



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

Together we love; together we learn

Newsletter

Friday 17th October

This week we have been monitoring learning across school and have looked in detail at the progress children are making, specifically in writing and history. The governors and senior leaders have been astounded by the progress children are making in writing, as we focus on developing children's spelling, grammar, punctuation and handwriting across school. During writing week, children wrote a letter from Goldilocks to apologise to the Three Bears and these were certainly a joy to read. Please do take a look when you come into school for the parent sharing events over the coming weeks!

A selection of children were interviewed by Miss Taylor and a link governor about their history knowledge. Some of their comments were as follows:

"The Maya lasted a lot longer than the Tudors. The Maya remained quite secretive or enclosed (that's why I think they lasted longer- because they didn't engage in wars for land in Europe) whereas the Tudors were known further afield, for example other European countries got involved in their family affairs and politics."

"The Romans invaded and settled in Britain. At their peak, they controlled the majority of Europe. The Anglo-Saxons also then invaded Britain because the Romans had left and England had good farmland."

"The Romans were had one big empire like the Aztecs. The Mayans didn't go to war unlike the Romans who wanted big areas of land and glory. The Roman emperors were very ambitious like the Ancient Greek warrior man Alexander the Great who conquered the Egyptians."

The learning in children's history books is also exceptional, with children experiencing a range of different opportunities for learning about history, including drama and debates. We are so proud of all of our children for their relentlessly positive attitude to their learning and to our staff for their dedicated hard work. Well done everyone!

In collective worship this week we reflected on Noah as a hero from the Old Testament, and how Noah had the courage to do the right thing when everyone around him was not. Children provided some very insightful comments about why this might be hard, including one of our year 6's commenting "Because it is just human nature to follow the crowd". Very true and very profound!

We have rounded off an excellent two weeks with our Divali celebrations today! Children always enjoy listening to the story of Rama and Sita and impress me with their knowledge of it. We learned about the ways people of Hindu and Sikh faith might celebrate Divali, including with fireworks, cleaning their homes and lighting Diya lamps. Today children have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a range of different Divali activities and look incredible in their bright colours too, to reflect Divali as a festival of light.

Parents' meetings for years R, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 will be taking place next week. Please do make an appointment if you have not already done so. Unfortunately we are unable to offer additional appointments outside of these times. Year 5 parents' meetings will take place during the week beginning 3rd November.

Year 6 are off on their PGL adventure next week and I know that they cannot wait; their excitement is palpable! We wish them a safe and enjoyable week.

Don't forget that next Friday 24th October is INSET teacher training day.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend,

Mrs M.A. Baker
Head Teacher



School Council

Last week we held an excellent school meeting, led by our school council leader Raf. On the agenda was a discussion around whether we should have class pets, and whether we should plant more trees in the field.

Children have taken these ideas back to class councils and all were in favour of both proposals. Children are now voting to decide which class pet they would like, and to choose a tree to plant. Children had some excellent ideas including an apple tree from which we could eat the fruit, and a cherry tree because it would look beautiful with the blossom in the Spring. We will be planting the trees after half term.

Class councils were also tasked with naming our new school chickens! The new names are:



Milk Shake



Honey



Chicaletta



George Eggra

As always, the four have very different personalities, with George Eggra definitely showing she is the most confident!

Barford Bonfire – Saturday 8th November



Tickets for the Barford Bonfire are now on sale! These can be ordered via parent pay or from the village shop. Please do come along and support this excellent annual event. Friday 7th November will be a non-uniform day and we would be most grateful if children could bring in some chocolate for the chocolate tombola. We will need a huge team of parent volunteers to enable this popular event to be successful. Please do consider giving up a small amount of your time on Saturday 8th November if you are able to – further details to follow.

Book Vending Machine!

It's arrived! Our book vending machine arrived on Wednesday and looks fabulous. I know the children are very excited to start using it. Once children have read their 6 special books, they will receive a token to put into the machine and choose their very own brand new book to keep. We think this will be a wonderful way to inspire children to continue reading for pleasure. Our huge thanks to the FABs committee and all the donations you have made which have funded the vending machine.



What we've been learning

Reception

Over the last two weeks we have enjoyed reading Goldilocks and the Three Bears and Owl Babies by Martin Waddell, which has provided the children with lots of opportunities for enjoying story language, sequencing and exploring numbers in stories.

This week we have also been celebrating the Hindu 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. During forest school we painted clay Diva lamps and made rangoli patterns out of the beautiful autumn leaf litter. We have really enjoyed acting out the story of Rama and Sita and the children have been asking lots of brilliant questions during such a culturally rich week in school.

We loved learning a little poem about Diwali lights that helped us in understanding the language of more than in our maths.

Year 1

This week in science we have been identifying and naming some common trees. We drew pictures and labelled an apple tree, an oak tree, a maple tree and a holly tree. Our favourite was the holly tree! In history, we learned about electronic toys and how they have changed since the 1970s!

In English, we have been writing letters from Goldilocks to the three bears. We had to say sorry for all the bad things she did. She ate the porridge, broke the chair and slept in baby bear's bed. We thought really hard about using capital letters, full stops and our neatest handwriting.

In RE, we learned about the Gurdwara and how fundraising and doing kind things for others is important to the Sikh people. In DT we experimented with levers and moved Jack up and down the beanstalk. We have designed our own moving pictures ready to make next week. Finally, in maths, we have been using number lines, an investigation on odd and even and even numbers and we have also been comparing numbers.

Year 2

In English we have been writing letters to the three bears from Goldilocks. We have said sorry for eating your porridge. We have also been editing our poems from poetry day last week. We have also been practising reading our recounts about our trip to Warwick castle for our fantastic class assembly which will be happening next week! We have been learning a dance and a song for it too.

In maths we have been taking away and adding 10s and 1s. We have then been writing down our answer in our books. In PSHE we have been doing our network hands and thinking about the adults around us who we trust. In science we have been exploring local habitats by looking at some pictures of different habitats, drawing them and then thinking about what animal might live there. In RE we have been drawing things that you might find in a church and what different religions would have instead of a church.

In forest school we created leaf caterpillars which were great fun. We threaded the leaves onto a pipe cleaner and enjoyed looking at the different shapes and beautiful Autumn colours too.



This week in English we have been writing a letter to Goldilocks to say sorry for eating Baby Bear's porridge and for all the other things she did wrong. In maths we have been learning how to subtract ones and tens. In history we have been making a timeline and labelling it carefully to show what happened and when.

Year 4

In maths this week we have been completing a big maths paper with lots of different questions. It took us two days to finish! In PE we have been working on our upper and lower body strength through different exercises. In English we have been writing a sorry letter to the three bears using informal language. We also wrote a newspaper report about the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb and all the walking sticks he was buried with. In science we learned about a woman called Rose who was deaf. We found out how sound particles helped her to understand and how she was able to win a dancing competition on *Strictly Come Dancing* with her partner's help.

Year 5

In maths we have been completing assessments to help our teachers see what we already know and what we need to practise next. In English we have been learning about *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. We wrote a letter as Goldilocks to say sorry for breaking and destroying things in the bears' house. In guided reading we have been working in different groups and practising our comprehension skills. One of the books we have been reading is *The Boy at the Back of the Class*. In PE we have been learning football skills and practising through matches and team games.

Year 6

In guided reading we have been answering questions about *Macbeth* and learning more about the story. We also read about women's football and how it first began. In geography we have been learning about fieldwork and following up on our fieldwork enquiry which we carried out during our visit to Stratford-upon-Avon last week. We completed a traffic survey and also interviewed tourists which was great fun!

In English we have been exploring the features of play scripts and writing our own plays about Lady Macbeth's guilt. We had great fun last week during our Shakespeare drama workshop during which we created sound scapes and freeze frames.

In maths we have been learning how to multiply and divide by 10, 100 and 1000. In Spanish, we have been learning about 'The Day of the Dead' and Mrs Del Rio let us make some Day of the Dead cookies!



This Week's Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for reminding us that our actions matter, even if no one else is watching. Please help us to be like Noah and do what is good and right in all situations, even if it isn't easy. Guide us to be kind, loving, and compassionate towards others, reflecting your light in all that we do. **Amen**

"Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience."
Colossians 3:12

Save the date – Christingle at the Cathedral



I am delighted to announce that we have been given the opportunity to take the whole school to Coventry Cathedral for a Christingle service on Wednesday 10th December. Parents are welcome to attend if they are able to transport themselves there. More details to follow.

INSET Dates for Academic Year 2025 to 2026

Friday 24 th October
Monday 5 th January
Monday 1 st June
Monday 20 th July

Autumn Term Dates

Date	Time	Year	Event	Location
22.10.25	8.45am	2	Class Assembly	School Hall
24.10.25	All Day	N/A	INSET DAY	
HALF TERM				
7.11.25	All Day	5	Cadbury World	
7.11.25	All Day	All	Non-uniform day for a chocolate donation	
8.11.25	Gates open 5pm	All	FABs Barford Bonfire	School Field
13.11.25	All Day	1	Visit to St. John's Museum	
14.11.25	10.30am	All	Year 5 Cake Sale	Hall
14.11.25	2pm	1, 2 & 3	Fire of London Workshop	Hall
20.11.25	2.45pm	1	Parent Share	Year 1 Classroom
21.11.25	Various	Pre-booked open morning for New Reception 2026		
25.11.25	2.45pm	6	Parent Share	Year 6 classroom
26.11.25	2.45pm	2	Parent Share	Year 2 classroom
27.11.25	2.45pm	5	Parent Share	Year 5 classroom
28.11.25	2.45pm	4	Parent Share	Year 4 classroom
4.12.25	2.45pm	3	Parent Share	Year 3 classroom
4.12.25	1pm	Rec, 1 & 2	Tiger that Came to Tea	Warwick Arts Centre
8.12.25	2pm	KS1	Christmas Show	School Hall
9.12.25	9am	KS1	Christmas Show	School Hall
10.12.25	10am	Whole School	Christingle	Coventry Cathedral
10.12.25	5pm	3, 4 & 5	Christmas Show	School Hall
11.12.25	2pm	3, 4 & 5	Christmas Show	School Hall
12.12.25	2pm	Pre-school	Pre-school Nativity	School Hall
16.12.25	1.15pm	KS2	Peter Pan Theatre Trip	Spa Centre
17.12.25	12pm	All	Christmas Lunch	School Hall
19.12.25	1pm	All	Christmas Service	St. Peter's Church