

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 2nd May 2025

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.

This week we thought about Doubting Thomas.

Attendance

We continue to work hard to achieve the Attendance expectations from the Department for Education.



Our School gates open at 8:30am every day and School starts at 8:45am.

Whole School attendance was 96% this week.

This Week...

Over the weekend the swimming pool arrived and the children have been very excited to see what happens next. It has taken a while for the pool to fill up and the final preparations will be made over the weekend. The swimming teacher team will be joining us from next week to enable swimming lessons to begin. This is a new and exciting venture for us at St Barnabas and we hope a great success!

Our Year 3 and 4 have continued to be busy learning their lines and it has been lovely to hear their singing across the playground. Next week they will be performing at the Trinity Theatre with costumes, lights and of course the stage – a real show in a week! Thank you again to



everyone who helped raise money to support this annual event and we wish all the children lots of luck. If you would like tickets for the show, please go to the School Shop in Arbor.



VE DAY
80TH ANNIVERSARY
A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION
8 MAY 2025

Next Thursday is the 80th celebration of VE Day or Victory in Europe Day. To celebrate this the children may dress up in red, white or blue or all three!!

Finally, can I kindly remind everyone that PE kits need to be in school every day. We have noticed that several children do not have their full kit in school. Our PE uniform includes a t-shirt, shorts or leggings and trainers or plimsols. As we start to plan for our Sports Day events our children need to have the correct clothing and footwear, in school Monday-Friday.

The Drama Geezers – Now That’s What I Call A Story



Details

Date:

Saturday, 10 May

Time:

11.00am

Cost:

£8.00

Event Category:

Children's and Young Adult Fiction

Book Event

Venue

Little Vic Theatre

Royal Victoria Place

Tunbridge Wells, [Kent](#) TN1 2SS

Summer Sun Safe

In the summer it is important to make sure that your child is being sun safe. We recommend the following precautions;

Sun lotion

- Apply sun lotion at home before school.
- If your child is prone to sunburn, you can send sun lotion into school. **Sun lotion must be designed for children.**
- Sun lotion must be labelled with your child's name and class, and inside a bag. Children must never share lotions.
- Children may 'top up' during the day but they will be expected to put the sun cream on themselves. Only in exceptional circumstances will cream be put on for them. **Please teach your child how to apply sun cream themselves with particular attention to the face (avoiding their eyes).**

Water (must be named)

Please also remember to send in a bottle of water for your child to keep in the classroom. We are able to top up water bottles during the day, so please do not send in a very large bottle as these cause storage issues in the classroom.

Hats (must be named)

Sun hats (especially legionnaire's style) are an extremely good idea. If your child is particularly prone to burning consider cool, long sleeve tops.

Shoes

Please make sure your child is wearing sensible shoes for school. As you know the school has many stairs around the building. **For this reason, backless sandals (i.e flip flops or similar) are not suitable for young children in school.**

Who are the Emotional Wellbeing Team?

Who are we?

We are the Emotional Wellbeing Team at your child's school. Emotional Wellbeing Teams are a government initiative also known nationally as Mental Health Support Teams. We're specially trained to help children at school with their emotional wellbeing and mental health. From time to time, children and young people need additional support with their emotional wellbeing and mental health, so we're here to help. Getting the right support early can prevent problems getting bigger, so that your child can enjoy school, home, time with family & friends, and other activities.

Who can we help?

We provide support to all children in the school, and work together with everyone in the school community to promote a 'whole school approach' to emotional wellbeing and mental health. We also work with children and their parents/carers in group or 1:1 sessions to support with specific problems.

How we can help

We have several ways to support your child, including:

Whole school activities and workshops to promote emotional wellbeing and increase understanding of how to take care of our mental health.

Group and 1:1 sessions to support parents/carers including:

Supporting your children with worries and fears

Understanding your child's behaviour

Website link:

<https://www.nelft.nhs.uk/kent-primary-schools>

Our work in primary schools:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8TVCwJDjU-c>

Zuska Kennard – Senior EWP:

I am so excited to be part of the West Kent team expanding into your school. I am looking forward to working collaboratively to support children, young people and families to promote wellbeing.



Kerri Adofo – EMHP:

"I'm really looking forward to getting to know you all and working alongside you to support the young people in your schools. I am passionate about the difference we can all make when it comes to helping children navigate life's challenges and realising their potential."



Celebration

In our Friday celebration we share our stars of the week, children who are in our Golden Books for showing our School Values, team points and any other celebrations from our School community:

Stars of the Week: Jewel, Reuben, Farah, Jasper, Dexter, Jack, Aser, Molly, Edward, Lena and Alexis.

Team Point winner: Saints.

Please do let us know if you are awarded any achievement outside school– we would love to celebrate!

Keeping in contact

If you would like to contact your child's class teacher here are the class email addresses.

If it is an urgent matter please contact the School office.

Acorn: acorn@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Willow: willow@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Beech: beech@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Maple: maple@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Chestnut: chestnut@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Lilac: lilac@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Oak: oak@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Safeguarding Concerns

Please can we remind everyone that the School Designated Safeguard leads are Mrs Duncombe and Mrs Pring.

If you have any concerns do contact us: safeguarding@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

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.

Please make sure children are dressed in the correct uniform and have a named water bottle everyday. If your child has to wear earrings please can we ask that they are small and not hooped.

And finally...

Have a lovely long weekend and see you on Tuesday!

Moira Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW