



# St Barnabas News

25<sup>th</sup> September 2017



"Barnabas, the Encourager"

'Community, Friendship, Trust, Truthfulness, Forgiveness, Courage'

## Harvest Service

It was great to see so many of you at the Harvest Service last week. Well done to the children for their stories, songs, presentations and prayers. Thank you for all your donations to York Foodbank. This week, the children enjoyed tasting the potatoes grown in our allotment with their school lunch. They were delicious.

## Clubs

- Thank you for your support with the new electronic booking system for clubs. We hope this has been straightforward for you and that you are clear about the clubs that your child is attending. There are still places left at Y5/6 Tag Rugby on Fridays and Y3/4 Tag Rugby after half term on Thursdays. Please contact the office if you would like to sign up your child to these clubs.
- **There will be an additional dance club for children in Years 1 -3 running on Wednesdays, starting on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October.**
- We will be charging for this club. £14 for 9 sessions, payable on Parent Pay or to the school office before 4<sup>th</sup> October. Please book a place at the club using the link <https://stbarnabasyork.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/v2/> before 3pm on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.



## Health and Wellbeing



### Walking Wednesdays – Starting Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October

At St Barnabas we support and encourage our pupils to lead active, healthy lifestyles. The journey to school is an easy way to build in regular exercise. Walking, cycling and scooting to school has many benefits. Amongst other things, it is good for our health and wellbeing, saves money and helps make the streets outside school safer and more pedestrian friendly by reducing air pollution and congestion.

This year we are promoting 'Walking Wednesdays' and are asking pupils to walk, cycle or scoot to school every Wednesday. Each week our School Council will record the number of active journeys made. The fittest and most active class will receive a special mention and a weekly award in our Celebration Assembly. The school council will also award the Golden Lock on a Wednesday, putting it on a bike or scooter. If your child's bike or scooter has the Golden Lock, please take this to the office who will note your child's details for a prize in Celebration Assembly.

We'd like as many pupils to join in with 'Walking Wednesdays' as possible. Families unable to walk, cycle or scoot for the whole journey to school, are encouraged to car-share, and asked to park further away from school. Pupils driven to school can take part by completing at least the last 5 minutes of their journey by foot, bike or scooter. The 5 minute zone for St Barnabas can be found on the following link <http://stbarnabasprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/5-minute-walking-zone.pdf>. Please remember to park responsibly (without blocking drives) and please avoid driving down Jubilee Terrace as there is very little room to turn around and park.

We will continue to be supported by Erin Gray from Sustrans this year who will be helping us to run active events such as 'Learn to Ride', Scooter Skills and much more. This term, children in Key Stage 2 will also have the chance to take part in Pedestrian Training or Bikeability Training.

### The Daily Mile

To help improve fitness levels as well as concentration and learning, we have introduced the 'Daily Mile' which children will do with their class several times each week in addition to their usual PE lessons. The idea is that the class go outside for 15 minutes, in their usual school clothes, aiming to do at least one mile of walking/jogging in this time. On the days that the class do not do this together children are encouraged to do their 'mile' at breaktimes or be active through other activities. **One mile = 10 laps of the playground.** Why not encourage the whole family to do a mile at the weekend too.....? Find out more about the Daily Mile national initiative here <http://thedailymile.co.uk/>

## This Term's Value is Generosity

Children will be thinking about the idea of giving without seeking any reward and will be encouraged to act with generosity in both their words and actions.

They will learn about the importance of being generous not only with material objects but also with their time, abilities and talents. You may like to look at the home-school sheet together by clicking on the link below.  
<http://stbarnabasprimary.co.uk/church-school/our-values/>

Children who bring in something to show they have completed an activity from the sheet will receive a special certificate in celebration assembly.



**School Council Elections** will take place in school this Thursday (28<sup>th</sup>). During this week, children who would like to be a school councillor are asked to do a short presentation to the class about why they would be a good school councillor and what ideas they have about improving school life.

## Importance of Good Attendance

It is important that children attend school as much as possible to learn as well as they are able to. It is quite normal for children to have some time off due to illness but if holidays are taken as well this leads to them missing a lot of school and possibly falling behind with their learning.

At St Barnabas, we do not authorise holidays or leave of absence in term time, except in exceptional circumstances, in line with the guidance from the Department for Education. If you wish to apply for leave of absence for your child, please complete the 'Leave of Absence' form available from the school office. You should allow 2 weeks for this request to be processed.

Please make routine appointments out of school time.



**Remember that the school day and learning begins at 8:45am. Children should be in their classes by this time.**

## Children's Planners

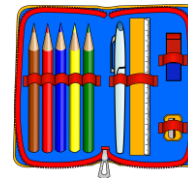
We hope you like the planners (School Diary/Record Book) that we have introduced this year. We hope this will help the children to take more responsibility for learning at home and will be a useful home-school communication tool. There are a number of useful sheets at the back to help practice basic facts, language and spelling as well as a whiteboard for practising on. Each child has also been given a whiteboard pen.

We hope the children will enjoy using these planners and will look after them. They need to be brought to school each day and signed by parents weekly once children have completed their homework.

If children lose their planners, there will be a charge of £5.50 for a replacement.

We have also introduced (Year 1-6) a new approach to homework in the style of a menu. This shows which key tasks should be completed each week and gives children a choice of other tasks to complete. We would be interested in your feedback about the above.

**We would like to clarify that children do not need to and should no longer bring pencil cases / their own stationery into school. We have all the equipment needed in school for them to use. Toys and other such items should also be left at home.**



## Parents/Carers Welcome to Class Sessions

We hope that you have found these sessions useful. You should by now have received the class newsletter which can also be found on our website <http://stbarnabasprimary.co.uk/curriculum/this-term-we-are-learning/>.

If you would like to speak to your child's class teacher, please do this at the end of the day once they have sent home all of the children. If an important message needs to be given to the teacher in the morning, please do this via the office so that the teacher can concentrate on seeing the children into class and starting the day. Thank you.

Dates of events this term/term are attached. These will be added to through the year and on OurSchoolsApp very soon.

If you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact Miss Boardman or Miss Connolly who will be pleased to help you.