



The Barney Buzz

BARNARD CASTLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Friday 15th February 2019

Issue Number: 925

What's happening?

- **Founders' Day Service, Chapel** - parents and families welcome, 2:30pm today.
- **Half Term** - begins today, **3:30-5:00pm**. Signing in/activities as normal and buses at 5:10pm as usual. Second half of term begins on Monday 25th February.
- **World Book Day** - Thursday 7th March. See back page and attachments with today's email for further details.
- **Holiday Activities** - Easter and Summer course dates now available. Listed below. Booking forms coming soon!
- **Security** - please can we remind parents that to help us keep all children safe, they must **not** unlock doors. The front door adjacent to Mrs Morse's office is always unlocked at 3:30pm every day for entry and exit.

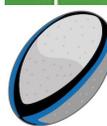
Forthcoming Sporting Fixtures



Netball

Tuesday 26th February - Netball at Durham High: U9, 1:30pm

Thursday 28th February - Netball Tournament at Durham School: U10, 1:30pm



Rugby

Wednesday 27th February - Rugby 7s at Terrington Hall: U11, 1pm



Cross Country

Wednesday 27th February - Cross Country at Hunter Hall School: Years 1-6, 1pm

Friday 1st March - Cross Country at Teesside High School: U11, U10, U9, 1:30pm

School Menus

Week commencing 25th February will be **Menu 1** which can be found on the school website:

<https://www.barnardcastleschool.org.uk/prep-school/prep-school-catering/>



Save the Dates for Holiday Activities

Thursday 4th and Friday 5th April—STEM Course for pupils in Years 4 to 6

A two day STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths) course featuring exciting projects in Computing, Science and Maths. Sessions include looking at 3D fractals, crazy science and using coding in the real world. Pupils are welcome to attend one or both of the days.



Monday 22nd to Friday 25th July—Activity Week 1 for children in Reception to Year 9

An action-packed week to improve your child's skills and enjoy various different activities.

Monday 12th to Wednesday 14th August—Summer Sports

Summer Sports Fun Days for pupils in Reception to Year 2: multi-skills based and led by qualified teachers and graduate sports coaches. The aim is to develop key skills that are transferable across a range of activities and to do this through fun, small sided games and mini competitions.

Summer Sports Course for pupils in Years 3 to 6: led by PE teachers and specialist coaches, and run separately for girls and boys to promote skill development for the key sports of the school.

Thursday 15th and Friday 16th August—Pre-Season Training for pupils in Years 4 and 5

These two days are free of charge and optional for those pupils **entering** Years 5 and 6 in September 2019. Pupils will be focusing on the main sports for Michaelmas Term, Boys' Rugby Union and Girls' Hockey. Both boys and girls will be required to commit to challenging fitness work and skills based sessions. It is envisaged that pre-season games will be organised for the end of August, although attendance at these sessions is not essential to represent the school in any pre-season game.

Monday 19th to Friday 23rd August—Activity Week 2 for children in Reception to Year 9

An action-packed week to improve your child's skills and enjoy various different activities.

Monday 29th July to Friday 2nd August Jamboree for all Prep School pupils

A week of amazing enrichment tasks for pupils from Reception to Year 6. From den building and Forest School sessions to Maths trails, origami and construction tasks. The sessions vary between whole school, collaborative and age specific. We also plan to run multisport sessions, weather dependent. The Bikeability Course will also run for two days during this week and is open to pupils in Years 2-6.

Boarders' News

Last weekend was busy and varied in the life of Old Courts. On Friday night the boarding community came together in a blaze of red, with special invited guests, to celebrate Chinese New Year. A fantastic banquet was served and wonderfully accompanied by entertainment provided by members of the Chinese boarding community. On Saturday morning, Toby Green's mother kindly came to Old Courts to teach the prep boarders how to make Chinese dumplings, ably assisted by Miss Strachan. In the afternoon Miss White took the boarders over for fun in the Prep School. On Sunday some of the prep boarders went to see 'Lego Movie 2' at the revamped Teesside Showcase Cinema. The junior boarders are looking forward to time with friends and family over the half-term break. **Mr Robson**



App of the Week

Exoplanet



Inspired by our visit to the Centre for Life and our exploration of the moon, I have a super app aimed at all our future astronomers and scientists. This is a fantastic free app that wouldn't have been possible even a few years ago, because we didn't know of enough exoplanets (planets that exist outside of our solar system). These days, people are finding them all the time. They're finding them so often, in fact, that this morning my Exoplanet app downloaded the details of 26 more! This is a lovely little app: a database of planets and what we know about them and a huge zoomable map of the Milky Way to show you where they all sit in space. As a consequence, the first thing I learned is quite how mind-bogglingly huge our galaxy is. The second thing is that astronomers are not good at picking snappy names for planets, unless, HD 20794 d is your idea of a super name!

Miss White

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Maths Puzzler

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our two week puzzler. Of the 100 numbers to choose from, only about 20 remain unused (and most of them are primes). There are some great suggestions and it has been brilliant to see queues of people outside my classroom looking to add their ideas to the list. Well done to everyone who took part.

This week's puzzler comes direct from Mensa: Sandy has siblings named Alan, Neil, Diane and Yvonne. Aaron has siblings named Andrew, Ruth, Oliver and Nicola. Is it Gavin or Miles who has siblings named Ian, Louise, Esther and Sean?

As always, answers to me by Wednesday after half term.

Good luck!

Mr Ayres

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Happy Birthday!

Harriet Robson, Freya Pinwill Price,
Arabella Milbank, Alia Saunders,
Lauren Baxter, Jenson Moody,
Charlotte Blenkiron

Centre for Life

Year 4 had their first excursion of the New Year when we visited the Centre for Life in Newcastle. Always a popular trip amongst Year 4s, this year the enthusiasm and engagement of the children proved to be never-ending! Children wrapped in foil, soaking wet, cold hands and burning lights were a tiny part of the day out.

The purpose of the trip was to enhance our learning, primarily in Science, looking at Animal Adaptations. Luckily, always keen to add cross-curricular links, we managed to visit the Planetarium, have a go on the 4D Motion Ride, try out some experiments in the Science Theatre and explore the Brain Zone. As well as this, the current exhibition is 'The Museum of the Moon' and this enabled us to look at the whole moon in replica. We spent a long time lying on the floor and studying the craters on the far side of the moon; this part of the trip was further enhanced by a collection of alien masks, life size statues and props from films across the ages. My thanks to Mr Burgess and Mr Killeen for accompanying us.

Miss White



The Greatest Day!

The whole school came together to participate in Sign2Sing this week, performing Take That's 'Greatest Day' with guided signing. All the children worked hard, practising both in their classes and in Houses and for some, even memorising the necessary sign language. Thank you for all of your support in practising with the children and for those who have already donated to this very worthwhile charitable cause. If you haven't done so already, and you would like to contribute, we are still collecting money up until the end of today, before we break up for half term. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and have widened their understanding of how to communicate with the deaf community.

Here are some quotes from a few of the pupils:

Reception - *"I loved spending time and practising in my House."*

Year 3 - *"I loved Sign2Sing, it was really interesting learning how other people communicate."*

Year 5 - *"I thought Sign2Sing was great fun and it taught me a lot more! It was nice to do something different from a fancy dress day."*



Headmistress's Commendations:

Liberty Forsyth
Joe Rutherford
Bella Bland
Benjamin Pelly
Henry Jenkinson
Niamh Hennessy
Sebastian Howard x 2
Jacob Griffin
Isabelle Shield
Harry Westgarth
Toby Rutherford
Fiore Catellani
Sophie Richardson
Harriet Robson
Archie Walder
Edith Smart
Thomas Scott-Priestley
Hetty Barwick

Well done!

Grizzly Grendel!

Year 5 finished their Forest School for Half Term with a grizzly twist. After hearing the story of Grendel in English, some children retold the story using drama, others made their own Grendel-inspired Forest School maps using compasses to navigate their way around while some collected mud and water to make their own swamps. In addition to this the children created their own wildlife area and finished the session toasting bread and marshmallows. Delicious! The skills the children have learnt over the first term and a half were clear to see today and we were blown away by their creativity, communication and independence.



It's a dog's life!

Reception class have been learning about cold climates and the role of the Saint Bernard dog. They spent the week making and hand sewing super Saint Bernard dog hand puppets with Mrs Bainbridge. They look fantastic! Well done Reception!

Mrs Rowlandson



It's electric!

Science 'Takeaway' homework is electric! Year 6 have been working hard on their electrical light displays as part of their Dragons' Den project. The Dragons are looking forward to hearing all about their designs after half term!



Glorious gym!

In PE, Year 2 have had lots of fun learning and performing gymnastic movements. I think everybody's favourite was either the cartwheel or the handstand!



Big Battery Hunt!

As part of our School Council sustainability project, we have re-launched the Big Battery Hunt. School Councillors will be encouraging your child to collect used batteries at home and bring them into school. Our collection box is located opposite the Prep School kitchen and

you can empty your batteries in here, ready to be counted and sent for recycling.

Reception children have been provided with a small collection box which should have come home. If any child in Years 1-6 requires a box, then please let me know and I can ensure that one is sent home. We look forward to counting up the batteries at the end of term.

Many thanks for your support.

Miss Strachan

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Big Battery Hunt

Batteries can be recycled. It helps the environment by:

- Reducing the amount of rubbish going into landfill
- Saving energy



All loved up!

Year 3 ended the Half Term on a warm and fuzzy note with a 'Love' themed Forest School session. They made each other compliment necklaces which they enjoyed hiding, seeking and sharing! Some made stick friends whilst others spent time loving Forest school in various other ways! What a fabulous way to end a fantastic Half Term. Well done Year 3.



Awards This Week:

Special Mention Certificates:

Hugo van der Merwe, Lily Shearn, Pia Willcocks, Isabelle Shield, Archie Walder, Flora Whitaker, Emma van der Merwe, Isla Durban, Joseph Stephenson, Zara Scott-Priestley, Archie Lanigan-O'Keeffe, Nathan Brown, Liberty Flounders, Liberty Forsyth, William Jones, Matilda Owens, Emily Davidson, Sophie Winnard, Anna Metcalf, Mirabelle Harrison, Henry Jenkinson, Jessica Raper, Lauren Baxter, Ellie Derrick, Toby Green, Harry Sinclair, Jonny Royle, Poppy Hendrix, Minnie Wilson

Merit Certificates:

Elodie Lavery, Arabella Milbank, Thomas Scott-Priestley, Flora Whitaker, Frankie Wilks, Evie Durban, Tilly Gray, Lavender Lawson, Matilda Owens, Ella Turner, Freddie Whitaker, Bella Bland, Dermot Metcalf, George Goad, Lottie Baptist, Matthew Blackburn, Lilly Cassidy, James Nath, Isabelle Shield, Pia Willcocks, Dominick Armstrong, James Harburn, Olivia Harland, Harriet Hatton, Edith Smart, Archie Walder, Jack Baptist, Finley Cable-Jones, Alexander Carr, Fiore Catellani, Dylan Dougal, Isla Durban, Jacob Griffin, Reuben Hosking, Sebastian Howard, Oona MacConachie, Caitlyn McLean, Jenson Moody, Sophie Richardson, Tom Staley, Peter Stevenson, Megan Sunley, Emma van der Merwe, Lucy Willsmore, Hugo Lanigan-O'Keeffe, Joseph Stephenson, Samuel Wake, Freya Turner, Flora Whitaker, Sofia Wilson

Stuck on you!

This week in Science lessons, Year 1 have been busy investigating magnetic and non-magnetic objects. The children had lots of experimenting with all sorts of materials. We set the children a challenge to look to find as many items as they could at home which are magnetic.



Sideline



Rugby 7s at Durham School: U11

Last Friday the Under 11 Rugby 7s team attended the annual Stephenson 7's Tournament hosted by Bow, at Durham School. This is the first of five tournaments entered this season. The boys played some excellent Rugby at times and for their first tournament it was a very successful day. The boys beat Terrington Hall, Mowden Hall and Bow School in the group stages, narrowly losing out to RGS Newcastle. In the finals, the boys beat Kings and drew with Dame Allan's. Six games played; four wins, one draw and one loss is a great start to the season. The boys are now looking forward to their next tournament at Terrington Hall in the first week back after half term, and we wish them the best of luck.

On Wednesday 13th February, the Prep School played host to Aysgarth for U10 and U11 Football fixtures. We appreciate that half of the boys selected have been doing Hockey in Games this half term, swapping to Football next half term, but this was a great opportunity for school representation across all boys in Years 5 and 6. Many of these boys play Football at extra-curricular clubs and we are looking to promote participation in both Football and Hockey fixtures this term. The four games played were all very different for a variety of reasons.

Under 11 'A'

A 2 v 6 loss was a bit unfortunate but Aysgarth 'A' played some lovely passing Football. Many of the 'A' team selected have been doing Hockey so far this term and we envisage greater improvements next half term when they move on to Football in Games lessons.

Under 11 'B'

This game was a first for our boys as they played with a 'Handilife sound football', which housed a bell in order to assist Archie, a blind pupil from Aysgarth. Archie had some excellent solo dribbles and linked up play really well, passing accurately. The attitude of all boys on the pitch was exemplary and I think that all players were in agreement that the man of the match on the day was Archie, who covered every blade of grass, wearing out his guides that supported him during each half. The scoreline was a 2 v 4 loss, and although I have never been known to use the phrase "in the end football was the winner", I think for this game the quote is particularly appropriate.

Under 10 'A'

This was a cracking game of Football, which we won 5 v 4. Incredibly, all five goals were scored by Max Hunton. What an amazing achievement! In addition to Max's outstanding goal scoring performance, Edwin Barwick performed exceptionally well, as did Joseph Swann who unselfishly set up Max for some of his goals. Mr Ayres was also particularly impressed with Theo Te Lintelo, who he cited as showing good discipline and understanding of positional play. Despite mention of certain individuals, Mr Ayres reported that this was a great team performance.

Under 10 'B'

Unfortunately, the Under 10 'B' team suffered a heavy defeat. However, as mentioned above, every boy in the year group played Football, which in this case seems to me to be more important than the result!



Northern Counties Ponies Association (NCPA)

Sophie Richardson has been awarded fifth position in the NCPA awards for 'ridden pony'. This is alongside the news that Sophie and her other pony, Tara, came in first position in the Shetland Pony Awards for Pony Club pony. Congratulations Sophie!

Sports performer of the week

This week's sports performer of the week is Max Hunton, and let's face it, having scored five goals against Aysgarth to seal a 5-4 victory, the award this week was a foregone conclusion! Max is enjoying his Football in school and is also playing regularly for Barnard Castle Football Club. In terms of other sports, what is particularly impressive is that Max only started playing Rugby in

September last year when he joined the Prep School. Anyone watching him play would assume that he had far more experience. He has improved at a rapid rate, and he had a superb season, scoring lots of tries and being awarded 'most improved player of the season' during the end of term awards in Chapel.



Mr Burgess

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Calling all Barney Bookworms ...



World Book Day 2019 is nearly upon us! This year's focus is very much upon sharing stories and in Prep School we have planned some exciting activities for the children to share throughout the day.

We have decided to make it an **'optional dress-up day'**, so your child is very welcome to come dressed as their favourite book character for the day. At the end of the day, each child will receive their World Book Day book token to spend in national book shops.

In addition, we will be giving out new 'Around the World in 80 Books' challenge booklets for all children in Years 2-6, so now is your child's perfect chance to get reading and try to get as far through their current challenge before World Book Day, when the new 'Around the World' begins!

So, for your diary:

When?

Thursday 7th March

What do we need to do?

- Be reading and sharing stories together. Encourage your child (Years 3-6) to work their way through their current '80 Books' challenge, if they have not already done so, in preparation for the launch of the next booklet on World Book Day.
- Prepare a costume from one of your child's favourite books (optional).
- ***Please read the attachments with today's email*** giving further details and a sponsorship form for the exciting 'BarneyBeReading' challenge to work alongside the 'Around the World in 80 Books' challenge!

