



Barnes Farm Infant School

Newsletter



Friday 20.11.2020

<https://www.barnesfarminfants.co.uk>

Follow us on Twitter: @FarmBarnes

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy week in school and as you read through our newsletter you will be able to see why!

Thank you to all parents/carers that have been taking notice of the guidance that we have given around the school site in relation to our Covid-19 safety measures. By working together, we can keep the school community safe.

Essex County Fire & Rescue Service Workshop – Year 2

On Monday 23rd November, we are very much looking forward to Fire Officer Neil Soanes visiting Year 2. This will be linked to our PSHE curriculum and ‘Great Fire of London’ project and we will be learning important lessons about fire safety. We will share our learning with the school community in the newsletter next week and on Tapestry.

No Pens Day - Wednesday 25th November



We are very much looking forward to taking part in ‘No Pens Day’ next week. The aim of the day is to encourage spoken language and listening skills and raise awareness of their importance in education and beyond.

On Wednesday 25th November, children in the school will put down their pens and pencils and all lessons and activities will have a focus on spoken language skills rather than writing skills.

We cannot wait to share the wonderful activities that the staff have planned with you on Tapestry.

Forest Schools - Year 2



GONE CONKERS!

Year 2 had a super start to Forest School this week and they had fun learning all about conkers and the games they could play with them.

They focused on safely skills using a palm drill to make holes in the conkers, as well as making mud soup and animal baths!

Each week, we will upload more information about what the children have been doing and lots of photos to show you the great time they have had to our school website. The link to our Forest School Fun! page can be found below...

<https://www.barnesfarminfants.co.uk/page/?title=Forest+School+Fun%21&pid=605>

NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe



We have very much enjoyed meeting Buddy from the NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe programme in Assembly.

Buddy, a friendly, green speech bubble who believes that children should be able to speak out to someone if they're worried or unhappy gave the children lots of advice on staying safe. It has been great to see the children already using the language and taking onboard Buddy's advice.

Speak out Stay safe is a safeguarding programme for children aged 5- to 11-years-old and it helps children to understand the following:

- abuse in all its forms and how to recognise signs of abuse
- that abuse is never a child's fault and that they have the right to be safe
- where to get help and the sources of help available to them, including the [Childline service](#).

At BFIS, we feel that it is vitally important for us to support the children to feel confident to ask for help if they need it and this is integral in our school ethos and safeguarding policy.

We have attached our Safeguarding Poster to this email, which is displayed in school, so that parent/carers know who to go to if they need support and advice on a safeguarding issue.

Anti-Bullying Week

We have incorporated our NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe launch with Anti-Bullying Week. Lots of the same themes are shared and taught in a fun and age-appropriate way. The children have enjoyed listening to stories to support them to reflect on kind and unkind behaviours.

All children were reminded of the three basic ways to behave in a situation that is upsetting them:

- Hold up their hand - Say 'Stop I don't like what you're doing' (if it continues)
- Walk away
- Tell a grown up

We are very proud to say that they have done an excellent job in showing us that they know how to be kind, stay safe and be happy in school.

Take care and stay safe,
Mrs Farmer






Health Champions – Mrs Robinson



This week we have launched our 'Happy and Healthy Lunchtimes' project which is part of 'The Children's Health Project' wellbeing initiative. Each class in Year 1 and 2 and been asked to nominate two Health Champions who will be helping to keep our lunchtime happy and healthy.

This week, I have met with our Year 1 Health Champions and we have talked about litter patrol in the playground, making lunchtime active by setting personal challenges and what we like about lunchtimes at the moment. They are going to help me to lead assembly next week to introduce the first of our 'Personal Active Challenges'. I am sure they are going to be great help in making our lunchtimes experience even better for everyone in school! Below are the names of our Year Health Champions and they have had their photo taken for our display in school. Next week, I will introduce our Year 2 Health Champions.

	Scarlett and Harry
	Emily and Adam
	Jake and Katerina

Reading Competition – Mrs Merrick

The new reading competition has been launched! The reading competition this term is... ‘We read too, can you guess who?’ Lots of members of BFIS have disguised themselves behind a book which may contain a clue to who they are, all you need to do is guess who it is behind the book. The reading competition was **launched on Tuesday 17th November** and will **close Friday 4th December**. Please email your answers to admin@barnesfarm-inf.essex.sch.uk. Happy guessing!

Curriculum – Mrs Merrick

To learn more about the incredible festival of light, Diwali, children in Reception made some colourful rangoli art. They created a wonderful pattern! Well done Badger, Rabbit and Fox class! Earlier in the week, Mrs White also did a spectacular job of telling the whole school all about the festival during our assembly.



Christmas at BFIS



As we said in our last newsletter, we have lots of exciting plans to make Christmas extra special for everyone in school this year. We would very much like to have two big outdoor Christmas trees at the main entrance points to the school. If anyone can help with this, please contact the school office, we would be very grateful. Thank you.

BFIS Film

We are so please to share with you all our school’s short film. Permission has been given by all parents/carers for this film to be shared for promoting the school and therefore, please feel free to share this link with family and friends. Please click on the below link to view on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wb7gvEmbSb8> Clubs

[Follow us on Twitter?](#)

If you have a Twitter account, why not follow our school ...

@FarmBarnes

This is a platform for the school to share news and successes. General communication with parents and carers regarding school arrangements will be through letters and regular Newsletters home.

[Play Equipment in the School Grounds](#)

A polite reminder to all parents/carers that the play equipment is out of bounds at the beginning and end of the day. This has always been the case at BFIS but with all the new changes, this has been lost in communication. Thank you for your support.

[Admissions for Reception Year for Academic Year Starting September 2021](#)

The primary school (Reception) admission round opens on **9 November 2020**, for parents/carers to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2021.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2021**.

From 9 November 2020, **applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions**.

The application and admissions information is available on the website above.

[Year 2 parents/carers, you will also need to apply for your child's junior school place. This is not automatically completed. Please find the information by clicking on:](#)

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/apply-for-a-junior-school-place>

[Attendance for the Year](#)

Our target for the year is **97%**. It is important that your child is in school for their allocated stagger time each day. By being in on time, the children will be ready for a prompt start to their learning. Children arriving after registration will be recorded as late.

If you are removing your child from school for any reason other than absence due to illness an **'Application for Leave of Absence from School During Term Time'** form will need to be completed and sent to the office.

[Reporting Sickness Absence](#)

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, please can you **telephone** the school office rather than email.



Celebration Awards

Reception

Badger

Lara

Fox

Mia

Rabbit

Austin

Year 1

Hedgehog

Scarlett

Squirrel

Amelie

Otter

Eason

Year 2

Barn Owl

Rebecca

Snowy Owl

Ben

Tawny Owl

Jenson

Barnes Farm Infants Governing Body

Heidi Hards - Chair of Governors - Parent Governor
 Rebecca Pascoe-Youell - Vice Chair of Governors - Community Governor
 Susannah Wookey- Community Governor
 Mrs Z. Farmer - Headteacher
 Mrs K. Robinson – Assistant Headteacher and Staff Governor
 Elizabeth Keeley - Community Governor
 Yvonne Spence – Community Governor
 Katie Corbett – Parent Governor

Diary of Events

NON-PUPIL DAYS

Wednesday 2nd September 2020

Friday 23rd October 2020

Monday 4th January 2021

Monday 22nd February 2021

Friday 28th May 2021

AUTUMN TERM 2

Monday 16th November	NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe Week	
Monday 16th November	Forest Schools	Year 2 Only – Every Monday and Tuesday until the end of Term
Monday 23rd November	Essex County Fire and Rescue Service Safety Presentation	Year 2 Only – following on from their topic – Great Fire of London
Wednesday 25th November	No Pens Day	
W/C Monday 7th December	CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES BEGIN BFIS Christmas Funtime	The Whole School (More Information to Follow)
Friday 18th December	Last Day of Term	The Whole School

SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR HOLIDAY – Friday 18th December 2020 at 3.15pm

XMAS HOLIDAY – Monday 21st December 2020 – Friday 1st January 2021

SPRING TERM 1

Monday 4th January 2021	Non-Pupil Day (Staff only)	
Tuesday 5th January 2021	Pupils Back	Staggered Timings for Year Groups