



BARNARD CASTLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The Barney Buzz

Friday 19th January 2018

Issue Number: 887

Headmistress's News

Our theme this week has been The Barney Way and we have looked carefully at the new Barney Way that has been implemented by the Prep School children; Be kind, Be polite, Be smart, Be organised, Be Respectful and our assemblies on Monday and Tuesday allowed the children to fully understand what wonderful qualities they already have and how these qualities that were initiated by them, help them with their journey through life. It is lovely to see that these characteristics that the children all have make them an impressive individual at such a young age.

Yesterday's snow flurry was just a wonderful example that demonstrated what a great team we really are, as we all rallied together awaiting for the arrival of staff and children. It was heartening to walk into assembly after helping to assist children up the drive to find Charlie Appleyard playing the piano and the Prep School children accompanying him by singing along together in the absence of Dr Harrison, and that quite simply is The Barney Way. Spontaneity was the key yesterday as we maximised the endless learning opportunities in the snow, with us even managing to squeeze a House Igloo building competition in just before lunch! Being involved in snowman building, snow angels, snow castles and the odd snowball being thrown with all the staff and children was so humbling and again reminds us all of how lucky we are to belong to such a special family.

Unfortunately our first Year 4 trip was cancelled to The Centre for Life, but this has been rearranged for Friday 9th February.

With more snow forecast for the weekend, I do hope that you all have a safe and extremely fun weekend together.

Laura Turner

Boarders News

On Saturday Mr Wicling entertained the boarders by hosting one of his 'classroom parties' during the morning. In the afternoon it was off to the sports hall for a game of "World Cup Willy". There was plenty of free time over the weekend for kicking a ball around and playing hide-and-seek around the campus too.

On Sunday afternoon we headed off to the advanced screening of *Coco* which everyone thoroughly enjoyed. A fresh deluge of snow during the week provided a short window of opportunity to play out in the cold white stuff after school. Indoor activities like board games and jigsaws, however, are very much in vogue during the dark cold evenings.

Mr Robson





We've got the right angle!

Year 3 were introduced to the 'angle family' this week during our Hall Maths sessions. Linked to their History topic 'Ancient Greece' the children have used their angle knowledge to create their own impressive Greek Labyrinth.



A light bulb moment!

Our Year 2 children had an enjoyable and informative lesson making electrical circuits in the Science Lab on Monday.

Initially some of the circuits failed to light a bulb and the children needed to find the fault which could be that the battery or bulb was not working or that they had wired the circuit incorrectly. It was interesting to find that adding one more battery to the circuit resulted in the bulb burning brighter. At the end of the lesson we connected a buzzer instead of the bulb before drawing a picture of the circuit and a circuit diagram with symbols to represent each section. In future lessons we will study materials that are conductors or insulators of electricity and make our own switches to make a break in the circuit. We will also design a simple device with a motor that can be incorporated into our circuits.



Kings for a day!

Year 4 have enjoyed celebrating epiphany and learning about 'La fete des rois'. They shared the galette and celebrated Isobel and Oscar as la reine and le roi, being the lucky finders of la feve.



Make it count!

This week in Maths we have been busy practising number bonds to ten and twenty with the aid of a tens frame. We have also begun work on our assembly, looking at the book Handa's Surprise and thinking of interesting adjectives to describe the fruit and the animals in the book. In History lessons we started looking at the features of castles and the children carefully labelled a diagram of a castle.



Stranger things have happened!

This week the Reception class have been talking about 'Stranger Danger'. With the help of role-play, we acted out some scenarios where we may encounter a stranger and all the children understood the importance of personal safety.
Mrs Rowlandson



CAT among the pigeons!

On Wednesday Year 6 descended on the M Block in Senior School for an afternoon of CAT testing. Cognitive Ability Testing not only forms an important part of Entrance Test preparations, but it also allows us to get to know our pupils even better - are they more visual learners? Do they have spatial or verbal bias? Are they fantastic creative thinkers? The results are being compiled and will give us a great insight into how our pupils learn best and where they need to focus their growth mindset. The pupils loved the computerised element and the more visual types of questions. A really positive afternoon!



... and relax!

Year 5 have enjoyed learning about relaxation and the importance of sleep. We had a meditation session where the children sat in a circle and listened to relaxing music. They chatted about how they felt before the meditation and after; I think they were pleasantly surprised how nice it was to 'forget about everything and relax'.



Snow way we're going to Newcastle!

Unfortunately due to weather conditions yesterday and the lack of Year 4 children, our trip to the Centre for Life has been postponed until Friday 9th February. Luckily, always ready for any situation, we took the opportunity for some creative writing. We headed out first thing, whiteboards and pens in hand,

prepared to use our brains to come up with some beautiful imagery to describe the snowy scenes. The children spent some time discussing the way snow makes them feel, what it does to our environment and the things we could hear. On our return to the classroom, we made mind maps and then got down to our descriptions; from 'We look like little people on top of a cake,' to 'the snow makes the world so quiet,' they all worked extremely hard.



A force of nature!

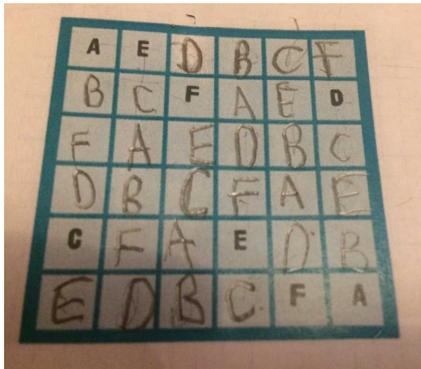
The children thoroughly enjoyed sledging using trays and bin bags yesterday during our Science lessons.

What a great demonstration of forces in action!



Maths Puzzler

Congratulations to Rhys James who solved last week's number Sudoku and to Mila Johnson who I know came very close! Merits to you both.



This week's puzzler is something of a historical one. I'd like to know what happened at 12:34 on the 5th June 1978? Answers as usual to me by next Wednesday.

Good luck!

Mr Ayres

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Awards This Week:

Special Mention Certificates:

Lilly Cassidy, Thomas Scott-Priestley, Vivi Gledhill, Sebastian Howard, Leo Rokk, Matilda Chapman, Harry Milbank, William Jackson-Ward, Alexander Howard, Sophia Hare, Niamh Hennessy, Theo Te Lintelo, Benjamin Loughney, Oscar Lawson, Emily Coggrave, Molly Rendall, Jemima Burton, Polly Heintz, Ethan Davis, Oliver Dickinson, Felicity Richardson, Sian Davidson, William Hutchinson, Annie Barker

French Trip Meeting for Parents

Date for your diary for those parents of Year 5 and 6 children who are going on the French trip - Wednesday 7th February Meeting for Parents at 6:30pm in the Atkinson Hall.



Forthcoming Events

January

Fri 19 ~~Year 5 & 6 House Netball & Football, 2pm~~
Cancelled—to be rescheduled

Tues 23 Year 3 Trip to the Bowes Museum

Wed 24 Year 6 trial tests

Thurs 25 House Singing for Years 3 to 6, Big School, 2pm
Parents welcome to come and support!

Fri 26 Woodwind assembly for pupils, 8:50am

Year 5 & 6 House Cross Country, 2pm

Sat 27 Exeat Weekend

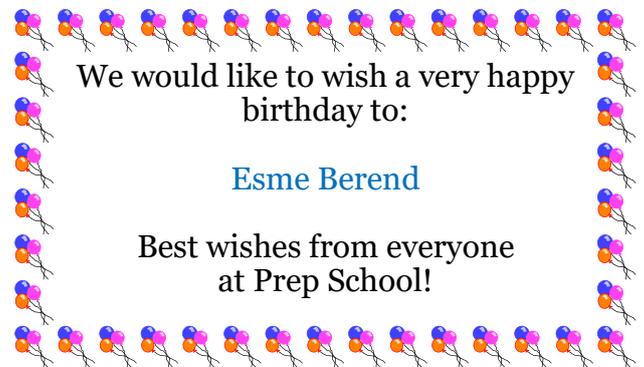
Sun 28 Exeat Weekend

Year 4 parents please note, the trip to the Centre for Life has been rearranged for Friday 9th February

Headmistress's Commendations:

Edith Smart
Theo Swan
James Nath
Fenella Heagerty
James Harburn
Jack Baptist
Freya Turner
Sophia Hare
Lucy Willsmore

Well done!



We would like to wish a very happy birthday to:

Esme Berend

Best wishes from everyone
at Prep School!

App of the Week



Collins Big Cat— Around the World

Inspired by our Reception Class, my app this week is aimed at the younger members of the school. This is an animated book for young readers by Collins. Children have several options: have the story read to them, read the story themselves, adapt the images to create their own story. They can write their own text or record their narrative. They also have opportunities to add speech bubbles and thought bubbles. It can be used to bring reading to life and create interactive books.



