

Barley & Barkway Federation Schools

# NEWSLETTER

22<sup>nd</sup> NOV 2024

AUTUMN TERM

Faith

Curiosity

Wellbeing

Confidence

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have begun preparations for Christmas in our schools! This year at our Nativity we are singing a new set of songs which we hope you will enjoy alongside our younger children acting out, and our Year 4 children telling the Christmas story.

There are several exciting events lined up in the coming weeks and they are mentioned in this newsletter. They'll be emailed home to everyone as well.

We are very proud that we raised some £166 in our Children in Need raffle this year. For small schools, that is a phenomenal amount to be able to donate to the charity's work. Thank you for your generosity.

Do take a look at the Pupil Council report today - a great example of pupil power!

We look forward to seeing you at the Moonlight Market tomorrow (23<sup>rd</sup>), please come along and support the children who are taking part. Please be reminded that children, who are participating, need to wear school uniform.

We hope everyone has a happy weekend.

SHARON BROWN - FEDERATION HEADTEACHER

## UPCOMING EVENTS

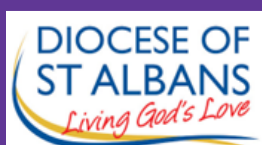
- Moonlight Market 23<sup>rd</sup> November - Children's choir at 5pm in Barkway Church - everyone is very welcome!
- Occasional day 6<sup>th</sup> December - Both schools closed
- Barley Christmas Market 7<sup>th</sup> December, 10.30am until 3.30pm - raffle and refreshments plus a wide range of stalls.
- National Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch 12<sup>th</sup> December
- Christmas Nativity at Barkway Church 19<sup>th</sup> December at 9.00am

**"Living Life in All Its Fullness"**  
-John 10



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# STARS OF THE WEEK

Children are chosen by their teacher to be Star of the Week and are proud to receive this recognition which we celebrate in our Sharing Assembly.

Stars are chosen for good behaviour, excellent work, demonstrating school values...

## NURSERY

This week in Nursery, Elsie is our star of the week. Elsie has really impressed us with her maths learning this week where we have been continuing to explore matching and sorting. Elsie was able to independently match the handprints correctly and she could say why they match and she could also say why they didn't match.

Super work Elsie! Well done.



## RECEPTION

This week in Reception, our star is Finley. We have been really impressed with Finley in our phonics lessons. Finley has been working hard on blending and segmenting a cvc word. This week Finley was able to write the cvc word 'top' by himself.

Well done Finley!

## YEAR 1

This week in Apple Class, everyone is the star of the week for all the hard work they have put in learning the words and actions to the songs we are singing at the concert in the West Road Concert Hall in Cambridge. Miss Horton said that their singing was so beautiful that she had a tear in her eye.

I can't wait to see the whole show on Monday.



# STARS OF THE WEEK

## YEAR 2

This week in Hazel Class, Vira is the shining star for her efforts with all her learning. Vira impressed us with knowing which 'i' spelling to use in the words 'bright night'. Vira has also been working really hard in Maths lessons to add and subtract across a 10 using base 10 to help her. Vira can now exchange her tens strip for ten ones to complete the calculations correctly. She really persevered with this tricky learning. Well done Vira!

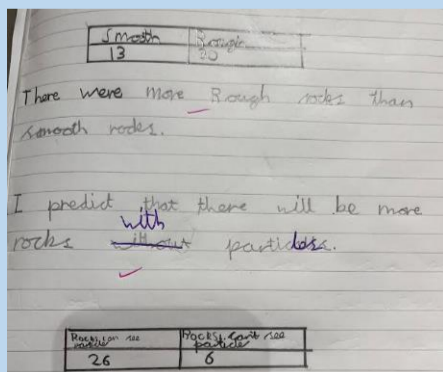
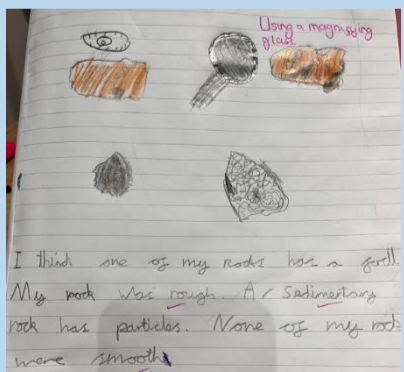


## YEAR 3

This week in Beech Class, George is our star of the week. In Science, our target is to ask questions, make predictions and draw our own tables to represent our findings.

In our learning about different rocks, George used a magnifying glass to identify the particles in rocks. He then drew different rocks using his magnifying glass, to add detail. Finally George drew a table, using a ruler, to represent his findings.

Super science learning George.



## YEAR 4

This week, in Year 4, our star of the week is Sonny. Sonny has been working really hard this week in all of his subjects and I have been really impressed with his positive attitude towards his learning and also his pride in his work. I particularly liked seeing how pleased he was with his maths learning on Monday when he used our number line to help him solve number problems about the 9 times table. Well done Sonny!



# STARS OF THE WEEK

## ART STAR

Year 4 are Art Stars this week.

We have been learning about the artist Andy Warhol and looking at some of his work. Year 4 created portraits of themselves in the style of Warhol's famous Marilyn Monroe series.

Well done Year 4, you look amazing!



## SPORTS STAR

This week there have been a few sports stars:

Notably, Reggie in Year 1, is one of our sports stars of the week for performing in all games this week.

And also Harry, Jessica and Cece for showing outstanding effort and creativity in gymnastics!



# SCHOOL COUNCIL

The school council met with Mrs Gould this week for an important meeting, it was lovely that councillors Reggie and Ophelia joined the meeting too over Zoom! Miss Preston and Mrs Brown were also present to support the discussion. Mrs Gould began by thanking the councillors for their work so far - for selling the poppies to help fundraise for the Royal British Legion and for gathering pupil voice on a school life questionnaire. Mrs Gould reminded the councillors that they are role models for others in the school and other children may look to them to know how to behave.

Mrs Gould helped to give the councillors an overall picture of the results of the School Life Questionnaire. Overall the results were very positive with most children feeling happy and safe at school, they like their teachers and feel they learn a lot in lessons. One area that was orange rather than green was enjoying playtimes and Mrs Gould said that we will continue to look at this and this week Miss Phillips is putting out colouring, construction and small world toys to support happy playtimes.

The councillors then turned their attention to the main topic of the meeting which was the portion sizes of school meals. Sometimes the portion sizes can be small and other days they are too big.

**Mrs Gould introduced the issue of small lunches and asked what happens if we do not eat enough?**

**Responses were:**

Reggie – You might get sick

Finley – If we eat enough our brain stays active for learning

Storm – If you don't eat enough you will be hungry

Willow – We don't want to be hungry when learning

Reign – we wont be healthy

Louie M – We won't have enough energy

Cali – You can't do learning



**Then Mrs Gould asked – What can we do about this?**

Ophelia – We could swap (providers) with someone else

Finley – three words have more food

Louie M – Let us have more big portions

Vira – message them

Ophelia – phone them

Reign – send a letter

Finley – make our voice matter

Louie M – we could say it face to face (with our school meals provider)

Ophelia then made the important point that sometimes lunches are really big, they can be too small or too big.

Finley – too big meals might give us a tummy ache

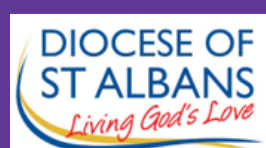
Willow – we might feel sick



**Next week the school councillors will let their classes know about this issue and will have some discussion time with their classes to gather more pupil voice on this important issue. They will then report their findings back to Mrs Gould.**

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# CHILDREN IN NEED RAFFLE FUNDRAISER

Thank you so much to all those that donated money to our Children in Need fundraising raffle. We raised £149.11 from the raffle and including the 2 Pudsey Bears we purchased, the total donated to CiN was £169.11.

The winners were:

1 Free Farm Entry to Ardeley Christmas Farm  
Esme, Maisie, Noah H, Annie J and Alice B

Pudsey Bear Toys  
Poppy J and Willow H

Pack of Pens  
Leo P and Sonny

Assorted Bumper Pack of Crafts  
Grayson and Angelica-Mae

Colouring and Activity Books  
Tobias and Jessica P

All the other children that entered chose either a slap band or stretchy man.

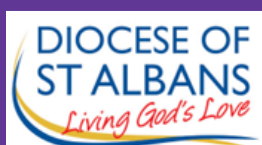


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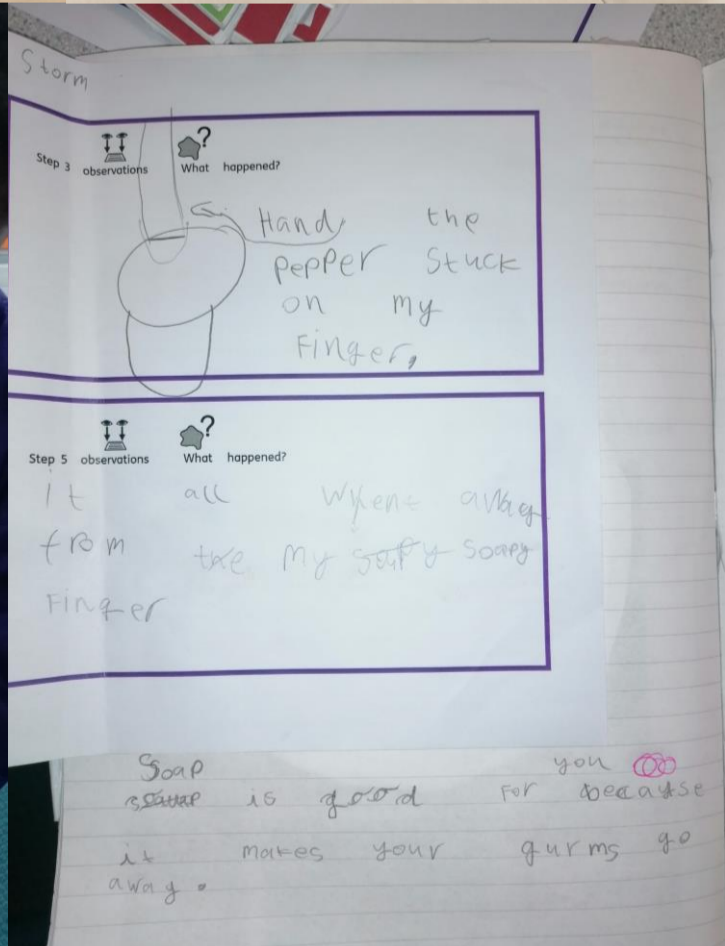
# CLASS ACTIVITIES

## YEAR 2

In Science, Year 2 carried on with their human biology unit this week with a fun experiment about germs.

The children filled a bowl with water and sprinkled on black pepper. They dipped their finger into the bowl and observed what happened. "The pepper has gone all on my finger like germs" (Isabelle).

We then put soap on our finger and carried out the same experiment again. This time the children could see the pepper moving away from their fingers and not sticking at all! "We wash our hands to help the germs go away" (Willow).



# CLASS ACTIVITIES



## YEAR 3

On Monday 18th November children in Year 3 visited the Hitchin Museum for a Stone Age to Bronze Age workshop. The children held stone and metal tools from this historical era and made shelters. They then thought like hunters and learnt how to use a bow and arrow to catch their food. Stan said "I never knew a mammoth only had 4 teeth". Aria thought that a harpoon would be a great way to catch fish. Annie commented that "it was fun because we got to touch a bronze sword". The children were amazed to see Stone Age artefacts that have been dug in Hertfordshire and are displayed in the museum.

Well done Beech Class for asking so many questions to further your understanding of this historical period and learn how the Stone Age people lived.