

# St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 6th February 2026

*Each child is uniquely created and loved by God.*

[www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](http://www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk)



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

We found out about being a fisherman

## 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 was 95% and we received a National Award for attendance!

## This Week...

A huge thank you to Applause Theatre for organising an amazing visit last week. Everyone had a magical time and our thanks go to all the adults who organised the event.



On Wednesday, Acorn class came to school to find that a dinosaur had invaded their outside area! After investigating throughout the day they decided it was a Diplodocus!



I am pleased to say that it was last seen heading for the Industrial Estate.... perhaps you saw or heard it on your way to school?

Tonight is our PTFA disco and I hope that we all have a good time! If your child is going please remember no mobile phones or Heelies please.

**The annual Winter Lantern Parade will be taking place in Tunbridge Wells is this Saturday.**

## 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.

Our Stars this week are: Rayan, Vinnie, Grayson, Emily, Mary, Juno, Ivy, Dylan, Aayan H, Debbie, Brijesh, Ishrat and Maryam.

This week our team point winners are Kingdom.

*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](mailto:acorn@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk)

Willow: [willow@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](mailto:willow@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk)

Beech: [beech@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](mailto:beech@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk)

Maple: [maple@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](mailto:maple@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk)

Chestnut: [chestnut@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](mailto:chestnut@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk)

Lilac: [lilac@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](mailto:lilac@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk)

Oak: [oak@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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 and I hope it stops raining!

With best wishes,  
Moira Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW

## **Safer Internet Day Theme this year is AI. Here is some information for parents:**

AI technology is increasingly part of all our lives, so this Safer Internet Day we are starting a conversation about how to use it safely and responsibly. Use these top tips to help keep you and your loved ones safe online.

### **Enjoy going online together and talk regularly about your family's online lives:**

The internet is amazing and can help us all to access information and entertainment. Spend time online with your child to understand how they are using technology and talk together about the good and the bad parts of being online. Talk about your own experiences and find other opportunities to get the conversation started, like stories in the news. Make sure your child knows they can talk to you about anything that they see or experience online.

### **Understand where AI technology is being used and the impact it can have:**

From summaries on search engines, to voice assistants and photo editing tools, AI powered features are being added to many of the apps and devices we use day-to-day. Look out for information and warnings notifying you where AI technology is in use or where content has been created using AI. Help your child to recognise these too. Remember, AI can make some tasks simpler but may also collect data about you and your family, or share unreliable information, so consider how to use it safely and responsibly.

### **Recognise what safe and responsible use of technology looks like:**

To use technology, including AI, safely and responsibly, it's important to reflect on the potential impact it can have on yourself and others. How does your use of technology make you feel? How can you use technology with kindness and respect for others? Does your use of technology benefit you or help you build skills? How might it affect you now, and in the future? Ask these questions of your own internet use, as well as your family's.

### **Stay informed with free resources:**

Young people have told us about the incredible ways they're using AI, but also about their worries for what it means for the future. Issues such as the environmental impact of AI, what it means for job prospects, and the threat of deep-fakes can seem scary but remember, you don't need to have all the answers. Stay informed using free resources like those produced for Safer Internet Day and talk to your child about their concerns about new technology – you can always work together to find more information.

### **Know where to go for help if something goes wrong:**

Like any technology, using AI comes with risks. Some AI tools, like ChatGPT, have built-in reporting features where you can raise issues such as inappropriate or harmful content. Many social media platforms also allow you to report content you suspect has been created with AI. Additionally, AI generated content can break the law. If you see illegal images that show child sexual abuse (including AI generated images), you should report these to the IWF and on the platform where they are being shared. If someone creates an image of you or your child using AI these can also be reported on the platform where they are being shared, and AI generated nude images can be reported to Stop NCII (for images of adults) and Report Remove or Take It Down (for images of under 18s).

Please can we remind you:

- Children in KS1 are given fresh fruit or vegetables as a snack as part of the NHS Free Fruit Scheme. They do not need to bring a snack into school.
- Children in KS2 are allowed to have healthy snacks but please can we ask that they do not have crisps or chocolate biscuits.

7th February 5:30 pm  
From Calverley Precinct  
Tunbridge Wells

Winter  
Lanterns  
A CREATE PRODUCTION

# WINTER LANTERN PARADE 2026

Join the parade!  
This year's theme is  
'Monsters' and you can  
make your own lantern  
at one of our workshops

Book a workshop:  
bit.ly/3qMkj6m



WinterLanternParade createtwells WinterLanterns.org

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS  
TOGETHER  
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT



## February Half-Term: Decorate a Plant Pot and Sow a Seed!

 Wednesday 18 February

 11-11:30am & 11:30am-12pm

 £2 per child

Pre-booking is required. Please text 07916 158577.

Thank you for supporting our charity's mission to empower people on the autism spectrum and with learning disabilities.



Charity no: 1171446 aspens.org.uk

February  
Half-Term

aspens Bluebell  
Café

Cornford Lane, Pembury,  
Kent, TN2 4QU

# Follow your Heart Trail

Tell us what makes  
your heart happy to  
receive a treat

16-20 February, 10am-4pm  
FREE to take part

No pre-booking required, collect an information sheet  
from the Cafe.

Charity no: 1171446 aspens.org.uk