



St Barnabas Primary School • Hart Street • Oxford • OX2 6BN Tel: 01865 557178 •
Web: www.st-barnabas.oxon.sch.uk
Email: office.3832@st-barnabas.oxon.sch.uk

January 7th 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Class letter with information for year 5

Happy New Year and welcome back to the spring term of what we all hope will be a very positive year! I am so excited to be teaching your child this term. As some of you know, I have been the TA in year 6, and I have teaching experience with this exact age back when I taught in the States. From me (Mrs Watson), Mrs Garrod, Miss Thompson and Mrs Donaghey, we hope you had a wonderful break.

Mrs Garrod will be teaching every Monday, Mrs Watson will be teaching on Tuesdays - Thursdays, and Mrs Donaghey will be teaching on Fridays. With this Year 5 team, we plan on having an amazing term! We are very lucky to still have Miss Thompson working in Year 5 too.

Our aim is always for your child to feel settled and happy in school and to succeed in a positive, calm, supportive and friendly atmosphere. If at any time you have any concerns about your children please do not hesitate to contact us.

Drop-off/Pick-up & Registers

The children will continue to arrive and depart via the pedestrian gate, which opens onto the KS2 playground and field. Mrs Donaghey will be at the pedestrian gate in the mornings and the teachers will walk the children to the gate to release them at the end of the school day.

School opens for year five at 8:50am and we take the register promptly by 9:00am. The pedestrian gate will be locked at 9:00am.

We walk the children to the school gates for pick up by 3:05pm

If your child will be walking to and from school without an adult, the school requires a signed letter from the parents/carer or email to the office, stating that their child is allowed to do so. This is to ensure the safety of the child.

Communication

We welcome you to contact us with any queries or concerns through email. Please do feel free to talk to us this way. We may not be able to answer immediately, but one of us will get back to you. For anything urgent or for something that needs to be shared immediately, you can

either call the office or speak to Mrs Donaghey on the gate, who will pass on the message. You can also make a phone appointment with us at a mutually convenient time, by calling or emailing the office.

School office email: office.3832@st-barnabas.oxon.sch.uk

School office number: 01865 557178

Mrs Watson's email: ewat8821@st-barnabas.oxon.sch.uk

Mrs Garrod's email: tgar4098@st-barnabas.oxon.sch.uk

Absence

Please let the office know in advance if your child has a medical or similar appointment and will need to be taken out of school or to arrive late.

If your child is ill, please ring or email the office as soon as possible on each day of absence.

Keeping Safe

We will have one class assembly for the children, with Mrs Donaghey, each week either outside, or in the hall with one other class. .

Please make sure your child has a named water bottle -fresh each day and a fruit snack (NO NUTS OR SEEDS please)

Everyone will wash their hands frequently including: on arrival, before and after- eating, playtimes, using the toilet and then again before going home. Classes will have labelled allocated toilets.

There will be extra cleaning of classrooms, touch points, tables and toilets.

Equipment and clothing

Children will have their own school equipment in a labelled pencil case provided by school. They do not need a pencil case from home.

PE lessons are on Wednesdays and Thursdays but children should come to school in clothes that are suitable for PE every day. We aren't having PE kits in school. We will be using our outdoor spaces as much as possible, so layers of warm clothes are needed every day and can be left on the back of their chairs if the children get too warm. The guidance means keeping windows and doors open as much as possible for ventilation so warm clothes are essential.

Please tie long hair back.

Reading

Reading is a wonderful life skill and we want children to love reading. The more the children read, the more words they are exposed to and these words gradually and inevitably make their way into the children's vocabulary. This assists with all areas of the children's learning, helps their confidence in speaking aloud and especially helps with ideas for their writing.

There will continue to be a big focus on reading throughout the school this year. We would love the children to recommend good books that they have read, to help inspire others. Current research confirms that the most effective form of homework is reading. Children who read regularly at home

will have greater success in other subjects at school. This year for homework we are expecting children to read every day. We have books in class and we visit the school library weekly. Please encourage your child to read at home daily.

Other Homework

Homework will be set online but can be printed for any children who cannot easily access online learning on any particular week. Homework may be in the form of spellings, maths, grammar and so on. It is set on a Wednesday and is due in on the following Wednesday.

Thank you for all your support. We are looking forward to having lots more interesting learning and exciting experiences together this term.

Erika Watson, Tania Garrod, Marie Thompson, and Karen Donaghey