



Barnes Farm Infant School

Newsletter

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

8th December 2023

Message from the Headteacher

Year 1 Christmas Performance

The Year 1 children absolutely blew us away last week with their Christmas Performance. They put on an amazing show including songs, using sign language, poetry and speaking parts. The children were amazing and looked brilliant in their festive jumpers. Thank you to all those that supported by providing outfits or coming to see a performance.

Rosie the Reading Dog

Rosie was looking her best this week when she came to listen to the children read!




Home Learning and MyMaths

87%

Last week, Mrs Farren our Mathematics Leader told us that 87% of our Year 1 and Year 2 children are regularly engaging with online MyMaths activities for Home Learning - **AMAZING!** Thank you to all the adults at home that supported this and we look forward to it continuing this year! If you



Proud to be part of the  CLP

are not sure how to access your child's online learning or do not have access to online provision at home, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Barney and Hootie Help Us to Understand Some changes at BFIS!

This week, Barney and Hootie joined the children in assembly as they had noticed that there were a lot of changes happening at the school which were making them feel unsettled. They told the children that there was a lot of noise coming from the hall, there were many dangling flashy items and the trees outside were a bit spiky and Hootie was not liking it! The children helped Barney and Hootie to work out that our school is slightly different at the moment because we have a lot of Christmas celebrations happening between now and the end of term. The children were able to help them work out that the noises were the children practising their concerts, dangling items were decorated and spiky trees were in fact our new Christmas Trees! We were able to help Barney and Hootie with different tools to help them get back to GREEN – these included, figure of 8 breathing and talking to a friend. We recognised that many of us might find change tricky at this time, but we would be happy to help each other if needed.

GREAT TEAMWORK BFIS!



Mrs Farmer



Celebration Awards

BFIS Over and Above School Focus

Each week, we reward the children for following our school ethos.

Friday 1st December 2023

This week we have been focusing on our
'Cape of Success – Concentration – for thinking hard about your learning!'



Class	Year Group	Name
	Reception	
Badger		Marlee
Rabbit		Bobby
	Year 1	
Hedgehog		Reggie
Squirrel		Eadie
Otter		Macy
	Year 2	
Barn Owl		Evie
Snowy Owl		Josh
Tawny Owl		Jude

Friday 8th December 2023

This week we have been focusing on our
'Cape of Success – Drive – for going over and above to achieve your goals'





Class	Year Group	Name
	Reception	
Badger		Jayden
Rabbit		Sofia
	Year 1	
Hedgehog		Ralph
Squirrel		Marnie
Otter		Isla
	Year 2	
Barn Owl		Adam
Snowy Owl		Giulia
Tawny Owl		Oladayo

What's Going on at Barnes Farm Infant School

Year 2 – Dress Like a Victorian Day

Thank you to all the parents and carers that supported the Year 2 Dress Like a Victorian Day. The year group had a wonderful day dressed as Victorians and pretending to be in a Victorian School for the day. They imagined what it would have been like to write on slate too!



Year 1 No Pens Day - Wednesday 29th November

NO Pens Day
Show and tell

On Wednesday 29th, Year 1 had a fantastic day celebrating No Pens Day. We took part in a variety of activities to promote and support our speech and language skills. We worked as a team to create some amazing models to then present to the rest of the class. We worked on giving feedback to our partners to improve their artwork, created a class gallery, took part in imaginary show and tell and finally spent lots of time talking about and enjoying stories. We had an amazing day, and all showed great confidence and teamwork, well done year 1!



Year 1 Panathlon – Friday 1st December 2023



Year 1 visited Melbourne Sports Centre today to have a super sporty day of activities! The children took part in a morning of games and races and out of all the schools competing, we got the silver award! We were very proud of the children's effort and behaviour – GO BFIS!!!





BFIS Health Champions



We are very pleased to announce our BFIS Health Champions for 2023-24! They have been awarded their lanyards and badges in assembly and have had their photo taken for our Health Champions display board. Next week, they will be organising our equipment for the active personal challenges that they will be teaching the rest of the school about in assembly. They are



already a super team and Mrs Robinson and Mrs Rodgers are very much looking forward to working with them 😊

Our BFIS Health Champions are...

Macy	Otter Class
Evie	Otter Class
Lily F	Otter Class
Buddy	Otter Class
Poppy	Otter Class
Archie	Otter Class
Hugo	Hedgehog Class
Youssef	Hedgehog Class
Albie	Squirrel Class
Theo	Tawny Owls
Reggie	Snowy Owls

My Child's Art Fundraiser



After the success of last year, we will once again fundraising using My ChildsArt. The children have been busy drawing and painting their beautiful artwork for you to make into beautiful keepsakes if you wish. To view your child's artwork, please follow the steps below:

Log in to <https://mychildsart.co.uk/find-artwork> and enter the following:

Username: BarnesFarm
Access Code: WnhnGnco

Type your child's name and initial of their surname (for data protection purposes, we have not used surnames to submit your child's artwork).



You may then be given suggestions to select your child's name i.e., if your child's name is 'John Smith' it may suggest J**n S – please select the suggestion that works for your child's first name and surname.

Your child's artwork will then appear on the left-hand side of the page, and it will ask you to add your child's name exactly as you want to see it on your creation. You will then be able to browse items to have your creation printed on.

If you have any issues, please contact a member of the Owlets Wellbeing team via the school office and we will do our best to help.

BFIS Winter Coat Swap - Owlets Wellbeing Team



Mrs Webb is organising a winter coat swap this year. If you have any good condition, children's winter coats at home that your child no longer needs, we would be very grateful if you could bring them into school. The plan will be that once we have received enough donations, Mrs Webb will open the Computing Room (old Squirrel Class) up at the beginning and end of the day for parent/carers to feel free to come in and take any coats they want. Thank you so much in advance for your support.

BFIS Fundraising



Please do not forget, we are fundraising to allow us to provide magical festive experiences for the children again this year. We would very much appreciate your support and would gratefully receive donations towards the events via ParentPay. A BIG thank you to everyone who has donated so far. Without your contributions we would not be able to arrange the festive fun that makes this time of year so special for the children in school 😊



Office Corner Page

Letters and Flyers

Please find below letters/ emails sent home this week:

Letters / Emails Sent Home/ Information	Year Group
FROM THE OFFICE – Email – Menu Change 12 th and 14 th December	All
FROM THE OFFICE – Letter – Barn Owl Letter	Barn Owl
FROM THE OFFICE – Letter – Year 2 – ‘Singing Around the Christmas Tree’	Year 2

Lost Property

Each class has its own box for lost property, can you please make sure you check if you are missing anything. Anything that is left at the end of the term will be reused or discarded.

Information from the Admissions Team – Reception Admissions for Academic Year Starting in September 2024

The primary school (Reception) admission round opened on Monday 6th November 2023, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September 2024.

The statutory national closing date for applications is 15th January 2024.

From Monday 6th November, applications can be made on line via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions
All application information is available on the website detailed above.

Even if parents already have a sibling at the school, they need to apply if they have a child due to start Reception in September.

Information from the Admissions Team – Year 2 – 3 Admissions for Academic Year Starting in September 2024

Parents of current Year 2 children at the Infant school need to make a formal application to the Council for a Year 3 place and can do so via the website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.



The junior school (Year 3) admission round opened on Monday 6th November 2023, for parents of children to apply for a junior school place for the academic year that starts in September 2024.

The statutory national closing date for applications is 15th January 2024.

From Monday 6th November, applications can be made on line via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions
All application information is available on the website detailed above.

If your child attends Barnes Farm Infant School they **WILL NOT** automatically get a place at Barnes Farm Junior School, you **WILL** need to apply.

Studybugs



REMINDER TO SIGN UP

Studybugs is an efficient and secure system for reporting your child's absence and allows for quick and easy dialogue between yourselves and the school. The main benefit of this system is that it is app based so users of the app will no longer need to phone into school to report illness. Studybugs is fully integrated with our school systems and so information is up to date and easy to manage. If you have not already done so, please download the app or register at (<https://studybugs.com/about/parents>) it's free.



Diary of Events



NON-PUPIL DAYS FOR SEPTEMBER 2023 – JULY 2024

Monday 4th September 2023 and Tuesday 5th September 2023

Friday 20th October 2023

Monday 26th February 2024

Friday 24th May 2024

(ALL TAKEN)



Please note separate letters regarding Forest Schools will be sent to year groups and messages given in the weekly newsletters.

AUTUMN TERM 2

Week Beginning Monday 11 th December	Last week of Teacher Led Clubs	Year 1 and 2 Only
Wednesday 13 th December	Reception Nativity to Parents/Carers	9.15am
Wednesday 13 th December	Christmas Dinner/ Christmas Jumper Day	More Information to Follow
Thursday 14 th December	Reception Nativity to Parents/Carers	2.15pm
Monday 18 th December	Reindeer Day	Whole School
Tuesday 19 th December	Christmas Craft Day	
Monday 18 th December	Year 2 - Singing Around the Christmas Tree	Year 2 Parents/Carers 3.30pm (Infant Playground)
Wednesday 20 th December	Last Day of Term	Pupils leave at 3.15pm.

SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR HOLIDAY – Wednesday 20th December 2023 at 3.15pm

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY – Thursday 21st December 2023 – Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Thursday 4 th January	Pupils Return	Doors open at 8.45am
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General Reminders

Reporting Sickness Absence

It is very important that we are aware if your child is unwell. Please remember to report your child's absence on Studybugs. You can download the app to report your child unwell. If you are unable to use this facility, continue to telephone the school office on 01245 467973.

Attendance for the Year

Our target for the year is **97%**. It is important that your child is in school for registration. 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 prior to the date of intended absence.

BFIS Nut Free School



Just a reminder that we are a nut free school. Please do not send your child to school with any items containing nuts in their packed lunch or if you are sending any other food into school. Items such as the one shown below contain nuts and should not be brought into school – thank you for your support.

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>

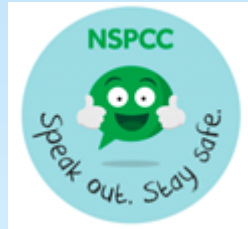
Follow us on Twitter?

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

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.



NSPCC – Speak Out, Stay Safe



Our children at BFIS know that children know they have the right to:

- speak out and be heard
- be safe
- get help when they need it

They know that the following things are NOT OK!

- Hitting
- Hurting children's feelings
- Privates are private
- Not being looked after properly at home
- Bullying
- Hurting online

We pride ourselves on being a 'Telling School' and teach the children that to stay safe and happy, they must share any worries with a trusted grown-up. If ever your child has any worries, we are more than happy to help and give advice. Please contact your child's class teacher or a member of the Owlets Wellbeing team.



Barnes Farm Infant School Local Governing Body

Katie Corbett – Chair of Governors – Parent Governor

Matthew Musson – Vice Chair of Governors

Mrs Z. Farmer – Headteacher

Mrs K. Robinson – Assistant Headteacher and Staff Governor

Mrs K. Jukes – Office Administrator and Staff Governor

Geoff Walker –Community Governor

Tim Berrisford - Community Governor

