



BARNARD CASTLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The Barney Buzz

Friday 23rd November 2018

Issue Number: 916

Headmistress's News

The Christmas trees arrived in school today, Nativity rehearsals are well underway, carols are being sung and with only 31 sleeps to go until Christmas Day, 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 13th 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 our annual whole school trip? Should you need another copy of this form it can be obtained from the Newsletter section of the website.

The House Hockey and Rugby matches for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 were enjoyed by all despite the cold and misty weather. Grenville were successful in both the Year 3 and 4 Rugby and Year 5 and 6 Hockey, Gilbert in the Year 3 and 4 Hockey and Drake in the Year 5 and 6 Rugby. Very well done to all; great team spirit was shown throughout. I will be away from school on Tuesday and Wednesday next week, so any queries or concerns in my absence may be directed to Mr Langley.

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

On Saturday a couple of very familiar faces spent the day with the prep boarders: Mrs Stewart and Miss White had a lovely day being creative around the house, building dens around the sofa and generally relaxing.

On Sunday many of the junior boarders faced their fears at Adrenalin in North Yorkshire with some high-ropes adventures.



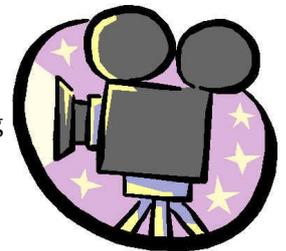
The activities were deliberately designed to focus upon team work and building trust. Although it was a particularly cold afternoon I was so impressed with their perseverance and positive and mutually encouraging attitudes. The boarders are looking forward to the family weekend and a chance to relax with family and friends once again.

Mr Robson

Festive films!

A little advance notice for you all, School Council are planning to hold a series of film 'nights' in the last week of term. As there are no clubs taking place that week, children are welcome to join in with their friends and watch a festive film with a hot chocolate and some popcorn from 3:30pm to 5pm (so pupils can travel home on the school bus). We will charge £2 per child to go towards the cost of the nibbles.

Pre-Prep - Monday 10th December - Nativity
Years 3 & 4 - Tuesday 11th December - The Grinch
Years 5 & 6 - Wednesday 12th December - Nativity



Glass half full!

It was with great excitement that our Year 2 children set off on their long anticipated journey to The National Glass Centre in Sunderland. A wide walkway led into the depths of the museum and at the bottom, our guide was there waiting to greet us and take us to a beautiful schoolroom which was to be our base for the day. Yenina explained that linked to 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. The children conducted experiments linked to melting and dissolving and I was delighted that everyone made sensible predictions and remembered the scientific vocabulary that we have used in recent weeks. We even learnt some new vocabulary including soluble, insoluble and non-Newtonian fluid. The next activity was a highlight of the day as we were given the opportunity to see a beautiful glass snowman being blown in the glass studio. He was decorated with a huge floppy hat and a colourful scarf. 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 had a little family waiting for him in the display case. At lunch time we had a lovely packed lunch in the school room followed by a delicious 'Children in Need' cookie. In the afternoon the children created designs for a glass tile. Their task was to stick down mosaic pieces and frit (small grains of glass) with a special glue to create colourful pictures. These glass tiles will soon be fired at 8500C and the glass will fuse creating a smooth surface. The designs were all very imaginative and included Christmas Scenes, WWI emblems, Pudsey Bears and beautiful patterns. Thank you to Miss Laverick and Miss Penny for accompanying us and making it a special day to remember.

Mrs Priestley



Whittle while you work!

If you went down to the woods on Tuesday you'd have been in for a big surprise! Year 5 spent a wet afternoon in Barningham Woods as part of their Forest School curriculum. They made some amazing dens, found some excellent hiding places and even explored the Gruffalo's Cave!

Mrs Shearn was very proud of their fantastic attitudes and the fact that they didn't let the cold or wet spoil their fun. Let's hope Group 2 show the same positivity next week.



We would like to wish a very happy birthday to:

**Lewis Maunder-Brown,
John Turnbull, Felicity Lineton,
Oscar Hewitt, Freddie Wilks,
Jessie Burgess**

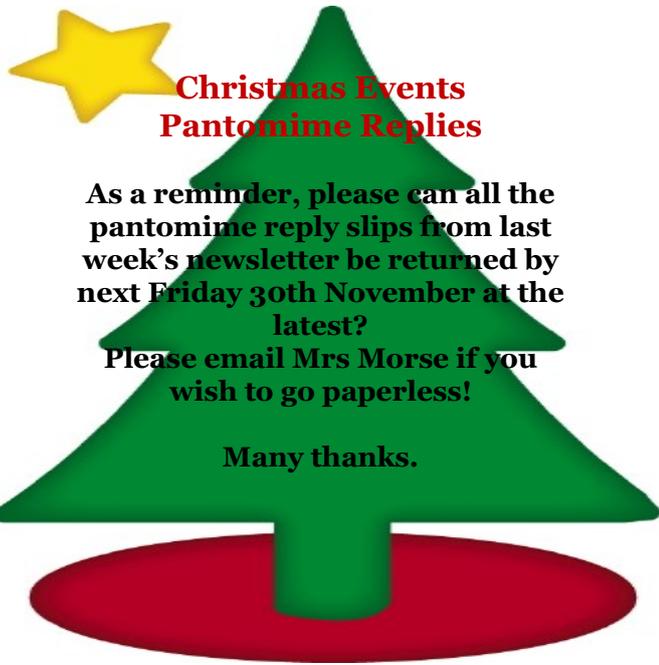
Best wishes from everyone
at Prep School!

Wait a minute Mr Postman!

The Christmas Prep School post box arrives on Friday 30th November. 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.





Christmas Events Pantomime Replies

As a reminder, please can all the pantomime reply slips from last week's newsletter be returned by next Friday 30th November at the latest?

Please email Mrs Morse if you wish to go paperless!

Many thanks.

Thank you!

Last Friday our school councillors arranged a fabulous fundraising event to support Children in Need. The whole school enjoyed a day in 'home clothes', not forgetting eating scrumptious 'spotty' cookies at morning break and having the opportunity to guess the number of sweets in a jar. After a lot of counting, the winner, Zara Scott-Priestley was announced and she is now enjoying her delicious treats. The day raised a total of £270.10 going to a wonderful charitable cause. Many thanks for all of your donations and ongoing support.



Lighting the way!

Barnard Castle Town Council would like all children in the town to decorate lanterns and take them to the Christmas lights switch on in town next Friday 30th November. All children will be bringing one home today. This is an optional task and if they would like to decorate it and take it along that would be much appreciated. If you are not attending, they can still decorate one and bring it into the art room for Mrs Turner to take.



Stick with it!

Year 1 have enjoyed working in their different Houses to compete in this week's House Maths challenge. They showed great teamwork and enjoyed racing against the clock to answer as many addition questions as possible. What amazing Mathematicians we have in Year 1! In English, we started looking at the book 'Stick Man' and wrote messages in a bottle. In Forest School, the children enjoyed making stick men out of natural materials.



I'm in!

As part of the Year 6 Achievement Award the children have begun their Science project. They are preparing to enter the Dragons' Den and market their own inventive festive lights decoration. Can they use motors, switches, bulbs and buzzers to make their product the stand-out choice of the dragons?

Mr Langley



Music News

Four of our pupils competed in the Rotary Club Young Musician of the Year last weekend and we were delighted with their results and success.

William Banner said, *"We were all so nervous beforehand"*.

"Watching other people helped me relax because it made me think that I could do it too." said Sofia Wilson who was initially anxious about being the last to play in her category.

"It was quite stressful because we were nearly late but we had such fun when we were warming up at Senior School beforehand." added Tilly Gray.

Libby Forsyth said, *"It was a great opportunity to compete against older pupils, some of which were Grade 5"*.

None of our pupils were expecting to win any prizes, they just joined in because they love playing for fun.

Congratulations to Libby Forsyth for competing, William Banner for gaining 3rd prize, Sofia Wilson 2nd prize and Tilly Gray for winning 1st prize, all in the 8-11 class.

Chapel Choir have their first Christmas Concert this Wednesday 28th November and it's a charity event in St Mary's Church Richmond at 7.30pm. It should last just over an hour and all are extremely welcome.

Dr Harrison



House Maths

Tuesday saw the keenly contested House Maths Competition for Years 3 and 4. Every child was involved, completing a series of challenges for their House.

The event began with a series of questions and word problems relating to addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Working under timed conditions, the children took it in turns to choose a question and work it out in their team. Points were awarded according to the trickiness of the question.

Following this, there were a series of shape problems to be worked out, creating a square, and the letters T and E using cut out pieces of paper.



The morning's mathematical foray ended with 'The 1983 Challenge' in which children were asked to make the numbers 1-20 using the digits 1, 9, 8 and 3 and whichever operation they liked, using each number only once.

We were so impressed with the level of involvement by all the children and the high standards of maths that they showed us, and can announce that the winners this year were Grenville, followed closely by Raleigh, Gilbert and Drake. Well done to you all!

Miss White



Respectfully Yours

In Personal Social and Educational Development lessons, the Reception class have been talking about their differences, and they really like them! The children talked about what is different about their friends and why that makes them such good company. I think we can consider the final point in 'The Barney Way' covered.



A Colourful Christmas!

The annual Christmas Colouring Competition opens this Monday 26th 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 5th December. Good luck and happy colouring!

Headmistress's Commendations:

Lilly Cassidy
Fenella Heagerty
Hugo Thompson
Caitlyn McLean
Hetty Barwick
Alice Burton
Matilda Chapman
Liberty Forsyth x 2
Charlotte Owens
Laura Watts
Violet Heintz
Luke Banner
Jake Lawson
James Harburn
Georgina Chapman
Freddie Wilks
Hannah Lynn
Gus Living
Zara Dobson
Elodie Lavery
Olivia Harland
George Goad

Well done!

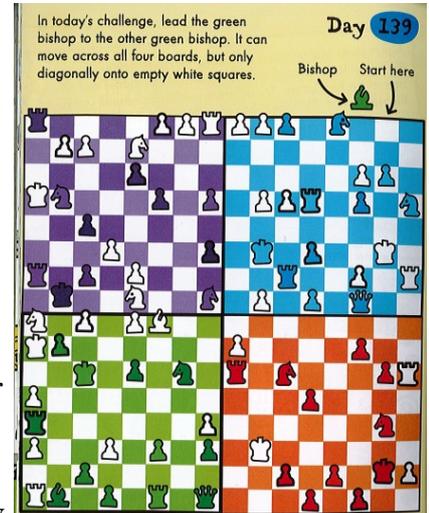
Maths Puzzler



Congratulations to Hannah Lynn, Mila Johnson, Lauren Baxter, George Goad and everyone else who worked on or solved last week's prison based puzzler! Trying to use the numbers 1-12 is hard because they only add up to 78 and we have 100 prisoners. Those in the corner cells get counted twice (once for each row).

This week's puzzler is inspired by the incredibly engrossing and captivating World Chess Championships taking place in London this month. Can you guide the green bishop from his start point, moving only diagonally and only on the white squares? Good luck!

In other Maths news this week, House Maths has seen a fierce, see-sawing battle for supremacy rage across the school. With only a few year groups to declare the competition is very delicately poised with Raleigh and Grenville trading blows at the top. Last week pupils in Years 5 and 6 sat the Primary Maths Challenge. I am delighted to announce that Joe Arnold and Tom Body both scored 19 or above to be put forward to the next round, traditionally held in February. Well done to both boys; we will let you know how they get on next year!



Awards This Week:

Merit Certificates:

Toby Rutherford, Kelvin Bell, George Goad, Luke Banner, Benjamin French, Bella Staley, Megan Brown, Emily Davidson, Violet Heintz, Jessica Raper, Anna Metcalf, Matthew Blackburn, Isabelle Shield, Finley Cable-Jones, Alexander Carr, Callum Clark-Alderson, Dylan Dougal, Jacob Griffin, Sebastian Howard, Caitlyn McLean, Jenson Moody, Sophie Richardson, Tom Staley, Lucy Willsmore, Sophia Hare, Louise Newcombe, Charlotte Owens, Joe Rutherford, Laura Watts, George-Louis Boulton, Nicol White, Scarlett Hutchinson, Bella Bland, Lewis Maunder-Brown, Freya Pinwill-Price, Harriet Robson, Harry Sinclair, Esme Berend, Oliver Stubbs, Bruno Summerson-Brown, Zara Scott-Priestley, Freddie Harland, Finlay Toyne, William Watson

Forthcoming Events

November

Fri 23 North Semi-Final Hockey: U11 (H), 1pm
Orienteering at Polam Hall: U11, 1:30pm
Sat 24 Exeat Weekend
Sun 25 Exeat Weekend
Mon 26 Christmas colouring competition opens for all pupils - available from Mrs Morse
Boys' & Girls' Swimming: U11 (H), 2pm
Wed 28 Year 3 Art Evening, Atkinson Hall, 6:30pm
All Year 3 pupils will stay for tea
Chapel Choir perform at St Mary's Church, Richmond, 7.30pm

Mr Ayres

sta@barneyschool.org.uk

App of the Week

King of Maths



Inspired by the hard work going on in our week of Maths, I give you a mathematical app today! King of Maths Junior is a mathematics game set in a medieval environment where you climb the ladder by answering maths questions and solving puzzles.

King of Maths Junior is suitable for age six and up. Players are encouraged to think for themselves and see mathematical concepts from different angles by solving problems in many areas.

Miss White

aaw@barneyschool.org.uk



Sideline



Sports performer of the week:

To achieve the prestigious 'title' of sports performer of the week, it is not always about winning, or even representation for school, clubs or beyond. In some cases, it is about perseverance and effort over time to achieve success that a performer can be truly proud of. On that theme, my sports performer of the week this week is George-Louis Boulton. Last weekend George-Louis attended Butterknowle Village Hall for his yellow belt Taekwondo grading and was successful in achieving this grade. He is now the proud owner of a yellow belt. George-Louis has been training each week for the last three years and having graduated from white belt to yellow stripe, he is now very proud to have moved up to yellow belt. George-Louis has already set his sights on achieving green stripe next. I am very proud to share George Louis' success, because not only is it a reflection of his perseverance to

improve, but it is also a reminder that there are so many activities that are offered at Prep School that can encourage pupils to achieve success. George-Louis trains on a Friday at school with Jennie and Isobel, having been introduced to the sport at school a few years ago.

House competitions:

House Rugby - The House Rugby kicked off right at the end of last week. Based on RFU guidelines, we split year groups, which meant combining Houses for fixtures and awarding points as appropriate to each House. This was a real success as it allowed pupils to focus on the competitive elements of the rules they have been playing to in their year groups (i.e. Year 3 tag Rugby, Year 4 contact Rugby etc). Although one House in particular looked slightly stronger in Year 6, the rest of the games from Years 3, 4 and 5 were very evenly balanced with many games decided by only a one try winning margin. This means that overall results were close. I am pleased to announce that the Year 5 and 6 competition was won by Drake House and for Year 3 and 4 the winners were Grenville. Suspense remains, as the cup shall not be awarded to the overall winning House until the end of the Michaelmas Term.



House Hockey - All the girls were extremely enthusiastic to take part in the House Hockey competitions. The Year 5 and 6 matches were hotly contested with some fantastic skills on show, however, Grenville came out on top beating the other three Houses in all their games. Well done Grenville! The Years 3 and 4 House Hockey games were played on smaller pitches with fewer team players to allow them to really show off their learned skills. It was impressive to see all of them improve their play throughout the afternoon. However, Gilbert took the win with their overall points score.

Rugby and Hockey fixtures:

Our U11 and U10 teams hosted Mowden Hall School this week.

Rugby - Both U10 and U11 'A' teams played in the first two quarters and dominated the games with some outstanding individual performances and team link-up play. In the third quarter, the U10 and U11 'B' teams played and it was excellent to see players 'raise their game' to compete against Mowden Hall's 'A' team. Towards the end of the game, teams were a mix of 'A' and 'B', which produced evenly balanced games. It is evident to see that the quality of Rugby being played by boys in Years 5 and 6 has improved significantly over the course of this term.

Hockey - On Friday, the girls were eagerly anticipating the arrival of Mowden Hall's U11 and U10 Hockey teams. Mowden are a notoriously tough school to play against so the girls were extremely excited but also determined to win. We had both 'A' and 'B' teams playing in both age groups. The 'A' teams played first and there was some really outstanding Hockey on display. The U10 'A' team had an excellent game, winning 3-0. Unfortunately the U11 'A' did not fare as well, losing their game. Up next were the 'B' teams who fought until the end but it was not to be as Mowden came out on top in both matches. Well done to all the players.

ASA School Swimming Awards:

Congratulations to the following pupils for achieving Level 5: Isabelle Shield and Freya Turner.

Forthcoming fixtures:

Friday 23rd November – U11 North Hockey Semi-Finals – 1:00pm @ Home (Astroturf)

Friday 23rd November – U11 Mixed Orienteering - 1:30pm @ Polam Hall School

Monday 26th November – U11 Mixed Swimming v Cluster Group – 2:00pm @ Home (Pool)

Mr Burgess

mab@barneyschool.org.uk