



Barford St. Peter's C.E. (V.A.) Primary School

Together we love; together we learn

Newsletter

Friday 18th October

What an exciting week we have had! We were delighted to welcome Mr Matt Fletcher, HMI Ofsted inspector to Barford this week. It was such a pleasure to show him our wonderful and very special school. This was an ungraded inspection which means we will not receive any judgement grades.

Mr Fletcher was exceptionally impressed with the children's behaviour and attitudes to learning. We are not able to share specific outcomes as the report is confidential until published. It should be available in approximately 32 weeks and will be shared with you as soon as it is available.

The staff and I would like to offer our heartfelt thanks for your overwhelming positive support, both on parent view and by donating treats for us to keep us going!

We have also been learning all about Diwali this week and held our exciting Diwali days! Children enjoyed a range of activities including dancing, making Diya lamps and creating Rangoli patterns.

On Thursday we also welcomed James May and Oz Clarke to school as part of their 'cycle and sing' tour to raise money for Dementia charities. It was a most enjoyable singing experience for the children!



Please do come and join us on Sunday at St. Peter's for our family service at 11am. All are welcome!

Just a reminder that next Friday 25th October is INSET staff training day.

Wishing you all a peaceful weekend,

Mrs Mary Baker
Head Teacher

History of Barford School Book Launch

I thoroughly enjoyed visiting the Barford Heritage group at the village hall last Sunday to purchase a copy of their new book 'Educating Barford'. It really is a most fascinating book full of photographs across the ages – if you or anyone you know attended the school I would urge you to buy a copy! The group have kindly provided us with a timeline they created as part of their research which we will be displaying in school.

Individual and Sibling Photographs – Wednesday 23rd October

Next Wednesday the photographer will be in school from 8am. If you would like **non-school age siblings** to have a photograph together please come as early as you are able to and enter via the side hall door. All siblings in school, including pre-school, will have a photograph during the school day.

FABs AGM - Update

The FABs AGM was held this Wednesday 16th October at 7.30pm. A huge thank you to all of you who attended. It really is a case of 'many hands make light work' and it will no doubt be a successful year with so many people generously giving up their time to help in any way they are able to.

The next event will be the Halloween disco which will take place on Thursday 24th October.

Parents Meetings

Parents meetings will take place next Tuesday 22nd October and Wednesday 23rd October. Please do make an appointment if you have not already done so. We value our close working relationship with parents and it is essential that we are able to share their progress to date with you, as well as giving you the opportunity to share any concerns you may have. The teams links will be sent out to you on Monday 21st October.

What we've been learning

Reception

Over the last two weeks we have enjoyed reading the story Owl Babies by Martin Waddell, which has provided the children with lots of opportunities for enjoying story language and exploring and extending our knowledge of owls. We have also been testing materials such as sticks, feathers and leaves to see which make a strong nest.

In our art we created owls with mixed media, using lots of skills that we have been developing this term such as using paint to draw, fill and dab to create different textures. We have also written our own non-fiction books about owls using the facts we have learned.

This week we have been celebrating the festival of Diwali which has been wonderful. In our preparation to celebrate, we cleaned our classroom with dusters and decorated it with lights and decorations. We have been decorating clay diva lamps and making Rangolis to welcome others, displaying these on our doors and during our celebration with Pre-School in the hall on Wednesday.

During our celebration we tried new foods, did Bangra dancing and listened to Diwali stories. We have really enjoyed acting out the story of Rama and Sita in both our indoor and outdoor classroom settings. The children have been asking lots of brilliant questions during such a culturally rich week in school.



Year 1

In Year 1 we have been practicing our handwriting and letter formation. Miss Baker is very impressed with how neat our writing is becoming! We have also been working hard on our phonics and practising segmenting and blending our phase 5 words, as well as reading our common exception words. Last week we really enjoyed the text 'The Boy with Flowers in his Hair' and wrote letters to the character.

In Maths we have been using part whole models and trying to think carefully about the missing numbers. We have also been working hard to learn addition facts.

In science we have been growing cress! We thought about what the cress seeds would need to grow and have enjoyed watching them sprout. In art we have been creating teddy bear collages and using different techniques with paper such as curling, tearing and scrunching. They look great!

In P.E. we have been practising lots of skills including running, throwing and jumping. Finally, in history we continued our topic on toys by comparing new toys with Victorian toys, as well as thinking about what our parents may have played with when they were young.

Year 2

This week in year 2 we have been writing our own poems! Last week we enjoyed reading the book 'The Boy with Flowers in his Hair' and wrote our own letters to the character. Mrs Del Rio was very proud of us! In maths this week we have been exploring fractions and finding fractions of an amount, including halves and quarters and even thirds! We also completed our maths assessments as well.

In history we developed our skills of using different sources of information about the circus now and in Victorian times. We noticed how in Victorian times they used animals and discussed how this was cruel to the animals. We also talked about how they use fire works and special effects nowadays.

Year 3

In year 3 we have continued to share the text 'Stone Age Boy'. We have considered carefully the use of specific vocabulary to help us think about our own vocabulary choices. We have been planning out our own stories based on the text as well.

In maths we have been learning all about subtraction and exploring subtraction strategies such as counting back on a number line. Finally, we have completed a short maths assessment to see how much we can remember from this half term!

We have focused our learning this week around Mary Anning and the discoveries she made through her fossil hunting. We have also been considered periods of history and using time lines to develop our chronological knowledge from the stone age to the iron age.

In P.E. we have been playing netball and we continued to learn our brass instruments of cornets, trumpets and euphoniums. In R.E. we have been learning about Diwali.

Year 4

This week we have been looking carefully at historical sources to find out more information and discovered more about Howard Carter's discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb.

In maths we have been developing our understanding of how to round numbers to the nearest 10, 100 or 1000. In English we have been learning all about how to use fronted adverbials in our writing. Last week we enjoyed reading 'The Boy with Flowers in his Hair' and wrote letters to the character in the story.

In P.E. we have been developing our fitness skills and working through circuits. The highlight of the week was of course our class assembly. We hope that you all enjoyed our amazing performance!

Year 5

In English in Year 5 we have been writing instructions about how to play a game called 'pok-a-tok' which is an Ancient Mayan game. In maths we were revising our strategies and methods for multiplication, division, subtraction and addition and applying what we know to solve arithmetic questions.

In science we have been learning about forces and friction, as well as gears, levers and pulleys. In P.E. we have been learning how to defend and attack and we also played pok-a-tok. In art we have been drawing a picture of the boy with flowers in his hair.

We really enjoyed Diwali day and our favourite was making Diya lamps and the dancing!

Year 6

In guided reading we have been exploring words from Macbeth and also thinking of interesting similes for some of the words. In Maths we have been learning about Roman numerals and can remember the number that each letter represents!

In science we have been learning the tricky concept of refraction. We got 2 glasses of water, one containing water and one with no water, and put a pencil in both and could see that in the one with water the pencil looked bent. This is refraction.

We had a challenging art lesson where we revised our skills in hatching and cross hatching as well as shading techniques. We carefully drew a piece of folded fabric; they looked amazing!

In our history lesson we held a debate about Mary Tudor and whether she deserved the title of 'Bloody Mary' based on how many people she put to death.

Autumn Term Dates 2024

| Date & Time | Event |
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| Tuesday 22 nd October | Parents' meetings (on-line) |
| Wednesday 23 rd October | Parents' meetings (on-line) |
| Thursday 24 th October | Halloween Disco |
| Friday 25th October | INSET day |
| Mon 28 th October to Fri 1 st November | Half Term |
| Wednesday 6 th November | Year 6 SATs & PGL residential meeting |
| Friday 8 th November | Non uniform day |
| Saturday 9 th November | Barford Bonfire |
| Monday 11 th November 11am | Remembrance Service @ St. Peter's |
| Friday 15 th November | Children in Need |
| Friday 22 nd November | Year 5 cake sale |
| Friday 29 th November 2pm | Advent service @ St. Peter's church |
| Wednesday 4 th December 2pm | Christingle Service @ St. Peter's church |
| Tuesday 10 th December | KS1 Theatre trip to Smeds & Smoos @ Warwick Arts Centre |
| Wednesday 11 th December | KS2 to Dick Whittington Panto @ Belgrade theatre |
| Thursday 12 th December | Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch |
| Monday 16 th December 2pm | KS1 Christmas Show (Rec, Yrs 1 & 2) |
| Tuesday 17 th December 5pm | KS1 Christmas Show (Rec, Yrs 1 & 2) |
| Wednesday 18 th December | KS2 Christmas Show (years 3, 4 & 5) |
| Thursday 19 th December | KS2 Christmas Show (years 3, 4 & 5) |
| Friday 20 th December 1pm | Christmas service @ St. Peter's church followed by Christmas Fair at school. |