

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 15th March 2019

"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 Shrove Tuesday around the World.

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

18th—21st March
Book Week

Do come and look and buy a book from the hall after school. You can use your World Book Day vouchers.

Wednesday 20th March
Year 5 Class Mass

Monday 1st April
Parent Consultations

Wednesday 3rd April
World Book Day
dressing up

Friday 5th April
End of term

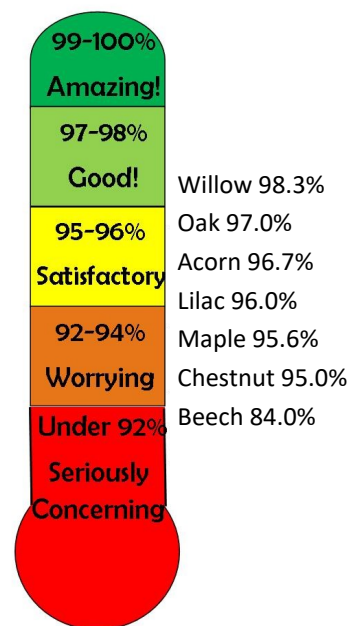
Tuesday 23rd April
Start of Term 5
9:30am School Mass

Attendance

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

Overall attendance last week: 94.7%

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



This Week at School

Well done and thank you to all those who took part in the PTFA Quiz last Friday. Over £200 was raised for the PTFA/School Funds. Thank you to Nikki and her team who helped make the evening run smoothly.

On Wednesday our School Governors spent the day in school to visit the classes and monitor what we are doing to continue our drive forward. They had a very positive day. Do check the school website to find out about who our Governors are and what they do.



Today is Comic Relief day and thank you in advance for all your donations! We look forward to letting you know how much we raised as a school.

Next week is Book Week and we will be running our book sale after school – do come and have a look!!



Class News



Acorn News

This week in Phonics we have learnt the digraphs oo (as in moon) and oa (as in goat) and the trigraph igh (as in light). We have looked at the high frequency words in and it and the tricky word, he. We have done lots of writing in phonics to practise our letter formation. In Maths we have continued our learning about weight and looked at making the scales balance in more detail. We made cakes and had to balance the egg with the flour, sugar and butter. We have continued to enjoy our new home corner, even if some of our cups and jars have got broken! We discussed why it was important to handle all items carefully. We have also got a new book corner which the children will be able to enjoy properly from Monday (thank you John for putting it up for us!). Each child has chosen their favourite book from our class books to have on our new shelving, we will then rotate the books on a regular basis so they can enjoy a variety of stories. Lots of us were inspired to make kites this week because it was so windy! We also wrote our shopping lists for Miss Traviss so she knew what cake ingredients to buy. Well done to our 'Star of the Week' Robert for always being a great role model to his peers.

Willow News

In English and Topic this week, the children have been planning and writing information texts about animals. On Monday the children solved and wrote some 'What Am I?' riddles about animals. On Tuesday they wrote some information on animal groups and we talked about what characteristics each animal has and the types of animals included in it. On Wednesday and Thursday, writing activities focused on fish and the children labelled a fish diagram, drew their own mind map about fish and wrote their own information text using headings.

In Maths the class have been solving maths problems relating to capacity and weight and looking at the relationship between doubling and halving. This has helped the children develop their mathematical language and reasoning skills during class discussions and in their maths jottings. On Wednesday the children explored the capacity of containers and used balance scales to compare the weight of different items.

In RE the class talked and wrote about the story of The Last Supper. Some of the children acted out the story and the class produced some lovely drawings to show key parts of the story. In PE the children have continued developing their gymnastics skills which has involved using different jumps, travelling across a low beam in different ways, using different rolls across and a mat and practising holding a balancing pose. It has been fantastic to see the children's confidence grow and to see the perseverance and determination some of the children have demonstrated in learning new skills. We had a class discussion on Tuesday afternoon about how we can help and encourage each other in our learning and the children had lots of fantastic ideas. It has been a busy week for Willow Class.

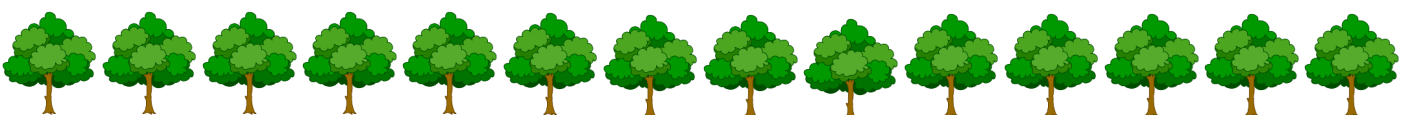
Beech News

It has been lovely getting to know Beech Class this week, and they have all shown what a caring, dynamic, hardworking class they are. We started the week by looking at tally charts, they have been examining data from different year groups to create their own tally charts and compare the data. English has been a continuation of Sir Samuel's Quest and the class has shown how they can use lots of different skills. They have learnt to write their own interesting versions of chapter 3, and especially showed a flair for interesting openers to their sentences. I look forward to reading the next chapter when they are finished. In ICT the class have shown how they can use their skills to reply to emails and find out information about castles.

Maple News

To help us think about the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb, Maple Class have been looking at the way newspapers are written. We have discovered the key features of what makes a good newspaper article. We need headlines, which should be short (5 or 6 words), to the point, often use alliteration or rhyme. They can be funny by using homophones as puns or wordplay to increase interest. We need to include important facts by using the 5Ws (Who? Where? When? What? Why?). In the story of the discovery the "whos" include Tutankhamun, boy king of Egypt, Howard Carter, brilliant archaeologist, and Lord Carnarvon, the rich aristocrat who paid for the work to be done. Newspaper articles also need quotes, remembering to use the correct punctuation. Next week we will look at putting subheadings at the start of each paragraph and captions on any pictures that we use.

In Maths we have continued to look at length, choosing the most appropriate unit: millimetres, centimetres or metres, to use to measure a distance. We have learned to line up our rulers so we can start measuring from the zero, and how to read a scale even if it does not have numbers on each mark. We have used our knowledge of addition and subtraction to add or find the difference between two measures. We discovered that it is easier if you make all the numbers the same scale, because adding lengths like 5cm to 42mm is hard as one is centimetres and the other is millimetres. We have explored the force of magnetism finding what objects it can affect, some of the objects that are not magnetic have been surprising. We have started to look at how magnets can have an effect at a distance and why they have a north and south pole.





Class News



Chestnut News

We had a chance to show off our poetry performance skills this week in a whole class reading session when we were visited by governors. The children have been working really hard on intonation and their success is based on a really solid understanding of the poem. We have focussed on Ted Hughes' "Cuckoo" poem. As another illustration of their grasp of the poem, they created dramatic newspaper articles around the themes they identified. They were humorous and very dramatic!

In our main English lessons, we have been looking at another form of list poem, the kenning. We have identified features of a range of kennings including their presentation, use of the article (a/an) and some with internal rhymes in a sentence. We have brainstormed and written our own kennings on an animal theme. It has been fun guessing which animal it was based on the clues. We have continued working on fluency in the 7 and 9 times tables in Maths. We have been looking at patterns we can identify that help us to learn them, and also their related division facts. We are working on our problem solving skills and how to reason clearly. In Science we have continued to work on our investigation skills by carrying out an experiment involving change. We have been learning about reversible and irreversible changes in matter. We set ourselves the task of investigating whether wax could change state and whether it would remain in that state. We had a lot of fun doing this and learned about which processes to apply to create change. We have been learning about what happens in church on Maundy Thursday and how this relates to what is described in the accounts of the Gospel. We learned about three key events in a Maundy Thursday service: Holy Communion, the washing of feet and the Watch. We could identify how they link with biblical text.

Finally, in Topic we have been learning about different types of maps, their features and their purposes.

Lilac News

In Maths this week, Lilac Class have been using the long multiplication method when multiplying a 4-digit number by a 2-digit number. We have been following a check list to make sure that we remember to add on the numbers we have carried and to also write a zero in the ones column of the second line before we start to multiply by the tens digit. We have also moved onto to dividing a 4-digit number by 1-digit. Our knowledge of factors here is proving really helpful. In English, we levelled up our poems about the workhouse using the conventions of poetry writing. We then started to write up the poems in best for a display. In RE, we have been thinking about who was responsible for Jesus's death and decided the three main contenders were Pilate, the Jewish people and Jesus himself.

In Science, we finished our work about making a solution and answered specific questions linked to our experiment we conducted last week. We considered how we could ensure that a teaspoonful of sugar added to a cup of tea would be completely dissolved, thinking about the force created by stirring and the importance of temperature. In Topic, we found out what the Victorians did during their leisure time. Public holidays were introduced so that people could have more free time and quality time with their families. The introduction of the railways played a very important role, enabling people to travel cheaply. The Victorians loved visiting the seaside. In Art, we have been learning about William Morris and the Arts and Craft Movement in preparation for our trip to Standen House. In DT, we have been working on our Mrs Beeton's Cookery Books and our pin cushions and in Music we have been singing more songs from Oliver!

Thank you to parents who have paid for our trip to Standen on Tuesday 26th March.

Oak News

Last week, Oak Class had a fantastic time on their residential trip. There were lots of challenging activities involving teamwork and many of them took a huge amount of courage to complete. Miss Mercer, Miss Stephens, Mrs Duncombe, Father John and all the other adults that visited were so proud of the class. Not only was their behaviour a credit to the school but they threw themselves into all the activities, overcoming their fears and encouraging each other to succeed.

Back at school this week, we have been working on calculating the area of various triangles and parallelograms and considering how this could help us in real life. We decided it would be useful in all sorts of ways, for example: painting a room or ordering carpet.

In English, we have been writing our own fables. There have been some fantastic ideas! One tells the story of a competition between a tiger and a mouse, another involves groups of rival business animals; there is even one about a mouse teaching an elephant to play badminton!

Finally, in art, we have started to create Greek theatre masks. We began today by creating the basic shape using paper mache. It was VERY messy but the results are fabulous. Over the coming weeks, we will build features onto these bases, before painting them. The finished designs should be wonderful!



Something to think about



5196
4718
8032
7101

Which of the four numbers has the smallest digit in the Hundreds place?

A 5196

B 4718

C 8032

D 7101

PTFA AGM Thursday 25th April in the School

At the AGM each year we appoint the offices of the Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary of the PTA.

This year we are also keen to have new roles - parent PTA 'Class Representatives' from each year. The Class Reps do NOT have to attend every PTA meeting, but they will be asked to read the minutes and be contacted with queries, to then discuss with other parents from the year group and feedback to us.



At the AGM we will be discussing the PTA aims for the year (what we'd like to spend money on) and what fundraising activities we'll be planning to achieve these.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for either please let us know via the PTFA email address: ptfa@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

This week we welcomed Mrs Atkinson back with us after returning to us after her maternity leave. Year 2 are very pleased to be working with you!!

I can also share that Mrs Banner had a little girl called Constance Hope last weekend. They are currently in hospital and we look forward in meeting Connie soon.

Have a lovely weekend!

With best wishes

Moira Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW