

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

Newsletter Friday 15th December 2023



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

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

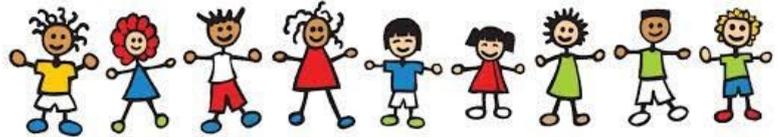


Our School Christian Values are Aspiration, Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion.

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...

This week is always one of the busiest weeks of the School Year. Our KS1 children performed their 'Twinkly Nativity' fabulously and our KS2 children are performing their Carol Service today. Having popped in to a rehearsal, I can tell you that the children's singing is amazing!



## Additional Dates:

**Monday 18th December:** Christmas Jumper and party day.

Come and wear a Christmas jumper with your uniform for the day and pay £1 to the PTFA. Money should be given into class for collection.

**Tuesday 19th December:** Our last day of school and we finish at 3pm.

**Wednesday 3rd January:** INSET no children in school.

**Thursday 4th January:** Term 3 starts.

**Wednesday 10th January:** Free Creative Workshop.

**FREE AFTER SCHOOL CREATIVE WORKSHOP**  
with Simon Batchelor

Join Simon of The Drama Geezers and 64 Million Artists to celebrate The January Challenge. A free family after school drop-in where you can immerse yourselves in a variety of creative story worlds!

Come along and create your own characters, try on costumes and use props to spark imaginations and bring your stories to life through acting, drawing and writing.

All story characters need fuel, so biscuits and cake will be provided. FREE to attend.

AS PART OF:  
**THE JANUARY CHALLENGE 2024**

**WEDNESDAY**  
10 JAN 2024

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

ST BARNABAS C OF E  
PRIMARY SCHOOL

OPEN TO ALL AGES. CHILDREN MUST BE  
ACCOMPANIED AT ALL TIMES

SCAN TO REGISTER  
FOR YOUR FREE  
TICKET OR VISIT  
LU.MAJ/ACTITOUT

Illustration: Shya Sam

## 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](http://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!



## 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.

Congratulations to Fred and Audrey who have both had their photos selected for the 'Blooming Marvellous' photo competition 2023, on the theme of 'Portraits of a Wildflower'. Their pictures will form part of 20 images displayed at Royal Victoria Place, at the Lower Level between the Superdry and the Vintage Emporium shops.

## 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.

## 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.**

## St Barnabas' Parish Church Service times

### Saturday 16th December:

4pm – Community Carols Service.

### Christmas Eve:

11am – Parish Mass.

4pm – Children's Crib and Christingle Service.

12Midnight – Midnight Mass.

### Christmas Day:

11am – Mass.

A huge thank you to all our Staff who work so hard to make our school so amazing!  
Keep warm and as this is our last newsletter of the term may I wish you a very Happy Christmas and I look forward to seeing you all in 2024.

With best wishes  
*Moira Duncombe*

@StBarnabasSchoolTW