

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 13th March 2026

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 found out about walking in other people's shoes.

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 is 96% - nearly at our target of 97%!

This Week...

After the busy-ness of last week, this week has been a 'normal school week.' The children have continued to work hard, especially our Year 3 and 4 children who are preparing for their performance next week. Have you purchased your tickets yet?



Keeping with the English or literacy theme...have you seen some of our older children with blue lanyards? Some of our children applied to be reading ambassadors at the start of the year and they take it in turns to read to other classes during the week. Our ambassadors are very proud of their roles and enjoy sharing different stories and those who listen love to hear them! It is also lovely to see and hear conversations in the playground between different year groups discussing the stories being read and also asking for a specific story next time! What stories were you read to when you were at Primary School?

Thank you to everyone who purchased books through the Scholastic Book Club. Through the books purchased by parents, we were able to buy school atlas' for our older KS2 children.

We will be shortly sending out information regarding our next round of Parent Consultations. Do make sure you sign up and find out more about what your child is learning.

Next Friday, 20th March, is Red Nose Day and children can wear red for the day and donate to Comic Relief, either in cash on the day or in the Arbor School Shop.

Please see information in this newsletter about our Sponsored Walk this year.....we have a few printed copies of the donation form available to collect from the School Office if you need one.

Spring Sponsored Walk



Exciting news! Spring is finally here and what better way to celebrate the changing of the season than with a sponsored walk?

On **Wednesday 1st April**, every child in the school will be getting out of the classroom, putting on their walking shoes and completing a Wind in the Willows themed Spring Sponsored Walk to raise money for the Year 3 and 4 Show-in-a-Week production.

- Acorn and Year 1 will complete a 1.5km route.
- Years 2 to 6 will complete a 3km route.

We desperately need to raise funds to make sure that the show-in-a-week concept can continue and become a regular part of the school calendar. So please, get involved and start raising sponsorship money straight away!

We kindly ask that you approach family members, friends and neighbours and ask them to pledge money in support of your child's walk. Sponsors could pledge a total amount for the entire walk or choose to pledge an amount per km.

We also kindly ask that all sponsorship money is collected and handed in to school no later than **Friday 24th April**. Sponsorship raised in cash can be handed in to the school office in a named envelope. Sponsorship payments can also be made using the Arbor School Shop.

As you may remember, last year Mrs Mackinnon organised small prizes and an Alice in Wonderland Tea Party to reward children who engaged with the sponsorship element of the event. This year, Mrs M has some more small gifts and another magical experience up her sleeve. If you would like to be involved, please make sure you start raising sponsorship money as soon as possible. Please keep an eye out for further details.

If you would like to join us on our walk and become an additional adult helper, please contact the School Office and register your interest.

If you have any questions regarding the sponsored walk, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Mackinnon directly.

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.

This week we congratulated: Jayden, Lena-Mae, Oscar K, Mina, Oliver G, Robert, Oliver D, Arlo, Moyo, Ivaan, Benedita, Evie and Alicia.

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

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...

Have a lovely weekend!

With best wishes,
Moira Duncombe