



# Barnburgh Primary School

## Newsletter

**Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> September 2017

**Headteacher:** Mrs Potts

**Issue:** 40

### **Welcome back to a new school year.**

I hope you all had a good summer break.

I would like to start by welcoming our new Foundation Stage 1 to Barnburgh Primary School. It has been a pleasure to meet all our new starters, many of which are already challenging me to remember their names! I have been very impressed with the calm, positive way they have started school. In addition to this, we have welcomed 8 new children to our school since the start of the new school year. Our school is filling up fast! We will soon be full in Foundation Stage 1, we have a waiting list for children to start in Foundation Stage 2, and our Years 3 and 5 are currently full. We must be doing something right!

In addition to all our new pupils, it also gives me great pleasure to welcome 4 new members of staff to our team. Miss Nicholls, Miss Appleyard, Miss Watson and Mrs Kehoe have all completed their first full week with us and have already made such a positive impact on our school. I'm sure you will all join with me in offering them a very warm welcome to Barnburgh Primary School.

As well as new children and new staff, I would also like to announce a new role that we have in school. Many of you will know Mrs Dimanna who has spent many years at our school working as a Teaching Assistant. At the end of last year Mrs Dimanna was successful in securing the new position of Pastoral Leader. She will be working closely with children to develop social and emotional aspects of learning in addition to providing support for special educational needs. Many children at some point during their time at school feel vulnerable for a variety of reasons. We are delighted to have a member of staff on the team who is equipped with the skills to provide bespoke social and emotional interventions. I know Mrs Dimanna is looking forward to developing links between home and school and providing further support to families when they need it. We have a new facility within the newly refurbished Early Years unit which we have named the Rainbow Room. This is currently being developed into a sensory space for children to work in with Mrs Dimanna. If you would like more information about this new service or if you would like the opportunity to talk to Mrs Dimanna, please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

Whilst I am welcoming new children, new staff and new roles, it seems like the right moment to announce the birth of beautiful Phoebe Rose Ocock who arrived safely on the 30th July. My second Barnburgh baby! Mrs Ocock and her family are thoroughly enjoying their new addition and we are all looking forward to meeting Phoebe. I'm sure you will want to join me in wishing Mrs Ocock and her family a HUGE congratulations!

## SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

You may have seen a lot of activity happening at our school as you were passing by during the holiday. I am delighted to tell you that we welcomed the council team back into school to provide us with a brand new lighting system. It was a big job which involved ceilings being taken down and lots of mess! In addition to this we have also had some slight upgrades to our heating pipes. Many thanks to Mr Johnson for looking after the building team and getting the school ready for us to welcome our staff and pupils back.

## BIKE IT.

Our new project for the coming year is BIKE IT, working in partnership with Sustrans. The project supports and develops our drive to promote healthy lifestyles by encouraging as many children as possible to choose bikes, scooters or even skateboards as their chosen mode of transport to and from school. There are currently 45 BIKE IT schools in Doncaster and we look forward to increasing that statistic.

We will hold a variety of events and activities to try and encourage children to start using 'active travel' including a Dr Bike and Bike Breakfast on Tuesday 10th October when a free breakfast will be provided to all children who come to school on that day using some sort of active travel in addition to everyone being able to access a free bike check. Our School Champion for BIKE IT is Mr Tuhey who is now recruiting for Barnburgh Primary's BIKE IT CREW. Children who are interested will be given a Bike IT Crew Application Form next week.

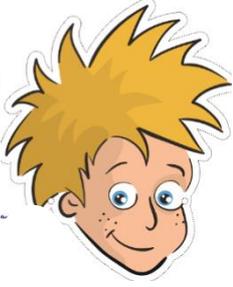
## YEAR 5 RESIDENTIAL

This week our Year 5 pupils have spent time at Kingswood on a three day residential. They have developed their team working skills by participating in a variety of outdoor activities. I had the pleasure of watching them learn how to canoe! Mrs Hansen has stayed in touch with me throughout the trip and cannot praise the children highly enough for their excellent behavior and great company. I think there will be some tired children tonight.

## UNIFORM POLICY

Finally I would like to thank you for supporting our new uniform policy. I'm sure you have noticed how smart our children are looking and I am delighted to let you know that we have already had a visit from a senior advisor in the local authority who commented very positively about how smart the children look. Just a reminder that all shoes/trainers must be **plain black**. I have noticed one or two children wearing shoes with white soles or logos on them. This type of shoe does not meet our uniform expectations. Could I also remind you to ensure that all your children's clothes are labelled? In the space of 8 days we have already had a number of uniform items lost or muddled with other children's clothes. Our admin team have spent a lot of time this week trying to locate lost items of clothing. To try and avoid this happening in future we will be opening school up every Friday from 3pm to 3:30pm to enable families to look through all lost property items for themselves in the ICT room. A reminder will be sent out next Friday via the website mobile app.

*Mrs Potts*



# ATTENDANCE

FOR PERIOD: 11/09/17 to 15/09/17

We take the attendance of our children very seriously.  
Our target is for every class to achieve **AT LEAST 97% attendance**



F2	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
96.8%	100%	99.2%	100%	99.3%	99.3%	94.2%

## CONGRATULATIONS TO YEAR 1 & YEAR 3!

100% is a fantastic achievement.  
The children in years 1 and 3 will choose a special activity as their reward.

Overall our school attendance for last week  
was: 97.9%  
This would be considered to be  
**'good'**

