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# BARNBY DUN PRIMARY ACADEMY



## NEWSLETTER - Summer Term 2016 - Second Half

Welcome back to our final half term. Fingers crossed the sunshine will continue!

**Star Pupils** Every week we continue to enjoy our special assemblies to celebrate children's achievements and efforts across the curriculum as well as French, Swimming, Gardening, Sporting competitions and out of school activities. Our Barnby Dun Bears, Snuggles and Bernard, continue to be very popular and are given to one boy and one girl for outstanding achievement, effort and behaviour. Recent star pupils have been: Alice Wilkinson-Leigh, Millie Hunsley, Molly Reed, Alex Barter, Eva Garbutt, Kelsey Brooks, Freya Jubb, Tia Jacques, Josh Julian, Tomas Saul, Roman Gladwin, Oliver Bull, Owen Lyall, Campbell Downie, Tom Brookes, Oscar Trowbridge, Jorge Blenkin, Chase Gallagher.  
Well done, we are very proud of you all.

### Year 6 Sats

Before half term, our Year 6 did their National Sats tests in maths, reading and spelling, punctuation and grammar. They have been working extremely hard in preparation for these, during and after school, as well as at home. We are so proud with how they dealt with the tests, every single child did their absolute best. It will be a nervous wait now until their results are published in July. Thank you to all parents for your support and encouragement. I am sure, like us, you are glad it's all over!!

**Absences** Parents are reminded that when a child is reported to be absent, a decision is then made by myself if to authorise the absence or not.

Authorised absences will not be given for very minor injuries or illnesses. Similarly, absences for medical appointments are only authorised if we can see that effort has been made to arrange it at a time that will least impact on a child's education. As late as possible in the school day is best as they will not miss much lesson time.

There have been a small number of occasions recently when children have been reported ill and the circumstances have not been considered genuine so haven't been authorised. Parents are committing an offence by keeping their child off school without authorisation. The Local Authority take a very dim view of such situations and Fixed Penalty Notices can be issued, even for one day unauthorised absence.

### Staffing and plans for September

After 15 years teaching at Barnby Dun, Mrs Seymour, our Reception teacher/leader, will be retiring in July. I am sure you would wish to join me in thanking her for all her hard work and wishing her a happy, healthy retirement. She has many travel plans, beginning with a trip to China to see her daughter in the Autumn. Mrs Pedder will be returning from her maternity leave at the beginning of July, working two days a week in her role as Assistant Head and Inclusion leader/SENCo. We will bid a sad farewell to Mrs McCaw, year 4 teacher, at the end of term. She is leaving teaching to work as a literacy consultant. We wish her lots of luck in her new career. We are happy to announce that Miss Macredie, who has been with us all year as a trainee teacher in the Caterpillars' class, will become a member of our teaching staff from September.

I have started working with class teachers to organise children into their new classes for September. As always we will start with friendship groups, also taking into account teachers' knowledge and observations of the children.

If parents have any concerns or thoughts they wish to share with me regarding classes for September please catch me first thing in a morning or give me a quick ring, as soon as possible. I am happy to discuss your thoughts with you. Once new classes have been finalised and children informed these cannot be altered.

**Class swap day will take place on Monday 11th July.** Our new Reception children and their parents will be visiting us too on that day. We hope you will pop in and say hello to your child's new teacher and teaching assistants. We will remind you closer to the time. Many thanks.

**Sporting News** Well done to Year 5 boys who took part in a Kwik Cricket tournament at Hungerhill School in April—Alex Hawker, Bradley Taylor, Tommy Plevey, Ben Munro, Jayden Waite, Leon Perigo, James Butterfield, Ethan Miller for coming 3rd overall. For Girls Football Week, Mr Beaglehole delivered training sessions for girls from Year 1 to Year 6. Thank you Mr Beaglehole! Children in Years 3 and 4 took part in a 'tchoukball' tournament at Hungerhill. Despite never having played the Swedish version of handball, we won! Well done to Joseph Dixon, Jack Collins, Abi Green, Harmany Gibson, Corinne Hay, Ava Chesney, Eve Harris, Megan Lister, Abbie Jackson, Cooper Duke, Louis Dunne, Oscar Smith, Isabella Goodchild, Milania Edwards, Emily Cheetham, Max Green. Keepmoat Footballers—Well done to Oscar Trowbridge, Adam Walker, Thomas Atkins, Thomas Brookes, Ryan Swaby, Alex Hawker, Saskia Sleath and Ruby Dunne who all represented our school at a football tournament organised by Doncaster Rovers. Thank you and well done to all who played at the Hotshots basketball tournaments at Canon Popham. We came a very respectable third place. Everyone has played really well at our recent sporting events and have been a credit to the school.

**Sports Days** Fingers crossed that the weather will be kind to us and our Sports Days will go ahead as planned. We very much hope to see you on Friday 17th June at 1.30pm for KS2 and Monday 20th June 1.30pm for Reception/KS1. As always we will be over on our sports field next to the schools library service/old school. Feel free to bring a rug or a chair.

If these events cannot go ahead due to bad weather we will text parents/carers and re-schedule. Thank you in advance for your patience.

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May I remind parents that the sports field is part of our school site and the same no-smoking/no dogs policies apply.

### INSET DAY

Another reminder that school is closed to pupils on Friday 24th June, as we have a teacher training day. Thank you.

### Top attendance

Congratulations to the year 1/2 Dragonflies, year 3 Caterpillars, year 5 Koalas, year 6 Lions and year 6 Giraffes whose overall attendance hit the target of 98.1% or above for the last half term. They will enjoy a reward day with activities of their choice very soon. Our lucky raffle winners of Argos Vouchers for having 100% attendance last half term were Will Chesney and Kelsey Brooks. Well done!!

### Eco-project

Mr Harrison and his gardeners have been even busier than usual and our poly-tunnel, funded by IKEA, is in place and almost ready to use. We would very much like to thank Mr Sleath for his support with materials for this project.

The year 6 children who worked with Mr Harrison to secure funding for the project: Bethany Dixon, Roman Gladwin, Adam Walker and Harry Walton will visit IKEA again soon to present an update and show photographs of their work in progress.

Thank you too to the Village Gardeners, members of our local community, for their kind donations of plants.

### School Office

Please could we remind parents that we can not accept loose money at the school office window. All payments coming into school should be placed in an envelope marked with your child's name and class. Please can payments be placed in the class boxes wherever possible.

We are becoming increasingly inundated with items being brought to the school office for delivering to class through the school day. The delivery of items causes disruption both in classrooms and to our busy school office. With this in mind, please can parents endeavour to ensure that children have everything they require for the school day when they arrive in the morning—including packed lunches, PE kits and items of clothing for after school clubs. Thank you for your co-operation.

Kind regards, Miss C.E. Robinson — Headteacher

### Diary Dates Week beginning 6th June-Olympic' week

Wednesday 8th June-Reception classes to Butterfly House

Thursday 9th June- KS1 to The Deep

Friday 10th June-year 6 treat trip to Vue cinema and bowling

Monday 13th June-year 5 to Nottingham Galleries of Justice

Week beginning 13th June—'My Money' Week

Tuesday 14th June—Trip to Harrogate/Yorkshire Showground for some gardeners/eco-warriors

Thursday 16th June-class photos

21st, 22nd and 23rd June—Year 6 Transition Visits to Hungerhill

Tuesday 28th June—Meeting for new Reception parents @ 5.30pm

Wed 29th/Thurs 30th June—Yr3 and 4 orienteering at Austerfield

Thursday 30th June—Race for Life

Monday 4th July—KS2 Performance for Grandparents @ 10.00am

Tuesday 5th July—KS2 Performance for Parents @ 6.00pm

Wednesday 6th July—KS2 Performance for Parents @ 10.00am

Thursday 7th July—KS2 Performance for Parents @ 6.00pm

Monday 11th July—Class Swap Day

Wednesday 13th July—trip to Yorkshire Wildlife park for 100%/highest attendance

Friday 15th July—SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR SUMMER. Pupils return on Thursday 1st September 2016.

Class Assemblies Thank you to parents and family members of the Reception Bears and Ladybirds for attending their recent class assemblies. The children were so confident and really enjoyed sharing their work. We appreciate your support and kind comments.

Leave of Absence Government legislation prohibits leave of absence during term time, except in very exceptional circumstances. The Government defines exceptional circumstances as:

\* Where it is Company Policy for an employee to take leave at a specified time of year and there is no opportunity to take a family holiday at any other time. Documentary evidence needs to prove that the employee has no influence at all over when their employer allocates their holidays. Please note also that self-employed people who prefer to take their holidays in term time do not meet this criteria.

\* Where service personnel are returning from or scheduled to embark upon a tour of duty abroad.

If family circumstances meet one of these criteria and a child's attendance is at least 96%, 5 days leave of absence may be authorised for one occasion during a school year.

I have always urged parents/carers to speak with me prior to making any booking or travel plans. Given the serious implications of taking unauthorised leave, and growing number of parents being prosecuted for their child's low attendance, it is imperative that you do this. Thank you. We have been advised not to consider any leave of absence applications for next school year as yet, because it is expected that changes will be made to law regarding consequences for unauthorised absences. If you require further information, please contact me.

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