

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 23rd February 2018

"Living & Learning together" 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 life of St. Therese and the importance of respect.

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

Tuesday 27th February World Book Day

This year St Barnabas will be celebrating World Book Day on Tuesday 27th February 2018. Our theme this year is Changes. Please come dressed as a character from a story that you feel has a theme about change of some sort, for example; How to Train your dragon - The Vikings feelings towards dragons change in the book; Detective Dog - Ted changes how he can access books.

Friday 2nd March
PTFA Quiz Night

Wednesday 7th March
Parent Consultations

Friday 23rd March
School Disco



Attendance

As a whole school we have an attendance target of 97% to achieve. We have several children who have 100% attendance this term and over 90 who have 100% attendance since September!!

Here is the breakdown for each class for the week ending 9 February:

Acorn	94.8%
Willow	90.7%
Beech	91.7%
Maple	94.0%
Chestnut	96.3%
Lilac	83.7%
Oak	95.7%



This week

I do hope everyone had a wonderful half term. The children have really settled back into learning.

I have had the pleasure of seeing a wide range of amazing writing from across the school. To look at how the children have progressed from September is a real privilege.

In our assemblies we have started to explore the key British Values of Democracy, Rule of Law, Liberty, Mutual Respect and Tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

You might have seen in the news about a Times Tables check that is going to be introduced. In school we are working hard on developing our children's number knowledge to support their quick fire maths. This not only includes their times tables but also their number bonds (How to make 10/ 20/ 100).

Next week is our World Book Day Celebration and the children will be exploring a book across the school. On Tuesday we are dressing up as a character from a story that has change. You could be Cinderella... Alice... Superhero... Harry Potter... or... ???



Class News

Acorn News

Acorn Class have had a brilliant week. They have been busy learning the following digraphs: ar, er, ur, and ir. They have been looking at words that include these sounds. Using their tricky word knowledge, they have also been writing sentences. They have been listening to traditional stories/fairytales and thinking about the characters within these famous stories. They have taken part in daily guided reading sessions, where they have been reading in small groups and discussing the text. In Maths the children have been adding numbers between 0-20 using counting bags to support them. They have been recording their addition problems accurately. The roleplay area has transformed to a 'Dental Surgery' this week. The children have been writing instructions on 'how to brush your teeth'. Next week (on Tuesday), they will have a visit from a real dentist, where they will be able to ask questions about the job and how a dentist helps us. During Plan, Learn, Review, the children have been creating 'x-ray' drawings, writing, building, using the roleplay area and the outdoor area. The children are working hard and making great progress. We are looking forward to seeing the children dressed up on World Book Day (27th February).

Willow News

In English this week, Willow Class have been writing sentences using past tense verbs and have also been discussing rhyming words. We had a class discussion based on the story 'Oi Frog' by Kes Gray and the child wrote their own animals rhymes. In Maths, the children have been partitioning two digit numbers into tens and ones and have also been using their reasoning and problem solving skills to answer number sequence questions. The children have been working with 100 squares and number fans to help them their number knowledge. In RE we have talked about how people celebrate Easter and why Easter is an important festival for Christians. In PE the children started to work with small rugby balls and we will be developing skills linked to Tag Rugby over the next few weeks.

Beech News

In English, we created pieces of story writing which told the first part of Sir Hazelnut's quest. We experimented with verb tenses to create interrupted action sentences. We then used speech punctuation to create sentences which showed what Sir Hazelnut was thinking. Finally, we used adverbs and connectives to create sentences which explained what Sir Hazelnut did. In Maths, we continued to explore 2D shapes. We were presented with statements about 2D shapes and were challenged to explain whether they were always, sometimes or never true. We then used mathematical vocabulary to prove that our answer was correct. In P.E. we started a dance unit of work. We listened to a piece of music and identified sets of 4 beats to focus on. We designed repetitive sets of movements to accompany these beats.

In Maths we looked at telling the time in blocks of 5 minutes. Please encourage your child to practice telling the time and think about what they are doing at certain times of the day. In R.E. we started our new topic on 'Why does Easter matter to Christians?'. Beech Class acted out some fantastic freeze frame photos, which told the Easter story.

Maple News

In Maple Class, we have started to plan our own stories based on 'The Egyptian Cinderella'. The children spent some time discussing their ideas and thinking about the changes they might make to the story. They then went on to create a short role play of their stories. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the children then spent time developing their ideas and making visual story plans.

In our Maths work, we have been dividing two digit numbers by one digit numbers, thinking about how we can use partitioning to help us. We have also been looking at pictograms and practising our 4 times table.

We have been continuing our work on Sikhism in our R.E. work. This week found out about the Amrit ceremony and its importance to Khalsa Sikhs.

Chestnut News

It has been a lovely start back with the children full of enthusiasm for the new term's learning. We are continuing with our topic 'this planet rocks' and are focusing our topic work on a study of another European country. We will be studying the physical and human geography of Russia and have been by looking at the key cities. We have begun an art and DT project on Faberge eggs and would appreciate donations of newspaper so that we can make our own versions of them.

In English, we are working on list poems and kennings. We have been thinking about the punctuation required for a list. We have been reading a great variety of list poems, taking notice of rhyming patterns, similes, verbs, nouns, adjectives and adverbs that enrich the writing. Next week, we will be creating our own!

We are ending our unit in Maths on multiplication and division, by looking at multiplying and dividing by 0, 1, 6, 7 and 9. The 6, 7 and 9 times tables are our focus this year and it really benefits the children if they work on these at home as well as at school.

In RE we are learning about the events of Holy Week, in particular Maundy Thursday. We have revised previous learning on Palm Sunday and the events leading up to the Last Supper, and the children have shown great engagement with their discussion of Judas' betrayal and Peter's denial of Jesus.

Now that we have finished our year of swimming, we will have PE on Monday and Friday. Please make sure PE kits are in school all week and be mindful that they will be coming home on a Friday as we may get muddy doing cross country!

Lilac News

In Maths this week, Lilac Class have been learning how to multiply two and three digit numbers by two digits, using a formal written method. We have also been using this method to solve problems. In English, we have used our writing about setting that we did before half term and have started to write poetry about the Victorian workhouse. We looked at photos taken inside workhouses and read real poems that inmates of the workhouse had written about their experiences. These poems will be entered for the Jeffery Hale writing competition associated with Friends of Woodbury Park Cemetery. We will be visiting the cemetery on Tuesday 6th March where we will be given a tour and a talk about the famous Victorians that are buried there. In Science this week, we have been thinking about what substances dissolve and whether these substances actually disappear. We have been learning about some scientific language such as soluble, insoluble and evaporation. In Topic, we found out about the different inventions of the Victorian era such as the camera, light bulb, electricity, the Penny Farthing, the motor car, the stamp and the installation of the flushing toilet. In RE, we finished our work about Moses and examined the last three phases of his life. We explored how the story of Moses connected with freedom and salvation. Father John came to see us on Friday so that we had the opportunity to ask any questions that we had about the story of Moses. In Art, we looked at the designs of William Morris and then started to create our own patterns based on his work. In DT, we started to look at Victorian cookery and the recipes of Mrs Beeton. We will be eventually making our own Victorian cook books. In PE, we started to learn the rules of Tag Rugby and developed skills needed to play the game.

Oak News

Oak class have had a very productive week back after the holidays. We have been looking at Aesop's fables and the morals of the stories. We finished by writing our own fables which we really enjoyed. In Maths we have been studying algebra and the rules behind it.

Oak had a lot of fun this week in Science learning about the human circulatory system and making a working model of a heart chamber.



Note from Dave:

A reminder that there are coffee mornings for parents each Monday at 8.45 am onward in the Staff Room these are an opportunity to socialise with other parents and to get updates on what the PTFA are planning.



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?

Writing implement with small insects

People's Rock

Tying things up securely

1. Dull ones buzzing! Grimsby
2. Use it to keep warm Jersey
3. Recent fortress Newcastle

Next week is looking very cold... please make sure that everyone is dressed warmly

Mrs Swannell is back with us and she informs us that Mrs Legg is getting better and sends her love to everyone.

Are you coming to the Quiz?

Have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes

Moira Duncombe

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