



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

Together we love; together we learn

Newsletter

Friday 5th December



It is a most wonderful time of year in school with children in years R to 5 busily rehearsing their Christmas shows ready to perform for you next week. It is always such a magical time and we look forward to welcoming you into school to share in these joyful and memorable moments.

Last week in collective worship we explored how all faiths incorporate light in their celebrations, for example Hannukah, Bodhi Day and Diwali. We reflected on how for Christians, Jesus is the light of the world and how he is a light in the darkness. We also thought about what Advent means and children shared their ideas (not forgetting the all important chocolate Advent calendars of course!). Finally, we learned about a few Advent and Christmas traditions around the world as well.

We recently held class and school council meetings to ascertain from the children their feedback around collective worship in school. The children provided insightful responses, including enjoying elements such as drama, asking for a wider variety of songs and hymns, and learning more about other religions. All of their suggestions will be implemented in the new year.

On Thursday KS1 had an amazing experience at Warwick Arts Centre watching 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea'. All of the children thoroughly enjoyed the performance which was excellent. We are looking forward to taking KS2 to watch Peter Pan at the end of term.

Wishing you all a splendid weekend,

Mrs M.A. Baker
Head Teacher

Final Day of Term – Friday 19th December

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our Carol Service at St. Peter's Church on Friday 19th December at 1pm. After the service, **school will be closed from 2pm** and all children should be collected from school no later than this time. There will be no after school club on this day.

Uniform reminders

Please could we remind you that children should be wearing **grey trousers**, skirts or dresses as per our uniform policy. **Black leggings** are not part of our school uniform and are not permitted. Thank you for your support in ensuring our children take pride in their appearance.

Christmas Shows

You should now have received your tickets for the Christmas performances next week. Please contact the school office if you have not received them. It would be most helpful if you could bring your tickets with you to the performances. **Just a reminder that children and babies are not permitted to watch the performances.**

Christmas Parties – Wednesday 17th December

On Wednesday 17th December children are welcome to come to school in Christmas non-uniform. They will have their Christmas lunch on this day, and then their Christmas parties in the afternoon (we hope with a visit from the special man himself!). They will not need any additional food for the parties but will take part in a range of games and Christmas activities.

Flu Nasal Spray

Next Thursday 11th Compass health will be coming into school to vaccinate children through the nasal spray. You should have received a link to give consent if you wish your child to have the vaccination.

Sports News!

Our boys football team played an outstanding game last Friday against Lillington, winning 12 – 0. Well done boys!



Our amazing netball team also played in a tournament at Kingsley school, winning all their matches and not conceding a single goal! An incredible achievement and we are very proud of them all.



New Trees for Forest School

School council had previously voted to plant more trees in our forest school base. Our very dedicated and hard working gardening club children have now planted 4 of the new trees, which we hope will provide both habitat and pleasure for all for many years to come. We are planning to plant an additional 3 trees in the Spring.



What we've been learning

Reception

Last week we read the story of 'The Jolly Postman' by Janet and Allan Ahlberg. It was such fun talking about the postman's journey and all the characters he met along the way. We created fantastic story maps with such lovely detail. After we watched a film about how a letter travels by Royal Mail, we turned our role play into a post office which has enthused the children to write letters. We wrote very special letters to Father Christmas using our grapheme mats to help us when segmenting the sounds in words.

In our maths we have been consolidating our understanding of decomposing 5. We decorated Christmas trees and tidied the decorations away into two boxes to see the different number bonds for 5 using pattern and colour.

In RE we have been looking at places of worship and last Friday, we visited Barford St Peters Church to look around and explore the features of a Christian church. We have developed a good understanding of why Christians celebrate Jesus' birth, and some children have set up their own stable role play independently to explore this. We have also been finding out about Advent. We made Advent wreaths and talked about the candles representing hope, peace, joy and love and the Christ candle which can be lit on Christmas day.



Year 1

In maths, we have been looking at our number bonds to ten and the different ways that we can show them. We have been using lots of part whole models for addition and subtraction. We have also been looking at fact families. In Science, we have been drawing pictures of the seasons and what happens in them. We have focused on autumn and how to identify the signs that autumn is here.

In English, we have been creating wanted posters for Guy Fawkes. He nearly blew up the houses of parliament and tried to kill the king! We needed to create a poster to try and catch him. We had to make sure that we included capital letters and full stops, conjunctions **and** adjectives! We have continued our learning about Guy Fawkes in history. We have been thinking about why we remember Guy Fawkes and learning about what happened during the Gunpowder Plot.

In PSHE we have been recognising how others show their feelings and thinking about different ways to respond. We used emojis to act out some emotions and then the class had to guess what emotion they were feeling. We have also been working hard on our Christmas Play 'Angel Express!'. Some of us are angels and some of us are stars. Our favourite song in it is called 'Welcome Baby Jesus'. We can't wait for you to hear it!

Year 2

Lots of our time has been spent practising for the Christmas Play! We can't wait to show you what we've been up to. We have been trying hard to learn all the words and sing the songs as loudly as we can!

In English, we have been writing a diary about the Great Fire of London. We had to include the conjunction 'because' in our writing and try to use some really vivid description. Our diary entries describe what happened when the fire started and how people escaped. We have also been using apostrophes in contractions.

In Science, we have been competing with each other to build the tallest tower out of 5 pieces paper (only 5!) and masking tape. We did this with our parents when they came in to see all our wonderful work. We then tried to improve our towers by thinking about which shapes we might use.

The tallest tower was Lewis's tower and it reached the ceiling! However, Phoebe's tower won because it was the only one that could stand up on its own.

Year 3

In D.T we have been designing a moving Christmas card and learning how fixed pivots and loose pivots move. We have been thinking about the creative parts of our design too. It was really fun and we can't wait to make them soon! In Maths we have been testing our knowledge on exchanging in maths questions. We have been practising the column method and making sure that we check for errors as we go.

In art we have been painting volcanoes and in English we have been writing a poem to go on top of our volcano. The finished piece should look really effective! In science we have been looking at how to be healthy. It's important to have a balanced diet and to exercise too! If our bodies are healthy, it's easier to keep our minds healthy.

In geography, we have been looking at dormant, active and extinct volcanoes. They exist all over the world, especially on the boundaries of tectonic plates. Tectonic plates slowly move under the earth's surface.

Year 4

In our Christmas play we have been practising really hard. Now we are just putting the final touches together! It was great to see everyone in their costumes too! In D.T. we have been stitching Christmas decorations to go on our trees. We had a D.T. day where we made a template of our design, cut it out in felt, sewed on some details and stuffed our Christmas Decoration ready to be hung up. We have taken them home to hang on our Christmas trees!

In science we have done experiments about states of matter. We have been looking at the rate of evaporation. In maths we have been doing our 3x tables and 6x table and 9x tables. In English, we have been learning about the Ancient Romans. We also have been editing our writing that we did about a storm at sea and what we would feel if we were travelling from North Africa to Roman Britain.

In Spanish, year 4 are doing months of the year. We also got to cook with Mrs Baker last week. We made some super delicious banana and chocolate flapjacks. They were really easy to make and very delicious!

Year 5

In D.T. we are going to be making our own chocolate bars. We have been trying different chocolates and we tried milk, white, dark and caramel and we had to rate them out of 10. Soon we will be using all of this market research to create a chocolate bar with real ingredients.

We have also been using CAD software to design our own packaging for our chocolate bars. In English we have been reading the book 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. In maths, we have been learning about unit fractions. It's been pretty fun! Finally, we have been developing our learning about space in science and we made a display in our books on how the moon orbits around the earth and earth orbits around the sun.

Year 6

In maths we have been learning about metric measures: lengths, weight, capacity. We have also been learning about fractions: multiplying, adding, dividing and subtracting them. In cooking, we have been making omelettes. They were delicious. In English we have been planning a narrative in which we are also learning about how to use pathetic fallacy writing techniques to really engage the reader. In D.T. we have been looking at Christmas cushions in preparation for making our own designs. In Spanish we were writing our pen pals letters, and we are receiving our letters from them today in our Spanish lesson. In history we have been looking at Elizabeth's I to Kenilworth Castle

Blue Sky

Thank you to those of you who have given permission for children's photographs (no names) to be posted on Blue Sky as we make the transition from X. If you haven't already done so, please use the link below:



You can follow us on @barfordstpeters.bsky.social

This Week's Prayer

Christ, come into our world of darkness
Light up our lives with your coming.
Fulfil all our longings with the joy of your birth
Strengthen our resolve to work for change in our world
And to share the hope of your birth that each Advent brings.
Amen

'Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants for ever; his kingdom will never end.' **Luke 1:30-33**

Autumn Term Dates

| Date | Time | Year | Event | Location |
|----------|---------|--------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 5.12.25 | 9am | KS2 | Dress Rehearsal | School Hall |
| | 10.30am | KS1 | Dress Rehearsal | |
| 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 |