

NEWSLETTER

Barley & Barkway Federation Schools

Faith Curiosity Wellbeing Confidence

Dear Parents and Carer,

It has definitely been a VERY cold week! Despite the frosty mornings and chilly air, the children have been full of energy and enthusiasm, both indoors and out. Christmas preparations have well and truly begun at BBF, and the festive spirit is definitely helping to keep us all warm.

The children have been practising their Christmas songs in our singing assembly, and a big well done to everyone for learning and performing the PCSO Christmas Crime Prevention version of We Wish You a Merry Christmas. We are looking forward to seeing the completed video, which will include verses from our local small schools. We will share the link with you as soon as it is released.

It has been lovely to spend time outside with the children this week. Even in the super-cold, frosty weather, they thoroughly enjoyed themselves, especially discovering patches of ice around the playground!

Years 3 and 4 took part in a very exciting Egyptians workshop, where they learnt all about mummification and explored some fascinating artefacts first-hand. This was definitely a WOW experience and will really support their history learning this half-term.

Reception were visited by PCSO Hannah, who talked to the children about road safety. The children then practised crossing the road safely with her, remembering to stop, look and listen before they crossed. Well done, Oak Class!

Our Year 1 Eco Councillors were brilliant ambassadors for our federation this week. They showed Mark Wilkinson around the outside environment at Barkway and spoke confidently about the different types of wildlife we might see there.

Barkway children were also very lucky to welcome another wonderful local author into school today. Elena Mannion came to share her book Old Oak and Little Acorn with the children. A big thank you to her for giving up her time and inspiring our young readers.

We are also thrilled to be taking part in the Barkway Christmas Advent Windows this year. Each day in Advent, a newly decorated window will appear somewhere in the village. The children at Barkway are already busy designing and preparing our large office window ready for its reveal in December. We are excited to be part of this lovely tradition and look forward to spotting all the beautifully decorated windows as we count down to Christmas. If you live in Barkway and would like to take part please contact Kate Pinnock, kate@inghampinnock.com.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our Children in Need fundraising. We raised an impressive £130.55, an amazing achievement for our small schools, and a wonderful contribution to such an important charity.

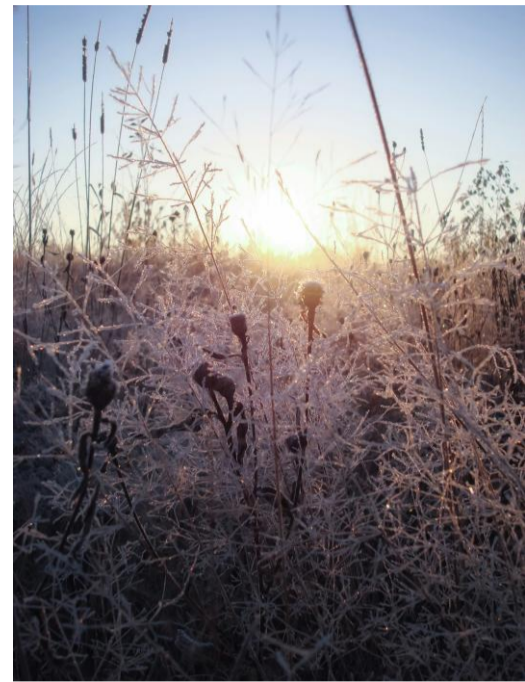
There are several exciting events coming up in the next few weeks, and you will find some details in this newsletter, with further information to follow by email.

We are very much looking forward to seeing many of you at the Moonlight Market tomorrow (22nd) in Barkway Church at 4:30pm. We would love you to come along and support the children who are taking part. Please could all children who are singing wear their school uniform for this occasion. Thank you to all the parents who have already let us know if their child will be attending, everyone is very welcome!

As the temperatures continue to drop, please do make sure the children are wrapped up warm for school.

Wishing you all a cosy, peaceful weekend.

Miss Mière
Acting Headteacher



Dates for your diary

November

Saturday 22nd - Moonlight Market at Barkway Church - children's choir at 4:30pm in the church - everyone is welcome. (4.00pm until 7.00pm)

Thursday 27th - Year 2 Football Festival at St Edmunds Prep School (9.00am until 12.30pm)

December

Thursday 4th - BBF Christmas Decorations Day at Barley School

Friday 5th - Occasional Day (Schools closed)

Sunday 7th - Barkway Christmas Tree from 3-4.30pm

Tuesday 9th - School Nurse in for Reception Height, Weight, Vision & Hearing Screening

Thursday 11th - Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 11th - BBF Christmas Lunch

Friday 12th - BBF Trip to Pantomime at BEAM Hertford (9.00am until 12.30pm)

Thursday 18th - Christmas Service at St Mary Magdalene Church, Barkway (9.00am until 10.00am)

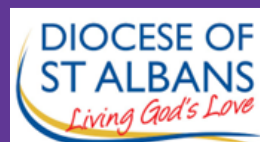
Friday 19th - End of Term (EYFS & Year 1 finish at 12.30pm, Years 2, 3 & 4 finish at 12.45pm)

“Living Life in All Its Fullness” –John 10



Barley and Barkway (VA) C of E First Schools Federation
Church End, Barley, SG8 8JW | 84 High Street, Barkway, SG8 8EF

Tel: 01763 848281 | 01763 848283
Email: admin@barleybarkway.herts.sch.uk
Website: www.barleybarkway.herts.sch.uk



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, Hallie is our shining star in Oak class. She showed fantastic focus and determination during our mark making activity. She worked hard to do straight lines, circles and spiral shapes. She always has such a positive attitude!

We are so proud of her hard work and brilliant mark making skills.

Well done Hallie!



RECEPTION

This week's Star of the Week goes to Rowan. This week, Rowan has been a superstar in phonics! He has been trying really hard with blending sounds and has shown great determination and focus. Rowan is confidently putting sounds together to read words, and it's wonderful to see him working hard to blend out each sound carefully.

Well done, Rowan—you should be very proud of yourself!

Keep up the fantastic work!

YEAR 1

This week our shining star is Vinnie! This week we have been designing and making our own smoothies for this term's DT project. Vinnie did a great job designing his smoothie. He was really confident when it came to cutting up his fruit and he said he always helps his dad with the cooking at home.

Vinnie enjoyed drinking his smoothie saying, "It is really tasty".



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...

YEAR 2

This week, all of Year 2 are our Stars of the Week!

Mrs Porter has been incredibly impressed with their learning behaviours. They have shown a wonderful attitude towards their learning and have demonstrated impeccable manners throughout the week.

Well done Year 2, keep shining brightly!



YEAR 3

This week, Willow is our Star of the Week for her fantastic work with division and multiplication. We have been focusing on the 3 times table, and Willow can confidently write both her multiplication and division facts. She is demonstrating great automaticity with her multiplication and division facts.

Well done, Willow!

YEAR 4

This week, Eliza is the star of the week in Year 4. We have been writing explanations this week in both English and History. Eliza has been able to use fronted adverbials in all her writing and remembers to put a comma after her fronted adverbial, before the rest of the sentence without being reminded.

Well done Eliza!



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...



SPORTS STAR

This weeks star is someone that could easily be the PE star every week! With his positive attitude and his willingness to learn, he is a delight to teach its - JAXON!!! He will always give all skills, drills and games a real good try and will also encourage other to do the same! Keep it up Jaxon you are a real inspiration.



ART STAR

This week Reign in Year 4 is art star. Year 4 were set the challenge to do a quick painting of a tiger in a forest inspired by Henri Rousseau. To make this more difficult they only had paint in primary colours, blue, red and yellow and had to mix the colours needed. Reign made more than one shade of green which really impressed Mrs Makewell and her tiger is grrrrreat!

This week, Years 2 and 4 have earned the title of Science Stars of the Week for their fantastic collaboration on our States of Matter display.

They worked brilliantly together, sharing ideas and supporting one another to create a vibrant, engaging showcase of their learning. Well done to all involved!



This week our Oracy star of the week is Isabel in Oak Class. This week Reception and Nursery have been learning about traditional tales such as 'The Three Little Pigs'. Isabel practiced retelling the story with some of her peers, using puppets and props to help her. She was able to recount key phrases from the story and even changed her voice to be like The Big Bad Wolf.

Fantastic storytelling Isabel!

A big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**
to Miss Preston celebrating
her special day this week!

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

CHILDREN IN NEED

Thank you so much to all of you for supporting our Children in Need fundraising day on Friday. Across both schools we raised £130.55 (including the money we spent on the Pudsey bears). This is a brilliant amount of money for our small school and we are very grateful for the generous contributions. The money will go towards helping children who are not as lucky as most.

A huge well done to Ophelia (Hazel) and Dolly (Oak) for the correct answer to our Guess Pudsey's Favourite Ice Cream competition, guessing that 'banana' was Pudsey's favourite flavour!

We pulled names out of a hat when we had more than one child with the same guess to ensure that it was fair. The children were delighted when they were given their new soft and cuddly Pudsey!



ECO COUNCIL

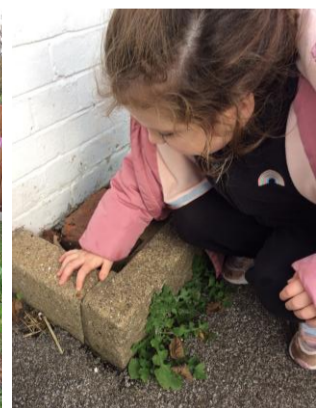
This week Lexi and Leo, our Eco Councillors in Apple Class met with Mark Wilkinson. Mark, former Chair of Friends of Rib and Quin has worked with the children in our school before, bringing environmental concerns such as pollution in our waterways to life for them. The children loved their pond dipping sessions looking at the wildlife found in the stream through Mark's microscope last term.

This year, we are beginning a new project to find ways for the children to observe nature and the environment up close whilst also supporting our local wildlife. The Friends of Rib and Quin have generously donated money to two small schools (including our own) to fund this project. We are extremely grateful to them for this opportunity.

Leo and Lexi made Mrs Gould proud by how well they showed Mark around the Barkway outside areas, "This is our lovely apple tree" (Lexi). Mark asked them what wildlife might be in the area and Lexi and Leo impressed Mark by listing animals such as woodlice, ladybirds, worms, woodpeckers and spiders. They also knew that we might have hedgehogs nearby. Lexi and Leo showed Mark the areas at Barkway where the insects can live such as the logs in the mud kitchen and the planter. They enjoyed having a good look at some mushrooms and moss too.

Leo suggested we use some money to buy some fish and Lexi agreed that bird boxes would be good to help the birds.

We will arrange a visit for Mark to meet with the Eco Council at Barley to look around at possibilities there. The Eco Council will collect pupil voice to find out what the children would like to spend the money on.



FOOD TECH

YEAR 1

This week, Apple Class enjoyed some exciting DT learning as they explored how to design and make their own fruit and vegetable smoothies. The children began by tasting a variety of fruits and vegetables, carefully recording their opinions about the taste and texture, as well as whether or not they liked each one. Mrs Gould was very proud of the children for trying some items they thought they did not like.

Using what they have discovered from their tasting session, the children moved on to designing their very own smoothie recipes ahead of making them on Thursday. Well done Apple class for some great Design and Technology learning.



EGYPT

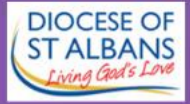
YEAR 3 & 4

Year 3 and 4 had a fantastic Egyptian workshop on Tuesday morning with Cas and Rosie from North Herts Museum. They brought in some real artefacts including canopic jars that body parts were put into during the mummification process. We found out how a pharaoh was mummified and got to do some dressing up and acting out. We also got to hold a 4000 year old artefact called a Shabti which is a little statue of a slave that was put into a tomb with the pharaoh.





**BARLEY & BARKWAY FEDERATION
FIRST SCHOOLS**



ENROL NOW

*“The school’s warm and caring family atmosphere is greatly valued by pupils, staff and parents”
- BBF Ofsted 2023*



10 minutes from Buntingford and Royston

Situated in the beautiful Hertfordshire countryside - come and see what Barley Barkway Federation First Schools and Barkway Preschool have to offer.

- ✓ Church of England school
- ✓ Wrap-around care available
- ✓ Forest School Opportunities
- ✓ Nursery to Year 4

For more info:

01763 848281

admin@barleybarkway.herts.sch.uk

Visit us:

www.barleybarkway.herts.sch.uk



Barley and Barkway (VA) C of E First Schools Federation
Church End, Barley, SG8 8JW | 84 High Street, Barkway, SG8 8EF

Tel: 01763 848281 | 01763 848283
Email: admin@barleybarkway.herts.sch.uk
Website: www.barleybarkway.herts.sch.uk

