

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

**Newsletter Friday 27th March 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.

In our worship this week we explored holy week.

## Attendance

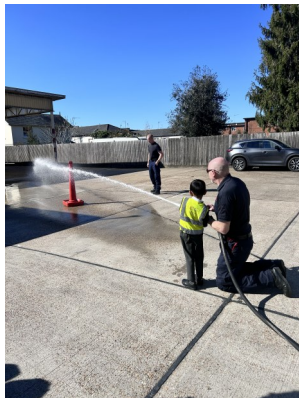


We continue to work hard to achieve the Attendance expectations from the Department for Education. Our School gates open at 8:30am every day and School starts at 8:45am.

This week our attendance is 94%. There are still coughs and colds around!

## This Week...

As mentioned last week our Reception class went to visit our local fire station. The children had a super time and were very excited to see inside a fire engine:



Thank you to everyone who came to Parent Consultations this week to discuss your child's progress. Please do contact your child's teacher via the class emails below (if you have not been able to see them yet) to book an appointment.

This week, our children from Year 2 upwards took part in the Into-Film Festival and went to the Trinity Theatre to watch a film with Year 5 and 6 watching Paddington 2 and children in Years 2- 4 watching Pets on a Train.

This is a free event to enable children to access cinema and we are very thankful that we are able to attend these screenings.

Thank you to everyone who dressed up and contributed to Red Nose Day. As a school we have raised £215 so far which is fantastic! Donations can be made via Arbor until the end of term.



Message from Mr Goodyer:

At football club on Thursday, there was a tournament which saw pupils from year 2 up to year 6 being mixed to create 4 teams. Mr Goodyer and Paul (the dad of Henry in year 6 and Oliver in year 2) officiated the tournament which was played in a spirit befitting the school. It was a great culmination to another successful term of football club at St Barnabas. Although every participant was a winner in our eyes, the victorious team was the team featuring Cansu, Luke (year 6), Cristian, Aser, Finn, and Oliver.

**Did you see in the news today?**



Children under the age of five should be limited to one hour of screen time a day, while under-tuos should not be watching screens alone, new government guidance says.

It advises parents to steer clear of fast-paced videos and use screens together where possible. The guidance also suggests "screen swaps" - taking screens away to read stories together or playing simple games at mealtimes.

The guidance is the first evidence-backed, practical advice issued by the government, but ministers say it will be kept under review as more evidence emerges.

"This is still quite an unknown area in lots of respects and we've taken a precautionary approach," Education Secretary Bridget Phillipson said.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/c1d936n7445o>

## 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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: Daniel, Tiara, Melodie, Lucy, Leo, Darcey, Tumise, Spencer, Sydnie, Billy, Ellis, Vrishank and Cansu.

Congratulations to Emily who finished level 4 in swimming and to Tumise who entered competitions for reading and piano and came second in both!!!

Chess Club success: Winner – Francesco; Silver medal to Billy and Ellis and Bronze medal to Debbie.

This week our team point winners are Saints.

*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](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.

With best wishes,  
Moira Duncombe



# PURE FC TEAM TRIALS

2026/27

**CURRENT YEAR 1 - YEAR 6**  
**Wednesday 22nd April**  
**Longmead Stadium**



**Training and Matches at Longmead Stadium**  
**Highly competitive teams and leagues**  
**Pathway into Tonbridge Angels FC**  
**Links with professional clubs**  
**Qualified coaches**



apply here or at

<https://www.purefootballacademy.co/trials>