

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 1st 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 discussed being kind with words and also finding out about Ash Wednesday.

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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Midday Supervisor Vacancy
See back page for details

Key dates

Friday 8th March

PTFA Quiz night 7.30pm

Week Beginning 18th March

Book Week & Book Fair

Monday 1st April

Parent Consultations

Wednesday 3rd April

World Book Day dressing up – see the back page for more details

Friday 5th April

End of term

Tuesday 23rd April

Start of term 5

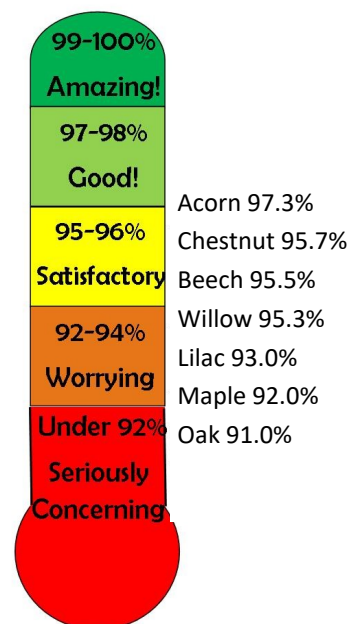
9:30 School Mass

Attendance

As a whole school we have an attendance target of 97% to achieve. Last week our attendance was 94%

Overall attendance last week:

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



This Week at School

Welcome back to term 4 and I hope you had a fabulous half term break. The weather has certainly meant we had a warm start to our new term and the children have settled back into their routines well.



On Thursday we had a visit from Anne Goldstein from DKG (Delta Kappa Gamma) an organisation for women working in education, who donated three books to the school library about amazing women and their achievements. She talked briefly to Tom and Emily about the history of DKG and the reason for donating the books and then gave the books to them, they stayed for a short while looking at the books with Anne before going back to class.



Class News



Acorn News

This week in Phonics we have been recapping all of the sounds we have learnt in class so far this year. We have looked at the high frequency words can, big, had and if. We have thought of sentences with our words in. We have practised writing our sounds and using them in words to try and encourage us to have a go at writing during our own learning time. In Maths we have been learning about height and know it is how far from bottom to top. We also talked which objects were taller and shorter. We put ourselves in height order. Then we used cubes to measure items in the class and record how many cubes tall they were. The baby was 15 counters and a ruler was 9 bears long. In RE this week, we began to talk about the Easter story and why it is an important time for Christians. We have been encouraging the children to try something new in their choosing time and lots of us have been able to do this. It is really important for children to choose a variety of activities to broaden their interests. Well done to our 'Star of the Week' Stefan for a piece of fantastic independent writing, he was able to talk about what he'd drawn and write some initial sounds!

Willow News

It has been another busy week in Willow Class! On Monday the children talked and wrote about what they had done during the holidays and concentrated on writing in the past tense. It was lovely listening to the sharing their news and complimenting each other on their sentence writing. The children have also been learning how to add the 'er' and 'est' suffixes to adjectives. We used the story of "I am the Happiest" by Anna Shuttlewood to inspire comparative sentences and guide some of the children's written work. The children thought up and wrote their own sentences about animals from the story and drew/wrote their own stories in Computing on Friday.

In Maths this week, the class started the week by recapping partitioning two digit numbers into tens and ones and also worked on finding one more and one less than two digit numbers up to 50. Some children extended themselves and worked with numbers up to 100. The children also sorted groups of objects into size order linking our Maths and English work. On Thursday and Friday, the class used balance scales to compare the weight of items and find out how many cubes small objects in the classroom weighed.

In Science work, the children have been talking about which animals are herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. In RE we started talking about our new topic about why Easter is an important festival for Christians and briefly looked at some key events in the Easter story. In PE this term, the children are developing their gymnastics skills and on Tuesday they were practised the gymnastics starting and finishing position and developing their jumping skills.

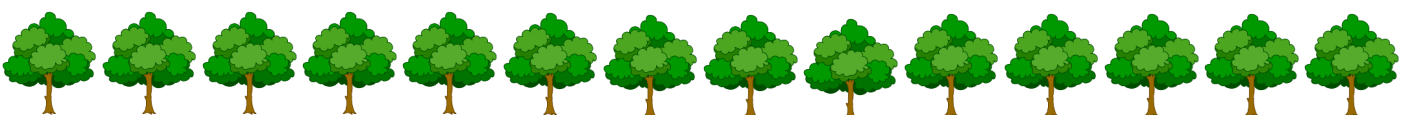
Beech News

In English, we wrote a chapter of Sir Samuel's Quest - Chapter 2: The Evil Tower. We considered how we could show and tell the audience how Sir Samuel was feeling at different parts of the chapter and added them to our plan. Finally, we re-drafted our work. In Maths, we focused on money. We explored how notes and coins could be used to make different amounts of money. Next, we investigated how we could make the same amount of money in a variety of different ways. Finally, we worked out how to calculate change when we purchased something with a £5, £10 or £20 note. In Topic, we closely examined the Bayeux tapestry. We discovered an image of a Motte and Bailey castle. Then we learned the names of all the different parts of a Motte and Bailey castle and used this knowledge to complete a labelled diagram.

Maple News

Maple Class have come back refreshed from our half term holiday and excited about starting swimming lessons. We have started our term by exploring what we know about Tutankhamun. We have learned about how Howard Carter and Lord Carnarvon discovered his tomb; a boy who was there to make sure people had water found the entrance when he was playing in the sand! How they found rooms filled with treasure: golden thrones and chariots, statues of jackals and lions, treasure chests and bejewelled scarabs. How the first person to see it was Lord Carnarvon's daughter, Lady Evelyn. And how the Egyptian authorities were really slow in allowing the dig to carry on, and really fussy about who was allowed in. We wrote diary entries as Howard Carter, imagining what he would have seen and what he would have felt. We have acted out in role the main characters in the story to try and decide what to do with the treasure. Should it be left where it was, taken to Britain or kept in Egypt?

In Maths this week we have been learning about pictograms and bar charts. How pictograms can be simple when the pictures always represent the same amount and are always whole, or scaled when the pictures can be split to show a smaller number. We will be using these skills over the next few weeks in Science as we will be investigate forces. We have started by looking at friction, how the texture of a surface can change how easily an object moves on it.





Class News



Chestnut News

We have begun the new term with a focus on poetry in whole class reading sessions. Following on from studying "The Iron Man", we have been reading and analysing the poem "Bladderwrack" by Ted Hughes. We have tried responding to the rhythm of the piece with spontaneous drawing. In pairs, children have highlighted any words or phrases they did not understand and they have used dictionaries and discussion to help with decoding. To demonstrate their understanding, they have summarised each verse of the poem in one sentence. We also worked on performance technique by reading through the poem as a class and discussing any words that needed particular emphasis. We ended the week with children performing the poem in pairs.

Our theme in English this term is also poetry and we have begun by studying some list poems and identifying poetic features such as similes and rhyme. We have been identifying different word classes in a range of poems and art of this week's homework is linked to that.

We are continuing with multiplication and division this week and have been multiplying and dividing by 6. Previous work done on inverse calculations has really helped. The children have been creating pictorial representations of number sentences and challenging each other to write as many different number sentences as they can. All the practise they do with times tables really helps them with this, so keep up the good work at home!

In RE we have begun a unit on Salvation. We have been reminding ourselves of the events of Holy Week from Jesus entering Jerusalem through to Maundy Thursday. We looked at depictions in art and talked about what showed us that Jesus was treated as someone special on Palm Sunday. We then moved on to discuss why Judas betrayed Jesus and created a 'conscience alley' with different viewpoints on each side.

We have started learning about 'changing states' in science. We did lots of practical activities, including drama to model the movement of particles in solids, liquids and gases. Over the next few weeks we will be carrying out some experiments to look at reversible and irreversible

Lilac News

In Maths this week in Lilac Class, we have been focusing on multiplying numbers together using a written method. Our Maths work has really tested our knowledge of tables and emphasised how important it is to set out our calculations clearly! In English, we have moved on from creating pieces of extended writing about character and setting to writing poetry about the workhouse. We have started to prepare for this next task by analysing poems that have already been written about the subject. We looked at the conventions of poetry writing that were used and highlighted the 'powerful' language that the poet used to really draw the reader in. We then used a thesaurus to develop powerful language of our own. In RE, we finished learning about Moses and considered why the story of Moses was about freedom and salvation.

In Science, we have been investigating whether plastic, cotton wool, cardboard, wood, foil and a paper clip were conductors. We did this by constructing an electrical circuit and then putting each of these materials in the circuit to see if they made the bulb light up or not. We initially made a prediction about what results we thought we were going to get and why. Our results showed that only the paper clip and foil were conductors and that if we put both of these into a circuit the bulb shone brighter. We also combined a conductor with a material that was not a conductor and found out that the bulb still lit up. We used lots of scientific thinking to explain our results. In Topic, we have been learning about Victorian health, hygiene and diseases. Once people started to live more hygienic lives and antiseptic was invented by Joseph Lister, health began to improve. Florence Nightingale made an enormous contribution to nursing. She turned it into a respectable profession and ensured that hospitals provided a clean and safe environment where people could get better. In Music, we have been listening to and learning songs from the musical Oliver!

Please remember to give your permission and pay for our Standen trip on Tuesday 26th March. Letters were sent out last month via Parent-Mail.

Oak News

It's been a busy first week in Oak Class. In Maths, we have started our new unit: measure. We began by refreshing our knowledge of metric units and how to convert between them. We then moved on to converting between metric and imperial units of measurement, such as miles and kilometres, inches and centimetres, and grams and pounds. We also discussed how this may help us in real-life situations.

In English, we are working towards writing our own fable. We started by finding out a little about Aesop and the fables accredited to him. We discussed the evidence as to whether he really existed and what purpose these stories may have originally had. We then compared three versions of the fable 'The Boy who cried Wolf'. By noting the different language, the characters that featured and description, we came up with a list of success criteria for a good fable. Finally, we story-mapped our own fable that we will write over the following weeks.

On Friday afternoon, we had a science extravaganza! The children rotated around various activities on the theme of electricity. As well as building circuits and investigating variables that may affect the brightness of a bulb or the volume of a buzzer, we also used electronics sets to create torches and sound effects, such as police sirens and fruit machines.

Finally, we have been preparing for our residential trip next week. A ParentMail containing the kit list went out before half-term but paper copies have also been handed out. Mrs Duncombe sent out a ParentMail yesterday detailing drop-off and pick-up times, as well as information on medication, accommodation, meals and activities. If you have any further questions, please speak to Miss Mercer, Mrs Duncombe or contact the school office. Thank you!



Something to think about



How many toes are on 7 feet?

A 32

B 35

C 36

D 37



QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 8th March

in the School Hall

ALL WELCOME!

7.30pm onwards

Bring Your Own Bottles

max 8 per team

Bring friends or join a team on the night!

£5 entry per person

All proceeds to a great cause - St Barnabas' PTFA!

St Barnabas CEP, Quarry Road TN1 2EY

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 PTFA.

This year we are also keen to have new roles - parent PTFA '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 PTFA 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.

Midday Supervisor Vacancy

We will have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisor to start after the Easter holidays. If you or anyone you know is interested, please pop into the school office for an application pack.

CELEBRATE WORLD BOOK DAY: WEDNESDAY 3rd April (note new date)



To celebrate World Book Day, we would like the children to dress up as a character from a favourite book. Please do not go to great expense; some of the best costumes we have seen have been simple and home-made! World Book Day tokens will be handed out next week and can be used at our Book Fair which runs 18-21 March.



Have a lovely weekend. Next week our Year 6 will be off on their Residential trip and we hope they have a great time.

With best wishes

Moirá Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW