

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 16th October 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 this week who St Cadoc was.

Attendance



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

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

This Week...

This week has been a week of enrichment experiences for our older children:

On Tuesday our Football team played against St James' in a friendly match. It was their first time playing together this year - Mr Goodyer and Mr Mackinnon were very pleased with everyone. Although the score was against our team it did not reflect the passion of the players and they look forward to their next game.



Our Year 6 children went to visit a farm as part of their Science topic and although they battled with the rain, they had a great time finding out about life on the farm and how it needs to adapt the work it carries out to enable success.



Yesterday Lilac Class spent the day visiting the Science Observatory at Herstmonceux.

"We initially threw ourselves into a wide range of hands-on outdoor and indoor activities about Earth, Space, Light and Forces. We then took part in a Sun, Moon and Earth workshop, where we found out many interesting facts about the movement of these spherical bodies. In the afternoon, enjoyed a Planetarium Talk. We visited the constellations, the Sun, the Moon, Mars and Jupiter, as well as Betelgeuse!"

TRINITY THEATRE: HALF TERM WORKSHOP

MON 26 OCT 2026

For School Years 3 – 6

Join us for some half term fun with artist Hannah Whittaker as we step into a world of light, shadow, and storytelling in this hands-on shadow puppet workshop for children. Through playful activities like creating silhouettes and profiles, designing their own moving puppets, and building miniature scenery, children will develop skills they can easily continue at home using everyday materials.

10am – 12pm: For School Years 3 & 4

1pm – 3pm: For School Years 5 & 6

Tickets cost £25, or £20 with a valid GO Card



If you would like to contact the PTFA their email address is:

PTFA@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

We are looking to have a School Disco at the end of November so if you are able to help please let us know **ASAP!**





Tunbridge Wells district libraries have some fun activities and initiatives planned for October.

Perfect for Half-Term.

Tuesday 27 October - Gruffalo activity at Sherwood library, 1.00 - 2:30pm

Join us for a fun and imaginative workshop inspired by Julia Donaldson's much-loved story The Gruffalo. This session encourages families to enjoy stories together, spark creativity and build a love of reading through play.

The session is free, but booking is required.

Please email sherwoodlibrary@kent.gov.uk for more information.

Thursday 29 October - Discover, Explore, Create - Halloween Fun at Sherwood Library, 10am - midday

This October half-term, children are invited to enjoy our free Halloween themed drop-in activities. From creepy crafts to spooky creations, there is plenty of fun to discover.

Free drop-in session.

Please email sherwoodlibrary@kent.gov.uk for more information

Rusthall Library - Welly Boot and Raincoat Swap (during October)

We are looking for donations for our Welly Boot swap at Rusthall library. Please drop off good condition, clean boots and raincoats (all ages welcome) at the library and find something new to take away.

Please email rusthalllibrary@kent.gov.uk for more information

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 congratulate: Jaxon, Sammy, Elias, Peggy, Rohullah, Tharsith, Lucy, Khloe, Riaan, Ivy, Finn, Mila, Juan and Reuben (Year 6).

Well done to Sydnie and Moyo for achieving their handwriting awards.

Well done to Angels for achieving the most team points.

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

And finally...

Have a lovely weekend!

With best wishes,

Mrs Duncombe

School website: www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk