



BARNARD CASTLE  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

# The Barney Buzz

Friday 7th October 2016

Issue Number: 842

## Headmistress's News

There has definitely been a musical feel to the School over the last week. The House Singing event yesterday was a spectacular occasion which highlighted all the best in the House structure at the School. The children and their teachers worked with enthusiasm, energy and a great deal of talent to produce a wonderful musical show. I thought the all-round standard was outstanding and congratulations to Gilbert on their success. We were fortunate to have Mr Ahmed Harfoush, a jazz vocalist who has performed all around the world, adjudicate and perform for us. We must also take this opportunity to thank Dr Harrison who co-ordinates the enthusiasm and dedication of all our children's musical successes. The confidence, passion and commitment from all the pupils was truly inspirational. Well done everybody!

I would also like to thank those pupils who generously gave of their time on Saturday morning to assist with our Open Day. It was excellent to be able to undertake a range of activities in a variety of subjects. I was also very grateful to the Year 6 pupils who guided the prospective parents and their children around the School and a successful day was had by all.

Letters regarding the forthcoming parent/teacher meetings were emailed with last week's newsletter. Please could you complete and return the reply slips as soon as possible so that we can confirm timings?

We are looking forward to our Harvest Festival service in the School Chapel next Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October at 9am and all children, parents, grandparents, relatives and friends are welcome to attend. As always, we would be pleased for the children to bring in harvest produce such as fruit, vegetables, dried and tinned food on the day for the service. We will then distribute the food to our local food bank and the flowers to the Old Peoples' Home.

Another productive week in the Prep School has seen academic highlights in the classroom, superb musical performances and some good results on the sports field. Yesterday the Special Mention certificates presented in assembly aptly reflected the all-round nature of a Barney education.

**Laura Turner**

## Boarders News

Now that the School Council is well underway, our representative for Old Courts, George, has started meeting with the rest of the boarders. They all sat down conservatively on Monday night to discuss their endless possibilities. After a successful morning and doing a top job showing people around our fantastic home for Open Morning, the children were happy to let off some steam at Creepy Crawlies Adventure Playsite in York. We all had great fun and finished the day off with an ice cream before heading home to relax and watch the X Factor.

Following a big breakfast on Sunday morning the boarders finished off their homework while George participated in his first Rugby match for the town.

Mrs Killeen held an arts and craft session in the kitchen before lunch. In the afternoon we ventured out for a walk and a play in the park.

**Mr Killeen**



## School Water Bottles

Following the success of the Young Enterprise venture of School branded water bottles, we have now ordered some more. If you would like to buy one they are available from Mrs Morse at a cost of £5 (cash or cheques to 'Barnard Castle School' please).



## Year 1's Toy Story!

Year 1 had a fantastic day at the Bowes Museum on Tuesday. After a lovely walk in the early morning sunshine we arrived at the Bowes Museum ready to learn about toys through the ages. Once our coats and lunches were safely stored we made our way to the 'toy room' to learn all about toys. First we looked at the toys used in the Victorian times. The children were amazed by the detail in the dolls and were fascinated by how they were made. The boys particularly liked the toy soldier figures. The children then moved to the next display to hear about how teddy bears got their name. They enjoyed pretending to be clockwork toys and exploring the toy gallery. After this their sketching skills were put to good use and they all drew their favourite old and new toy. They were then given some free time to play with some of the older toys. After lunch they looked at some old peg dolls and started to design their own. They were allowed to be as creative as they liked and this resulted in 15 very different peg dolls, all looking brilliant. It was clear from the smiles and the children's enthusiasm that they'd all had a wonderful day.



## Cheers!

Year 2 had an entertaining Science lesson examining and comparing different fruit juices. Like professional testers they observed and described each mystery juice before taking a sip and moving it over their taste buds. They then described the taste and texture using a variety of adjectives. It was interesting to discover that whilst some children loved



particular juices, others found them very disagreeable! We made a tally chart showing favourite fruit juices and surprisingly, cherry juice was the most popular of those tested, whilst orange juice was the least popular. Our class results were then displayed as bar and pie charts. 2P were good scientists and accurately identified the different flavours.



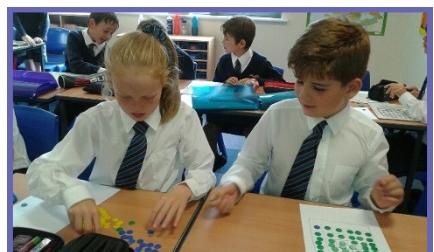
## Water, Water Everywhere!

Reception are currently interested in the movement of water this week and have been carrying out some investigations. The children started by pouring water from one container to another, then down pipes of different lengths and heights. Learning or playing? When it is this much fun, who can tell?



## On a snail trail!

The Year 5 children meet up every Tuesday afternoon to complete Maths Investigations. This week they loved the King Snail problem and had fun trying to solve it. The pupils work with different people each week and have gained confidence when talking through their ideas. We look forward to seeing how they progress throughout the year.



## Sport News

### Rugby v RGS Newcastle and Bradford Grammar School: U11

On Friday, the Year 6 boys welcomed RGS Newcastle and Bradford Grammar School for a rugby fixture. Splitting into three teams we had a very competitive afternoon. These strong sides stretched our boys with some excellent performances. The A team narrowly lost both games but, again, showed plenty of development from the start of the season. The boys' attacking play was very good and their defence was very committed. It was pleasing to see them realise what was needed for improvement. The B team had their biggest test as well, as some strong runners came against us. We hope Henry Turnbull recovers well from a tough tackle. The C team had a great afternoon developing their skills with Thomas Blenkiron scoring three tries in the first game. BEW

### Hockey v RGS Newcastle and Bradford Grammar School: U11

The U11A team played some competitive matches in the sunshine on Friday afternoon. Their first match was against RGS's A team and the girls knew it would be a tough competition as they had a close encounter with them last year. Both teams started with confidence and RGS settled into the game, gaining the first goal. Barney were quick to respond and once the girls moved with confidence on the ball it was not long until they were rewarded with a super goal by Katie from the edge of the D. The match finished as a draw; a fair result. The girls then played RGS's B team where they started to settle into the game, playing some lovely hockey, and securing a convincing win. Next to play was Bradford and it was clear from the first whistle that the girls wanted to win this match. With all the girls showing confidence on the ball it wasn't long until the goals started coming. A fantastic show of team work girls, well done. The U11B team also had a successful afternoon on Friday against RGS Newcastle and Bradford Grammar School. The first match against RGS C team was very competitive. Both teams started with enthusiasm and the ball went from end to end. Both defences were tested and, despite some very good chances for goals, the result of a 0-0 draw was a fair one. It was a similar story against the RGS D team with another 0-0 draw, the RGS goalkeeper saving a super shot. The game against Bradford also saw some good play as the team settled into positions. As it turned out it was an afternoon of draws, which, on reflection, was fair! We now have HMC Hockey at Leeds Grammar School to look forward to next Wednesday. EJFH/SMS

### Rugby v St Olave's: U9

On Monday we welcomed a strong St Olave's team to continue the development of the U9s. There were plenty of tries, nearly too many to count, and an increasing amount of tackles in a very competitive pair of games. The boys lost by a few tries (I think) but it wasn't a day for keeping count. Jonny Royle must be mentioned for some outstanding tackling, an example to those around him. Well done boys. BEW

### Hockey v St Olave's: U9

The Year 3s and 4s thoroughly enjoyed some hockey matches in the sunshine against St Olaves on Monday. All the girls had the chance to play some 5 or 6 aside matches. The focus of the afternoon was to coach the girls through match play and it was lovely to see them learning from this experience. As the afternoon progressed they realised the importance of holding their space on the pitch and this resulted in some super goals. With continued work on positioning and game play, the girls are set for a bright hockey future. Well done to all the girls. Keep up your hard work and enthusiasm. EJFH

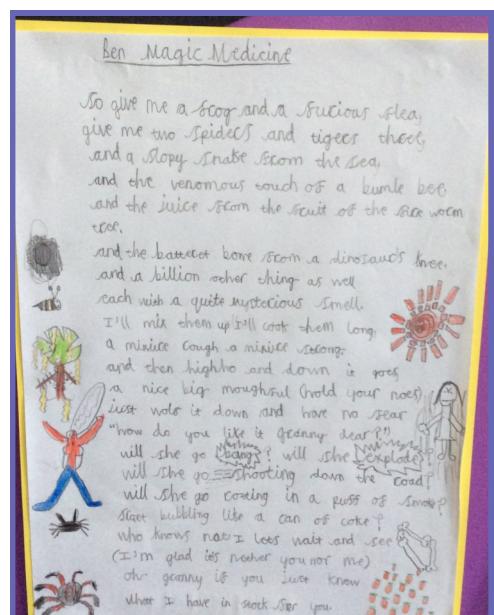
### Rugby v Aysgarth: U11, U10

On Wednesday, we hosted Aysgarth School in our annual rugby fixture. The U11s faced their strongest rivals for the second time this year and, after a tough first half, fired in the second with a combative performance. The B team also rose to the occasion as there was plenty of great running and tackling. The U10As had a tougher lesson and were well beaten from a strong running opposition. Their size and strength were a little too much for us. However, the B team fared better with a very competitive game which had a far more positive result. Overall, a very hard afternoon but well worth it to continue our boys' development. BEW



### Y3's marvellous medicine!

As part of their study of Roald Dahl's famous George's Marvellous Medicine, Year 3 have been working on their use of exciting rhyming and descriptive writing this week. The children have created their own fizz-popping, magical and explosive plans using an assortment of gruesome and stomach-turning ingredients.



## Gilbert's dreams come true!

It was a joy to welcome Ahmed Harfoush to School to adjudicate our House Singing Competition. This year, the Houses had very individual approaches to how they presented themselves and even movement and staging became a key element of the contest. The standard of singing, and even more importantly enjoyment and smiles, was undoubtedly beyond all previous years and it was obvious to all that this event really is a fun highlight for both children and staff! The range of styles covered Disney (Brave), Jazz (Ella Fitzgerald and many besides), John Denver and Green Day. Gilbert were proud winners having sung "Dream a Little Dream of Me" with wonderful style and panache.



Ahmed is predominantly based in London, although he continues to perform worldwide, and regularly in Paris, and is next performing in our region with his very own band as part of the Brighouse Festival in Leeds on Saturday 29th October at 8:00 pm.

## Autumn leaves ...

As part of our creative writing for English, Year 4 embarked on a poetic walk around the School ground's on Tuesday afternoon.

They were looking to explore all of their senses to relate to autumn. The children took it in turns to take pictures and gathered many leaves, berries and branches that are now scattered all over Mr Wicling's classroom!

Whilst out and about we took the opportunity to stop at various points to take in our surroundings. This led to the development of similes and metaphors relating to the colours of the leaves and the movement of the trees. We also experimented with alliteration, personification and onomatopoeia to create some super phrases.

'The crunchy leaves are like crisps in a packet.'

'I can taste the mildness of the breeze on my tongue.'

'The colour of the leaves makes it look as though the trees are on fire.'

On our return to School we mind mapped many ideas to help us with our final piece of writing which we will be completing today.

## Marvellous Mangahigh!

It's always important to start the School year well and this was certainly the case with Mangahigh where we achieved our highest ever medal tally in September. We finished the month with over 700 medals! As Mangahigh increases in popularity so it becomes harder and harder to rocket up the leader board, we finished in 81st place nationally (out of over 1000 schools) which is a fantastic achievement given our size. 127 pupils took part in Mangahigh in September with more joining all

the time. A huge thank you to all the pupils for their efforts both in and out of the classroom. We have certainly set ourselves a target for the coming months!

**Mr Ayres**



## Tycoons in School

Late last year I entered the School into the national 'Tycoon in Schools' competition run by the Peter Jones Foundation. The competition aims to get pupils of all ages involved in running their own businesses, everything from ordering and monitoring stock to marketing the business and selling a product. The interest I received was overwhelming and over 20 pupils from Years 5 & 6 have signed up to help set up and run the business in some way. After much discussion the pupils decided there was clearly a need for a stationery shop in School (given the amount of pencils I lend out and never see again, I'm inclined to agree with them!). Mr Wicling and I dubbed them "The Pencil Pushers" and they helped develop a business plan complete with profit forecasts. I was delighted to receive news from

Tycoon in Schools on Wednesday that our business plan has been approved and that they will loan us the money to start our business - so expect plenty of posters and publicity over the next few weeks as we get ready for the trading phase of the competition!

Visit <https://www.tycooninschools.com/> for more info.

**Mr Ayres**



## Awards This Week:

### Special Mention Certificates:

Vivi Gledhill, Jack Baptist, Toby Rutherford, Freddie Wilks, Sophia Hare, Isabelle Killeen, Olivia Bridges, Violet Heintz, Sophie Winnard, Frankie Preston, Minnie Wilson, Lottie Baptist, Joe Arnold, Gus Living, Celine Jolley, Ethan Davis, Lydia Dixon, Talitha Hayward, Aasta McGregor-Towers, Isabelle Hawkins, Archie McGill, Samuel Banner, Poppy Barlow, Aimee Willey

### Merit Certificates:

Fiore Catellani, Sebastian Howard, Oscar Bennett Collins, Grace Dickinson, Violet Heintz, Daniel Newell, Poppy Barlow, Harry Maude, Molly Peart, Katie Riddell, Aimee Willey, Edwin Barwick, George-Louis Boulton, Quinn Williams, Isabelle Hawkins, Scarlet Sinclair, Pippa Atherton, Hannah Stirling, Charlie Coulthard, George England, Charlotte Blenkiron, William Jackson-Ward, Sebastian Metcalf, Sophie Winnard

## App of the Week:

### Geo Quiz for Android and Apple



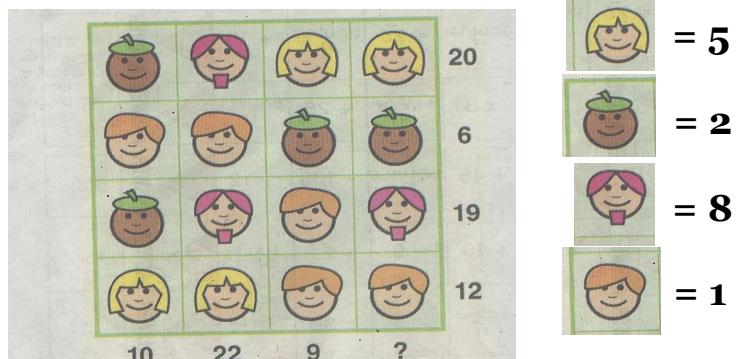
Year 4 are currently researching a country of their choice from anywhere in the world and I know this app will be great for them to try, especially as they are so keen on quizzing! It is a fun way of learning about the world through quizzes and games, as well as looking at famous monuments, flags and geographical features from all over the world. Test how well you know world geography by identifying landmarks from all over the world! See how well you know the official languages used worldwide and impress your friends with your newly acquired knowledge!

## Maths Puzzler

Well done to Rhys James and Bea Dolby who both worked incredibly hard to solve last week's puzzler - the missing column would total 16.

This week there has been a lot of cake in the staffroom, leading to an upturn in staff morale and a shortage of clean plates! Whilst sharing out the cake, I boastfully claimed that I could split the cake into eight pieces by making only three cuts! Can it really be done? If so, how do you think I did it? It's probably best to get an adult (and lots of cakes) to help you and even if you think you've solved the puzzler, it's probably best to check with another cake!

Good luck!



### Mr Ayres

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## Forthcoming Events

### October

- Fri 7      Rugby v Red House: U11 (A), 2pm  
Hockey v Teesside High: U10 (A), 2:30pm
- Tues 11     Year 3 Trip to the Hancock Museum
- Wed 12     Barney Friends' meeting, Clarendon's, 8:45am  
HMC Rugby and Hockey at Grammar School at Leeds:  
U11, 11am
- Thurs 13    French Café in aid of Epilepsy Action, Atkinson Hall  
**Cake donations would be gratefully received**  
**Parents/family welcome from 3pm**  
Rugby Tournament at Yarm School: U9, 1pm
- Fri 14     Harvest Service, Chapel, 9am  
**Harvest produce would be gratefully received**  
**Parents/family welcome to the service**

## Headmistress's Commendations:

Edwin Barwick  
Gus Coggrave  
Grace Dickinson  
Niamh Hennessy  
Sophie Winnard  
Daniel Newell

Well done!

