



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

Together we love; together we learn

## Newsletter

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

Welcome back to the Spring term and a very Happy New Year to you all. I hope you all had a very enjoyable Christmas break. It has been a joy to welcome the children back into school this week and we have been discussing our school value this term of 'respect'. We talked about ways we can show respect at home, at school and in our communities. The children shared excellent and thoughtful ideas during our collective worship.

This week we have also launched 'zones of regulation' with the children to help them identify their feelings. There is an excellent explanation about zones of regulation here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Rk7sAJvaoo>

The children have responded well to this very simple and effective system and you might like to use the shared language at home as well. Was a separate letter detailing more information sent out earlier this week.

We are looking forward to a short but exciting term with a plethora of exciting learning opportunities for the children. You should have received this term's curriculum letter today outlining what your child/ren will be learning this term.

More information regarding your child's learning and progress will be shared during parents' meetings this half term, which will be available to book from next week – further information to follow.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend,

**Mrs Mary Baker**

### **Attendance & Punctuality**

Just a reminder for the new year that **holidays in term time are not permitted under any circumstances** and will be reported to the local authority attendance officer.

Please could I also remind you that all children should be in school by 8.45am at the very latest, when lessons begin. It can be very unsettling for children to walk into their classroom once lessons have already begun and of course they are also missing important learning input. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

### **Year 3 Cake Sale**



Next Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January will be the Year 3 cake sale. Please send children in with £1 in cash if you would like them to buy a cake. Year 3 cake donations would be very much appreciated! Thank you.

### **FABs Movie Night – Elemental!**

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January is our FABs movie night! Children can stay after school until 5pm to watch the film. Tickets will cost £5 per child and will include pizza, popcorn and a small bag of sweets. Children are welcome to bring comfy clothes / onesies to get changed into. Tickets will be available on Parent Pay from today. Please collect your child/ren at 5pm from the side hall door. Please email the school office if you are able to volunteer and help with this event.



## What we've been learning

### Reception

The children in Reception have clearly benefitted from their break and returned to school this week ready to learn. We have been thinking about how we are going to 'grow' our brains this term, setting ourselves goals for improving as learners. We are all keen to become better writers and are excited about our new 'Wow work' writing display for sharing our success.

We have also been exploring our 'Zones of Regulation' and ways to calm our bodies down to be in the right frame of mind for new learning.

Our topic this term is Amazing Animals. So far we have been finding out about how a vet cares for animals and we are enjoying playing and learning about animals in our Barford Vets role play.

Our story this week has been 'One Snowy Night' by Nick Butterworth which helped us to understand the basic needs of all living things. We have begun our RE topic on Special Places, thinking about what places are special to us and why.



### Year 1

This week in Year 1 we have started our new topic. It is called 'the polar regions'. They are cold places! In maths, we have been learning to understand 11, 12 and 13.

In English we are reading 'Lost and found' the book and then we are doing some writing about this. We had to make predictions about what the book was about; we also made lost posters about the lost penguin.

In science we have been naming materials. We have been trying to see which ones are made of which materials, the different materials are plastic, metal, glass, wood, rock and water.

We are happy to be back at school and we are happy to be learning new things.

### Year 2

It has been a busy start to our learning in Y2. In maths, we have been learning all about subtraction. In today's lesson, we even learnt how to do it in columns. This is quite tricky but once we got the hang of it we found it easy!

Our new topic is space. We are excited to learn all about the different planets other than earth and I'm excited to see if we learnt lots about the Apollo mission.

In science we have been learning about the difference between animals and plants and if they are alive or dead, we went outside and we had to go around and look for the difference between alive and dead plants. Something is alive if it is moving and if it is a plant it will sometimes be colourful and happy.

In English, we have been writing about our junk model cars, they are the ones we made. We have been writing instructions on how to make them and what is good or bad about them. We have also started reading our new book Man on the Moon! We answered lots of questions about the text.

### Year 3

In year 3 we have been getting settled in and learning all about our new English topic - subordinating conjunctions! As our topic is subordinating conjunctions we use something to help us. We now have a saying we've been thinking about which is ISAWAWABUB that we all love and always get the giggles when we say and think of this! We have also been learning about the difference between independent and subordinate clauses, and we are now able to identify them.

In art, we have been looking at the 'Willow pattern story', we have been looking at drawing our own willow trees, and colouring them in. We then used water colours to draw doves. We have been looking at creating willow pattern plates.



be in is the green zone, this is when you are calm, ok and happy.

### Year 5

This week in year 5 we have started our new book, it is called The Monster Slayer and is based on the legend 'Beowulf'. From this we have then been writing setting descriptions based on the first chapter. In the first chapter King Hrothgar holds a feast for all the people in the kingdom in the great hall 'Heorot'. We have been thinking about our personification, similes and metaphors and different ways to enhance our descriptions and make them better.

In maths, we have been looking at multi-step addition and subtraction problems, once we understood how to apply the method, we really challenged ourselves and tried some tricky word problems!

In RE, we are thinking about whether we can live by Jesus' values in today's world, the first value we are looking at is love. We are looking at the bible quote from Corinthians about what love is and producing a piece of artwork about this quote.



Our new topic is 'Anglo Saxons' and we are very excited to get started on this! In guided reading we have started reading a selection of different books; Cogheart, Billy and the Minpins and Holes. We have been summarising and predicting this week. In P.H.S.E we have been doing zones of regulations. We have been thinking of ways we can take 'brain breaks' to help us regulate ourselves and our emotions.

### Year 6

In Year 6 we have been writing setting descriptions from Tudor London and we have been focusing on our conclusions for our balanced arguments. We are working hard on making sure that we aren't biased in our arguments and that we remember to only give our opinion in our conclusion after we have given all the facts/evidence.

In maths, we have been learning to tell the time! We can now write and read the time in digital and analogue time. We have been writing half past, quarter past and quarter to on the clocks. The hour hand is the first digit on the digital clock and the minute hand is the second digit on the digital clock.

In science, we have started our new topic which is 'light'! We have made a menti all about light to show what we already know, for example - bulb, sunshine and bright. We will then make a word cloud for our display and for our books.

In PSHE, we made posters about how to stay healthy. We learnt about what R + R was and we learnt all about a healthy diet and a healthy exercise and how these things make a healthy mind and body!

To link to our Art, in English we have also been doing comprehension on 'The Tale Of Two Doves' and we learnt a lot about it and we learnt what a scholar is; a scholar is somebody who has lots of knowledge and shares it and normally teaches at a University.

### Year 4

This week in Year 4 we have been very busy; we have had a very science filled week! We spent the whole morning on Wednesday doing some science experiments. We had to carefully consider all the steps that we take in an experiment. We did our hypothesis, equipment, diagrams and even more.

In English, We are looking at a new book called 'The Lost Thing'. We have been making predictions, thinking about ideas and discussing what we think the story was about. In maths, in the morning, we were writing our flashback four which is basically four questions on the board that we have to answer; these questions help us recap different areas of maths that we aren't currently focusing on. This helps us to remember different topics and helps us to understand different methods. After we have answered the questions, there will be a times table question on the board which is like our bonus question, we then go through the answers and discuss the ways of solving the questions and finding the answers.

In PSHE, we have introduced something called regulation zones. These zones help us to find colours that can describe our emotions. Sometimes when we are really really sad or angry it is hard to say how we feel so it is easier for us to say a colour. The best zone to

In maths we have been adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators and as mixed numbers. This is a tricky skill and we have had to really persevere in order to be able to do this so accurately,

In science we have finished our topic on the heart and have started a new one about classification. Classification is when you organise and group things together depending on their different qualities and attributes.

We are also really looking forward to starting our new topic: World war 2! We can't wait to learn about the countries that were involved, how it started and how it inevitably came to an end.

In PSHE, we have been learning about the zones of regulation and how to help remain or return to the green zone. The green zone is when you are calm, focussed and ready to learn. We are going to be using these zones to help us understand, navigate and manage big feelings.

**Reading Helpers for Reception Class**

Reception class are desperate for parents or family members to volunteer to help with listening to children read in school! If you or someone you know could spare an hour a week to come and listen to the children read please speak to Mrs Hurlock or Mrs Smith. Thank you.

**A huge thank you!**

The staff and I would like to thank you all for your kindness and generosity at Christmas. Staff were overwhelmed with the gifts and cards the received and are of course enormously grateful.

**Well done Rafael!**

Rafa has had his haircut for The Princess Trust and raised an amazing £1700 for the charity to be able to make 2 new wigs, Thank you to all who donated. Well done Rafa!! Your haircut looks fabulous too!

**Spring Term Dates 2024**

Date & Time	Event
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 3 Cake Sale
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	FABs Movie Night
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day
30 <sup>th</sup> and 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	Year 2 Parent Meeting
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 1, 3, 4, 5 & 6 Parents' meetings
6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Reception Parent Meetings
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 1, 3, 4, 5 & 6 Parents' meetings
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 2 Cake Sale
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> February to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Half term
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Week
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	FABs Disco
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2pm	Easter Service @ St. Peter's Church
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	End of Term

