

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to Barnby & North Cove Primary School! I hope you and your children have had a wonderful summer break, enjoyed the sunshine and are ready to return to school!

Staffing

I would like to welcome *Mr Huxtable to Willow Class* who has made a terrific start to the new academic year with the Years 3 & 4; I am sure you will join us in making him feel welcome.

I will continue in my role as Senior Teacher for the school, supporting the children, parents and staff and managing the school on a day to day basis. As always, should parents have any queries regarding their children, please request a meeting at the school office in the first instance with your child's class teacher and should you need to, I am happy to discuss any further concerns with you. We hope however, that any concerns will be rectified promptly!

As previously advised, Mr Page has transferred to Middleton Primary School as a class teacher, although we hope to see him after half term, resuming with Drama Club.

Acorn Class are very pleased to welcome our new nursery and reception children to our school. It was lovely to see such confident starters and we are looking forward to more children joining is soon. Do let friends and family know that that we now have 13 funded places for 3 and 4 year olds, as well as offering 15 places in reception. We started this term by singing some of our favourite nursery rhymes and our topics are based on the children's interests, which can change and adapt frequently!

We will keep you updated through our observations on 'Tapestry', our online learning journey and through our home/school diaries. We hope you enjoy sharing the books the children have chosen to read; we reward the children who have read the most each week. For reception children, words and sounds will be sent home in their home/school diaries.

Oak Class this term, are looking at Toys! We will be looking at past and present toys and how they have changed and stayed the same. Please take the time to talk to your children about the toys you played with when you were a child – Nannies and Granddads too!

In Maths, we will be looking at place value, and working on our numbers - up to 20 for Year 1, and up to 100 for Year 2. In literacy, we are looking at lots of stories set in familiar places and using these to help us write in sentences.

Willow Class have enjoyed a busy and exciting welcome to their new classroom. We have begun our learning on the topic of Ancient Egyptians. This topic will be embedded throughout our learning. Our literacy will consist of Myths and Legends as well as the discoveries of Howard Carter. Our aim is to develop the presentational skills of our fictional and non-fictional writing.

P.E will be on a Wednesday afternoon every week.

There will also be an optical topic homework menu sent home with your child. This is a range of activities to complete with your child to enhance their topic engagement.

Chestnut Class are all thoroughly enjoying being in our new classroom which is both spacious and airy. This term our topic is the Ancient Greeks and as the term progresses we hope to hold a special 'Greek Day' where the children will be involved in practical "hands on" learning. In English we will be studying a range of Greek myths and legends and pupils will be challenged to write their own myths.

Oak, Willow and Chestnut Classes homework will be set on a Wednesday to be completed by Monday.

DB Primary & Homework

This year we have subscribed to DB Primary, a school learning platform. It is a safe site where children can send emails to their friends in school (not outside of the site), and play games. For Years 1-4 class teachers will be setting home learning on DB Primary, all homework will be confirmed in the children's home/school diaries. Children from Years 1 to 6 have a login and password to access the site. These can be found in the front on your child's planner. If any parents or carers have any questions or queries, please let us know.

Primary Entitlement Books

The children have been given a 'Primary Entitlement Book' which is the trust's commitment to 50 things which all children should have a chance to do before they leave for high school. This book will stay with them as a memory from when they started with us and leave in Year 6 and the children will be sharing their experiences regularly in class.



Reading Challenges

Each class has their own reading challenge which will reward the children with certificates or prizes on the number of times they read at home. Please ensure that all reads are written in your child's planner and they are signed by an adult.

PE

Please also note that earrings must be removed on PE days and long hair tied back. Children also require a pair of jogging bottoms and a tracksuit top now the weather has turned surprisingly cold. P.E kits must be in school on a Monday and taken home on Friday for washing, ready to be returned on Monday morning. If your child has any of their kit missing or incorrect kit, a note will be written in their school diary informing parents/carers.

School Uniform

The children are looking especially smart in their uniforms and we would like to thank you for supporting our school uniform policy. As our school is growing, I would like to ask that children up to Year 4 all have a school book bag, which can be stored more easily. Children are also required to bring to school a named water bottle. If you are unsure of any of the uniform requirements please look on the school's website.

Attendance

Please remember the importance of attendance and a prompt start to the school day. Two whistles will be blown by a member of staff on duty, the first indicates for the children to line up and the second for parents to leave the playground so that the children can then be lead into school by their class teacher.

All children need to be encouraged to be independent and should be able to carry all of their belongings into school by themselves; this is a life-skill which teaches children to take responsibility. No parents should be entering the school via the backdoor. Should you wish to speak a member of staff, please either speak to the teacher on duty or after your child has been lead into school, walk round and enter through the front door and Mrs Bunn will either pass a message onto the teacher or arrange for an appointment to be made if needed.

Parents are reminded to use the **Parent Postbox** in the playground for dinner monies and Parent Voice Forms, etc and **should only come into school if it is of the utmost importance.**



We are a 'Listening School'

We will continue to work hard communicating any relevant information to you. As a reminder, the 'Parent Post Box' is there for you to use in feeding back to us. 'Parent Voice' forms can be found in the school foyer and in the policy section of the school website.

Music

This year, we are very excited that *Willow Class will be having percussion on a Tuesday morning* and *Chestnut Class will be having guitar lessons on a Friday morning* through the Suffolk Music Service.

Universal Free School Meals

Please be reminded that under the government's 'Universal Free School Meals Scheme', we are given funding to provide for all children in the following years a school dinner, free of charge to the parents and carers:-

• Reception, Year 1 & Year 2

The link between eating a hot meal during the school day to improved pupil attainment, behaviour and focus in the classroom is highly recognised, so we would encourage all parents to take up the opportunity of a school dinner if you can. These cost £2.30 per day.

We are very fortunate to have a kitchen at our school which provides your child with a healthy, varied and nutritious hot meal for your child. Your child is able to choose from a range of dishes, including:-

- A hot main meal, or hot vegetarian meal (pre-order required)
- A jacket potato, with either cheese, tuna or beans and salad garnish (now served everyday)
- 'Pick and Mix', with either, ham, cheese or tuna roll and a selection of savoury compliments and a choice of dessert (now served everyday)
- Homemade fresh bread and a selection of fresh salad
- A hot dessert, or selection of fresh fruit, cheese & biscuits or flavoured yoghurt

Snacks

Mrs Hogg also provides the children with a mid-morning snack, if desired, which can be ordered daily. A snack costs 50pence per day and the snack menu is changed termly. Examples of snacks are:-

cheese twists/scone flapjack/muffins fruit & vegetable sticks fruit scone

Pupil Premium

Even if your child will qualify for a 'Universal Free School Meal', we recommend that you still apply for free school meals/pupil premium funding, if you are eligible, as your child may benefit from other areas, such as:-

- Learning support
- Additional educational resources
- Subsidised school uniform
- Subsidised educational visits
- Subsidised residential trips
- Subsidised after school clubs

Please be assured that your application remains entirely confidential. Even your child will not be aware that they are in receipt of free school meals. You may be eligible to claim for free school meals for your child if you receive any of the following:

- Income support
- Income based job seeker's allowance
- Income related employment and support allowance
- Guarantee element of state pension credit
- Child tax credit but not the working tax credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenues & Customs) that does not exceed £16,190.00
- If you are supported under part VI of the immigration and asylum Act 1999
- Working tax credit during the four-week period immediately after your employment finishes or after you start to work less hours per week.

To enquire if your child is eligible, call: 01473 260989 (Ipswich/Lowestoft and surrounding area).

Or go to the Suffolk County Council website at:

https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-transport-and-travel/apply-for-free-school-meals/#tab1

Parking

We would like to remind parents and carers to be mindful when parking to bring or collect their child from school. Once again we have had reports of people double parking which is restricting the buses from getting through and also of people obstructing resident's driveways.



Ongoing School Improvements

The school is moving away from our current Data Assessment Management system Target Tracker and our communication system ParentMail and joining Pupil Asset. This is system that is used across the Academy Trust. Further information will follow shortly regarding Pupil Asset. In the meantime, the office will be sending home your child's 'Data Collection' sheet for you to check and update any information that appears to be incorrect. Please ensure that the email address on the 'Data Collection' form is the preferred one that you would like to receive any correspondence to via Pupil Asset.

Clubs

Once again all our after school clubs are very successful this half term and it is great that families are making the most out of our newly opened ESCape Club. Places are always available at the ESCape club and a weekly commitment is not necessary. However, a booking form should be completed and payment should be made to the school office. The sessions are as follows: 3pm – 4pm with Miss Sexton (£2) 4pm -5pm with Mrs Dann (£2 drink and snack supplied) and 5pm – 6pm with Mrs Dann (£3 light tea supplied). Breakfast club is also available daily from 8am with Mrs Davidson (£2.50).

Lost Property

We are only now in our third week back to school and already our lost property box is over flowing! We have now located the box in the front office so please do pop in if you are missing any items of your child's clothing. Also we have had a few jumpers/cardigans/pack lunch boxes that have gone missing but cannot be found in lost property. Would you all be so kind to have a look at home for any jumpers etc that may have another child's name in.

And finally

The office email address has now changed to office@barnbynorthcove.org.

Where together excellence and pupils thrive.

Kind regards,

Miss Pope Senior Teacher





Dates for your Diaries

DATE	EVENT	CLASS	TIME
Tuesday 3 rd October	Harvest Festival	Whole School	2.30pm
Thursday 12 th October	Nasal Flu Vaccination (permission forms to follow)	Up to Year 4	
Monday 16 th October	Parents Evening		ТВС
Wednesday 18 th October	Parents Evening		ТВС
Friday 20 th October	LAST DAY OF HALF TERM		
Monday 23 rd October	START OF HALF TERM HOLIDAYS		
Monday 30 th October	CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL		
Tuesday 7 th November	Chestnut Sharing Assembly	Chestnut	2.30pm – 3.00pm
Tuesday 14 th November	Individual Photographs	Whole School	am
	Willow Sharing Assembly	Willow	2.30pm – 3.00pm
Tuesday 21 st November	Oak Sharing Assembly	Oak	2.45pm – 3.00pm
Friday 24 th – Sunday 26 th November	15 th Christmas Tree Festival at Hungate Church, Beccles		
Tuesday 28 th November	Acorn Sharing Assembly	Acorn	2.45pm – 3.00pm
Friday 8 th December	Dress Rehearsal	EYFS/KS1/Lower KS2	
Monday 11 th December	Christmas Performance	EYFS/KS1/Lower KS2	2.00pm
Wednesday 13 th December	Christmas Performance	EYFS/KS1/Lower KS2	9.15am
Monday 18 th December	Christmas Carol Concert at North Cove Church	Whole School	1.30pm
Tuesday 19 th December	LAST DAY OF TERM		
Wednesday 20 th December	START OF CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS		
Wednesday 3 rd January	PD Day		
Thursday 4 th January	CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL		

