

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 14th September

"Living & Learning together" www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk



Our School Christian Values are Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion. We have discussed our community, our individuality and our school.

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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Photography competition deadline



This deadline is coming quickly! Please can we remind you to send in a photograph of your child reading. We already have photographs of people reading on a train... at a light-house... at a building site... where have you been reading?

Key dates next week

Monday 17th September

11am Yr 5 Class Mass
1:30 Yr 3 Class Mass

Tuesday 18th September

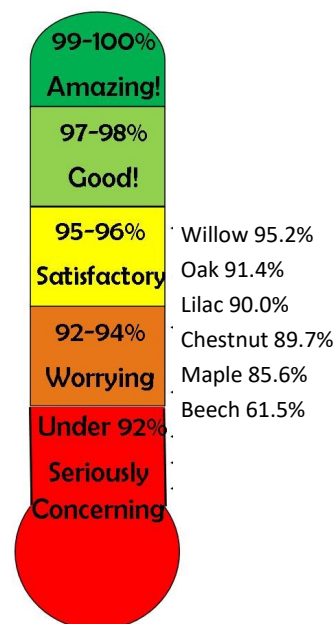
Individual Photographs

Attendance

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

Overall attendance last week: 91.93%

Do remember we start school every-day at 8:45.



This Week

We end this week with glorious sunshine but as the Autumn days draw in please can we ask that all children have a coat and please can they be named. Please can we also remind you that children should not be onsite until 8:30am.

We have enjoyed getting to know our new Acorns and you are all very welcome! We are looking forward to seeing you as a whole class next week.

The children are working hard in presenting their work neatly and we already and challenging themselves to use amazing vocabulary- keep this up!

Over the summer we upgraded our ICT equipment and although we have a few teething problems, all seems to be well.

A busy week!



Class News



Acorn News

The Acorns have really enjoyed their first week at school and it's lovely to see they have all settled in so well. We have been getting to know each other and finding our way round our new classroom and school. It will be exciting to see the two groups come together as one class!

Willow News

It has been a busy week in Willow Class and the children have settling in well. In English the children have been writing simple sentences and have been using finger spaces in between words and full stops at the end of their sentences. We have also been learning about rhyming words and wrote rhyming sentences on Wednesday. In Phonics we have been revisiting letter sounds and tricky words which the children learnt in Acorn Class and learnt two new sounds ('ay' and 'ou'). In Maths we have counting forwards and backwards from 0 to 10 and using Numicon, counters and number cards to sequence and write numbers. We have also been practising number formation for numbers to 20 and writing the words for numbers 0 to 10. On Wednesday, Willow Class listened to the story of 'The Dot' by Peter H Reynolds and created some dot art as part of International Dot Day. In Science the children have been talking about what different things are made of and had a scavenger hunt in the classroom to find objects made of plastic, wood, metal, paper, fabric and glass. The children have been making use of the outside area and the classroom for a variety of activities including reading, small world play, construction and creative activities. They wrote about the message of the story and made their own ant model.

Beech News

In English, we started to investigate the great fire of London. First, we read a really interesting non-fiction book about The Fire. Next, we generated lots of interesting questions that we wanted to find out more about and published them on our working wall. Then, we examined a range of sources of information about The Fire and made historical discoveries. We each recorded our own discoveries down using information sentences and then combined them together to make a Beech Class bank of information. Finally, we thought about how we could use the 'and/but' connectives to add clauses to our sentences so they contained more information. If you are interested in looking at our working wall, reading the bank of information sentences that we created or playing a fun game to learn more about The Great Fire of London, please visit our Class Blog. You can access our blog by visiting the St Barnabas' School website, clicking on the Beech Class page and clicking on the section entitled, 'Beech Class Blog'.

In Maths, we have been focusing on deepening our understanding of the numbers 1-10. First, we used a 10 grid and double sided counters to systematically work out all the pairs of numbers which can be added together to make the numbers between 1 and 10. Next, we explored how different models, such as part-whole and bar models, could be used to represent the same information. Finally, we explored how addition and subtraction sentences could be used to record the information on our models. If this all sounds totally confusing, why not visit our Class Blog. We have put some pictures and examples which we hope will help to explain what we have been up to. We have also added an extra worksheet so pupils can practise these skills further at home.

In R.E. today we looked at how Christians view Creation and we wrote thank you prayers (or thank you sentences) for the world around us. In Art this week we are looking at the artist Andy Goldsworthy in preparation for our woodland art lesson in Wilderness Woods next week. We created mixed media art using pastels, chalks and wax crayons inspired by this artist.

Oak News

Oak class have started their topic of WW2 and have been looking at how it came about and who was involved. We have also thought about the sorts of things we would like to find out about, such as what types of planes were used and how many soldiers were involved. Still on the WW2 theme, there has been some code cracking going on. We started by trying to decipher a Morse Code message (which was much harder than we thought) and have moved onto Caesar Codes. We hope to look at coding and Alan Turing in more depth later on in the term. We have started our topic in Maths on Place Value. We have recorded numbers up to a million, ordered them and rounded them up to the nearest 10, 100, 1000 and more! In English we have written an extended piece of writing and looked at a text based on Spiders! On Monday we visited the Church to take part in our Class Mass and the children asked and answered some very challenging questions. We have PE on a Monday and Thursday.

Maple News

The children have settled into Year 3 really well and are getting used to being a member of KS2. They will be learning about stones this term. We will be looking at Stone Age life and the different rocks that make up the earth.

Chestnut News

We have had a really positive first week in Chestnut. The children have really got to grips with the routine of Year 4!

In English, we have been reading the book 'Escape from Pompeii' and we have focused on the sensory descriptions we have encountered. We have written our own scene settings thinking about what we can see, hear, touch, taste and smell. We have also thought about synonyms we can use to describe how an earthquake might feel. Children have written and performed poetry in groups based on this theme.

We are reading the Magic Finger as a whole class. We are working on ready with fluency and answering questions based on deep understanding, prediction and inference. Our whole class reading for the term will be based on this text. We are also enjoying Danny the Champion of the World as our end of the day story. All the reading you do at home is going to contribute to fluency and comprehension too.

In Maths, we are focusing on place value. We have been revising Roman numeral and rounding numbers to the nearest 10. We are working through 'fool proof' rules to help us with our calculations and these are on the working wall to refer to.

We had our first year group Mass in church on Monday. The children participated with enthusiasm and great focus. I was so impressed by their questions and responses. Thank you to Father John for a really interesting afternoon.

In RE we have begun our unit on Creation. We have introduced the text from Genesis and thought about things that we find incredible in the natural world.

Our topic for the term is 'When in Rome' and we have talked about what we know about the Roman Empire and the questions we would like to find answers to. We have been talking about the times frames BC and AD and ordered some events spanning this period.

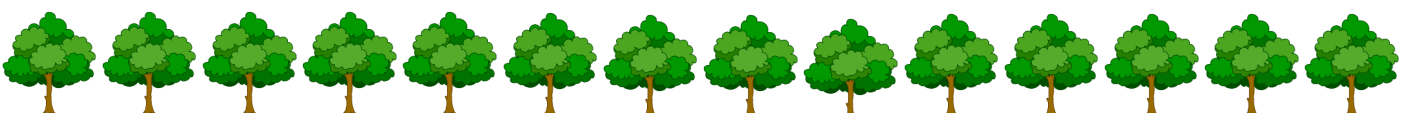
Our Science theme is Sound and we have carried out a sound survey in the playground, thinking about direction and proximity. We will be moving on to learn about how sound is made and transmitted.

Lilac News

This week for Maths in Lilac Class we have been building on our knowledge of place value and have ordered and compared numbers up to 1000,000. We have also been reading and writing Roman numerals. In English, we have started to draft and level up poems about space. We looked at a selection of poems about space and thought about how they were structured and as a class we identified metaphors, similes, alliteration and onomatopoeic words. We then started to use these in our own poetry writing. In Science this week, we have been researching information about our galaxy and key words related to the Sun, Moon and Earth. In RE, we created our own god. We thought about what he or she would look like and the characteristics that they should possess such as compassion, being kind, unselfish, fair, gentle but strong and wise.

We started our topic about the Ancient Mayan Civilisation and initially as a class we thought about lots of questions that we wanted to find the answer to during this term. This week, we found out that in 1519 the Spanish Conquistadors (conquerors and explorers) were the first Europeans to discover the ancient ruins that the Mayans built in the middle of the Mesoamerican tropical rainforest. We thought about the questions that the Conquistadors might have asked when they first saw these magnificent buildings. In Art, we started to create a tropical rainforest frieze using a variety of materials. In PE this week, we practised our football skills.

Thank you for all your support with the reading since the beginning of term. So **many of the** children have been reading to an adult at home at least three times a week and lots of reading records are coming in daily. Just a reminder that Homework will be set on a Thursday and will need to be returned by the following Thursday. PE is on Mondays and Thursday.





Something to think about

Tiffany rounded 44 to the nearest ten. What result did she get?

A 50

B 10

C 40

D 45

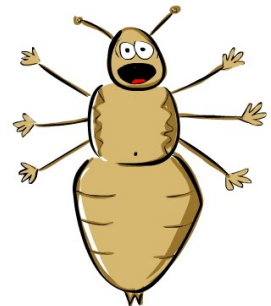
Headlice News

While lice are nothing more than a nuisance, it is important that children are checked on a weekly basis so that any head lice can be dealt with quickly and before they can be allowed to spread.

As there have been a couple of cases, we would ask you to check your child's head as soon as possible. Please follow the simple routine below to ensure that you are doing all you can to keep head lice outbreaks to a minimum.

CHECK

- * Your child's hair once a week
- * Use a proper detection comb to trap head lice.
- * If you find live lice, consult a pharmacist for treatment advice immediately.
- * If head lice are spotted, take a close look at the hair of all the family.



TREAT

- * Please treat your child with a clinically proven treatment.
- * Leave the treatment on for the recommended time for maximum effect.
- * Repeat the treatment for a second time seven days after the original treatment to kill any eggs that may hatch after the first treatment.
- * Check that all head lice have gone within two to three days of the final application of head lice treatment to complete the process.

For further information on head lice please see your pharmacist or visit www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice.



If you haven't already done so, please sign up to 'easyfundraising'. Just by shopping online you can earn money for St Barnabas at no cost for you. Just click on the and select St Barnabas CE VA Primary School as your chosen charity. Please take a look and sign up today.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/login/>

What is a voluntary contribution?

The cost of a school trip is worked out as the cost of entry plus the cost of the coach, divided by the total number of pupils in the class (adult places are usually free). As a mainstream school, we are obliged to say that this is voluntary.

However, as you can imagine, if parents do not contribute, then the trips will need to be cancelled as unfortunately, the school does not have the money in our budget to cover these costs. Times have changed and our budgets are being squeezed more and more. If you are having trouble paying for the trip or have to pay for more than one child at the same time, then do speak to me. I am happy to discuss with you.

When you receive the letter regarding your child's school trip, please can I encourage you to return the permission slip promptly and also to pay your contribution.

Have a wonderful weekend.

With best wishes

Moirá Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW