



Barcombe CE Primary School

Newsletter

Executive Headteacher: Stewart James
Head of School: Ruth Force

office@barcombe.e-sussex.sch.uk
www.barcombe.e-sussex.sch.uk

Address: School Path, Barcombe Cross, BN8 5DN
Tel: 01273 400287

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a busy term this has been so far! Our learning journeys are in full flow and there is a real buzz of excitement throughout the school. One more week of hard work, and then the children (and staff!) can have a well-earned break!

Learning Opportunities

The children at Barcombe are lucky to have so many wonderful learning opportunities. There is not a week that goes by without something really exciting happening.

Hedgehogs have been out and



about on their welly walks; this week their Year 6 buddies joined them too and had a great time at Wild About Barcombe. It was lovely to see the youngest and oldest children in the school playing together. Squirrels have also been to WAB to enrich their learning.



Owls and Foxes recently had a visit from Medical Mavericks, a group that introduces children to STEM careers in the NHS. They all had the chance to try ECGs, ultrasound, try keyhole surgery, taking blood (from a fake arm!), taking blood pressure and many more activities.



Owls also visited King's Academy, Ringmer to dissect hearts!



Sporting Activities

This term, a cricket coach from Sussex County Cricket Club has been in school working with children in Squirrels and Foxes. They have all really enjoyed developing their skills.

Sam, Stanley and Dom from Year 6 and Ayla from Year 5 were all successful in getting through to the next round of the cross country competition. Well done to them and to all the others who participated so well in the event.

Next week, our Year 5 and 6 footballers will be competing in the Peacefields tournament at Chailey School.

HLTA of the Year Award

Mrs Edwards was delighted to be nominated for HLTA of the Year 2019. Out of hundreds of nominees, she reached the last 15 in London and the South East and had a wonderful time at the awards ceremony. This was a wonderful way to recognise the hard work that she does for Barcombe, both in teaching the children art and in making the school look so lovely.

Super Skylarks

Across the Skylark Federation, we are introducing the Super Skylark scheme. This will be for pupils in Year 5 and 6. A purple Super Skylark sweatshirt, to be worn instead of the green Barcombe sweatshirt as part of uniform, will be awarded to children who fulfil 'ten awesome things'. These include reading at home at least 4 times every week, 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.

We look forward to seeing who our first Super Skylarks will be. Watch this space for further updates!

This week, Hedgehogs, Owls and Foxes have been honing their culinary skills: Owls and Hedgehogs baked apple crumble; Owls went on to make cottage pie and Welsh rarebit muffins; Foxes made Eton Mess.

Blogs

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

Attendance

Our attendance currently stands at 95.6%. 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 current class attendance statistics are:

- Hedgehogs 98.8%
- Squirrels 88.43%
- Badgers 93.02%
- Foxes 93.95%
- Owls 97.59%

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.

Harvest Festival and Church Links

The rain didn't stop us having a wonderful Harvest Festival last week! Even though it was too wet to go to church, the school hall was quickly transformed into a Harvest celebration space. All the children performed very well; we are always proud of them. The donated food has now been taken to Lewes food bank.

As well as our special services, Rev James Hollingsworth takes an assembly in school each term. This term's assembly is on Monday next week, October 21st, and will focus on Thankfulness.

Our spiritual garden is being worked on by Year 5 Owls. If you can donate any flowering bulbs or winter-flowering plants, we would be very grateful. This will be a quiet area where anyone can go to find space think calmly about different issues, or just get away from it all!

Kindness

We are once again focussing on kindness in school. The children are encouraged to be kind at all times through their words and actions. Each Friday's assembly celebrates examples of kindness in the school.



School Council and Eco Council

Our School Council and Eco Council meetings have started for this year. The children are looking at how they can make Barcombe School more environmentally friendly. The Eco Council will be leading an assembly next week. News of their other work will follow soon.

Community Links

As a school at the heart of the community, we are keen to establish as many links as possible with the local community. Our charity fundraising is one way in which we do this. If you have suggestions for other ways in which we can achieve our aim, please let us know via the school office. The more suggestions we have to discuss, the better!

Dates for your diary

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

October 2019	
Wednesday 23 rd	Parent consultations
Thursday 24 th	Parent consultations
Thursday 24 th	Last day of Term 1 for pupils
Friday 25 th	INSET DAY
November 2019	
Monday 4 th	Start of Term 2
Thursday 14 th	Owls class assembly
Thursday 21 st	Foxes class assembly
Friday 15 th	INSET DAY
wb Monday 18 th	Road Safety Week
Tuesday 26 th	Foxes to Ashdown Forest
December 2019	
Thursday 5 th	Owls to Ashdown Forest tbc
Tuesday 10 th	Carol Service at St Mary's 9am
Wednesday 11 th	Nativity Play (Hedgehogs, Squirrels, Badgers) 9am
Friday 20 th	End of Term 2
January 2020	
Monday 6 th	Start of Term 3

Best wishes,

RForce

Ruth Force

Stewart James