



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,

Term has got off to a flying start, and all the children are getting really involved in their learning. It is lovely to see the buzz around school and to chat to the children about their excitement at learning new things.

Welcome

Our new Hedgehogs have started full-time now and we would like to welcome them all to Barcombe. Welcome to Mikki, Ivy, Jonah, Isabelle C, Ellis, Isabelle G, Kamil, Martha, Tommy, Maggie, Sadie, Leo, Finn, Sonny, Polly, Theo, Florence, Cameron, Henry, Cadan and Amelia. Their Year 6 buddies are enjoying helping them settle in; it is lovely to see our oldest pupils working with our youngest. We also have a new Squirrel, Lennox. We hope all of them will be very happy at Barcombe.

Learning Opportunities

Lots of exciting activities are happening to support learning in our new learning journeys.



Foxes have already been out and about to Wild about Barcombe and Year 6 have started their Forest School sessions.



Owls will next week be going to a heart dissection workshop at King's Academy, Ringmer, continuing our Science and STEM links with other local schools.

Hedgehogs will soon be starting their welly walks, one of their favourite parts of the week.

Blogs

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

Eligibility for Free School Meals

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are currently entitled to free school meals.

Your child may be entitled to free school meals for all their time at Primary School.

If you are in receipt of Income Support, Income-based Jobseekers Allowance, Income related Employment and Support Allowance or some other form of support, your child may be entitled to free school meals throughout primary school and possibly beyond.

If your child does qualify, they also receive Pupil Premium funding for at least 6 years. This funding is used to support children's learning and help towards the cost of, for example, school uniform, after school clubs and school trips. If you would like to apply for these 'long-term' free school meals you just need to complete a form that is available from the school office.

If you qualify, please contact the office by Thursday 3rd October so we can register this information in time.

Remember, if you are in receipt of benefits, you need to register for free school meals, even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 to ensure they receive free meals beyond Year 2, and also for your child to receive the pupil premium funding.

Your PTA Needs You!

The PTA would love to hear from any parents who would like to be involved in their work putting on events to raise money to support the children in school. They are always looking for exciting new ideas for fundraising and are an important route of communication between parents and school. In the last few years, the PTA have funded lots of things in school: new laptops, coaches for school trips, playground refurbishment, Year 6 leavers' events, storytelling garden and lots more. We would like at least two representatives from each class wherever possible. If you would like to become part of the PTA, please collect a form from the school office to give in your contact details.

Attendance

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%+.

Attendance is monitored very closely and, as last year, letters will be sent to families where attendance is of a concern. Please note that it is extremely unlikely that holidays in term time will be authorised. Holidays needing more than 4 school days absence will lead to a fine being levied by the local authority.

Take One Heart Open Afternoon

We would like to invite all parents to join us on the afternoon of Friday, October 18th from 2pm – 3pm for our Take One Heart open afternoon. There will be an art exhibition of the children's work – the perfect opportunity to get some Christmas shopping done! - and you will also be able to see some of the work the children have been doing in class.

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.

Playground: Climbing Frames and Bikes/Scooters

Please do not allow your children to play on the climbing frames before or after school. This applies to younger siblings too.

Bikes, scooters and skateboard should not be ridden in the playground but should be pushed. Again, this applies to younger siblings too and also adults.

School Path

Please, whenever you can, park in the village and walk the last bit of the journey to or from school. If you have to drive along School Path at the beginning or end of the school day, please drive very slowly as children may be behind the bushes or coming round the corner and you may not otherwise have time to stop.

Children travelling along School Path should be supervised. We have some children bending down low on scooters and bikes and riding at speed. If a car were to be coming round the corner, even slowly, your child could be hit. School Field and School Path are public roads, not footpaths, and should be treated as such.

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!

Dates for your diary

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

September 2019	
Thursday 26 th	Owls to King's Academy, Ringmer
October 2019	
Tuesday 8 th	Medical Mavericks to Owls and Foxes
Friday 11 th	Harvest at St Mary's 9am
Wednesday 16 th	Hedgehogs and Owls joint welly walk
Friday 18 th	Take One Heart open afternoon and art exhibition
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
December 2019	
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

Best wishes,



Ruth Force



Stewart James