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Simon Simmons
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Barns Green Primary School

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Newsletter 3

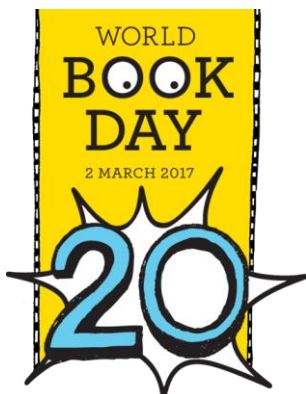
Dear Parents & Carers,

Kindness

After the half term break we are going to be focusing on kindness around the school – kindness in the classroom, kindness in the playground, kindness in the lunch hall. Expect your child to receive numerous kindness stickers in the first few days. Please find time to ask them what they did to earn the sticker. Children will be able to nominate each other for a kindness label to go on our 'Thank you' display that will be in the school hall.



World Book Day



THURSDAY 2ND MARCH is World Book Day. To celebrate we will be running an 'off-timetable' day with activities focusing on reading. Children will be allowed to come to school in their pyjamas that day (there will be no requested donation).

We will be hosting a workshop for Parents & Carers on how to support young readers at home. This will start at 9:15, to allow drop off at Play Group. Refreshments will be provided. Please note that Parents & Carers should NOT wear their pyjamas to this workshop! All week we will be running the Book Fair. This will also be open during the Parent Teacher Consultations.

We will aim to have a celebration newsletter out shortly after Book Day capturing some of the activities that have taken place. (This newsletter would have been in the format kindly prepared for us by Mrs Williams, but staff illness meant we didn't have time to pull the information together).

Curriculum drop-ins

Just to remind you that teachers are available for short 1-1 sessions with parents at the end of Fridays. These are to help Parents understand some of the more challenging elements of the National Curriculum! This could include asking the teacher for ways of sharing reading books, or finding out how we teach maths operations.

Please contact the school office if you would like to book a slot with a teacher.

Thank you

Tomorrow we have an INSET day on supporting learning with Numicon. Thanks to your generous donations, the PTA has been able to buy us the equipment to support this project. As you can see in the picture, this is ready to go! By opening up the training to other schools, we have been able to significantly reduce the cost of the actual providers.



Parent workshop feedback

We are a child-centred school. Every decision we make is in the child's interest.

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At our Parent workshop in November you identified a number of actions that we could take to support you. Since that meeting:

- Story-time has become a focus in class;
- The school's wish-list to the PTA includes a number of texts;
- I have sent out a link with suggestions for reading books;
- We are holding a Reading workshop on 2nd March focussing on how you can support your child with reading. There will be a similar meeting with a Maths focus (how we teach calculation) on Tuesday 4th April at 9:15.
- The interim reports that we are giving out at Parent Teacher consultations contain an element on behavioural/social/personal development.
- We have a format for a celebration newsletter and hope to link the first one to World Book Day.

Toys in school

Please note that children should not normally be bringing toys/trading cards into school. We are also able to provide your child with all the equipment they need during the day, so pencil cases of individual equipment are not compulsory. All equipment that is brought in should be labelled clearly with the child's name and class.

There has been a small amount of teaching & learning time lost as teachers have been identifying/searching for lost toys and/or non-school equipment. The school is not responsible for any items brought into school and I have asked teachers to spend no further time on this matter.

SATS information for Year 5 & 6 parents



Key Stage 2 tests - 2017

We will be holding a meeting for all Parent & Carers with a child in Year 5 and 6 to explain the Key Stage 2 SATs and Teacher Assessments. This is where we will be able to explain how we have been preparing your child for the tests and how we plan to do so in the coming weeks. It also explains how you can support your child at home. We will be reminding you about the meeting at Parent Teacher Consultations.

Celebration newsletter

We would really like to include out-of-school achievements in this newsletter (ballet exams, sporting achievements, etc.) If your child has any achievements outside of school that you wish to share, please could you email or write to the school office.

Governors

The Governors have been busy this half term working with the Headteacher and staff on the School development plan which will be updated and on the website after half term. As part of this plan we are monitoring the progress that our pupils are making and are delighted to see good progress across all subjects in all year groups. We will continue to review tracking data and examples of the pupils work at our teaching and learning committee after half term.

We have had enquiries from a number of parents about the role of a governor and this can be found on the school website under the Governors section. If you would like to discuss this in more detail then please make an appointment to meet one of us via the school office. After half term we

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will be looking to appoint additional governors in to the vacancies we have - please look out for a letter from the Governing Body in March.

Diary Dates

Spring 2017

Tuesday 28th February – Children back in school. Parent Teacher Consultations (late); Book Fair opens)

Thursday 2nd March – Reading workshop for Parents (9:15); Parent Teacher Consultations (after school)

Tuesday 7th March – 9 am SATs meeting for Year 5 & 6 parents

Friday 17th March - Lime School Trip - Imperial War Museum

20th-24th March - Year 6 Bikeability

29th March - Willows School Trip – Bignor Roman villa

31st March - Yellow class photos

4th April – 9:15 – Maths workshop for parents

6th April - Last day of term - school closes 1.30pm

Friday 7th April – INSET Day (this date had not been confirmed in the list issued in September.)

Summer 2017

Monday 24th April – School re-opens

Monday May 1st – Bank Holiday – school closed

W/c Monday 8th May – Key Stage 2 SATs

Throughout May Year 2 children will be sitting the Key Stage 1 SATs

Friday 26th May – Last Day of half-term

Monday 5th June – Children back in school

W/c 5th June – Annual Parent & Pupil Surveys sent out

9th – 12th June inclusive - PGL Trip for years 5 and 6

Wednesday 5th July – Sports Day/Celebration of work – provisional – (will be confirmed as soon as possible)

Wednesday 12th July – End of Year Performance

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Tuesday 25th July – Last day of term – school closes at 1:30

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