

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 10th October 2025

Each child is uniquely created and loved by God.

www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

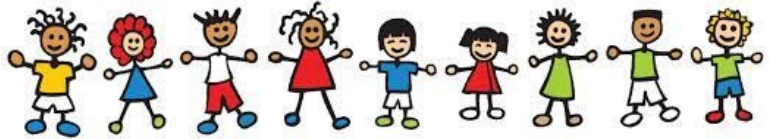


Our School Christian Values are Aspiration, Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion.

We continued to find out about different saints.

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.

This week our attendance as a whole school was 97%.

This Week...

The weather has been kind to us again and it has been lovely to see the children outside enjoying the sunshine. Thank you to everyone who has made sure their child has brought a coat in with them – we do try and go outside whatever the weather!

Please can I remind everyone that trainers are not school uniform and children should be wearing school shoes. We have also noticed children coming in wearing jewellery especially necklaces and bracelets – please can these be left at home!



Today we celebrated our Harvest Festival and it was lovely to hear our children sing about being thankful. A huge thank you to everyone who was able to join and provide a donation. Our Harvest Festival donations will join with those from St Barnabas' Church to go to our local foodbank.

Tonight we have our first PTFA disco evening of the year and I am sure we will have a great time. A huge thank you to the

PTFA team and of course DJ Lollipop!

Next week we have Parent Consultations, which is a chance to see how your child has settled into their new class – please do sign up on Arbor.

What a busy week!

Parking, Parking, Parking

Parking near the school site and considerate road use.

We have received a number of complaints from the school's neighbours regarding inconsiderate, and often illegal, parking by parents accessing the school in the mornings and afternoons, including parking in the zig-zag lines outside school and parking across private driveways. We have also had complaints about parents and children not crossing the road with due care and attention, putting themselves, other pedestrians and the drivers of any cars near the school in danger.



We speak to the children regularly about road safety and keeping safe when crossing the road. You can help us to ensure children have a happy and safe journey into school each morning by considering one of the following:

Walking wherever possible

Not only is this a healthy way to get some exercise, but it supports the local community with congestion. In addition, it is much better for the environment.

Cycling or scooting

We have plenty of spaces to lock a bicycle or scooter inside the school gates. Please note that these are left at the owners risk.

Car sharing

Does anybody else live near you? Could you take it in turns to drive in to collect your children to ease the congestion outside the school at key times during the day?

Parking responsibly

As with the majority of primary schools in the country, we do not have a 'parent' car park. If you do need to drive to drop off or collect your child please park considerately and ensure you are not obstructing drives, garages or access to roads. Please be respectful of our neighbours and remember that parking on zig-zag lines at any time of the day is prohibited. Please also be aware the drive way down to the sub-station is private property and only accessible to the home owners along Quarry Road.

Our children's safety is our main priority and this includes their journey to and from school.

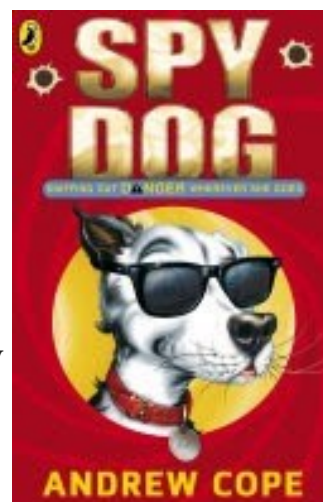
We appreciate your support in this matter.

Safeguarding concern

We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children's books by Andrew Cope, including the *Spy Dogs*, *Spy Cats*, and *Spy Pups* series.

Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back. This link used to go to the author's website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has since been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate adult content.

The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries, and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.



What this means for you:

- If your child has any *Spy Dog*, *Spy Cat* or *Spy Pups* books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.
- It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link.
- We recommend talking with your child about the importance of not following web addresses in books without checking with an adult first.

We will continue to share updates from the publisher as more information becomes available.

School Dates

Monday 13th October: Flu Vaccinations

Monday 13th October - Wednesday 15th October Parent Consultations

Wednesday 15th October: Year 5 trip

Thursday 16th October pm: Boys Football Tournament

Monday 20th October – Friday 24th October: Half term

Wednesday 29th October: Year 6 trip

Thursday 30th October: Open Morning for children joining Reception in September 2026

Tuesday 4th November: Open Morning for children joining Reception in September 2026

Tuesday 4th November: Year 6 trip

Thursday 6th November: Girls Football Tournament

Thursday 4th December: KS1 Nativity

Friday 5th December: KS1 Nativity

Tuesday 16th December: KS2 Carol Service pm

Thursday 18th December: Proposed Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper day

Friday 19th December: End of term.



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:

A huge thank you to everyone who sang, brought harvest gifts and took part in our Harvest Festival.

This week our team point winners will be shared on Monday.

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 weekend.

With best wishes,

Moira Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW