



BARNABAS NEWS

FRIDAY 22ND MAY 2021

ST BARNABAS C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL
office.3832@st-barnabas.oxon.sch.uk

DEAR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS

Thank you for all the wonderful donations of plants, seeds, pots and compost. The Courtyard garden is beginning to look lovely and the children are enjoying gardening.

Thank you too, to the parent painters and cleaners. School really is beginning to look much smarter.

Parent consultations have gone well and thank you for your helpful feedback. One question raised by a few parents was about extra lessons or homework clubs after school. At the moment we feel the children have enough to cope with being back. Many are needing to build up their stamina again and some are still getting used to the rigour of the school day. We are providing lots of post lock down support in school. Please see the school website for further details. We will continue to review our teaching and await further guidance from the government.

This week in school...

Nursery have been reading Handa's Surprise and learning about fruit. The reception children made their own fruit salads by choosing, chopping and then eating their creations. They also learnt all about the lifecycle of a butterfly and finally finished their big garden collage picture which is now hanging in the classroom.

Year 1 have been sorting animals into groups to learn about the different vertebrates. They have had two special visits: one from two parents to help us learn about the five pillars of Islam and one from the drama group Perform to take us on an underwater adventure! Year 2 have had another exciting week, they enjoyed a drama workshop where they dived under the sea to rescue a pearl! They have also been extremely busy continuing with Peruvian weaving inspired by their Paddington books. Year 2 are also working very hard on learning the 3 times table. Year 3 are very excited about their Greek plays and are busy rehearsing.

Year 4 have begun writing their own books about Beowulf using Book Creator, they have a lot to say and Mr Cameron thinks the books will be really good. The class has also begun a project to make a model of an Anglo Saxon village and are planning an art project based on making lightbulbs for their Blue Peter Green Badge application.

Year 5 have been enjoying making their own music using an online program. They have also been learning about Pompeii and Mount Vesuvius as part of our Romans topic. They are hoping to visit a Roman villa in July- separate letter coming soon.

Year 6 researched the life of Nelson Mandela and the impact of apartheid in South Africa. This was followed by a virtual presentation with Christo Brand who was one of the prison guards who was responsible for guarding Nelson Mandela when he came to Robben Island. It was a very inspirational talk

Best wishes
Karen Donaghey Headteacher

Our motto... To be kind, learn as much as you can
and encourage one another.

ACTION...

Car safety

We have been approached by the Council regarding parent cars in Jericho Street. Please do not park or hover outside the Year 1 gate. Everyone is concerned for the safety of the children.

CHILDREN ONLINE

The children continue to tell us about the problems they are having online at home. Many are saying they worry about telling their parents because they will be banned and they don't want that and it doesn't solve the problem. Please talk to your child about online safety. We teach them at school but many are spending hours online and are finding it difficult, particularly post lock down. As soon as we are able we will run a session for parents. In the meantime the NSPCC has some excellent material on online safety at <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/> as does childnet.com

For information on setting parental controls visit nationalonlinesafety.com

Leavers and starters Years 1-5

If you know your child will be leaving us at the end of the year, please let the office know as we have children waiting for places and it allows us to plan for September. Likewise, if you are looking for a place please contact the office for further information.

WE ARE A NUT, SEED AND KIWI FREE SCHOOL. Please check cereal bars and snacks and do not send products such as Nutella to school. This includes pine nuts, humus and tahini.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND PEANUT BUTTER SANDWICHES AS HAPPENED THIS WEEK.

Children's health

If there are changes to your child's health please let us know so we can care for them appropriately.

'THE MORE YOU READ THE MORE YOU LEARN' GOOD NEWS!

We are delighted to tell you that we have secured the money to redevelop our library over the next few months. More details to follow but we are very excited about this next phase in the development of our wonderful school.

TERM ENDS WEDNESDAY 21ST JULY AT 1.30PM

Half term Monday 31st May- Friday 5th June

INSET DAYS Monday 7th June and Thursday 22nd July.