

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 18th 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 reminded ourselves about who was St Barnabas and how important it was to encourage others.

Attendance



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

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

This Week...

What a wonderful week! It has been a real privilege to walk through the school and hear all the amazing learning currently happening. During the Summer our IT systems had an upgrade and so our children in their computing lessons have been finding out about computing systems and networks. Our Year 6 have explored 'Google Classroom' and found out how to login and also how to access their home learning, to prepare them for Secondary school.

As a school we have been reading the story 'Something Else' by Kathryn Cave. The children have explored the story and have created some beautiful pieces of work across the school. Reading is such an important skill so please do read with your child every day.

Tomorrow our School is open as part of the Heritage Open days. Do come and see our school, take part in activities and find out more about the history of our school and building. Did you know the Foundation Stone of our school was placed in 1896 and we will be celebrating this as part of a special Service at the end of September.

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.

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: Hudson, Ella, Aaliyah, Naher, Vedhashree, Gianluca, Aiden, Robert, Tilly, Adam, Eloise and Cody.

Congratulations to Lacie and Zayn for achieving their handwriting awards.

Well done to Angels for achieving the most team points.

Congratulations to Emily who not only completed her reading challenge but also published her own book.

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

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.

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

Heritage Open Days

As always we are opening the school as part of **Heritage Open Days** on **19th September 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!



Kent Libraries

Local History Event

Do you love history and want to find out more?

Visit Rusthall library for an opportunity to meet
representatives of local groups
and find out what they do

Rusthall Library

Saturday 26 September, 10am – 2pm

- West Kent Community Diggers
- Friends of the Common
- Speldhurst History Group
- Learn about Mudlarking with Warren Silk

Free event – no need to book, just drop in.
Refreshments available

PTFA Uniform sale

Did your child grow over summer? Uniform looks a little small? We can help! There will be a pre-loved uniform sale next Wednesday 23rd September from 3.10pm and Thursday 24th September 8.30-9am. All trousers will be on sale at only 50p! Other items such as jumpers cost only £1.50 each.

Dave Prodrick, the school's Family Liaison Officer, will also be around on Thursday morning if you need to ask him about anything.

If you would like to donate uniform no longer needed, you can drop it into the Outdoor Classroom Monday to Wednesday next week, or to our collection bin, 'Binny', in the hall foyer.

If you are having a sort out over the weekend, we'd love to take clean uniform items please! If you can, please remove your child's names from items.

If you are able to help with the sales please contact ptfa@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk.

Come and grab a bargain!

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