

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

**Newsletter Friday 8th December 2023**

*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.

This week we have found out about the Christmas Story.

## Attendance

We are always challenged to have the best attendance we can and our target this year is 97%. This week our attendance is 93.27%.



Do remember that we close our gates at 8:45am everyday and we finish at 3pm.

## This Week...

As we countdown to Christmas it is not uncommon to walk along one of our corridors and see a sheep or an angel coming in the opposite direction! The children and staff are working incredibly hard and are looking forward to performing next week.

On Wednesday the majority of Year 3 had fun cooking as part of their Healthy Eating Science project:



The children enjoyed not only the cooking but also the tasting afterwards and can't wait for the next time!

Our clubs have come to the end this week and a huge thank you to everyone who has led a club this term.

What a busy week!

## Last Call for Class Hampers:

Each class has been invited to donate goodies to create a colour-themed Christmas hamper. The hampers will be raffled off at the Festive Fair next Friday.

As an extra incentive, Mrs Duncombe will pick the best-looking hamper and the prize will be pizza for the whole class! Here are this year's colours:

- Acorn - Blue
- Willow - Green
- Beech - Purple/pink
- Maple - Gold
- Chestnut - Orange
- Lilac - Red
- Oak - Silver

Please hand donations to class teachers. The deadline for hampers is Monday 11th December.

## Year 5 Carol Singing

On Tuesday our Year 5 went to the local care home to sing Christmas Carols:



The children had a lovely time and were rewarded by a happy audience, squash and cake! Well done Year 5!

## The Winter Mini Challenge is back....



From 1 December children will be able to take part for free via the Reading Agency's dedicated children's website, [wintermini.org.uk](https://wintermini.org.uk), and gain online rewards for reading and reviewing books!

The Reading Agency are teaming up with Youth Sport Trust once more and the Ready, Set, Read superstar team are back for another awesome reading challenge. The theme is sports and games – put simply, we're all ready to have fun and keep active!

All children have to do is read at least three books between **1st December 2023 and 19th February 2024**. They can choose any books they like! Fact books, fiction, joke books, picture books, eBooks, audio books, the choice is theirs and all of these can be reserved and borrowed for free from any Kent library with a child's library card!

Once they've read a book, add it to their website profile (over on the Reading Agency's website) and write a review to let everyone know what you thought. Remember to also log their books online to unlock virtual rewards too!

Read and add just 3 books (or more) to complete the Winter Mini Challenge!

## Year 2 Trip

On Monday Year 2 had fun exploring Frost Fairs and had Mr Beneventi come in to talk to them. He is a qualified London guide and shared with the class what London was like at this time and especially about Frost Fairs.

The class then had a slightly damp but fabulous trip to the ice rink:



The children had a great time and our thanks go to the Year 2 team and also the parents who came along to help.

## Additional dates:

**Friday 15th December @ 2pm: KS2 Christmas Celebration in St Barnabas Church.**

Come along and celebrate the story of Christmas with our children in KS2.

**Monday 18th December: Christmas Jumper and Class Parties**

Come and wear your Christmas jumper for the day and pay £1 to the PTFA.

**Tuesday 19th December:**

Our last day of school and we finish at 3pm

**Thursday 4th January–** Term 3 starts



## PTFA Events

### Hot Chocolate Sales:

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> December: 2.45 to 3.30pm

Grab a hot drink and a sweet treat to warm your spirits on a cold afternoon. Prices 50p - £2. Please bring change. If you are feeling festive, why not join us for some community-spirit carols too on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> - song sheets will be provided!

### Christmas Film:

Friday 15th December: 3.00 to 4.00pm

Pupils are invited to join us to watch **Shaun the Sheep: The Flight Before Christmas (U)**. The film starts straight after school, so pupils can be dropped off at the film by their class teachers. All pupils attending the film must be collected by their designated adult at 4pm. A festive tuck shop will be available. After the film, there will be time for pupils to visit the Festive Fair, but all children must be accompanied by an adult and tickets must be bought in advance from the Arbor School Shop.

### Festive Fair:

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December: 2.45 to 5.00pm

All members of the St Barnabas Community are invited to the St Barnabas PTFA Festive Fair. We warmly welcome you to browse the stalls, do some Christmas shopping, play some games, enjoy a festive treat or do a craft activity. We will also be announcing the winners of the Class Hamper Raffle at 4:45pm! You can buy raffle tickets online in the Arbor School Shop or with cash on the day.

## Friday Worship

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:

Tunmise, Zaviyar, Adam, Spencer, Shashank, Francesco, Saira, Aadhidev, Robert, Einoras, Ryan, Eliska and Poppy.

Well done to Angels for the most team points this week!

## 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)

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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 and Mrs Pring. If you have any concerns do contact us.

## 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.**

## School Dates – Term 2

12th December	KS1 Nativity: 2pm
13th December	KS1 Nativity: 2pm
14th December	Pantomime: Years 2–6
15th December	Christmas Lunch
15th December	KS2 Carol Service: 2pm
15th December	PTFA event
18th December	Class Parties
19th December	Pantomime: Years R&1
	Last day of term

Keep warm and remember it is our Christmas Fair next week!

With best wishes

*Moirá Duncombe*

@StBarnabasSchoolTW