

Barnes Farm Infant School

Newsletter

Friday 29th June 2018

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



Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been an exciting week with lots going on, including an author visit, meeting our new teachers, a visit from an ex professional footballer, welcoming new children and parents to our school community and lots, lots more!

Rabbits were wonderful in today's parent and carers assembly. They really showed off a range of learning that has taken place in the year group and I am so proud of how confident they were in front of a very full hall of parents and carers. Thank you to all that joined us and thank you to Rabbit class.

It was lovely to see so many of you join us for the New to Year 1 and New to Year 2 talks this week. For those that could not join us, the information (PowerPoints) will be added to our website over the next week. Our joint open evening with the junior school was a great way to show all the hard work that has taken place over the year across the schools. So many people were able to sample Ashlyn's food which I have to say looked delicious.

We will be running a Pro Kick Schools Challenge event on 10th July. Please see the information below regarding this.

Next Thursday is our Sports Day morning! Miss Hook has already sent home letters with key information but can I just remind you to ensure that your child has plenty of water and also has sun cream applied before school and with them to reapply during the day. Hats are also advisable (and even better if the hat is in the house team colour!).

It is our school fete next Friday. The children are allowed to wear non-school uniform during the day so they are ready for the event after school! All children must be accompanied by an adult to this event. Please see the below flyer about the fete. I look forward to seeing you there!

It is disheartening to see how low the whole school attendance figure is in school. Of course, when children are unwell they must have the time at home to recover but please can I give a reminder that holidays cannot be authorised during term time. Low attendance impacts on the child's learning and time engaged in the year group curriculum.

We have had some generous donations of 'old' toys this week to school. Thank you very much to those families that kindly donated bricks, a wooden kitchen and more. They will be used and played with daily. Thank you.

Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs Farmer

Remember it is class
photographs on
Monday



Attendance

Our attendance target for the year is 97%.

Best class attendance this week was Tawny Owls with 99.3%. Well done Tawny Owls.

Whole school attendance this week was 95.7%.

Whole school attendance for the year so far is 96.5%.

We continue to encourage and reward excellent attendance at Barnes Farm Infant School. Please remember to call the office if your child is absent for any reason.

Please be aware that regulations changed from 1 October 2017. Any 10 unauthorised sessions taken over a 10-week period can now be subject to a Penalty Notice being issued (1 session is a morning or afternoon). Remember that the school cannot authorise any holidays in term time.

Achievement Certificates

Bookworm Award – Mia (Badger) and Ethan (Barn Owl)

Superstar – Amar (Badger), Libby (Rabbit), Holly (Fox) and Henry (Tawny Owl)

Art Award – Bethany (Otter) and Denzel (Otter)

Kindness Award – Mya (Snowy Owl)

Maths Magician – Max (Squirrel)

SILVER AWARD

Natasha L, Riley P, Lilly B, Maisie B, Violet M, Emilia C, Isabelle S, Holly E, Laila S, Liy M, Abi Mc and Maddy B

GOLD AWARD

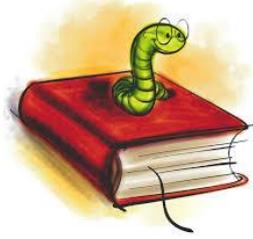
Chloe L



Well done, children!



Bookworms of the Week



Well done to all the Super Readers this week for reading 5 times at home. Congratulations to Edward from Otter class who won the prize draw for reading at least 5 times this week. His name was picked out of the cupcake pot and he chose Aunt Nasty out of Mrs Speller's special books from the basket to take home.



Fox class scored the highest number of readers this week and got to choose a new book for their class library with 24 children reading 5 times this week.

Well done Bookworms. Keep reading!

Free thinking Friday

Our whole school philosophical question this week was:

What is beautiful?



Here are a few of the children's thoughts:

"Butterflies because they are so colourful"

"My big sister"

"Mummy is beautiful because she is mummy"

"The rainforest because of the beautiful animals"

"My Little Ponies"

"A Lamborghini on a race track"

"My HAIR!"

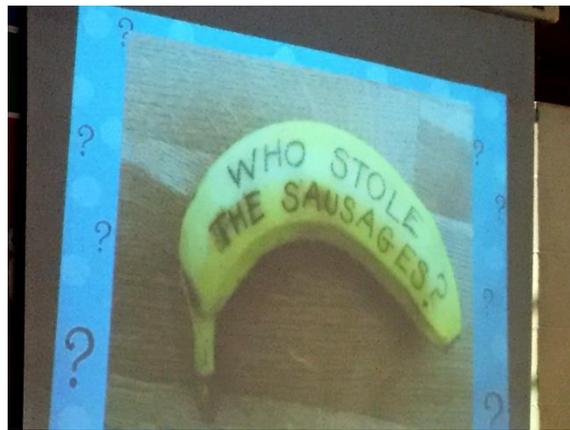
GDPR

Below is a link for Parents and Guardians explaining GDPR in relation to school. Please click on the link below to see 'GDPR Rights – Advice to Parents/Guardians'.

<https://www.barnesfarminfants.co.uk/page/?title=Policies+and+Documents&pid=24>



An inspiring visitor – the author and illustrator Clara Vulliamy



On Monday, we gave a huge Barnes Farm Infant welcome to the author and illustrator, Clara Vulliamy, who shared her story writing expertise with the children. She told us where she gets her ideas from and how much she loves to write funny stories to make children laugh. Her Dotty Detective books went down a treat as we learnt about Super-Secret Agent, Dotty and her beloved dog, McClusky. Clara also let us in on a few ways to send secret messages to friends, such as pinpricks in a banana, drying invisible lemon juice and using pink wafers!

She was overwhelmed with the creative minds of our children as they responded to her during her presentation and very kindly drew some illustrations in front of us (you could have heard a pin drop). We will frame these and put them in our library to remind us all of Clara, Dotty and McClusky (woof, woof..).

Clara spent more than an hour, signing books and talking to our children. It has been wonderful to see so many children enjoying reading the book in the playground and talking about Dotty Detective. Keep reading everyone!



Sports Day reminder

THURSDAY 5TH JULY – Morning

Our children have been practising for Sports Day next Thursday and look forward to showing parents and carers our improved jumping, running, hopping and ball skills and most importantly the children have been learning how to work as part of a sports team.

Gentle reminder – Please ensure your child has a water bottle, hat and if you wish for your child to reapply sun cream before the event please send in a named bottle.



Children have been asked to wear something in their team colour such as a tshirt or sensible accessory. If you are unsure of their team colour and name, this information has been added to their Home School reading Diary.



Friday 6th July 3.30pm-5.30pm

Summer Fete



We look forward to welcoming you to our annual Summer Fete fundraiser. We have lots of fun and games planned for the afternoon for the whole family to enjoy!

There will be a BBQ from Ashlyns, refreshments, cakes and ice lollies!

Plus: Bouncy Castles, Face Painting, popular football shoot out, Tombolas, traditional children's games with fun prizes and of course our infamous Wheelbarrow of Booze Raffle!!!

We also hope to have a fire engine from Chelmsford Blue Watch (pending emergency call out).



Welcomed Donations from you

In exchange for the children having non uniform days across both schools on **Friday 29th of June and 6th July**, we would love to receive the following donations from you:

- **Bottles of Wines/Spirits for the Wheelbarrow raffle (Junior Office drop off)**
- **New/Unused Toiletries for the Tombola (Infant Office Drop Off)**
- **New/Unwanted New Gifts for the Tombola (Infant Office Drop Off)**
- **Jars of Sweets for the Tombola (Infant Office Drop Off)**
- **Cakes (Bring on the Day – Infant Office drop off)**
- We do not require toy donations this year – thank you
- If you have any gazebos/long tables that we can use on the day and would be willing to help set up/away, please also let us know: chairfobfs@yahoo.com

This is a great fundraising opportunity for both schools, we appreciate your support and to seeing you



Pro Kick School Challenge

On the 10th July, we will be holding a Pro Kick Schools Challenge Day. It is an exciting opportunity for the children to have fun as well as the possibility to raise money for the Sports Connections Foundation and our school. The children will have the opportunity to kick a ball into a gigantic inflatable net to compete to see who has the fastest kick in the school!

A professional footballer joined us this week to talk us through the event and to explain how the charity helps children all over the world.

It sounds like the day in school will be great fun. Sponsor forms and more information about the event will come home next week.

To find out more, please visit

www.scfchildrenscharity.org.uk

Volunteers

If you are happy to listen to children read on a regular basis or would be able to support us test the children on their Challenge Me Cards for Mathematics, please come and see me on the playground.

Toy Donations

Having seen how much the children enjoy playing with the doll's house and cars on the playground at lunchtime, I thought I would see if we could ask for any second-hand donations before we spend money on adding to these resources.

We currently have 'little people' toys and a wooden house. If you are having a clear out at home and have any types of dolls or figures, our children would really enjoy playing with them. In addition to this, we would welcome any donation of any toy cars. I know that the children would probably still really enjoy playing with them at home however, if you do have a sort out, please feel free to donate any items that you think we may use!



THE READING AGENCY AND LIBRARIES PRESENT



14 July – 1 September in all Essex Libraries

There's mischief occurring in Essex Libraries this summer!

The Summer Reading Challenge 2018, which is produced by The Reading Agency and delivered by libraries, is **Mischief Makers**. Children are being asked to read books and, with the help of Dennis, Gnasher and other classic Beano characters, find the treasure in Beanotown.

By reading or sharing books children will earn stickers (including some special smelly stickers) and if they complete the challenge they will receive a certificate and a medal.

Children aged 10 and over can take part in the ImagiNation 2018 challenge where they can create artworks or write reviews inspired by the books they have read.

For more information go to libraries.essex.gov.uk



Dates for your Diary

Week beginning 2nd July – Last week for clubs

Monday 2nd July – Class Photos

Tuesday 3rd July – Fox's Class Assembly for Parents and Carers @ 9:15am

Thursday 5th July – Sports Day (am only) – Parents and carers invited

Friday 6th July – Fete

Monday 9th July – Reserve Sports Day

Monday 9th July – Reports to Parents and Carers

Monday 9th July – PE Celebration Event (4pm – 6pm). Selected children.

Tuesday 10th July – ProKick Challenge Sponsored Speed Kick Event

Tuesday 17th July – Year 2 Leavers Production for Parents and Carers @ 9:15am

Wednesday 18th July – Year 2 Leavers Production for Parents and Carers (repeat) @ 6:30pm (pupils to return @ 6:15pm)

Friday 20th July – Last day at School – School Picnic and Peter Pan Production

SCHOOL FINISHES – Friday 20th July at 3.15pm for the summer

Some parents have been asking me about new term dates. We will have the Essex County Academic dates and then the additional dates for Teacher Training at Barnes Farm Infant School are as follows:

Tuesday 4th September

Monday 29th October

Thursday 3rd January

Friday 4th January

Friday 24th May

Parent Council

Heather Beecham (YR Rabbit, Y2 Snowy) - Chair

Manisha Mittal (YR Fox)

Nicola Kirby (YR Fox)

Louise Bardell (Y1 Hedgehog)

Sam Kilpatrick (Y1 Hedgehog)

Jennifer Brown (Y1 Squirrel)

Louise Carter (Y1 Otter, Y2 Barn)

Charlotte Cole (Y1 Squirrel)

Clare Narayanaswany (Y1 Otters)

Heather Booker (Y2 Snowy)

Lesley Charles (Yr 2 Tawny)



Barnes Farm Infants Governing Body

Heidi Hards - Chair of Governors - Parent Governor
Rebecca Pascoe-Youell - Vice Chair of Governors - Co-opted Governor
Ana Johnson - Parent Governor
Vallerie Bellamy- Local Authority Governor
Susannah Wookey- Co-opted Governor
James Russell- Co-opted Governor
Kate Sutton- Co-opted Governor
Mrs Z. Farmer - Head teacher
Mrs E Speller – Deputy Head teacher and Staff Governor
Elizabeth Keeley - Co-opted Governor

