



BARNARD CASTLE  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

# The Barney Buzz

Friday 30th November 2018

Issue Number: 917

## Headmistress's News

As we get ready to enter the Advent season, it is fair to say that anticipation is building in Prep School. The decorations made by the pupils now adorn the trees in Mrs Morse's office and in the foyer and the glitter trails leading towards the classrooms are all helping us get into the Christmas spirit. There are many good examples of how Christmas can enhance teaching and learning throughout the school and right across the curriculum. Additionally, the Nativity production and the Carol Services provide opportunities for furthering literacy, drama, music, public speaking and other creative skills as well as fostering the community spirit that encompasses the school. I do hope parents, family and friends will be able to join us for the Christmas events in Chapel; the Nativity play and Carol Services are real highlights of our school year. An unexpected surprise arrived at 10am this morning, kindly made by Mr Lee Hosking. The shrills of excitement as the children discovered his new masterpiece on the playground was wonderful to hear, and only confirms just how excited the children are getting.

Our School Councillors are also getting in the Christmas spirit and once again are planning three Christmas Movie 'nights' in the final week of term when all clubs and activities have been cancelled. They have also once again proposed a 'Christmas Jumper' day on Friday 14th December, the final day of term, to raise money for the 'Save The Children Christmas Jumper Day Appeal' and we are happy to support this initiative on a voluntary basis. Therefore, should they wish, children may come to school in their uniform, replacing their school jumper with a Christmas jumper on the last day of term. Those children wishing to take part should also bring a donation of £1 into school for Save The Children, which their class teacher will collect at morning registration. This will also add a real sense of festive spirit to our Christmas lunch which will be on the final day of term.

Have a lovely weekend.

**Laura Turner**

## Boarders' News

Last weekend was a family weekend (exeat) so the Junior Boarders enjoyed time with their families and friends. It was also an opportunity to prepare themselves for the festive season by organising their 'secret santa' present, Christmas jumper and decorations for the tree. As usual at this time of year, Old Courts is looking very Christmassy with twinkly lights and tinsel all over! The returning boarders enjoyed erecting and dressing the tree on Sunday evening accompanied by the inevitable Christmas soundtrack. A great part of the Old Courts family is being able to share and celebrate together. On Wednesday afternoon it was wonderful for the prep boarders to gather around a live stream of Mrs Stewart's daughter's graduation from Edinburgh. Hopefully this was an inspiration to them!

**Mr Robson**



## Thank you!

Prep School would like to say a huge thank you to Lee Hosking and his team who dropped off a rather dashing reindeer this morning which now has pride of place at the entrance to Prep School waiting to greet everyone! 25 sleeps to go!



## Sale!!

If you would like to buy some extra PlayerLayer clothing, they are offering 25% off anything this weekend. The code is NYPREP25 and it is valid until Monday 3rd December. Happy shopping!

## The wheels on the bus ...

Nativity rehearsals are well underway this week and the children are enjoying practising in the chapel and cannot wait to perform next week! In between rehearsals, the Year 1 pupils have been busy in class continuing their work on Stick Man in English and learning about 3D shapes in Maths. They also enjoyed learning about axels and wheels in DT and created their first moving vehicle. A very busy week indeed!

## They'll never take our shortbread!

This week Reception have been learning about St Andrew and celebrated St Andrew's day with some delicious shortbread. Afterwards we created some Scottish flags and learned about the Loch Ness Monster.



## Music News

On Wednesday evening, musical festivities officially began at Barnard Castle School with our Chapel Choir performing as part of a charity concert at Richmond Parish Church. This was a wonderful opportunity for Prep singers to participate with much older children to create a dazzling spectacular. They also loved listening to the soloists, Wind Band and other ensembles from Senior School. Next up - The Messiah at The Witham on Sunday 2nd December at 5pm, the Pre-Prep Nativity next Friday 7th December at 2pm and a Christmas concert in the Bowes Museum, also next Friday 7th December at 7:30pm. All are welcome!

**Dr Harrison**

## Join the Army!

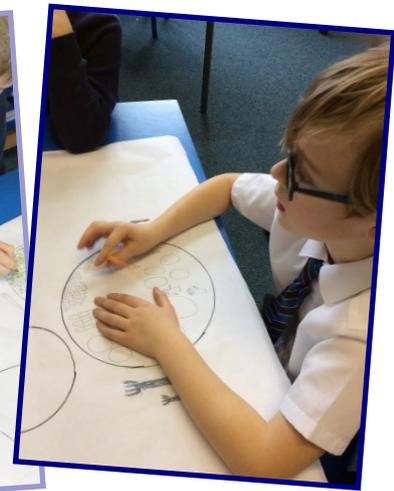
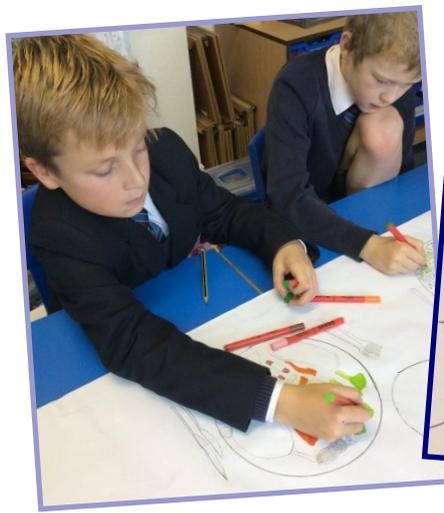
In Computing and English lessons Year 4 have been creating scripts for a propaganda film clip encouraging Roman citizens to join the army. Extolling all of the positives, and few of the negatives, we have discussed bias and persuasion as techniques for writing. The whole year group thoroughly enjoyed this task, and they all managed to find props from the wide array of 'Takeaway' homework around the rooms.



Finally we filmed the projects and it is clear to see that there will be no end of talent available for the play next term!

## Food, glorious food!

In Art and Technology lessons Year 5 have been designing their perfect Christmas dinner and pudding! This was a large scale collaborative Art and Design project, everyone was given a plate and bowl at the dinner table and told to draw their perfect Christmas dinner. Pupils could draw a drink and Christmas cracker if they wanted and were allowed to use any media to add colour to their work. There were some really detailed and realistic dinner plates as well as some more abstract ones!



## Give me oil in my lamp ...

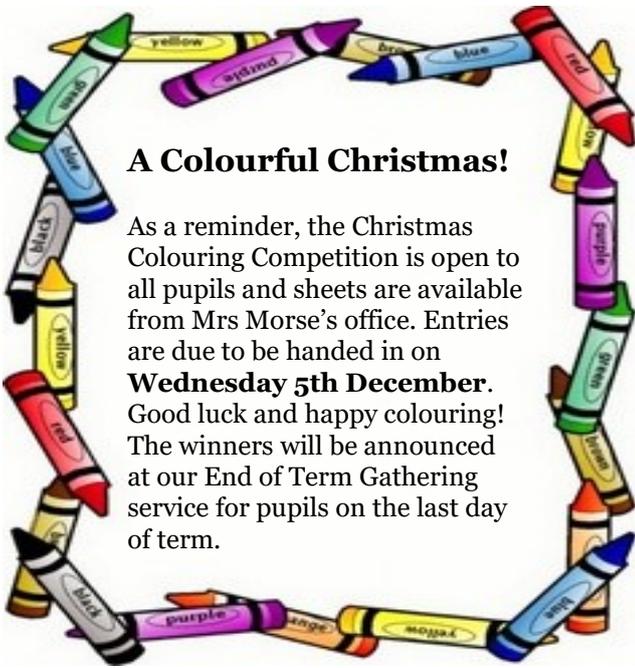
This week we created a home shrine in 2P's classroom as part of our project on Hinduism and Diwali. We made beautiful diva lamps decorated with iridescent paint and sparkling 'gems'. These remind us of the story of Rama and Sita who were guided home by the little oil lamps burning in the windows. The lamps will bring light to the shrine and are a symbol of God's presence. We also have a Puja tray, flowers, money, fruit, kum kum powder and small statues of Ganesh and Lakshmi on our shrine. Hindus encourage Lakshmi to visit their homes by leaving a window open, she will bring wealth and prosperity. Hindus also create lovely Rangoli patterns on their doorsteps for good luck.

## Wunderbar!

Year 6 have been busy completing their National Gallery projects in Art and Technology lessons. One of the first modules of the Year 6 Achievement Award, the children chose and researched a famous painting from the gallery (some were even fortunate enough to see theirs when we visited London in October) and were tasked with reproducing it. The calibre of work produced this term has been outstanding! Their work will be on display in classrooms before the end of term.

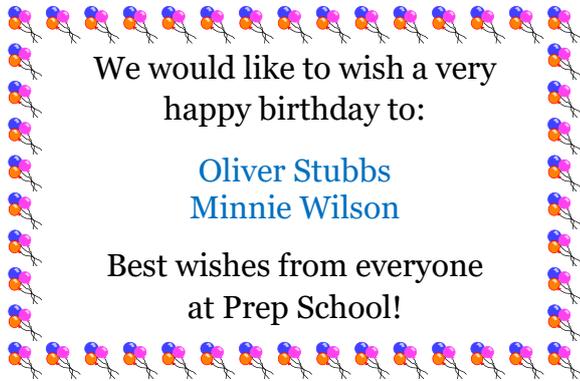
In Language lessons Year 6 have now made the switch to German until Christmas. So far pupils have spent some time getting to know the country of Germany: its place at the heart of Europe, its interesting history and what modern-day Germany looks like. They have been practising German pronunciation and listening to some of the different sounds. The song 'Denglisch' by Wise Guys helped us to see some of the English influences found in the German language. Appropriately, as the winter weather rolls in, we are now learning to describe the weather in German! Es regnet!





## A Colourful Christmas!

As a reminder, the Christmas Colouring Competition is open to all pupils and sheets are available from Mrs Morse's office. Entries are due to be handed in on **Wednesday 5th December**. Good luck and happy colouring! The winners will be announced at our End of Term Gathering service for pupils on the last day of term.



We would like to wish a very happy birthday to:

**Oliver Stubbs**  
**Minnie Wilson**

Best wishes from everyone  
at Prep School!

## App of the Week

### Classic Words



A fabulous app this week to share with you, and one that is living on my own iPad at the moment! Classic Words allows you to play a Scrabble type game against the computer brain. Choose the difficulty level (from beginner to expert), pick a word list, and use your strategy skills and vocabulary to try and defeat the brain! Create and place words on the board and boost your score by placing letters on the high scoring Double Letter, Double Word, Triple Letter and Triple Word squares. Use all seven letters from your rack to play Bingo and get a 50 points bonus.

Will you play strategically enough to outwit the computer and its extensive vocabulary?

**Miss White**

[aaw@barneyschool.org.uk](mailto:aaw@barneyschool.org.uk)

## Jolly good show!

On Wednesday evening, Year 3 brought the Atkinson Hall alive with a fantastic 'A-Z of South America', demonstrating the work that they have been doing in their topic this term. It was a fantastic occasion to celebrate all of their hard work and showcase their achievements to parents. It was great to see how they really have fulfilled the objectives of our Creative Curriculum, bringing to life every subject into one performance. The children danced to Carnival style music, recited their own Paddington based poetry, sang a Spanish song, shared homemade marmalade which they made in Maths, created Guatemalan worry dolls inspired by some PSHCEE work and showcased their fabulous Beatriz Milhazes inspired artwork.

We are very proud of how hard they all worked, not just towards the planning of this evening, but all term. Well done Year 3!



## Awards This Week:

### Special Mention Certificates:

Jessie Burgess, Toby Willsmore, Freya Turner, Lilly Cassidy, Thomas Scott-Priestley, Frankie Wilks, Dylan Dougal, Lucy Willsmore, Freddie Wilks, Alexander Milbank, Hetty Barwick, Toby Rutherford, Finlay Toyne, Benjamin Dixon, William Jackson-Ward, Ella Turner, Jacob Thomas, Sophie Winnard, Isobel Heagerty, Scarlett Hutchinson, Edwin Barwick, Olivia Bridges, Kelvin Bell, George Goad, Lottie Baptist, Lewis Maunder-Brown, Toby Gent, Oliver Stubbs

### Merit Certificates:

Elliott Chapman, Georgina Jackson, Toby Willsmore, Freya Turner, Dominick Armstrong, James Harburn, Olivia Harland, Harriet Hatton, Elodie Lavery, Arabella Milbank, Thomas Scott-Priestley, Edith Smart, Archie Walder, Flora Whitaker, Frankie Wilks, Lucy Willsmore, Benjamin Dixon, Liberty Flounders, Zara Dobson, Toby Green, Poppy Hendrix, Matthew Blackburn, Elliott Chapman, Juliette Harper-Wilkes, Georgina Jackson, Lily Shearn, John Turnbull, Carter Wake, Toby Willsmore, Daisy Allison, Lilly Cassidy, Annabel Jackson, James Nath, Hugo Thompson, Harriet Hatton, Charles Bennett, Joseph Stephenson, Dexter Thomas, Nathan Brown, Liberty Forsyth, Charlotte Owens, Joe Rutherford, Tilly Gray, Harrison Hutton, William Jones, Ella Turner, Frankie Preston, Mirabelle Harrison, Jemima Burton, Zara Dobson, Ben Arnold, Isabel Fall, Lauren Baxter, Polly Heintz, Sophie McGill, Gus Living, Molly Rendall

## Maths Puzzler

Lots of great solutions to last week's puzzler. Abygail Jameson, George Goad, Benjamin French and Mila Johnson all found a route through the boards. Well done!



largest even number

largest odd number

smallest odd number

largest multiple of 5

number closest to 50

This week's puzzle is a version of a classic I used in House Maths last week. Using the digits 0-9 once only can you make five 2 digit numbers matching the criteria below? How many solutions can you find?

House Maths: After 7 gruelling matches over many rounds House Maths was decided by the finest of margins. Each house was ranked and then scored the same number of points as their position (i.e 3rd in the year gets you 3 pts), the lowest score wins. In the end Raleigh just edged out Greville by a single point to recapture the trophy they first won in 2016. The standard of Maths across the year groups was amazing and the energy and enthusiasm with which pupils approached the challenge was great to see. Well done to all.

Mr Ayres

sta@barneyschool.org.uk



## Forthcoming Events

### November

- Wed 5 Christmas colouring competition entries due in
- Thurs 6 Pre-Prep Nativity Dress Rehearsal, 1:30pm  
*Prep pupils and local nurseries watching*
- Fri 7 Pre-Prep Nativity, Chapel, 2pm  
*All parents and families welcome*
- Sun 9 Old Courts Christmas Day  
Boarders' Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols, 5pm
- Mon 10 Reception class visit Father Christmas at the Bowes Museum, 12:30-3:00pm  
Pre-Prep 'Film Night', 3:30-5:00pm  
Years 3 & 4 Carol Service, Chapel, 4:00-5:00pm  
*All Year 5 & 6 pupils stay at school for tea*  
Years 5 & 6 Carol Service, Chapel, 7:00-8:00pm
- Tues 11 Years 3 & 4 'Film Night', 3:30-5:00pm
- Wed 12 Years 5 & 6 'Film Night', 3:30-5:00pm
- Thurs 13 Pantomime 'Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs' at Durham Gala Theatre, 1pm
- Fri 15 Christmas Jumper Day for charity  
End of Term Gathering for pupils, 9am  
Prep School Christmas Lunch for pupils and staff  
Pre-Prep Christmas Party for pupils, 2pm  
Year 6 Carol Singing at Charles Dickens Lodge, 2pm  
Term finishes at the end of the school day  
Buses depart 5:10pm, as usual

## Headmistress's Commendations:

Finley Cable-Jones  
Isla Durban  
Reuben Hosking  
Sophie Richardson  
Kieran Armstrong  
Tilly Gray  
Henry Johnstone  
Freddie Whitaker  
Isobel Heagerty  
James Nath  
Hugo Thompson  
Freya Turner  
Polly Heintz  
Mila Johnson  
Hugo Lanigan-O'Keeffe

**Well done!**

# Sideline



## Sports performer of the week:

Caitlyn McLean has been on my radar for some time. Firstly, I teach her swimming in Year 2 and have found her to be a very good listener and very hardworking. She is one of a group of children working on ASA School Swimming Award 6, which has involved her swimming in clothing. She has also been developing her swimming strokes to a very high standard and is now working on butterfly. One thing I have noticed is that she does not settle for mediocrity and when I have thought that she is getting tired and have given her the option to change from butterfly to an easier stroke, she will give butterfly another go, to try to improve. Furthermore, I have seen her performing in swimming lessons on a Wednesday evening in the school pool and she also swims at the Teesdale Leisure Centre each week. What strikes me is how determined she is to improve and to perform to the best standard that she can. She is also super-competitive! I was delighted to see her awarded her 400-metre distance certificate in Monday's assembly because I know how well she listens and how much effort she puts in. For me, that makes her sports performer of the week, and I hope she continues to enjoy her swimming.



## Orienteering

Report by Lauren Baxter and Esme Berend:

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, sixteen Year 6 pupils went to Polam Hall School to do Orienteering with Choristers, Durham and Polam Hall Schools. When we arrived, we were put in groups of eight with two pupils from each school. We introduced ourselves, then we chose a partner from a different school and we then numbered the pairs from one to four. Pair one got a map and a sheet of paper, which was to be used for writing down the letter of the controls that they found. Pair one were given a number to go and find as fast as they could. When they came back, they passed the piece of paper and map to pair two and they would do the same until all four pairs had found twenty controls. The group we were in completed the course in the fastest time and won, which was amazing. We all had fun. After we all had finished we had a biscuit and a carton of juice each. Thank you to all the teachers that organised it.

## Swimming

On Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November, a selection of Year 6 pupils represented the school in the U11 Cluster Group Swimming Gala. All competitors involved performed very well, competing against Choristers and Bow School, Durham. There was a victory for Matthew Burgess in the two lengths breaststroke, and the school finished second overall, which was a good achievement.

## Hockey

Our U11 Hockey unfortunately girls failed to progress beyond the North Semi-Finals round, despite performing well in games against Hymers, Ashville, Red House and Grammar School at Leeds. However, it was a tremendous achievement that they qualified and they should be very proud of their efforts. To have performed at this level is no mean feat.

Well done girls!

## Mr Burgess

mab@barneyschool.org.uk

