

NEWSLETTER

Barley & Barkway Federation Schools

Faith Curiosity Wellbeing Confidence

A MESSAGE FROM OUR HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are looking forward to our Harvest Festival Service at Barkway Church on Thursday 2nd October at 9:00am. It is always such a special event in our school calendar, and we warmly encourage you to come along and join us in the celebration. Please arrive at Barkway at the normal drop-off time.

As part of the service, each year group will be bringing Harvest offerings which will then be donated to the local food bank. If you are able, please could your child bring in an item from the following list:

Biscuits, jam, coffee (100g)
Tinned fruit, tinned fish, pasta sauce
Tinned tomatoes, tinned meat, tinned vegetables
Tinned custard, rice pudding, sponge puddings
Tea bags, dried milk, bags of sugar (500g)
Long life milk (UHT whole or semi-skimmed)
Long life fruit juice (apple or orange)

After the service, Years 2, 3 and 4 will walk to Forest School.

On Wednesday 24th September we celebrated National Fitness Day, which was a great success! A big thank you to Mrs Whitaker who led the whole-school warm-up at the start of the day, followed by circuit training for EYFS and Year 1 at Barkway, and a star jump and hula hoop challenge at Barley for Years 2, 3 and 4. It was wonderful to see everyone, including staff, in their favourite fitness gear, fully joining in the fun.

There were so many great examples of perseverance throughout the day. A special mention goes to Cece and Lorena in Year 4, who showed incredible resilience during a hula hoop challenge with Mrs Whitaker, they were the final two still going, keeping their hoops spinning the longest. Well done, girls!

It was also lovely to spend time in Oak Class this week during their pirate topic. I had great fun helping to make pirate ships with Duplo and with the large construction outdoors. The children showed such fantastic teamwork and sharing, which was a real joy to see. In Year 1 maths, I was especially impressed with the children's work on "greater than" and "fewer than". They used their arms to show the signs and then recorded them carefully in calculations on their whiteboards. Amazing Mathematicians!

Looking ahead, we are very excited to be taking part in some wonderful sporting events with local schools around Royston this year – we can't wait to hear all about their fun and achievements.

Finally, a date for your diary: on Wednesday 15th October, 3-4pm, we will be holding our Little Wandle Phonics Meeting for Reception parents and carers. This will be a great opportunity to learn how phonics is taught in school and how you can support your child's early reading at home. Please look out for the email with further details.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Miss Mière
Acting 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

Monday 29th – Years 2, 3 & 4 to Buckingham Palace

October

Thursday 2nd – Harvest Service @ Barkway Church 9am to 9.40am followed by Yrs 2, 3 and 4 attending Forest School

Monday 27th – Half Term Begins

Friday 31st – Half term ends (schools reopen Monday 3rd November)

November

Tuesday 4th – BBF Flu Immunisations (Reception to Y4)

December

Friday 5th – Occasional Day (Schools Closed)

Thursday 9th – School Nurse Reception Height, Weight, Vision & Hearing Screening

Thursday 11th – BBF Christmas Lunch/Xmas Jumper Day

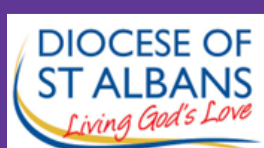
Friday 19th – End of Term (EYFS & Y1 12.30pm, Yrs 2, 3 & 4 12.45pm)

"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, Albie has shown wonderful creativity and determination in our tuff tray area. Using a selection of natural materials, Albie carefully created his own family out of stones, thoughtfully choosing different shapes and sizes to represent each person.

What made this extra special was that Albie even included his pet cat, Peaches, showing how important she is to him! He explained his choices with great care and spoke confidently about each family member, sharing his ideas with real pride.

Albie, we are so impressed by your imagination and the care you put into your work. What a thoughtful and creative learner you are!

Well done, Albie!



RECEPTION

This week, we are so proud of Rowan for showing fantastic focus and care during our activities. Rowan worked really hard to write his name carefully, forming each letter with great attention. He also listened beautifully to instructions and followed them step-by-step – just like a real learning superhero!

Rowan, your perseverance and concentration have truly shone this week. Keep up the brilliant work – we can't wait to see what you do next!

YEAR 1

This week Leo is the shining star in Apple class. Leo has impressed us with his maturity and independence and he is soaking up the new Year 1 learning like a sponge!

Leo is always very thoughtful in his responses too. In RE when asked – What does God mean to you? Leo responded 'God believes in us'. He also showed thought and understanding in a Collective Worship Assembly, commenting that the old lady in the bible story was more generous than the wealthy man because 'she gave all she had'.

Thank you for your efforts Leo, well done.



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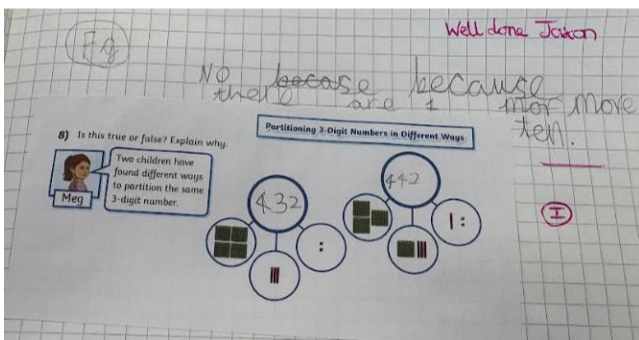
YEAR 2

This week in year 2 everyone is the star of the week for very clearly practicing their spellings! On Friday I sent home “ghost” as a spelling ready for our learning this week and everyone was able to spell it on Monday. This shows how dedicated all the hazel class children are to their learning! I am so proud of each of you and hope you all continue working hard on your homework!!



YEAR 3

This week in maths, we have been flexibly partitioning 3-digit numbers. Jaxon is our star of the week. He used his place value counters to find more than one way to partition a number. He showed excellent problem-solving skills when tackling true or false questions and explained his reasoning clearly. Well done, Jaxon! !



YEAR 4

This week, our star of the week is Stan. Stan has really impressed me so far this term with his really positive attitude towards maths. He has shown really good understanding of 4 digit numbers and is able to explain to me how he knows the answer to my questions. This is a really important maths skill as we are working on our maths oracy.

Well done Stan!



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ORACY STAR

This week, Eliza in Year 4 is our oracy star. Eliza is always willing to answer and explain how she knows something. She is able to use our new maths vocabulary that we have been learning such as ascending and descending, factor and product, putting them in sentences to explain her answer. Well done Eliza



SPORTS STAR

Vincent is PE star this week. He has really impressed me with his can do attitude in every PE lesson so far this term. This week he took part in National Fitness Day and stood out as a patient leader, who encouraged his team and joined in all the activities with energy.

STAR OF THE WEEK

This week we wanted to say a big thank you to Mrs Makewell for being our shining star and always

“Making us well”.

Mrs Makewell is always on hand as one of our first aiders and was ready to support during National Fitness Day to model moves and support with any bumps or grazes.



SCIENCE STAR

This week, our Science star is Lexi. This term we have been learning all about the Human Body and our senses and I am always impressed by Lexi's ideas. We completed our first scientific enquiry where we asked, 'Are people's feet bigger if they are older?'. Lexi had her own idea that she thought instead of the oldest children in the class it would be the tallest children in the class that had the biggest feet. We tested her theory and found it was true most of the time. Well done Lexi!



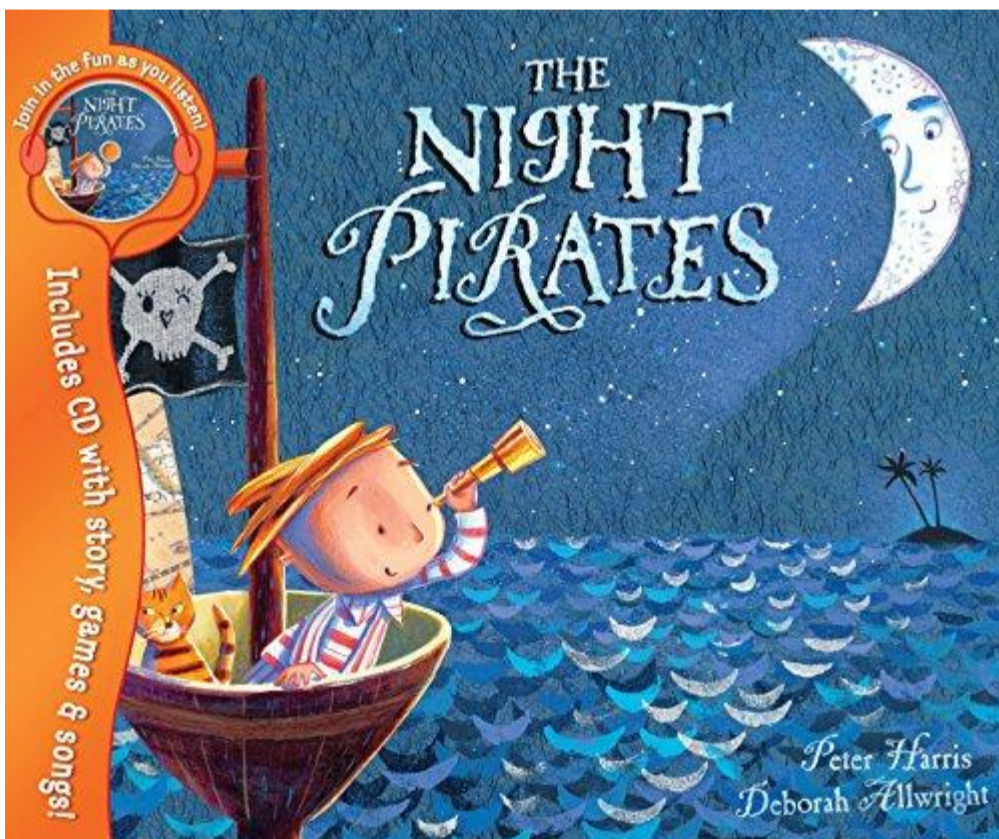
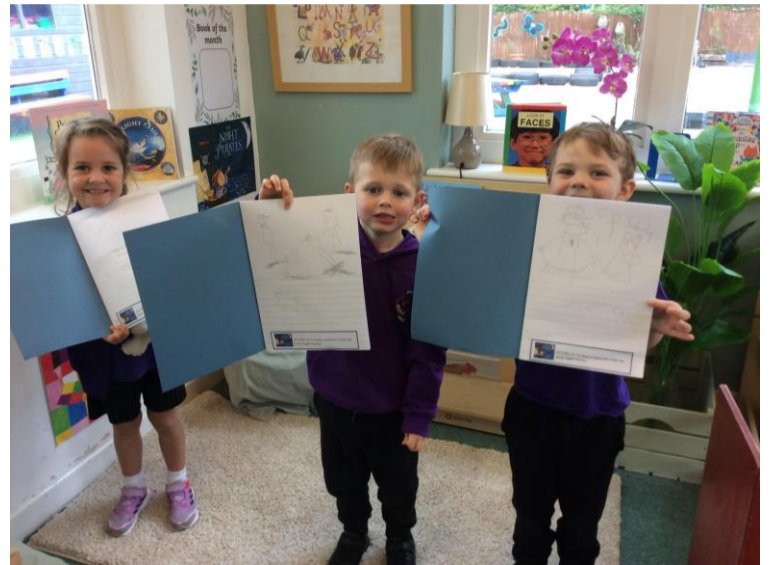
DRAWING CLUB

NURSERY AND RECEPTION

This week in Drawing Club, our children have been diving into the exciting world of *The Night Pirates* by Peter Harris and Deborah Allwright. The story has captured everyone's imagination, as we joined young Tom on his brave and sneaky adventure with a band of fearless girl pirates! Using this swashbuckling tale as inspiration, the children have been busy creating detailed drawings of pirate ships, treasure maps, and even their own pirate characters. They've also been exploring new vocabulary and storytelling skills, as well as identifying characters in a story.

It's been wonderful to see the children's imagination, creativity, and early writing skills shine through their artwork and story ideas.

Ahoy there, little pirates – we can't wait for next week's adventure!



ENGLISH

YEAR 1

In English, Apple class have been applying their learning on Labels, Lists and Captions in practical ways. They followed instructions to help them plant cress seeds and had a go at writing their own. The children were also gardeners on Monday's English lesson which helped them work out what they needed for their list writing the following day - writing a list of everything a gardener needs. The children suggested boots, gloves, spades and seeds.



LOCAL WALK

YEAR 2

On Friday, Year 2 went on a local area walk to view the human and physical features of Barley. It also gave the children an opportunity to get to know Barley village and see the big differences to Barkway - the excitement over a shop, Margaret house and a pub!! However the highlight of the trip was getting to see the teeth that have been left in the wall.



ILLUSTRATORS

YEAR 3

In year 3 we have been illustrators. We are planning our own Mini Rabbit Not Lost Stories. We used large pieces of paper to create our stories and bring our own ideas to life. These wonderful ideas will support our narrative writing next week.



GRAPHIC NOVELS

YEAR 4

Year 4 have been working really hard on creating their own graphic novels. We invited our parents in to share them and we are also sharing them with the younger children. The children are very proud of all their hard work.

