

Barnes Farm Infant School



Newsletter



Friday 13th September 2019

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

Follow us on Twitter: @FarmBarnes

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

There has been an amazing learning buzz around the school this week. Lots of purposeful learning taking place already. I am very concerned to hear that **Percy the Parkkeeper** has an injury, but I have also been told that Year 1 are jumping into their Mantle of the Expert learning to help solve some problems that Percy has encountered!

Well done to all our 'New to Reception' children who have completed their first full week in school. We are so proud of their achievements already and look forward to next week's learning.

Growth Mindset Capes of Success!

If your child comes home from school to tell you that they have been wearing a green cape during the school day - it's true! At BFIS we have introduced Green Capes of Success. There are 7 capes which link to our growth mindset language of BFIS:



Quality
Drive
Perseverance
Bravery
Concentration
Teamwork
Independence

These qualities, we believe, will help our children to be successful in life. Our job at BFIS is to teach the children what the words mean and how they can use them. Any child in the class who demonstrates the qualities will be awarded a 'cape of success' to wear. This will mean that all in our school will know how successful they have been. By celebrating our children's successes, we are hoping to raise awareness of the impact these qualities can have and to make children more independent and confident from an earlier age.

Twitter

I mentioned in last week's newsletter that we have launched our own Twitter account [@FarmBarnes](#) which will celebrate our achievements as a school and post useful information – thank you to all our new followers! We would love as many parents to follow us as possible. Also, could I ask that if you are following us, and are happy to do so, you retweet our school as much as possible? As Mrs Bentham always tells anyone that will listen, we are not just the infant school tucked away behind the trees at the bottom of Henniker Gate, we are so much more and we want to let as many people as possible know about the fabulous learning that takes place here! The more platforms that we have to celebrate the better - Thank you for your support and help.

Unwanted Visitors to the Site

It upsets me to have to write this next item especially when our pupils follow the Owl Code so well but unfortunately, over the summer holiday, we had several incidents involving older children/teenagers trespassing on the school site. One of the incidents resulted in police involvement. Since returning to school however, this has continued with older children trespassing in the evenings. It has caused unnecessary disruption to our school. Our school is an asset to the community it serves however, this activity is trespassing. If this continues, I will have no other option than to review the CCTV footage and inform the police.

School Council Members

Well done to all the children who put themselves forward to be part of the School Council. Congratulations to the following children who were elected by their peers:

Year 1	
Hedgehog	Esosa and Chams
Otter	Sophia R and Emilia
Squirrel	Isla and Samuel
Year 2	
Barn Owl	Daisy and Will Ki
Tawny Owl	Sofia and Nihal
Snowy Owl	Lucie B and Layla D

Lunchtimes

Just a reminder to all parents and carers that school dinners are **free** to all children in **Reception, Year 1** and **Year 2**. There is a variety of choice throughout the week and menus can be found on our website. Mrs Rodgers (Lead MDA) and Mrs Robinson have worked extremely hard this week to ensure that the Reception children are settled and confident in the hall. The children are certainly becoming more independent.

Homework

Home learning has begun this week. For those children in Year 1 and 2, homework will be set on a Friday and needs to be returned no later than the following Wednesday.

Year 1	Year 2
Spellings will be brought home to practise in a blue book and these spellings will be tested in the back of the book during class time (please	Spellings will be brought home to practise in a blue book and these spellings will be tested in the back of the book during class time time (please practise

practise on additional paper and not in the blue books).

Alternative weeks, a piece of Mathematics or English will be set in our new homework books (set on Friday and returned no later than the following Wednesday).

on additional paper and not in the blue books).

Each week, a piece of Mathematics and English will be set in our new homework books (set on Friday and returned no later than the following Wednesday).

Take Away Menus

At the start of a new topic and/or term, teachers in each year-group will create a list of creative homework tasks. The actual number of tasks will vary and will be determined primarily by the length of time the topic/term will run for and by the age of the children. There will be approximately 10 tasks available in Key Stage 1. The tasks will be differentiated: some will be straightforward to understand and complete; others will be more difficult and require greater consideration or involve more higher-order thinking skills. Over the course of the term, whilst the topic is being covered, the children will be entirely free to pick and choose which homework tasks they attempt. The homework tasks will be presented as a 'menu' and where possible will be linked to the theme of the topic work. Children will be challenged to complete work of varying level of difficulty.

Reception

In Reception, we encourage children to share their school books with adults from home in the first term. It is important that **all** children aim to read x4 to an adult each week and that this is recorded in the Home/School Diary.

School Clubs and After School Arrangements

Joint Infant and Junior Notice

Our end of the day arrangements are as follows:

At the end of the day, the school gates will be open between **3:10pm – 3:25pm** and we ask that you **exit the site promptly once you have picked up your child**. Access onto the school site will then be restricted from 3:25pm once our clubs and EBNO begin. By asking parents and carers to exit the site, clubs and the EBNO are able to access the playground and playing areas safely. Both schools wish to offer a full range of extra curriculum learning and this is only possible if the site across both schools is safeguarded. Parents will be able to enter the site for club pick-ups from **4:10pm onwards**.

Parents and carers of children attending clubs in the Infant school will need to collect their children from the reception playground (please do not venture onto the main playground) and those in the Junior school will be able to collect their children from various locations around the school.

Have a wonderful weekend,
Mrs Farmer



Attendance

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

Best class attendance this week was both **Fox and Rabbit class with 100%**.

Whole school attendance this week was **98%**.

Whole school attendance for the year so far is **97.6%**.

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.



Celebration Awards

Reception

Badger
Fox
Rabbit

Whole Class
Whole Class
Whole Class

Year 1

Hedgehog
Squirrel
Otter

Archie
Sophia
Freddie

Year 2

Barn Owl
Tawny Owl
Snowy Owl

Oakley
Gracie
Joey

Mathematical Wizard

Reception
Year 1
Year 2

Kavya
Amy

Headteacher's Award

Bookworm and Class
Class of the Week

Rebecca – Otters
Tawny Owl and Barn Owl – 83%

Homework

Each week, we aim to publish the homework pages for Year 1 and 2. In addition to the homework, we encourage the children to read as much as possible with adults at home.

	Mathematics	English
Year 1		Page 4
Year 2	Separate Worksheet	Page 4

Mathematics Homework

Your child will shortly receive one 'Maths Wizard Challenge Card' that is relevant for their year group. It has a whole year's worth of work inside that follows the National Curriculum. This complements everything that is being taught in school and has some examples of how to do it for your information. This is a great way to encourage a home/school partnership for your children's mathematical development. If you have any questions at all, please speak to your child's class teacher. BBC Bitesize KS1 also has some fantastic videos to show parents how they can teach their children various mathematical concepts. The calculation policy on our school website is also very useful.

As you may be aware, the 'Mastery' approach focuses on embedding a deep understanding of number which can then be transferred to other mathematical areas. Because of this, we will not be testing children on how 'quick' they are to answer a question, but how well they can *apply* their knowledge to 1 or 2 pre-set questions, which will be carried out by a member of staff when the children feel they are ready and want to be checked. They can give the card to the teacher and at some point in the day/week they will be checked. If they can answer the question/s they will receive a 'Golden Time' square for the class chart reward system. When their card has been completed, they will be given a Growth Mindset sticker to celebrate their mathematical success.

Mrs Hanson
Mathematics Mastery subject Leader

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
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