

NEWSLETTER

Barley & Barkway Federation Schools

Faith Curiosity Wellbeing Confidence

Dear Parents and Carers,

A huge thank you to all the parents, children and staff who braved the torrential rain and came along to the Barkway Moonlight Market to sing last Saturday. What a fantastic time we had performing for our special community in the church – you are all singing superstars!

Year 2 had a wonderful time at their football festival at St Edmund's Prep yesterday. We received such lovely comments from the schools there about how positive and friendly our children were – well done, everyone! Thank you also to Mrs Whitaker, Miss Grint and Mrs Bagnall for supporting the children.

It was lovely to hear about Oak Class enjoying their learning about traditional tales this week and they even received a special treat from the Three Bears – the chance to try their very own porridge!

Both Barley and Barkway pupils have recorded their verse for the PCSO team to the tune of We Wish You a Merry Christmas. This has now been sent off for the PCSOs to collate with verses from other local schools to create a special video for their social media. We will let you know as soon as it has been shared.

Year 4 have started a new text in English this week, and it was such a joy to hear Aria and Cali retell the entire story to me at breaktime with so much enthusiasm. Thank you, girls!

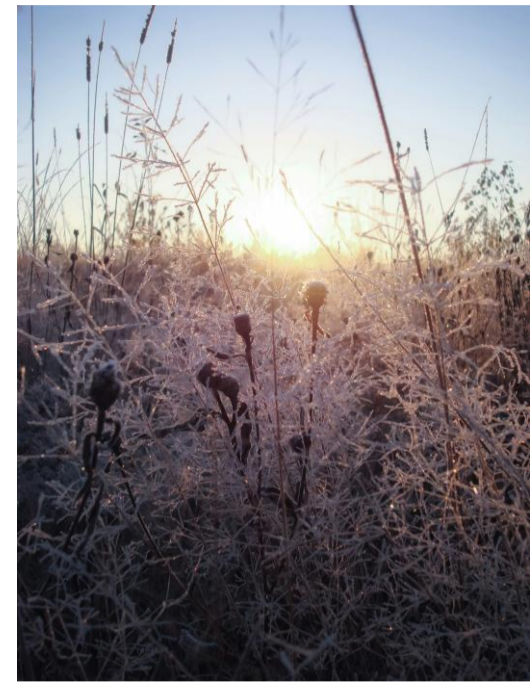
We have some very festive and exciting events coming up across our Federation in the coming weeks. You are warmly invited to our Christmas Decorations Day at Barley School on Thursday 4th December from 9:00–11:30am. A reminder that Friday 5th December is our occasional day and both schools will be closed.

We are looking forward to our pantomime trip to the Hertford BEAM on Friday 12th December, and we hope you can join us for our Christmas Nativity Service on Thursday 18th December at Barkway Church at 9am.

We do hope to see many of you there as we celebrate this special time of year together.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

Miss Mière
Headteacher



Dates for your diary

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)

January

Monday 4th - Inset Day - (Schools closed)

Tuesday 5th - Inset Day (Schools closed)

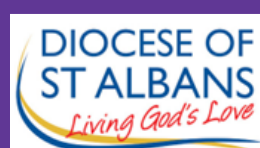
Wednesday 6th - Spring Term begins

“Living Life in All Its Fullness” –John 10



Barley and Barkway (VA) C of E First Schools Federation
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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, our Star of the Week Albie has amazed us with his brilliant matching skills! During our button activity, he carefully looked at each button and matched them confidently. He was able to explain exactly why they belonged together—talking about their colours, sizes, and shapes with fantastic understanding.

We are so proud of how focused, thoughtful, and enthusiastic he was. Well done, Albie!



RECEPTION

This week's Star of the Week goes to Jude. This week, Jude tried his best when there was a challenge to tackle! Jude always displays a fantastic passion for construction and always approaches building activities with creativity and determination.

During our Three Little Pigs project, he impressed everyone by adding a flange to strengthen his chimney with some help from Miss Horton, showing incredible problem-solving skills. Not only that—he kindly shared his knowledge with his friends, guiding them step-by-step so they could try the technique too.

We are so proud of his enthusiasm, teamwork, and brilliant ideas. Well done, Jude!

YEAR 1

This week the shining star is Louis for his efforts in Geography and History. Louis is always enthusiastic for these lessons and will say “I can't wait for History” and ‘I love this learning’. Louis always makes Mrs Gould proud with his recall of their previous learning. Louis remembered that the Gunpowder Plot ‘happened 400 years ago and that Guy Fawkes tried to blow up the Houses of Parliament and King James 1 but the guards stopped him’. He said that Guy Fawkes would have been ‘very frustrated’ when the guards found him. Well done Louis!



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YEAR 2

This week, Harry is the star of the week. Year 2 have been writing a story this week using the past tense. Harry has done a really great job, writing his story and making sure that it has all happened in the past rather than now. He has also been working really hard on his handwriting, trying to use his joined up writing.

Well done Harry!



YEAR 3

This week, Angelica-Mae is the star of the week. Angelica-Mae really impresses all the teachers with her positive attitude and her readiness to learn in every lesson. Her can-do attitude means she tries her best in all of the subjects and we love seeing her have a go.

Well done Angelica-Mae!

YEAR 4

This week, Lorena is the star of the week in Year 4. We have been learning about different celebrations in RE and Lorena was able to remember her previous learning from the last 2 weeks. She was also able to remember things that she had seen and learnt in Dubai to add to our learning about Eid.

Well done Lorena!



SPORTS STARS

On Thursday Harry, Tobias, Ezme, Reggie, Tommy, Alice and Maisie enthusiastically took part in a football tournament at St Edmunds Prep School. Each student played a key part in our successful matches. Harry with his ability to keep the game flowing and linking the play between his team mates, not to mention five brilliant goals. ESme goalkeeping skills saving four goals in a row, to help us win that game and Tobias tackling and scoring a fantastic goal. Alice who took on any position we asked her and grew in confidence with every touch of the ball. We had Tommy in goal and on the pitch with Reggie they kept two balls from going in and encouraged their teammates the whole time and then there was Maisie who surprised herself (and us) with her tackling ability no matter the size of the opposition.

It was a joy to watch their competitive side, watch them celebrate the highs together but most of all watch them look after each other when it didn't go their way. They really made the school proud, well done team!



A big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY**
to Lexi in Year 1 and Eliza in
Year 4 celebrating her
special day this week!

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

ROAD SAFETY

OAK CLASS

This week, Oak Class had a very special visit from PC Hannah Moss, who came to talk to the children about keeping safe near roads. She taught the class the important steps to remember when crossing the road: Stop, Look, Listen, and Think. The children practised these steps together and showed brilliant attention and understanding.

PC Moss also talked about the importance of wearing reflective and fluorescent clothing, especially in the darker months, to help drivers see us more easily. The children were fascinated to learn how different materials shine or glow when light hits them.

Oak Class listened beautifully, asked thoughtful questions, and enjoyed sharing what they already knew about staying safe.

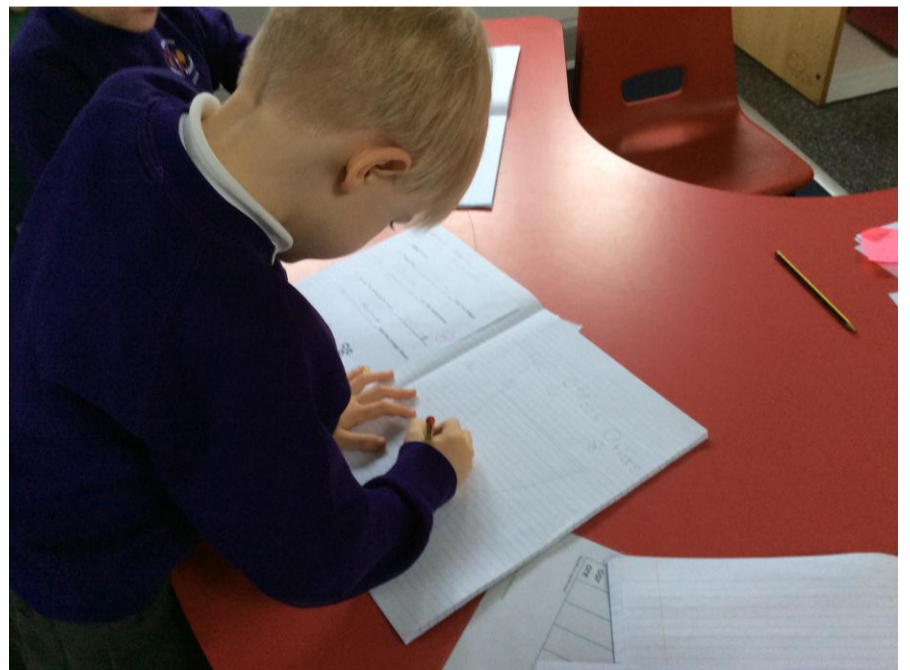
A big thank you to PC Hannah Moss for helping our children become confident and responsible road users!



MUD PIES

YEAR 1

This week apple class are learning to write instructions to make mud pies! First we had a go at thinking about what we would need to make a mud pie. We drew pictures of what we needed and added a label to our diagram. Next, we wrote the step by step instructions for making mud pie. In Apple class we have been practising saying our sentence first before we write it and then reading it back to check for sense. Apple class love to make mud pies in the mud kitchen so have really enjoyed creating their instructions and diagrams this week!



SCIENCE ROCKS

YEAR 2 & 3

Following the children's curiosity, Years 2 and 3 enjoyed an engaging science lesson this week as we deepened our understanding of rocks and rock formations.

The children created detailed observational drawings of volcanoes and carefully labelled their understanding. We also talked about what it's like to live near active volcanoes, and how fortunate we are not to have any in our area!



7 TIMES TABLES

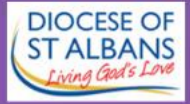
YEAR 4

In Year 4, we have been starting to learn the 7 times table. One of the ways we think about it is by making it. We all made blocks of 7 and then put them together to make a visual representation of the 7 times table. We have also made flash cards to help practise the 7 times table facts.





**BARLEY & BARKWAY FEDERATION
FIRST SCHOOLS**



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For more info:

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