



Spring 1 Newsletter, February 2024

Welcome back to a brand new term and start of a new year.

Thank You

Last term we bid farewell to Mr Gunn, after 21 years of service to our school.

A huge thank you to staff, parents, children and governors who helped to make this occasion so memorable and special.



Achievements

The following children received certificates in our Brilliant Book assemblies this term. We are very proud of the effort they have put into their learning and behaviour.

Y1: Paris, Sophia, Christopher, Maria, Riah, Ciara and Freddie

Y2: Victoria, Daniel, Antonia, Lucy L, Annabel, Zain, Elyse, Lucy C, Aime, Elijah

Y3: Joanna, Asira, Marquez, Meiren, Juliet, Conrad, Jesus and Arabella

Y4: Jacob, Nathan, Charlie, Theo, Sophia, Sofia, Hazel, Anna, Nadia and Reece

Y5: Stefan, Ella, Yixi, Talha, Madison, Sylvie, Ava, Shaylan, Elsa, Gabriella and Ava-Marie

Y6: Elliott, Eris, Gabija, James, Joseph and Rome



Brilliant Book Assemblies

This term we have introduced the opportunity for children to play a musical instrument during our Brilliant Book assemblies on a Friday. Children can sign-up if they wish to share their musical talents with us. Parents will have the opportunity to attend the assembly when their child is playing. We look forward to more wonderful performances next half term.

The following children have played for us this term:

Piano: Reece Y3, Elyse Y2

Violin: Yolanda Y2, Jessica Y2



Extra-Curricular Clubs

Some of the clubs that the children have enjoyed this half term are multi-skills, born to move, chess, art, Italian and netball. Art club is our latest addition to our offer. Please visit our school website to find out more information.

Holiday Club

John Geers, who runs our breakfast and after school club, will be running a holiday club during half term. Please visit the website for more details and to sign up, if you have not already done so.

Community Cohesion

Our community cohesion programme has continued this half term. Our Y3 children have visited the toddler group which takes place at St. John's church. The children enjoy helping and playing with the youngest members of our community. Y4 visited Age UK to engage with older members of our community. They spend time speaking with the visitors and helping with activities. Y4 have also been busy cooking for the homeless. A huge thank you to Mrs Becker for organising this. Y5 have been spending time with pupils at Oakleigh Special School, interacting with them. This is a very rewarding experience for our children as they learn about those in our community who are less fortunate than themselves.



Sport News

Football

Girls' football fixtures and results:

The girls recently represented the school at a football tournament held at Power League. They missed out by 1 goal on qualifying for the knockout stages.

2-2 draw with Danegrove (league game)

4-3 win v Osidge (cup game)

Semi-final cup game v Martins 3-3 full time. Lost on penalties. Unlucky girls. We are very proud of you.



Boys' football fixtures and results:

5-2 win v Tudor (league game)

This win places them top of the league currently, having been unbeaten in this competition all season.

1-6 loss v Church Hill (cup game)

Netball

0-10 loss v Alma (league game)

3-4 loss v Moss Hall (league game)

League game against The Wren to be replayed

The team played in a netball tournament and achieved the following results:

1-0 win v Our Lady of Lourdes

0-0 draw v Foulds

0-4 loss v Kerem

0-2 loss v St. Catherine's

The team played really well on the day and were a credit to the school.





Relationships, Health and Sex Education (RSE)

Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Education

This term teachers have started to deliver our annual RSE lessons. These are statutory lessons which must be taught in primary school. A separate letter has been sent out with information about the content for each year group. In addition to these lessons, teachers will cover the Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco syllabus with their classes. This information has also been emailed out to parents.



Trip and Workshops

The following trips and workshops have taken place this half term:

Y1 visited St. John's church and the Barnet United Synagogue as part of their RE learning.

Road safety workshop for Y1 and Y2

Safeguarding workshops delivered by the Metropolitan Police. Topics covered were Clever Never Goes (Stranger Danger) for YR-Y3; Gang Grooming and County Lines for Y5; Internet Safety and Responsible Use for Y4 & Y6.



**OUT WITH STRANGER DANGER IN WITH
CLEVER NEVER GOES**





Mental Health & Wellbeing News

Children's Mental Health week was 5-9th February. The theme this year is 'My Voice Matters'. The children took part in an assembly delivered by BICS, who are a service in Barnet who support children and Young People's Wellbeing and Mental Health. They also delivered a workshop to Y5.



Homestart Barnet have come in this term to run 3 parent coffee mornings on the theme 'Building Positive Connections'. The aim of the mornings was to provide parents with strategies to have positive relationships with their children. We are hoping to be able to run the sessions again for parents who may have missed out.



Our teaching assistant team received training this half term on 'Supporting Emotional Development'. The training was delivered by an Educational Psychologist and provided staff with an insight into how to support children who find it difficult to self-regulate.



Internet Safety

The theme for Internet Safety day this year was 'Inspiring and Navigating Change Online'. The children took part in lessons in class based on this year's theme.

On the matter of internet safety, we urge parents to remain vigilant as to their children's use of social media and the internet. It has come to our attention that some pupils are misusing social media to post hurtful and unkind messages about others. This not only goes against the Christian values that we teach and hold dear, but can also lead to serious consequences for both the victim and perpetrator. Please ensure that you operate restrictions at home and know what your children are accessing and doing when online. Many of our children are accessing sites and apps which are unsuitable and are pegi-rated above their age. These ratings are given for a reason, to protect our young people against content that they are not yet ready to be exposed to. This can have a negative impact in the way they behave and interact with others. We thank you for your help with this as in partnership with you we work to keep our children safe when online.

Rabbit News

Our Y5 rabbit monitors have been very busy looking after our resident rabbits Luna and Neptune. Thank you to the following children for all their help: Shaylan, Nicole, Elsa, Leah, Kathryn, PJ, Sylvie, Megan, Gabriella, Alba, Ava-Marie, Isabella, Ellis, Aron and Ava.



A non-uniform fundraising event took place this week. Children were invited to come dressed as a pet or animal. All money raised from the event will go towards the upkeep and care of Neptune and Luna.

We are also looking to raise money to buy the following items to offer Neptune and Luna some stimulus. If anyone has any of these items already at home, which are no longer required, and is able to donate them to the school, this would be greatly appreciated.



Doll's House bed



Rugs



Kitchen/toilet rolls



Stacking cups



Tunnel



Rabbit Hidey house



Pet water dispenser



Chill-n-chew mat



Litter tray

Donations

If you have any unwanted uniform in good condition that you wish to donate to the school, please leave it in the foyer for other families to use. This includes school coats (blue or black).



Health Matters

School Illness Protocol

At this time of year there is always an increase in the number of viruses circulating. Please could we ask that if your child has vomited or has diarrhoea you DO NOT bring them back to school until 48 HOURS AFTER the last episode. Thank you.

MMR

As you may be aware, there has been an increase in the number of Measles cases nationally and this is something we are unfortunately seeing in Barnet. We have been asked by NHS England to support GPs and ensure that any children who have not received the required 2 doses of MMR vaccine, are offered the opportunity to get this vaccine as soon as possible. If you are unsure if your child is up to date with all their routine vaccinations, please check their Red Book (personal child health record). The 1st MMR is usually recorded on page 21, 1 year Immunisations and the 2nd on page 22, Preschool Immunisations. You can also check with your GP if they have had both vaccines. A letter from NHS England was emailed out to parents last week with information on how to ensure that your child is fully vaccinated. An update was also emailed out from the Public Health and Prevention team in Barnet earlier this week.



Reminders

Children should be wearing full winter school uniform this term. A complete uniform list, including PE kit, can be found on our school website.

A reminder that the following items are not permitted in school:

- Nail varnish
- Jewellery except stud earrings and watches (smart watches are not allowed)
- Hair accessories that are not blue or black in colour

All children in YR-Y6 are expected to swim every week. If a child is unable to swim for medical reasons, this must be supported by a medical note. If your child cannot swim for any other reason, please provide this in writing.

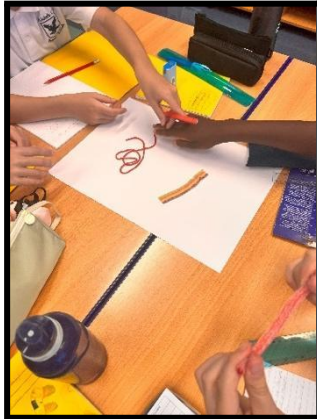
Early Years Uniform



Winter Main Uniform



From the children



"I enjoy all the subjects and all the facilities are exquisite. The teachers care for us and look out for us." Oscar, Y6

"I love swimming on Monday and Art." Joanna, Y3

"I really enjoy Maths lessons." Marquez, Y3

"I enjoy English and Science. This school provides lots of learning and fun!" Gabija, Y6



Attendance

Please ensure that your child attends school regularly, assuming they are well enough, as a high absence rate can affect their learning and progress. Please can we ask that any appointments are made outside of school hours where possible.

Attendance for the autumn term was as follows:

YR 93.89%

Y1 95.23%

Y2 94.80%

Y3 96%

Y4 95.93%

Y5 96.53%

Y6 93.13%

Overall attendance for the autumn term was 95.09%

Congratulations to Y5 who had the highest rate of attendance during the autumn term.



Dates for your diary

- Y4 Sports enrichment tennis sessions: 23/2, 1/3, 8/3, 15/3
- Y3 Toddler group: 5/3, 19/3,
- 22 February - Y4 trip to Hertfordshire Zoo
- 26 February - Parent Reading workshop (6pm); PTFA AGM (7pm)
- 27 February - Y6 Magistrates workshop
- 29 February
 - Y1 Weather & Seasons workshop
 - Y4 Golf & Badminton festival
- 1 March
 - Y4 Girls' Football festival
 - Y6 Cake sale
- 4 March - Y4 Boys' Football festival
- 7 March
 - World Book Day
 - Y4 Age UK
- 7-14 March - Book Fair
- 8 March - Dance festival
- 11-22 March - Big Walk & Wheel
- 11 March - Swimming Gala
- 13 March - Y4 trip to Hindu centre
- 15 March - Science assembly + workshops
- 20 March - Cross country event
- 19/20 March - Parent Consultations
- 22 March - Netball festival
- 26 March - Y5/Y6 'Whisper Me Happily Ever After' workshop
- 27 March
 - Church assembly (Y1-Y6)
 - Rugby league festival
- 28 March
 - Y4 Age UK
 - End of term



Class Assembly Dates

1 March @ 9 am - Y6

6 March @ 2.50 pm - Y5

20 March @ 2.50 pm - Y2

22 March @ 9 am - Y3

27 March @ 2.50 pm - Y1

28 March @ 9 am - Y4