



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

## Together we love; together we learn

### Newsletter

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Thank you SO much!

A very warm welcome back to the new school year! I hope you all had a fabulous summer break and enjoyed spending time together as a family.

I always find the new school year such a special time and it has been wonderful to welcome the children back to school this week. They all look incredibly smart and have coped remarkably well with the heat. All children have settled so well into their new year groups and have thoroughly enjoyed immersing themselves in their new learning. We are very proud of all of them!

This week in collective worship we have been thinking about our value this half term – kindness. We talked about ways we can be kind at home and at school and have given staff and children the opportunity to nominate others for acts of kindness by filling in a 'kindness ticket'. Each week, we will be pulling 2 tickets out of the special box and two children will receive a special pencil. We will then send home all the tickets so you will know if your child has been kind in school!

This week we have welcomed our new reception children and their families into our Barford family. They have all been absolutely brilliant and have shown us how ready for school they all are. We are all looking forward to watching their special journey throughout Reception. We will be holding our Reception Welcome service at St. Peter's church on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 2pm – all are welcome to attend.

Curriculum letters and knowledge organisers have been sent out this week to keep you informed of what your child will be learning this half term, as well as days for PE and any special days for your child's year group coming up this term.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend and enjoy the sunshine while it lasts!

Very best wishes,

Mrs Mary Baker



We would like to say a huge thank you to our Year 6 leavers' and their families for their generosity in purchasing new picnic benches and much needed sound equipment for the school. We wish them all the very best for their start at secondary school.

#### A message from Mrs Horsman

Many thanks to the parents for my lovely gifts. I was overwhelmed with your generosity. It has been an absolute joy teaching your wonderful children. I will think of my time at Barford with such fondness. Wishing everyone happiness and success for the next academic year.

#### A message from Mrs McPherson

Thank you so much to the parents for your generous and thoughtful gifts at the end of term. I thoroughly enjoyed teaching your wonderful children and I will miss them!

#### A message from Mrs Steward

I just wanted to share a heartfelt thank you for your generosity on my retirement. I was totally overwhelmed and will treasure your gifts and kind words as I move into the next phase of my life. I am already embracing retirement and we have already started a new hobby of paddle boarding; and have used your very generous collection to buy paddle boards and take some lessons! (Pictures to follow if we manage to stay dry enough to take them!!)

It was an absolute pleasure and privilege to work at Barford St Peters, it is a truly wonderful school. When I started working at Barford, its special feel was described as the "Barford Bubble", it was a place where every child could learn and grow, where kindness and respect was celebrated as both the children and adults in school instilled and demonstrated their Christian values to each other every day. And now as I retire, I am proud to say that the special feel remains, the

“Barford Bubble” has not burst but remains intact, it is still a safe haven where children are enabled not only to excel academically but can also develop into truly exceptional young people who put into practise our Christian school values in their daily life. I am sad to leave but know Barford is in safe hands and will continue to be a special place.

I am proud to have been a small part of the Barford school community and could not have asked for a better school in which to end my career. Thank you again for the wonderful memories and the opportunity to work with your incredible children. God bless and wishing you all the very best for the future.

Wendy Steward

### Year 6 Cake Sale

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September Year 6 will be holding our first cake sale of the year! Children are welcome to buy a cake for £1 which will be available on your parent pay account. Any unsold cakes will be available to buy after school using cash.



### Attendance

A friendly reminder at the beginning of the school year that **holidays during term time are not permitted** and will not be authorised under any circumstances.

High levels of absence are very detrimental to a child's well being and prevents them from reaching their full potential Attendance is closely monitored by governors and the local authority and if your child's attendance is less than 90% you will be invited into school to discuss how we can work together to improve their attendance.

### FABs Update

A reminder from FABs to members of the 100 Club to please renew their numbers before September 18th - and not forgetting BARFEST will be taking place on September 16th with tickets still available at [www.ticketebo.co.uk/barfest](http://www.ticketebo.co.uk/barfest)

### Data Collection

Earlier this week we sent out a link for parents to complete to inform us of your preferences in relation to the way we use your child's images in school. We do need all parents to complete this information please. Please also use this link to inform us of medical needs or allergies your child has. Thank you.

<https://forms.office.com/e/6NenV1gVMN>

### What we've been learning

#### Reception

This week Mrs Hurlock has been busy visiting many of the Reception children at home and finding out all about them. The children have all now started school and the Reception staff have been so proud of how sensibly they have been coming in and finding out where things are, playing and tidying away so well. They look so smart in their new uniforms too!

So far we have made our PE mats, been on holiday on an airplane, played lots of getting to know you games, created birthday cakes with the play dough and played with lots of small world toys to name a few things. The children have met their Year 6 buddies who have all been so lovely, helping them at lunch time. What a great start Reception have made. We can't wait for you all to be in together next week!

#### Year 1

Year 1 have made a fantastic start to the new school year. They have settled in amazingly well and have been working very hard; all of the adults in year 1 are very proud of them. I would also like to say thank you to all the children and parents who have made me feel very welcome on my first week at Barford St Peter's! In English, we have been practising our letter formation and ensuring that our letters start and end in the correct places. In maths, we have been developing our understanding of numbers to 10 and have been practising our counting skills and our number formation. In the afternoons, the children have enjoyed learning about toys from the past and looking at how they have changed, they even had a go at creating their own timelines. We have also looked at the work of Eric Carle in our art lessons and we discussed which illustrations we liked and why.

## Year 2

It has been a very hot, but very excellent start to year 2. The children have settled so quickly into our new routines and are showing that they are definitely ready for the challenges to come. In English, we have started reading Vlad and The Great Fire of London. The children have written some mesmerising setting descriptions really focusing on using capital letters and full stops as well as broadening our vocabulary. We have been trying out some synonyms for more common words and using them in our descriptions.

In maths, we have been using the counters, base 10 and tens frames to look at two-digit numbers. We have also been having a go at some tricky problem-solving questions and helping Tiny the tortoise spot his mistakes.



In our topic lesson, we ordered the events of the Great Fire of London and in art, we have started looking at the work of Turner and expressing our opinions on his painting The Burning Houses of London. As well as practising some rolling and stopping skills in P.E, we have looked at some sacred artifacts in R.E. and answered some questions about our new science topic! It has been a jam-packed week - this is going to be a wonderful year!

## Year 3

In Year 3 we have had a fantastic start to the term! We have been busy learning about diary writing by imagining our best school day ever. The children then included their great ideas in some wonderful pieces of extended writing. In Maths we started the week with a fun Maths trail and then continued by exploring place value and number bonds. To start our new learning theme of 'The Striking Stone Age!' we had fun being archaeologists exploring caves in the classroom to find out about the evidence that was left from this time. During PE, the children demonstrated fantastic football skills and we even managed to have our own mini competition where England played against France. In case you're wondering, England won! Year 3 we are very proud of your very successful start of term and can't wait to see you for another fabulous week next week!

## Year 4

This week in Year 4, we began work on our new topic: Ancient Egypt. We were so lucky to have a visit from Mr. Egypt - a professional Egyptologist! Our day was crammed full of facts about Ancient Egyptian life, their beliefs and practices and the major discoveries of different tombs. We even had a go at Egyptian dancing, as well as turning some of the class into mummies! It was an incredible day and has set us up for a really exciting topic.



## Year 5

This week in year 5 has been wonderful! It has been so lovely to be reunited and enjoy our first week together. We have done so much already! We have read 'The Great Kapok Tree' as our English text and having been inspired by this, wrote our own amazing descriptions of the Amazon Rainforest. We had a visit from Simon for our 'Marvellous Maya' day! He was incredible! He was so knowledgeable and we are already Maya experts. In Maths, we have started looking at place value. We started our science topic all about forces. We even learnt more Spanish vocabulary and picked up from where we left off with Mrs Del Rio. A jam packed (and super-hot) but really successful week in year 5!

## Year 6

In Year 6, Shakespeare's Macbeth has provided us with a drama-filled start to our Tudor Warwickshire topic. Focusing on the scenes in which Macbeth and Banquo encounter the three witches and hear their prophecies, we have enjoyed using our facial gestures, volume and intonation to convey our characters' thoughts and feelings. It seems we are quite the thespians!

In our English lessons, we have been writing in the role of Macbeth, writing a letter informing his malevolent wife of the witches' words. We enjoyed experimenting with Shakespearean language and even found ourselves inventing our own words!

In Science, we began our 'light' topic- learning about how light enables us to see. We became TV presenters for the afternoon- recording our own educational Science shows. A fantastic start to our learning!

### Roald Dahl Day

Just to clarify, this year children will be carrying out activities in class as part of Roald Dahl day to celebrate this incredible author, but will NOT be required to dress up!

### School Fund

We are immensely grateful for your positive and generous response to our request for donations to school fund. We apologise that there have been some issues with the exact matching of the account name. Please use 'Barford St. Peter's CE Aided Primary School' or click 'trust' as the account details are correct. Thank you.

### Autumn Term Dates 2023

Date & Time	Event
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	Teas & tissues for new Reception parents
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 6 cake sale
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> September 11am	Family Service @ St. Peter's
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September <b>*2pm*</b> <b>Please note change of time</b>	Reception Welcome Service @ St. Peter's
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> September 5pm	Reception phonics & tapestry meeting
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September 10am	Macmillan coffee morning
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> October 9am	Harvest Festival @ St. Peter's
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 5 cake sale
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Family Service @ St. Peter's
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> October 1pm to 5pm	Parents' Meetings (via zoom)
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> October 3.30pm to 7pm	Parents' Meetings (via zoom)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	INSET day

### INSET Dates 2023 to 2024

INSET dates for next academic year have now been set and are as follows:

Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April