

# NEWSLETTER

Barley & Barkway Federation Schools

Faith Curiosity Wellbeing Confidence

## THE FIRST FULL WEEK OF SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful start to the new school year! I am delighted to welcome our new Nursery children and their families to Oak Class. They have all settled extremely well and are thoroughly enjoying their time exploring and learning in their new environment.

In Oak (Reception) Class, we are pleased to introduce Eddie, Elsie, Mia, Rowan, Matthew, Isabel, Mabel, Jude, Dolly, Hallie, Grace, and Albie. Some of these children are new to our Federation, while others have already been part of our Nursery community. It has been fantastic to see everyone thriving, and Mrs Edwards, Mrs Bailey, and Miss Horton are incredibly proud of all our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) children.

A big thank you to everyone who attended our recent 'Meet the Teacher' meetings. We are very pleased with how smoothly these sessions ran and the positive, productive conversations they encouraged. If you have any further questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher. For new families, and as a helpful reminder to all, a 'Who's Who' guide to our staff team is available on the school website. This resource provides useful information about the fantastic team supporting your children every day.

We are thrilled to welcome Mrs Whitaker, our new PE teacher across the Federation. Feedback from both the children and Mrs Whitaker about her first sessions has been fantastic! Her expertise and enthusiasm are infectious, and it's wonderful to see the children so engaged and excited about PE. Miss Grint, Mrs Bagnall, and I all had the best time joining Year 2 and 3 for a lively game of British Bulldog on Thursday, lots of laughter and great energy all around! Miss Grint even came joint first with Harry from Year 2, which was very impressive!

I would also like to take this opportunity to share that we are an Operation Encompass Federation. This means that when the police attend a domestic incident where a child has been present, the Federation is confidentially informed the next day. This process helps us to better understand a child's situation and offer the right support, whether that's extra care, a safe space, or simply a little more patience. Please be assured that only key staff members are made aware, and all information is handled with the utmost confidentiality.

Please remember that key dates for this term can be found on our website under the 'News and Events' tab in our Federation Calendar. These dates will also be included in our weekly Federation newsletters and updated throughout the year.

Finally, a huge thank you to all the children across the Federation for creating such beautiful artwork for my special competition. I will be spending time this weekend reviewing all the wonderful entries and will announce the winners next week. I look forward to sharing their artwork and celebrating their creativity with you all soon.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Miss Mière  
Acting Federation Headteacher



## THIS TERM OUR SCHOOL

### VALUE IS 'GENEROSITY'

*Our students will be focusing on loving others as we love ourselves, giving sacrificially, giving cheerfully, caring for creation, and giving our time.*

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### September

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> – BBF School Photographs

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> – Years 2, 3 & 4 to Buckingham Palace

### October

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> – Harvest Service @ Barkway Church

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Half Term Begins

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> – Half term ends (schools reopen Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November)

### November

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> – BBF Flu Immunisations (Reception to Y4)

### December

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> – Occasional Day (Schools Closed)

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> – School Nurse Reception Height, Weight, Vision & Hearing Screening

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> – BBF Christmas Lunch/Xmas Jumper Day

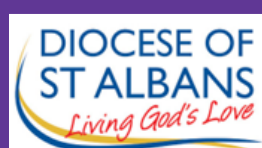
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> – End of Term (EYFS & Y1 12.30pm, Yrs 2, 3 & 4 12.45pm)

*"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 everyone is the shining stars! They all tried really hard and settled in really well to the new routines of Nursery!

Well done everyone!



## RECEPTION

This week Eddie is our shining star in Reception. At first, before his very first PE lesson, he was feeling a bit nervous as it was all very new! However Eddie absolutely loved PE and stayed positive throughout the lesson. He worked hard on his football skills and never gave up!

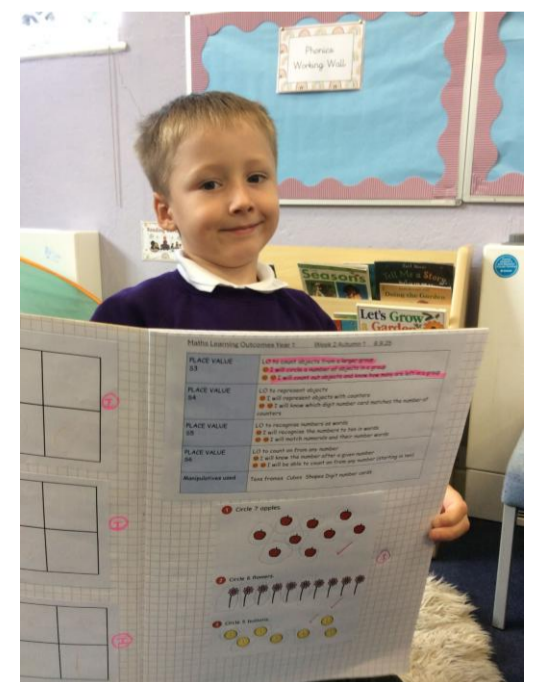
Well done Eddie!

## YEAR 1

This week in Apple class, Theo is the shining star for his brilliant learning behaviours. Theo listens to school adults when they are talking and he worked independently on his Maths task.

Theo was able to circle the correct number of objects out of a group and could tell Mrs Gould how many were left too!

Well done Theo we are very proud of you.



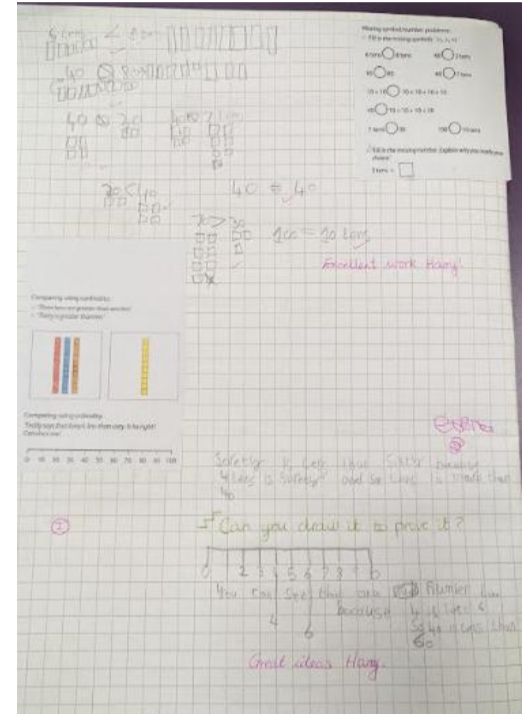
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## YEAR 2

Miss Preston is so impressed with Harry's maths this week. He proved his maths by drawing different representations including dienes, a number line and also explained his working out in words.

Well done Harry, Mrs Porter was also super impressed with your marvellous maths.



## YEAR 3

Our Star of the Week is Isaac. He designed a wonderful paper aeroplane for our reading buddies at Margaret House. Isaac showed such thoughtful creativity thinking that our buddies might know a lot about aeroplanes, since some of them may have been alive during the war.

What a fantastic way to make a meaningful connection Isaac, well done!

## YEAR 4

This week, our star of the week is Reign. Reign has had a super start to Year 4. She comes in promptly, ready to learn and has been able to organise herself. She has also been excelling in our maths lessons where we have been looking at place value and meeting 1000s for the first time.

Well done Reign!

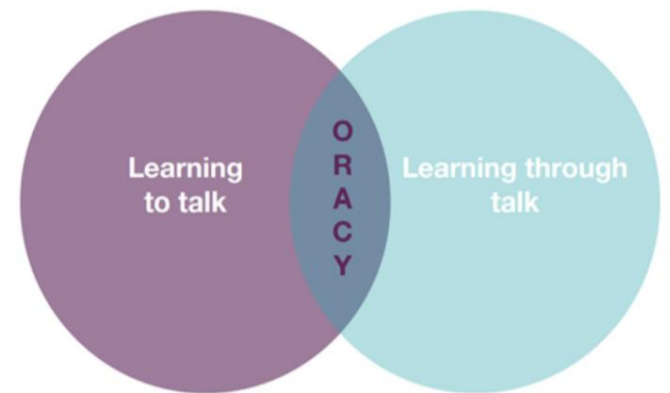


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## ORACY STAR

This week our Oracy star of the week is Esme in year 2. Esme confidently spoke about her feelings in SCARF, sharing times that she has felt nervous e.g when presenting to parents in her class assembly.



## SPORTS STAR

This week Mrs Whitaker wants to praise all of the children at BBF for their amazing start to their PE classes this week.

In particular she wanted to mention Ellie-May in Hazel Class who stood out for her determination and perseverance during her first lesson of football. She did not stop for one second and also encouraged others throughout the lesson. Well done Ellie-May.

## ART STAR

This week Eleanor in Apple Class is the art star. Apple Class were challenged to make marks whilst listening to music seeing if we made different marks for different musical styles. This was a really tricky task and Eleanor followed the brief right from the start.



## SCIENCE STAR

This week, our Science Star is awarded to all of Beech Class! At the start of our new science topic, Mrs Porter set the class a challenge to “ask and write questions.” The children rose to the challenge brilliantly, thinking carefully about what they already knew and what they wanted to find out. They came up with some fantastic, thoughtful questions which is a great start to our science learning journey!



# A SUPER-STAR STUDENT

## THE LITTLE PRINCESS TRUST

We are so proud of Eliza in Sycamore Class. She has been a real superstar over the holidays. Eliza kindly donated her hair to the Little Princess Trust who are one of the largest charities that creates beautiful wigs for children who may have lost their hair due to illness.

What an inspiring act of kindness and generosity.  
Well done, Eliza! We are very proud of you.



A big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
to Louis, Vincent, and  
Matthew celebrating their  
special day this week!

We hope you have/had a  
fantastic time filled with fun  
and the things you enjoy  
the most!

# INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION AWARD

We are very excited to announce that we have been awarded the next stage of our International School Award at Intermediate level. This award celebrates the way we have been promoting and developing international dimensions throughout our curriculum:

"Congratulations to you and your colleagues on achieving the International School Award Intermediate Certificate: Developing Internationalism. We're delighted to include a certificate recognising your achievement. The International School Award is an excellent way of promoting the international dimension across your school and throughout your curriculum, highlighting the benefits of learning from across the globe. Your commitment to extending and embedding this work is a very valuable aspect of the school ethos."

We will continue to embed our International work and recognise the importance of this in helping children to have a greater understanding of other cultures, languages, and traditions.



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## International School Award

# Certificate

This is to certify that

**Barley and Barkway VA first school**

has achieved

**Intermediate level**  
Developing internationalism

Scott McDonald  
Chief Executive, British Council



Dear Head Teacher

### BRITISH COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD - INTERMEDIATE CERTIFICATE

Congratulations to you and your colleagues on achieving the **International School Award Intermediate Certificate: Developing Internationalism**. We're delighted to include a certificate recognising your achievement.

The International School Award is an excellent way of promoting the international dimension across your school and throughout your curriculum, highlighting the benefits of learning from across the globe. Your commitment to extending and embedding this work is a very valuable aspect of the school ethos and the British Council can support you at each stage of your international journey.

In addition to a partner-finding facility, British Council has many sources of information, resources, case studies and examples of good practise to help you as you progress through the International School Award framework. Information about the application process for International School Award accreditation is also available on the website.

We will be pleased to offer help, advice, information and support when you need it. We are available to discuss any aspect of your school's international work. You can contact the team for advice or assistance by email: [isa@britishcouncil.org](mailto:isa@britishcouncil.org).

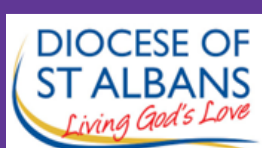
Thank you for taking part in the International School Award. Please send our special congratulations to the international co-ordinator at the school who has worked so hard to co-ordinate the school's international activities. We hope that the scope of your international work will continue to develop and benefit the school community.

Yours sincerely,

Irina Gecheva  
[isa@britishcouncil.org](mailto:isa@britishcouncil.org)

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# THE BEST START IN LIFE

We know that our parents/carers want to give their children ‘the best start in life’. As part of the new government initiative to support parents and carers with childcare and knowledge they have created a page for parents and carers where you can ask questions on a whole range of topics.

Follow this link to find out more: <https://www.beststartinlife.gov.uk/>

The Childcare Choices website is now the Best Start in Life parent hub



Pregnancy Baby Toddler Childcare and Early Years Education School readiness Childcare eligibility checker

## The Best Start in Life parent hub

There are no wrong questions when it comes to your child's development.

Best Start in Life brings together trusted information and support from pregnancy through your child's early years and beyond.

### I need help with

When should my child start eating solid food?

How do I get my child ready for school?

Can I get help paying for childcare?

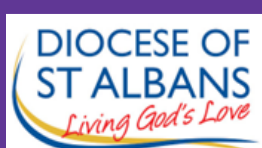
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# NATURE FACES

## NURSERY AND RECEPTION

Our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) children have been settling beautifully into school life, building friendships and exploring their new environment with curiosity and confidence. As part of our outdoor learning, the children enjoyed a creative activity making "nature faces" using leaves, twigs, stones, and other natural materials.

This hands-on experience not only sparked their imaginations but also encouraged teamwork, fine motor skills, and an appreciation for the world around them. It's been a wonderful start to the term, full of smiles, learning, and laughter! Well done Oak Class!



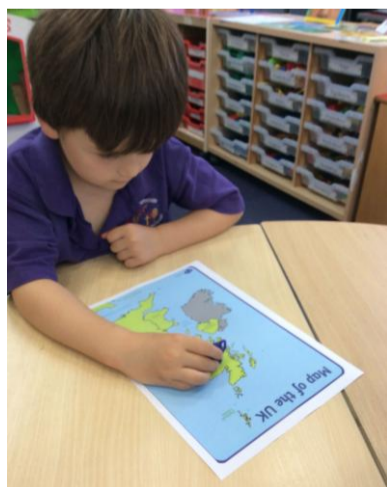
# THE UNITED KINGDOM

## YEAR 1

This week Apple Class began their Geography unit on the United Kingdom. Mrs Gould began by asking them what they could remember from Reception and if they had any questions. All the children had something to say and Lexi impressed Mrs Gould by knowing that "There are other places not in England like Africa, Florida and Japan". Some children had great questions such as Hunter who asked "Why is there water all around it (the land)?"

The children enjoyed a song about the countries in the United Kingdom and they had a really good look at a map of the UK before completing some related tasks. Mrs Gould was very impressed with Leo and Finley who could place their toy elephant on the correct country when Mrs Gould named each one out loud. Some children chose to make flags and Henry did an amazing job of completing a very tricky UK puzzle independently, "I am making England now".

Well done everyone, a great start to Geography in Year 1!



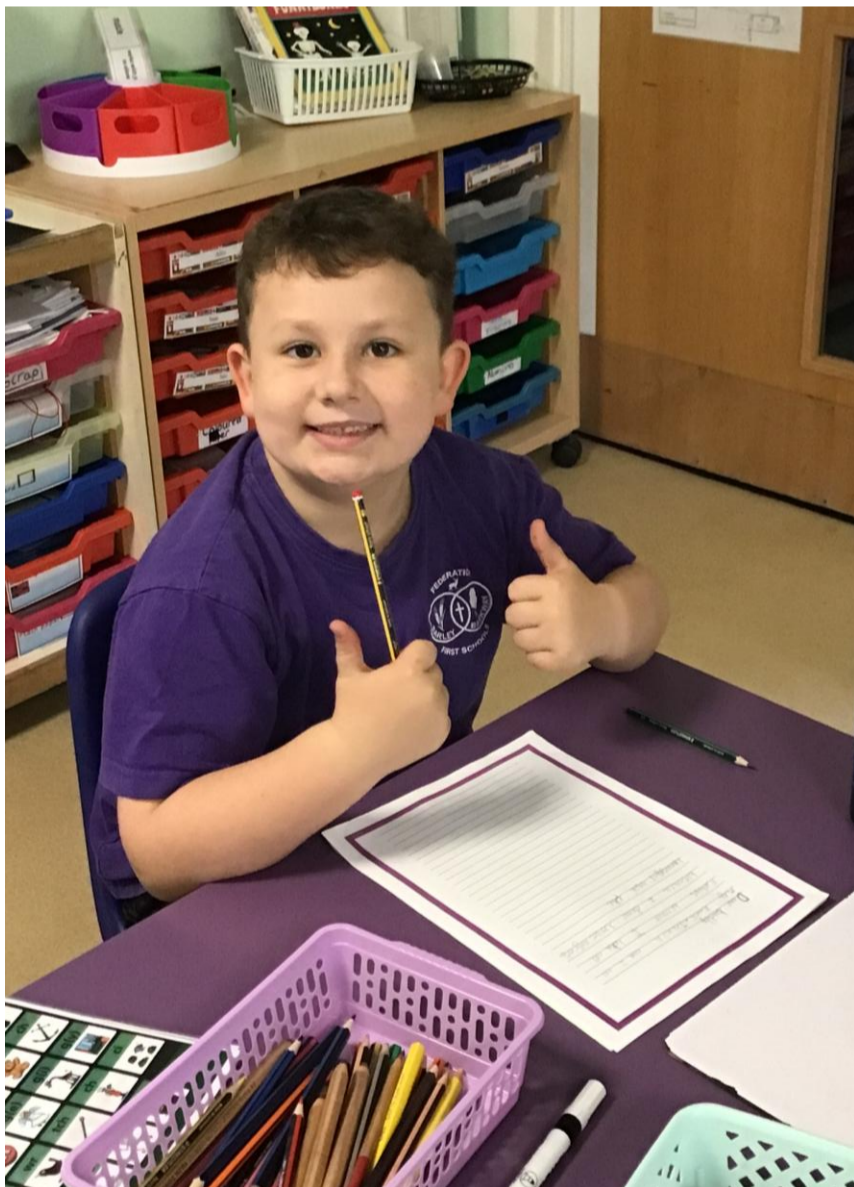
# LETTER WRITING

## YEAR 3

This week in year 3 we were excited to learn that we will be going to Margaret House to read every Tuesday.

To introduce ourselves to our buddies, we wrote letters to introduce ourselves.

Well done year 3 for showing kindness and settling so well into your new classrooms.



# LETTER WRITING

## YEAR 4

Year 4 have been enjoying their new book Arthur and the Golden Rope. This is a Graphic Novel and we are going to be creating our own versions, thinking about the text boxes, illustrations and speech bubbles. Over the year, we will be introducing the children to many different types of text, both fiction and non-fiction.

