

Barnes Farm Infant School

Newsletter



Friday 3rd May 2019

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

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Enjoying the Playground

First, I would like to thank everyone that has supported the school to raise funds this year so we can buy certain items to improve the school. So far this year, we have been able to replace the plastic cutlery with metal items, and this week three more picnic benches have arrived taking our total to four new benches so far. They look wonderful in the playground. The last item on this year's fund-raising wish list is to replace the canopy so there is shade in the playground on sunnier days. Money raised through events such as the school disco have all been placed in this pot and we are hoping to reach our goal for the year.



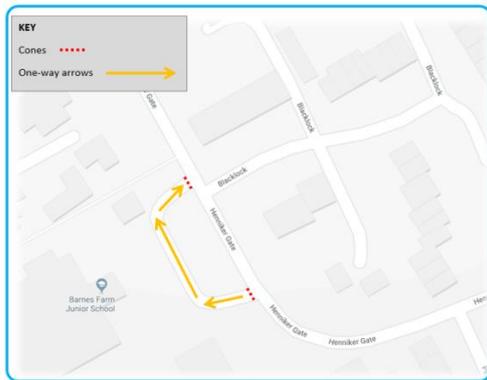
This group from Year 1 and 2 have enjoyed playing with the bricks during lunchtime and created their own aeroplane.



Reducing Traffic Congestion at BFJS

3PR, the scheme to influence a change in parking behaviours by rewarding those who walk into the 3PR zone directly outside school, has had a positive impact on our morning school run. However, the afternoon is still heavily congested outside school and in neighbouring roads. In the Summer term, we will be implementing the following actions to attempt to change this unacceptable situation:

- Suspend 3PR in the mornings
- Introduce a **'Walking Bus on a Wednesday'** which will leave from the Barnes Farm playgrounds and escort children to the Asda car park where parents will be waiting. First trial date **May 22nd**.
- This walking bus will be staffed by the two schools and will need parents to register their children for it
- **Cone off the Turning Circle** so that cars cannot wait/park/drive through in this area. It causes unnecessary pollution from engines being left on, congestion for children crossing and danger for those directly leaving the school.
- Encourage more school staff to park at Asda and walk to work reducing congestion directly outside school
- Encourage networks of parents to park at Asda and establish their own walking buses



Lost Property

We are surprised by the amount of lost property that we have in the school. Members of staff have taken the time to check items and there is so much left without a name written somewhere to identify the owner! Please can you ensure that your child's clothing and belongings are clearly marked as the build up of lost property is a problem for the school to store and of course, the cost to families to replace is high.

Year 2 to Year 3

Those children transferring from Year 2 to Barnes Farm Junior School will have received a welcome letter from the junior school this week. There is an extensive transition programme between the two schools and the children will be invited to many events over this term at the junior school to help them settle for September. They will join the junior assemblies, enjoy lunch in the hall and work with children already at the school. You are invited to a meeting after school on **Wednesday 19th June** in the junior school to find out more information. Details will follow. We will be handing out a form for children to complete with adults from home stating names of 6 other children they feel they learn best with in class on Monday 20th May. This form helps to support teacher's decisions when creating new class lists for Year 3. This will need to be returned to the infant class teacher by Wednesday 22nd May to allow plenty of time to organise new class groups.

Grapes and Cherry Tomatoes

Lots of healthy snacks are being sent into school for the children's lunches, but please can I remind you to cut up grapes and cherry tomatoes as these are a choking hazard for young children. Our MDAs are helping to cut up fruit from home, but as you can imagine, this takes up a lot of time. Thank you.

Rabbit Class Assembly

Rabbit's Class Assembly for Parents and Carers this week was all about Pete the Cat and the Cool Cat Boogie. The children produced a wonderful assembly retelling the story, having a little boogie and playing musical instruments. Oliver told me, 'It was really hard for the orchestra to play the instruments – it must have been a tiny bit hard'. Jodie told me she was excited at first and the best part was, 'Playing musical instruments'. The children also told the adults all about Zones of Regulation and how this helps us to understand our feelings. Oliver played the Wise Old Owl who let us all know that...

**'Pete it doesn't matter how you move,
As long as you are being you'**

Pete the Cat and Cool Cat Boogie.

Eco Committee and Earth Day Assembly



Mrs Tully has been working hard to ensure that the Eco Committee come together to make a difference to our school. During assembly this week, she spoke about Earth Day and the importance of looking after our planet. We learnt about the impact of plastic and things we should consider. During the Eco Committee meeting, the team decided they would complete a litter pick. They found five carrier bags of rubbish around our school! They were so shocked they thought it was important to tell all the school in assembly what they had found. We have discovered that a lot of our waste has blown onto the school site such as coffee cups and chocolate wrappers. They also ask the school that if they have anything to eat after school, that rubbish is

placed in our brand-new bins and not dropped on the floor.

Have a lovely bank holiday weekend,
Mrs Farmer



Attendance

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

Best class attendance this week was **Tawny Owl with 99.6%**. Well done to Tawny!

Whole school attendance this week was **95.4%**.

Whole school attendance for the year so far is **96.6%**.

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

Well Done to the following Stars of the Week



Badger – Mia

Fox – Yiannis

Rabbit – Lucy

Hedgehog – Kostek

Squirrel – Chloe

Otter – Gabrielle

Tawny Owl – Adam

Barn Owl – Harry R

Snowy Owl – Ellen

Mathematical Wizards of the Week

Reception – Emmy (Fox)

Year 1 – Gracie (Otter)

Year 2 – Ethan (Tawny)



Headteacher Award

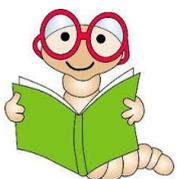
Daniel – (Barn Owl)

Well Done Children!

Bookworms of the Week

Well done to all the Super readers this week for reading 5 times at home. **Congratulations to Elsie 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 one of Mrs Speller's special books from the basket to take home.

Barn Owl class were the winning classes 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 70% of their children reading 5 times this week.



Well Done Bookworms. Keep Reading!

Year 2 SATS

Our Year 2 children will be showing us what they can do in their SATS from Friday 10th to Friday 17th May. These are National Standardised Assessment Tasks that all Year 2 classes will do in the month of May. The tests will be carried out by the children's teachers and members of the Senior Leadership Team either in their classrooms or learning hubs around the school. The Year 2 team have been preparing the children gradually over the last few weeks to familiarise them with the types of questions they may see in the tests and also how to check their work but most importantly to simply show us what they know and **try the very best they can**. We are so proud of our current Year 2's who have continued to work incredibly hard this term and we see the SATS as their chance to show us their learning.



If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or Mrs Speller.

Support for a Defibrillator to be installed at Barnes Farm Schools



I am raising funds towards the cost of a defibrillator for Barnes Farm Infants and Junior Schools - to help keep pupils, staff, families and our wider Barnes Farm family safe.

After a terrifying few months for me and my family, I recently had my pacemaker fitted for a deadly heart arrhythmia. A heart condition can affect anyone, any age - adult, child, any level of fitness, any size, any walk of life, anyone. If you think you know what a heart condition looks like from the outside you are very wrong. The picture to the left is me - at the time with a deadly heart condition that could have meant sudden cardiac arrest, stroke or worse at any moment - I am one of the very lucky ones, my heart stopped causing a blackout and was caught in time.

I started a mixture of running/walking last week during my recovery and on 12 May still aim to complete the Colchester 10km as planned before my diagnosis - this will be a huge milestone for me - if you would like to sponsor me for this cause that would be amazing.

[Click here to go to Michelle's Justgiving page](#)

Schools are unable to apply for funding so have to meet the costs themselves to install a defibrillator on site. I would like to help with your support to raise the money to contribute towards the cost for Barnes Farm schools.

In the UK alone:

- 12 young people under the age of 35 die each week from sudden cardiac arrest
- 270 children pass away in the UK every year after suffering a Sudden Cardiac Arrest at school.
- Without immediate treatment, 90-95% of Sudden Cardiac Arrest victims will die
- If a defibrillator is used and effective CPR is performed within 3-5 minutes of cardiac arrest, the chance of survival increases from 6% to 74%

Please your support will mean so much, any donation of any amount will be greatly appreciated xxx Thank you

Michelle Eley

Non-Pupil Dates 2019 – 2020

Many of you have been asking about holiday dates 2019 – 2020. The following dates have been set as our non-pupil dates for 2019-2020 in addition to the county holiday dates for this academic year.

- 3rd Sept
- 4th Nov
- 6th Jan
- 24th February
- 22nd May

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
Kate Sutton- Community Governor
Mrs Z. Farmer - Head teacher
Mrs E Speller – Deputy Headteacher and Staff Governor
Elizabeth Keeley - Community Governor

Diary of Events

SUMMER TERM 1

Tuesday 7th May – Friday 17th May	Year 2 SATS Weeks	
Thursday 23rd May	Closed for Polling Day	
Friday 24th May	Non-Pupil Day (Staff only)	

SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR MAY HALF TERM – Wednesday 22nd May at 3.15pm

MAY HALF TERM HOLIDAY – Tuesday 28th May – Friday 31st May