



BARNARD CASTLE  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

# The Barney Buzz

Friday 18th May 2018

Issue Number: 900

## Headmistress's News

Greetings and good morrow fair ones, yesterday's Medieval day was an absolute privilege to be part of and so many memories were created for all. The effort that had gone into costumes was tremendous and the day's events that unfolded from our knight in shining armour on Blue the horse, to our spinners and weavers, catapult making, our falconry display, the wonderful arts and crafts and of course our Medieval banquet – 'twas most splendid! Many images of the day have been captured which can be seen on our website and Facebook pages.

Our School Council have been busy helping to plan the Summer Fete along with the Barney Friends which takes place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June. I know the classes are working hard to get their stalls ready so any support for the children with what they may need would be greatly appreciated.

As we approach the end of another busy half term I would like to remind you of a few major events that parents are warmly invited to attend:

**Den Building Day** - I look forward to seeing many of you on Sunday at 10.30am for a morning of creativity arranged by the Barney Friends. I know many of the children are looking forward to creating their dens around the school and utilising them in the final weeks of the term.

**Help for Heroes Cricket Festival** – All parents and pupils are welcome to enjoy an afternoon of cricket, hosting the Heroes Cricket Team at 11.00am at Senior School.

**Prep School Sports Day** - Sports Day for pupils in Years 3 to 6 begins at 1pm on Friday 25th May. Parents should use the Senior School entrance from where they will be directed to 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.

**Rock Bottom** - The Years 5 and 6 play is fast approaching. Attached to this week's email is a ticket request form for the play. Due to Health and Safety Regulations, numbers are restricted and therefore tickets are on a first come, first served basis. If you would like to attend, please return the slip to Mrs Morse as soon as possible.

We look forward to welcoming you at all events. Have a lovely weekend.

**Laura Turner**

## Boarders News

The boarders had a lovely treat on Tuesday night courtesy of Mr Joy. Following on from a conversation with a Year 3 pupil about the colour of egg shells, Mr Joy promised to show us that they all taste the same. Thus the next day we were given a huge number of eggs in a vast array of colours and shapes. All of our boarders enjoyed sampling the dippy eggs with soldiers. It really was a wonderful evening and the eggs, whatever the colour, were a massive hit. We would like to say a big thank you to Mr Joy for our supper!

On Saturday morning Mr Ayres and Miss McNulty took the prep boarders on a lovely countryside walk along the river to Eggleston Abbey. They thoroughly enjoyed getting out in the fresh air and skimming stones into the Tees. In the afternoon Mrs Bale came over to Old Courts to help make some decadent rocky road. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the weather and taking the chance to mess around in the sandpit! Sunday afternoon was about facing up to their fears and stepping out of their comfort zone. It was fantastic to see some many of the junior boarders practise their bravery as well as support and encourage one another as we tackled a high ropes confidence challenge at Adrenalin, North Yorkshire. The first exercise was abseiling, this was followed by the crate challenge (familiar to those who have been to Robinwood) and then finally to the climbing wall. **Mr Robson**



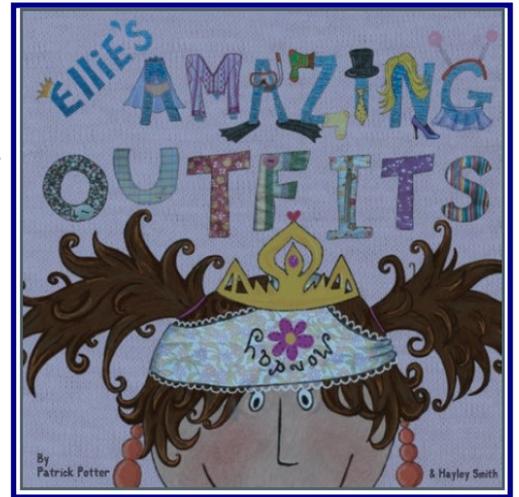
## You Spin Me Right Round!

We had a whirly afternoon investigating air resistance and gravity this week, to contribute to our work in Science. The children participated with their usual high level of enthusiasm and enjoyment as I hope can be seen from the pictures! We made paper spinners using a template and worked in pairs to complete an investigation. During this the children designed four different spinners and timed them to see which landed the fastest. Following on from this we worked out the average time taken for each design. They were able to conclude which was the most aerodynamic, what affect adding paper clips had on the time taken and whether changing the propeller shape had an impact.



## Illustrator visit

On Monday 21st May Hayley Rachel Smith is coming into school to talk to the children in assembly about a children's book she has recently illustrated, Ellie's Amazing Outfits. Hayley will give a reading from the book and answer any questions the children have. There is also the opportunity to buy a signed copy of the book on the day and an order form is attached with today's email giving further details.



## 999, what's your emergency?!

Reception class enjoyed a super visit from Sergeant Turner and his police car this week. All the children tried on the police jackets and helmets and listened carefully to Sergeant Turner's description of all the different parts of his uniform and accessories, such as walkie-talkies and handcuffs! Everyone had a chance to sit in the police car and turn on the sirens too! A fantastic afternoon was had by all and thanks to Sergeant Turner for giving up his time to visit us.

**Mrs Rowlandson**



## Barney Friends

### Den-builders descend

We're looking forward to a sunny Den-Building Day on Sunday. Please meet at Prep School from 10.30am. We will be building on the grass and among the trees on either side of the school drive – thank you to Claire Dixon and Staley Stonework for their donations of materials. Bacon sandwiches (£2 each), tea, coffee and juice will be available during the morning. Everyone is welcome to come along and build their own den, as a family or by teaming up with friends. If your construction is likely to need tools, please bring your own.

### Save the Dates for Sports Day Bakes

Our two Sports Day take place next **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May** (Prep) and on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> June** (Pre-Prep). Donations of sweet and savoury bakes will be gratefully received, please deliver to the Prep School Kitchen on each Sports Day morning.

### Fete update

Plans are coming together well for the Summer Fete on **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June**, from 1pm-4pm, and the children are getting very excited. Attached to this newsletter are two pieces of information: one explains the exciting competitions the children can enter (including one for mums and dads!), the other is an appeal for various items for stalls. We'd be very grateful if you would take the time to read them.

## Sports News

### Rounders v Red House: U11

On Friday some of the Year 5 and 6 pupils had a Rounders match against Red House. The U11s had a great start, scoring 15 rounders to Red House's 7 in the first innings. Bowling from Tally Hayward was particularly strong, along with Bea Dolby and Annie Barker showing secure hands. The final score was 24-16 to Barney. The U10s had a closer game, scoring 10 rounders to Red House's 9½ in the first innings. The second innings was just as close but some excellent batting from Minnie Wilson and Sophie McGill meant we just snatched the win. The final score being 17½-17 to Barney. Still plenty to work on but a great start to the Rounders season. Well done girls!

**Mrs Summerson-Brown**

### Cricket v Mowden Hall: U11

On Saturday, we took our U11 cricket team to Mowden Hall. It was a beautiful afternoon and we were well supported from the Barney parents. In the pairs format, we got off to a blistering start with the bat and continued to play with composure. Few wickets were lost and our running between the wickets was very aggressive. After our 24 overs we managed a competitive total of 84 which we were very pleased with. In reply our bowling was accurate and we were more tenacious in the field, although this did get a little excitable at times! A late flourish got them to 81 at the close of their innings, a well-deserved victory.

**Mr Wicling**

### Girls' Cricket v Durham High School: U10

On Monday the Year 5 girls went to Durham High for their first cricket fixture. Most were bowling overarm and there was some super striking from all. Hopefully the girls enjoyed their introduction to the game and will look forward to more matches in the future.

**Mr Wicling**

## A Floating Success!

The Year 5s made the most of the sunshine on Tuesday afternoon when they tested out their Viking boats. It was lovely to see the range of ideas they had and every single boat managed to float. Some children managed to put a sail on their creations and others went for a sturdier choice.

I was pleased to see lots of clove hitch knots and excellent weaving when lashing their sticks together. A super project, well done!



## Walk like an Egyptian!

Year 3 have embraced their 'Ancient Egyptian' topic in History and Geography and have been looking at artefacts and sources to help gain vital evidence of the past over the last couple of weeks. This week we have had great fun exploring the different roles that Ancient Egyptians would have had. We decided that being architects and stone masons would have been quite fun if we couldn't all be a Pharaoh! Next week mummification!

## Left, right, left, right ...

The Year 1 children have been busy in Maths learning their left from their right. Due to the glorious weather, we took our learning outside and played lots of games related to position and direction. The children particularly enjoyed playing the role of the teacher and giving instructions involving directions for the rest of the class to follow.



## Fractions fun!

Year 6 spent the early part of this week using origami to explore fractions. By folding horizontally, vertically and diagonally pupils had to get the symbols on the outside to meet up in the middle. It certainly resulted in some creative folding! It was great to see pupils persevering and taking the task home to continue!



## Perfect pastels!

Year 2 have been learning about life on the Isle of Coll. They created these beautiful pictures of Hebridean cottages by blending pastels and looking carefully at images of the islands.



## Sports Day

A reminder that we finish half term next Friday with our annual Athletics Sports Day. The events will start at 1pm on the school fields. Please go to the Senior School drive where you will be directed to parking. There will be refreshments available throughout the afternoon. All children in Years 3 to 6 will need to come to school in their full PE kit and tracksuit. They will not require their school uniform. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Whole Prep School Photograph

All pupils were given a photograph order form on Wednesday. If you would like to order a copy of the Prep School group photograph, please complete and return the order form by next **Friday 25th May** at the latest.

If you miss this deadline, you can still order directly from Tempest but this does incur a postage/late order fee. A copy of the group photograph is up in the lobby outside Mrs Morse's office if you would like to have a look or you can view it on the Tempest website: [www.tempest-groups.co.uk](http://www.tempest-groups.co.uk) using password 220015 and search for Barnard Castle Prep School.



## Awards This Week:

### Merit Certificates:

William Jackson-Ward, Freddie Whitaker, Oscar Bennett Collins, Megan Brown, Grace Dickinson, Mirabelle Harrison, Violet Heintz, Henry Jenkinson, Jacob Thomas, Sophie Winnard, Emily Davidson, Isabel Fall, Isobel Heagerty, Benjamin Loughney, Anna Metcalf, Dermot Metcalf, Frankie Preston, Jessica Raper, Isabel Warren, Evie Wicling, Kieran Armstrong, Sofia Wilson, Joe Arnold, Luke Banner, Esme Berend, Tom Body, Emily Coggrave, Ellie Derrick, Lucy Harburn, Oscar Hewitt, Abigail Jameson, Lewis Maunder-Brown, Sophie McGill, Molly Rendall, Oliver Stubbs, Minnie Wilson, Zara Dobson, Polly Heintz, Ned Michelin, Talitha Hayward, Euan Metcalf, Matthew Collinson, Daniel Raper, Felicity Richardson, Archie Rickard, Henry Walder, Bea Dolby, Freddie Ross-Mitchell

## Maths Puzzler

Congratulations to George Goad, Mila Johnson and Benjamin French who all worked out the odd one out. Which of the following numbers is the odd one out?

**651 853 734 642 526 413**

In each of the numbers above the last digit is made by subtracting the second digit from the first ( $6-5=1$ ). The only one that does not fit that pattern is 526!

This week I'd like you to continue this sequence from famous 13th century mathematician Leonardo of Pisa. What are the next three terms and why?

**1,1,2,3,5,8,13...**

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

**Mr Ayres**

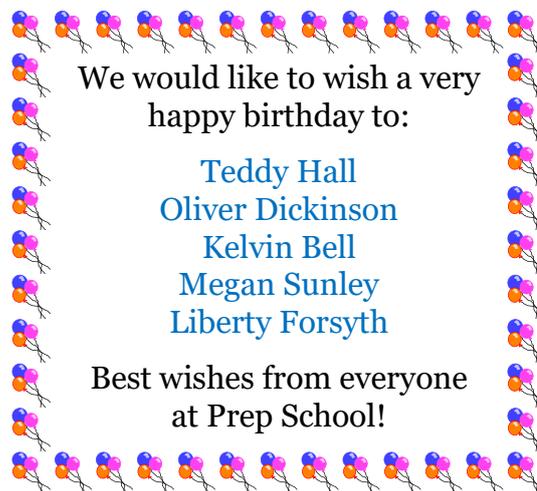
sta@barneyschool.org.uk



## App of the Week

### Music Sparkles

In honour of the play and the importance of the music in the production, I have included a musical app this week. Music Sparkles brings a world of music to your fingertips. From piano and xylophones to electric guitars - just tap and play. Enjoy spectacular sparkles created by your own music as you play. With the large collection of musical instruments, you will be able to develop your musical talent!



We would like to wish a very happy birthday to:

**Teddy Hall**  
**Oliver Dickinson**  
**Kelvin Bell**  
**Megan Sunley**  
**Liberty Forsyth**

Best wishes from everyone at Prep School!

## Forthcoming Events

### May

- Fri 18 Cricket: U11 (H), 1:00pm  
Rounders v Bow School: U11 (H), 2:15pm  
Sun 20 Barney Friends' Den Building Day, 10:30am  
Mon 21 Illustrator Hayley Rachel Smith visiting  
Upper Sixth Ex-Prep School Leavers' Lunch  
Atkinson Hall, 12:15pm  
Girls' Cricket v Durham High: U11A (A), 3:30  
Tues 22 Year 3 Orienteering at the Bowes Museum  
Fri 25 Sports Day for Years 3 to 6, 1pm  
Boarders' parent/teacher meetings, 3:45pm  
Half Term begins at the end of the school day

### June

- Sun 3 Boarders' return, 4pm  
Mon 4 Second half of term begins

## Headmistress's Commendations:

Freddie Whitaker  
William Jackson-Ward  
Annabel Jackson  
Sofia Wilson  
Fenella Heagerty  
Hugo Thompson  
Isla Morgan

**Well done!**



## Marvellous Medieval Merriment!

There was great excitement in Prep School yesterday, as staff and pupils were transported back to Medieval Times and totally immersed in a day of historical re-enactment. Uniforms were replaced by a blaze of colour, as children and adults arrived in an array of fabulous costumes from princesses to crusaders, monks to jesters and even the odd dragon! Flags flew in the playground and to everyone's delight a knight in shining armour arrived, riding his horse and accompanied by his squire. He soon put his trusty steed 'Blue' through his paces, training for battle and displaying great horsemanship on the school fields.

In the Atkinson Hall our pupils were joined by two very talented ladies, Lynn and Val, who with great dexterity demonstrated their spinning and weaving skills. They showed the children how the fleece first had to be combed to straighten out the fibres, before being spun into thread. This was then woven on a loom. It was great fun having a go at weaving and many of the children were so absorbed that they could have continued for the rest of the day!

Outside in Forest School many of our pupils had a go at flag making. First a sapling was split, and then a piece of calico was inserted before binding the wood together with string. Mrs Michelin demonstrated how a pattern could be transferred to the calico by placing leaves on it and pounding them with stones. The artwork created in this way was incredibly varied and surprisingly delicate!

In the Art Room, Mrs Small and her band of followers practised candle dipping and created some traditional candles. Wax was heated in a melting pot and, when liquefied, the children took it in turns dipping string wicks. Working in a circular motion the wax built up in layers until rustic candles formed.

Behind Longfield Boarding House our younger pupils demonstrated their archery and jousting skills. Luckily we had a band of merry men and several Robin Hoods who mastered the technique of using the bow and arrow and were soon hitting the target nearly every time!

In the Science Lab, Mr Langley showed the children how to construct model crossbows using everyday objects such as pencils, elastic bands and bull dog clips. They worked surprisingly well and with great accuracy!

In Pre-Prep there was great hilarity and excitement as the children created jester's hats, complete with bells and lots of sparkles! Outside was a land of imagination and adventure where dragons lurked and a sorcerer cast his evil spells. In the Music Room, Dr Harrison and his classes learned about instruments used in the Medieval Times in a typical Estampie dance as well as listening to monastic chants and studying Medieval notation. The children sang an adaptation of 'When a Knight Won His Spurs' which is one of our school favourites! The older children also used glockenspiels and xylophones at the outdoor stage area to create an ostinato rhythm (repeated pattern) on a drone (sustained low pitch), both of which are typical techniques found in dances of the Medieval era.

Soon it was time for a Medieval feast and what an occasion it was! Two hogs heads complete with apples adorned the top table and, in Houses, the children dined together. Platters of food were delivered to each table and everyone was soon tucking into roast pork with all the trimmings, followed by fruit crumble and custard. The Year 6 children said grace in Latin and Mrs Turner gave the toast thanking Marcus Baker, our catering manager, and his staff for a marvellous feast. In the background Medieval music added to the ambience.

In the afternoon the children had another surprise as they were treated to talks and a flying display by Walworth Birds of Prey. It was magical watching the birds in flight and being able to get close to them. A highlight was when a group of children were asked to lie down and Frankie the Harris Hawk flew over them with only centimetres to spare. Soon it was the end of a very busy and exciting day which we hope our pupils will remember for many years to come! I would like to say thank you to Castle Players for lending us some props and to all our visitors for their contributions. Also, thank you for the hard work of all the staff who made it a day to remember.

**Mrs Priestley**

