, we have continued to work on our understanding of number and place value. We have been ordering numbers and placing numbers up to 10,000 on blank number lines. To add to the challenge, we have been using number lines with different start and finish numbers. In addition to this, we have been working on quicker recall of the 6, 7 and 9 times tables.

As part of our topic, Ancient Egypt, we have been researching gods and goddesses and finished our beautiful sarcophagus designs.

Lilac News

In Lilac Class this week, we have been very busy levelling up and writing our final drafts for our extended writing task about being a Spanish Conquistador in 1519, travelling through Mesoamerica. We have been focusing on organising our writing into paragraphs and making sure that our narratives have a clear structure. In Maths, we have been solving problems about Roman Numeral calculations and we have also been creating our own, using each of the four operations. We have also moved onto mental calculations about addition and subtraction and we have been using the inverse to check our answers. In RE this week, Father John visited us during our lesson and gave a talk about the key words we have been focusing on this term - omnipotent, omniscient, eternal, holy and loving and directed us to examples in the Bible where God shows these characteristics. In Science this week, we have continued with our work about the Sun, Moon and Earth. In History, we have been thinking about how the Mayan Civilisation was structured and the difference between a Constitutional and Absolute Monarchy. In Art, we have been finishing off our Mayan designs using oil pastels. Our PE lessons this week have been focusing on developing our long distance running skills and we have had our running around the school field timed. In Music, we have started to learn a collection of songs about space. The songs we have been singing this week were entitled Sun Blast and Alien Contact.

Oak News

This week Oak class have been busy learning how to do long division. They have been looking at different alien creatures and designing their own. In RE they have written harvest prayers and poems.



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 9.00am - 9:30 on a Friday morning.

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

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



What is the most important part of a fork?

And lastly..... Thank you for your kindness last week with over £138 raised for the Macmillan Cancer Charity.

Fr. John asked me to say a huge thank you to everyone who contributed to our School Mass today. It was lovely to see so many parents and governors joining us.

Have a lovely weekend

With best wishes

Moira Duncombe

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