

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 24th January 2020

Each child is uniquely created and loved by God.

www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk



Our **School Christian Values** are Aspiration Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion. We found out about John the Baptist.

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

28 January

Acorn & Willow Reading

Drop-In:

Please see Willow Class news

7 February

School Disco

Tickets available from Monday 3rd February

17- 21 February

Half Term

25 February

KS2 Smoothie Bike

26 February

Ash Wednesday Mass
9:15am—all welcome

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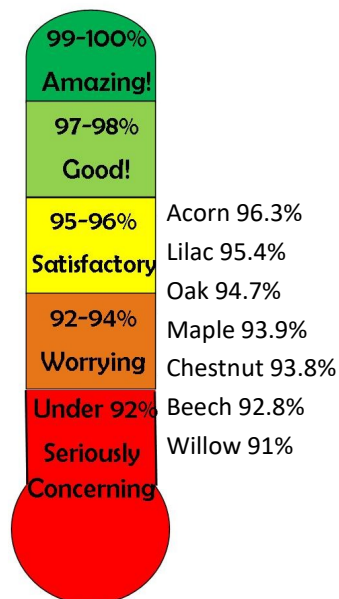
With the colder weather please do make sure your child has a coat, their PE kit and a named water bottle.

Attendance

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

Overall attendance last week: 94%

Do remember we start school everyday at 8:45.



This Week

It's been a busy week with our Year 6 visiting the Imperial War Museum to find out more about their topic. Yet again the children were excellent ambassadors for our school.



In our worship on Monday we discussed the wider world and the awful fires in Australia. The children decided that they would like to raise some money to help support the nursing of these animals especially Koalas. With this in mind, we are holding a non-uniform day on Thursday 30th January: children should bring in £1 to donate to the WWF for their work in Australia.

Can you help?

I was saddened to hear that at the end of the day on Thursday, a dog outside our front gate attacked one of our families, hurting a three year old. If you know any information about the dog or its owner please let Mrs Duncombe know. Thankfully all is well.



Class News



Acorn Class

In Phonics, we have been learning the sounds x (as in box), y (as in yellow), z (as in zip) and zz (as in buzz). It is really important to pronounce the sounds correctly when helping your child with these sounds, please refer to the YouTube link sent out a while ago on how to pronounce each sound. We have practised reading and writing words with these sounds in. We have also learnt the high frequency words 'is' and 'it'. There words we can sound out but our reading is much better if we know them on sight! In Maths, we ordered the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. We have also been working on our number bonds, which are two numbers added together to make a given number. We have demonstrated this using cubes, counters, Numicon and a part-part whole model. In PE, we learnt how to do some different rolls. We used the mats and listen carefully to the instructions to keep ourselves safe. Some of us were lucky enough to learn how to do forward rolls with Mrs Smallcombe. We have done a lot of work on listening this week, including reading the stories 'Why Should I Listen?' and an animal story where we had to stand up if we were that character. During our child initiated learning time, lots of us were designing cakes so Miss Traviss suggested we made playdough! We had to listen carefully to the instructions of how many scoops of the ingredients to put in, we then chose our own colours. Congratulations to Jorge-Jago our 'star of the week' who has taken home Nick the Monkey. **Don't forget that next Tuesday you can come into the classroom before school and read with your child. This invitation is open to all Willow and Acorn class parents.**

Willow News

It has been a busy week in Willow Class. We have started doing whole class reading and this week our book was 'A Squash and a Squeeze' by Julia Donaldson. We have been looking at the vocabulary in the story and talking about the phrases which are repeated throughout it. In English this week, the class have been using imperative (bossy) verbs and time connectives (first, then, next, finally) to write instructions for making a disgusting sandwich and on how to clean your teeth. The children came up with some fantastic ideas and were able to sequence their instructions correctly. In PE on Thursday the children also practised listening to and giving instructions. In Maths, we have been continuing to learn about subtraction and the children have been using number lines and counters to support them in solving number problems. We have been looking at number bonds for 10 and 20 and have been talking about how to write subtraction number sentences. In our RE lesson this week, the class learned about the story of Matthew the tax collector and how he became one of Jesus' disciples. The learning point from this lesson was that Jesus is a friend to everyone and we have talked about what makes someone a good friend. As part of our Science topic, the class talked and wrote about the features of mammals. We will be looking at other animal groups over the next few weeks and comparing the similarities and differences between them. In our topic work we have started learning about Florence Nightingale and why she is famous. The children also painted a picture of someone they think is a hero and said why that person is important. **Don't forget that next Tuesday you can come into the classroom before school and read with your child. This invitation is open to all Willow and Acorn class parents.**

Beech News

In English, we completed sets of instructions for the hero in our class quest. We began by working collaboratively to write sets of simple instructions for each part of the quest. Next, each child selected a part of the quest, and turned the simple instructions into detailed sets of instructions that included a brief introduction and conclusion. In Maths, we focussed on multiplication. We explored and practised two different ways of solving multiplication problems and then shared ideas on which method was most efficient in different situations. In Topic, we explored the concepts of invasion and settlement and used a Venn Diagram to sort our ideas.

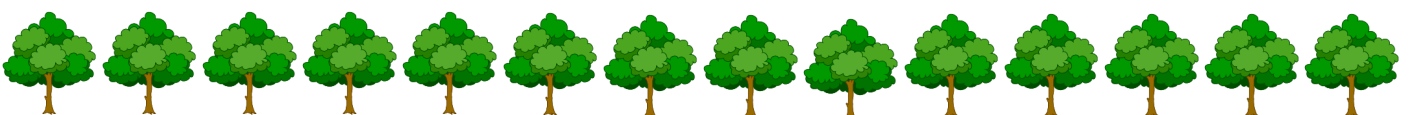
Maple News

This week, Maple Class have been learning to divide two digit numbers by one digit numbers. We began by partitioning into tens and ones using a part-whole model and place value counters, before sharing out. Then we noticed that some numbers can not be shared out without re-grouping some of the tens into ones. This let us divide more numbers but it could mean we had a lot of ones counters to share out, which sometimes meant we could lose track. Another problem we discovered was that some numbers cannot be shared out equally. When you try to divide them there are some left over. In Maths this is called a remainder and is written as a small letter r. To help us with the problem of losing track of sharing out numbers we looked at another way of dividing called the subtraction method or the counting back method. You find the number you are dividing on a number line or a bead string - this is called the dividend. Then, you count back by the number you are dividing by - called the divisor. The number of times you can count back is the quotient, which is the answer to the calculation. Maple Class decided that the different methods were both useful and that we should try and choose the right method depending on the division problem.

In English we have been looking at descriptions of places and also at how we can improve our writing. To write a good description we can include adjectives, which help to add detail. But another method that writers use is to describe by using the power of three. Three sentences or clauses give a concise and powerful way of summing something up. Shirley Climo uses this method in The Egyptian Cinderella. In order to improve the words we have written, we have been using thesauruses. Like a dictionary words are listed in alphabetical order to make them easier to find, but unlike a dictionary it does not tell you what a word means, instead it gives other words that mean the same thing. But watch out, some words have more than one meaning!

In our investigation of light for Science, we have wondered why our shadows are longer in the morning and evening but shorter in the middle of the day. To explore what was going on, we used torches held at set angles to find out what happens to the shadow of a Jenga piece. With the torch at a low angle the shadow was long, but when the torch was at a high angle, on top of the Jenga block, its shadow was very small. This was just the same as our shadows in the sunlight.

We have learned more about Sikhism this week with the help of Mrs Delaney. We acted out some scenes from the life of Guru Nanak, the founder of the Sikh faith, and learned more about some of the things that Sikhs do to show their beliefs. And we would like to say thank you to Mrs Delaney's mother for letting us try the delicious Indian sweets.





Class News



Chestnut News

In English we have continued to work on features of persuasive writing. We have practised powering up our verbs and adjectives to make our writing more interesting. We have used dictionaries to check unfamiliar words and thesaurus to find interesting options as alternatives to more ordinary verbs and adjectives. During guided reading we pick out interesting language to expand our writing vocabulary. We have tackled two challenging chapters in Varjak Paw and the children have been able to understand and explain some sophisticated plot and language features.

This week we finished our unit on perimeter by calculating measurements of rectilinear shapes and compounds of rectilinear shapes with missing numbers. We have now moved on to multiplying by 10 and representing this in different ways. We have been using the term 'commutative' which means it does not matter which way round we do the multiplication. The total is still the same. However, we have also set out calculations to show that 5 lots of 10 is not set out the same as 5 lots of 10. This has involved some practical activities and applications.

In our Topic session we have picked up from global, national and local issues that concern us. We have begun to find out about the importance of rainforests and the threats that face them. We have located the major rainforests on a map and researched the benefits of preserving them.

In Science we built on our learning from last week by sorting different materials into states of matter. Some of them were not straightforward, but the children have shown good scientific understanding and questioning in order to categorise them. We will be moving on to look at how to change states of matter.

We have continued to improve our hockey skills in PE. Children are able to engage in play effectively and safely and also referee matches. Big shout outs to Daniel and Grace for their contributions this week!

Lilac News

In Maths this week, Lilac Class have been learning about square and cube numbers. We found out that all square numbers can make square arrays and we then used our knowledge of square numbers to find a cube number by writing two-step calculations. In English, we have been improving and editing our writing about the thoughts and feelings of Jim Jarvis, the main character from our class text 'Street Child'. We looked carefully at our checklists to ensure that we had included all the success criteria. In RE, we have been thinking about how a Hebrew slave must have felt in the story of Moses and why they needed salvation. We explored the meaning of oppression and persecution.

In Science, we wrote a prediction for our whole class experiment about insulators. We needed to predict whether cling film, newspaper, wool or foil would keep Dr Charles's tea the hottest. We needed to think about which material would be the best and the worst insulator, giving our reasons why. In Topic, we have been learning facts about the Industrial Revolution. We then had to consider whether these facts had a positive or negative effect on the population of Victorian Britain. During our class discussion, we decided that some of these facts had both a positive and negative effect. In Art, we have continued to paint in the style of Van Gogh using our paint brushes in a variety of different ways. Nearly all of us have now started our Victorian pincushions and some of us have mastered cross stitch! In PE, we have been playing mini hockey matches, perfecting our skills.

On Tuesday 24th of March, Lilac Class will be visiting Standen Country House for the day. We will have a tour of the house built at the end of Queen Victoria's reign and will be dressing up as Victorians. We will also be learning about William Morris and The Arts and Crafts Movement. A ParentMail was sent out to you last week with the details. The children are doing so well with their Class Reading Challenge and it is lovely to see so many reading records coming into school on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Thank you so much for your support!

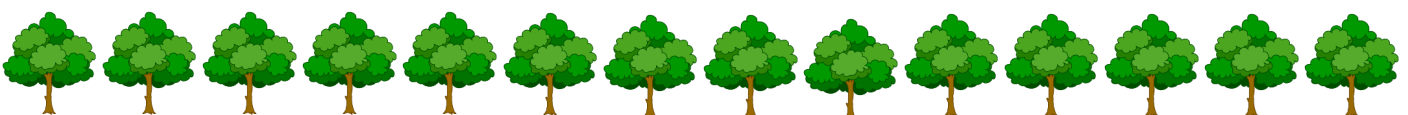
Oak News

This week started with a trip to the Imperial War Museum. It was such fun getting the train up to London, especially as we had a carriage reserved just for us! When we arrived at the museum, there were two huge 15 inch guns from WW1 dreadnoughts standing outside. We were amazed that they were real! Once inside, there were even more amazing things to see. Tanks, torpedoes and jeeps filled the entrance hall and there were even real fighter planes hanging from the ceiling! We learned so much in the WW1 gallery: what 'mother' was, why the navy kept a pet pig on board and what life in the trenches was like. We were also lucky enough to have a quick look around the WW2 galleries so we have a head-start on next term already!

Back at school, we have been working hard on researching Phoebe Chapple and Walter Tull. Both made great contributions to WW1 but were denied the Military Cross due to laws on race and gender at the time. We are recommending them to receive the medals posthumously and hope to write to the Ministry of Defence to persuade them to review the cases.

In Maths, we have been learning how to convert between decimals, fractions and percentages. As well as memorising the common equivalences, we have been finding out how to convert fractions that cannot easily be made into tenths, hundredths or thousandths. Next week, we will be finding out how to calculate percentages of amounts, before moving on to our new unit on algebra.

In Science, we have conducted an experiment to investigate how different types of exercise affect heart rate. Using a cardboard tube to listen to each other's hearts, we measured resting BPM, then re-measured them after children had complete one minute of exercise. These types of exercises varied in how strenuous they were. We then recorded the results and compared them on a line graph. Finally, we discussed the conclusions we could draw from the data we had collected.

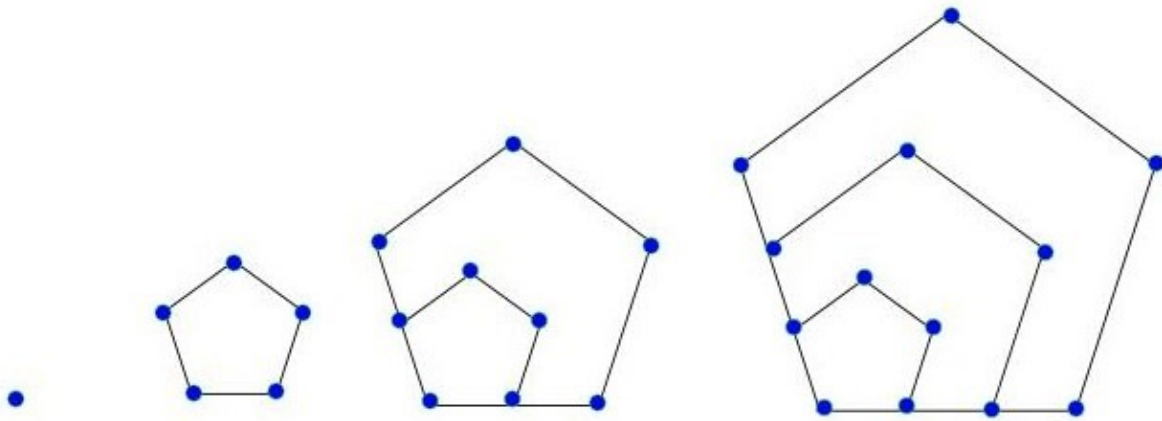


Something to think about.....

On this day:



Here is a pattern of dots:



How many dots would there be in the next diagram of the sequence?

School Uniform Sale



MAPAC, our school uniform providers, are holding a 10% sale between 24th-31st January. Use the code JSP20.

<https://www.mapac.com>

Have a wonderful weekend

With best wishes

Moira Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW