

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

**Newsletter Friday 26th January 2018**

*"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 found out about the Prodigal Son.

## 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

### Class Mass

Monday 29th Jan—Yr 2  
Wednesday 31st Jan Yr 1  
1:15pm in the Church

### Tuesday 6th February

Safer Internet Day

### Wednesday 7th February

Parent Consultations tbc

### Friday 9th February

School Mass @ 9am

### Monday 12th– Friday 16th

February

Half term

### Friday 2nd March

PTFA Quiz Night



## Attendance

As a whole school we have an attendance target of 97% to achieve.

Here is the breakdown for each class for :

Acorn	91.9%
Willow	98.2%
Beech	94.7%
Maple	93.5%
Chestnut	94.3%
Lilac	89.6%
Oak	96.0%



## This week

We had some wild weather this week and the children have coped fabulously with the wet playtimes. Thank you for your support regarding all children having a coat so we can get the children outside to play as much as possible.

We have many children who look very smart in their school uniform but I have noticed that we have a few children who are wearing trainers instead of school shoes. We are very proud of our school and take pride in our appearance – please can you ensure your child wears their correct uniform – thank you!

I have also noticed that bows in the children's hair are getting BIGGER and more colourful. All hair accessories should be in the school colours, ie dark blue or white. Large Jojo bows and cat-ear hairbands are not part of the uniform and should not be worn at school.

Do look at the back of this newsletter regarding the PTFA Quiz Night and notes from Dave.



## Class News

### Acorn News

This week Acorn Class have been writing about the role of a doctor. They have been sounding out words and writing them carefully and using the tricky words 'he, the, a, to, no, go and I' to form their sentences. They have also been using full stops. The children read the poem 'Dr Foster'. They sequenced the poem and labelled the illustrations. They revised all of their sounds to support their writing. In Maths the children have been looking at length. They measured superhero toys of different lengths, using cubes and rulers. We talked about cm/mm and how to read the scales on a ruler. As a whole class we made a simple graph of our results. The children did a range of measuring activities in groups: measuring the height of our friends, using playdough to measure Rapunzel's hair, ordering toys and ordering zoo animals. In Plan, Learn Review we have been using the roleplay area, writing cartoon strips, building Big Ben and tall buildings with the construction materials, painting and exploring our measure investigation area. They have been working really hard. What a busy week!

### Willow News

In English this week, Willow Class have been practising using conjunctions (and, but, because, so, when, then) to join two short sentences together. At the start of the week we worked as a Class to find appropriate conjunctions to find the gaps in some sentences. During the rest of the week, the children began writing sentences with conjunctions more independently and have been practising punctuating sentences correctly. Our book of the week has been 'Supertato' by Sue Hendra and the children planning their own story about a vegetable superhero. In Maths, the children have been using their problem solving and reasoning skills to complete subtraction number sentences. The children have been using a range of resources including double-sided counters, cubes and number lines to help them. In Science work this week, the children have talked about the characteristics of humans and other animals. They have also labelled the parts of a human body and talked about the different types of animal groups there are (for example mammals, reptiles, fish and birds). In RE we have talked about Jesus' message to his followers about forgiveness and thought about why it is important that we forgive people. In PE the children develop their hockey dribbling skills using plastic hockey sticks a tennis ball and cones. We also talked about the importance of holding the stick correctly and not raising it above the knee to avoid accidents.

### Beech News

In English, we started a new piece of instruction writing. Last week, we designed a quest for the hero of our class story - Sir Hazelnut. This week, we used our knowledge of instruction writing to create a set of instructions explaining the steps he will need to follow in order to complete his quest. We focussed on using sequencing vocabulary, imperative verbs, adverbs and connectives to create detailed instructions. In Maths, we made and interpreted bar charts and pictograms. We also practised using our basic arithmetic skills to help interpret such charts. In our topic time, we started exploring the concepts of invasion and settlement and how they relate to our topic of Knights and Castles. In PE we used gymnastic equipment to create short routines including movement and balance.

In RE we acted out the story of the ten lepers looking at the different emotions they must have felt throughout this experience. Then we focused on the one leper who came back to say thank you, receiving Jesus' full healing. This again showed us the link between 'The Gospel' and being thankful.

### Maple News

On Monday we had our Class Mass with Father John. The children listened and participated very well, asking some interesting questions.

We have been continuing our work on 'The Egyptian Cinderella' in English. The children have been imaging how the main character, Rhodopis, would have felt at certain points during the story. They then wrote diary entries using the feelings words that we looked at last week. We have also been using the suffixes 'ful', 'ly', 'less' and 'ness'.

In our Maths work, we have been investigating related calculations and continuing to practise our times tables.

In our RE lesson, we found out about the life of Guru Nanak and how the Sikh religion began.

### Chestnut News

Our English lessons this week have focused on research reading for our persuasive letters. We chose the theme of plastic pollution in the oceans and specifically the damage done by plastic bags. We read a range of articles as a Class, in small groups and finally individually. We worked on highlighting key information to help when we make notes and plan our letters. We have watched films about the Great Pacific Garbage Patch and wildlife damage caused by toxic pieces of plastic. Some of the facts we have gathered to use as evidence have been astounding.

In Maths, we have moved on to shape and measure, beginning with converting kilometres and metres. We have also revised calculating the perimeter of squares, rectangles and other rectilinear shapes.

We had our Year Group Mass in the church on Tuesday afternoon. As ever, the children were superbly behaved and attentive. They asked some really interesting questions too. Our thanks to Father John and the servers (Jake, Luka and Albert).

In RE we have continued to think about Jesus calling his first disciples and talked about what 'fishers of people' might mean. Father John came to talk to us about all the activities he undertakes in his role, and how he tries to follow Jesus' example and live as a 'fisher of people'.

### Lilac News

In Maths this week, Lilac Class have been multiplying and dividing by 10, 100 and 1000. We have also been creating our own problems and calculations for our partner to solve. We then moved onto finding the area and perimeter of rectilinear shapes. In English, we have been reading Chapter Two of Berlie Doherty's 'Street Child' and examined the behaviour of a Victorian landlord called Mr Spink. We wrote about the reasons why he was right and wrong to evict Jim Jarvis and his family. In Science, we conducted our whole class experiment to test which material was the best insulator. Last week we made predictions about what we thought our results would be and why. Our results showed that out of wool, cling film, newspaper and foil, newspaper was the best insulator. We then thought about the reasons for this result. In RE, Father John came to talk to us about Moses and why the Hebrew people were oppressed in Egypt and the events that led to them being eventually freed. In Topic, we have started our work about the Industrial Revolution. We found out that at the beginning of Queen Victoria's reign in 1837 20% of the population lived in towns and cities and that by the end of her reign in 1901 this had increased to 75%. In Art, we started to work on our whole class frieze of Victorian London and in DT we continued with our pin cushions. In PE this week, we have been developing our hockey skills, particularly passing the ball correctly.

### Oak News

This week Oak Class have been learning how democracy began and debating issues that are important to them. They have used this knowledge to write a letter showing their view points. In Maths, they have been looking at decimals to three places and how to convert fractions to decimals and multiplying and dividing by 10, 100, 1000 and even 1000000. In Science we have been discussing natural selection and selective breeding and which characteristics are inherited and which are environmental. In SPaG we have been looking at modal verbs.



### Note from Dave:

A reminder that there are coffee mornings for parents each Monday at 8.45am onwards in the Staff Room. These are an opportunity to socialise with other parents and to get updates on what the PTFA have got coming up.

Thursday is 'Time to Talk' day and there will be a coffee morning in the Staff room from 8.45am looking at how both adults and children can look after their Mental health: everyone is welcome.

Also on Thursday at 2pm I will be running a relaxation session for parents as part of the 'good mental health' remit. I have yet to sort out a venue but if you are interested could you let me know directly on 07966190428 or via the school office, thank you.



**St Barnabas PTFA**

# QUIZ NIGHT

**Friday 2nd March**

in the School Hall



**All proceeds to a great cause - St Barnabas' PTFA!**

St Barnabas CEP, Quarry Road TN1 2EY



**Something to think about**

**Which places are these clues describing?**

1. Dog controllers – Leeds!
2. Genuine oar movement?
3. Where to go swimming in Dorset?
4. Between six and eight trees?

Have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes

*Moira Duncombe*

@StBarnabasSchoolTW