



BARNARD CASTLE  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

# The Barney Buzz

Friday 22nd March 2019

Issue Number: 929

## Headmistress's News

Our Year 5 and 6 French trip was a great success and I hope that parents enjoyed reading about the pupils' adventures on Facebook. Well done, and thank you, to the children and staff, Miss Strachan, Mrs Small, Mrs Robertson, Mr Ayres and Mr Killeen for their enthusiasm in making the trip so memorable for all. Mr Ayres will be putting together a presentation of their adventures in France, which will be a special memory for them all to recall their highlights of the trip which we will share next week for all to see.

We are all looking forward to our Pre-Prep Concert at 2.30pm on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March with a preview for Prep School on Tuesday afternoon. We are also taking the children, with the exception of Year 3 and 4 pupils who are taking part in a fixture, to watch the Senior School production of 'Seussical the Musical' on Monday afternoon which we are all excited about.

Next week is our final week of term, which seems to have flown over once again, and a reminder that there will be no lunch time or after school clubs next week and school finishes on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 3:30-5.00pm with buses departing at 5:10pm, as usual. There will be no extended care available on the last day of term.

Have a great weekend.

**Laura Turner**

## Shoebox Appeal

We are collecting shoeboxes for young homeless people in connection with the Centrepont charity. Your child will have brought a letter home this week with full details and a copy is attached to today's email.

This is, of course, optional but if you would like to contribute, please drop your shoebox off in the Atkinson Hall by Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March.

Thank you in advance for your support.



## School Menus

Week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> March will be **Menu 2** which can be found on the school website:  
<https://www.barnardcastleschool.org.uk/prep-school/prep-school-catering/>



## What's happening?

- **Pre-Prep Concert - Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 2:30pm** in the Atkinson Hall. All families welcome - not a ticketed event, doors open at 2:15pm.
- **House Football for Years 5 and 6** - a reminder that parents are welcome to this House match on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March at 2:15pm** which was rearranged from earlier this term due to poor weather.
- **Activities** - as usual, there will not be any lunch time or after school activities next week (last week of term).
- **End of Term** - the Lent Term finishes at the end of the school day on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March. Signing in until 5pm is still on as usual, with buses leaving at 5:10pm as always, however there is **no** extended care for this evening.

## Forthcoming Sporting Fixtures



**Football**  
**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March** - Football at **Cundall Manor: Years 3 & 4, 2:40pm**



**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March** - House Football Competition for Years 5 & 6 Boys at **2:15pm**



**Netball**  
**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March** - Netball at **Cundall Manor: Years 3 & 4, 2:40pm**



**Rugby 7s**  
**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March** - HMC Rugby 7s at **St Olave's: U11, 1pm**

## Boarders' News

Last Friday evening was 'Hispanic Night' in the Barney boarding community. Members of the senior boarding houses from Chile, Mexico and Spain put together a great night of entertainment and culinary treats. Naturally there was tapas, tortillas and fajitas with traditional desserts too. This was followed by piñata fun, limbo dancing, Latin songs and poetry readings. The junior boarders enjoyed getting dressed up and mixing with their big 'brothers and sisters'. On Saturday Mrs Chapman came over to spend time with the Prep boarders who enjoyed some indoor games and even ventured into town despite the very wet weather. In the afternoon it was back into the wet for a swim! On Sunday everyone enjoyed some den building as well as a visit to the Sports Hall. With the later sunsets the Prep boarders enjoyed a picnic supper on Monday night this week.

**Mr Robson**



### App of the Week

#### OFFSET!

This is one of NASA's super educational games, OFFSET! Take matters into your own hands and help cut back on carbon emissions to slow the pace of global warming. This game is challenging, exciting, and educational. Players learn how the global carbon cycle works, about different sources of carbon, and about the ways alternative energy and reforestation can help offset those sources. This is a super app for budding scientists who want to learn more.

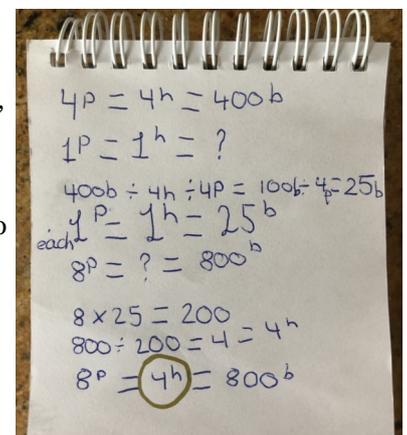
**Miss White**

aaw@barneyschool.org.uk



## Maths Puzzler

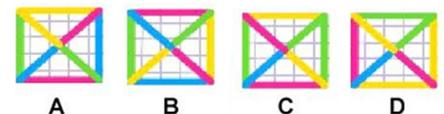
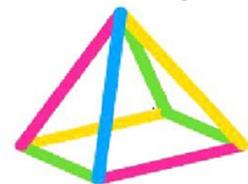
Last week I asked you to work out If it takes 4 people 4 hours to eat 400 pain au chocolates, how long would it take 8 people to eat 800? Lots of avid puzzlers were in France trying to solve this problem practically. Well done to Mila Johnson whose excellent solution is pictured—great work and really nice algebra!



This week I'd like to you to solve this:



Which is the top view?



Good luck!

**Mr Ayres**

sta@barneyschool.org.uk

## Brilliant Beanstalks!

This week, as part of our 'Springtime Growing Plants' topic, the Year 1 children have been watching their beans grow in their very own greenhouses. They have been recording the growth in a diary. We were wondering whether they will grow as tall as 'Jack's beanstalk'! Watch this space!!



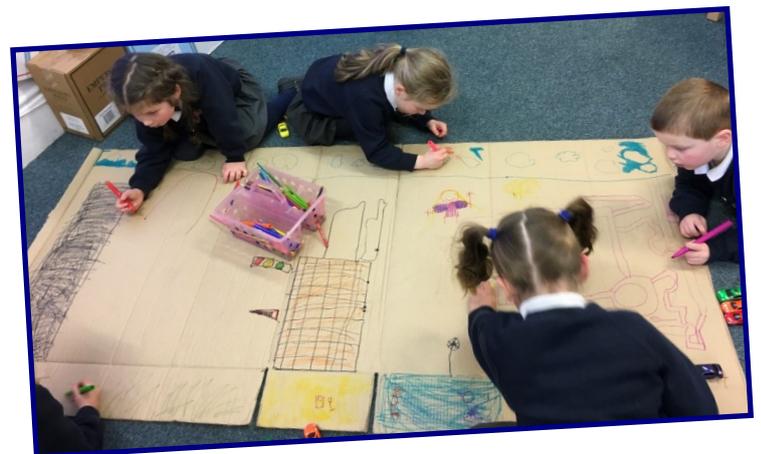
## Carefully crafted cards!

This week Year 2 started to make some lovely cards for Mother's Day with Mrs Bainbridge in Art. Everyone created their own personal handwritten message and spent time designing a beautiful front cover.



## Marvellous maps!

When finding out about road safety, the Reception children learnt about road signs. They wanted to make large town maps so that they could incorporate their new safety knowledge. They created very detailed maps, inside and outside, over the course of a few days.



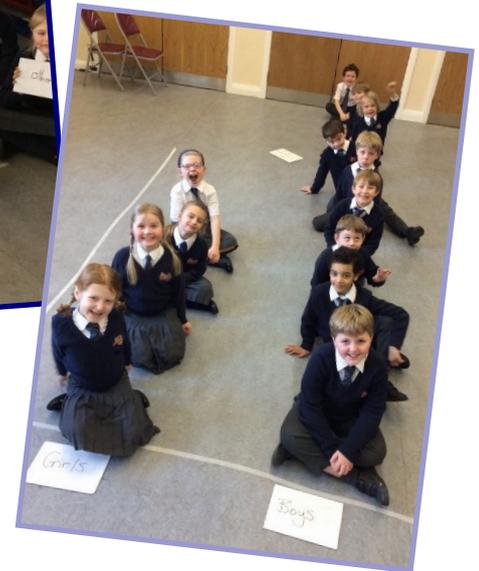
## French Bistro for Year 5 and 6 pupils who went to France

Further to the postcards sent to all parents of pupils who attended this year's French trip, we are looking forward to welcoming you to the French Bistro next Wednesday 27th March at 6:30pm in the Atkinson Hall. All pupils who attended the French trip will stay at school for tea and present their adventures in France to you while you enjoy some French themed nibbles!



## What's your flavour?

In Hall Maths this week the Year 3 children had great fun turning themselves into Human Bar Charts! They explored everything from numbers of boys and girls in each class to favourite flavoured ice cream!



We discovered that our two Year 3 classes are very different and we really enjoyed discussing these similarities and differences.

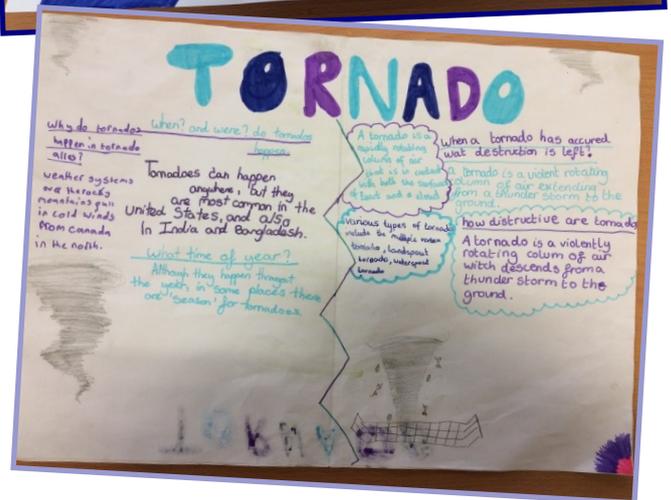
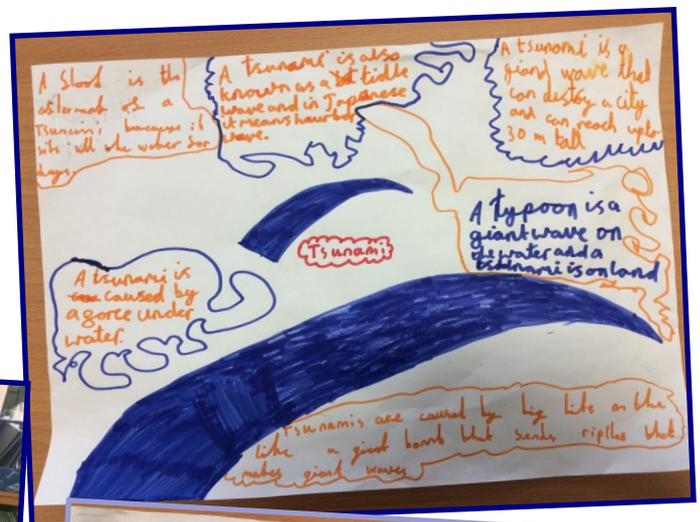
## Whatever the weather!

This week the Year 5 children have been exploring different examples of extreme weather. They were split into groups and asked to create a poster to help them present their findings to the rest of the class. The results were fantastic and many additional questions were answered, showing how well each group researched their chosen topic. The children have also been very busy working out the potential profits they could make in the first month of their Lunar Theme Parks being opened and have started to design advertisements. We look forward to judging them, Dragon's Den style, after the Easter holidays.

## Telling the Time

Year 4 have had some super Maths lessons this week carrying out investigations and problem solving tasks. Using challenges from the NRich website (<https://nrich.maths.org/>) we have been working in groups, building upon our skills of resilience, collaboration and communication.

One that took some serious talking through was about the planet Vuv where there are two sorts of creatures, the Zios who have 3 legs and the Zepts who have 7 legs. The planetary explorer Nico, saw a crowd of Zios and Zepts. Suddenly they all rolled over onto their backs and put their legs in the air. He counted 52 legs. How many Zios and how many Zepts were there? The one that proved the most contentious, was placing a series of events in order of their length of time but it was not entirely mathematical! For example is the length of time needed to take a good shower, longer than the time needed to boil a soft boiled egg?



## On your bike!

The 18 Year 6 pupils who 'voted to stay' worked together to research and produce a presentation on a different stage of the Tour de Yorkshire. This tied in nicely with the forthcoming race and also embraced the French connection. During this mini-topic the children researched different places to visit along the route and produced leaflets extolling the virtues of towns as diverse as Barnsley, Bridlington and Bedale. They taxed their mathematical minds with Tour de France race statistics and created race jerseys using plain white t-shirts and fabric pens. The topic was finished with a visit from Mrs Turner who viewed the work produced by each group with French madeleines being consumed by the winning group. Vive le Yorkshire/County Durham!

**Mrs Thompson and Mr Joy**



## Awards This Week:

### Merit Certificates:

Lily Shearn, Carter Wake, Lilly Cassidy,  
Thomas Scott-Priestley, Frankie Wilks, Jack Baptist,  
Finley Cable-Jones, Fiore Catellani, Isla Durban,  
Oona MacConachie, Caitlyn McLean, Jenson Moody,  
Megan Sunley, Harry Westgarth, Benjamin Dixon,  
Laura Watts, Evie Durban, Tilly Gray,  
Lavender Lawson, Matilda Owens, Freddie Whitaker,  
Sofia Wilson, Jessica Raper, John Turnbull,  
Matilda Chapman, Ben Arnold, Emily Davidson,  
Mila Johnson, Jacob Thomas, Bella Bland,  
Anna Metcalf, Alexander Carr, Jacob Griffin,  
Sebastian Howard, Tom Staley, Peter Stevenson,  
Isla MacConachie

### Headmistress's Commendations:

Flora Whitaker  
Thomas Scott-Priestley  
Harriet Hatton  
Archie Walder  
James Harburn  
Lilly Cassidy

**Well done!**

### Happy Birthday!

Scarlett Hutchinson  
Niamh Hennessy

**Best wishes!**

## Vive la France!

Last Thursday 36 Year 5 and 6 Preppies, along with 5 members of staff, set off at midnight on their adventures of language, culture and exploration. After a smooth overnight journey, we arrived at Folkestone for an early tunnel crossing with some rather tired children, the excitement of the adventures ahead was prohibitive to a good night's sleep for some!

Arriving in France shortly after 9am, we headed to the infamous Nausicaa in Boulogne-sur-Mer, the largest aquarium in Europe. Recent refurbishments and an extension to the previous exhibit areas has almost doubled the size of the attraction, making this even more exciting and an amazing first port of call after the long journey. We then headed to a local family owned chocolate factory with a personal tour and tastings. The children were fascinated by the number of fantastic creations on show including a model of Notre Dame Cathedral made of milk and white chocolate, which had taken approximately 80 hours to make. It was not long until we reached our final destination, Château de Chanterine, where the team who were looking after us for the weekend welcomed us. After a warm welcome and obligatory fire drill, we headed for tea and then the children quickly settled into their rooms before having an early night to catch up on some sleep.



After breakfast on Saturday morning, the children quickly made their own packed lunches and we set off for a day in Rouen, where we were fortunate to have a guided tour of the town's history and architecture. The children were particularly awe struck by the magnificent architecture, the gold clock with one hand and deep rooted history during the period of Joan of Arc and how this has influenced the city today. In groups, the children built human cathedrals, which included spires, walls and windows, having to work together as a team. It was evident in the smiles on everyone's faces how much fun they had. They also learnt about 'corbelling', using their hands to demonstrate how close the buildings became as they were extended higher. As we came near to the end of our tour, the children blew me away with their confident use of their language skills to order a crepe from a street vendor. With a little practice I was pleased to hear many children beginning

to use language with increased confidence in simple dialogue to say 'hello' and 'goodbye' to shop vendors and staff looking after us at the château. We ended the day with a tour inside Notre Dame Cathedral, which has the tallest church spire in France. Sunday was a day of history and remembrance for those who gave their lives during World War I and II. The day began by visiting the mines at Wellington Quarry in Arras, where we witnessed the conditions which soldiers at war would have endured. Our adventures continued with a very touching visit to the Commonwealth War Graves where Mr Ayres had identified prior to our visit two Old Barnardians laid to rest. We paid our respects and laid a wreath as a mark of respect with a minute's silence. The children were stunned with the sheer volume of graves that they saw as



part of our visit as well as those smaller cemeteries along the roadsides. This was followed by a visit to the Canadian National Memorial at Vimy. The vast landscape gave the children a visual of the areas covered, an opportunity to walk through the deep trenches controlled by each army and to visit a small exhibition area where a range of recordings and artefacts found at the end of the war were on display.

To round off our fantastic stay at the Château, the children were given a flavour of traditional French cuisine, tasting frogs legs and snails. There were many whose taste buds certainly were not keen, but we did have a few who were asking for more!

After a very early breakfast on Monday we waved goodbye to the château and Kingswood staff and set off for Paris. The children were extremely excited as the sights came into view and this was particularly evident when we pulled up outside the Eiffel Tower. I may quote some children as 'speechless'! After a quick lunch, we did what the British do best and joined the queue, preparing ourselves for the long ascent. As we arrived on the second floor of the tower the children were amazed with the view, not realising that we still had further to go. After another queue and a second ride in the lift, we arrived at the top of the tower. We took many, many photographs and group selfies before we made our descent to continue our whistle-stop tour of the city. We enjoyed a ride on the River Seine, seeing the Louvre, Musee d'Orsay and Saint Germain Des Près before arriving at Notre Dame



Cathedral where we were amazed with the intricate detail throughout the design of the building. Our final activity of the day was a tour of the Pompidou Centre where we saw many contemporary works of art by artists such as Robert Delaunay, Vassily Kandinsky and Jackson Pollock. It was fantastic to see the children exploring the gallery with such enthusiasm and a real appreciation for everything they had seen, including the peculiar exterior of the building. After a jam-packed day we met the coach and made our way to the hotel where we had a huge dinner and settled into our rooms for a well-deserved rest.

Our final day in France was welcomed with the sun shining and we decided it was a perfect day to go to the zoo! After a quick pack and

a hearty breakfast, we set out for the Jardin des Plantes and went straight to the Menagerie where we saw everything from Orang-utans to Tapirs, Kangaroos to Snow Leopards and everything in between! It was lovely to see the children rushing around with excitement and huge smiles on their faces. The perfect way to end a wonderful five days. We enjoyed a picnic lunch in the park in the glorious sunshine before beginning the long journey home.

Along with excited parents, we were welcomed back to school by Mrs Turner just before midnight on Tuesday and she was pleased to have us back in Barney. We would like to thank all the children for their positive attitude, fabulous sense of humour and ability to throw themselves into every activity throughout the trip.

I would like to thank Mr Ayres, Mrs Robertson, Mr Killeen and Mrs Small for giving up their time and putting so much effort in to making the trip such a positive experience for all. We hope you enjoyed the Facebook updates during the trip and those parents of 'Preppies in France' have all received an invitation to our Barney Bistro next Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March at 6:30pm in the Atkinson Hall. The children are looking forward to telling you all about their trip.

Au Revoir!

**Miss Strachan**



# Sideline



In the last week, the highlight for many in Years 5 and 6 has been the trip to France. Last Friday, I was delighted to see all those Year 5 and 6 girls remaining in school, get an opportunity to play in the U11 Cluster Group Netball Tournament. As the boys from the French trip returned to school on Wednesday feeling pretty tired, it was a real credit to them that they managed to perform so well in the U11 Cluster Group Football Tournament. It also gave nineteen boys a further opportunity to represent the school, and I was delighted to hear of the performances by both teams on the day. (See reports below).

This Friday we have the HMC Gymnastics competition at RGS Newcastle. Again, we are entering two teams into this competition and I have been delighted by the efforts of the girls who have attended the after school club with Mrs Killeen. I have witnessed some significant improvements in performance in a short space of time. Good luck to the ten girls chosen to represent the school on Friday. This Friday, we also have U11 Girls' Cross Country and Netball at Queen Margaret's and on Saturday, the U11 Rugby 7's at Mowden Hall.

Next week we have managed to add an extra fixture into the calendar, during Year 3 and 4 Games lesson time. This will be all Year 3 & 4 pupils playing Football (boys) and Netball (girls) at Cundall Manor. The re-arranged HMC U11 Rugby 7's is now on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March at St Olave's. As with previous House competitions, parents are more than welcome to attend the Year 5 & 6 House Football Tournament next Friday afternoon from 2:10pm. What a great way to finish this busy term for a well-earned rest!

## Netball at Polam Hall School: U11

The annual Cluster Netball Tournament at Polam Hall is traditionally an Under 11 fixture but, with so many of our Year 6 girls away in France, this provided a great opportunity for the remaining Year 5s to play competitive Netball. We were able to field three teams and I am pleased that each team had at least one victory during the afternoon. I was impressed with how 'cleanly' our girls played, a style commented on by our guest umpire and international Netball player, Thea Thompson! There were very few obstruction or contact calls against our girls, although there were some footwork and 'held ball' errors. Going forward, these are areas on which we need to work. As always, the girls played with great commitment and enthusiasm and represented the school very well. **Mrs Thompson**

On Friday, some of the Year 5 and 6 girls travelled to Polam Hall School for a Netball Tournament. We played four really fun matches against Durham High, Polam Hall, Choristers and Bow. We had two mixed teams which alternated after each half. We had a bit of a slow start but gradually we became stronger teams as the games went on. We watched each other play which helped us to see where we could improve. We tried hard to use what we had been practising in our Games sessions: stronger passing and moving into a space. We all really enjoyed the games we played, unfortunately we did not win the tournament, but we did come joint third which we were really happy about considering a lot of our team members were in France. **Grace Dickinson**

## Dance – Talent Identification Workshops

I was delighted to welcome Debbie Harbin in to school on Wednesday to deliver free contemporary dance workshops for Year 6. Debbie works for Dance City, the North East's leading development organisation for dance, and was in school to identify talent for their Centre for Advanced Training (CAT). Debbie identified three girls and three boys in Year 6 that she has invited to attend the Foundation Dance Project led by The D Project. The aim of this is to train young gifted dancers in Contemporary and Ballet with the longer-term aim of preparing for audition for Dance City's CAT. There is a workshop for Year 5s next Wednesday.



## U11 & U10 Cluster Group Football Tournament

A mixture of Year 5 and 6 players accompanied Mr Ayres and I to Durham for the annual Bow School Football Tournament, it was a beautiful sunny day so the stage was set. The Boys were split into two teams and were faced with challenges, obstacles and stiff competition. Through perseverance, skill and a desire to build on their previous success, the A team triumphed with a penalty shoot out in the final after finishing top of their group. The B team didn't progress to the final but showed true Barney spirit through what was a very difficult group. We both couldn't be any prouder of our teams and are already looking forward to the House Football competition next Friday. **Mr Killeen**



## Sports Performer of the Week

Congratulations to Harry Sinclair who is awarded this week's 'Sports Performer of the Week'. Harry has performed exceptionally well in sport throughout this term, with some great effort in both Cross Country and Rugby 7's. This week, Harry has excelled on the Football pitch, helping the U11 team to win the Cluster Football Tournament. Mr Ayres and Mr Killeen said that Harry's performances were, "absolutely superb" and "inspiring." Mr Ayres made specific reference to the fact that the 'A' team were within two minutes of being knocked out of the competition, and that he had commented to Harry "we could really do with a goal here!" and within 30 seconds of uttering these words, Harry had blasted the ball in the back of the net, securing the team's place in the finals. Obviously, Football is a team sport and the success of the day was very much a team effort, but specific praise must go to Harry because of the way he conducts himself at all times. He always acts in the best interests of the team and encourages others. In fact, I have never heard Harry utter a negative comment to another player and I have never heard a negative comment cast in his direction. Harry helps to create positive morale for the team, and coupled with outstanding performances, makes him worthy of special mention! **Mr Burgess**

