



Barcombe CE Primary School

Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Term 2 continues to be very busy – there are so many exciting things going on at Barcombe and there is much more to come in the next few weeks!

It's starting to look festive in school today with everyone in their Christmas jumpers. The money raised today will go to our class charities.

Thank you for your support.



Excellence at Barcombe

We recently had a very successful visit from our School Improvement Partner who spent time in each class observing teaching and learning in English lessons. He was very impressed with the high standard of teaching of writing and the children's achievements in all classes.

Adverse Weather

There was a light sprinkling of snow in parts of East Sussex last week; winter has arrived! If, due to exceptional weather conditions, we are unable to open the school, we will put a message on the front page of the school website. Any details regarding a school closure will be on our school website and, also, on the East Sussex County Council website. Information regarding school closures is also given out on Heart FM. We only close the school in exceptionally adverse weather conditions; we always try to remain open. However, the safety of our pupils and our staff is, of course, paramount.

Parent Information

For information about local events that may be of interest, please check the Parent Information Point on the school website.

Christmas Activities

As we run up to Christmas, there are lots of activities going on:

PTA Christmas Fair: The Christmas Fair is tomorrow, December 1st, in the Sports Hall from 3pm to 6pm. Please come along and support our wonderful PTA. Foxes and Owls will be singing at 4pm!

Postbox: the Christmas postbox will be put out on Monday, December 3rd. Children can post Christmas cards for other people in our school community. Please make sure that names and classes are clearly written with surnames or initials where possible as we have several children with the same first names in school.

Carol Service: our school Carol Service will be at St Mary's at 9am on Tuesday, December 11th. We will then walk back to school as we did at Harvest. A letter with further details will be sent out next week.

Nativity: Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Badgers will put on their Nativity on Thursday, December 13th at 9am.

Christmas Dinner: This will be on Thursday, December 11th. Orders should already have been made for lunch. Please see the office if you have not done so.

Carols in the Playground: Foxes and Owls will be singing carols on the last day of term from about 2.30pm.

Coats and Shoes

The weather is becoming colder and wetter. Please ensure that your child has a warm, waterproof coat to wear when they are outside for playtimes and lunchtimes. Also, please ensure that their shoes are appropriate for winter conditions. We want our children dressed appropriately for the weather and the activities that they are doing.

Eligibility for Free School Meals

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are currently entitled to free school meals.

Your child may be entitled to free school meals for all their time at Primary School.

If you are in receipt of Income Support, Income-based Jobseekers Allowance, Income related Employment and Support Allowance or some other form of support, your child may be entitled to free school meals throughout primary school and possibly beyond.

If your child does qualify, they also receive Pupil Premium funding for at least 6 years. This funding is used to support children's learning and help towards the cost of, for example, school uniform, after school clubs and school trips. If you would like to apply for these 'long-term' free school meals you just need to complete a form that is available from the school office.

Remember, if you are in receipt of benefits, you need to register for free school meals, even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 to ensure they receive free meals beyond Year 2, and also for your child to receive the pupil premium funding.

Fire Station Visit

Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Badgers recently visited Barcombe Fire Station as part of their Fire! topic. They enjoyed finding out all about the job of firefighters and asked some fantastic questions.



Reading Challenge

Our Reading Challenge continues this term with children receiving a token every time they read at home four or more times in a week. Please keep working hard with this at home – reading is such an important skill to master. We look forward to presenting more book tokens at the end of this term.

Children in Need

Everyone looked wonderful in their wacky clothes on Children in Need Day. Thank you for helping us support this day. We raised almost £150 which is fantastic for a little school.

Attendance

In conjunction with many local schools, we are focussing on attendance this year. To ensure the safety and wellbeing of all our children, we ask that children are in school whenever possible. If they are absent, please provide a reason for that absence as soon as possible. Where patterns of absence or lateness emerge, we will be setting targets with parents to improve.

Our attendance statistics to date are as follows:

Owls 97.7%

Foxes 97.7%

Badgers 97%

Squirrels 95.7%

Hedgehogs 97.1%

The local authority and Department for Education expectation is 97%. Please make every effort to get your child in school every day and on time.

Dates for your diary

Please note these dates are not exhaustive and can be subject to change.

December 2018	
Saturday 1 st	PTA Christmas Fair
Thursday 6 th	Pantomime in school
Friday 7 th	Squirrels and Badgers to Maresfield Fire Station
Tuesday 11 th	Carol Service at St Mary's 9am
Thursday 13 th	Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Badgers Christmas Nativity
Wednesday 19 th	Carols in the playground 2.30pm
Wednesday 19 th	Break up for Christmas
January 2019	
Thursday 3 rd	Start of term 3
February 2019	
Friday 15 th	Last day of term 3
Monday 25 th	Return to school
March 2019	
Wednesday 20 th	Y5 and 6 to VIAM
April 2019	
Friday 5 th	Last day of term 4
Tuesday 23 rd	Return to school
May 2019	
Mon 13 th – Thurs 16 th	Y6 SATs week
June 2019	
Friday 21 st	Sports Day
OTHER INSET DATES	
Monday 22 nd and Tuesday 23 rd July, 2019	

Best wishes,

Rforce

Stewart James

Ruth Force

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