



BARNARD CASTLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The Barney Buzz

Friday 11th May 2018

Issue Number: 899

Headmistress's News

I do hope you all enjoyed the very rare glorious Bank Holiday weekend that we had and it was great to welcome the children back to school on Tuesday. It seems the sun may have given the children a little boost as well, as I have been pleased this week to award many Headmistress's Commendations for a variety of excellent work, several Merit certificates, and more Special Mention certificates; despite only being back for a few weeks so much has been achieved already and the children have certainly set the tone for a successful, albeit short, term ahead.

Thirty six excited Year 4 children embarked on their trip to Gibside on Tuesday and what a fabulous time they all had, from geocaching to orienteering, low rope obstacle courses and natural art work, they certainly made the most of their time. My thanks must go to Miss White, Mr Wicling, Mr Ayres, Mr Joy and Miss Laverick for making the trip so memorable for the children.

This Thursday we see our spectacular cross-curricular Medieval Day and it certainly is set to be a memorable occasion for all with lots of exciting activities and, of course, a medieval banquet for lunch! I look forward to seeing all the fantastic costumes from both the children and staff.

Prep School Sports Day for pupils in Years 3 to 6 begins at 1pm on Friday 25th May. I am delighted that Mr Martin Burgess, our new Head of PE and Games from September, will also be attending and supporting the event, and this will give both you and your children the opportunity to get to know him better. Please arrive via the Senior School entrance where you will be directed to available car parking. On completion of the event we will present the Queen's Cup to the winning House, after which children will be free to depart for half term. We look forward to welcoming parents, family and friends to an action packed afternoon.

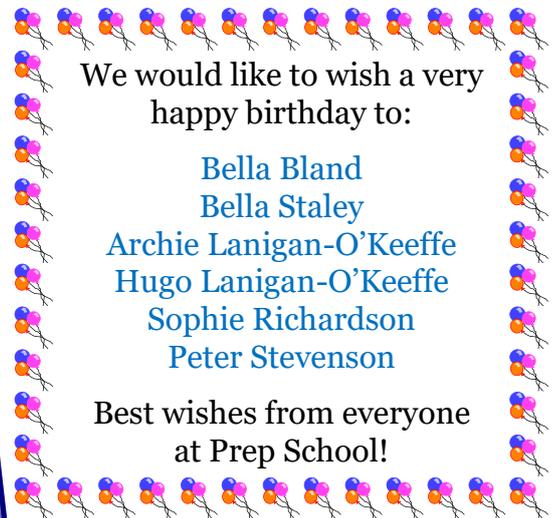
Have a great weekend.

Laura Turner

Boarders News

The Trinity Term is flying by and the boarders enjoyed a great exeat with their families over the sunny bank holiday weekend. Upon their return on Monday night, we enjoyed a fun game of rounders, making the most of the mild, long evenings. We like to encourage building links within the community and a number of the boarders have also registered for Barney Cricket Club and are enjoying attending practices on Wednesday evenings.

Mr Robson



Great grading!

On Sunday 22nd April there was a kup grading taekwondo exam held for coloured belt students at Butterknowle village hall. Bertie Swan, Toby Rutherford, Nathan Willoughby-Brown, Dougie Ross, Dexter Thomas and Adam Lee were all successfully promoted to yellow tag. Joe Arnold was promoted to red tag and Evie Wicling to yellow tag at the previous grading exam. Many congratulations to all who took part as exams can seem daunting, however, your hard work and perseverance has paid off. You should feel very proud of yourselves! Well done.

Jennie Lee, 5th Dan Taekwondo Instructor



Terrific team-work!

Year 3 have been combining their knowledge of shape and angles with learning to measure accurately, so as to plan how much railing would be needed to turn our stage from a pentagon into a square. Some great team-work and lateral thinking!



Reminder!

All pupils need to be in smart uniform for the class photographs this Monday 14th May. Say cheese!

I do like to be beside the seaside!

Linked to our 'Seaside' topic, Year 1 have been watching black and white videos of Victorian seaside holidays. They were then able to compare similarities and differences between seaside holidays from the past to the seaside holidays today. This week we focused primarily on transport to the seaside and the children drew and labelled wonderful pictures.

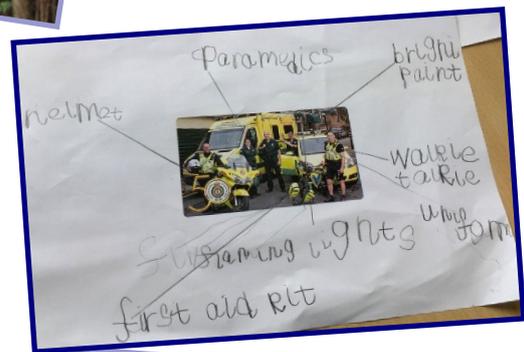
Fun at Forest School!

Year 3 have been continuing to learn about the trees in our Forest School area. They each chose a favourite and created clay faces as gifts for their new friends! Some amazing art and an interesting foray into ancient folklore!



Fun facts!

Reception class children are always full of interesting facts. This week they have found another outlet for them. We have been looking at the difference between fiction and non-fiction books and creating pages of factual writing. The children made a class book, so if you have questions about anything from dogs to fossils, we have the answers!



Four Go to Gibside!

Following the glorious weather of the Bank Holiday, thirty six very excited children and five merry teachers departed for our first over-night excursion away from school. Gibside was a perfect location for Year 4 being a site with lots of open space and woods to explore and not too many people for us to run into!

The whole trip was action-packed and we kept the children on their toes from the moment we arrived until our very late bedtime. The morning began with an 'Art in Nature' quest which took us across the whole estate, exploring our creative side with colour, sculpture and drawing. Initially we used mud, grass and flowers to recreate scenes from around the lake. Following this we walked towards the Stable Block where we were staying, and created colour cards using natural objects to demonstrate the selection of colours available in our surroundings. We explored texture with bark rubbings and finally completed the morning with natural sculptures created from things in the woods.

After a much needed picnic lunch we headed out to go geo caching which involved us working in teams to locate the GPS coordinates and complete a challenge at each point. This adventure took us all around the site and we eventually covered about 8 miles of the whole estate. Boys took on girls in this epic challenge, and although the boys beat us back to the Stables, we felt that the girls had understood that this was a lesson in listening and working together effectively (more so than the boys!). Now quite exhausted, we returned to the Stable Block (not a horse to be seen, just a very large cow!) and created our own wooden medal memento of the trip. Choosing beds was next, a most tricky challenge in itself, before wolfing down our pizza and brownies.

Not done with the walking, as dusk approached, we headed into the mysterious West Woods for fire making and den building. Along the way we collected wood of all shapes and sizes ready to be thrown onto the fire. Our guide talked us through the history of fire and we all attempted to set fire to a pharmacy's worth of cotton wool using a modern flint and steel. Conquering this, without setting fire to the forest, we set about the task of building a den fit for a king or queen using the handily available logs and branches. To rebuild our energy we returned to the fire for the inevitable burning of marshmallows to be eaten with biscuits and chocolate. Suitably reinvigorated, we completed the dens before the walk back to our beds. Faces washed and teeth brushed, we settled down for a couple of chapters of *The Demon Headmaster Strikes Back*, before turning off the lights and trying to get some sleep.

Up bright and early the next morning, after a hearty breakfast of bacon rolls, we moved on to another map challenge, as the children, in House groups this time, tried to find the Low Ropes Course! After some inevitable wrong turns, all made it to begin our adventures which varied from a swinging rope bridge to a Tarzan-style leap of faith. The group worked really well together, shouting encouragement and proffering the occasional rope or hand.

After a swift lunch break we spent the final afternoon in the Strawberry Castle Play Park completing the experience with the highly anticipated visit to the shop!

I was overwhelmingly impressed by the behaviour, the attitude and enjoyment of the children, certainly making this one of the best trips I have been on. My thanks to Mr Wicling, Mr Ayres, Mr Joy and Miss Laverick for participating with just as much enthusiasm as the children and agreeing to spend their time away with us all. **Miss White**



Barney Friends

Calling all den-builders!

It's that time of year when we get all creative with some outdoor construction... Barney Friends' annual Den-Building Day takes place on Sunday 20th May. We start at 10.30am and there will be bacon sandwiches (£2 each), tea, coffee and juice on offer during the morning. Everyone is welcome to come along and build their own den, as a family or by teaming up with friends. In the meantime, we need materials! All donations of pallets, planks, branches, rope, tarpaulins and plastic sheeting will be put to good use. All materials can be dropped off at school from today – please leave them at the bottom of the school drive, on the left hand side on the grass. Thank you in advance.

Barney Friends' meeting

Please note that next week's meeting will take place on Wednesday 16th May rather than Friday 18th as previously advertised. We meet at Clarendon's after drop-off – all welcome!

Save the dates for Sports Day bakes

Our two Sports Days take place on Friday 25th May (Prep) and Thursday 21st June (Pre-Prep). As is tradition, Barney Friends will be serving refreshments and, once again, we're asking parents if they'd be kind enough to donate sweet and savoury bakes to sell on the day. Please bring any donations to the Prep School kitchen on each Sports Day morning.

Fete update

We will be sending out information in the coming days about how to enter some exciting competitions at the Prep School Fete, as well as an appeal for items for stalls. The Fete takes place on **Saturday 16th June**, from 1pm-4pm, so please save this date too!

Moving on up!

This week Year 2 started their 'Moving up Challenge' which is designed to get the children ready for moving up into Year 3! The challenges include tying ties, doing up shoe laces, keeping their belongings organised and tidy, demonstrating independence and completing homework on time.

It has been wonderful to see the children coming into the classroom independently and putting away all their belongings before getting on with their morning tasks.

On Thursday, Hetty very proudly demonstrated to the rest of the class her ability to tie a tie neatly. It was a great achievement so early in the term. All of the children have earned some stars this week which count towards their end of term total. Well done Year 2!



Headmistress's Commendations:

Fiore Catellani
Dylan Dougal
Alex Banner
Hetty Barwick
Bertie Swan
Charlotte Owens
Finlay Toyne
Ella Turner
Rhys James
Rhys Jenkins
Celine Jolley
Henry Manley
Felicity Richardson
Archie Rickard
Louise Newcombe

Well done!

Drum in the sun!

During recent sunny times many music lessons and activities have happened on our new bandstand area. Maddy Forsyth jumped at the chance to run her lunchtime djembe club in the sun much to the delight of the pupils. **Dr Harrison**



Cuddly toys needed!

Year 2 are having a teddy bear stall at the Summer Fete and would love some cuddly toys to raffle. Please could you have a look at home to see if you have any toys in nice condition that you would like to donate. We promise to find them a good home! Thank you in advance. **Class 2P**



Sail away!

The Year 5s have now finished their 'Viking boats' ready to see if they float next week. They have learnt lots of skills along the way and they have thoroughly enjoyed the challenge. In Maths



they have started presenting their Lunar Theme Parks and the first three were spectacular. We look forward to hearing the remaining ones in the next few days.

Year 6 are very persuasive!

Year 6 have been looking at persuasive techniques as part of their work on Michael Morpurgo's Private Peaceful. They explored how emotive language, alliteration, rhetorical questions and a number of other strategies were deployed by recruitment officers during the war and set about identifying examples in the text. Building on this, they will be set the task of arguing why you should not go to war, linking in with Mrs Robertson's fledgling debating program.



Awards This Week:

Special Mention Certificates:

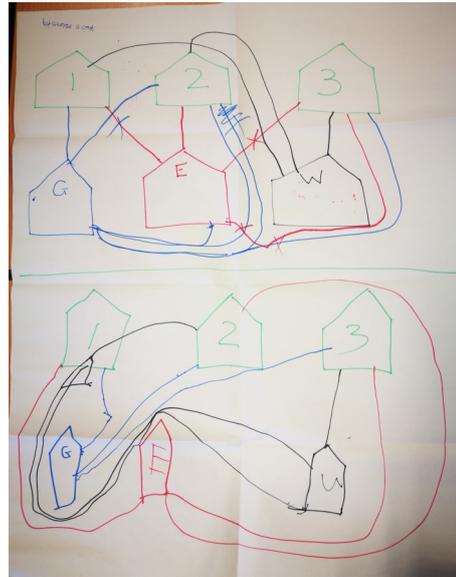
James Nath, Caitlyn McLean, Finley Cable-Jones, Rory Metcalf, Georgina Chapman, Henry Johnstone, Benjamin Dixon, Alexander Howard, Charlotte Blenkinson, Bella Bland, Nicol White, William Banner, Benjamin Loughney, Emily Coggrave, Luke Banner, Kelvin Bell, Polly Heintz, Joseph Green, Euan Metcalf, Sian Davidson, Celine Jolley, Annie Barker, Rhys James

Merit Certificates:

Lilly Cassidy, Teddy Hall, James Harburn, Olivia Harland, Fenella Heagerty, Annabel Jackson, James Nath, Isabelle Shield, Theo Swan, Hugo Thompson, Freya Turner, Francesca Wilks, Olivia Hall, Benjamin French, Dougie Ross, Lottie Baptist, Lauren Baxter, Kelvin Bell, Jemima Burton, Emily England, George Goad, Jake Lawson, Gus Living, Freya Pinwill-Price, Harriet Robson, Jonny Royle, Harry Sinclair, Bella Staley, Theo Tweddle, Dominick Armstrong, Harriet Hatton, Arabella Milbank, Thomas Scott-Priestley, Edith Smart, Flora Whitaker, Ed Wicling, Hetty Barwick, Freydis Blake, Georgina Chapman, Matilda Chapman, Archie Lanigan-O'Keeffe, Hugo Lanigan-O'Keeffe, Alexander Milbank, Leo Rokk, Toby Rutherford, Zara Scott-Priestley, Bertie Swan, Dexter Thomas, Freddie Wilks, Nathan Willoughby-Brown, Rocco Catellani, Henry Johnstone, Harry Milbank, Louise Newcombe, Finlay Toyne, Freddie Harland, Alexander Howard, Matilda Owens, Joe Rutherford, Alex Banner, Charlie Bridges, Adam Lee, Joseph Stephenson, Joseph Robin Truss, Joseph Green, Archie Pepper, Thea Wilks, Annie Barker, Lydia Dixon, Clara Metcalfe

Maths Puzzler

Last week's puzzler was certainly challenging, with George Goad coming closest with this attempt. The colour coding is a great idea to help spot clashes.



This week's puzzler comes from Mensa. Which of the following numbers is the odd one out?

651 853 734 642 526 413

Answers to me by next Wednesday please. Best of luck!

Mr Ayres

sta@barneyschool.org.uk



Forthcoming Events

May

- Fri 11 Prep School Open Morning, 9:30-11:30
Rounders v Red House: U11 (A), 2:15
(addition to the calendar)
- Sat 12 Senior School Open Morning, 9:30-11:30
Cricket v Mowden Hall: U11 (A), 2:00 (d12:30)
- Mon 14 Class Photographs
Pupils in full school uniform please
LAMDA Examinations
Cricket v Durham High School: U10 (A), **2:30**
(change of time)
- Tues 15 LAMDA Examinations
- Wed 16 Barney Friends' Meeting, Clarendon's, 8:45
- Thurs 17 Medieval Day
Pupils in medieval costumes please
- Fri 18 Cricket: U11 (H), 1:00
Rounders v Bow School: U11 (H), 2:15
- Sun 20 Barney Friends' Den Building Day, 10:30

App of the Week

Geo Quiz

Year 4 are currently researching a country of their choice from around Europe 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!





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MEDIAEVAL DAY

On Thursday 17th May, Barnard Castle Prep School will be transported back to Medieval times and we would like to invite all pupils to join us on our historical adventure. This will be a chance for the children to dress up and enjoy the day's festivities.

Will they be a knight in shining armour, a jester, a fine lady, squire, crusader, peasant or monk? It's up to them!

It's set to be an action packed day for them all with live entertainment, workshops and a chance to learn more about life in Medieval times.

We are looking forward to this historical day!