

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 25th November 2016

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

HELP

Does anyone have a toy Koala we can borrow for the KS1 play? Please see Miss Williams if you can help!

Dates and reminders

Saturday 10th
December 4pm
PTFA Christmas
Concert in the
school hall

Tuesday 13th
December 9:30am
KS1 Nativity
in
the school hall

Thursday 15th
December 9:30am
KS1 Nativity
in
the school hall

Thursday 15th
December
6pm
KS2 Christmas
Concert in the
church

Our Christmas Fair is tomorrow...



St Barnabas School Christmas Fair

*Craft Gifts
Edible Gifts
Games &
Activities
Prize Raffle
Bottle Tombola
Kids' Tombola
Face Painting*

**BBQ
Hot Drinks
Mince Pies
Cakes**

Xmas Trees for sale *Plus Special Guest!!*

Saturday 26th November 2016 11am-2pm
Quarry Road, TN1 2EY



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We look forward to seeing you there.



This Week in School

On Monday Years 1 and 2 went up to the Assembly Hall to find out about road safety. The children enjoyed the show and I hope shared with you what they found out. Carrying on this theme a letter came home from our local PCSO regarding parking, especially outside the school. Please make sure that you park in a safe space and not on the crossing- thank you.

We are looking forward to our Christmas Fair tomorrow and thank everyone who has helped to get the Fair ready.

The children in KS1 are really trying hard to learn all their words for their production and I must say the singing is already sounding great!

This week in class:

Acorn

This week, we have been learning the 'e' phoneme. We have been on an egg hunt and have been learning to make 'loopy' patterns with dance ribbons and then with crayons on big pieces of paper. The children have done some amazing writing this week - writing simple words such as met, pen, and set.

In Maths, we have continued learning to write numbers to 10 and have been counting groups of objects before writing numbers as labels for these groups. We have been learning about the Christmas story and have been working really hard to learn lots of songs for our Nativity. In our play, we have been writing numbers, colouring beautiful pictures, exploring the drawing software on our interactive whiteboard, building castles and acting out stories.

Willow

This week Willow Class have been doing some work on road safety following our trip to the Assembly Hall on Monday to watch Captain Safety. The children have been making posters to tell people how to cross the road safely and learnt a road safety song. In English the children have started writing an animal fact file and been looking at the features of non-fiction texts. In Maths the children have been undertaking number investigation to find different pairs of numbers that make different totals up to 20. We have also started practising for our Nativity play. It is important that children continue to practise their lines.

Beech

In RE Ursula wrote about her experience of being the 'Bride' last week. "I felt very excited and nervous. I had my wedding. I love God especially as he is in the wedding. At the party I had so, so, so, so, much fun! By the way the cake was so beautiful, it was red velvet!" Everyone in Beech Class showed us how much they learnt and understood the emotions of a wedding. In English we looked at how we could expand noun phrases by adding in adjectives to make the sentences more exciting. Maths time today was practising our fractions, counting in halves and working out where we would put $\frac{1}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ on a length. In PE we are developing our Infant Agility and practised the 'w' press pass again, in and out of a circle, working as a team. Beech Class are practising their Nativity songs beautifully. Please practise any lines which come home. Thank you so much.

Maple

We have been planning our own versions of Jack and the Beanstalk, inspired by the Indian Folk tales we have been reading. We identified key characters and summarised the plot. The children have also worked on extending their descriptions of settings, looking at Jack's house and the Giant's castle. We have agreed to change Jack to Hanuman, the Giant to Ravana, and the beanstalk will be a giant mango tree. Next week I expect to read some very exciting stories!

The children had a wonderful time with Mrs Smallcombe on Wednesday. Using different types of chocolate, they created igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary 'rock'...and I believe they may also have sampled some too! Mrs Smallcombe was really impressed with how sensible the children were and how much they know about the different rock types. Well done Maple, and thank you Mrs Smallcombe.

Chestnut

We have been looking at Roman Numerals this week and how they have been influenced through time. We have also been having fun thinking of Shakespearean insults and how he played with language. The children have been describing imaginary characters, using similes. They looked at what makes an effective simile and how to use them well. We have been using the internet to research Viking times and the different designs they could have had for their shields.

In Science the class examined the different food groups (by tasting). They then thought about what makes a healthy diet. In RE the class thought about 'Jesus the Light of the World' and what this means. They wrote poems to reflect their feelings.

Lilac

In Lilac Class this week we have been finding out about how to measure the area of a given shape. We have been reading poetry about the workhouse and creating our own poems. In Science we have been finding out about dissolving and have written up an investigation making sure we are clear in our explanation.

We are enjoying our PE sessions on a Wednesday and Thursday, please can the children make sure they have their kit in school on those days.

Oak

We have been finding out about the Elgin Marbles this week. The children have worked very hard at writing a persuasive letter to the British Museum. They had to decide whether they thought the marbles should stay in the British Museum or be returned to Athens. After making their decision, the children then had to write a persuasive letter.

In Maths, we have been working on adding, subtracting and simplifying fractions. Some of us also worked on multiplying and dividing fractions.

We have continued our drawings of hoplites and triremes during our topic work.

Attendance –

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

| | |
|----------|---------|
| Acorn | 95.61 % |
| Willow | 96 % |
| Beech | 98.65 % |
| Maple | 97.67 % |
| Chestnut | 98.57 % |
| Lilac | 97.78 % |
| Oak | 94.78 % |

Supporting the Brain Tumour Trust.

I am sure you are all aware of the sad news that one of our mums has died from a brain tumour. As a school community we send our love and best wishes to Ben, Flora and Olivia.

The family have set up a Justgiving page in memory of Kate and if you would like to support their chosen charity here is the link:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/KateJSaunders>

ASD Drop in

Just a reminder that the ASD Drop in for parents (children do not need diagnosis) is on Tuesday 22nd November 1-3pm at the Sunrise Children's Centre, Southborough.



Something to think about:

What do you notice about the numbers you can divide by 5?



There will be a PTFA Christmas Concert on the 10th December at 4pm in the school hall. Those of you who came to the summer one will know what talent we have here. We will be charging for the tickets this time, £3 for adults and £2 for children (under5 free) this will include a drink and a mince pie. This will be a great event to get you in the mood for Christmas. Ticket numbers are limited so order direct from Dave 07966 190428 or via school office. To form part of the concert we are asking for your memories of Christmas please write them down and give to the school office or email them to dprodick@st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk please include your name and phone number.

Thank you.

SCHOOL NURSE Drop in

Our current school nurse is going to come to our coffee morning on Monday 5th Dec. Do come along and have a chat. She will be bringing along with her our new school nurse.

Christmas Lunch is on Tuesday 22nd December. A flier is coming home today. Please sign up even if you usually have a Free Lunch. Fish and chips will now be on Wednesday 23rd December.

Goodbye

As we all know Mr Speziale will be leaving us next week and we will be sad to see him go. He has been with the school for four years and has been an active member of the staff team. We wish him well on his next exciting adventure.

To the staff, parents and families at St Barnabas Primary School

Sadly it is now time for me to move on.

I began teaching here in 2012 and the school has changed in many ways since then. Over the past 4 years I have seen so many children grow up to become mature, thoughtful and caring individuals, the type of people who will go out and make a real difference in the world.

I will miss teaching you here, the great discussions that we've had in classes over the years and your smiling, thoughtful and sometimes intent faces during lessons.

Most of all, I will miss the times that we all spent in the hall singing together and especially our fabulous Christmas Nativities.

It has been a great pleasure to have had the opportunity to get to know you all over the past 4 years.

All the best,

Michael Speziale

Looking forward to seeing you tomorrow.

Last week we raised £166 for Children in Need- thank you.

Moira Duncombe@StBarnabasSchoolTW