



BARNARD CASTLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The Barney Buzz

Friday 10th November 2017

Issue Number: 880

Headmistress's News

As is fitting, our theme this week has been Remembrance. As a School we feel it is important to remember, along with the rest of the country, those people who have died in our service. Memories can be both happy and sad and we have been discussing this all week with a strong focus on 11th November. Our observance of Remembrance as a whole School this morning enabled the children to experience coming together as a community to reflect upon the sacrifice of Old Barnardians and former staff in various conflicts and in whose footsteps we are currently treading. It was, therefore, fitting that sixteen members of Prep School planted crosses at the front of Chapel as part of the service. Reflection and empathy are strong qualities that we wish to encourage in our children and the solemnity and respect demonstrated by them was exemplary.

We have come to the end of our parent/teacher meetings and I hope everyone found these informative as we begin our second half of term. The book fair was also a huge success and very popular with the children. The School has raised over £1,180, giving us £700 to spend on books from the commission of the sales. Thank you for all your support. I thoroughly enjoyed yesterday's 'Have A Go' concerts for children in Years 2-6. It was particularly pleasing to see so many children keen to play their instruments or to sing in public. Thank you to all the children who performed and to their music teachers for supporting them with this event.

Next Friday 17th November is a non-uniform day for Prep School pupils and we will be raising money for Children in Need. The School Council have decided on a 'spotty' themed clothing day and have arranged a couple of fundraising events on the day. We do hope the children will be able to support this cause and the School Council have placed further details on posters around the School this week. If children wish to take part, please can they bring in a minimum donation of £1 on the day and some small change to participate in the cake sale and 'Hunt the Spots' competition.

Our annual Barney Friends' Quiz also takes place on Friday 17th November at 7pm in the Atkinson Hall. I do hope you can join us for a fun evening as Mr Ayres and Miss White become quizmasters once again for what promises to be a very enjoyable evening!

Have a lovely weekend.

Laura Turner

Boarders' News

The cold snap and the darker nights have not dimmed the boarders' enthusiasm nor activity levels. On Saturday Dr Harrison spent time with the prep boarders researching the origins of Bonfire Night which culminated in them designing and building their own rockets. After lunch they retired to the music room and had a great time exploring instruments that they don't normally get to use during their weekly Music lessons. Watch this space for a house band! In the evening it was time to wrap up as we joined with some of the senior boarders on a trip to the fantastic bonfire and fireworks display in nearby Gainford.

Mr Robson



Forest School Meeting for Parents

As previously mentioned, we have been delighted to implement Forest School to our curriculum this year. Pupils have been enjoying taking part in the Forest School activities this term.

If you would like to come along and find out a bit more about it, you are very welcome to a talk by Mrs Michelin on Wednesday 22nd November at 4:30pm in the Atkinson Hall. All parents are welcome as we hope to increase the year groups that can take part in Forest School in the near future.



Sports News

Hockey v Red House: U11 & U10

On Friday 3rd November the U10 and U11 Hockey girls played at home against Red House School. All pupils were given the opportunity to play in this friendly fixture and lots of them displayed real grit and determination to win. Both matches were closely fought, with the U10s winning 3-2 and the U11s winning 3-1. Both Minnie Wilson (U10) and Lydia Dixon (U11) were chosen by Red House as the players of the match. Well done to all the girls who took part!

Mrs Summerson-Brown



Hockey v RGS Newcastle: U9

The girls had a very productive afternoon of Hockey at Newcastle. Splitting into three teams, we won two and lost one game and displayed very strong performances throughout the year group. The A team continued their great run with a 3-2 win, and another 5-2 win showed our shooting has certainly improved. The final team struggled a little but were full of enthusiasm and energy throughout. **Mr Wicling**

Rugby v RGS Newcastle: U9 & U8

On Monday 6th November the mighty Under 8A rugby team went on the long journey to Newcastle to play RGS, Newcastle. From the first blast of the whistle it was end to end stuff, with tries being scored by both teams. Some great rugby was played by both sets of boys - passing got better as the game went on, along with the running lines of attack. The double tag was introduced with great excitement, not just because of turn over ball, but more importantly Kit Kats were on offer for who ever managed to perform one! After much excitement the final whistle blew. A great game of rugby - well done to all the boys for an entertaining afternoon of competitive rugby. **Mr Langley**

On Monday, the U9s played a tough fixture at RGS Newcastle. Mr Houltham's team performed admirably with a lot of tough tackling and effort. We needed to move the ball wider and run at space more but this was seen throughout the team. My team had a tough start to the game as the bus trip appeared to have taken its toll! However, we started to tackle more and began to run with pace and direction and became far more competitive. **Mr Wicling**

Rugby Festival at Durham: U8

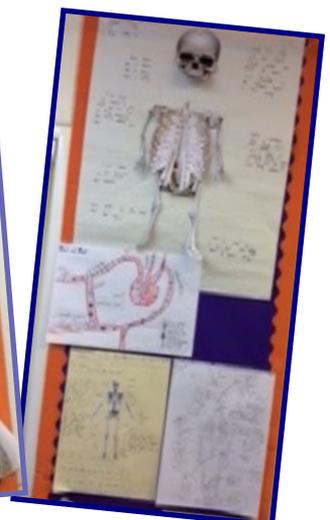
Yesterday all the U8 boys went to Durham School for a Tag Rugby Festival. Split into two teams, with each playing three matches, we were very competitive and dominated many of the games. Lots of tries were scored, and conceded, with some excellent attacking play. The boys are certainly developing their understanding of how to attack as a team and to defend in a line. They can all be very happy with their performances and behaviour. **Mr Wicling**



The War of Independence

We wanted to share with you all some of the amazing work Year 4 have been doing in their own time. From Curiosity questions about how bees make honey, to life size skeletons and diagrams of the respiratory system, they have tackled every subject. Hugely impressively as well, are the models that have been made as part of our Roman's topic. An amazing array of shields, helmets, weapons and models of famous Roman landmarks have been brought into the classroom over the past half term.

Mr Wicling and I are so proud of the work completed by the children and they have demonstrated that they want to take control of their learning and build on the skills that we work on in the classroom. Please feel free to pop up to the classrooms at any time to take a look at some of this work.



African Arts Evening

All Year 3 parents are invited to the African Arts evening on **Tuesday 28th November at 6:30pm** in the Atkinson Hall. Please come along to share in the enjoyment and see what the children have been working on this term. Please refer to the note in your child's prep diary this week for further information. We look forward to seeing you there!

Lest We Forget

This week has been a week of Remembrance. The Year 1 children have learnt about why we wear a poppy on Remembrance Day and in Art they created beautiful poppy pictures. In ICT the children have been introduced to the various features of Word and have been editing their text by changing the colour, size and font. A skill, which we will continue to work on next week.



Egg-cellent additions!

Prep School were delighted to welcome three new additions this week as part of our ongoing allotment project in the form of three lovely chickens! The School Councillors are looking forward to selecting names for the chickens! Huge thanks to Sian and Emily Davison's family for donating them to the Prep School. Watch this space for further clucking updates!



Scintillating Science!

Say hello to the new members of the Science department... female betta fish (Siamese fighting fish). Well done to Joe Arnold, Gus Living, Ned Michelin, Bella Staley, Ethan Davis, Tabitha Hilsdon, Rhys Jenkins, Clara Metcalfe who formed a Science team to represent the Prep School at the National Year 5 and 6 Science Championships at the Moorlands School in Leeds on Tuesday. They all thoroughly enjoyed taking part.



Shoebbox Appeal

This year we will be gathering Christmas Shoebboxes for needy families across the North East of England to be distributed through a number of wonderful charities including Home-Start in Seaham and Teesside, a predominantly volunteer group of 'surrogate aunts' who provide vital support to struggling families with young children.

The idea is to fill a shoebox with gifts and supplies, decorate your box and affix a label marking what age the box is suitable for. This year we have extended the range from newborn to 14. There is also the option to do a 'Carer's' box. In 2016, a Barney parent sent a box specifically for a 'Carer', that mother had never received a present before and her response was amazing.

This is optional but we hope that we will receive a good number of shoeboxes filled with gifts to be distributed. Shoebboxes should be brought in to the Atkinson Hall before **Tuesday 28th November**, the collection date. Thank you in advance for your support.



Barney Friends' News

Quiz

Professional and parental reputations are at stake at the annual Parents' and Staff Quiz, which takes place next **Friday 17th November at 7pm** in the Atkinson Hall. With co-quiz masters Mr Ayres and Miss White in the hot seats, a fun night is guaranteed with some healthy competition between teams. Has your class/year group organised a team yet? If not, join one on the night or come with friends - all welcome. Cheese and biscuits for £2.50 per plate will be provided by Barney Friends; BYO drinks.

Christmas Lunch

Christmas is approaching fast and the Barney Friends' annual festive lunch takes place on **Monday 11th December, 1pm**, at the Three Horse Shoes, in Barnard Castle. This is a new venue for us and we're hoping the pub setting will attract a few more dads! The lunch is great value with a choice of one, two or three courses. Mrs Morse has the menu options and is taking bookings now, together with full payment. Make sure you grab your seat.

Meeting

Before all that, we have another BF meeting on **Wednesday 15th November** at Clarendon's after drop-off if any new parents would like to come along.

Stunning Storyboards!

Year 5 have been busy creating their storyboards of the Christmas Day football match during the war using War Game as their focus. In Maths they have enjoyed solving puzzles involving the Star of David. We firstly used coloured counters then quickly moved on to using the numbers 1-12. Takeaway homework projects have continued to impress and we look forward to seeing more over the coming weeks.



Creative computing!

Year 6 had the privilege of being the first to use our new fleet of iPads. Having spent the first half of term learning about the various parts of a computer and the role they play, they are now busy designing and recording their own YouTube style videos using the iPads and iMovie. The energy in the room was brilliant as the pupils went far beyond what I had initially planned. We look forward to sharing the results with you all later in the term.
Mr Ayres



Moving in the right circles

If you are a shape, you have nowhere to hide! Reception shape detectives have been hunting all over School this week.



Music to our ears!

On Thursday we had our two 'Have-a-Go' concerts which included 58 pupils from Years 2 to 6. The concerts are very informal and provide pupils who have been learning from three weeks to seven years the opportunity to play any piece that they choose. They then prepare themselves for the event, largely independently with very little adult help.

You may be forgiven for thinking that the performances might portray 'work in progress', but what we heard was the complete opposite. All pupils performed with great competence at their level. Pieces ranged from Twinkle Twinkle to Iron Maiden, vocals to trumpet to violin ensembles, drum and guitar duets and several pupils' own compositions (even this year featuring a Garage Band creation) and piano-vocalists. Styles ranged from blues to classical, pop to folk.

The whole afternoon resembled a whistle-stop tour of almost all the possible instruments, eras and styles that we could manage! The pupils deserve huge praise for a thoroughly entertaining afternoon.

Dr Harrison



Blown Away!

It was with great excitement that our Year 2 children set off on their long-awaited journey to The National Glass Centre in Sunderland. We pulled up to see a modern building with a huge sign announcing the glass centre. A wide walkway led into the depths of the museum and at the bottom, our guide, Stephanie, was there waiting to greet us. She explained that associated with this term's Science topic we would be studying changing materials, watching glass being blown in the demonstration studio and finally making our own fused glass tiles. 2P all took part in experiments linked to changing state and I was delighted that everyone made sensible predictions and remembered scientific vocabulary including melting, dissolving, solid and liquid. Mrs Roberts-Lilley was also delighted that the children confidently referred to their experiments in STEM Club! A favourite experiment of the morning was mixing exact quantities of cornflour and water to create a mixture which constantly changed from liquid to solid as we mixed it and picked it up. This led to great hilarity, observation and discussion. Our next activity was certainly a highlight of the day, as we were given the opportunity to see a beautiful glass snowman being blown then decorated. A fierce heat from the furnaces made the studio very hot and it was amazing to see molten glass appearing from the 'Glory Hole'. The finished snowman was beautifully crafted and was transferred to an oven which would slowly cool it down to prevent it from cracking. After correctly answering a question related to the shears a glassmaker uses, Rory was given the chance to blow a huge glass bubble. This was very impressive, but it was so fine and delicate that it couldn't be taken home. Instead the glass bubble was smashed with a loud 'crack'. It was a wonderful experience! In the afternoon we were all given an opportunity to draw a design which could be transferred using frit (grains of coloured glass) and mosaic pieces onto a glass tile. The children worked very hard and created some fabulous glass pictures which will be fused in a kiln at 850 degrees centigrade. Soon a very busy and exciting day had come to an end and it was time to board the coach back to School. I would like to thank Mrs Roberts-Lilley and Mrs Turner who accompanied us and helped to make it a day to remember. **Mrs Priestley**



App of the Week:

Bee-Bot



You might have heard your children talk about the Bee-Bot robot. We use it at Barney to teach children about control programming and directions in Maths. This lovely app version is easy to understand and lots of fun.

The app makes use of Bee-Bot's keypad functionality and enables children to improve their skills in directional language and programming through sequences of forwards, backwards; left and right 90 degree turns.

The app has been developed with twelve levels encouraging progression. Each level is timed and the faster it is completed the more stars you get!

Non-Uniform Day

Friday 17th November is Children in Need, and as is tradition in the Prep School, we will be holding a non-uniform day to raise money for this extremely worthwhile charity. The theme is Spots, so if you have a spotty pair of shorts or socks, then even better! We are hoping that as many of you as possible will wear something spotty to support our day. There will be a 'Hunt the Spot' Competition at lunchtime with prizes to be won, and a cake sale. For non-uniform we would like a contribution of £1 and the competition will be 50p to enter. For more information please see a School Councillor, Miss Strachan or Miss White.

Paddington's favourite!

Taking inspiration from Deepest, Darkest Peru's most famous export, Year 3 enjoyed making marmalade this week, before using the experience to practice their instruction writing.



Awards This Week:

Merit Certificates:

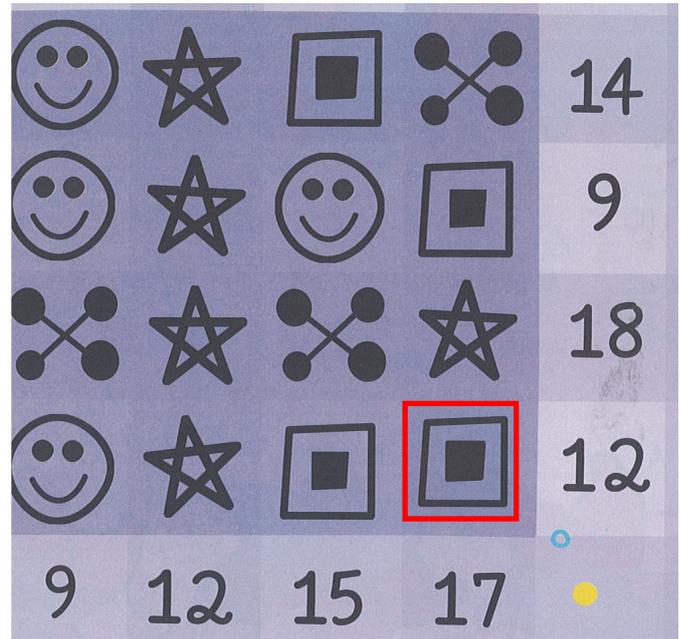
Arabella Milbank, Thomas Scott-Priestley, Isabelle Shield, Theo Swan, Flora Whitaker, Tilly Gray, Olivia Hall, Charlotte Owens, Ben Arnold, William Banner, Olivia Bridges, Gus Coggrave, Isabel Fall, Isobel Heagerty, Oscar Lawson, Benjamin Loughney, Anna Metcalf, Dermot Metcalf, Benjamin Pelly, Frankie Preston, Jessica Raper, Isabel Warren, Dougie Ross, William Shaefer, Scarlett Williams, Celine Jolley, Annie Barker, Seth Crisp, Finley Cable-Jones, Alexander Carr, Fiore Catellani, Dylan Dougal, Vivi Gledhill, Reuben Hosking, Sebastian Howard, Oona MacConachie, Caitlyn McLean, Joel Morgan, Sophie Richardson, Tom Staley, Peter Stevenson, Megan Sunley, Lucy Willsmore, Hetty Barwick, Freydis Blake, Georgina Chapman, Archie Lanigan-O'Keeffe, Hugo Lanigan-O'Keeffe, Adam Lee, Isla MacConachie, Toby Rutherford, Zara Scott-Priestley, Freddie Wilks, Ella Turner, Emily England, George Goad, Lilly Cassidy, Teddy Hall, James Harburn, Harriet Hatton, Fenella Heagerty, Edith Smart, Freya Turner, Ed Wicling, Francesca Wilks, Rory Metcalf, Euan Metcalf, Isabelle Kerr

National Science Quiz Championship:

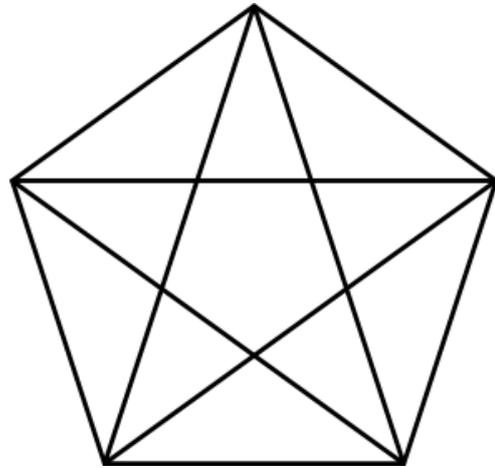
Joe Arnold, Gus Living, Ned Michelin, Bella Staley, Ethan Davis, Tabitha Hilsdon, Rhys Jenkins, Clara Metcalfe

Maths Puzzler

Well done to Toby Rutherford, Mila Johnson, Scarlett Williams and everyone else who managed to solve last week's symbolic puzzler. The missing symbol was a square which was worth 4.



This week I'd like to know how many triangles you can find in the pentagram below?



As always, answers to me by next Wednesday please.

Good luck!

Mr Ayres

sta@barneyschool.org.uk



Headmistress's Commendations:

Matilda Owens
Edith Smart
Ben Arnold
Mila Johnson
Alfie Simpson
Tom Staley
James Harburn

Well done!

Forthcoming Events

November

Fri 10 Remembrance Parade for all pupils, 8:55am
Hockey v St Olave's: U11A&B (H), 2:15pm
Rugby v St Olave's: U11A, B & C (H), 2:15pm
Wed 15 Barney Friends' Meeting, Clarendon's, 8:45am
Thurs 16 Hockey v Yarm: U9A&B (H), 3:45pm
Fri 17 Hockey v St Olave's: U10A&B (H), 2:15pm
Rugby v St Olave's: U10A&B (H), 2:15pm

