

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 16th December 2016

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

Dates and Reminders

Tuesday 20th
December
Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 21st
December
School finishes @
3pm

Services at St Barnabas Church

Family Carol Service
- Sunday 18th Dec
@ 4pm

Family Christingle
Service - Saturday
24th Dec @ 4pm

Midnight Mass -
Saturday 24th Dec
@ 12 am

Christmas Day
services - Sunday
25th December,
Low Mass @ 8:30 am
Sung Mass @ 10 am.

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School starts on
Wednesday 4th
January 2017



This Week in School

Well done to everyone!! All our children read, sang beautifully and really tried hard:



My thanks go to everyone who helped make both events so special.

I am pleased to inform everyone that Mr Mackinnon will be joining us after Christmas to teach alongside Mrs Banner. He is a very experienced teacher and we look forward to him joining our team next term.

We are saying hello to a new member of staff but goodbye to Pippa who will be retiring from the After School Club this Christmas. She has worked tirelessly over the many years at the club and we thank her for the huge contribution she has made to the school community. We will share with you next week the staffing arrangements for the new year.

After Christmas we will be sending out information regarding a vacancy for a Parent Governor. With Jessica Parkin moving to New Zealand we have a vacancy. The role of the Governor helps support and challenge me as Headteacher of St Barnabas' School. We work together to get the best for the children in the school so please do have a think about whether you would like to be part of our Governing body.

This week in class:

Acorn

This week we have been learning the d phoneme. We have been reading rhyming stories such as 'The Cat in the Hat' and talking about the patterns we notice in the language. In Maths, we have been learning to use positional language by describing where something is e.g. under, behind, next to, beside. We have been busy writing Christmas cards in our Post Office role-play area and have been drawing Christmas pictures and trying to label the items we have drawn.

Willow

This week Willow Class have been busy with our Christmas play and have started some Christmas activities. In Phonics we have revisited the trigraphs ure, air and ear and have been practising reading and writing words and sentences containing these sounds. In Maths we have been practising counting in 2s, 5s and 10s forwards and backwards. They have been recalling number bond facts and finding missing numbers in some number sequences. The children have also started making their own Nativity story booklet, making Christmas cards, decorating baubles and making a Christmas display in the classroom.

Beech

What an astounding Nativity performance! Well done to all of Acorn, Willow and Beech. Beech Class have made Christmas cards this week which contain a Christmas poem. We had a lot of fun thinking of words to use and every member of Beech Class had great ideas. The extra fun part was decorating the front! I won't give away the details in case they are keeping the card as a surprise to give on Christmas Day! As I won't be here for the last 3 days next week I wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas, with love from Mrs Banner.

Maple

A huge thank you to everyone who prepared for, took part in and came to support the Key Stage 2 Carol Concert on Thursday. I hope you agree that it was a wonderful event. The children worked very hard to get ready for this and I felt so proud of them.

In class we have done some excellent work on calculating perimeter. The children were able to work out the perimeter of shapes and equilateral triangles because they used their shape and times table knowledge. They are becoming used to applying calculation skills to help them in all areas of maths. A fantastic achievement.

We have been lucky to have a whole day of Christmas crafts organised by Mrs White. A big thank you for that!

Chestnut

Chestnut Class have started to get in the Christmas spirit this week. We have been practising our Christmas Carols for the Concert, writing emails to Santa and using pointillism for Christmas silhouettes. We finished our learning about Vikings by discussing different types of media, ending by comparing the book and the film of 'How to Train your Dragon'.

Chestnut Class wrote some wonderful Christmas-inspired poetry, they used a range of techniques and presented them beautifully. The children enjoyed making 'Christingles', in RE. They reflected on the meaning of each part and had some expert input from Fr John. The children took part in a 'Christmas craft' workshop and enjoyed a 'fun' swimming session, to end the term.

Lilac

We have been working on word problems and becoming more confident in answering these tricky questions about Maths.

We have also been getting ready for our Christmas Concert and we were really proud of Vanessa who sang the solo to Once in Royal David's City. Miss Charles has been back with us and it has been nice to see her looking well.

A huge thank you to Mr MacTear who has been teaching us whilst Miss Charles has been off. He will be leaving us next week but I am sure he will be back in school another time.

Oak

What amazing children we have in Oak Class who read so clearly and sang so well last night. Today in our Christmas Craft day the class have been supporting others across the school and have been a real credit. Well done to all!

Attendance –

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

Acorn – 95%
Willow – 91%
Beech – 96.7%
Maple 97.7%
Chestnut – 94%
Lilac – 89.6%
Oak – 92.5%



Lantern Parade 4th February @5:30pm

This year the theme is Children's Characters. The workshops at school are on Saturday 7th and 28th January from 10am- 3pm. (The last Lantern being started at 2pm.)

Tealights are free but electric lights incur a charge. See Dave for more information



Something to think about:

Could a dog be rich?

Have a lovely weekend

Moir Duncombe@StBarnabasSchoolTW

PS- PTFA Quiz 20th January, save the date... details to follow