



BARNARD CASTLE  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

# The Barney Buzz

Friday 18th November 2016

Issue Number: 847

## Headmistress's News

The children have had a super day, raising money throughout break times for Children in Need today. My thanks go to the School Councillors for organising such a wonderful day.

This week has been anti-bullying week and we have addressed issues to do with aspects of bullying and cyber-bullying through our assembly programme. It was lovely to have Alex Thompson, a former Preppie and now the Anti-Bullying officer in Senior School, come and speak to the children on Monday offering advice on what they can do to help. It is important for all schools to promote positive behaviour and this has enabled us to reinforce teaching and learning with regard to the prevention of bullying. We endeavour to create an atmosphere in the School where it is unacceptable to be mean and this is central to the principles of 'The Barney Way'. We have taken a positive stance fostering the understanding that all members of our community have a role to play in maintaining Barney as the happy and friendly place that we enjoy today.

On the subject of community, we have always enjoyed the excellent support of the parent body and I do hope that parents will be joining us for the Barney Friends' Quiz this evening at 7pm in the Atkinson Hall. This annual event is an enjoyable and sociable occasion and I look forward to seeing you there for an evening of fun!

Next week, we are having a Mathematics focus at the Prep School. The children will also undertake some mathematical challenges throughout the week and they will have the opportunity to be involved in solving a variety of mathematical and logical puzzles with the Happy Puzzle Company on Monday and our new House Maths Quiz. A parental workshop will also run on Thursday evening in the Atkinson Hall. Mr Ayres has been busy preparing for this and it would be lovely to see you there as he explains the teaching of Mathematics in the Prep School.

With only 37 sleeps until Christmas Day, preparations are well underway for our School Christmas events. I have attached further details of our Christmas programme at the end of this newsletter with all the information necessary to help parents plan ahead. Most importantly, please could parents return the pantomime visit reply slip indicating their preferred pick-up arrangements as soon as possible.

**Laura Turner**

## Boarders News

The boarders had a lovely quiet evening with Miss Kulaszewski last Friday, just what they needed before the weekend. After breakfast on Saturday morning, Miss Strachan shared her knowledge of baking and whipped up some delicious treats with the children. Once their baking was complete, they headed off to the art room and made some impressive Poppy wreaths. In the afternoon, they all ventured into town and stopped off to play in the park on the way home. As darkness fell, Mr and Mrs Seddon settled everyone down for a movie night—made even sweeter with the addition of hot chocolates all-round! The next morning started with the Sunday service at Chapel followed by Rugby and Hockey. Even though the children were tired after a busy morning, they still managed to complete their homework and London scrapbooks and ended the day with a trip to the swimming pool.

**Mr Killeen**





## It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

Christmas has come early in Year 5 and we are now making our decorations which will adorn the Prep School tree when it arrives in the next few weeks.

In Design Technology lessons we produced several design ideas, drawing our final design to scale and making any improvements before using the light box to trace it onto paper.

We used these paper templates when cutting each element out of felt, then gluing them onto a background and sewing round each one to secure it in place. Look out for the finished decorations appearing on the tree later in the term!

**Mrs Small**



## Sew good!

Last week Reception were sewing poppies and this has sparked an interest in sewing independently at our creative table.

It is great to see children measuring wool, being aware of managing a needle and challenging themselves to take on such an intricate activity.



## Celebrating Maths!

Yesterday Mr Ayres's Maths set sat the 2016 Primary Maths Challenge. Featuring 25 fiendish questions designed to stretch and challenge the top 25%, the Primary Maths Challenge is tackled by around 80,000 pupils every November. It is aimed at promoting Mathematical thinking and reasoning, a sort of comprehension test for maths! The pupils can be very pleased with their efforts and the way in which they have prepared over the recent weeks.

***Don't forget the Happy Puzzle Shop will be open to parents from 3:45pm in the Art Room on Monday 21st November—come and get some Christmas gifts!***



## Just Dance!

All of the Year 3 pupils are looking forward to putting on a performance of dance, art, music and poetry on Tuesday 22nd November. All the children in Year 3 will stay at school for their tea and parents are warmly invited to come and watch the show at 6pm in the Atkinson Hall. Refreshments will be available and they aim to finish at around 6:30pm.

## App of the Week:

### *King of Maths*



I have been inspired by Mr Ayres's assembly on Tuesday, and in preparation for our 'Maths Week' an app to engage and inspire your maths learning.

You are given a selection of games to play and the aim is to unlock levels by answering the questions correctly using Addition, Subtraction, Multiplication and Division. Each game has ten levels and you have a set time to beat. The less time it takes you to complete the level, the more points you score. You are awarded points and stars for each level depending on how many correct answers you give. If you get too many answers wrong you have to restart the level. You have a selection of four multiple choice answers and each correct answer buys you a little more time. This is mental arithmetic that will challenge you all and it really is quite addictive!

Let me know how you do!

**Miss White**

## Sport News

### Year 5 & 6 House Hockey and Rugby

A fantastic display of hockey was on display on Friday afternoon. The House matches started with the usual competitiveness with all teams eager and organised, ready for action. The standard of hockey was fantastic and highlighted how far the girls have come on. The display of sportsmanship was fantastic, especially as Grenville were low in numbers, many of the girls had to jump ship and play a match for Grenville, without any fuss. Many of the matches were close, however, Raleigh were exceptional throughout the afternoon and were victorious. Well done to all the girls. **Mrs Hairsine**



If the House matches were a test at the end of term, the boys would all have passed with flying colours. We were treated to a fantastic afternoon of rugby with everyone from the U11A team to the U10B team throwing themselves wholeheartedly into the fray. There was some super individual and team play and the commitment shown really stood out for all the spectators to see. Gilbert, starting out as favourites, proved too strong for the other Houses and were rewarded with the House Cup. **Mr Seddon**

### Hockey and Rugby v RGS Newcastle: U9, U8

On Monday, Year 4 had their final big fixture at RGS Newcastle. It was a long way to travel but the experience will hold them in good stead for the coming terms, and years. There were hard fought matches both on grass and astroturf with the girls' three teams all competing extremely well. I was very proud of the boys who put up a great fight and the tries from both sides were hard to keep count. In particular, we saw great development from the B team who have improved in all areas of the game, and a highlight of the day was seeing the smiles on their faces during and after the game. Well done to all the players. **Mr Wicling**



### An enlightening day!

It looked like Christmas had come early in Years 1 and 2 on Monday when an excited set of children arrived to find fairy lights twinkling in their classrooms. They were in fact celebrating Diwali, The Festival of Lights, as part of their RE topic on 'Hinduism'. The children made a tremendous effort for the occasion and dressed in colourful scarves, Indian costumes and items of jewellery. During the day they researched customs linked to Diwali, watched a Hindu family's traditional celebrations, listened to stories, including the story of Rama and Sita, and created a Hindu shrine. The children also had great fun folding beautiful lotus flowers, creating a colourful display of clay diva lamps, designing mehndi hand patterns and listening to traditional Indian music. All too soon they reached the end of a busy day and joined together to share a selection of foods including samosas, sweets and dried fruits. It had been a thoroughly enjoyable and informative afternoon! **Mrs Priestley**



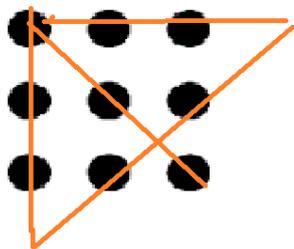
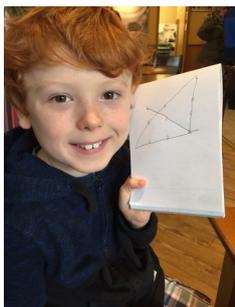
### Y3 measure up!

Pupils in Year 3 have been investigating capacity, measuring in millilitres and using their addition skills to find the total volume in two beakers. We have also been having a close look at different types of rocks, examining them for clues such as gas bubbles, fossils, layers and crystals.



## Maths Puzzler

Lots of fantastic entries for last week's puzzler, courtesy of Talitha Hayward, who wanted to see if you could go through all nine circles using only four straight lines. Benjamin French and Abygail Jameson's solutions are below.



This week many of the Year 6 pupils sat the Primary Maths Challenge (see my article over the page). My puzzler this time comes from the online version of the challenge <http://www.primarymathschallenge.org.uk/primary-maths-problems-live-online>. On April Fool's Day our headteacher writes a 6 each time instead of a 9, and a 9 instead of a 6. Which number that he writes will be furthest from what it ought to have been? A) 3096, B) 3960, C) 6903, D) 9063, E) 9036

Please return your answers to me by Wednesday. Good luck!

Mr Ayres

sta@barneyschool.org.uk



## Barney Friends

If the numbers are to be believed, tonight's quiz is shaping up to be our best attended so far – clearly, the chance to beat the teachers at their own knowledge game has proven too irresistible! Anyone who hasn't yet joined a class team is obviously welcome to come along at 7pm and lend their brain power. BYO drinks; cheese, biscuits and snacks for a recommended donation of £2.50 per plate. Places for the Barney Friends Christmas Lunch at Clarendon's on 12<sup>th</sup> December at 1pm are being snapped up fast so if you haven't yet booked your seat, please make your choices from the three-course menu available from Mrs Morse and hand over your £20. It's a lovely pre-Christmas get-together over delicious food, so do come along if you can make it.

## Forthcoming Events

### November

- Fri 18 Spotty Non-Uniform Day for Children in Need  
Rugby and Hockey Tournaments at Bradford Grammar School: U10A, U9, 1pm (**cancelled**)  
Rugby v St Olave's: U11, U10B (A), 2:15pm  
Hockey v St Olave's: U11, U10B (H), 2:15pm (**cancelled**)  
Barney Friends' Quiz Night, Atkinson Hall, 7pm
- Mon 21 House Maths Week  
Brain Blaster Happy Puzzle Day, Atkinson Hall  
Happy Puzzle Shop open to parents, Art Room, 3:45pm
- Tues 22 Year 3 Dance Performance, Atkinson Hall, 6pm
- Wed 23 Rugby 7s Tournament at Giggleswick: U11, 1:30pm
- Thurs 24 Hockey County Cup at Durham: U10, 1pm  
Maths Open Evening for Parents, Atkinson Hall, 7pm
- Fri 25 Boarding parent/teacher meetings
- Sat 26 Exeat
- Sun 27 Exeat  
Michaelmas Market, Senior School, 10:30am-3pm

## Awards This Week:

### Special Mention Certificates:

Fiore Catellani, Dylan Dougal, Sophie Pegram, Dexter Thomas, Joe Rutherford, Alexander Howard, Megan Brown, Mirabelle Harrison, Ben Arnold, Emily Pegram, Tom Body, Freya Pinwill-Price, Jake Lawson, Ellie Derrick, William Hutchinson, Freddie Ross-Mitchell, Joel Peart, Tabitha Hilsdon, Daniel Newell, Daniel Richardson, Hannah Stirling, Henry Turnbull, Freddie Hendrix, Harry Maude, Oona MacConachie

### Merit Certificates:

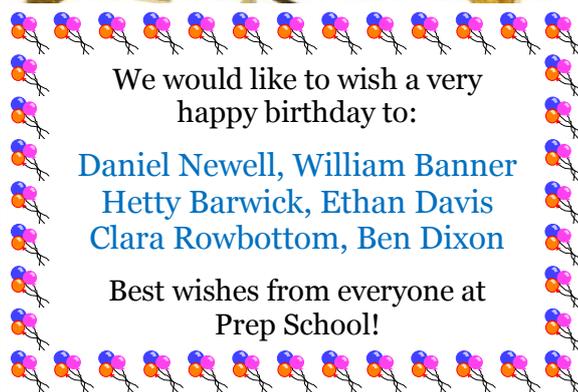
Alexander Carr, Reuben Hosking, Sebastian Howard, Tom Staley, Phoebe Allman, Rocco Catellani, Isabelle Killeen, Jacob Killeen, Joe Rutherford, William Watson, Minnie Wilson, Isabelle Kerr, Bea Dolby, James Binks, Jake Roberts, Jack Roberts, Hetty Barwick, Toby Rutherford, Benjamin Dixon, Harry Milbank, Sofia Wilson, Grace Dickinson, Harry Maude, Aimee Willey



### Headmistress's Commendations:

Ben Arnold  
Konrad Blake  
Frankie Preston  
Sophie Winnard  
Thomas Rothwell

Well done!



We would like to wish a very happy birthday to:

Daniel Newell, William Banner  
Hetty Barwick, Ethan Davis  
Clara Rowbottom, Ben Dixon

Best wishes from everyone at  
Prep School!



**Wellies wanted!**

Please could children wishing to play on the grass at break times bring in a pair of wellies given the soggy conditions! Thank you.

## Prep School Christmas Events

Please see below all the information concerning the forthcoming Christmas events. Please read the details carefully and return the reply slip as soon as possible to class teachers. Please contact us if you have any queries.

### Calendar of Christmas Events

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Monday 28th November   | Christmas Colouring Competition opens (available to all pupils)      |
| Wednesday 7th December | Christmas Colouring Competition entries due in                       |
| Friday 9th December    | Pre-Prep Nativity, 2pm   |
| Sunday 11th December   | Boarders' Carol Service, 5pm   |
|                        | Boarders' Christmas Dinner, 6:30pm                                   |
| Monday 12th December   | Prep School Christmas Lunch, 12noon                                  |
|                        | Reception Class visit Santa at Raby Castle, 1pm                      |
|                        | Barney Friends' Christmas Lunch at Clarendon's, 1pm                  |
|                        | Carol Service with Christingles for Years 3 & 4, 4pm                 |
|                        | Carol Service for Years 5 & 6, 7pm                                   |
| Thursday 15th December | Prep School trip to the Pantomime 'Jack and the Beanstalk' at Durham |
| Friday 16th December   | Christmas Jumper Day   |
|                        | Term finishes at the end of the school day, as normal                |

### Pre-Prep Nativity Play

Everyone is welcome to attend our Nativity Play 'A Miracle in Town!' in the School Chapel on Friday 9th December at 2pm. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Senior School Dining Hall.

### Carol Service with Christingles for pupils in Years 3 & 4

Parents are warmly invited to join us in the School Chapel on Monday 12th December at 4pm. The service will last approximately an hour and refreshments will be served afterwards in Big School.

### Carol Service for pupils in Years 5 & 6

Parents are warmly invited to join us in the School Chapel on Monday 12th December at 7pm. The service will last approximately an hour and refreshments will be served afterwards in Big School. Children in the Harmony Choir will be expected to attend both services. All Years 5 & 6 pupils will stay at school for tea.

### Pantomime

We will be continuing the annual Prep School tradition of taking the whole school to the pantomime but this year we will be heading to The Gala Theatre in Durham on Thursday 15th December to see 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The Prep School staff will take the children on coaches to the matinee performance at 1:30pm. We expect to return to the Senior School at approximately 5pm, in time for children to catch the school buses home. If you do not wish your child to attend this trip, please let us know.

The logistics of collecting the children after the pantomime can be very difficult to organise but we do try to accommodate parents by allowing children to be collected from either:-

- The Gala Theatre, Durham (inside the lobby) at 3:30pm
- From the top of the Senior School drive at 5pm
- To catch the school bus home, as normal

Please indicate your choice on the reply slip below. **Please note that we book the appropriate size coach for the return trip and would therefore ask that your choice for collection remains unchanged.**

The cost of the trip will be £16 and this will be added to your end of term bill. The children should wear their normal school uniform for this trip. Please complete and return the reply slip below as soon as possible and by Friday 27th November to indicate your collection choice in order that we can book transport.

### Pantomime Trip on Thursday 15th December

Please return to your child's class teacher by Friday 2nd December

My choice for collection is as follows:

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

- From the Gala Theatre in Durham at 3:30pm       From the top of the Senior School drive at 5pm       I wish my child/children to get the school bus home, as normal

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ parent/guardian Date: \_\_\_\_\_