



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

Together we love; together we learn

Newsletter

Friday 26th June

Well it has certainly been a warm week this week! Children have all been absolutely wonderful and we have enjoyed treating them to ice lollies every day. They never cease to amaze me with their incredible resilience, which they have demonstrated in abundance this week, along with their impeccable manners.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Smith for providing the ice lollies and Mrs Cox for loaning us two portable air conditioning units, which was an enormous help.

I would also like to take the opportunity to say a heartfelt thank you to our wonderful team of staff, who have been incredible at keeping calm and carrying on delivering a full curriculum, despite the challenges. They used some very creative ways to keep their classrooms cool and the children safe so that they were able to continue their learning.

It was wonderful to see all of you at sports day last week which was a resounded success; thank you all for coming along to this very special community day and for your positive feedback. I am sure you will agree that our fabulous Year 6 did an excellent job of running everything; well done Year 6!

We have been reviewing children's progress and achievements this week, which we will share with you in their end of year reports next Friday. Please do take the opportunity to arrange to meet with either the class teachers, Mrs Rose or myself if there is anything you would like to discuss.

Kind regards,

Mrs M.A. Baker
Head Teacher



Air Conditioning

I know there has been some discussion on whatsapp groups this week about air conditioning in school. As you may know, we are very fortunate to have an air conditioning unit in Year 4. However, with warmer summers likely to become more frequent, we have for the past two years been planning potential solutions for how we can install air conditioning in other classrooms over the coming years. Unfortunately, installing air conditioning is exceptionally expensive, and far beyond the remit of funds raised by our FABs committee. I want to reassure you that we will continue to explore ways we can improve the comfort of the classrooms in hot weather and will keep you informed.

Summer Fair

A huge thank you to all those of you who were able to help before, during and after the Summer Fair last Friday, and indeed to everyone who was able to come along and support the school to raise money. It was a most enjoyable event and over £800 was raised which is an incredible achievement. We are very fortunate to have such dedicated leaders and members of our FABs committee.

Transition Day

Just a reminder that **Wednesday 8th July** is Warwickshire transition day. Children will spend the day in their new classroom with their new teacher. Please do come to your child's new classroom at 3.15pm so that we can share information with you about their learning next year.

What We've Been Learning

Reception

Last week we read a book and found out about the life of Mary Anning, the 19th Century fossil hunter who discovered a complete plesiosaur skeleton fossil on the Dorset coast in 1823. We talked about what it meant to be 'inspirational' and an 'expert' and how it was hard for her being a female scientist at that time. We looked at images of her from the past and compared her

clothing with what we wear at the beach nowadays. We made replica fossils from printing into salt dough and set up a Mary Anning Museum and shell shop in our role play area.

We also enjoyed reading the book 'My Dad' by Anthony Browne and writing about our dads for our Fathers Day cards in the style of the book. In our maths we have been problem solving using our number bonds and using a Rekenrek abacus to show our understanding of these.

Our music has been listening to and finding out about an orchestra. We looked at where all the different musicians sit and listened to a piece of music. In PE we really enjoyed our session with the football coaches on the day England were playing Croatia in the World Cup. We enjoyed writing about watching the football in our phonics lesson.

This week we have been reading 'Sharing a Shell' by Julia Donaldson. We have enjoyed writing our own sentences about illustrations from the book and reading out our own work on our classroom Share Chair where we can perform out loud to each other. We found out about symbiosis in the ocean which is about how different fish and sea creatures live together for mutual benefit. We have also been making up our own number stories about sea creatures, applying our knowledge of numbers to our stories, just like in the book.

We have been a super team in the hot weather; getting on, learning and playing together and remembering our new catchphrase, 'Calm is cool!'



Year 1

Over the last two weeks, we have been enjoying lots of exciting learning in Year 1. In maths, we have been partitioning numbers into tens and ones. We have also been identifying numbers on number lines and using our maths skills to solve word problems.

In English, we have been reading '*The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch*' and sequencing the events of the story. We have enjoyed using amazing describing words to make our writing more interesting and exciting.

In science, we have been gathering and recording data. We investigated how many hours of sunlight there are each day and presented our findings using bar charts. It was fun to learn how scientists collect and display information.

In DT, we have started making pieces of play equipment using art straws. We have been testing different ways to make our structures stronger and discussing which techniques make them stronger or weaker. It has been great fun experimenting with our designs.

We all thoroughly enjoyed Sports Day and loved taking part in our races. We cheered on our friends, tried our best and had a fantastic day.

Year 2

Over the last two weeks, we have been busy with lots of exciting learning in Year 2. In English, we have been writing vivid descriptions of our local area inspired by the book '*The Boy Who Loved Maps*'. We have worked hard to include adjectives to engage the reader and apostrophes for possession to improve our writing.

In maths, we have been learning how to read thermometers. This has been particularly useful during this week's heatwave, as we have been able to understand just how warm it has been outside! We have all worked hard to stay cool in our classrooms, and the highlight of the week was when Mrs Baker treated us all to an ice lolly to enjoy in class.

In science, we have been investigating what plants need to grow. We know that plants need sunshine and water to stay healthy, so we have discussed the importance of watering plants during this hot weather. We learned that it is best to water them later in the day when the temperature is cooler.

We have also completed our weaving projects this week. Our rainbow weavings and blankets look beautiful, and we are very proud of the finished results. We used our fine motor skills and showed lots of perseverance, one of our school values, to complete our work.

It has been a fantastic couple of weeks, and we are proud of all our achievements.

Year 3

Over the last two weeks, we have been absorbed in our Kings and Queens topic. We have learned so many fascinating facts and have been comparing the power held by Queen Elizabeth I and Queen Elizabeth II. We are all very excited about our upcoming trip to Kenilworth Castle next week and can't wait to learn even more about this topic and see real history for ourselves.

In English, we have been writing diary entries based on the book '*The Boy Who Became Queen*'. The story is about a boy who unexpectedly has to take on the role of Queen Elizabeth I and discovers what life as a monarch might have been like. We have really enjoyed the humour and adventure in the story and have used it to inspire our writing.

In maths, we have been learning about parallel and perpendicular lines. We designed our own grids and answered true or false questions about them. Miss Baker also set us a challenge to write our own names and work out how many horizontal and vertical lines they contained, which was lots of fun!

In art, we have been exploring light and form through sketching. We used art pencils and experimented with pressing lightly and heavily to create different shades and effects. It was exciting to see how shading can make drawings look more realistic.

It has been a fantastic couple of weeks, and we are looking forward to continuing our learning and our visit to Kenilworth Castle.

Year 4

Over the last two weeks, we have been busy with lots of exciting learning. In English, we have been writing diary entries about Brazil linked to our class text, '*Journey to the River Sea*'. We have enjoyed using the story to help us imagine what life in the Amazon rainforest might be like and have worked hard to include interesting details in our writing.

In maths, we have been learning about angles. We have practised measuring angles and identifying different types, including acute and obtuse angles, using our new mathematical vocabulary confidently.

We thoroughly enjoyed taking part in Sports Day and worked hard to earn points for our houses. Some of us also represented the school at the local athletics event at Kings High School, which was a fantastic experience and great fun.

In computing, we have been learning how to use Microsoft Sway. We researched the rainforest and created presentations to share our findings, combining our computing skills with our topic work.

It has been a busy and enjoyable couple of weeks, and we are very proud of all that we have achieved.

Year 5

Over the last two weeks, we have been busy with lots of interesting learning across the curriculum. In maths, we have been learning all about angles. We have used protractors to measure angles accurately and have then learned how to draw our own lines and angles before measuring them to check our work. We also created fact files about angles and learned that an angle is the measurement of a turn between two lines and that an acute angle is less than 90 degrees.

In English, we have been writing newspaper reports about Ernest Shackleton and his famous voyage on the *Endurance*. We have worked hard to include all the key features of a newspaper report and used formal language to inform our readers.

In history, we have continued learning about Ernest Shackleton's expedition and the many challenges he faced. We also explored different historical sources and discussed whether they were primary or secondary sources, helping us to think like historians.

In RE, we have been considering the question, "*Are all Sikhs the same?*" We explored how people can have different beliefs, experiences and opinions, even when they belong to the same faith community.

In PSHE, we have been learning about laws and the British justice system. We investigated the roles of different people in a court, including judges, lawyers and juries, and thought about why laws are important in society.

It has been a busy and enjoyable couple of weeks, and we are proud of all we have achieved.

Year 6

Over the last two weeks, we have been busy with lots of exciting activities as we make the most of our final weeks at primary school. In geography, we have been learning about contour lines and map keys. We now know that when contour lines are closer together, the gradient is steeper, and we have enjoyed using maps to develop our geographical skills.

We have also been working hard rehearsing for our end-of-year production, 'Pantastic'. The songs are fantastic, and they can often be heard ringing throughout the school as we practise for the big performance. We can't wait to share it with everyone!

Another highlight of the fortnight was Sports Day. We all tried our best and earned lots of points for our houses. Congratulations to Owls, who stole the win by just a few points in a very close competition.

After Sports Day, we ran our Summer Fair stalls and were delighted to raise an amazing £395.95. Half of the money will go towards our Year 6 party, and Mrs Facchino kindly donated the remaining £4.05, bringing our total to £400 and leaving us with £200 to spend on our celebrations. This is the most money a Year 6 class has ever raised, and we are incredibly proud of our achievement.

The final weeks of our primary school journey are now upon us. We have made so many wonderful memories together and are enjoying every moment of this special time before we head off for the summer holidays and our next adventure at secondary school.

Exciting Book Launch!

Hettie Heart is a children's picture book, written and self-published by Meg Lloyd-Phillips a psychotherapist based in Warwick and mum to Tabitha in year 4 who attends Barford Primary School.

Through rhyming verse and fun and colourful illustrations, the story follows Hettie Heart, a little heart who desperately tries to grow, only to discover that the secret to her growth might lie in something far greater than eating well and exercise. Hettie Heart is the first in a series of Hettie Heart books that each offer a different message.

Hettie Heart, teaches children the importance of kindness and compassion and Hettie Heart's Secret, which is coming out shortly, focuses on growing confidence and self-worth. All of the stories are designed to encourage emotional learning and show children the impact that spreading love can have on others, but also on themselves. Meg is doing a book signing on **July 18th at Kenilworth Books** and would welcome the support of familiar faces.

Hettie Heart is also available in store at Present Days Warwick and on Amazon.



This Week's Prayer



Dear Lord,

Set my feet on a solid rock. When I face discouragement, fill me with hope and quiet my anxieties. Help me to learn, to grow, and to emerge refined from every challenge I face. Remind me that I am never alone and that I can rise again, no matter how heavy the burden. **Amen**

INSET Dates for 2026 to 2027

I am pleased to be able to inform you of the INSET dates for the next academic year. These will be as follows:

Tuesday 1 st September
Thursday 22 nd October
Friday 23 rd October
Monday 4 th January
Monday 7 th June

Summer Term Dates – Summer Term Second Half

Date	Time	Year	Event	Location
Thursday 2 nd July	2.45pm	3	Year 3 Parent Share	Year 3 classroom
Friday 3 rd July	3.15pm	All	Reports to Parents	
Tuesday 7 th July	2.45pm	Choir	Choir concert	School hall
Wednesday 8 th July	All Day	All	Transition Day	
Wednesday 8th July	3.30pm & 4pm	All	New year group parent meetings	New classrooms
Friday 10 th July	10am	All	Reception Cake Sale	School hall
Monday 13 th July	All Day	All	Children of the World Day	
Tuesday 14 th July	2pm	6	Year 6 Show	School hall
Wednesday 15 th July	5pm	6	Year 6 Show	School hall
Thursday 16 th July	2pm	6	Leaver's service	St. Peter's Church
Friday 17 th July	9am	6	Leavers assembly	School hall
Friday 17 th July	End of Term – school finishes for Summer Holidays			