



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

## Together we love; together we learn

### Newsletter

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**

It has been another wonderfully busy and successful couple of weeks in school, beginning with Year 6 SATs week. The children approached the tests with real maturity and determination, working incredibly hard through some challenging papers and taking everything in their stride. We are immensely proud of them. A huge thank you also goes to the Year 6 staff for preparing them so well, our families for the support and encouragement they gave at home, and to our wider school community for creating such a calm, respectful atmosphere throughout the week - it made a real difference. Since completing their SATs, Year 6 have been rightly enjoying a well-earned sense of relief and excitement as they look ahead to the many engaging and enriching learning opportunities still to come this term. We are so proud of each and every one of them for the way they have represented themselves and the school.

Over the past fortnight we have also been enjoying a number of parent share sessions across school. It has been a joy to walk through classrooms at these times and experience the wonderful buzz of conversation, pride and celebration as children shared their learning with their families. The smiles on both children's and parents' faces says it all.

This week, I have had the privilege of spending time in every class, and I continue to feel incredibly proud of the learning taking place across the school. Our fantastic teachers work tirelessly to design inspiring, engaging lessons that help learning truly stick, and our children respond with enthusiasm, curiosity and commitment. They are a real credit to us all, showing kindness, perseverance and a genuine love of learning every single day.

We were also treated to a superb Year 5 class assembly this week. Their outstanding body percussion

performance - performed in multiple parts with great precision - was a real highlight, alongside their reflections on their residential trip to Portsmouth. It was also a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the children's writing, which continues to impress.

I wish you all a happy, safe and peaceful half term break (which looks set to be in the sunshine!) and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Tuesday 2nd June.

Very best wishes,

Mrs L Rose  
*Deputy Head Teacher*



### **Farewell Mr Taylor**

On Wednesday, we waved farewell to our PE coach, Mr Kory Taylor. We would like to say a huge thank you to Kory for everything he has given to our school during his time here. His passion, dedication and commitment to providing our children with high-quality PE lessons and clubs has made a lasting impact. He has been an asset to the team and a valued colleague who will be greatly missed by staff and pupils alike. On his final afternoon, Key Stage 2 gave him a wonderful send-off by creating a giant archway to wave and cheer him through - a reflection of how much he means to us all. We wish him every success and happiness in his next adventure and hope he will keep in touch!



## Family Activities this Half Term

Warwickshire families can enjoy a wide range of activities and support this May half term, including outdoor adventures at country parks, museum and heritage events, library activities, family centre sessions and SEND support services. Highlights include Ryton Pools Country Park's 30th Anniversary Fun Day, creative workshops at the Market Hall Museum, themed library events and family-friendly activities across the county. You can find out more about what's on here:

[Warwickshire Half Term Activities](#)

## Sporting Success!

Our Year 5 and 6 girls represented the school brilliantly at a football tournament held at Alcester Town Football Club last week, showing excellent teamwork and determination throughout the event, including an impressive 7-0 victory in one of their matches. The Year 5 and 6 netball team also achieved a fantastic 11-3 win against Telford Junior School and will now go on to compete in the finals at The Kingsley School after half term - we wish them the very best of luck! All pupils involved behaved impeccably, representing the school excellently. Thank you to Mrs Cookes and Miss Richards who have been making these events possible.



## Disco

The children had a fantastic time at last Friday's PTA discos, with some brilliant moves on display from both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Many happy pupils headed home full of treats and buzzing from spending time socialising with their friends. I was delighted to receive feedback from the parents who helped about children's lovely manners too. The PTA raised an impressive £430 at the event - thank you to all the

families who attended and supported this vital fundraising effort for the school. Particular thanks to all the volunteers who gave their time to set up and ensure the event could go ahead smoothly. We are also very grateful to the teachers who stayed behind to support - your time and commitment are greatly appreciated.



## Warwickshire Music

If you are interested in your child playing an instrument or learning to sing, Warwickshire Music are offering FREE instrument hire for your first year of learning, and opportunities to join a range of ensembles and performance events. See flyer attached for more details.

## This week's prayer

Loving God,

Thank You for our school family. Help us to live out our vision of "Together we love; together we learn", by being kind, caring, and looking out for one another each day. Help us to encourage each other and build each other up, and to continue making our school a place where everyone is compassionate and kind.

We pray for those who may be struggling at the moment. Please give them comfort, strength, and peace, and let them feel your love all around them.

Amen

**Let all that you do be done in love.**

*1 Corinthians 16:14*



## What We've Been Learning

### Reception

Reception class have really enjoyed this term's learning about transport and journeys. Last week, our book focus was 'The Naughty Bus' by Jan Oke. In the story, a little boy receives a new toy bus and the book follows the journey of his play with it around his home, where his bus gets up to all sorts of mischief! The children had lots of fun making up their own Naughty Bus adventures in our class and then writing a descriptive 'Lost' poster about it. In our maths, we have been looking at the composition of 10 when split into two parts. The children have enjoyed playing lots of games and problem solving in real life situations to reinforce their understanding of 10, from being bus passengers to recognising more abstract ten bonds using our Numicon shapes and counting blocks. We had lots of fun talking about different forms of transport and making them using junk and recycled materials. Some of us also made objects useful for journeys such as a camera and a lunch box. This week we have been finding out all about our capital city London, and reading 'Katie in London' by James Mayhew. We have been making maps of London landmarks using our building blocks and paper for signs. We have been exploring the language comparing length and height, and went on a hunt to find objects longer and shorter than a 5 cube rod. We spent time afterwards explaining what we chose, comparing them using language such as 'long, longer and longest'. On Tuesday, we used our developing knowledge of number bonds to help us measure distances between London landmarks on a pretend map. We really enjoyed finding out about Tower Bridge, Buckingham Palace and The Tower of London. We also did some excellent detective work when our own classroom crown jewels went missing!



### Year 1

We have had a jam-packed two weeks in Year 1, full of exciting learning and fun activities! In Science, we have been learning about George Mottershead, the founder of Chester Zoo. We explored why it is important for animals to live in the correct habitat and how different environments help animals to stay safe, healthy, and happy. In English, we have

been getting creative by writing our own acrostic poems about Barford. Here is one brilliant example from our class:

**B**arford has a big bridge  
**A**mazing allotments have green grass  
**R**ed roses all around  
**F**un park is playful  
**O**ld houses are brown  
**R**eally colourful flowers  
**D**ark windows in the church



We have also been working very hard to understand suffixes and how we can add them to root words to change their meaning. In PSHE, we have been learning about how we are all the same and different in special ways. We talked about the different groups we belong to, such as football clubs, schools, faiths, and families, and why these groups are important to us. In maths, we have been learning all about sharing and grouping. We used manipulatives (a special maths word for resources like cubes) to help us solve tricky word problems. We have also been learning how to find a half, exploring shapes, and deciding whether statements are true or false, explaining our thinking carefully. We have really enjoyed becoming geographers by making our own maps of Barford. We carefully drew symbols to represent different places around our village.

### Year 2

Year 2 has been full of enthusiasm over the last few weeks! We have been working incredibly hard with Mrs Stock to improve our handwriting and presentation. We were overjoyed when Mrs Rose came to see our learning and said she couldn't believe the progress we have made, particularly with our presentation. She told us it was clear how much hard work had gone on - and that it had really paid off! Mrs Stock is beaming with pride for us, and so are we! In English, we have been learning how to write instructions. To help us understand this, Mrs Stock gave us a set of instructions that were completely wrong! We had so much fun spotting the mistakes and correcting them - it made us laugh while we learned. We are continuing our exciting topic on the Great Barrier Reef, and some of us have been so inspired that we have created our own models at home. They are absolutely fantastic and show just how engaged we are with our learning. In Science, we have been learning about the life cycle of a sunflower. On David Attenborough Day, we

planted our very own sunflower seeds, and we are excited to watch them grow. In Geography, we have been comparing rainfall in Australia and England. We are really loving this topic and finding out lots of interesting facts. We even decided that we would love our next school trip to be to Australia... but we think it might be just a little bit too far!



### Year 3

Year 3 have been loving our exciting topic on China and have been busy learning lots of fascinating new things! In Art, we have been creating our own beautiful Willow Pattern plates. We used blue watercolours to make them look as realistic as possible, carefully painting delicate patterns and details. Our artwork looks amazing, and we are very proud of what we have created! We have also been learning all about Chinese New Year. As part of this, we explored the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and Pig. We really enjoyed finding out which animal represents our birth year! In English, we have written our own information texts about Chinese New Year. We learnt that different foods eaten during the celebrations have special meanings. For example, steamed fish represents wealth, long noodles represent a long life, and shrimp represents happiness - we thought that was really interesting! In maths, we have been learning all about digital and analogue time. The feeling in class is mixed - some of us are loving it, while others are finding it a bit tricky. But we are all showing great determination and will persevere as we continue to practise. One thing that lots of us are really enjoying is our new Zest dance lessons. We are learning a dance routine to *The Greatest Showman* - it is so much fun! We are hoping Miss Baker might even record it so we can share our brilliant moves with our parents.



### Year 4

Year 4 have been working incredibly hard and showing great enthusiasm in all of their learning over the past few weeks! In English, we are studying *Journey to the River Sea* as part of our exciting topic on the Amazon Rainforest. We have written a detailed character description of Miss Minton, the governess who appears at the beginning of the story and seems very strict and firm. We have also written setting descriptions, using a range of adjectives, subordinate clauses, adverbs, and

fronted adverbials to make our writing more descriptive and engaging. In maths, we have been learning all about time and solving some challenging problems involving the length of time. It has really got our brains working hard, but we are rising to the challenge and improving our skills every day. In Spanish, we have written a description of an animal of our choice. It has been quite tricky, but we feel very proud that we can now write full sentences in a different language! In RE, we have been learning about religion and world views in the past. We explored the Chained Bible, which was placed in churches so that everyone could read it, and the Witchcraft Act of 1563, introduced by Queen Elizabeth I, which made it illegal to accuse or practise witchcraft. We also looked at Victorian graves and what they can tell us about people's beliefs and lives in the past. We also learned about Lady Godiva and Earl Leofric, important historical figures linked to our local area. Legend says that Lady Godiva rode through Coventry on horseback to persuade her husband, Earl Leofric, to lower the heavy taxes on the people. Her bravery is still remembered today!



### Year 5

Year 5 have had a very busy and exciting time full of creativity and hard work! The highlight of the week was our wonderful class assembly. We really enjoyed performing some of our music to our parents - it was a fantastic opportunity to share all of our learning. In art, we have been creating wire sculptures. Using pliers, we carefully bent and shaped the wire to make either a boat or a sailor. It was quite tricky to manipulate the wire, but we are incredibly proud of our finished pieces! In maths, we have been learning how to calculate the area and perimeter of polygons, including rectangles. We then applied our knowledge to solve a range of challenging problems, which really tested our understanding. After our trip to Portsmouth, we have been writing detailed recounts in English. We have worked hard to include parenthesis (using brackets, dashes, and commas) and have been thinking carefully about which type works best in different sentences. We have also challenged ourselves to use semi-colons! We also enjoyed writing poems about the Mary Rose, using prepositional phrases and including a range of poetic devices such as rhyme, repetition, similes, rhythm, onomatopoeia, and metaphors. Our poems were full of imagination and creativity. In history, our learning has been very exciting. We have been exploring who Horatio Nelson

was and why he is such an important figure in British history. We learned that Nelson was a famous naval commander who led the British navy to victory at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. This battle was important because it helped to stop Napoleon's plans to invade Britain and made the Royal Navy the strongest in the world for many years. We also discussed why people think it was a turning point in history, as it helped keep Britain safe and powerful at sea.



### **Year 6**

We are all feeling incredibly proud of our hard work during SATs week, and it has been lovely to return to more creative and engaging learning. In maths, we have been completing trails to revisit key topics such as decimals and fractions, helping to keep our knowledge fresh as we prepare for the move to Year 7. In English, we have been writing and designing persuasive adverts for our upcoming enterprise stalls, which will take place after Sports Day to raise money. Half of the proceeds will go towards the school fund, and the other half will help fund our Year 6 party day. We have come up with some fantastic ideas, including a second-hand shop, cake stall, Barford bracelet bar, and a football shooting challenge. We are really excited to bring these ideas to life! We have also been enjoying lots of sporting activities, including some brilliant rounders matches and practising athletics events as we prepare for Sports Day. In music, we have been exploring classical music used in films, thinking about how it creates different moods and emotions in movie scenes. We have also begun preparing for our end-of-year school play - an exciting opportunity for us to shine on stage one final time in primary school. Finally, we all enjoyed a video call with our Spanish pen pals, where we confidently introduced ourselves in Spanish while our pen pals practised their English too - it was a fantastic cultural exchange!



### **Summer Term Dates**

Date	Time	Year	Event	Location
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	<b>INSET DAY</b>			
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	5pm	New Rec	New Reception intake 2026 meeting	School hall
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	10am	All	Year 1 Cake Sale	School hall
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	All week	1	Phonics Screening	In school
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	All week	4	Multiplication Check	In school
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	TBC	5 & 6	Local Area Athletics Competition	King's High
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	TBC	3 & 4	Local Area Athletics Competition	King's High
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	All day	All	Break the Rules Day	N/A
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	2.45pm	5	Year 5 Parent Share	Year 5 classroom
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	9am	All	Sports Day	School field
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	12pm	All	Family picnic & Summer Fair	School field
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	2.45pm	3	Year 3 Parent Share	Year 3 classroom
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	3.15pm	All	Reports to Parents	
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	2.45pm	Choir	Choir concert	School hall
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	All Day	All	Transition Day	
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	3.30pm & 4pm	All	New year group parent meetings	New classrooms
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	10am	All	Reception Cake Sale	School hall
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	All Day	All	Children of the World Day	
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	2pm	6	Year 6 Show	School hall
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	5pm	6	Year 6 Show	School hall
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	2pm	6	Leaver's service	St. Peter's Church
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	9am	6	Leavers assembly	School hall
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>End of Term – school finishes for Summer Holidays</b>			