

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 31st 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 the story of Jesus calling his disciples.

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

7th February
School Disco

17th– 21st February
Half term

25th February
KS2 Smoothie bike

26th February
Ash Wednesday Mass
9:15am—all welcome

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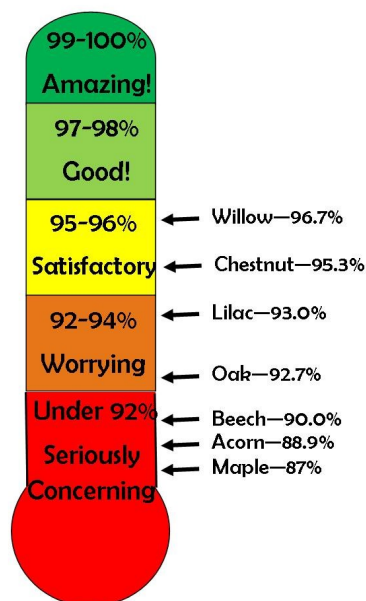
With the colder weather please do make sure your child has a coat, their PE kit and a named water bottle.

Attendance

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

Overall attendance last week: 91.93%

Do remember we start school everyday at 8:45.



This Week

It has been lovely to see so many Acorn and Willow families reading together. Reading is such an important skill and so regular reading is key.

With this in mind we are about to start a reading blog to enable us all to share books that we have loved to read. What are your favourite books? Let us know...

Another success, and highlighting our value of Aspiration, is the success of our Netball team. This is their first season and they are unbeaten and third in the league after winning their last game 6-0.



John has asked that we remind you **not** to pull up at the crossing and allow your child to jump out and run across. This is for safety reasons. Thank you for your support.



Class News



Acorn Class

In Phonics, we have been learning the words—mum, dad, can, got, get, in, big. These are high frequency words that the children can sound out but we prefer them to be able to read them on sight. In Maths, we have been learning about the number 6. We have been counting to 6 and have been looking at two numbers that make the number 6 using numicon and counters. We have also been learning about a hexagon because it has 6 sides. In PE, we used benches and A-frames to practise a straight jump. We had to put our feet together, raise our arms as we jumped and bend our knees when we landed. In RE, we had a mini christening as we have been learning about how babies are special to God. We understand a Christening to be a thank you celebration to God. We have also had Archie's mum in to show us her baby, we asked her some questions about him. We have also celebrated Chinese New Year. We read the story and learnt that each of the animals represents a different year. We also made Chinese dragons and red money envelopes then tried some noodles, prawn crackers and spring rolls. Miss Traviss also did a really exciting act of worship where she turned water into wine! We gave her a round of applause. In our child initiated time, we have been using lots of tape as we have got a new tape dispenser in the classroom which is really fun to use! We have created lots of things with the junk modelling items including drums and jet packs and even created a limbo line!

Willow News

This week we have combined English with our Science topic of animals and have been writing about the different animal groups. We have been discussing the features of each animal group, such as whether they are cold blooded or warm blooded, and which animals belong in each group. It has been lovely to see how the children's writing skills are progressing and hear them talk about animals they have seen or know facts about. In Maths the class has been learning about number fact families and using addition and subtraction number sentences to explore number bonds. The children have been using the reasoning skills to investigate whether number sentences are correct or incorrect. As a class we have been revisiting how to correct form some numbers and letters as some children are still finding this tricky. We will be continuing to do this over the next few weeks. It was lovely to see so many parents at our reading drop in on Tuesday and don't forget there will be another one next Tuesday in the Acorn classroom. In our RE lesson this week, the class learned about the story of Zacchaeus and how Jesus is a friend to the friendless. As a class we discussed what Christians think God is like (for example a forgiving father, a friend, someone who brings peace). In PE this week the children played hockey (which included some children refereeing the games) and on Thursday we found different ways to move in gymnastics.

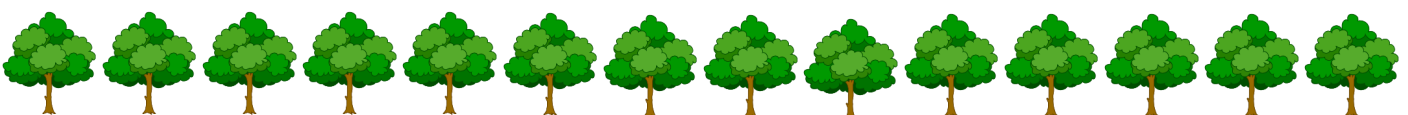
Beech News

In English, we have been busy finishing our instructions. It was fun reading through them all. We then created a character description for the hero of our class quest. We were provided with a model piece of writing and then worked with a partner to create our own version. In Maths, we turned our attention towards division. We started the week by exploring odd and even numbers and then used a Venn Diagrams to sort numbers according to their properties. Finally, we explored two different methods for solving division problems. In Science, we completed a dissolving investigation. We were presented with four mystery ingredients and used our skills of observation to decide which ingredient would be most suitable to help our hero on his quest. In PE we looked at how to make steady beats and different rhythms to base our dances to.

Maple News

In Topic this week we have been looking at the gods of the ancient Egyptians. They worshiped over two thousand different gods and goddesses, who they believed lived in the statues that were in the heart of temples. Gods could be shown in different ways, often with the head of an animal. The Egyptians believed that the animal represented some important principle that the god was in charge of. So as they saw jackals living in and around cemeteries, they believed that jackals protected the dead. And so, Anubis, god of protecting the dead, was depicted with a jackal's head. Maple Class have thought about this and created their own Egyptian gods. We have chosen whether they have a human or animal head, what that animal is and what it represents, and what the god or goddess is in charge of. Then we thought about what relation the god we had made was to the other gods the Egyptians worshiped. Also, we decided what people would do to pray, what offerings they would give, and what they would expect from the god. Ancient Egyptians would hit the statues of gods if they prayed for something and it did not happen!

In English, we have been thinking about actions and using verbs to create an action sequence. In "The Egyptian Cinderella", Pharaoh, searches the land of Egypt to find who the rose gold slipper belongs to. We took some of the sentences describing Pharaoh's journey across Egypt and invented a character to compare his actions to. Using a comparative conjunction like, 'but', 'although' or, 'yet', we could create a sentence with different, contrasting clauses. Many of the class used the idea of Pharaoh's bodyguard, although they did not give the bodyguard an easy ride. While Pharaoh, 'tracked across the scorching desert in his chariot', the bodyguard, 'fell off and had to walk.' We are looking forward to using this technique in our own stories, which we have just begun to plan. Over the next few weeks, we will plan, write, edit, improve, and eventually perform our own versions of the tale.





Class News



Chestnut News

In Maths we have continued to work on multiplying by 10 and 100, using place value charts and counters to support our learning. We have been trying to write accurate explanations for rules we discovered, ensuring that we are using the correct mathematical vocabulary. We then moved on to look at dividing multiples of 10 by 10. We used place value charts and clear overlays to slide our numbers over one column to the right to answer questions. We applied this to a problem solving and reasoning activity involving Alice in Wonderland reducing measurements by 10. We had to check calculations and explain clearly why some of them were not correct. Excellent work Chestnut Class.

In English we finished working on the individual features of persuasive writing by looking at rhetorical questions and their function. We compiled a big list of questions that might be useful when we are writing a persuasive letter about the destruction of rainforest habitats. In order to cement our understanding of all the elements of persuasion, we are going to be carrying out a debate next week. We have learned about the correct process and rules of debate including how we need to organise our room. The class has been split in half and are preparing to debate around the issue of school uniform.

We have continued our rainforest research which will be used when we write persuasive letters.

In RE we have been considering how we can identify something as part of the Gospel. We then went on to think about what parables are and what their purpose is. We looked at Jesus healing the leper and the Good Samaritan and picked out the messages from them. We are using these messages to help us think about our Big Question - what kind of world did Jesus want? A huge thank you for the contributions made on own clothes day on Thursday!

Lilac News

In Maths this week, Lilac Class have been learning to multiply and divide by 10, 100 and 1000. We have been drawing on our knowledge of place value and looking at how the digits of a number move to the left if they are multiplied or to the right if they are divided. In English, using 'Street Child' as a starting point, we are drafting a piece of writing about life in the workhouse. We are writing in the first person, using expanded noun phrases. We also looked carefully at photographs of inmates of the workhouse and watched a short BBC drama adaptation to develop our ideas. In RE, we have been reading the Book of Exodus (3:1-21) considering Moses's thoughts when he saw the burning bush on Mount Horeb. God spoke to him through the flames telling Moses to lead his people out of Egypt. We also discussed at some length why we thought God chose Moses for this role.

In Topic, we have been learning about the many inventions that were developed during Queen Victoria's reign and the impact they have had on our lives today. For example, the stamp and postal service, the flushing toilet, electricity, the light bulb, the telephone, the bicycle, the car, the gramophone and the camera, to name but a few. In Art and DT, we have continued painting in the style of Van Gogh and sewing our pincushions. In Music, we have been listening to some of the songs from the musical Oliver!

Thank you again for all your support with our class reading challenge. Many children are now bringing in their reading records on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Some of you have also paid for our Standen trip on Tuesday 24th March, thank you.

Oak News

In English this week, we have been finishing off our letters about Walter Tull and Phoebe Chapple. The language used is extremely persuasive! They will be sent off to the Ministry of Defence next week and we look forward to getting a reply!

In Maths, we have finished our unit on percentages. We can now convert between percentages, decimals and fractions, calculate percentages of amounts and work out the whole from a given amount. We have also considered how all this applies to real life situations. Our next unit is algebra.

In Science, we had an exciting time looking at blood. Firstly, we looked at the individual components of blood - red blood cells, white blood cells, platelets and plasma - and their functions. Then we got to make our own 'blood' using syrup as plasma, red haribo as red blood cells, mini marshmallows as white blood cells, and smarties as platelets. It was really good fun (although a bit sticky) and we got to eat our 'blood' afterwards! Miss Mercer also showed us a pint of blood she donated (it was actually just a mix of gelatine, water and red food colouring). We looked at it in its liquid state - how it is when it is flowing through our veins and arteries - then watched it clot into a jelly, then finally a solid. This helped us to understand the role blood plays when we injure ourselves. Firstly, the blood clots to seal up the wound, then it forms a hard scab to protect the injured area until it has healed.

We would also like to say a huge 'WELL DONE!' to the netball team. They did a fantastic job in Tuesday's match and are a force to be reckoned with! Go St Barnabas!



Something to think about.....



[Help](#)

What value of x makes the sentence $x - 3 = 7$ true?

A $x = 10$

B $x = 7$

C $x = 4$

D $x = 3$

Don't guess the answer



**Thank you for your generosity yesterday.
Our own clothes day raised £205.82 for
WWF Australia.**

We have been made aware that some of our children are using the TikTok App. This App is for 12+ age range children and enables children to create and share videos. Unfortunately we have been made aware that some of the children have been posting unkind videos about their peers.

Please can we ask that you discuss with your child about their safety online and a leaflet will be sent out with this Newsletter containing more information.

Have a wonderful weekend and remember Disco tickets are on sale next week from Monday to Thursday and cost £3.50 each.

With best wishes

Moirá Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW