



Barcombe CE Primary School

Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

How lovely it has been to have all the children back in school! Barcombe has got its 'buzz' back again, and the warmer weather is helping to lift everyone's spirits too. Friendships are so much better when they are in real life rather than virtual!

Parent Consultations

We are looking forward to talking to you about your child's progress during our consultation sessions next week. Please remember to log onto the meeting just a couple of minutes before your appointment time. We ask that your display name for Zoom is one that we will recognise rather than a nickname so that we can admit you to the meeting for the correct child.

Progress towards our SDP aims: curriculum

Please visit the 'curriculum' tab on our school website where you will be able to view a video update on our progress towards redesigning our curriculum. This term, we have been working on a Geography and Design Technology Project, 'Home'. Plans are well underway for our new Create Project after Easter. The theme will be 'Landscape' and will incorporate art, music, dance and drama.

Easter

Easter is a very special time in the Church and school calendar. Barcombe pupils have been preparing for Easter in different ways. We sadly cannot go to St Mary's this year, but we will put a video of our Easter Celebration on Google Classrooms next week, so please watch out for it.

Learning Opportunities



All of our classes have really enjoyed being back together in school and there are lots of exciting learning opportunities for the children. All classes have been to Wild About Barcombe and have

enjoyed lots of different activities. In this photo, Badgers are finding angles in an outdoor maths lesson. Year 4 have started their Forest School sessions this week and had a great morning out and about.

STEM Day

Today is STEM Day at Barcombe. STEM Days are always full of excitement as the children work collaboratively to solve problems using Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. Today's challenge is to design and test a way of getting tomatoes down a mountainside without damaging them. It is based on a real-life problem in Nepal. Watch your Google Classroom for photos!

Gardening

Our school garden areas are in need of a refresh, and our classes will be working with a gardener over the coming weeks and months. Owls Class have been the first to start work this week and played games to get started!



Reflections on Lockdown

Our House Captains have written reflections about their time in lockdown and the return to school. These reflections will be published in the parish magazine.

Greg – Green Team Captain

Working during lockdown was a challenge: sometimes I struggled to complete lessons before the end of the day (but it was good that I could schedule my day the way I want). However, the teachers were a great help despite me not being there with them. They set up google meets in the morning for the whole class where we could talk about any issues; they had small google meets with a few children every day and asked them how they were doing with their work; and left helpful comments on our work. I'm excited about being back at school and am definitely looking forward to STEM day and school trips when the restrictions are lifted.

Jago – Red Team Captain

Over lockdown, I have found most things quite difficult. Home learning was a bit more prepared this time round, but it still felt weird. I missed seeing my friends, and having the teachers there to help me is especially helpful. My pets are always there and we love having evening cuddles with our two guinea pigs, Dermot and Dave. I have also enjoyed spending time with my family and I think I am very lucky to have such a big outdoor area. Some children are living lockdown in the top of a twenty-storey building with no outdoor area at all.

I was so excited coming back to school and I think the early morning routine was a shock to everybody. Having turned 11 years old, I have to wear a face mask in public areas. I find them quite uncomfortable, but it is worth it knowing I am protecting others. I am now enjoying being back at school and seeing my friends.

Oscar – Blue Team Captain

Doing schoolwork in lockdown was hard for me, but I am very lucky to have been at school during those times. What I found hardest was keeping track of lessons, because I had to complete all of them in the normal school hours, and sometimes I'd get really confused about some things. Schoolwork wasn't the only hard thing to deal with: I REALLY missed my friends in lockdown, but I am so grateful that I managed to see some people at school, and I could make some friends. However, the 'Google Meet' was quite nice, because I could briefly say hi to my

friends and that really helped.

But it was a relief when everyone came back a few weeks ago, and it's SOOO good being with all my friends again, and doing work normally (even though I don't always finish in time!).

Vinny – Yellow Team Captain

Lockdown was very different: like always on a computer and stuck at home except for when you are doing exercise. The first lockdown was very messy with almost no education anywhere with even universities closed, and the prime minister being a bit confused since this was a new and very different situation.

Being back at school feels nice since you see all your friends every day, but the early morning routine was a big shock after lockdown!

Red Nose Day

Thank you for supporting Red Nose Day at Barcombe. We raised a fantastic £135

Church Links

Ali Brown, Children and Families Ministry Worker, is continuing to record a weekly collective worship for us, currently focussing on The Easter Story. Mrs Tomsett is also still recording weekly worship videos for our pupils on the theme of Trust, our value for this term. We have also been using Awesome Assemblies which are recorded by another school in the Chichester Diocese and are recommended by the Diocese.

Our current school value is Trust.

"Trust the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding" Proverbs 3:5

We wish you all a very Happy Easter!

Dates for your diary

March 2021	
Monday 29 th	Parent consultations begin
April 2021	
Thursday 1 st	Last day of Term 4 for pupils
Monday 19 th	Start of Term 5

Best wishes,



Ruth Force
Head of School



Stewart James
Executive Headteacher
