



10-14<sup>th</sup> September 2018



## Welcome

I hope you all had a pleasant summer. It has been a real treat to chat with the students about the exciting things they got up to over the last six weeks!

For our new Parents & Carers, this is the first of our weekly newsletters for this academic year. Each Friday you will receive, at the very least, the diary for the week ahead along with any other important notices and, occasionally, a reminder to park thoughtfully around the school!

*Other ways we will communicate with you include:*

**Barns Green Primary Facebook page.** This will include photos of some of the activities the children have been doing at school. It will also include reminders for trips etc. as you have told us that you find this useful. We have a link to the Facebook page on the front page of our school web-site for those who do not have a Facebook account.

**School website** This will be updated at least once a month. It is where you can download copies of our up-to-date policies, as well as including details of our Governing Body. There is a 'live' calendar with details of our INSETs, term dates, special events, etc.

**Noticeboards** There are 2 notice boards, one by each gate.

**Whiteboard** There is a small white board by the gate where we will put up reminders of activities, events etc. Individual classes also have access to a standing 'A' board, which are used to remind you in more detail about trip times, etc.

**Class Assemblies** Each class will lead an assembly this year. Parents are invited to attend. The dates for these are included in the School Diary section and on the web-site calendar.

**Parent/Teacher consultations** These are held twice a year, in the autumn and spring term. There is the opportunity to discuss your child's results in the summer term.

**Telephone** Staff may need to contact you by telephone on occasion – please make sure we have an up to date number.

**Reports** Each term you will receive a written report. At the end of the autumn and spring term, you will receive a detailed list of which objectives in the National Curriculum for English & Maths your child has met and which ones they are still to meet. We send these out as you have told us you find them useful. Half-way through the year you will receive an Interim report, which will be sent out prior to the Spring Parent Teacher Consultation. This will provide you with information about your child's progress and their expected attainment. In the Summer Term, you will receive a report detailing your child's end of year results.

**Workshops** We aim to run these approximately once every half-term, aimed at different groups of Parents. For example, this term we are running a Curriculum workshop for Parents with children starting Reception. Year 6 Parents will be invited to a presentation on SATs, etc. If there is something you would like us to run a workshop on, please let us know via the office.

*There are a number of ways you can communicate with us. These include:*

**Face to face** – Short messages can be passed on to the Class Teacher at morning drop-off. If you require a longer meeting, this can be arranged via the school office. It helps if you let the Class Teacher know what the meeting is about when making the appointment.

**Email** – Please use [office@barnsgreen.org.uk](mailto:office@barnsgreen.org.uk) We aim to reply to emails within 2 working days. If the subject is more urgent, please speak to the Class Teacher at drop off or make an appointment to speak to them.

**Written notes** – These can be posted in the letter box by the main doors.

**Telephone** 01403 730614. Messages are checked throughout the day.

If you are dropping off a forgotten lunch box, PE kit, etc., please leave them in the box by the main entrance.

You will also receive communications from the PTA via our email system. If you wish to contact the PTA you can do so using [pta@barnsgreen.org.uk](mailto:pta@barnsgreen.org.uk) or by accessing the PTA Facebook page.

### **Values and Vision**

Staff and Governors had a very busy session at our INSET Day on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. It was time to revisit and review our School Values and our Vision statement. The previous ones had helped steer us through the 'coming together' of our 2 sites. Now we are settled into our building and are beginning to see the benefits of such a move, I felt it was time to settle on something that reflected our increased aspirations for our students.

We spent time discussing what we felt was our Unique Selling Point ('A small school with big ideas'), what we felt we did well and what we wanted to focus on to improve. We also spent some time discussing how we can improve our environment to help us achieve our goals.

We came up with a list of 6 core values, with a view to focussing on 1 each half-term. They are:

**Respect**

**Responsibility**

**Perseverance**

**Compassion**

**Community**

**Inclusion**

This half term, we will be focussing on Respect in assemblies, PSHE lessons and some of our 'Star of the Week' will be for Respectful behaviour.

Our Vision for Barns Green Primary School is:

**Promoting independent thought and learning**

**Providing a broad-based education**

**Respecting individuality and difference**

**Emphasising the importance of team work**

**Nurturing physical health, emotional security and spiritual richness**

As a result of the above, our pupils will learn to become self-confident, enthusiastic, resilient and tolerant.

### **Awards**

I am delighted to report that we have now achieved the **Gold Award** for the School Games Mark. This is due, in part, to the partnership work we have developed between ourselves and The Weald School.

### **Topic Webs**

The 5 Topic Webs sent out with this newsletter give you an overview of what each class is planning to learn. Teachers are in the process of planning visits/visitors linked to the learning. Our clubs programme is part of our Curriculum Offer and there are still spaces for pupils to join in all clubs.

### **Trip costs**

There has been an increase in the cost of coach hire which has led to us asking for a larger than usual contribution for trips. I am looking for ways to reduce the voluntary contributions. In the meantime, if you wish to make a contribution but the full amount is too high please contact the office.

Simon Simmons  
Headteacher

### **DIARY DATES**

#### **September**

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> – Messy Church

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> - Curriculum meeting for EYFS parents

## **October**

October 3<sup>rd</sup> – Flu vaccination

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> – Parent Teacher Consultation

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> – INSET

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> – Parent Teacher Consultation

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> – Break up for half-term

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October – Children back in school

## **November**

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> – PTA Event (tbc)

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> – Messy Church

## **December**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Parent Workshop

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> – Christmas present buying

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> – Christmas performance

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> - Christmas performance

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> – Whole school panto trip

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> – Mrs Thorne's carol concert 1pm

Term ends 1:30pm

## **January**

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> – INSET

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> – INSET

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> – Bikeability week Yr6

## **February**

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Break up for half-term

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> – Children back in school

## **March**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> - Book week begins

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> – World book Day

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> – Parent Teacher Consultation

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> – Parent Teacher Consultation

## **April**

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> – Term ends at 1:30pm

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Term starts

## **May**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> – Bank Holiday

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> – KS2 SATS week

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> – Walk to school week

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> – Break up for half-term

## **June**

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> - PGL Residential trip

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Children back in school

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> – Sports Day (tbc)

## **July**

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> – Memories assembly

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> – End of Year performance

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> – INSET

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Term ends at 1:30pm