



Barford St Peter's C. of E. (VA) Primary School

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Friday 3rd November 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

The term has got off to a wonderful start and the summer holidays are a distant memory. Our new reception children have settled into school extremely well and are now planning the Nativity play with KS1. Staffing changes mean that Mrs Garner is the Deputy Head, Mrs Steward is the new Inclusion Manager, Mr Swards, Mrs Hurlock and Mrs Partridge are permanent members of staff and Mrs Stock is working full time in year 6.

The autumn term is always a lovely time as we begin a new academic year with lots of exciting plans. This includes reviewing systems to ensure the school runs smoothly. Communication is always an area to explore and this year we have introduced some new events for parents/carers. Our intention is to provide more information on how we teach reading, writing and maths, so you can support your children at home. On Thursday 28th September we held a Year 1 reading and phonics evening and on Wednesday 18th October we held a Year 2 and Year 6 SATs evening, sharing sample test papers and different types of questions. Thank you to all of the parents who were able to attend.

Although the end of Key Stage Tests are important, as a school we feel we mustn't lose sight of providing a broad and rich curriculum. Overviews of the curriculum can be found on the school website. KS2 kicked off their WW2 topic with a visit to The Victory Show at Foxlands Farm Cosby. The pupils and staff looked absolutely amazing dressed up in 1940's clothing. KS2 are also hosting a tea dance that will conclude with afternoon tea on the 16th November.

Our School Council Elections have taken place and this year Mrs Carson invited pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 to stand for election. Years 1 and 2 were incredibly excited as it was the first time they had prepared speeches to become members. The school council is a very important part of school life as it provides pupils with a voice and they are involved in decisions about the school that affect them. Through Class Council all pupils have the opportunity to raise issues, share ideas and take part in discussions that involve all of their classmates in reaching a democratic solution.

For Outstanding pieces of work, we are introducing a 'Proud to be Published Board' and are gathering work to present and share with the whole school. We have been delivering music for a very long time at Barford. For the second year we are working with Warwickshire Music Service and currently year 2 are learning the ukulele and Year 6 are learning the saxophone. We have also introduced guitar lessons which are becoming very popular.

One of our targets on the schools Learning Improvement Plan is to improve the environment inside and out. We want to provide a setting that can both support and enrich the learning of all children. We have been focusing on displays that encourage children's deeper thinking, deeper learning and reinforce key language development. Mrs Hurlock has co-ordinated two impressive displays which you will be able to see when we hold our open afternoon on the 23rd November from 1:30pm.

At school, play time is very important for the children and we have introduced new Play Leaders who support the younger pupils. We believe it is important for the children to have something creative to do at lunch time as it teaches them to play co-operatively and how to take care of school equipment. More importantly it makes playtime enjoyable. At lunchtime and after school there are many clubs that the children can join and these are displayed on the children's notice board in the corridor.

I hope you have found this information useful and I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to you as parents/carers for your continued support.

Yours sincerely
Mrs AM Delaney
Headteacher