

St Barnabas' Church of England (VA) Primary School

Newsletter Friday 10th March 2017

"Living & Learning together" www.st-barnabas.kent.sch.uk



Our School Christian Values are Love, Trust, Perseverance, Reconciliation and Compassion.
This week we explored books as part of our book week

Reminders

Please remember to book with the school office at least 24 hours in advance if you require After School Club.

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PTFA

Acorn Cake Stall
Monday 27th March

Easter Hop Event
Thursday 30th March

A letter was sent out this week.

LOST!

Ryan in Year 2 has lost his special soft toy fox. He brought it into school and took it into lunch but has not seen it since.... Please do look at home and see if he is visiting!

Parent Consultations

These will happen during the week of the 27th March. Letters going out next week

End of Term Mass

Monday 27th March – 9.30am
St Barnabas' Church

Attendance Challenge

As a whole school we have an attendance target of 96% to achieve. Here is the breakdown for each class:

<i>Acorn</i>	92 %
<i>Willow</i>	97.7 %
<i>Beech</i>	97.3 %
<i>Maple</i>	96 %
<i>Chestnut</i>	97.9 %
<i>Lilac</i>	95.4 %
<i>Oak</i>	97.6 %



This Week in School

What a wonderful Book Week with the children taking part in a wide range of activities. Our older children saw a performance of the Tin Man and took part in workshops based on the characters and story. Thank you to everyone who contributed to help fund this performance. There is still time if you haven't yet!

Tuesday saw a wide range of characters from books appear in the school playground. Thank you to everyone for dressing up and taking part. Throughout the day Mrs Atkins informed us when to 'drop and read' and we did!

On Thursday we had a member of the Northern Ballet Company work with children from Year R – 3 around the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. The children listened well and enjoyed this experience.

Thank you to everyone who visited our Book Fair and helped raise money for our school library.

Some of our children attended a High 5 Netball competition last night playing against other schools in the area. Well done to everyone who took part.

This week in class:

Acorn

This week, we have been learning the th and ng digraphs in Phonics. As part of our World Book Day activities, we read the book 'The Way Back Home' by Oliver Jeffers and we wrote alternative endings for the story. We have been working very hard to try and write sentences on our own, with finger spaces in between each word and a full stop at the end. In Maths, we have been learning to weigh items by balancing them with small cubes. We have then been talking about which item is the heaviest or the lightest. The children have painted their dinosaur models and have been learning about different types of dinosaur. We had a workshop on Thursday with the Northern Ballet and the children loved acting out the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. In Forest School, we have been building dens, climbing trees and playing in the stream.

Willow

This week Willow Class have been taking part in activities linked to 'We're Going on a Lion Hunt' by David Axtell, which was our Book Day adventure story. The children have looked at how different word patterns and adjectives are used in the story and they also wrote an alternative ending for it. They made their own lion's face using paper plates, crayons and pasta and made a story map to help them retell the story. In Maths the children have been using their problem solving skills to solve word problems and find missing numbers in addition and subtraction sums. In RE we have continued talking about Lent and Easter. This week we discussed things that Christian families do during Lent and Holy Week. In PE we have been developing our football skills and taking part in team challenges. On Thursday the children took part in a ballet workshop and enjoyed acting out the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. It was lovely to see them joining in so enthusiastically.

Beech

This week we had an amazing time celebrating World Book Day! Beech Class looked fantastic in their adventure-story-inspired costumes and we really enjoyed dedicating an entire day to celebrating reading. In English, we have been exploring how we can use the 'and' and 'but' connectives to create compound sentences. We started by orally rehearsing such sentences before using them to describe characters from Julia Donaldson's, 'The Highway Rat'. In Maths, we have been solving problems involving money. We started by developing fluency when finding the total value of various coins. Then, we focused on developing our reasoning skills by solving money related problems. In Science, we completed a scientific conclusion which explained the results of our plant investigation. We spotted patterns in our results and used our scientific knowledge to explain why the plant which had no sunlight didn't grow well. In ICT, we continued to explore how the repeat function can be used when programming.

Philippa from The Northern Ballet visited today to tell Beech Class about her production of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Philippa involved all of the children encouraging them to dance as Daddy, Mummy and Baby Bear. Everyone did their best and tried out some new moves!

Maple

On Tuesday the children looked wonderful. Thank you for the effort you put in to organising costumes for World Book Day. We enjoyed 'dropping everything to read' at various times through the day and had a very welcome visit from Mrs Yates, who was our mystery reader.

We have continued our work on fractions in Maths, identifying fractions of amounts and tackling some very tricky reasoning questions.

In English we are working on dictionary skills so that we can independently check our spellings. We will continue learning how to check words, find out meanings and put words into alphabetical order.

This week we continued learning about salvation in RE and thought about how that theme is reflected in the stories of Jonah, Esther and Moses leading the Israelites out of Egypt.

Chestnut

Chestnut Class have had a busy week - we have been looking at the book 'Where the Wild Things Are' as part of World Book Day. The children have worked very hard in planning, writing and editing their own alternative ending to the story. We watched a performance of 'The Tin Man' which was amazing and the next day had a workshop from one of the directors on how to deliver a performance. In Maths we have started to look at fractions and have been looking at the value of hundredths. The children transformed into 'Estate Agents' this week. They examined a range of property adverts, analysed the features and then carefully planned their own advert for a property. In Maths the children worked hard on identifying acute, obtuse and reflex angles. In Science, the class looked at absorbency and they carried out an experiment, testing the absorbency of different materials. In RE the class continued looking at Judaism, this week focusing on the symbolic Seder foods.

Lilac

In Maths this week, Lilac Class have been developing their knowledge about decimals, thinking about place value and rounding decimals. We have also been practising our reasoning skills and applying our knowledge of fractions using Venn and Carroll diagrams. In English, for World Book Day, we designed story boards for our own version of 'A Dark, Dark Tale', where we also wrote an alternative ending. We have also been focusing on non-chronological writing. We have been drafting leaflets to persuade people to adopt an endangered species living in Mesoamerica. In Science, we have been measuring force using Newton Metres and have thought about the connection between weight and mass. In Topic, we have used the Mayan number system and have created our own Mayan calendars using Mayan writing. In RE, we have continued our work about Islam and have been learning about how Muslims pray. In PE, we have continued developing our rugby and netball skills

Oak

This week we have been writing biographies about Sir Edmund Hillary. The children researched his early life as well as some of his amazing achievements. After writing their biographies, they worked hard on editing and improving their writing. Our focus book for World Book Day was 'The Journey'. The class wrote their own poems based on the book and there were some very creative ideas.

In Maths, our focus has been on preparing for the reasoning paper and also practising long division.

The class has continued their work on Macbeth with Ms Mercer and they have also started some artwork linked to the play. I would like to remind all of the Year Six children about booster classes on a Monday after school. Our focus at the moment is grammar and preparing for the SPaG test. The Year Six classroom is also open on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings, from 8.30am, for any children who need to finish homework or would like to do a bit of extra work!


**St Barnabas
School & PTFA**



EASTER HOP!



Thursday 30th March

A sponsored half hour hop skip and jump...

Fun activities around our Hop course raising money for the school



Sponsorship forms in book bags or from the School Office!

Get active this spring - for a great cause!



Something to think about:

Does your house weigh more the dustier it gets??

A special thank you to Elijah and the After School Adults who cleaned up our playground so well on Thursday- thank you!

And lastly.....

Can we remind you again that dogs are not allowed on the playground for health and safety reasons.

Well done to Beech Class who achieved this week's Caretaker Award!

With best wishes

Moira Duncombe

@StBarnabasSchoolTW