

**The Collaboration of Barton and Ravensworth
Church of England VC Primary Schools**

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Helen Dudman

Newsletter
Together, Stronger.



Friday 13th September

Autumn Term 2019

Dear Parents and carers

We have had a fabulous start to the school year, and I extend a very warm welcome to the families new to the school and to all our new starters; JJ Bell, Bea Elliott, Sophie Quirie, Alice Wise and Bailey Welham in Nursery and Cole Gamble, Florence Hardy, Thomas Horsley, Charlie Ramsay and Maci Wool in Reception. We look forward to getting to know them and seeing them flourish as they embark on their time in Barton CE School.

It is also quite a change for the oldest pupils in school as they enter into year six, and all the roles and responsibilities that entails. They all look very smart in their ties, awarded by the Friends in Collective Worship last Friday afternoon.



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The summer holidays already seem like a very long time ago, and as you will see in the class news sections, the children are already fully engrossed in their Autumn term 'Journeys' topic. As new Headteacher of four schools, I feel like I'm on quite a journey myself, and so far it has been a very exciting and rewarding journey. I have worked closely with Mrs Petch, our new Deputy Head from Ravensworth School, Mr Weighman base-leader for Barton School, and the Base leaders from East Cowton and Kirkby Fleetham Schools to form our plans for the events, staff training and curriculum developments in the year ahead. We are very lucky to have such a strong leadership team supporting the work of our small schools.

Should you have any concerns or questions when I am not in school, Mr Weighman will be happy to help you out. If not I am always contactable by phone or email, at any time, whichever school I am in.

Staffing Changes

Sadly we had to say goodbye to Mrs Butler over the summer holiday, but we wish her well in her new position of cook at Bolton-on-Swale School. We are delighted to welcome Mrs Laura Luce as our new cook. She has been busy getting to know all the children (and their food preferences) and they have done a really good job making her feel welcome in the school.

Kath Jones has also moved on from her position at the Villages Seeds Project. We wish her every success in her new job. We are awaiting news of a replacement for her.

Our new Special Educational Needs Coordinator is Miss Crisp from Ravensworth School. Miss Crisp has already been in to all four schools getting to know the children and working with staff on improving provision.

Friends of the School

I was pleased to be able to attend the Friends' AGM this week. As you may be aware, there has been quite a change of committee members. We said farewell to Louise Wooff who stepped down after ten years on the Friends and six years as chair, and also to Jen Percival who has held the position of treasurer and Friends Draw administrator for 7 years. The Friends expressed their thanks to them for all their hard work over the years. They have organised exciting events and activities, plus have helped to raise thousands of pounds for additional resources, equipment and experiences for all the children.

The newly elected Chair of the Friends is Alex Rankin, The Secretary is Helen Littler, and Vanessa Husband has taken on the role of Friends Draw administrator. We are extremely grateful to them for stepping up to take on these roles.

The Friends are still looking for a new secretary to take minutes at the meetings. If you think you have a little bit of time to spare and would like to be involved in the group in any way you will be very welcome. Please contact any of the committee members or talk to Mrs Coates in the school office if you would like to be involved.

Building work

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Some of you may have noticed that there was work going on in the school over the holidays. In line with Health and Safety regulations we have had a new fire alarm system fitted. Many thanks to Mrs Whittle our Chair of Governors who gave up so much time to supervise the work.

Information system

Over the summer holidays, all schools in the Dales Academies Trust changed the information system used to collate pupil data. This will be a much more efficient system in the long run, but has caused some teething problems whilst school administrators get everything properly linked to systems such as Parentpay and the text messaging service. We thank you for your patience whilst everything was being set up.

Community Collective Worship

Community collective worship takes place every Friday afternoon 3:00-3:30pm. Parents, Carers and Friends are all welcome to come along and help us to celebrate the children's successes over the course of the week.

#Hello Yellow We have signed up to take part in Young Minds **#Hello Yellow** campaign on October 10th – World Mental Health day. Children are invited to come to school wearing something yellow – this could be something very subtle or a great big splash of colour – the choice is theirs. They are invited to contribute £1 to the charity. Dales Academies Trust mental health working party will also be organising events that will be running in all schools during the day.

Kindest regards,



Mrs Helen Dudman
Headteacher

Barton

Children celebrating achievements this week

Our Stars of the Week are:

Class 1: Thomas Horsley

Class 2: Eva-Grace Short

Class 3: Ryley Quirie

Our SEAL Award goes to:

Class 1: Maddison-Lea Gamble

Class 2: Sienna Meer-Dewhirst

Class 3: Chloe Rankin

Our Rainbow Learners this week:

Class 1: Florence Hardy

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Class 2: Isla Horsley

Class 3: Faith Ramsey

Lunchtime Awards go to:

Class 1: Thomas Wise

Class 2: Noah Dreaves

Class 3: Ruby Liddell

Wrap around Care:

We run some fantastic wrap around care for your children and in September we will be running the following sessions – book through the school office!

Breakfast Club with Miss Maitchell (£3 per session 8am to 8:50am Monday to Friday)

Monday – Arts & Crafts

Tuesday – Construction

Wednesday – Lego

Thursday – Games

Friday - Colouring

Afterschool Club with Miss Maitchell (£5 per hour please book through the school office Monday to Thursday 3:30 – 5:30pm)

Monday – Photography

Tuesday – Craft Club

Wednesday – Film club

Thursday –Gardening Club

Staff Led Additional School Activities for Classes 1, 2 & 3 September 2019:

Lunchtime Lego Club – every Tuesday with Mrs Harris

Lunchtime Drama/ Singing Club- every Wednesday with Miss Verity

Storytime Club – every Thursday lunchtime 12.30pm with Mrs Allan-Hooks

Lunchtime Drawing Club - every Thursday with Mr Weighman

Please reserve a place by emailing the school office and advising us of your collection details or if your child is to walk home for afterschool activities.

Please note that as usual at the end of a full term there will be no Staff Led Afterschool Activities.

Eyesight Checks - Reception Children:

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Eyesight checks were carried out in June 2019. If you have not heard from the Healthy Child Team, please assume that your child has passed their assessment. The Healthy Child Team recommend that children have annual eyesight checks. These are free of charge under 16 years of age. Please register your child with an optician and schedule a review appointment in June 2020.

Student Data Check Report:

Each year school sends out a report showing the personal details that we hold on our Management Information System (MIS) and you should be receiving these over the next few days. Please check the information and if there are any changes please indicate on the form and return to school by Friday 19th September, at the latest.

It is very important that emergency contact details are kept fully up to date. Thank you very much for your help with this.

Parentpay Issues:

We are pleased to report the issues we have been experiencing with Parentpay have now been resolved and by the end of play today records will all have been updated. Thank you so much for bearing with us whilst these matters have been dealt with.

It would be timely to stress that all Lunch and Wrap around care must be **paid for in advance** – if for any reason this cannot be achieved please contact the school office, in confidence, and prior to the accounts being shown in deficit.

We thank you for your assistance on these matters as chasing monies can take a lot of time away from the organisation of trips and educational matters.

School Term Dates 2019 2020

These can be found on the school website on the following link

<http://www.barton.dalesmat.org/parents/term-dates/>

Macmillan Coffee Morning Friday 27th September 9:15 to 10:15

Everyone welcome - Please bring family, friends and neighbours!

Children to bring a donation towards a cake/biscuit for break-time and adults to advise class teacher if any concerns regarding food allergies.

Donations of cakes and buns would be greatly appreciated!

We look forward to seeing you at this very popular annual event



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Aldi Kit for schools

We are collecting the stickers which Aldi are offering whenever you spend £30 or more in store (sometimes you have to ask for them or you don't get them). If we collect 300 stickers, we'll receive a sports kit! Please send in any stickers that you have: either with children, to the office or to class teachers. We greatly appreciate your support in getting new resources for our school.

News From Class One:



It has been a fantastic start to the new school year in Class 1! Our new starters have settled in brilliantly and it is like they have been there for ages while the other children have come back with an excellent attitude to learning as well as helping our new starters settle in and feel extremely welcome in their new class! The children have all loved their new classroom and have really enjoyed getting involved and trying lots of the new activities.

This term our new topic is 'Journeys' and in class 1 we will be focussing on our life journey and journeys in our local area and from home to school. All the class had great fun on our journey around the village going from school, to the beck, to the pub, the shop, the church and then finishing our journey at the park (which of course was the best part!). The children are then going to use what they have learnt to write recounts of our journey, create simple maps of our village and plan their journey from home to school.

In maths the reception and nursery children are doing lots of work on numbers and counting while the year 1s are focussing on number and place value up to 50. In English the year 1s wrote some fantastic recounts about their summer holidays and we are now looking more closely at how to use time conjunctions and adjectives to write a detailed recount about our journey around the village. Reception and nursery have been looking at nursery rhymes, talking about their holidays and stories about different journeys.

This term in science we are focussing on ourselves and our bodies, this week the children had great fun drawing around each other using chalk on the playground and then labelling the different body parts. In art the children created self-portraits using paint and tried hard to make sure they had included all their features. In topic we also looked at families and how we all go on a different journey through our lives and how all families look different, the children then used their 'All about me' bags or their scrapbooks to tell us more about themselves and their families. We talked

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about how it doesn't matter if our family is different because as long as we are loved that is the most important thing!

On a Wednesday morning the children will be doing dance with Mrs Sellars. The children have been enthusiastic and have been creating some excellent dance moves relating to journeys. I can't wait to see the end result!

Can I just remind parents that the children need coats in school every day because in class 1 we go outside in all weathers. All the children in Class 1 are now on Class dojo I will send out new codes for our new starters so parents can log on and see their child's points. Homework for Year 1 and Reception goes out on a Friday and is collected the following Thursday. Also, all children in Reception and Year 1 now have reading books please make sure the children read as much as so they can collect their stars and win reading challenge certificates. Thank you for your continued support!

News From Class Two:



We have had a wonderful first two weeks in Class 2, the year 3s are really stepping up and looking after our new year 2s who are beginning to settle into the new routine. They have all returned looking very smart, however can we please ask that the girls have their hair tied back each day and can you remind them to keep it tied up.

We have begun our new topic - Journeys with great enthusiasm, by looking at the journey of friendship in English and writing a recipe for a good friend exploring powerful word choices, imperative verbs and time conjunctions. We have focussed on place value in maths and our new year 2s have blown us away with their number knowledge. In Science we are looking at States of Matter and the children had great fun acting as the particles that form Solids, Liquids and Gases which we are also developing into dance sequences with our amazing dance teacher Mrs Sellars. We also visited Barton Beck this week to look at the flow of water and think about where the Water Journey begins and ends. We are also sharing 'James and the Giant Peach' as our class reader which will be our focus for writing for the rest of the term. In art, the children have drawn some amazing self-portraits

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and we are now looking at land and cityscapes - we have some very talented artists showing great potential.

We will be continuing with the Reading Challenge and would appreciate your support with this, please encourage the children to read and then record it in their planners to achieve reading certificates and progress through the Rainbow Challenge. Homework will start next week and will be given out on a Friday to be returned the following Thursday to be marked and checked. We ask the children to bring a water bottle into school each week which will be sent home on a Friday for cleaning, PE kits should remain in school until the end of term. Finally, as always if you have any concerns you can catch us at the start and end of the school day or contact the office to arrange an appointment.

News from Class Three:



It has been a great first two weeks back in Class Three. Our new members, who joined us from Class Two, are settling in and I have loved seeing our new Year Sixes take on new responsibilities and set an amazing example for the rest of our school. We elected our new school councillors and I am proud to announce that they are: Ruby and Ryan for Y6, Lyla for Y5 and Chloe for Y4 – keep an eye out for the great ideas and changes that they will be working on around school this year.

Our whole school topic is 'Journeys' and in Class Three we are reading 'Journey to the River Sea' by Eva Ibbotson and will be learning about rivers and the Amazon rainforest. We are starting the term by focusing on place value in Maths.

We have dance sessions with Mrs Sellars again this term (children can come into school in their PE kit each Wednesday ready for this) and we are creating our own 'Jungle Journey' dance routines. Our other PE session is every Monday afternoon and we will be playing invasion games and preparing for the football and netball tournaments which are later in the term.

This week, we have looked at Henri Rousseau's jungle artwork as well as starting to create our own 3D jungle art area at the back of our classroom. We have already started to become experts in Blue Morpho butterflies in English so please ask Class Three children about them so we can share our amazing knowledge! Children have been adding photos of their work onto their Class Dojo portfolios. If your child is new to Class Three you will need to enter a new code to gain access to their file, these were sent home earlier this week but please feel free to contact me if the sheet has gone missing or if you have any issues accessing their area.

The reading challenge is back underway, (all Class Three pupils have a chart in the front of their new planners) please sign off whenever they read at home so they can start earning those certificates! Homework is given out each Friday and needs

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to be returned by Thursday morning in order for it to be checked. If you have any issues or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the start or end of school or make an appointment through the office.

Words of the Week(s)



We will be continuing to introduce four new words each fortnight to develop and build up children's vocabulary. Learning new words has a great impact on children's development and progress - particularly in reading and writing. This term our words will be chosen by Jack and Alfie from Y5. Our first four words are: *douse*, *crude*, *faint* and *blundering*. Please listen out for children using them around home and school.

Friends Draw

The first draw of this academic year took place last week, congratulations to the winner:

Number 45 – number not taken

Number 30 – G Szikora

Number 100 – number not taken

Letters will be sent out shortly to new families to try and recruit more members to the Friends Draw.

After 7 years as Friends Draw Administrator I have handed over the role to Vanessa Husband. We wish her well with the role – we are sure she will do a marvellous job!

Future Dates More details will usually follow but information for your diary	Barton
2019	
September	
18th	SFX Open evening – Y6 6:30pm
19th	KS1 Multi Skills Richmond School – Collaboration event letter sent separately 9:15 to noon Storytime club with Mrs Allan-Hooks Class One – 12.30pm-13.00pm Richmond School Open Evening – Y6 6pm

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	Sports for Champions – Stuart Woods – more details to follow
27th	Macmillan Coffee Morning 9:15 to 10:15
October	
9th	Flu Immunisation – whole school except those who have “opted out online”
10th	#Hello Yellow - Child Mental Health Day – dress in yellow with a donation Child mental health.
11th	Harvest Festival in Church 6pm
21st	Parent Consultation Evenings 3:45 to 6:50pm
22nd	Parent Consultation Evening 3:45 to 5pm
25th	School Closes for half term
November	
4th	School re-opens
11th	Remembrance Assembly
13th	Skip2Bfit Day
December	
6th	Nativity 6pm in Church
13th	Collaboration whole school Pantomime Darlington Hippodrome – details to be confirmed
17th	Christmas Lunch noon
20th	School Closes for Christmas

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