

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 28th February 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 Beatitudes.

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

Thursday 5th March
World Book Day

See page 2 for more information

Tuesday 17th & Wednesday 18th March
Parent Consultations

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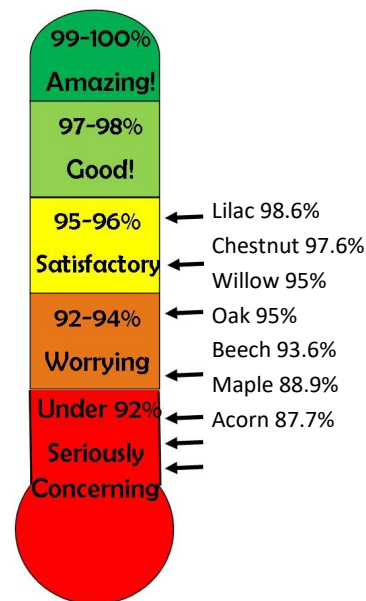
With the colder weather please do make sure your child has a coat, their PE kit and a named water bottle.

Attendance

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

Overall attendance last week: 93.8%

Do remember we start school everyday at 8:45.



A message from our PTFA



You can really help us out by using #easyfundraising to do any shopping you need to do before 1st March. It's DOUBLE DONATION WEEK, which means you'll raise TWICE as much for St Barnabas' CE VA Primary School at no extra cost to yourself!

Please sign up and support us:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stbarnabascevaprimary/?utm_campaign=raise-more%26utm_medium=social%26utm_source=facebook%26utm_content=fb5

Congratulations to our swimming team



Well done to all our swimming team (Albert M, Charlie, Clara, Daniella, Elsie, Grace, Hollie, Lilyanna, Max, Mujtaba, Olivia, Oscar, Sam & Teo) who competed against other local primary schools on Wednesday night in the Tunbridge Wells Primary Schools Swimming Gala. This was our first time attending the gala and we are so proud of all the children who took part. Their behaviour and attitude was outstanding and their effort truly awesome. Our divers were especially brave, both making it into the final and diving in front of everyone! Thank you to everyone who supported them and to Mrs Smallcombe, Ms Burkinshaw and Mrs Reeves for leading the team!

Looking ahead.....

World Book Day Thursday 5th March



Come dressed up as a book character and celebrate your love of reading

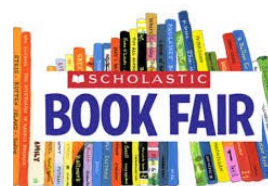
*The children should come dressed as a character from their favourite book and we would like them to bring that book in with them to share with the class.
Please could we also remind you that we do not expect*

Parent Consultations

17th and 18th March

We will notify you when sign up sheets are ready

School Book Fair



Monday 23rd – Friday 26th March

Come and buy a book and help raise money for the school to spend on new books.



Sport Relief

On Friday 13th March we will be raising money for Sport Relief. The children will be allowed to wear sport kits. During the day there will be some sporting challenges for the children to take part in



Easter Egg and Easter Bonnet Competition

On Tuesday 31st March the children will be invited to bring in either an Easter Bonnet or a decorated Egg. These will be judged and prizes awarded!



Class News



Acorn Class

This week in Phonics, we have learnt the tricky word 'we' and the phase 3 sounds ch (as in chip) and sh (as in shop). These sounds are called digraphs as there are two letters making one sound. We have practiced reading and writing using these sounds. In Maths, we have been learning about the number 9. We used the 10s frame to count out 9 objects and take away a given number. We have also been writing number sentences. In PE, we got the big apparatus out and practised our climbing up and over objects. The children really enjoyed this and listened well reminding themselves of the safety aspects. In RE, we talked about Shrove Tuesday and why it is an important time for Christians to remember Jesus and what he gave up for us. We also made pancakes. We went to Ash Wednesday Mass and had the ashes in the shape of a cross marked on our foreheads. The children have shown lots of higher quality play this week. We have been colour mixing making pink, purple and green. We have also been writing birthday cards to our friends and demonstrating lots of great independent maths learning. Well done to our star of the week, Jordan for achieving every single school value this week!

Willow News

In English this week we have been writing about the adventures of Tiddler the fish. The children listened to the story by Julia Donaldson and then planned and wrote their own story. The children also enjoyed sentences as part of our topic work using who, what, where, when, how and why information. As part of our whole class reading we have started the book "Superdad's Day Off" by Phil Earle. In Maths we have been making 2 digit numbers using Numicon, Dienes blocks and bead strings and have started to explore one more and one less than numbers up to 50. The class has also been identifying even numbers. As part of creative work this week the children made polar bear or fish pictures using the watercolour background they painted before Christmas. On Monday they made their clay animals and we will be painting them next week. In PE we have been doing gymnastics and yoga

Beech News

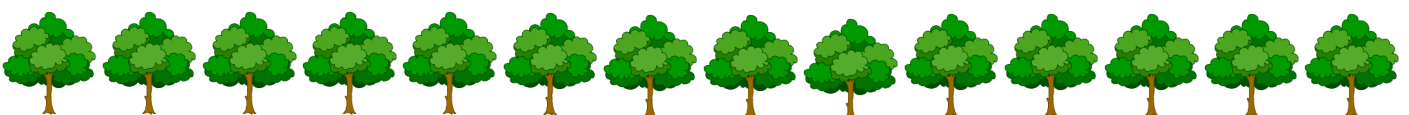
Beech Class have started to write the next chapter in Sir Jack's quest. They have been using all the skills they have learnt previously to write with greater independence for this chapter. In Maths they completed their fractions topic by looking at equivalent fractions and how to notice these. Computing saw the start of a new topic, looking at different artists. They started by looking at impressionism and having a go to make their own pictures using a computer programme. We had a treat of pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and looked at the reason why we have them.

Maple News

This week Maple Class have been starting to explore the story of the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb. In between some of us finishing writing our Egyptian Cinderella stories, we have been learning about how Howard Carter, a British Egyptologist, led the team that discovered the tomb. Howard Carter was an archaeologist who was famous for his thoroughness and the care he took with the things he found. Although he was very talented he didn't have enough money himself to mount an expedition. Luckily, he was friends with Lord Carnarvon, a rich aristocrat who was deeply interested in ancient Egypt. Lord Carnarvon paid for everything but when they got to Egypt they were refused permission to dig for two years by Pierre Lacau, the director of antiquities, who was worried that they would be tomb robbers or looters. When they were eventually given permission, the tomb was found almost by mistake by a boy who was employed as a water carrier. He discovered the steps while scratching in the sand with a stick. When they finally cleared the entrance, Howard Carter made a small hole in the door and shone a torch through. Lord Carnarvon asked him what he saw. He replied, "wonderful things!"

We have finished one topic in Maths - statistics, and started another - length and perimeter. In statistics, we have looked at tables. What they are and how to use them to answer questions. Tables are used a great deal in the world around us, from presenting the outcomes of scientific experiments, to showing us when the next bus is due. Maple Class really impressed us with how quickly and well they could use tables. To start thinking about length and perimeter, we have thought about what units are the most appropriate for different kinds of measurement. Millimetres (mm) are useful for short lengths, like fingernails. Centimetres (cm) for slightly longer lengths, how long is a pencil, or finding out how tall you are. Metres (m) can be useful for measuring larger things like how long is the playground. And kilometres (km) for even longer measures, for instance how far away is London. We used this knowledge to measure lengths both the nearest centimetre and the nearest millimetre.

We have begun our RE topic of Salvation, which will be looking to answer the question, "Why do Christians call the day that Jesus died 'Good Friday'?" To help us answer this we started by ordering Creation, Fall, Incarnation, Gospel and Salvation in the 'Big Story' of the Bible. This gave us a framework to think about the Easter story, and let us consider what Mary would have thought during Holy week. Would she have been full of pride on Palm Sunday? Heartbroken on Good Friday? Amazed on Easter Sunday? As Lent goes on, we will be considering what the Bible tells us about Holy Week. Ready for the celebrations of Easter.





Class News



Chestnut News

In Maths we are continuing with our unit on multiplication and division. We completed problems involving the 9 times table and have worked on fluency with the 7 times tables too. Please keep practising times tables at home as regular short sessions make such a difference.

We have begun to organise our rainforest research ready to write a persuasive letter. We looked over the notes we took before half term and put them under 5 subject headings - biodiversity, medicines, people, oxygen and erosion control. We then worked out a skeleton structure for the letter before writing the introductory paragraph. The children have built up a really good grasp of persuasive techniques and now have the facts they require to create some impressive work.

In Science, we investigated whether we could change the state of wax. We designed an experiment and made observations throughout the progress. We recorded our findings using pictures and scientific process vocabulary. After we completed the experiment we classified it as a reversible change.

We were really fortunate to have the 'Smoothie Bike' experience this week. We learned about food groups and nutrition and had the opportunity to pedal a bike to make our own smoothie. Everyone was then allowed to try it and we all agreed it was delicious!

Ash Wednesday Mass was another highlight of the week and I want to say a huge thank you to Chestnut Class for their fantastic singing and responses to Father John's questions.

Lilac News

In Maths this week, Lilac Class have been multiplying 4 digit numbers by one digit using the formal short multiplication method. It was really important that we did not forget to exchange our digits when we multiplied two numbers and the answer was 10 or above. We then moved onto multiplying 2 digit numbers by 2 digit numbers using the 'area model'. When using this model we partitioned the numbers we were multiplying and showed our answers using pictorial representations. In English this week, we have been looking at 'workhouse poetry' and used these as a stimulus for our own poems. We analysed these poems and looked for examples of rhyme, onomatopoeia, alliteration, metaphors and similes. We then used a thesaurus, and with our talk partner we created a word bank of powerful and rich language that we could use in our own poems. In RE, we finished our unit about Moses and how through him, God brought freedom and salvation to the Hebrew slaves. We learnt about the Ten Commandments and the Covenant of Sinai.

On Tuesday, we each had a turn at pedalling the 'Smoothie Bike'. We learnt about what a balanced diet should consist of and what foods were examples of the different food groups. We then sampled a variety of smoothies that we made using a range of different berries, mascarpone and oat milk. In Topic, we started to learn about health care at the beginning of Queen Victoria's reign and that hospitals were filthy over crowded places that only poor people went to. Rich people would have their own doctor that would come to their house. In Art, we have been creating our own repeated patterns for wallpaper/material based on William Morris designs. We gave our patterns names, just like William Morris did and ensured that we used themes from nature.

Our Class Reading Challenge is going very well and so many of Lilac Class are bringing in their signed reading records into school on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Dr Charles will be going shopping for prizes for the winners at the weekend! The Challenge will start again next Monday. Thank you so much for your support.

Oak News

The first week back has been a busy one for Oak Class!

We have now moved on to the topic of World War Two. We began the week by investigating the causes of WW2 and how they linked to WW1 before focusing in on the topic of D-Day. This was a major mission that played a huge part in ending the war. It took several years to plan and involved collaboration between Great Britain, USA and Canada. We learned that a decoy plan was deployed to try and confuse the Germans and looked at footage and statistics from the landings on the beaches at Normandy. Our first piece of writing this term will be a flashback to D-Day from the point of view of a soldier. After watching a small clip from "Saving Private Ryan", we discussed what emotions the soldiers would have been feeling as they landed at the beaches, we then went on to plan out our flashback on a storyboard. We are looking forward to writing them next week.

In Maths, we are covering the topic of measure. We have started by considering the best units of metric measurement for things such as length, mass and capacity, and have learned how to convert between them. We have now moved onto imperial measurements. We can convert between miles and kilometres as well and have started work on units such as feet, inches, gallons and yards.

Our new topic in Science is light. This week we found out about what light is made of and how it helps us see. We made human models showing the path light takes from the source to our eyes and designed a talk for younger children to help them understand how light enables us to see objects.

Can I remind everyone that payment is due for our class trip next Friday when we will be visiting the Churchill War Rooms. Children can arrive in school at the normal time and will arrive back by 3:50pm. Everyone will need a packed lunch, coat and comfortable shoes. It should be a really interesting excursion.

Also - last call for cereal boxes! Does anyone have any they could bring in? We are using them to make periscopes in Science on Monday. Thank you!



Something to think about.....



What is the order of rotational symmetry of a regular pentagon?

A 2

B 5

C 10

D 15

Coughs and colds

As always, if you have symptoms of a cold or flu, then there are measures you can take to stop germs:

- * Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze. Then bin the tissue, and wash your hands, or use a sanitiser gel.
- * Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after using public transport. Use a sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
- * Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- * Avoid close contact with people who are unwell.

It was lovely to see Mrs Banner back with us today and I know Year 2 enjoyed working with her.

With best wishes

Moirá Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW