



Barcombe CE Primary School

Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

The end of Term 2 is always a busy, happy time in school, and it has been lovely to see the children preparing for their Christmas celebrations. Thank you to all of you who came along to church or to school to support your children at the Carol Service or at the performance of Lights, Camel, Action! I am sure you will all agree that the children excelled themselves in all their performances. Thanks must go to all the staff as a lot of work goes into preparing for these services and performances. We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

Learning Opportunities and Curriculum Development

Our learning journeys have been very exciting this term and have really inspired the children. It is lovely to see so much enthusiasm for learning.



Owls and Foxes have been to Ashdown Forest on visits to support their learning, Foxes for a workshop on Rocks and Soils, and Owls for a Stone Age day where they made shelters and out heather as mattresses. Both classes had a wonderful time.



day
Both



A STEM ambassador has also visited Foxes as part of their Rocks and Soils work. This is a link we will be developing over the next few terms. The STEM ambassadors are volunteers from a wide range of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) related jobs and disciplines across the UK. They offer their time and enthusiasm to help bring STEM subjects to life and demonstrate the value of them in life and careers.

Sporting Activities

A Year 5/6 team recently attended the Sports Hall Athletics event at Chailey School and came second. Well done to all those who took part. We are also holding regular sports tournaments in-school with Green, Blue, Yellow and Red Teams competing against each other. The last one of the term was this week with Foxes and Badgers playing together.

As you all know, Louis Munnery leaves the Skylark Federation this week to take on a role in another group of schools. We have thanked him for all the work he has done with sports at Barcombe. Mr Timmins will be taking over the role in January, and has already visited to meet the classes and ensure a smooth transfer.

Super Skylarks

A purple Super Skylark sweatshirt, to be worn instead of the green Barcombe sweatshirt as part of uniform, is awarded to children from Year 5 and 6 who fulfil 'ten awesome things'. These include reading at home at least 4 times every week, completing all homework tasks, showing evidence of regularly taking part in a club (at school or out-of-school), modelling environmental awareness, being polite, showing excellent behaviour and other similar awesome things.

Our three original Super Skylarks look very smart in their purple, and there are more children working very hard to get their Super Skylark sweatshirts now!

PTA

Huge thanks must go to the PTA who have excelled themselves again this Christmas. The Christmas Fair raised a massive £1700, and the craft event this year has also been extremely successful. Do join them for mulled wine and mince pies on the playground after school today (Friday).

Church Links

Rev James Hollingsworth has been supporting our RE

School Council

School Council have carried out a survey about kindness in Barcombe School. The children identified lots of ways kindness is seen and encouraged in school: Secret Angels, displays, being asked to make good choices, letting people join in, helping in class and reward tokens are just of the few ways they listed. We all love being part of such a kind community, and celebrating kindness each week in assembly.



Recycling and Collection

Please keep bringing in empty crisp packets. There is a box by the office to put them in. If you perhaps work somewhere that the scheme isn't in place, but think your colleagues may be happy to collect crisps packets, you could collect them in a large bag and bring to our collection point. Walkers crisps will donate money to the Air Ambulance for every 5kg of packets collected.

New and used postage stamps are also being collected for Bone Cancer Research Trust.

We are also still collecting shoes for recycling.

Blogs

Please look on your child's class blog for up-to-date information about what is happening in their class.

Attendance

Our attendance for the academic year currently stands at 95.3%. This year, we aim to achieve higher than the DfE expectation of 97%. Inevitably, there will be times when your children are too ill to be in school, but we ask that our pupils are in school every day whenever possible to support us in our goal of 97%+.

Our attendance statistics for this week are as follows:

Hedgehogs 99.03%

Squirrels 98.15%

Badgers 98.71%

Foxes 97.5%

Owls 98.52%

Safety

It is good to see many of our children coming to school on bikes, scooters and skateboards. In order to ensure your child's safety, we strongly advise that he/she wears a helmet. Please accompany your children along School Path rather than letting them ride ahead of you. There have been some near misses recently as cars have come round the corner.

teaching as usual this term, visiting each class as part of an RE lesson. He also leads an assembly each week based on the termly value: this term the value has been Justice.

Next term's value will be Forgiveness. 'In Christ we are set free by the blood of his death. And so we have forgiveness of sins because of God's rich grace' Ephesians 1:7

Community Links

Foxes recently visited the Monday Group at St Francis' Church to sing Christmas carols. The ladies were very appreciative of the singing. Well done to Foxes! As a school at the heart of the community, we are keen to establish as many links as possible with the local community. Please let us know of any other ways we can establish those links.

Dates for your diary

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

December 2019	
Friday 20 th	End of Term 2
January 2020	
Monday 6 th	INSET DAY
Tuesday 7 th	Start of Term 3 for pupils
Wednesday 22 nd	Owls Science at Cumnor House
Thursday 30 th	Badgers Class Assembly
February 2020	
Thursday 6 th	Squirrels Class Assembly
Wednesday 12 th	Foxes Science at Cumnor House
Thursday 13 th	Hedgehogs Class Assembly
Friday 14 th	Last day of Term 3
Monday 24 th	Start of Term 4
March 2020	
Wednesday 18 th	Badgers Science at Cumnor House
Wednesday 25 th	Squirrels Science at Cumnor House
Tuesday 31 st	Easter Service at St Mary's
April 2020	
Friday 3 rd	End of Term 4
Monday 20 th	Start of Term 5
Thursday 30 th	Foxes Class Assembly
May 2020	
Wednesday 6 th – Thursday 7 th	Year 5 to Hindleap Warren
Friday 8 th	May Bank Holiday
Monday 11 th – Thursday 14 th	Year 6 SATs Week
Wednesday 20 th	Hedgehogs Science at Cumnor House

Best wishes,

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Stewart James

Ruth Force

Stewart James