

Barnes Farm Infant School

Newsletter



Friday 14th December 2018

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

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy but festive week here at BFIS. We have enjoyed several Christmassy events starting with the Reception Concert called 'The Nativity'. The concert(s) were fabulous and the children were amazing. I cannot believe that the reception children have only been here a term but have achieved so much. Well done to all the children.

The Year 2 children have just sent us off with a wonderful afternoon of songs around the Christmas Tree. It was extremely enjoyable. I have to say I really enjoy listening to the children sing in school but tonight outside was just magical. Thank you to all that came to support us. It was also lovely to see the Deputy Mayor enjoy the event so much and she was so complementary about our wonderful children. There are two raffle prizes left (two hampers) the winning ticket numbers are **348** and **349** (green border on a white ticket). Also well done and thank you to Alice for accompanying the children on her flute.



Can I also say a **HUGE BFIS THANK YOU** from us all for the very generous donations that have been popped into our donation buckets at the end of our concerts. We have been overwhelmed by the support and will be purchasing our new metal cutlery for lunchtimes.

Christmas Craft Morning



Last Saturday Morning, the PTA ensured that the children had the opportunity to make and create with lots of glitter, card and PVA glue. There were lots to do including making reindeer biscuits, candle holders and advent countdowns. It was a lovely morning and very well supported. Thank you to everyone who was involved.

Next week, the children have lots of events coming up:

- Monday - Christmas Craft Day
- Tuesday – Christmas Dinner
- Wednesday – Christmas Jumper Day (no cost, just for fun!)
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There will also be a special visitor in school next week ... I wonder who it may be!?! Watch this space...

Parent and Carer Forum @ BFIS

At Barnes Farm Infant School, we have been very fortunate to have a Parent Council who have been involved in school improvements. External contributions have enabled the school to improve its practice significantly over the years. Listening to feedback last year, more of you would like to be involved in supporting school development so in January, we will be hosting our first Parent and Carer Forum which will replace the Parent Council. This platform will allow a greater number of people to share their ideas. The forums will take a different area from the school development plan to focus on. On **January 25th at 9am**, I will be running a forum on Mathematics @ BFIS. I would like to know what is working well from your point of view and any ideas that would make us even better. If you would like to join the Parent and Carer Forum, please sign up via the school's website (this way, I will know how much cake to buy too!).

There have been several children that have been bringing grapes in for their packed lunch which is a fantastic healthy choice. However, please can we ask that all grapes are cut up before coming into school.

Fund Raising 2018 – 2019

This year, we have decided that all the funds that we raise throughout the year will go into the following areas for the school:

- **Metal cutlery for lunchtimes** – The children find using the plastic cutlery hard especially on roast dinner days so we thought metal cutlery may help them to become more independent. **This can now be purchased through the last two week's contributions – thank you.**
- **Replacing the canopy in the playground** – This will allow the children to sit under shade in the sunshine.
- **Replace the picnic benches on the playground** – Making the seating outside a more appealing area to sit socially.
- **Comfy seating in the atrium** – Our new library would be enhanced with some lovely comfy seats for us to share books.

Over the year, we hold a variety of events such as the Movie and Munch and through these events, we can buy additional resources to make the school even better for the children. So, if you see our collection bucket at the end of the concerts, you will know where the money is going!

If you do have a child that is due to start school in September 2019, applications are now open. As a school, we have one more **New to Reception 2019** talk left on **Thursday 10th January @ 9.15am**. If you cannot wait until the 15th, individual tours and visit are also warmly welcomed.

Year 2 Parents and Carers – IMPORTANT INFORMATION Infant to Junior School Transfer

The process for Year 2 to 3 transfers has changed for Year 3 admissions into junior schools. Parents of **current Year 2** children need to make a formal application to the junior school through the Council and

can do so via the website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

The junior admission round opened on **Monday 12 November 2018** for this application and the closing date for applications is **15 January 2019**.

From 12 November 2018, applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

Have a great weekend all,
Mrs Farmer



Attendance

Our attendance target for the year is **97%**.

Best class attendance this week was **Badger and Snowy Owl with 98.6%**. Well done to both!!

Whole school attendance this week was **96.7%**.

Whole school attendance for the year so far is **97.1%**.

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.

Bookworms of the Week

Well done to all the Super readers this week for reading 5 times at home. **Congratulations to Erin in Barn Owl class** who won the prize draw for reading at least 5 times this week. Her name was picked out of the cupcake pot and she chose one of Mrs Speller's special books from the basket to take home.

Fox Class was the winning class (**AGAIN**) who recorded the most children who had read 5 times or more this week and got to choose a new book for their class library 66% of their children reading 5 times this week.



Well Done Bookworms. Keep Reading!

Modelling the 3PR Behaviours for our Children

We are extremely proud of our school and the great reputation that we have in the community. Both schools decided to take part in the 3PRs scheme for a number of reasons – the main one being pupil safety when travelling to and from school. Our local community and residents are hugely impacted upon by the flow of traffic to our school and encouraging pupils to walk to school builds on positive community links. Unfortunately, there have been several parking-related incidents reported and witnessed recently outside the schools. These include:

- parking on verges
- parking across footpaths or very close to junctions
 - mounting the kerb
 - reversing dangerously
- parking in /blocking private allocated parking spaces
 - reports of abusive language aimed at residents

We are lucky that there has not been a serious accident in our community and this is certainly something that none of us wish to happen.

By following the 3PR scheme, we have seen that there is a responsibility to encourage safer and healthy lifestyles. I am proud of the way the school has continued to support this by:

- ✓ Supervising the front entrance and turning circle
- ✓ Running weekly 3PR patrols to reward healthy and responsible behaviours
- ✓ Enabling flexible opening arrangements in the morning to improve the flow of traffic
 - ✓ Liaising with the junior school to have a joint approach on these matters
- ✓ Liaising with local providers such as Asda to ensure other parking options are available
 - ✓ Liaising with the Essex Parking Partnership to examine wider options
 - ✓ Being available to local residents to listen to concerns

It is important that we all do our part in ensuring that we support all involved in the school community, show respect to others and above all else, ensure the safety of our pupils.



Achievement Certificates

Well Done to the following Stars of the Week



Badger – Olivia

Fox - Amy

Rabbit – Oscar

Hedgehog – Maria

Squirrel – Dylan

Otter – Layla TJ

Tawny Owl – Honey

Barn Owl – Harry

Snowy Owl – Jasmine and Faye

Headteacher's Award of the Week

Callum (Hedgehog)

Mathematical Wizards of the Week

Reception – Amelia (Rabbit)

Year 1 – Manasvini (Hedgehog)

Year 2 – Jay (Barn Owl)



Well Done Children!

A Message from Mrs Robinson

I would really like to ask for any Oxford Reading Tree, Ladybird or Early Reader Books that parents may have finished using. We would like to use the books to start to build a bank of lovely books to support our High Frequency Recognition/Direct Instruction intervention. Any of these books donated to the school will make a big difference to our children. **Thank you for the donations that arrived last week.**

PTA - Big Event!

On **Saturday 9th March**, the PTA are hosting a Charity Spring Ball 2019. The PTA have worked extremely hard to organise this event for the Barnes Farm Schools. It will be held at the Lion Inn. Please see the flyer below for more information. Bookings and payments can be made through ParentPay.

Who invented
time?

Free thinking Friday

Philosophical
question of the
week.

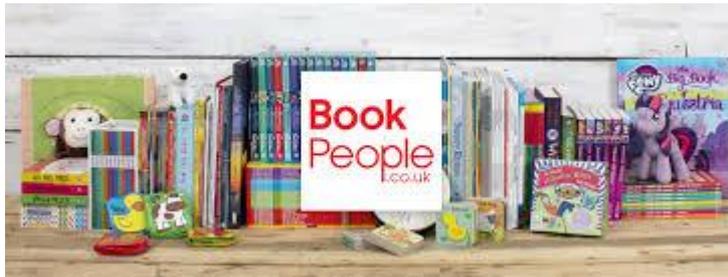
Here are a few of the children's thoughts:

"Dr Who"

"Scientists and inventors"

"The sun and the moon"

"Six men"



Thank you to all parents and carers who visited the Book Fair last week. It was wonderful to see so many children choosing books and looking forward to reading them at home. We sold over £500 worth of books which has given us £130 worth of commission to buy books for the school. We have chosen to buy the Paddington collection, Adventure story books and a class bank of The Iron Man for the Year 2's.

These will arrive shortly in classrooms for the children to enjoy.

Thank you

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.

Barnes Farm Infants Governing Body

Heidi Hards - Chair of Governors - Parent Governor

Rebecca Pascoe-Youell - Vice Chair of Governors - Community Governor

Ana Johnson - Parent Governor

Valerie Bellamy- Community Governor

Susannah Wookey- Community Governor

James Russell- Community Governor

Kate Sutton- Community Governor

Mrs Z. Farmer - Head teacher

Mrs E Speller – Deputy Head teacher and Staff Governor

Elizabeth Keeley - Community Governor

SPRING TERM 1

Thursday 3rd January	Non-Pupil Day (Staff only)	
Friday 4th January	Non-Pupil Day (Staff only)	
Monday 7th January	Pupils back	Doors open at 8:45am
Thursday 10th January	New to Reception 2019 Talks 9.15am	Infant School Hall
Week beginning Monday 14th January	Clubs start	
Thursday 17th January	Parent and Carer Assembly Tawny Owl – 9.15am	Infant School Hall. No need to book, just turn up.
Friday 18th January	Behaviour Workshop – 9.00am	
Friday 25th January	Parent and Carer Forum – 9.00am	
Tuesday 29th January	Cheerleading Competition	CSAC (Invited pupils)
Thursday 31st January	Parent and Carer Assembly Hedgehog – 9.15am	Infant School Hall. No need to book, just turn up.
Tuesday 5th February	Safer Internet Day	
Thursday 7th February	KS1 SATS Workshop 9.15am – 10.00	Infant School Hall. No need to book, just turn up.
Thursday 7th February	KS1 SATS Workshop 6.00pm – 7.00pm	Infant School Hall
Friday 8th February	Parent and Carer Assembly Squirrel – 9.15am	Infant School Hall
Friday 15th February	Last Day of Term	

SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR HALF TERM – Friday 15th February at 3.15pm

HALF TERM HOLIDAY – Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February



**FAMILY
LEARNING**



How is your child's emotional wellbeing?

Wednesday 16th January 2019

7-9pm

At Chelmsford Adult Community Learning Centre,

Beeches Close, Chelmsford CM1 2SB

This course will help you with understanding how to support your child/teenager.

- to help understand anxiety and emotional wellbeing in children,
- how to develop emotional intelligence/social and emotional resilience
- Find out what services/support is available locally/nationally

An opportunity to discuss concerns and worries you may have in this **FREE** workshop!

**To book your place or for more
information please contact:
Sarah on 03330 320903
or leave your name and number on
03330321597 to confirm your place.**



Essex County Council

Family Festive Fun!

Seasonal songs & stories for all ages

Chelmsford Library

Friday 21 December

10.30-11.30am



For further information contact
Essex Libraries on 0345 603 7628
or visit libraries.essex.gov.uk/events



Essex County Council



*FOBFS PTA Charity Spring Ball
Saturday 9th March 2019*

*The Lion Inn, Boreham
Prosecco Arrival at 7pm
3 Course Meal
Half Bottle of Wine
Raffle*

*Formal Dress-Masquerade Optional
Tickets £65pp or £120 for a pair
First come, first serve basis*

Payment required by Thursday 31st January 2019

Carriages at Midnight

The NHS logo, consisting of the letters 'NHS' in a white, bold, sans-serif font inside a dark blue square.

Mid Essex Hospital Services
NHS Trust



Hiring Nurses

Broomfield needs you

Calling all parents who are returning to work

For more information, simply contact:
Shelley Prior, Recruitment Officer
Tel: 01245 516524 | Email: Shelley.prior@meht.nhs.uk