



Barcombe CE Primary School

Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very exciting couple of weeks at Barcombe in the lead up to Christmas. The Carol service at St Mary's was a lovely occasion - our musicians and readers did themselves proud and it was the perfect start to our Christmas events in school.

The Midwife Crisis Nativity performed by Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Badgers was very entertaining - all the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves learning their parts and performing for you all. It was good to see the hall packed with parents, grandparents and friends. Thank you for supporting your children. There have been lots of lovely comments from you about the show.



Christmas dinner was another jolly affair with Christmas carols being played while meals were eaten. The jokes in the crackers were just as bad as usual!

This week, Father Christmas himself visited and gave every child a gift of a book. We hope your child will enjoy a good read over the holidays.

Owls and Foxes will be singing this afternoon while mulled wine and mince pies are served by the PTA.

Thank you to the PTA for all their support this term. The Christmas Fair was very successful - the sports hall was transformed into a festive wonderland for the occasion! We will let you know how much was raised as soon as we have a figure.

Barcombe Excellence

I am sure that by now, most of you will have seen the news that Barcombe is the second-best performing school in East Sussex according to the progress performance tables released last week. We are very proud of everything our children achieve and would like to thank them for their dedication to learning, and our wonderful staff who are constantly striving for high standards.

Coats and Shoes

The weather is becoming colder and wetter. Please ensure that your child has a warm, waterproof coat to wear when they are outside for playtimes and lunchtimes. Also, please ensure that their shoes are appropriate for winter conditions. We want our children dressed appropriately for the weather and the activities that they are doing.

Attendance

More than 30 of our children have 100% attendance for Terms 1 and 2. Well done to those children and families! To ensure the safety and wellbeing of all our children, we ask that children are in school whenever possible. If they are absent, please provide a reason for that absence as soon as possible. Where patterns of absence or lateness emerge, we will be setting targets with parents to improve.

Our attendance statistics to date are as follows:

Owls 97.8%
Foxes 97.78%
Badgers 96.76%
Squirrels 95.39%
Hedgehogs 97.49%

The local authority and Department for Education expectation is 97%. Please make every effort to get your child in school every day and on time.

Twelve Days of Reading Challenge

The children have been given a Twelve Days of Reading Challenge to do over the Christmas break. The staff will all be joining in too. We look forward to seeing the photos of lots of exciting reading happening! There is a copy of the letter on the front page of the schools' website.

Adverse Weather

If, due to exceptional weather conditions, we are unable to open the school, we will put a message on the front page of the school website. Any details regarding a school closure will be on our school website and, also, on the East Sussex County Council website. Information regarding school closures is also given out on Heart FM. We only close the school in exceptionally adverse weather conditions; we always try to remain open. However, the safety of our pupils and our staff is, of course, paramount.

Parent Information

For information about local events that may be of interest, please check the Parent Information Point on the school website.

Wild about Barcombe

Our classes have really enjoyed their sessions at Wild about Barcombe in Terms 1 and 2 – there has been lots of learning happening in the outdoors!

Last week, Foxes used the DT equipment to create wooden twirly

whirly toys and this week, Owls have created Christmas centrepieces using greenery and twigs. Both classes have also enjoyed s'mores while during their sessions, having lit the fire themselves and toasted their own marshmallows.



Dates for your diary

Please note these dates are not exhaustive and can be subject to change.

December 2018	
Wednesday 19 th	Carols in the playground 2.30pm
Wednesday 19 th	Break up for Christmas
January 2019	
Thursday 3 rd	Start of term 3
Friday 11 th	Squirrels drumming workshop
Thursday 31 st	Badgers class assembly
February 2019	
Thursday 7 th	Squirrels class assembly
Thursday 14 th	Hedgehogs class assembly
Friday 15 th	Last day of term 3
Monday 25 th	Return to school
March 2019	
Wednesday 20 th	Y5 and 6 to VIAM
Thursday 21 st	Y5 Little Big Bang STEM event
April 2019	
Friday 5 th	Last day of term 4
Tuesday 23 rd	Return to school
May 2019	
Thursday 2 nd	Foxes class assembly
Wednesday 8 th	Y4 Hindleap Warren
Thurs 9 th - Fri 10 th	Y5 Hindleap Warren
Mon 13 th - Thurs 16 th	Y6 SATs week
June 2019	
Wed 12 th - Fri 14 th	Y6 PGL residential
Friday 21 st	Sports Day
July 2019	
Friday 19 th	Last day of school for pupils
Mon 22 nd Tues 23 rd	INSET days

We would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you in January.



Best wishes,

Rforce

Stewart James

Ruth Force

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