



BARNARD CASTLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The Barney Buzz

Friday 24th November 2017

Issue Number: 882

Headmistress's News

The Christmas trees are due to arrive this afternoon, Nativity rehearsals are well underway, carols are being sung and with only 31 sleeps until Christmas, Prep School is beginning to get slightly excited! As parents are aware, the last two weeks of term are particularly busy and all parents should have received the Christmas events information sheet which was distributed with last week's newsletter. This sheet provides parents with important details with regard to timings and venues of key events such as the Nativity play, Christingle and Carol Services. A reply slip was also attached regarding the pantomime trip on Thursday 14th December and, if you haven't already done so, please can you return this as soon as possible to enable us to book the transport for this annual whole School trip? Should you need another copy of this form it can be obtained from the Prep School office or the Newsletter section of the website. The House Hockey and Rugby matches for Years 3 and 4 were enjoyed by all on Monday and we are looking forward to the Year 5 and 6 matches this afternoon. It was great to see those of you who came to the Forest School talk that we held on Wednesday in the Atkinson Hall and to share what we have been doing so far this term with the Year 3s in Forest School.

I thoroughly enjoyed watching all the children from Reception to Year 6 experiencing a challenging but fun day run by the Happy Puzzle Company on Thursday, which tested their thinking and logic skills.

Our boarders are very much looking forward to their weekend at home before they come back to complete their final few weeks of their first term in their new home.

Have a lovely weekend!

Laura Turner

Boarders' News

It was another packed weekend in the life of a junior boarder!

On Saturday morning, Mrs Summerson-Brown took the prep boarders out to ROF59 where they enjoyed swinging, climbing and bouncing! In the afternoon they had fun baking chocolate crackles to a very decadent secret recipe!



Wait a minute Mr Postman!

The new Prep School post box arrives on Friday 1st December.

Please ensure that all cards are clearly labelled with the recipient's name and class.

The Year 3 pupils are very much looking forward to delivering the Christmas cards around School.



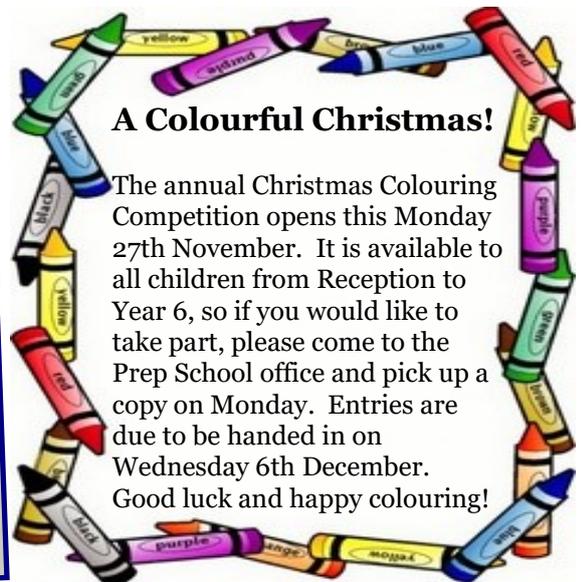
On Sunday morning all the boarders attended the Tees House Chapel service. Then, following a hearty roast dinner, it was off to the cinema where most of them took the opportunity to watch Paddington 2. As usual, Sunday evening was the house meeting and the ever popular Kahoot quiz. Everyone is looking forward to time with their families over this weekend's exeat.

Mr Robson



A Colourful Christmas!

The annual Christmas Colouring Competition opens this Monday 27th November. It is available to all children from Reception to Year 6, so if you would like to take part, please come to the Prep School office and pick up a copy on Monday. Entries are due to be handed in on Wednesday 6th December. Good luck and happy colouring!



Sports News

Rugby v St Olave's: U10

On Friday the Year 5 boys played their final game of the season against St Olave's. It was a very cold afternoon which made flowing Rugby hard but the boys did their best and competed in both games. We scored less tries than the opposition yet our performances showed plenty of promise with our B team certainly showing greater enthusiasm to tackle and to take the ball in to contact. **Mr Wicling**

Hockey v St Olave's: U10

On Friday 17th November the U10s played St Olave's. The B team tried really hard against a strong Olave's team. There was lots of movement in positions by Mr Gregory which gave all the children a good opportunity to develop. He also helped to coach and support them throughout the game. Well done girls!

The A team had a fantastic game. We have been working hard on positioning and I was so proud of them for putting into the game what we had learnt in practice. They looked the stronger and more structured team and showed some really super passes to dominate the game with a 1-0 win. A brilliant result against a traditionally strong School. Well done girls; an amazing job! **Mrs Summerson-Brown**



House Hockey & Rugby for Years 3 & 4

On Monday the Year 3 and 4 children had their first opportunity of a House competition. The girls played a round-robin and had plenty of competitive matches while the boys were split into Years 3 and 4 and rotated so that different Houses played with each other. Goals, tries and tackles were made which was good preparation for them moving up into Years 5 and 6. **Mr Wicling**

County Hockey v Durham: U10

Eight excited Year 5 girls went to compete in the U10 Hockey County Cup yesterday. We got off to a flying start with a 2-0 win against Choristers. Next up we faced Durham High School for Girls in a closely fought match which ended in a 2-2 draw. However, as Durham High had lost their other match, this made us the winners of the County Cup. Well done to all the girls.

Mrs Summerson-Brown



Lighting the way!

In Year 2 we have been learning about 'Hinduism' and it has been interesting comparing this religion with Christianity. We found lots of similarities! Studying Diwali we soon realised that like at Christmas, children have a feast, dress up in new clothes, let off fireworks, decorate their homes, tell traditional stories and get together with friends and family. We listened to the story of Rama and Sita and now know the significance of the diva lamps which were lit to show them the way home after Sita was kidnapped by the demon king Ravana. We have



modelled clay lamps which will soon be painted, decorated then lit with a night light candle.



Spot on!

School Council would like to thank everyone for joining in and contributing so generously to our Children in Need event last week. With the non-uniform, cake sale and Hunt the Spot competition, we raised over £300. Our thanks especially go to Marcus and the kitchen staff for the cakes, Mrs Rendall for her contributions and all of you for your donations. Congratulations go to Hetti Barwick and the team of Year 5 girls for respectively winning the Hunt the Spot Competition for their age groups. We look forward to seeing you all at the film nights in the last week of term and seeing the range of Christmas jumpers on the last day of term!

Miss White and Miss Strachan

Barney Friends' 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.

Potion Commotion!

It's all brewing in the Reception outdoor classroom. The colder weather did not deter the children from their outdoor learning this week, when they heard about a delivery of new resources. The three coloured plastic bottles were perfect for potion making apparently. Many inventive concoctions were made and we encountered lots of excellent measuring, collaborative work and negotiating along the way.



Searching for Darwin

As Year 4 embarks on their new topic in Science, they have begun to look at the life and works of Charles Darwin. Following on from our Science lessons, we took the iPads for a spin to use our Computing lesson as an opportunity for a SOLE session (Self Organised Learning Environment) which Year 4 always thoroughly enjoy. Having investigated 'Who was Charles Darwin' they progressed onto his discoveries, travels and writing, creating a huge mind map in groups. This information will then be used to create a report in English – a full cross-curricular experience!



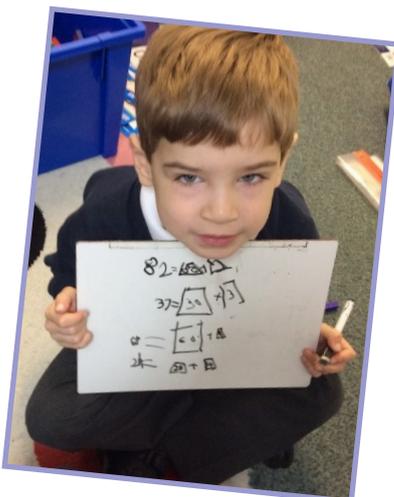
Fit as a fiddle!

The Year 3s have been setting up their own fitness circuits this week in PE. They have based them on what we have learnt so far, so they could choose an activity linked to either skill-related fitness or health related fitness.



A number of activities!

It has been another busy week in Year 1 this week. In Maths, we have been learning about odd and even numbers and begun partitioning numbers into hundreds, tens and units. We even started to get in to the Christmas spirit, (despite it still being November!) when painting and decorating Christmas tree decorations.



Ahoy there!

Year 5 have enjoyed learning all about explorers in History. For their takeaway homework some children decided to recreate their own ships from the 1500s; their models are fantastic. Other pupils designed their ships on paper and these were equally as impressive.



A puzzling day!

Yesterday saw the Atkinson Hall transformed into Logic Island as pupils worked together to solve a number of puzzles on the island. Aimed at developing mathematical engagement, whilst supporting our continuing work with growth mindset, the sessions allowed pupils of all abilities to succeed and to see Maths in a different way. By removing numbers, the Happy Puzzle Company challenges pupils to think mathematically and develop their logical thinking, all whilst improving teamwork and collaboration. The pupils had a



fantastic time and I was really impressed with how many puzzles they all managed to get through during their sessions.

Mr Ayres



Jigsaw Frenzy!

Last week saw Year 6 tackle Geography Takeaway homework and once again I have been overwhelmed by the enthusiasm shown for the tasks on offer. Jigsaws seem to have been the favourite this time, ranging from Lydia's angular dissection of the London Underground to Bea's beautiful boxed jigsaw of the panorama of London - I am thinking of recycling this one as a Christmas gift! A great deal of research went into Daniel's PowerPoint on the River Thames and Henry Walder's London Quiz was challenging and immaculately presented. Well done Year 6; I am looking forward to displaying your excellent efforts.

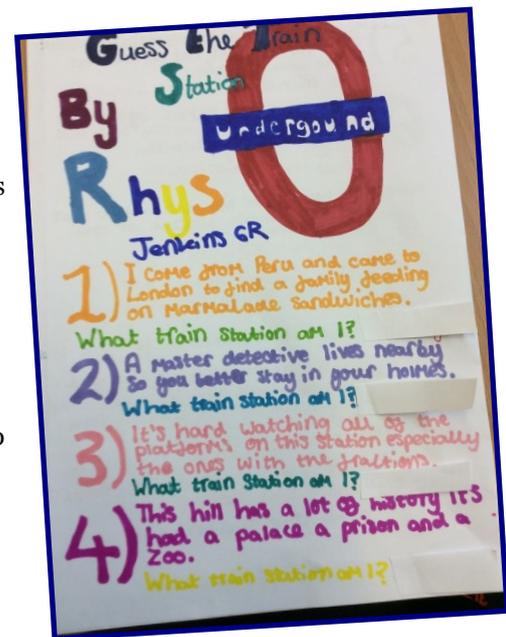
Mrs Thompson

App of the Week:

Numbers Game!



Inspired by our visit from the Happy Puzzle Company yesterday, and as a practice for the forthcoming House Maths events, I have chosen a Maths app for this week. Numbers Game! is a simple, yet highly addictive maths puzzle and brain training game. The aim is to reach the target number using any of the six numbers and operators $+$ $-$ \times \div . You can work your way through six albums with increasingly difficult questions in "Levels" mode or play against the clock in "Time Attack" mode. How many can you solve?



Primary Maths Challenge

Last Friday seventeen Year 6 pupils sat the 2017 Primary Maths Challenge. Aimed at the top 20% of pupils nationally, the Primary Maths Challenge tests both computation and comprehension and is traditionally sat by over 75,000 pupils.

Of the seventeen, Charles Appleyard and Clara Metcalfe scored well enough to receive a Silver Award whilst Daniel Raper achieved a Gold Award.

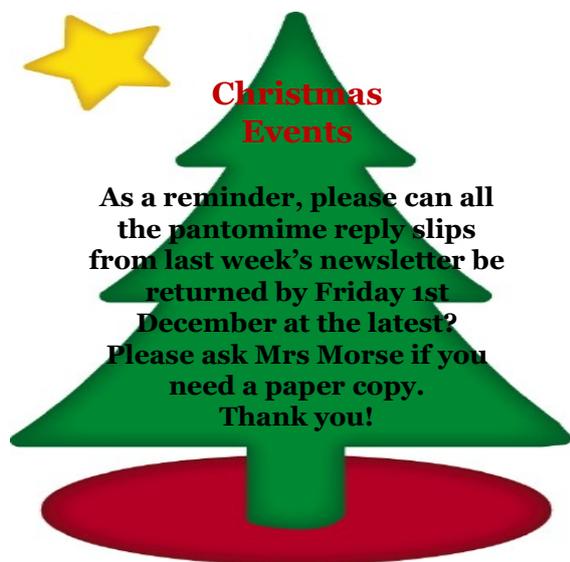
Daniel's score has been passed to the Mathematical Association for consideration for the next round in February, a sterling achievement!



Awards This Week:

Merit Certificates:

Olivia Harland, Hetty Barwick, Freydis Blake, Charlie Bridges, Archie Lanigan-O’Keeffe, Adam Lee, Isla MacConachie, Toby Rutherford, Zara Scott-Priestley, Freddie Wilks, Emily Coggrave, Ellie Derrick, Oscar Hewitt, Abygail Jameson, Molly Rendall, Joseph Robin Truss, Minnie Wilson, Jemima Burton, Gus Living, Ned Michelin, Freya Pinwill-Price, Harriet Robson, Jonny Royle, Bella Staley, Theo Tweddle, Isla Morgan, Oscar Bennett Collins, Bella Bland, Megan Brown, Fred Dullage, Mirabelle Harrison, Violet Heintz, Niamh Hennessy, Alex Metcalfe, Nicol White, Tom Body, Lewis Maunder-Brown, Kelvin Bell, Samuel Baker-Bird, Ethan Davis, Matthew Collinson, Henry Manley, Daniel Raper, Lydia Dixon, Bea Dolby, Harry Maguire, Joel Peart, Thomas Scott-Priestley, Harry Forrester, Arabella Milbank, Freya Turner, Henry Johnstone



Forthcoming Events

November

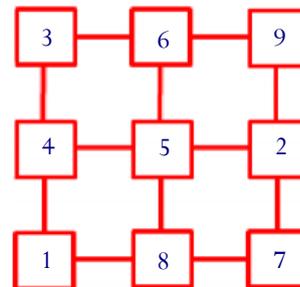
Fri 24 Years 5 & 6 House Hockey & Rugby, 1:45pm
 Sat 25 Exeat Weekend
 Sun 26 Exeat Weekend
 Mon 27 Christmas colouring competition opens
 Swimming Gala: U11 (H), 2pm
 Tues 28 Year 3 African Arts Evening, Atkinson Hall, 6:30pm
All Y3 pupils stay at School for tea

December

Fri 1 County Hockey: U11 (H), 1pm
 Wed 6 Christmas colouring competition closes
 Rugby v Mowden Hall: U10A (H), 3pm
 Hockey v Mowden Hall: U11A, U10A (H), 3pm
 Thurs 7 Reception class audiology tests
 Fri 8 Pre-Prep Nativity, Chapel, 2pm
 Sun 10 Boarders’ Carol Service, Chapel, 5pm followed by Christmas Dinner

Maths Puzzler

Well done to Joe Rutherford who solved last week’s puzzler, shown alongside. There were well over twenty solutions, can you find any more?



This week’s puzzler comes direct from the pages of the Primary Maths Challenge which seventeen Year 6 pupils sat last Friday. “My cat snoozes for 50 minutes each hour - how many hours a day does my cat snooze?”

As always, answers to me by next Wednesday please.

Good luck!

Mr Ayres

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