

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

Newsletter Friday 23rd November

"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 been starting to look at patience and also looking forward.

## 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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## Key Dates

### School Disco

Friday 30th November

Reception and Key Stage 1:  
4.15pm till 5.30pm

Key Stage 2: 5.45pm till 7pm

Tickets £3.50

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### Christmas Dates

December 7th- Flu vaccinations

11th December: KS1 Nativity @  
2pm—School Hall

12th December: KS1 Nativity@  
2pm—School Hall

13th December: KS2 Christmas  
Celebration@ 6pm—St Barnabas  
Church

14th December: Pantomime

17th December: Christmas Parties

18th December: Christmas Lunch  
and Christmas Jumpers

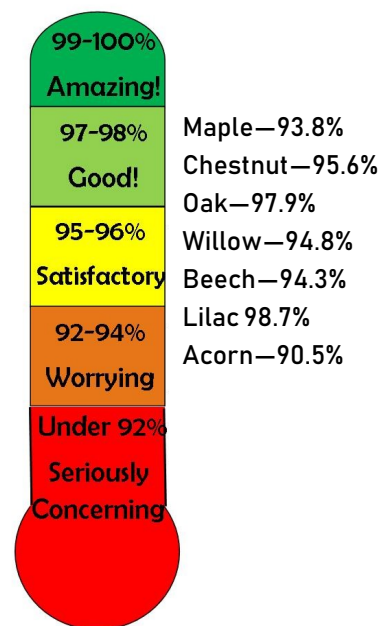
19th December: last day of term

## Attendance

As a whole school we have an attendance target of 97% to achieve. Last week our attendance was 95.1%

### Overall attendance last week:

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



## This Week

Thank you to everyone who helped us raise £212.85 for Children in Need and our thanks to everyone who helped bake and buy cakes for our Drama Club. The money raised for the club will enable them to buy resources for their productions.

This week the weather has turned much colder and it is good to see everyone with warm coats. Please can we continue to ask that all clothing is named, including coats – thank you again in advance.

Year 5 and 6 went to Tunbridge Wells Girls' Grammar School to see a performance of 'Into the Woods' and enjoyed the performance and were highlighted for their excellent behaviour.

December and Christmas are hurtling towards us and in our dates page we have added key dates for the season. Key Stage One are busy learning their songs and the whole School are beginning to learn carols. A letter will be going out next week giving more information regarding these events.



## Class News



### Acorn News

In Acorn Class this week we have been recapping the sounds we have learnt. We played bingo, we listened to the sound that was said and if we had it on our sheet we could mark it off! We also used magnetic letters to write cvc words like lip, cat, peg. We learnt the 'tricky words' the and to, we learnt that the sounds in these words don't say what we think they should say. In Maths, we have been looking at money. We talked about why we use money and handled some real coins and notes. We used numicon to ensure we understand what each coin 'means'. We have played lots of listening games this week as these will help us to hear all the sounds we can hear when reading and writing words. Well done to our 'star of the week' Olivier who has shown a great improvement in his behaviour!

### Willow News

In Maths this week, the children have been learning about 2D and 3D shapes and sorting them into groups based on their properties. We have also been learning about repeating patterns. This has involved spotting mistakes in a pattern, continuing a pattern set by someone else and creating our own patterns. In English, we have continued learning about how to write in the past tense and have been talking about characters from the story of "The Gruffalo". In phonics we have been revisiting some letter sounds (ue, ew, au, aw, ea) and finding words with those sounds in. We have learnt more songs for our Christmas play this week and have started to talk through the script. In RE we talked about the first part of the Nativity and wrote about where the angel visited Mary. In PE, the children have been working in teams developing their throwing and catching skills and played 3-a-side football on Thursday.

### Beech News

In English, we started the week by completing our information texts about the building materials used at the time of the Great Fire of London. Next, we turned our attention back towards diary writing. Earlier in the term, we wrote from the perspective of Samuel Pepys and his experience of the Great Fire of London. This week, we started another diary entry from his perspective. This time, we focussed on his experience of the Frost Fairs on the River Thames. First, we explored primary source material relating to the frost fairs and made historical discoveries. Next, we started generating banks of descriptive language that could be used in our diary entries. In Maths, we continued to focus on adding and subtracting multiples of 10. We learned how to use a hundred square and used it to solve problems in context. Finally, we explored how such calculations could be set out using place value grids using dimes blocks. If you are interested in solving some addition and subtraction of multiples of 10 problems at home, we have attached some challenges and a hundred square to the Class Blog.

In RE this week we talked about Christians seeing Jesus as a king, but how he wasn't born where a king would be born and that he didn't look like a king. Then we talked about the positive characteristics of our friends and family around us and how we see those in the character of Jesus as he interacts with the people around him. In Music we practiced our Nativity songs and continued with some Ocarina playing. As an extra activity we made money boxes and a treasure chest to prepare for our KS1 Worship time next week, which is entitled 'Treasures in Heaven'.

### Maple News

In Maple this week we finished our work on adding and subtracting three digit numbers by looking at estimation and how to check our work. Now have begun to look at multiplying and dividing. We have counted in groups of three, put items into groups of three and learned how to write this as number sentences, which we also call calculations or equations. We have moved on to using the three times tables to help us find our answers more quickly, and looked at how we can use our knowledge to solve more difficult problems.

In English we carried on writing instructions by writing a Stone Age recipe. We have also started to look at Iron Age Celts in English and Topic, learning to make our own (very tricky) Celtic knot-work designs and looking at the lives of Iron Age people and the changes the invention of iron brought to everyone's lives.

We have looked at the Ring of Fire; the horseshoe shaped line around the Pacific Ocean that has three-quarters of the world's volcanoes and most of the world's earthquakes. We discovered how the slow movement of the Earth's Tectonic plates have made the continents we know today and how they are responsible for the Ring of Fire. In ICT we have continued to create our own PowerPoint presentations on our favourite parts of our science work so far this year. We have discovered how to find, save and use pictures safely from the internet and how to find and save work on the computers.

We have begun to look forward to Advent and the run up to Christmas.





## Class News



### Chestnut News

In English we have begun thinking about gladiator training..... We have been researching the process of training by reading and note taking. From this work, we have created lists of equipment needed and the actions that need to be taken. In addition, we have learned about the different categories of gladiator. Each of them had different fighting styles, weaponry and armour. Next week we will be developing our research into a set of instructions that include features such as imperative verbs, time connectives, prepositions and numbered steps.

We have moved on to subtracting 4 digit numbers in Maths. We began with calculations that involved no exchange and have developed our skills to questions involving exchanges. We have created rules for our working wall to remind us of some basic rules to follow. The children have been asking lots of questions to improve their learning and deepen their understanding. Well done Chestnut Class.

This week in Science, we focused on electrical safety around the home. We used an interactive house to explore potential hazards. Everyone chose one hazard to theme a poster around. We aimed to use scientific language such as 'conductor' to explain safety issues.

In RE we recorded our ideas about the incarnation image that we studied the previous week. The children asked some very considered questions which we will be pursuing over the next few weeks. We talked about the meaning of the word 'incarnation' and our understanding of the Trinity. Next week, Father John will be coming in to start our discussion about the differing accounts of the Gospel in relation to this

### Lilac News

In Maths this week, Lilac Class have been reading and interpreting line graphs. We have been learning about the x axis and the y axis and what data and scale mean. We have also been carefully drawing line graphs using information about given data. In English, we have perfected our persuasive writing about why people should visit Belize using our class word bank of fabulous words and persuasive sentence openers such as 'It is clear that...', 'Obviously...', 'There is no doubt...'. In RE, we have considered what Messiah means and have been designing posters advertising our Messiah, stipulating what qualities we feel he/she should possess and drawing a picture of what he/she should look like.

In Science this week, we have been learning facts about Sir Isaac Newton and gravity in preparation for our practical work. We considered why he was such an important person and the contribution he made to scientific knowledge. In Topic, we have been learning about Mayan writing and numbers. We have been writing Mayan words and numbers and discovered that the Mayans used the zero digit long before the Europeans. In Music, we have continued to practise our songs from the shows that we will be singing for the Tunbridge Wells Singing Festival. In DT, we have been looking carefully at original Mayan jewellery and designing our own in our art sketch books. We have been also making leaflets based on our persuasive writing promoting why Belize is such a brilliant place to go on holiday. We looked at a selection of leaflets focusing on how pictures and text are presented. In PE, we have been improving our large ball skills and working well as a team. On Thursday, Lilac Class went with Oak Class to TWGGS to see a production of 'Into the Woods'.

### Oak News

This week has seen us finish our topic of fractions in maths. After four weeks of hard work, we are now able to use fractions with all four operations, as well as calculating fractions of a whole. This is often a tricky topic but the class have done brilliantly.

In English we have been completing our rationing leaflets. We have included information on how to apply for ration books and how to use them as well as addressing areas such growing your own vegetables and 'make do and mend'. In addition to this, we have tried to ensure our work includes a variety of sentence structures and ambitious punctuation. I must say that they are all looking fantastic.

On Thursday, we were invited to watch TWGGS' production of 'Into the Woods'. We were amazed by the talented singers and actors, and thought the show was fabulous. It has given us plenty of ideas for our own end of year production.

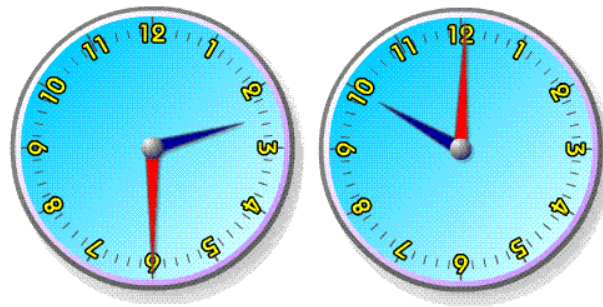
Finally, in French, we have been learning the parts of the body. We even had a go at singing 'Head, shoulders, knees and toes' in French - 'Tête, épaules, genoux et pieds'.



## Something to think about



How many hours are there between the two times you see on the analog clocks?



**Note:** both times are p.m.

A 7½ hours

B 6½ hours

C 5½ hours

D 4½ hours

Have a lovely weekend and hopefully it is not too cold!

With best wishes

*Moirá Duncombe*

@StBarnabasSchoolTW