



Newsletter

28th March 2024

valued member of our team of lunchtime supervisors. Mrs Young is both incredibly talented and unbelievably generous and she always goes above and beyond to support school. This year, she has made and donated some beautiful hampers to school as prizes for our raffle. We cannot thank Mrs Young enough for what she does for our children!



Our PTA made an amazing £705.63 from these events which will go towards our replacement light fund.

The PTA have an amazing idea to host a colour run for families at the end of the Summer term (potentially 29.6.24) which they are researching at the moment so please save the date!

Careers Week



Earlier this month, we held our very first Careers Week at Barley Fields and it was a resounding success! Enormous thanks to all of our Barley Fields' family who supported with this event. It was such a valuable experience for the children and allowed for the

time to explore a plethora of diverse and exciting careers. Parents, carers, extended family members and the friends and family of staff members gave so generously with their time



and really went the extra mile for our children. Thank you all so much!

Thanks also to our hardworking and dedicated senior leadership team, who worked tirelessly to organise this event. Please look out for the separate newsletter about Careers Week that will be circulated via Marvellous Me.



Well Done Ruby!



Earlier in the term, our Year 5 children were very proud to support Ruby in her selfless decision to donate some of her hair to the Little Princess Trust. Ruby donated her long locks to help children and young people experiencing

the devastating effects of hair loss. I am sure that you will all agree that this was an incredibly generous thing to do. Ruby has raised over £500 for the Little Princess Trust! Wonderful!

Well Done Xanthe!

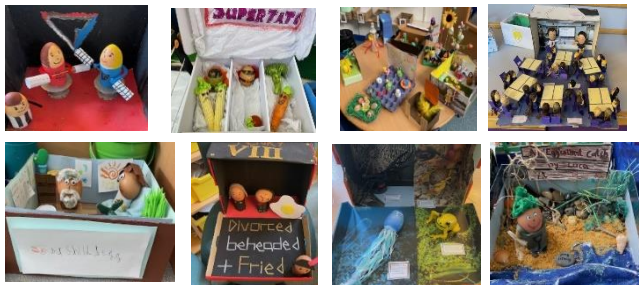
It is always lovely to hear about our children's successes outside of school. We have so many talented athletes, gymnasts, dancers, martial artists, footballers and rugby players to name but a fraction of the extra-curricular talents of our children. It was lovely to see Xanthe celebrate her achievements in dance in our 'Star Award' assembly recently. Xanthe has been named as star dancer by her dancing school and earned a huge trophy for her dedication, hard-work and effort in dance! Well done Xanthe! We are very proud of you!



What a busy term it has been in school! From Careers Week to World Book Day, so much has been going on! I have tried to capture some of the exciting experiences that our children have had, as well as some significant achievements. It does, however, always prove impossible to capture everything we do on the pages of just one newsletter!

Easter Egg Competition

This week, we held our annual 'Decorate an Easter Egg' competition. This took place on Tuesday 26th March and it was fantastic to see so many children coming into school, proudly carrying their wonderful entries. Sadly, it was impossible to show all entries in this newsletter, but I have managed to give a snapshot of some of the brilliant creations below. Well done to all winners!



Easter Raffle and Disco

Thanks to everyone who supported our Easter Disco and Raffle and well done to all lucky winners! A huge thanks and a special mention to Mrs Young, who is a

Forest School Bird Boxes



On the 14th March, some of our Year 6 children had the opportunity to make bird boxes, bird feeders, bug hotels and woodland decorations to enhance our Forest School.

Thank you to Colin and Nigel, from Stockton Borough Council, who helped our children with these activities as part of Stockton's tree planting project.

Bugs N' Stuff



As part of their 'Living Things' topic, our children in Reception had an amazing day working alongside a company called 'Bugs N' Stuff'.

They had a great time handling and getting to know lots about an array of incredible creepy-crawlies and reptiles. Certainly not for the faint hearted!



World Book Day



Across school, our children had a great World Book Day celebration this month. It was wonderful to see such a variety of costumes - all aimed at inspiring a love of children's books and reading. Well



done everyone! Remember, reading is not only fun but it is the key to future success!



Rights Respecting Schools

Last year, our school achieved the prestigious **UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Gold Award**. This was the culmination of many years of dedication to promoting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Lots of parents have asked for more information about this award, and the work that we do towards it. In a nutshell, the 42 Rights, enshrined in the Convention, form the basis of our curriculum and are at the heart of our school's mission statement.

At Barley Fields, we teach **about rights, through rights and for rights**. To help parents understand more about the UNCRC, we have decided to promote a 'Right of the Month' in our newsletters.

We start with **Article 2 - No Discrimination**: The Convention states the following:



All children have all these rights, no matter who they are, where they live, what language they speak, what their religion is, what they think, what they look like, if they are a boy or girl, if they have a disability, if they are rich or poor, and no matter who their parents or families are or what their parents or families believe or do. No child should be treated unfairly for any reason.

This is something we whole-heartedly believe in at Barley Fields Primary School, and we regularly talk about the importance of Article 2 in our lessons and

our assemblies. Look out for the 'Right of the Month' in our next newsletter.

School Uniform

On our return to school for Summer term we will move into our summer school uniform. This includes red gingham dresses/shorts-suits and grey shorts. Can I ask if you are purchasing summer footwear for children, girls do not have high-heeled sandals and boys continue to wear school shoes, not trainers. Ties and white shirts should still be worn unless informed otherwise on very hot days. We do have some pre-loved uniform in school, so please come along and have a look. All new donations of uniform are gratefully received – please send anything into the school office.



E-Safety Reminder

A reminder to all parents and carers for the need for vigilance regarding what children are accessing or posting online. In school, our children are protected by our robust firewall and filtering and monitoring system supplied by SECURLY but, we still actively teach about the importance of keeping safe online. In the past, we have been made aware of children (some as young as 5) who have their own, open YouTube channels and who have posted videos and images of themselves publicly online.



Although social media is an inescapable fact of modern life, can I please urge parents and carers to again ensure that all children's accounts on any online platform, including those used for gaming, are fully safeguarded and only accessible and discoverable by known family and trusted friends.

Parents are advised to regularly view and check anyone who is liking or viewing these pages, or who is being included in games and chat groups. On our school website 'e-safety' page there are lots of easy to follow information leaflets to download providing parents with guidance on setting parental controls across a range of games, platforms and devices. These can also be obtained from the National Online safety website at <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/> Please take the time to do this, as dangers to our children are out there. In the past we have occasionally come across serious safeguarding concerns on platforms and games that our children are involved in and I would hate to think these ever developed into serious issues.

Assessment Diary Dates

Please be aware that all national assessments are planned to go ahead in the next few months. It is essential that children attend school during these times. No leave of absence requests will be authorised.

Year 1 – Phonics Check week beginning 10.06.24

Year 2 – KS1 SATS Y2 – weeks beginning 03.06.24 & 10.06.24

Year 4 – Multiplication Check – weeks beginning 03.06.24 & 10.06.24

Year 6 – SATS week beginning 13.05.24

School Parent Survey

If you haven't already done so please take a few minutes to complete our parent survey. We are very interested to hear your views of our school and to work with you to identify areas we can improve upon. The link can be found at:

<https://forms.office.com/e/70850tFFbk>

Train to Teach



Each year we host teacher training placements from Campus Stockton Teaching Alliance. If you or someone you know is interested in training to be a teacher they can be contacted on the email details below. catkin@stocktonteachingalliance.org.uk



- 15th April** – Return to school for summer term.
- 22nd April** – Meeting for Y5 parents and children regarding places on the Y6 residential in 2025
- 6th May** – Bank Holiday Monday
- 7th May** – Y1-6 Harry Potter Quidditch Event
- 8th-9th, 10th May** - Year 4 residential to Newby Wiske Hall
- 13th-16th May** – Year 6- Key Stage 2 Statutory Assessments (SATs)
- 15th May** – Nursery new starters Welcome Drop in 3.30-5.30
- 21st May** – Y3 & Y4 Sports Day
- 22nd May** - Y1 & Y2 Sports Day
- 23rd May** - Y5 & Y6 Sports Day
- 24th May** – Reception Fun Sports Day
- 24th May** - Break up for half term
- 3rd June** – Return to school
- 3rd June** – Tempest Photography – Reception & Year 6 children only
- 10th -14th June** – Year 1 Phonics Screening
- 3rd -14th June** – Year 4 Multiplication Check

3rd-14th June – Year 2 SATS

20th June – Barley Fields Sports Festival – whole school

24th June – PD Day (school closed)

29th June -- **Saturday morning** – potential PTA colour run event – to be confirmed

8th July – End of term Reports sent home

12th July – Prince Regent Stree Trust Games – Year 5 & Year 6- Middlesbrough Sports Village

15th July – End-of-Year Reports sent home

15th July- Celebration Assemblies Reception 2.00pm, Year 1 9.30am & Year 2 10.30am –

16th July – **Celebration Assemblies** Year 3 9.30am, Year 4 10.30am & Year 5 2.00pm

17th July – Meeting new teachers

17th July – Y6 Leavers Party 4.30-6.00pm

19th July - Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 9.30am

19th July – Break Up for Summer

PD Days 2024

Monday 24th June 2024 – PD Day

Monday 22nd and Tuesday 23rd July – PD Days

School will be closed to children on these dates.

Another fabulous term at Barley Fields. Thank you so much for your support and kind words regarding my health – I am fully on the mend.

Mr Shildrick was amazing during my absence I am sure your will agree. I cannot praise him or the rest of the staff highly enough for their dedicaton to our children and our school.

Have a lovely Easter everyone.

Love

Mrs Taylor

Head Teacher

