

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

Newsletter Friday 27th April 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. We found out about St George and how to be courageous

## 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

Girls' Football Tournament  
Friday 27th April

PTFA Quiz May 4th

Year 6 Test Week  
Monday 14th May– Friday  
18th May

Half term Monday 28th  
May– Friday 1st June

INSET day– no children  
Monday 4th June

Monday 11th June  
School Photographs

Week beginning 11th June  
Year 1 Phonic Assessment

Sports day  
Thursday 21st June tbc  
Am KS2, PM KS1

## Attendance

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

**Overall attendance last week:**  
**98.81%**

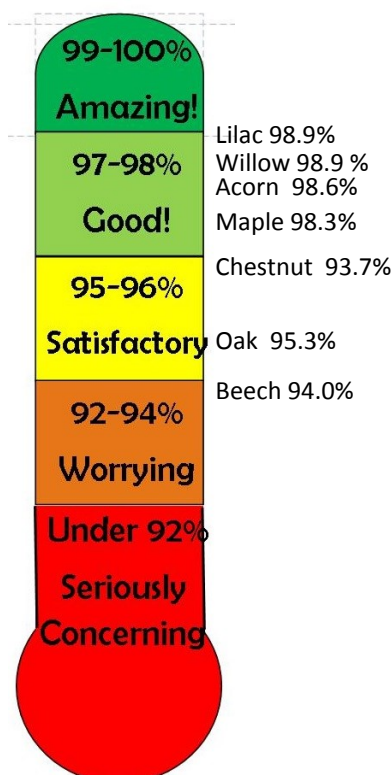
## Our School

After the wonderful weather we had last week this week has been back to normal April weather... showers!

The children have been working very hard and I have had the pleasure of seeing some amazing extended writing from across the school.

Acorn class visited Pizza Express this week and found out how to make pizzas. They had a fabulous time and were praised for their excellent behaviour!

Last week we had a group of children take part in a 'Colour Dash'. The children had a great time and went home in a variety of colours! Special mention to Oscar in Year 3 who just missed out on being third in his race.



St Barnabas  
School & PTFA



Together we  
raised  
a fantastic  
£806+  
for the school  
at the  
Easter Hop...

Amazing!

**Thank you!**



## Class News



### Acorn News

Acorn Class have had a wonderful week. They have been learning how to use some new 'tricky words' such as 'like', 'said' and 'do'. They have been revising how to read and write their digraphs and trigraphs. We read the next part of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, a book called 'Beware of The Bears!' This inspired the children to write the next part of the story. They also started making an information book about different bears from around the world. In Maths they have been exploring capacity. The children thought about how different containers hold different amounts of liquid and we talked about millilitres and litres. During 'Plan, Learn, Review' the Class have been using the roleplay area, making books, drawing, building models, using the mud kitchen and working with the number tiles. On Wednesday we had a brilliant morning at Pizza Express. The children made Margherita pizzas, they listened carefully to the instructions and the staff at Pizza Express commented on their 'excellent behaviour'. On the way back we stopped in Calverley Park and the children enjoyed a slice of pizza. We would like to say a huge 'thank you' to the parent helpers who spent the morning with us!

### Willow News

This week in Maths, Willow Class have been continuing to learn about adding groups together and looking at number patterns when counting in 2s and 10s. The children have been doubling and halving numbers. They have also been drawing arrays to represent multiplication sums. In English the Class have been learning to write postcards, including how to write an address. They have also been practising reading and writing words with the 'air' and 'igh' sounds in them. In Topic work, the children have been learning the names of the continents of the world and learnt about the early explorer Ibn Battuta. In RE this term we are learning about stories from different faiths. This week the class started talking about Judaism and the story of Jonah. This week we have also had a discussion about perseverance and how it helps us to develop new skills.

### Beech News

In English, we continued to focus on recount writing. We started the week by completing our 'Trip to Scotland' recounts from last week. We then used our experiences from our trip to Grosvenor and Hilbert park as the stimulus for a new piece of recount writing. First, we worked in pairs to arrange photographs from the trip into groups. We arranged the groups of photographs into chronological order and used them to create a plan for our recount. Next, we used and applied the skills we learned last week to use our plans to create pieces of writing which recounted our experiences. In Maths, we focussed our attention on using estimation to help check the accuracy of our calculations. We practised some of the addition and subtraction skills we learned earlier in the term and used estimation to help make sure we were always getting the correct answer. In Science, we explored a range of different habitats and analysed plants and animals from each of them. We then thought carefully and discussed the ways in which different plants and animals are suited to these habitats. During R.E. Beech Class prepared for our own Shabbat next week by looking at our week of rest and activities. We lit candles to help us rest and think about Shabbat. In Art we looked at contemporary Vietnamese Art and used mixed media to create our own piece.

### Maple News

We have been continuing to research volcanoes in our English work. We have been focusing on turning our notes into full sentences. Our spelling focus this week has been on adding the suffix 'ly' to words. We looked at whether the root word changes when we add the suffix. In our Maths, we have been identifying equivalent fractions and thinking about how we can use our times tables to help us. Our Science topic this term is Animals, including humans, and we have been thinking about how humans get nutrition from what they eat. We started to look at the different food groups and how some foods provide us with energy while others help with growth.

### Chestnut News

Having now completed our unit on fractions, we have begun to tackle decimals! We have looked at where the units, tenths and hundredths are positioned. We have been counting in tenths and hundredths and working out how many more of them we need to make a whole. The children have also done more times table revision to make sure they are fluent with 6, 7 and 9s.

In English, we have finished reading our version of Beowulf and have looked at the conventions of hero myths. We identified the hero, the monster, the threat, the tension, the hero's special powers and also the type of language used in story telling. We listened to some of Beowulf being read in Old English too! As part of the process of planning our own hero myths, we wrote and performed short plays with the goal of incorporating all those features. We have ended the week by starting our individual story plans.

In our Topic lessons, we have learned about what happened to Britain after the Romans left and the eventual invasions by the Angles and the Saxons. We have drawn maps to show the Anglo Saxon kingdoms and noticed some familiar names.

We finished storyboards showing the Hindu creation story and then identified similarities and differences when compared to other faiths we know. The children drew on a lot of their learning from RE lessons earlier in the year. We have started to understand the Hindu view of God by thinking about all the different ways people see us.

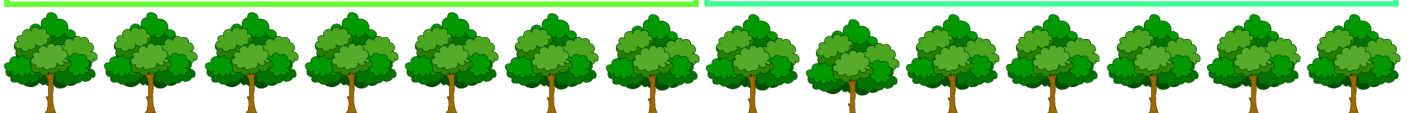
### Lilac News

In Maths this week, Lilac Class have been learning how to multiply a fraction and a mixed number by a whole number. We have been exploring different methods, using repeated addition, partitioning and turning a mixed fraction into an improper fraction to solve our calculations. We have also been finding fractions of numbers using our knowledge of division. In English, we levelled up our sea poems using personification and started to draft a recount, focusing on character and setting. We imagined that we were Frederick Fleet who was up in the crow's nest of the Titanic when it hit an iceberg in 1912. He actually survived the disaster. We started to write about what his feelings must have been and what he may have heard and seen. In RE, we thought again about the 'pillars' in our life that 'hold us up', such as family, friends and teachers. We designed a path that showed our journey in life so far and where we have had moments that have needed the support and encouragement of our 'pillars'. In Topic, we have been learning about the rivers in Great Britain. We labelled a map showing the main rivers and the seas that surround Great Britain using our atlas. We then had to find out what sea each river flowed into. We have also been learning about the journey of the River Severn. In Science, we have been looking at the life cycle of insects and amphibians and complete and incomplete changes that take place. In Music, we listened to Peter Grimes by Benjamin Britten. This piece of orchestral music is about the sea and we recorded the instruments we heard. We also drew the dynamics we heard using symbols and patterns. In Art, we looked very carefully at a selection of shells and sketched them using a range of soft pastels. In PE we have continued to improve our relay skills.

### Oak News

We are developing our writing portfolios by completing our newspaper articles this week. In Maths we are reinforcing our arithmetic knowledge and looking carefully at how to answer a question and challenge ourselves when set a problem.

We have completed our sessions on transition and have started our RE topic on Buddhism.





### 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.



### Something to think about!

There were 9 pieces of paper. Some of them were cut into three pieces. As a result, there are 15 pieces of paper now. How many pieces of paper were cut?

Have a wonderful weekend.

With best wishes

*Moirá Duncombe*

@StBarnabasSchoolTW