

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 21st October 2016

Living and Learning Together www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk

Dates and Reminders

Can we remind you that dogs **are not** allowed on the school premises.

Secondary applications close
31st October
www.kent.gov.uk/ola

PTFA AGM
Friday
4th November
9am Library

Also please make sure that you do not park or stop on the zigzag lines outside the school. This is for the safety of all our children.

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Have you seen our new bins?

Attendance –

As a whole school we have an attendance target of 96% to achieve. Last week the best class was Acorn- well done. Here is the breakdown for each class:

Acorn	98%
Willow	95.3%
Beech	96 %
Maple	93.3%
Chestnut	91.4%
Lilac	96.62%
Oak	96.15%



This Week in School

Thank you to everyone who came to help last Saturday and especially Juraj who organised us and spent all day making sure the Acorn cover was made safe. The weather was kind and we were able to update Willow's fence as well. At a later date, we will be updating Acorn's fence and some of our other fenced areas.

On Tuesday over twenty new families came to look at our school for places in Acorn next September. It was wonderful to show our school and we have another open morning on Tuesday 15th November from 9.30am.

It has been lovely to see so many parents coming in to find out about their child's progress during our consultations this week. If you have not made contact with your child's teacher please do so via the school office.

Last Friday we recognised four of our extreme readers who read in different places over the summer holiday. Where will you be reading next week?

This week in class:

Acorn

This week, we have been learning the 'n' phoneme; we have been making beautiful night time artwork and discussing how night and day are different. We have also been making necklaces and nests to help us hear the 'n' phoneme at the beginning of these words. We have been using coloured sand in shallow trays to write some graphemes and lots of words. In Maths, we have been learning to compare groups using the words 'more' and 'less', and we have begun to use numicon to think about the difference between two numbers (e.g. how many more do you have?). We have been noticing the seasonal changes we can see around the school and have been discussing why these changes happen in autumn.

Willow

In Maths this week Willow Class have been learning about sharing objects into two groups, odd and even numbers and they have been practising their measuring skills with a ruler. In English the children have been identifying rhyming words. They have written rhymes following the pattern of 'Pussy Cat, Pussy Cat, where have you been?' and we have started talking about alliteration. We have been doing some more work on our creation display in the classroom and have added mountains, the stars and moon, some animals and a rainbow. We have also looking at a world map to find different countries, continents and oceans.

Beech

Our second poetry performance was outstanding!! Words learnt to perfection and awesome actions. Tally charts were drawn today in Maths sharing our choice of ice creams. We interpreted the data to understand which flavour was the most and least favourite. Our tennis skills are improving with some brilliant shots and catches in PE. Our last RE session on the church lead us to reflect on 'What is the Church?' and how we can show love to other people as the church. We wrote prayers for those we know and those from Syria who are in need.

Maple

It has been another busy week in Maple, and a lovely end to our first term.

On Wednesday we had our class Divali party and spent the morning preparing for it by making traditional coconut sweets, lanterns and paper Rangoli patterns. The children all painted and decorated their Diva lamps and are excited about bringing them home.

We have continued to learn about aspects of the Stone Age, with a focus on food and hunting. We investigated what food people were able to hunt for and gather, how they hunted and the cooking methods they used. The children then created Stone Age menus that could certainly rival Heston Blumenthal! They also created storyboards to explain a particular hunting method.

This week in Maths we have had a real focus on fluency in times tables. This year, the children are expected to know the 3, 4 and 8 times tables, to add to the 2, 5 and 10 times tables they learnt last year. It is a good idea to practice these little and often.

It was lovely to see so many parents at consultation this week. If you could not make the appointment and would like to see me, please catch me on the playground to arrange another date.

Have a wonderful half term break.

Chestnut

Chestnut Class have had a fun week. In our class book, Hiccup has to tell jokes to Toothless so that he will catch fish for him. We have been thinking up our own jokes to tell and looking at the different punctuation needed within them. We have also used the skills we have learnt so far this term to write predictions as to what we think will happen next in the book. In Maths we have been practicing our 3, 4, 6 and 8 times tables through lots of practical games. Our spellings have focused on adverbs and we have been learning how to use these in sentences.

The children learnt to recognise prepositions in SPaG (beside, above, next to, underneath, inside, than, from, with etc). In Maths the children have been classifying 3D shapes and making shapes using polydron. In Science the children learnt about how sound travels through liquid and solids. In RE the children interviewed Father John, asking him some very thought provoking questions about how the Bible can help Christians.

Lilac

In Maths this week Lilac Class have been continuing their work about ordering and comparing fractions and have looked at problem solving related to fractions. In English, we have been re-drafting our extended piece of writing about life in the workhouse, focusing on our reading of chapter five from 'Street Child'. In RE we have been considering the names Muslims use for God and have been comparing these with Christian examples. We have also been learning key facts about the Qur'an and understanding its importance for Muslims. Lilac Class moved on to think about our own responses to some moral teachings in the Qur'an. In Science, we have been making predictions about whether materials are good insulators or conductors by constructing a variety of electrical circuits to test our ideas.

Oak

Once again this week, we were lucky with the weather for Oak's trip to the British Museum. We visited the Greek exhibition rooms which enhanced our learning about Ancient Greece.

In our Maths work, we have been working on formal methods of division and in Grammar we have been using hyphens and prepositional phrases!

All the children have worked hard this term and were excellent ambassadors for the school on both of our trips to London.

Notes from Dave:

Parent Coffee on a Monday - Do come into the school hall after drop off and have a cup of tea or coffee. It is a chance to get to know other parents at the school and find out more about what is happening- it would be lovely to see you there!

PTFA dates coming up...

Saturday 12th November Craft Workshop

Saturday 26th November PTFA Christmas Fayre 11- 2pm

Saturday 4th February Lantern Parade



Something to think about:

How many ways can you make the number 40?



I hope you have a lovely half term and look forward to seeing you on Monday 31st October

Moirá Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW