



BARNARD CASTLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The Barney Buzz

Friday 12th May 2017

Issue Number: 865

Headmistress's News

Thirty excited Year 4 children embarked on their trip to Gibside this morning. We hope they have a wonderful time and we look forward to hearing all about their adventures upon their return. I have been pleased this week to award some Headmistress's commendations for a variety of excellent work, several Merit certificates, prizes to the art competition winners and also our first Special Mention certificates of the term; despite only being back for a couple of weeks so much has been achieved already and the children have certainly set the tone for a successful term ahead. This week, we were delighted to welcome the NSPCC back into School to run some workshops with our children. Following on from this, I was so touched that four Year 6 girls, Molly Peart, Katie Riddell, Aimee Willey and Pippa Atherton came to see me with a fundraising idea that they have taken to School Council to help support them. Further details can be found in this newsletter; this initiative is a credit to the Year 6 girls and a fine example of how a Barney education inspires them to be such thoughtful individuals.

Reflecting on this we were fortunate enough to show a number of Old Barnardians who attended the Prep School in the 1940s and 1950s around the School on Wednesday. They were overwhelmed with the kindness, care and attention the Year 6 guides showed them and how well we had utilised the space and converted the bedrooms into lovely learning environments.

Next week we are hosting an open morning on Friday 19th May for new parents to see the School in its normal working environment. If you know of anyone who is considering the School for their children in the future, please do pass this information on to them. A final reminder that the questionnaire closes this weekend, Sunday 14th May which concludes our new reporting system. We would really value your feedback and would be grateful if you could spare a few minutes to complete a questionnaire: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DBX8F9D>.

Many thanks to those of you who have already responded. Have a lovely weekend!

Laura Turner

Boarders' News

The warm weather has finally arrived in Barnard Castle and the children are enjoying playing outside after School to make the most of it. The rugby season is over so last Friday night B.C.R.U.F.C was the place to be with the much anticipated presentation evening. It was a good night for all with lots of medals being handed out. The boarders had fun on Saturday morning building dens and making junk models with Mr Ayres. After lunch they all enjoyed playing tennis, golf and football outside in the School grounds.

They were all very excited on Sunday morning because it was the day of our first big trip. We jumped onto the minibus after breakfast and headed out in the sunshine. It just so happens that the glorious weather stayed with us as we arrived at the Lake District and disembarked at Bowness, Windermere. We caught a boat and steamed towards Lakeside to have a picnic and visit the Aquarium. After looking at all the fish and taking an album worth of pictures, we travelled back on the Teal, enjoying the smooth ride while taking in the fantastic scenery. We got back to Bowness and enjoyed some chips before heading back home. A super day with fantastic company. **Mr Killeen**



Speak out. Stay safe.

'Speak out. Stay safe.' Is the new service offered by the NSPCC to all primary school children, providing interactive assemblies and workshops delivered by trained volunteers to help children gain a better understanding of abuse in all its form, know how to get help, and the sources of help available to them, including the Childline service. We were visited last week by Christine, who introduced the basics of staying safe and delivered information on Childline (0800 1111) to all the children in School, before returning this week to run workshops with the children in Years 5 and 6. The children developed a better understanding of their rights and aspects of personal safety through discussions on a number of relevant topics. They brought home information booklets for their parents about staying safe online. Please do visit nspcc.org.uk for further information and support for parents and children.

Mrs Robertson



Year 1 measure up!

Year 1 thoroughly enjoyed using rulers this week to measure objects around the classroom. They have worked very well in pairs and have enjoyed recording their findings.



Solving problems

Year 3 have had fun with a variety of activities in this week's practical Maths session. They brushed up their times tables skills with 'hit the button', sequenced their own dances in small groups using different patterns and movements and solved practical money problems. Great enthusiasm and fabulous effort all round!



4 Go Adventuring!

Year 4 are primed and raring to go off on our weekend of adventure. Bags are packed, coats are ready and the bus is here as we depart for our overnight trip to Gibside. The aim of our trip is to learn more about ourselves and our friends, supporting the aims of Growth Mindset and our Learning Powers. Each of the children has chosen a theme for their visit, be it resilience, perseverance, teamwork or to simply try something they have never done before. I know we are all going to have a brilliant time away and we look forward to sharing our stories with you next week. Our thanks go to Mr Ayres and Miss Laverick for giving up their valuable time to join us.

Miss White and Mr Wicling



Like ducks to water!

Reception class started swimming lessons at the Teesdale Leisure Centre this week. They impressed us with how well-organised they were and how carefully they listened to the swimming teacher and approached the new experience with the usual enthusiasm. We are looking forward to lots more fun-filled visits.

Sports News

Cricket v Ashville: U11 & U10

On Friday we began the cricket season with a cracking start down at Ashville. The hard ball team lost the toss and were put into bat on a beautiful wicket and fast outfield. Charlie Coulthard led from the front and scored 50 (retired), quicker than a run a ball. His 8 fours and 1 six left the supporters in good heart. Plenty of others chipped in as we finished on 109-7 from our 20 overs. In reply we were able to bowl every boy 2 overs each which was great to see. They managed to reach the total with just two balls to go. A great match. The incrediball game was a pairs event which allowed the boys to bat and bowl for 3 overs each. A great experience for the boys to get a feel for the game although on this occasion Ashville were too strong for us.

Mr Wicling



Rounders v Ashville and Queen Mary's

Last Friday all the Year 5 and 6 girls travelled to Ashville to play Rounders. They had some great games and made lots of progress with their fielding. Batting was definitely their strong point as they scored lots of full rounders.

These games prepared us well for our match against Queen Mary's yesterday. The girls played really well and both the U10 team and the U10 and U11 mixed team managed to win their matches. The U11 team were unfortunate as they were caught out by some great fielding from the opposition and they didn't quite manage to make contact with the ball to secure any full rounders. All in all a great improvement shown by all the girls.

Mrs Killeen



Toys, Toys, Toys!

On Wednesday during our School Council meeting we distributed playground toys and games purchased using last year's Sainsbury's vouchers. They have been shared between the main playground areas and we look forward to seeing the whole School enjoy playing with them.



The Barney Way

We have prepared a magazine called The Barney Way which highlights all the things we have done in Prep School over the last term.

We thought you might like a copy to keep and therefore gave a magazine to your oldest child in Prep School yesterday.

We hope you enjoy reading about our Lent Term adventures!

We will be giving out copies to any visitors to the School, and with this in mind, if you know of anyone who may be interested in sending their children to the Prep School, please invite them to our **Open Morning on Friday 19th May from 9:30am to 11:30am.**

NSPCC Non-Uniform Day

On **Thursday 25th May** we shall be holding a **non-uniform day** in support of the NSPCC. The children were so inspired by their work following on from the assemblies and workshops attended last week that they were seen as a great charity to support.

School Council, ably supported by members of Year 6, will be holding a series of competitions and events on the day for all children to participate in. The donation for coming in home clothes is £1 and each of the events will cost between 10p and 50p for a go. They include, Guess the Name of the Bear, a colouring competition, Guess the Number of Sweets in the Jar, Beat the Goalie, Knock the Cups Down as well as a raffle. The competitions will take place around the Year 4 classrooms and break and lunch time and the colouring sheets can be collected from Miss White's classroom from Wednesday 17th May for 20p. There will be lots of prizes to be won and fun to be had!

We're supporting

NSPCC

Amazing artwork!

Congratulations to all the winners in our Art Competition:-

Reception	Vivi Gledhill
Year 1	Matilda Chapman
Year 2	Ella Turner
Year 3	Sophie Winnard
Year 4	Jemima Burton
Year 5	Annabelle Metcalf
Year 6	Maisy Squires

The standard of work was amazing and Mrs Rothwell and I had great difficulty in choosing the finalists.

The work is now on display outside the Atkinson Hall if you would like to take a look next time you are in School.

Mrs Lee



What a journey!

Year 5 have started a new topic of 'Journeys' in Geography. We have looked at some of the journeys children take to school from the west coast of Scotland to the Middle East. Next week we are going to carry on our studies by looking at our own locality. The children have planned a traffic survey and Year 5 are going to walk into town on Monday morning to carry it out. We will also be walking through the centre of Barnard Castle to look at how the buildings are used.



It's electrifying!

This week Year 2 have been learning about 'Electrical Safety in the Home' and enjoyed making advisory posters. During Science they had great fun creating electrical circuits and were keen to make their bulbs glow brighter by adding additional batteries. In the coming weeks we will use these circuits to test which materials conduct electricity, create simple switches and develop models which will incorporate a motor or a buzzer.



Welcome back!

Prep School was delighted to welcome over 20 ex-Preppies from the 1950s and 60s who had returned to School for the Old Barnardians' reunion. Year 6 children made a super job of showing our visitors around, keen to show off our new facilities. The OBs all commented on how different the School is nowadays, not least the increase in numbers, the introduction of Year 3 and the Pre-Prep and, of course, the girls! They enjoyed telling the Year 6s about what they got up to when they were at School. They remembered when the only classroom in Westwick Lodge was what is now the Art Room, (the other classroom was downstairs in Longfield Lodge) and the dormitories that are now 3S, 2P and the French Room. They couldn't believe what fantastic opportunities all our pupils have today. **Mr Seddon**



Barney Friends

We are taking donations of all building materials now for our **Denbuilding Day on Sunday 21st May**. If you have any planks, pallets, plastic or any other useful stuff, please bring it to School and leave it on the grass at the bottom of the Prep School drive. They can be stored here for the next couple of weeks until the big day. Last year's event was a huge success and just as popular afterwards when all the children got to play in the dens. All families are welcome to come along on the day and build a den either as a family or by joining others in a 'team'. It's not a competition and there are no prizes, though family honour may be at stake! There will be bacon sandwiches on offer (expertly cooked by the Hayward family) at £1.50 each to include tea, coffee or juice and picnics are welcome. We start at 10.30am and expect to finish by 1pm. We hope you can join us. Tickets have just gone out for the **Barney Friends' Prep School Ball on Saturday 27th May**. A small number of places are still available so please pick up a booking form from Mrs Morse if you wish to come.

Maths Puzzler

Well done to Seth Crisp, Benjamin French and Rhys James who all found a solution to last week's Knights Quest puzzle.

This week can you add just one line to make the following correct?



Io Io Io = 9:50

As always, answers to me by Wednesday please, ready for next week's newsletter.

Good luck!

Mr Ayres

sta@barneyschool.org.uk



Headmistress's Commendations:

Oona MacConachie
Sophie Richardson
Charlie Bridges
Matilda Chapman
Freddie Wilks
Benjamin Dixon
William Jackson-Ward
Thomas Rothwell
Olivia Bridges
Rachael Richardson
Clara Rowbottom
Scarlet Sinclair
Harry Milbank

Well done!

App of the Week:



Euclidea

This week's app has been suggested by Mr Ayres as one he is really enjoying at the moment. Euclidea is a collection of interactive geometric puzzles with 120 levels. The idea is to build geometric constructions using straight edges and the compass. I can see why Mr Ayres loves it as it is described as a game that values simplicity and mathematical beauty. Find the most elegant solution – the one, which is built in the least possible moves, and you'll get the highest score. Let me know how you do!

Awards This Week:

Special Mention Certificates:

Oona MacConachie, Sophie Richardson, Alexander Milbank, Bertie Swan, Charlotte Blenkins, Sophia Hare, Isabel Warren, Megan Brown, Benjamin Loughney, Frankie Preston, Theo Tweddle, Lucy Harburn, Luke Banner, Bella Staley, William Hutchinson, Matthew Collinson, Bea Dolby, Lorcan O'Neill, William Shield, James Binks, Clara Rowbottom, Hannah Stirling, Charlie Coulthard, Jack Roberts

Merit Certificates:

Caitlyn McLean, Lucy Willsmore, Isla MacConachie, William Banner, Oscar Lawson, Jessica Raper, Thomas Rothwell, Sophie Winnard, Sophie Richardson, Megan Sunley

Forthcoming Events

May

Fri 12	Year 4 residential trip departs at 9am
Sat 13	Exeat Weekend
	Year 4 residential trip returns approx. 4:15pm
Sun 14	Exeat Weekend
Mon 15	Girls' Cricket v Durham High: U11 (H), 3:30pm
Fri 19	Prep School Open Morning, 9:30am-11:30am
	Boys' Cricket Tournament: U11 (H), 1pm
Sat 20	Senior School Open Morning, 9:30am-11:30am
Sun 21	Barney Friends' Den Building Day, 10:30am

This week, we would like to wish a very happy birthday to:

Bella Staley
Sophie Richardson
Peter Stevenson
Harry Sowerby

Best wishes from everyone
at Prep School!



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Prep School Open Morning

Friday 19th May
09:30-11:30

Senior School Open Morning
Saturday 20th May 09:30-11:30

