



Barnes Farm Infant School

Newsletter

<https://www.barnesfarminfants.co.uk> Follow us on Twitter: @FarmBarnes

7th May 2021

Message from the Headteacher

I have really enjoyed hearing about all the fantastic work happening in school and at home this week. It has been great to hear about Mrs Merrick's reading challenges. As part of our reading celebration in school, the children are writing a book all about Barney and Hootie. I cannot wait to read the final version. Mrs Merrick has set the school a month's reading challenge and I am looking forward to hearing from those children that manage to complete it.

E-Scooters - Essex Trial

EYFS – KS5

We have been asked to share details about the Essex e-Scooter trials:

[Please see further details about the scheme](#)

This service is available to adults only (18+) and who have a valid full or provisional driving licence, so that you are covered by insurance, just like any car and driver. If someone other than the account holder is riding the e-scooter it will be uninsured. Both the rider and the account holder will be liable for £300 fine and 6 points on your driving licence. The advice is 'do not share your account'.

Laptops for Schools Scheme Open for Donations

Do you have an old or unused laptop you could donate to help a child or young person to access learning? The Closing the Digital Divide scheme distributes reconditioned laptops to schools and colleges for pupils who don't have access to a device at home. To donate, simply drop off your laptop at our local library. The make or condition does not matter. All laptops are thoroughly cleaned inside and out, and all data and programs are removed securely (without accessing the data). Any that cannot be re-used will be sold for parts to fund new devices.

Since December 5,000 devices have been given to pupils who would have been cut off from online learning during lockdown. Laptops are still needed for pupils who need to self-isolate, for homework or home schooling and for pupils who cannot attend school for health reasons.



Proud to be part of the  CLP



[Find your local library and opening times.](#) For information about how businesses can get involved, email TSLaptop.Donations@essex.gov.uk

Access to the School – Collection and Exit Points

Polite reminder: The ‘red gate’ by the school office is the exit point for both drop off and pick up times. Please help to keep our school community safe at this time.

Stay safe and take care,
Mrs Z. Farmer



Celebration Awards



Reception

Badger
Fox
Rabbit

Elijah
Amelia
Eliza

Year 1

Hedgehog
Squirrel
Otter

Jack
Shiva
Chloe



Year 2

Barn Owl
Snowy Owl
Tawny Owl

Emmy
Kyle
Mia

What's Going on at Barnes Farm Infants

BFIS Health Champions – Mrs Robinson



Our Health Champions have got off to a flying start by introducing the weekly personal challenges to their classes. The children have enjoyed trying to beat their score from the day before and are rising to the challenge.

Our personal challenge at lunchtime next week is...

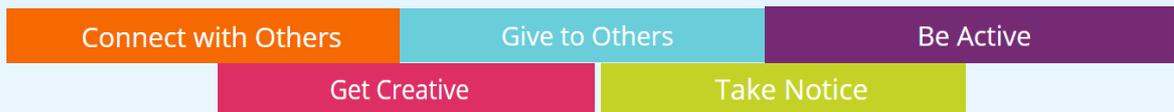


Mental Health Awareness Week and the 5 Ways to Wellbeing
10th to 16th May - Mrs Robinson



The theme of this year's Mental Health Week is Nature. Harold the giraffe will giving us some ideas in school to help us stay happy and healthy.

Attached to our newsletter are some suggestions for boosting the mental health of children - (and grown ups) - which can be used during Mental Health week, or at any time!



It would be lovely if you could take some photos of your family enjoying some of the activities. If you would like to add them to our display in school, please email them to senco@barnesfarm-inf.essex.sch.uk



Harold the giraffe will be picking up his pen and writing his diary every day of Mental Health awareness week, focusing on how nature has helped us over the last year! We will be taking a look at Harold's diary in school.



'Over and Above' Focus



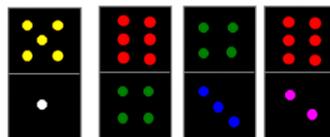
Our 'Over and Above' focus for the next few weeks will 'To use good manners'. We are working hard in school to remind the children of good manners during the day and particularly at lunchtime. We will be awarding stickers and certificates to those children who are remembering to say please, thank you, excuse me and who are making an extra effort to be polite.

Book Week – Mrs Merrick

For the whole month of May, I have set a daily reading challenge for the children to take part in and have fun with reading using their books at home. It would be great to see your favourite reading challenge so please take photos and send to hedgehog@barnesfarm-inf.essex.sch.uk.

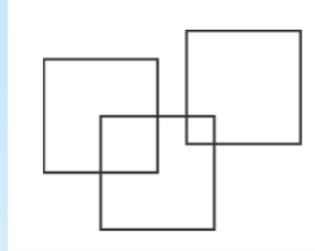
Mathematics - Mrs Hanson

Last week, I set a Domino challenge. I wonder how many of you tried it? I would love to know what you thought! Please let your teachers know, and maybe even send some photographs so that I can share them on this newsletter. It would be a great way to celebrate the mathematical thinking taking place at home. Thank you.



This week's challenge;

What is the greatest number of squares you can make by overlapping three squares of the same size?



Click on the link to get started. [Three Squares \(maths.org\)](https://www.maths.org) Happy investigating!

General Reminders

Reporting Sickness Absence

It is very important that you continue to telephone the school office if your child is unwell.

Please also continue to contact us if your family are self-isolating due to someone in your household showing symptoms of coronavirus or awaiting test results. This can be reported by phoning the school office on 01245 467474.

BFIS Film

We are so pleased 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>

Follow us on Twitter?

If you have a Twitter account, why not follow our school... [@FarmBarnes](https://twitter.com/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.

Attendance for the Year

Our target for the year is **97%**. It is important that your child is in school for their allocated staggered time each day. By being on time, the children will be ready for a prompt start to their learning. Children arriving after registration will be recorded as late. Those arriving after the late cutoff point will be given an unauthorised mark for the session even if they are in school so it is important that your child is in school on time.

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

Barnes Farm Infant School Local Governing Body

Heidi Hards – Chair of Governors – Parent Governor
Rebecca Pascoe-Youell – Vice Chair of Governors – Community Governor
Mrs Z. Farmer – Headteacher
Mrs K. Robinson – Assistant Headteacher and Staff Governor
Miss C. Hook – KS1 Leader and Staff Governor
Elizabeth Keeley – Community Governor
Danielle Jukes – Community Governor
Yvonne Spence – Community Governor
Katie Corbett – Parent Governor

Diary of Events

Non-Pupil Days/INSET

Wednesday 2nd September 2020
Friday 23rd October 2020
Monday 4th January 2021
Friday 22nd February 2021
Friday 28th May 2021



Summer Term 1

Monday 26 th April 2021	Forest School Starts for Reception	Forest Schools starts for Reception on Monday and Tuesday for 4 weeks (as Bank Holiday is 3 rd May, Forest Schools will be held on Tuesday 4 th May and Wednesday 5 th May) Last Session 18 th May
Thursday 27 th May 2021	Last Day of Term	
Friday 28 th May 2021	Non-pupil day (staff only)	Only Staff to attend
Monday 7 th June 2021	Pupils Return	All children return to school (continued staggered times)

School Closes for May Half Term – Thursday 27th May 2021 at 3.15pm
May Half Term Holiday – Monday 31st May 2021 – Friday 4th June 2021

