

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 11th September 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 discussed this week Beginnings, Middles and Ends!

Attendance



As we start our new year together expectations for daily attendance are still high and being set by the Department for Education. Attendance this week is 97%

Our school gates open at 8:30am every day and School starts at 8:45am.

This Week...

What a busy week! Our Acorn children have joined us on Monday and it has been lovely to see them coming into class so well and getting to know them during their settling in sessions. From next week the children will be staying all day and finding out more about their class and the school. Do remember to see the class page on our website for information linked to what the children are learning. One highlight in Acorn this week was their new class rug being delivered:



The children love the colours and are very pleased with this new addition.

Yesterday some of our children completed their PESE or 11+ assessments and all the children completed them with great care. Well done team and thank you to other members of Year 6 who moved out of their classroom especially – they got to enjoy the Outside Classroom.

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: Arabella, Noah L-M, Oscar F, Zeni, Leo, Millie O, Riaan, Salah, Ajus, Atiyyah, Lacie, Alina and Brijesh.

Congratulations also to Dylan, Nellie, Spencer, Aayan. C, Ajus, Finn, Dexter and Atiyyah for achieving their handwriting awards.

Congratulations to Bella who in August competed in Brighton & Hove Triathlon and came 2nd in her age group – amazing!



Congratulations to Reuben (Year 6) and Tunmise who completed this year's Reading Challenge... did you go the library this summer? Please bring in your certificates to show us!

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

Help needed

Do you have time each week to come into school and hear some of our children read? Reading is such an important skill, and our children would love to read to an adult.

Training would be given... do let the office know if you can help.

Heritage Open Days

As always at the start of the new School year, we are opening the school as part of **Heritage Open Days** on **19th September** from **10am - 3pm**, and we'd love for you to join us!

Our school is proud of its history and its place within this community and we enjoy sharing that with you on this day.

We welcome back the team from NT Scotney Castle who provided us with so many wonderful and creative family workshops last year; there will be many opportunities again this year to try different activities including this year a '1920's selfie studio', art, crafts and gardening. We will also have on display the Headteachers Log Books going back to the opening of the school. **All of the activities are free**. Last year we had a record number of people join us, but there is always room for more. There will also be refreshments available on the day, courtesy of the PTFA.

We hope you can join us in recognising and celebrating the unique heritage of our school community.

Come curious, leave inspired

We look forward to seeing you there!

Message from Dave:

Are you able to lend a hand on Heritage Day for 30 mins to 1 hour, helping to meet and greet by the office, support the activities or help with refreshments? If you are, could you contact Dave on 07966190428, dprodrick@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk or catch me on the playground at the start and end of the day,

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 every day. If your child has to wear earrings please can we ask that they are small and not hooped.

And finally...

Do remember that the children need to have their PE kits and coats with their names in them every day and I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes,

Moirá Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW