



St Barnabas News

16th April 2015

"Barnabas, the Encourager"

Welcome to the Summer Term!

I hope that you had a lovely Easter break and enjoyed the beautiful sunshine.

Building Work & Car Park

You may have noticed that the building work has started and this is planned to be completed by the beginning of September. Safety of the children whilst this work is taking place is a priority. The building site is securely fenced off, school doors with access to the site are out of use and a member of the Sewell Safety Team has been into assembly today to help the children to understand the dangers of building sites. In school, children will be designing their own posters about building site safety and the winning poster from each Key Stage will be displayed on the fencing around the site. There will also be a prize for the winning entries provided by Sewell. Having a building site on the grounds provides a great learning opportunity and Sewell staff are keen to work with the children to help them to learn more about the construction process.

Please remember that in the interests of safety, the car park gates will be closed from 8:20-9am and 2:45-3:15pm.

Please do not park on the double yellow lines on the school drive and avoid driving down Jubilee Terrace if possible as there is very little space to turn around.

Thank you for your cooperation and support with this matter. Children, parents and visitors have commented how much calmer and safer it feels coming to and from school.



Clubs

Information about clubs was sent home in book bags earlier in the week. Here is a reminder of them.

Starbrite Express Club (Weds) and Y6 Study Club (Tues) started this week but all other clubs will begin next week except choir which will begin on Thursday 30th April.

Choir will finish at 3:45pm, not 4pm as stated on the clubs slip. Children who attend Choir will be invited to take part in a West Schools Choir Day in July where they will perform some songs from the Young Voices Concert. Children who did not take part in Young Voices in January are welcome to join choir too.

Monday 3-4pm – KS2 Summer Sports

Tuesday 3-4pm - Y6 Study Club, KS1 Games Club

Tuesday 3-3:45pm – FS & KS1 Spanish

Wednesday 3-4pm – Starbrite Express Dance (£4 per wk - £2 for Pupils Entitled to Pupil Premium Grant)

Thursday 3-3:45pm – KS2 Choir

Thursday 3-3:45pm – KS1 phonics (continued from last term)

Reminder

Please remember that that school is closed on Thursday May 7th as the school is being used as a Polling Station. The Holiday Club will be open on this day at a cost of £16 for the day. Please book directly with the club if you need this.

Please send in any sponsor money from the Comic Relief Sponsored Spell in the next 2 weeks so that we can calculate the final total. Thanks.



Leave of absence and holidays in term time

We have had a number of requests for leave of absence (holidays) recently. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that Headteachers are only permitted to authorise leave of absence in 'exceptional circumstances'. Examples of these circumstances are family bereavements or emergencies, parents who are in the armed forces and are unable to take leave in school holiday times. If you are unsure whether you have 'exceptional circumstances' that require your child to have a leave of absence, please come to discuss this with me rather than just completing a request form.

Easter Prizes

We were once again astounded by the brilliant entries into the Easter Egg Decorating Competition, making it very difficult to choose just one winner per year group. Thank you so much to everyone who took part. Congratulations to the following children who were the winners in their respective year groups

Foundation Stage: Harry

Year 1: Lexi

Year 2: Danny

Year 3: Reggie

Year 4: Lily

Year 5: Liv and James

Year 6: Carys



SCHOOL MEAL MENUS

We now have a new lunch menu. You can find this on our website (parents section) and a copy has been e-mailed to parents (paper copies sent home where required). If you would like a paper copy please ask at the school office.

Attendance

At the end of each term each child who has 96% or above attendance for the year so far is entered into a draw (FS/KS1 and KS2). Children win a prize and parents win a £5 Tesco voucher to say 'Thank You' for helping your child to have good attendance. Last term's winners were Grace in FS and Chase in Y3.

Dates

Dates for this term are attached.

Please note that there are several important assessment weeks this term where children will complete Statutory Assessments.

Year 6 will take their SATs tests during the week of May 11th, Year 1 children will take the phonics screening during the week of 15th June and Year 2 will be taking their tests during weeks beginning 11th and 18th May. Please ensure that your children are in school unless very unwell and on time during these weeks.

Bags to School

Please return your filled bags by Monday 27th April.

School Council Elections

As election fever grips the country, we will be holding elections for our new School Council on 6th May.

Each year group, including FS, will be able to elect 2 representatives for the Council. During the week beginning 27th April, children who would like to be considered for the council will be asked to give a short presentation to their class (1-2 minutes) about how they would be a good member of the School Council and what they would do as their class rep.

We will announce the results of the elections on Friday 8th May at Good Work Assembly.

CLASS NEWSLETTERS

You can find out more about what your child is learning in school this term through the class newsletters that will be sent out in the next few weeks.

Parents in Class Sessions:

It has been wonderful to see so many of you at these sessions and hear your positive feedback. Please note the dates of the sessions this term and we look forward to seeing you.

Key Stage 2: Thursday 30th April, Thursday 18th June 8:40-9am

Key Stage 1: Tuesday 5th May, Thursday 25th June 8:40-9am

Foundation Stage: Thursday 21st May, Thursday 25th June 2:30-3pm

Cycle Training

Later this term in June, children in Years 5 and 6 will have the opportunity to take part in cycle training run by CYC. More information will follow but children will need to have a bicycle that is in good working order along with a helmet. This gives you plenty of time to sort out any repairs that may need doing before June.



Term dates 2015-16

We have made a slight change to the INSET days for next year. To allow a little more time to set up the new classrooms and new kitchen we will be holding 2 INSET days at the beginning of the Autumn Term on Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th September 2015. There will not be an INSET day on May 27th 2016. The revised holiday dates are attached.

Changes to Office Staff

A warm welcome to Mrs Nicola Mitchell who is our new admin assistant in the office as Mrs Lillie will now be working part time.

Mrs Mitchell will work Monday –Wednesday and Mrs Lillie will work Wednesday – Friday. As Mrs Mitchell doesn't yet know all our families, please introduce yourself.

Changes to kitchen staff

From Monday, Gemma Moody, our current cook, will be leaving to take up a promotion in another Chartwell's school kitchen. Donna Robertson, who is currently the assistant cook, has been promoted to the role of cook at St Barnabas and the new assistant cook will be Helen Brown, a parent at school.

Congratulations to Gemma and Donna on their promotions!

If you have any questions about payments, please speak to Donna.



Chat to a Governor

Our governors visit school regularly to carry out their monitoring role.

Next Thursday, 23rd April, governors will be spending the afternoon in lessons after having lunch with the children.

They will be on the playground from 2:55-3:15pm if you would like to speak to them about any school matters or find out more about the role of a governor.

We are currently looking for additional governors so this would be a good opportunity to find out more.....