St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 28th November 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 a different proverb and about the importance of remembering.

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 94%.

This Week…

Last Friday we had the Royal Tunbridge Wells Symphony Orchestra come to perform in front of the whole school. The children found out about each instrument which played and also about Englebert Humperdinck! It was a fantastic experience for all our children to see an orchestra perform and we thank them for coming.

Friday also saw our Year 6 and 2 'take over' The Amelia Scott and explore the museum together. The children had a great time and were confident in their differing roles.

On Tuesday our Year 6 went to London to the British Museum to support their Ancient Greek topic and for many it was the first time they had actually been to London and the Museum!

Our Acorn class went to post their letters to Father Christmas on Wednesday and walked so sensibly to the Post Office and back.

Our girls football team went to their finals and Mr G's report can be found at the end of this newsletter. Well done team for working together and showing our school values!

On Thursday our Year 5 children went to The Royal Victoria Place to sing carols to help raise funds for the Demelza House charity – what a brilliant way to start the festive season.

Finally we thank you for all your gifts for our class hampers and we look forward to seeing our KS1 parents and carers at the nativity performances next week.

School Dates

Thursday 4th December 2pm: KS1 Nativity

Friday 5th December 2pm: KS1 Nativity

Friday 12th December: Year 4 trip to the farm (moved from the 9th)

Friday 12th December: The PTFA will be showing a Christmas movie after school and having a few small festive games to play afterwards. There will be refreshments for children to buy during the film, and for any parents/carers who wish to buy afterwards, we will have a card machine too.

Tuesday 16th December 2pm: KS2 Carol Service

Thursday 18th December: Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper day

Friday 19th December: End of term

PTFA News

It has certainly turned colder, but the PTFA are here to bring some festive cheer! Here are some upcoming events we will be running to warm you up and have some fun...

Christmas movie

On Friday 12th December, we will be showing a Christmas movie (title and end time to be confirmed) after school and having a few small festive games to play afterwards. There will be refreshments for children to buy during the film, and for any parents/carers who wish to buy afterwards we will have a card machine too. Look out for more information coming soon.

It's time for our **Festive Class Hampers**!

Every year, each class is invited to make a hamper of goodies to be raffled off to lucky winners. Last year, we held an Own Clothes Day in exchange for a hamper item and this was so successful we're doing it again! This will be on Friday 28th November.

The winners will be drawn after the Christmas movie on Friday 12th December and, as an extra incentive, Mrs Duncombe will pick the best-looking hamper with the prize of pizza for the whole class! Here are this year's colours:

Acorn - Red	Willow - Silver	Beech - Gold	Maple - Green
Chestnut - White	Lilac - Blue/purple	Oak – Orange	

Please hand your donations to class teachers by Friday 28th November. Any food/drink items must be unopened. Children are welcome to dress in Festive/Christmas clothes, or the colour of their class hamper, if they wish! Raffle Tickets are now available on Arbor and will also be sold at the Nativity and hot chocolate sales.

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:

Well done to: Lilya, Henry, Oscar K, Aaliyah, Uriel, Raif, Zaviyar, Eren, Mahe, Jewel, Mya, Max, Henry and Alicia who are our Stars of the Week.

Handwriting awards: Taisiia, Darius, Aser and Francesco.

Well done to our girl's football team.

This week our team point winners were Angels.

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, Mrs Pring and Miss Burkinshaw.

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…

Keep warm this weekend!

With best wishes,

Moira Duncombe @StBarnabasSchoolTW

Virtual train to teach information event

For those finishing university or considering a career change into teaching, Teach Kent & Sussex can help.
Our Ofsted outstanding Teach Kent & Sussex team work with leading national educational charity Ambition institute to offer the best regional bespoke, individualised teacher training programme. Come and meet the Teaching School Directors to learn all about the Teach Kent & Sussex training programme and have your questions answered.

www.teachkentandsussex.org.uk/events/

Football Report

The year 5 and 6 girls football squad impressed yet again as they finished third in their group at a tournament in Uckfield on Thursday. They qualified for this tournament by virtue of their triumph at their last tournament. The girls gave absolutely everything in the hope of replicating this success and they came so close to progressing to the final on the day - they only conceded one goal in 4 matches! As we all expected, they represented the school brilliantly and supported and encouraged each other throughout.

- Mr Goodyer.

Reception places 2026 – 2027

To apply for a place at a Primary School for your child for September 2026, you will need to complete an online form called a Reception Common Application Form (RCAF form for short).

The application process starts on 7th November 2025 and closes on 15th January 2026. You will need to apply at https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places.

You will receive an email on 16th April 2026 after 5pm advising you of your child's offer.