



Barnes Farm Infant School

Newsletter



Friday 29th November 2019

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

Follow us on Twitter: @FarmBarnes

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

[Snow Owl Class Assembly](#)

This week's class assembly for Parents and Carers was delivered by Snowy Owls. I have to say, the class were amazing and they spoke about their Victorian topic with such confidence. They have learnt so many facts and I even learnt something new! The children were able to recite a piece of poetry for the audience and the quality of learning seen was brilliant. I particularly liked the medals the children had designed and made of clay. As I think back to this class in Reception, it is wonderful to see how they have all grown as individuals – Well done Snowy Owls!

[Welcome to our New Governors](#)

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our two new members of the Local Governing Body. Katie Corbett has been elected as our Parent Governor and Yvonne Spence as the Community representative. Both attended their first Local Governing Body meeting last night and I look forward to working with them in the future.

[PTA](#)

It has been a fantastic week for moving forward with the relaunch of the PTA. I would like to thank everyone that attended the meetings. We will be sending out communications to those that attended next week. All parents are automatically part of the PTA when your child joins the school. If you were unable to attend the relaunch meetings but wish to be regularly involved in the PTA, please email the school office on our admin account.

[Reading at BFIS](#)

I am really pleased to announce that after Christmas, we will have a brand-new reading scheme with hundreds of new books which will roll out across the whole school. We will be using the Big Cat Phonics Letters and Sounds books and this will continue into Big Cat readers as the children move through the school. To compliment the new books, we are collecting The Sun book tokens. If you or anyone you know has copies of The Sun newspaper, please can you send the tokens into school. By investing in a new reading scheme, we hope that reading will link even more closely with the phonics lessons and allow our children to become confident readers as early as possible.

In school, we encourage the children to read to an adult at home x4 a week. Once this is recorded in the child's diary, the tally will be collected once a week in class. This feeds into the class Reading Game but also the class competition for the weekly Celebration assembly. In this assembly, we celebrate the class that has the highest percent of children reading at home for that week.

In school, your child's class teacher will read with them every other week and another school adult will read to them in the opposite week. We mark this with a purple pen. If your child has sat a Phonics Screening assessment with the class teacher, this will take the place of the class read for that week. In school, we are very lucky to have a team of volunteers that support the class library visits but also read with the children. Next week, some of our volunteers have offered to take part in our Paired Reading training.

Weekly, there is a shared class reading session and daily, the class teacher will read to the class during snack time and at the end of the day. Children can read from the class 'We love to read' boxes. All of this helps the children to become confident readers with a love of reading. By supporting at home, this will continue outside of the school environment.

I will keep you updated on the school delivery of new reading books... watch this space!

General Election - School to Remain Open

The Junior School has once more been designated as a polling station for the upcoming General Election. We always do everything we can to remain open on these occasions but as you know, some elections in the past have caused us to close when we cannot make arrangements that guarantee the security of the whole school site, including the Infant School.

In this instance, we are pleased that both schools are able to remain open, due a mobile unit which will be sited in our car park. This will enable us to retain the secure integrity of the school grounds, while fulfilling our obligations as a polling station, and at no extra cost to the school(s). It should be noted for future reference that the local electoral services are making this arrangement for this election only, given its unexpected nature and challenging timing, and it may not be repeated on future occasions.

All children are therefore to attend school as normal on Thursday 12th December.

Have a wonderful weekend,
Mrs Farmer



Attendance

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

Best class attendance this week was **Squirrel** with **99.2%**

Whole school attendance this week was **97.4%**

Whole school attendance for the year so far is **96.9%**

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

Annabel
Emily-Grace
Michelle

Year 1

Hedgehog
Squirrel
Otter

Kyle
Ronnie
Ruby

Year 2

Barn Owl
Snowy Owl
Tawny Owl

Joshua
Adriana
Chloe

Mathematical Wizard

Reception
Year 1
Year 2

Jensen
Leo
Florence

Bookworm of the Week
Class of the Week

Zoe - Otter
Rabbit

Please see the below information regarding Year 2 pupils transferring to Year 3/KS2:

Year 2- 3 admissions for September 2020

The process for Year 2 to 3 transfers for Year 3 admissions into junior schools for September 2020 requires that parents of current Year 2 children at an infant school need to make a formal application to the Council and can do so via the website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

The junior admission round opens on **11 November 2019**, for parents of children to apply for a junior school (Year 3) place for September **2020**.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2020**.

From 11 November 2019, applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

Letters will not be sent to parents about making an application. All of the application information is available on the website above.

Please see the below information regarding Reception admissions 2020:

Reception admissions for academic year starting in September 2020

The primary school (Reception) admission round opens on **11 November 2019**, for parents of children to apply for a Reception school place for the academic year that starts in September **2020**.

The statutory national closing date for applications is **15 January 2020**.

From **11 November 2019**, applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions.

Barnes Farm Infant School New to Reception 2020 Talks

Building
Futures
Inspiring
Success



Is your child going to be starting school September 2020?
Please come and join us.

Thursday 10th October @ 9:15am
Thursday 21st November @ 5:30pm
Friday 22nd November @ 9:15am
Friday 10th January @ 9:15am

Proud to be part of the CLP

www.barnesfarminfants.co.uk

The Sun - Books for Schools

The Sun newspaper has teamed up with Harper Collins to provide free books to primary schools worth £600 and both Barnes Farm schools have signed up. To enable each school to receive their free pack of books all we need to do is for each school to collect 3,500 tokens from The Sun and The Sun on Sunday between **Saturday 23rd November** and **Saturday 18th January 2020**. If you or your family and friends read The Sun, please collect the tokens and send them into school.

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 | - | Grammar Page 7 |
| Year 2 | Problem Solving Page 14 | Grammar Page 22 Spellings |

The Book People - The Big Book Boost

If you or your family or friends shop online at The Book People please use the Big Book Boost which will enable the school to receive donations from The Book People.

Big Book Boost is The Book People's brand new fundraising scheme. Every time you place an order with us over £10, we'll donate £1 to a school of your choice for them to spend on books!

You can add more than one school to your account. When your order qualifies for Big Book Boost, you will be asked to pick one school to give your boost to.

Further information on the scheme can be found using the link below:

<https://www.thebookpeople.co.uk/bigbookboost>



Parent Workshops

Wednesdays

10am-11am

**@ Chelmsford Family Hub, Lower Ground Floor,
County Hall, Chelmsford, CM1 1QH**

A range of workshops available for parents/ carers of 5-19 year olds.

| | |
|---|--|
| Workshop 1: SEND- Support and information | (6 th Nov 2019 / 8 th Jan 2020) |
| Workshop 2: Puberty/ growing up | (13 th Nov 2019/ 15 th Jan 2020) |
| Workshop 3: Healthy eating/ Fussy eating | (20 th Nov 2019/ 22 nd Jan 2020) |
| Workshop 4: Enuresis / Bed wetting | (27 th Nov 2019/ 29 th Jan 2020) |
| Workshop 5: Parenting strategies | (4 th Dec 2019/ 5 th Feb 2020) |
| Workshop 6: Anxiety/ Self-esteem | (11 th Dec 2019/ 12 th Feb 2020) |

(Adult only workshops – No crèche facilities)

Please call 0300 247 0014 (opt 2) for more information or to book a space.

Services commissioned by:

www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.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.

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
 Mrs Z. Farmer - Head teacher
 Mrs E. Speller – Deputy Headteacher and Staff Governor
 Mrs K. Robinson – Assistant Headteacher and Staff Governor
 Elizabeth Keeley - Community Governor
 Yvonne Spence – Community Governor
 Katie Corbett – Parent Governor

AUTUMN TERM 2

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| Wednesday 4th December | Year 1 Concert Morning – 9.15am | Infant School Hall |
| Thursday 5th December | Year 1 Concert Afternoon – 1.45pm | Infant School Hall |
| Tuesday 10th December | Reception Concert Morning – 9.15am | Infant School Hall No need to book, just turn up. |
| Wednesday 11th December | Reception Concert Afternoon – 1.45pm | Infant School Hall No need to book, just turn up. |
| Thursday 12th December | Reception Concert Morning – 9.15am | Infant School Hall No need to book, just turn up. |
| Thursday 12th December | Movie and Munch | Permission Slip and Payment to be made on Parentpay by 5 th December 2019 |
| Friday 13th December | Year 2 Carol Concert 3.30pm | Infant School Playground |
| Tuesday 17th December | Christmas Craft Day | |
| Wednesday 18th December | Winter Cake Sale and Hot Chocolate | Cakes on sale in Atrium and Reception Playground |
| Wednesday 18th December | Christmas Dinner and Christmas Dress Up Day | No donations required, just for fun. |
| Thursday 19th December | Last Day of Term | |

SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR HOLIDAY – Thursday 19th December 2019 at 3.15pm
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY – Friday 20th December 2019 – Friday 3rd January 2020
Monday 6th January 2020 – Teacher Training Day