



Barrowby Church of England Primary School

July 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

As we approach the end of yet another very busy year at our school, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, once again, for your continued support and share with you some of our school achievements; challenges we've faced as well as outline some of the developmental priorities for our school, in the next academic year.

This year, we have continued to evaluate our provision and implement a whole range of government led initiatives, including, embedding the national curriculum-available to Year 1-6, refining the learning opportunities available to our pupils e.g. Spelling in Key Stage 2, amending our assessment procedures so that we can continue to assess the progress and attainment of our children against the new standards, facilitating the new Key Stage Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs) as well as ensuring all our pupils continue to thrive, at Barrowby CE Primary School.

As a '[Platinum SingUp!](#)' and 'Artsmark' school, we continue to celebrate and enjoy the arts, in all its forms. This year, our Key Stage 1 and 2 Choirs, our Orchestra, Handbell, Instrumental Combo and Recorder groups enjoyed tremendous success at the Colsterworth Performing Arts Festival, yet again and our Year 4 class enjoyed a whole terms worth of instrumental tuition, learning to play the trumpet. This continued commitment to the arts is a key feature of our school. Our 'Arts Summary,' is a way for us to collate, recognise and celebrate our work across all art forms, within our school. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to find out more about the arts provision at our school.

As a Healthy School, with enhanced status, we continue to provide a vast range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities for all our pupils to enjoy. We continue to promote healthy lifestyles through our Food Ambassadors and initiatives such as [Roots to Food](#). This term, we were able to provide 51 extra-curricular opportunities for our children, with a significant proportion of those being organised, resourced and led by older pupils. My thanks go to all those who have 'taken the lead' this year: school staff, parents, governors, coaches and the children. Pupil Leadership continues to develop to encompass a wide range of areas, resulting in 71 children 'taking the lead'; 31% of pupils at Barrowby CE Primary School have acted as Playground Leaders and/or Club Leaders, this year. To learn more about sport and promoting healthy lifestyles, please read our [Sports Premium Report](#).

The continued success of our school can only be achieved and sustained by the whole school community working together and relies heavily on parental support. I would particularly like to thank all school staff; both those who have been with us for many years, and those who have joined us more recently, for their hard work, commitment, and dedication throughout the past year. I would also like to thank our Governors, for their commitment to our school, whose role has placed increased demands on them and, our parents, especially FOBS for their support, as well as our children.

Earlier in the Spring term, as a result of fundraising efforts of last year, by the Friend's Of Barrowby School, we were able to complete the [refurbishment of our school library](#). This development is a wonderful enhancement to our school and should continue to enthuse and engage our children with their 'love for' reading. My thanks go to Miss Sugden, Mrs Morris, our school Librarians and representatives from FOBS and our school community who worked tirelessly to improve this facility. Thanks also to the Lottery Awards for All funding, we were able to install our '[Tree House](#),' a project 4 years in the making. The addition of the Tree House will continue to enhance our outdoor learning and play environment, providing further opportunities for all our children to learn outdoors. Over the holidays, a path will be installed to the 'Tree House' so that it can be used all year round, not matter the weather. As always, my thanks to all who continue to support our school, enabling us to move forward.

Throughout this year, we have also continued to develop further home-school communications. This year, we migrated from Parentmail2 to ParentmailPMX and introduced the Parent's Evening and Surveys and Permissions functions, streamlining further home-school communications. We also introduced the electronic Learning Journal-Tapestry, for recording and communicating our Reception children's learning opportunities.

Recent additions, to our school website, have included a reorganisation of information available via the website, the introduction of [Curriculum Support](#) for parents and guardians, [11+ Information](#) for parents of pupils in Year 5, information for new parents with children [Starting at Barrowby](#) and the ongoing updates on School Developments.



These enhancements continue to ensure that all our parents are ideally placed to understand all that Barrowby CE Primary School has to offer.

As a school, we continue to be extremely popular. Next year, we welcome 34 Reception pupils and their families. This continues to be a very exciting time for our school.

Our commitment to develop further our school remains high. This academic year, we have continued to ensure that our school grounds provide a safe and stimulating environment, through the development of our 'Wildlife area;' replacement of perimeter fencing; ongoing maintenance of the Adventure Playground; ongoing works to a number of identified trees and the creation of a new classroom and staffroom. All ongoing [School Developments](#) can be tracked through our website.

As we look ahead, we are committed to ensuring the school continues to meet the needs of all its pupils. During the summer holidays, we will again be updating our school facilities, including on-going maintenance and refurbishment. This includes creating our new Secure Entrance; reorganisation of our Reception office spaces; refurbishment of the Year 4, 5 and 6 cloakrooms; refurbishment of the Infant and Staff Toilets and the ongoing maintenance and decoration of the exterior of the school building which should all be completed within the holidays.

Thanks to the 'Legacy Gift' of last year's Year 6 children we have been able to provide further resources for our pupils to promote activity at play and lunchtime, including: scooters, rickshaws and a variety of activity boxes. As part of previous Legacy gifts, preparations are underway to create a new 'Wildflower Meadow,' a 'quieter space' and to reinstate the 'Cabbage Patch Garden,' in the school grounds for all our children to enjoy. This ongoing commitment ensures our school grounds continue to enthuse and engage our pupils within their learning as we strive to ensure our school environment is purposeful and supports all our pupils to further develop curiosity and enquiring minds.

Our thanks go to our current Year 6 for their contribution towards school life, fulfilling a range of responsibilities such as Lunchtime Buddies; Playground Leaders and providing exemplary role models for our younger children. This year, funds raised for their 'Legacy Gift' are in excess of £1,300. Well done!

These funds will be used to introduce 'a climbing wall' in to the school grounds, providing opportunities for our children to traverse from one end to another, either independently or working as a group-the first part of creating a trim-trail; encouraging more children to become active at play and lunchtime. Thank you to our Year 6 children for their hard work and effort this year and good luck to all of you, as you continue on your educational journey, at your Secondary School.

As we look forward, next year promises to be equally as exciting and challenging. This year, as a school, we implemented a series of changes to the teaching and learning of Spelling, in Key Stage 2 so that all our pupils develop a deeper understanding and a more accurate and precise use of spelling, within their written work. Next year, we will continue to support our pupils in this area as well as supporting them to develop further resilience and proficiency in Mathematics.

Moving forward, we look to embed the curricular and assessment changes, implemented this year; we aim to provide further opportunities for our pupils, within the arts, working alongside artists; to continue to develop sport skills through the use of coaches and a wide variety of extra-curricular opportunities; to support our children, to develop further their understanding of the multi-cultural world, in which they live and continue to ensure that all our pupils are supported, so that all achieve their potential.

At Barrowby CE Primary School, we will continue to strive for excellence in everything that we do, and, with your support, continue to provide the very best education for all our children. Enjoy your summer holidays and I look forward to working with you, next year.

Yours sincerely



Mr L Batey
Headteacher

