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# BARNBY DUN PRIMARY ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

## Autumn Term 2016 - Second Half

Dear Parents/Carers

We hope you and your children enjoyed a well-earned rest over the half term break. Welcome back to a busy half term!

**Harvest Festival** Our Reception/KS1 children all enjoyed their Harvest Celebration in school with Reverend Dee. They sang their Harvest songs beautifully and read some of their lovely poems. Dee was impressed with their super behaviour and enthusiasm! Thank you very much for your generous donations of food items to support the church's chosen charity.

**Star Pupils** Our two Barnby Dun bears continue to be given to one boy and one girl who I choose as my star pupils for the week. They also receive a special certificate. It is always a very difficult choice! So far my star pupils have been: Matthew Seaton, Lloyd Perigo, Bradley Dutton, Nate Conway, Nathaniel Elsom, Levi Smedley, Jack Dunn, Jake Harrop, Abbie Jackson, Erin Plevy, Lexie-Belle Redfern, Darcy Conway, Chloe Barley, Millie Brewster and Lacey Prinsloo. Well done, you are all amazing!

**Attendance** The Education Welfare Officer completed his half-termly review with me recently. These are the bandings against which schools and Local Authorities monitor every child's attendance. These are:

- Expected—96% and above
- Monitoring—95%-95.99%
- Concern—90.01%-94.99%
- Serious concern/Persistent absentee— 90% and below

All pupils whose attendance is currently below 96% were discussed in some depth and will continue to be closely monitored on a daily/weekly basis by myself and the Education Welfare Officer until their attendance reaches this threshold at least. If you are concerned about the impact of a period of absence on your child's attendance percentage, you can request an up to date figure at any time. These are updated each Friday when each child's attendance marks for the week are uploaded to the Local Authority. Please ask at the office.

**I can't stress enough the negative impact even a short absence can have on a child's progress. With the much higher age-related expectations now, the curriculum moves on at such a rapid pace and absences can cause gaps in learning that are very difficult to close.**

**Class Assemblies** The children's class assemblies were enjoyed by us all last year. We very much appreciated you coming and joining in the celebration of each class's achievements. We hope to see you on these dates:

Thursday 17th November—Year 5/6 Gazelles

Thursday 24th November— Year 3 Peacocks

Thursday 1st December—Year 4 Elephants

Thursday 12th January—Year 3 Owls

Thursday 19th January—Year 6 Zebras

Thursday 26th January—Year 1/2 Turtles

Thursday 2nd February—Year 2 Sharks

Thursday 9th February—Year 5 Meerkats

Thursday 16th February—Year 1 Jellyfish

Thursday 2nd March—Year 4 Leopards

Our Butterflies & Bluebirds will do an assembly later in the year.

Each assembly will begin at 3pm so please arrive at Reception by 2.55pm. In recognition of all the hard work that the children and staff put into producing these assemblies, can we politely remind family members to ensure their mobile phones are switched off/on silent. Also, parents with babies or young children who may become restless should please sit by the hall door so they can pop outside if this occurs. It can be very disappointing for our children if they practise their lines and look forward to performing their bit, and then they can't be heard. Many thanks for your co-operation.

**Kingswood** Our year 6 children enjoyed their residential stay at Kingswood in the run up to half term. Miss May said they were the best group she has taken and their excellent behaviour made all the staff very proud. Well done everyone for your fantastic teamwork and overcoming your fears on those adventurous activities!

**Fantastic pupils** A special mention and sincere thankyou to Jayden Waite, James Butterfield, Josh Sleath and Niall Scholey who kindly gave up their time to sell the vegetables we have grown at our Autumn Fair.

Thanks to our school councillors Lucy Roffe, Patsy Denton, Harry Dixon and Ben Munro for their help with our book sale. Thankyou too to Mrs Jevons who organised the whole event and even found time to drop off the remaining books at a local charity shop. Our school council raised a fantastic £165. Thanks for your support.

### 'Barnbywoods'

Mr Harrison and his keen gardeners continue to be busy in 'Barnbywoods'. There is still plenty to do, even in the colder months. Myself and Mr Harrison are looking forward to enjoying the woods with our first Eco-warriors group.

'Barnbywoods' will be open to our community on the afternoons of 7th November and 5th December. Please feel free to go in and take a stroll around. We would be most grateful for any suggestions/feedback or offers of help.

**Attendance** Thank you for ensuring your children are here on time so everyone can have a calm, positive start to the school day. Children have been enjoying our weekly attendance cup celebration for the class with the highest attendance and individual attendance raffle. Children who have 100% in the previous week and have their ticket drawn out of the raffle, get to sit on a chair in Friday's celebration assembly which makes them feel very special!

The class with the highest attendance for the first half term were Mrs Walker's Year 3 Owls with 99.3% followed by Year 3 Peacocks with 99.2%. Butterflies, Sharks, Jellyfish, Elephants, Leopards, Meerkats, Gazelles and Zebras also achieved our target of 98.1% or above, as a class. They will each enjoy a special reward day with activities of their choice.

We held our special Golden raffle for the individual children who achieved 100% attendance for the first half term. The winner of 'Arnold the Attendance Alligator's' WH Smith vouchers were Jagoda Pasik-Davies and Noah Flint. Several other children also won some sweet treats in Arnold's raffle.

Well done everybody for excellent attendance and working as a team in the first half term—keep it up!

### Pushchairs

A polite reminder that during wet weather, pushchairs should not be wheeled through school. All of our corridors, classrooms and shared areas are recently carpeted. Please help us to keep our school clean, tidy and safe for everyone. Many thanks.

### Appointments in school time

Please remember that, as far as possible, all medical appointments should be taken in out of school time. Authorised absence to attend a medical appointment can only be given if parents can provide a valid reason for why this appointment has to be taken during school hours and a copy of the appointment letter.

We would ask that any such appointments are arranged for **after 1.30pm**, so children are not missing English and/or Maths lessons and disrupting other children's learning by arriving/leaving mid session. If an appointment has to be during a morning, children need to attend registration at 8.45am to get their attendance mark and return as soon as possible after their appointment. Many thanks.

Please note—authorisation for leave of absence cannot be given for routine appointments that could be taken after school or during the school holidays.

### Payments coming into school

Please ensure that all school meal payments are made on a **MONDAY** morning or the first day back after a holiday or training day. Late payment involves a considerable amount of extra accounting, and repeated late payments can ultimately result in withdrawal of meal service under local authority policy.

School meals continue to be £2 per day. If you prefer, you may pay in advance for the whole half term.

**All cash/cheque payments for school meals, breakfast club, trips, clubs etc. should be in a sealed envelope labelled clearly with your child's name and class and placed in the class boxes. Loose cash payments cannot be accepted at the office window. Please use separate envelopes for different payments. It would also help us if payments for siblings are also placed in separate envelopes as these are accounted for separately. Thank you for your co-operation.**

**Sporting News**—Children from Year 1 to Year 6 took part in a pyramid cross country competition at Hungerhill on 20th September. KS1 team came 2nd overall and Beau Cheesewright was the overall winner! KS2 team came 3rd overall. We were very impressed with how determined the children were to complete the course and were a pleasure to take. Well done to: Zac Stewart, Michael Butterfield, Louisa Dixon, Pippa Hancock, Grace Hancock, Martha Beck, Matty Munro, Beau Cheesewright, George Goodchild-Pask, Jennifer Muldoon, Jagoda Pasik-Davies, Harry Salter, Rylan Warrington, Abbey-Leigh Dutton, Sebastian Siddall, Jake Harrop, Jodie Parkin, Ben Johnson, Daisy Abbott, Oscar Lake, Lloyd Perigo, Alfie Denton, Joseph Dixon, Ben Munro, Isabelle Kelly, Milania Edwards, Amellia Markham, Ethan Miller, Jack Collins, Owen Oldfield, Megan Lister, Amy Walker, Ava Chesney, Georgia Hay, Charlotte Errington, Jayden Waite, Tia Jacques, Jessie Parkin.

### Diary Dates

Monday 7th November—Friday 18th November—International Arts Fortnight—Europe.

Monday 5th Dec 10am—Reception/KS1 Nativity Performance—Grandparents only. Parents are not permitted to attend this performance. Thankyou.

Tuesday 6th Dec—2pm performance for parents Reception/KS1 Nativity.

Wednesday 7th Dec—5.30pm performance for parents Reception/KS1 Nativity.

**Thursday 8th Dec—11am Key Stage 2 Carol Service at church. Family members are welcome!**

Monday 12th Dec—Year 5 and 6 Christmas Party.

Tuesday 13th Dec- Year 1 and 2 Christmas Party.

Wednesday 14th Dec—year 3 and 4 Christmas Party.

Wednesday 14th Dec— Christmas dinner.

Thursday 15th Dec—Reception Christmas Party.

**Friday 16th Dec—We break up for the Christmas holidays. Children and staff return on 3rd January 2017.**

### Resources to support your child

Following on from our parents' workshops, we wish to remind you of the resources available on our website to support parents with getting to grips with all the grammatical terms that children are being taught and need to know. Click on 'grammar progression' and the 'grammar guide' is on there as a pdf. Let us know if you find it useful. Thanks.

Kind regards

Miss C.E. Robinson

Headteacher

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