

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 24th November 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 to explore forgiveness

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 1st December

PTFA AGM 9am
School Disco

Saturday 9th December

Carol singing 11am - 12pm
Royal Victoria Place

Sunday 10th December

PTFA Christmas Bingo

Wednesday 13th and

Thursday 14th December

KS1 Nativity @2pm

Friday 15th December

KS2 Christmas @ 6pm

Tuesday 19th December

School Christmas Dinner

Attendance

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

Acorn	89.6%
Willow	91.4%
Beech	98.7%
Maple	97.6%
Chestnut	97.6%
Lilac	97.9%
Oak	99.0%



This week in School:



This week has been Shakespeare Week with the children across the school exploring Shakespeare. Our Year 6 took part in the School's Shakespeare Festival performing at the Trinity Theatre on Tuesday in front of a large audience. They were amazing and a real credit to themselves and to the school. Thank you for all the 1p and 2p coins which Year 6 counted and created some wonderful banners... thank you! Thank you for supporting Children in Need last week, St Barnabas School raised £186.60!

On Thursday a group of our Year 5 and 6 pupils went to Tonbridge to train to become our Sports Crew. They have some super ideas to support the promotion of PE and they will be sharing them soon on our School Website.

Online applications for a Reception Place in September 2018 opened with Kent County Council on 6th November until 15th January. If you are applying for a sibling place you still need to apply online through KCC. www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions.

If you need assistance with completing the online form please do get in touch with the School Office who will be only too happy to assist.



Class News

Acorn News

The children have learnt three sounds this week, 'g, o and e'. They have been learning how to read, write and say the sounds. Following this they took part in a range of activities, to embed these new sounds. In Maths they have been working on number formation. They have looked very closely at how to write numbers 0-10 accurately and relate the representations to amounts. They are making excellent progress. Alongside their Phonics and Maths input they have been finding out about one of Shakespeare's plays 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. They learnt about the story and talked about the characters. In Plan Learn Review some children made fairies and explored our 'Fairy and Elf' tuff spot. On Wednesday the class went to Grosvenor Park, where they explored a woodland clearing. They made 'fairy and elf' doors and created 'clay tree faces' using acorns, sticks and leaves. The children really enjoyed this opportunity to explore the woods and the weather was glorious! This trip was great preparation for our 'Forest School' sessions that will start in February. A special thank you to Heera's Mum and Ryan's Nanny for helping us.

Willow News

This week Willow Class have been busy learning about William Shakespeare and the story of A Midsummer Night's Dream. The children have been practising writing independently in sentences and on Tuesday they wrote about their own dream. The children have also been making and decorating donkey masks and fairy crowns as part of the Shakespeare week activities. In Maths the class has been learning about the names and properties of a range of 3D shapes and will be doing more work on shapes next week. In Phonics, the children have been practising spelling tricky words and it has been lovely to see them using the words they have learnt in their writing. On Thursday morning, Willow Class visited Tunbridge Wells Museum an Art Gallery. The children particularly enjoyed discussing their favourite pieces of Pop Art, trying on the museum hats and looking at the doll's house. We also visited the War Memorial and looked at local architecture. All the children behaved amazingly well and it was lovely to hear them speak so enthusiastically about what they had seen.

Beech News

This week was Shakespeare Week, so we have been studying The Tempest. We started by watching a BBC animation of it and discussing the main events and characters. Next, we focussed on the storm scene. We explored how we could use our bodies and our voices to create the sounds of a storm. Then we added percussion instruments and learned lines from the play that could be delivered over the sounds of the storm. We also wrote lines for a narrator and Prospero (the main character) to say to introduce the storm. Finally, we turned our attention to the character of Caliban. We read Shakespeare's description of the monster and used this as an inspiration to create Caliban puppets. In Maths we have been learning about money. First, we practised counting in 1p 2p 5p 10p and 20p. Next, we used these skills to solve problems involving money. Finally, we expanded our understanding to involve pounds as well as pence.

Beech Class loved their dynamic drama workshop, which was delivered by our Year 6 Shakespeare professionals. We played lots of clever games and voice warm ups to develop our confidence to perform. In Class we made Caliban Puppets, continuing our Tempest theme, using cups, paper, decorations and split pins to create moving parts.

Maple News

In Maple Class this week, we have been learning about The Tempest by William Shakespeare. The children have loved learning the story and have created some wonderful storyboards retelling the story. We also looked at some photographs of storms. The children then painted pictures, using watercolours, of the storm that Prospero, a wizard, created at the beginning of the play.

On Thursday afternoon, some of Year 6 led a workshop in Maple Class, teaching us some fun drama games. Everyone loved taking part and Oak Class were excellent teachers.

In our Maths work, we have been continuing to learn our 3 times table and we have been solving lots of multiplication and division word problems.

Chestnut News

It has been a varied and exciting week in Chestnut Class! We have really enjoyed Shakespeare week, in particular watching the dress rehearsal of the year 6 production of Macbeth. In class, we have focused on 'the Scottish play', looking at various animated versions and retelling the story. As part of our English lessons, we have studied the spell of the 3 witches, paying attention to the rhyming patterns and the horrible ingredients of their broth.

We had a very enjoyable visit to the Tunbridge Wells Museum on Wednesday morning. We attended a workshop on ancient Egypt and were able to handle some incredible artefacts. The children were an absolute credit to the school and showed Jeremy, our host, just how much they have learned in their topic. We will be writing thank you letters next week.

We have continued to work on addition of 4 digit numbers in Maths, by progressing to additions that carry over into another column. Well done Chestnut for your hard work on this.

As part of our RE curriculum, we had Father John in on Wednesday to talk to us about different accounts of the Gospel. We compared John's account, to those of Matthew and Luke. It was a challenging subject and the children managed to get to grips with it really well.

Thank you so much for supporting the collection of copper coins for Shakespeare week - the Chestnut Class contribution was very impressive!

Lilac News

In Maths this week, Lilac Class were coming to the end of their work on statistics. In pairs, we used our reasoning skills to solve problems about interpreting and reading tables. We then moved onto completing two way tables where two sets of data are represented. We finished our week with answering questions about timetables and also thought about when we use them and why they are useful. In English, as part of Shakespeare Week, we have been writing spells. We used the actual spell of the Three Witches from the play of Macbeth for inspiration. We looked carefully at the features that Shakespeare used such as alliteration, repetition, rhythm, similes and rhyming couplets and then applied this to our own writing. In addition, we have been reading the story of the play. In Science, we learnt about Sir Isaac Newton and gravity and his contribution to scientific knowledge. In RE, we have continued with examining passages from the Bible and the meaning of Messiah. Our Topic work this week has focused on learning about Mayan writing and numbers. We found out that the Mayans only used three digits - a dot for 1, a line for 5 and a shell for 0. The Mayans had a digit for 0 before the Europeans. We also learnt that Mayan writing is represented in the form of symbols that can either mean a whole word or part of a word. In Art and DT, we finished off painting our tiles based on brightly coloured Mayan designs. In Music, we looked at a selection of graphic symbols that represented different dynamics in music and drew those that we thought related to the different sounds we heard whilst listening to Venus and Mars from Gustav Holst's The Planet Suite, composed in 1919.

Oak News

Oak Class have had a fabulous week including performing Macbeth at Trinity Theatre and running drama workshops for the rest of the school. In Maths we have been looking at fractions. In English we have continued looking at Evacuation.

A note from Miss Mercer...

A huge thank you to all the parents, family members and staff who came to support Oak Class on Tuesday, it was lovely for us to have a full house to perform to. We'd also like to thank all the people that generously lent us props and costumes, it was such a help. An extra special thank you goes to three people that helped make the day possible. Firstly to Mrs Cook who came to the theatre to do the whole cast's make-up - the children were absolutely thrilled and it really helped them feel the part. Miss Park was kind enough to provide the beautiful music for our performance - this made an enormous difference as it not only created atmosphere but helped the children with their cues. Lastly, a huge thank you goes to Mrs Watkins who not only came along to help during the day, but also gave up her seat in the audience to help backstage. We are so grateful to have such wonderful people to help us.

ZUMBATHON!

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

This year, students in year six were fortunate enough to be taking part in the national Shakespeare Schools Festival. They worked really hard rehearsing for their version of Macbeth, which they performed 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!

PTFA Reminder

Nominations for positions on the PTFA are due in by Wednesday 29th November.

The PTFA AGM is on Friday 1st December, 9am in the library .

After-School Club Christmas Party!
The Christmas party will take place on
Thursday 14th December.



Something to think about ...
How many bricks is a wall?

Save
the
Date!

10

**St Barnabas
Christmas Bingo**

Mulled wine + hot food
Bottle tombola + Raffle prizes
Festive craft activities and more to be announced!!

Prize for the best Christmas jumper!

Sunday 10th December 2-5pm

FREE
ENTRY

Fun for
all the
family!

 St Barnabas CEP School, Quarry Road, TN1 2EY

Book Bags

We have now had a delivery of book bags.
They are available in the school office and cost
£3 each.

Have a lovely weekend. Please can we remind you that children should not be on the playground until 8:30 in the morning and school starts at 8:45am. Children arriving after this time must enter through the main Reception, and will be marked in as late arrivals

With best wishes
Moirá Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW