

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

**Newsletter Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 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 have started to look at the importance of Remembrance.

## 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 packed lunch boxes

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## Dates

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November**

PTFA Get Together

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November**

Parents in Year 2 invited to Act of Worship @9am

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November**

Parents in Reception invited to Act of Worship @9am

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December**

School Disco

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

KS1 Nativity @2pm

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

KS2 Christmas @ 6pm

## Attendance

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

Acorn	95.9%
Willow	94.3%
Beech	95.9%
Maple	95.2%
Chestnut	94.8%
Lilac	93.6%
Oak	96.0%



## This week in School:

It was good to see everyone back after the October half term and we welcome Griffin and Joshua and their families to our school family.

This week Acorn Class joined the whole school for worship on Wednesday and today. This was the first time the class had joined us and they sat and listened so well - a real credit to their class and themselves.



Looking forward, the whole school will be stopping next Friday to mark Remembrance Day. During the week Year 6 will be visiting each class with poppies and poppy bracelets, keyrings and rulers for sale - a ParentMail will be sent out separately informing families about the prices for the bracelets etc.

Children in Need is on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November and the School Council have decided that as a school we can wear our own clothes and bring a small teddy into school for the day. For this privilege children should make a donation of £1 to Children in Need.

Book Club are holding a book sale after school next Thursday to raise money for the school library. Do take a look!



## Class News

### Acorn News

Acorn Class have enjoyed a busy week. They were learning the new sound 'p'. The children made poppy prints, pumpkin-shaped biscuits and learnt the jolly phonics song and actions. They revised the sounds s,a,t,i,n and along with the new sound 'p' they made words and sounded and blended the words. The children also looked at the 'tricky words' 'I' and 'a'. They then progressed to reading sentences on the Smartboard! In Maths the children looked at adding to make 5 and they also looked at taking away. They took part in a range of activities to consolidate their learning. During Plan, Learn, Review sessions, the children played in our new role play area, exploring real kitchen objects (this initiated lots of talk and interaction). Some children were busy making books, many of them have been mark-making and writing the sounds that they know. Others have been busy with the construction materials. On Wednesday they joined the rest of the school community, for their first ever Act Of Worship, they were beautifully behaved and everyone was very impressed!

### Willow News

This week in English, Willow Class have been finding and using exciting words to describe fireworks. The children have thought about what they might hear, see and smell when watching fireworks. They wrote their own firework poem using adjectives. In Phonics this week we have reviewing tricky words and have been practising reading and writing them. In Maths the children have been practising counting in twos, been naming and describing 3D shapes and have investigated adding and subtracting number facts. The children have been developing their throwing and catching skills during PE, along with finding different ways to move in a set area. In Art the children have been creating firework pictures.

### Beech News

In English, we used and applied all the skills we have learned so far this year to create a diary entry from the perspective of Samuel Pepys. First of all, we created a colour coded plan to make sure our writing included all the different types of sentences that we have been working on. Next, we worked collaboratively to create a shared piece of writing and practised retelling our diary orally. Finally, we used our plans to create our finished piece of writing. In Maths, we continued to develop our skills of addition and subtraction. We learned how to use the expanded vertical method to solve addition and subtraction problems- including problems that crossed 10s barriers. In Science, we started to learn about materials. Pupils were presented with a range of different types of materials and then used a sorting hoop to sort the materials according to their own criteria. In ICT, we continued to expand our programming skills. We explored how the 'repeat' function could be used to create regular 2-D shapes as well as intricate repeating patterns. In PE we applied all the movement and balancing skills that we have been working on so far to create gymnastic routines. In RE we are looking at why Christmas is so important to Christians. Some of Beech Class dressed up to act out the two stories of the angel telling Joseph to name the baby Jesus and the three visitors from the east, arriving to give Jesus his presents of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. In Music we are beginning to listen to our Nativity songs and hopefully start to learn the words. We are also squeezing in some chalk art depicting the Frost Fair. If you gave us bulbs for the garden, thank you so much! They are now happily snuggled in their compost beds waiting for Spring!

### Maple News

Maple Class have been working really hard this week and have produced some fantastic work. At the beginning of the week, the children wrote some great autumn acrostic poems and then created some wonderful leaf collages. We watched a short animation, 'Marshmallows', and we concentrated on creating a setting and using preposition phrases.

In our Maths, we have been focusing on subtraction and using the inverse to check our answers. The children have also been learning about firework safety and how to stay safe on Bonfire Night. They created some very colourful posters, explaining how to stay safe to others. In our topic work the children have been finding out about prehistoric beasts.

### Chestnut News

Over the half term, our Egyptian clay amulets dried and we have enjoyed mixing colours to paint them. We will 'varnish' them with glue so that they can be displayed in the Chestnut Class Museum.

We have completed our non-chronological reports based on ancient Egyptian gods and goddesses by working together to create a concluding paragraph. They have been written up in their final format, along with some really good illustrations. We have now moved on to looking at play scripts - starting by looking at key features - before we write our own plays.

In Maths, we have revised the rules we need to use to round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1,000. We have also learned about counting on in 25s, looking at the patterns we can find when counting backwards and forwards.

The children enjoyed a basketball session with Mr Luckhurst on Monday and swimming again on Friday.

### Lilac News

In Maths this week in Lilac Class, we have been continuing our work about solving multi-step word problems. We have worked in pairs to think of the best calculations we can use to solve a problem and we have been writing explanations about the simplest way a problem can be solved. In English, we finished our draft of a non-chronological report entitled 'The Rainforest as a Habitat'. We worked from our notes we made from a powerpoint and a detailed plan that we wrote. In Science this week, we went to the Science Observatory at Herstmonceux. There were lots of hands-on activities for us to get involved in and many models (some interactive) and information about the planets of our Solar System, our Galaxy, gravity and Sir Isaac Newton. There were also outside water activities and a Discovery Area where, again from hands-on experience, we were able to think about the different types of forces and make predictions before we tested them out ourselves. We had a telescope tour and had the opportunity to look at two huge telescopes that have the power to see stars that can be found in the depths of our Galaxy. We found out that our sun is actually not only a young star but is also a very small one. We then had a Sun, Moon and Earth Workshop where we had the opportunity to develop our knowledge through practical activities. In Art, we have been sketching out our designs for our Mayan jewellery and tiles that we will be making using clay. In RE, we have been thinking about why it is important to say sorry and forgive and have written prayers about forgiveness.

### Oak News

This week Oak Class have been exploring different Maths problems and have shown great resilience in reading the questions and trying to solve them. In our topic we have started to look at what it was like to be evacuated in World War 2 and have been reading Goodnight Mr Tom. We have been continuing to work on our Shakespeare production.

# Get together!

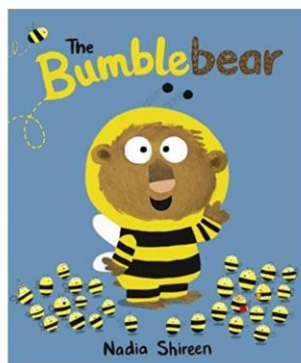


Join the PTFA  
for a drink  
@ The  
Allotment

Friday 10th  
November  
8pm onwards

All welcome!

Come and learn more about what we do  
and get involved!



## Explore the Wonderful World of Bumblebear with the Reading Fairy!

Stories and craft for 4 - 7 year olds

Saturday 25th November  
10.30am – 12.00pm

Tunbridge Wells Library

£3.00 per child

Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Please see a member of staff, call 03000 41 31 31 or email [tunbridgewellslibrary@kent.gov.uk](mailto:tunbridgewellslibrary@kent.gov.uk) for more information



## Something to think about



Is a house a work of art?

### ZUMBATHON!

Friday 24th November 7:30 - 9:30pm at  
St Barnabas' School Hall £7.50.

This year, students in year six are fortunate enough to be taking part in the national Shakespeare Schools Festival. They have been working really hard rehearsing for their version of Macbeth, which they will be performing at Trinity Theatre in front of a paying audience.

This fantastic opportunity really helps to develop skills such as teamwork and public speaking, as well as being a fantastic confidence-builder. Unfortunately, it is very expensive and in order to enable future classes to take part, we need to raise as much money as possible to help with funding.

So...come and join us! You'll be keeping fit, raising money for a good cause and having a jolly old time!

Have you checked the lost property box recently? Please do so via the school office (you will need to sign in).

Well done to Willow and Ursula who achieved Headteacher Awards for excelling at our School Values of Compassion and Trust. Have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes

Moirá Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW