

DIARY DATES

Dates for the School Year can be found on our website. [CLICK HERE](#) to go to the calendar.

Wednesday 8 February

Polymer Artist working with Year 3

Friday 10 February

Year 1 and 2 Class Assembly

9.15 am School Hall

Friday 10 February

School closes for half term

Monday 20 February

School re-opens

Wednesday 22nd February

NSPCC Parents' Workshop

2.00 pm School Hall

Friday 24th February

Colsterworth Festival of Performing Arts – Grantham Meres



Tuesday 7th March

Parent/Teacher Consultation Evening

Wednesday 15th March

Parent/Teacher Consultation Evening



Barrowby Church of England Primary School

Newsletter

3 February 2017

The child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him. Luke 2:40

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Well here we are, fast approaching the end of another very busy term. I can't quite believe that we only have 1 week left, before February half-term. The children and staff have all been very busy, this week, as can be seen from our weekly newsletter. Happy reading.

Len Batey Headteacher

Events in School

Developing Scientific Enquiry

On Friday 27th January, Mrs Walton presented to our Year 5 pupils, 'Honey Bees.' She shared lots of interesting facts about the life within the hive and described the life cycle of a bee. In addition, she brought in a range of artefacts and resources including: photographs and honeycomb. Thank you to Mrs Walton for giving her time freely so that our pupils could develop further their understanding of this area, in Science. The children thoroughly enjoyed it!



Bible Studies



On Tuesday 31st January, we welcomed back a familiar face, to our school, in her new role as our 'Bishop's visitor.' Mrs Waghorn helped our Year 4 pupils to learn more about the Bible, linked to their RE lessons. The children were thoroughly 'gripped' and asked lots of interesting questions. Thank you to Mrs Waghorn, for continuing to support us and we look forward to seeing more of her, as our new Bishop's Visitor.

Colsterworth Festival

As you may be aware, on Friday 24th February, we are taking 121 of our children to perform in the Colsterworth Performing Arts Festival! Our school will be competing once again, in a range of different classes for: singing, dancing, choral speaking and instrumental.

To support our pupils, we have organised all of the music and lyrics for the different performances on to our 'Rehearsal Space' on the school website. Please could you encourage your child/ren, if they are representing the school, to familiarise themselves with this.

Please click the relevant link below to access these:

[Key Stage 1 Choir](#)

[Key Stage 2 Choir](#)

[Year 3 & 4 Choral Speaking](#)

[Year 5 & 6 Choral Speaking](#)

[Instrumental Combo](#)



FOBS Meeting

Friday 3rd March 2017 at 2.00 pm in

Old School Room

All Welcome

*Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord
Ephesians 5:19*

Year 3 Clay Artist

Next week, our Year 3 children are looking forward to welcoming a 'polymer clay artist' who will be working with them. This term, their topic is 'Myths and Legends' and the artist will be working with the children, in small groups to model and create a collaborative piece of art work based on a famous myth. Watch this space!

How to use a Reading Record

As a school, we expect all children, from Reception to Year 6, to have a reading record and for parents to listen to them read at home and write in their record. From Reception to Year 2 we encourage children to read everyday at home to their parents/guardians and discuss what they have read.




From Year 3 to Year 6, reading regularly is still considered to be very important, and we would encourage you to listen to your child read as often as possible; at least 15 to 20 minutes per day.

Parents are actively encouraged to comment in their child's 'Reading Record' when they hear their child read, with positive and constructive comments, e.g. 'wonderful reading, now try.....' or 'well done, keep it up!'

As your child moves through Key Stage 2 and becomes a more confident and fluent reader, they may sometimes wish to read independently of an adult. This should be encouraged; however it is still important to find opportunities to discuss your child's responses to reading and their general understanding of the text. At this stage, it is particularly beneficial to encourage your child to read a variety of genres and different types of books for different purposes. Remember though, reading aloud, to an audience is a different skill and requires practice.

When listening to your child read, whether it be a book, magazine, newspaper article or any other text, please record your comments in their 'Reading Record' for their teacher to see. If you are unsure of what to write, please [CLICK HERE](#) to access the handout, 'Should my child read at home?' which was used as part of the Parental Curriculum Workshop, delivered by Mrs Wright, on Tuesday 24th January.

This dialogue between parents and the school is very important in helping teachers develop a 'full picture' of where your child/ren is/are with their reading. Below are examples of the sort of comments that are useful from parents:



Date	Book	Page	Comments
1.2.17	<i>Charlie and the chocolate factory</i>	12-15	<i>Tony read well, with a sense of expression. He was able to predict what would happen next, in the story. LB</i>
2.2.17	<i>II</i>	16-17	<i>Tony was able to describe how Charlie was feeling. He enjoyed the description about the factory. LB</i>
3.3.17	<i>II</i>	18-19	<i>Tony read fluently today. He is beginning to develop stamina and can read for longer periods of time. LB</i>

The 'Reading Record' also serves as a way to communicate your child/ren(s) targets for Reading, Writing and Maths which are updated across the year. Teachers will tick the targets that your child is working towards (Reception –Y2) or communicate your child's targets, via a sticker (Y3-6). When they have achieved a target the 'achieved' box will be ticked by the teacher and a new target selected.

By working together, we give our children the very best chance to succeed. Thank you for your continued support.

We respect our children's individuality, encourage creativity and support every child to make the most of their abilities.

School Library-A 'Bookspace' Review

As you are aware, last year we had our school library refurbished and we are absolutely delighted with the transformation to this valuable area of the school. This is now a very light, welcoming and child friendly space. [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more.

The company that facilitated this transformation for us are called Bookspace. They have contacted us recently as they wanted to feature our library as a 'case study' for their company in their marketing literature and also on their website.

They visited the school in January, and took lots of lovely pictures of the library and interviewed members of staff. Below are extracts from the article that they are using about Barrowby C of E Primary school:



"If there was ever a school that puts reading 'slap bang' at the centre of everything they do, it's Barrowby C of E Primary school.

In 2015, with the new National Curriculum bringing sweeping changes to every primary school across the country, Barrowby CE Primary School, decided to take a long hard look at what they were offering pupils. Aware that the new National Curriculum was placing greater emphasis on 'Reading for Pleasure,' Head Teacher, Len Batey was keen to address the quality of their reading provision.

As part of the process, the school looked at how pupils accessed books and where they could spend time reading for pleasure. "We naturally took a fresh look at our library," explains Mr Batey. "The library shelving was more than 20 years old. It wasn't falling apart but it looked tired and old-fashioned. But what really made us stop and think was how we were using the library. We had a number of study tables at one end of the room and topic boxes dotted around and so only half of the space was genuinely being used for 'Reading for Pleasure.' We felt quite strongly that if we were serious about our 'reading for pleasure offer' we needed to make significant changes to the library. One of the things we really wanted to do was make the library the 'hub' of the school. We wanted our children and teachers to be able to use it for researching and exploring new topics or for reading around a particular subject. We wanted pupils to feel it was their space, not just somewhere they were told they could go to once a week."



Now, the library is the central place for the whole school and is being used in so many ways. Every month, a different year group has the opportunity to invite their parents in to the library to spend some time reading with them and to see examples of their work. Classes come and visit for stories, small groups of children visit and work independently and of course all pupils are encouraged to borrow the books in the library.

"The library has been brought to life," says Mr Batey. "We're delighted".

Swimming

Our Year 4 children have enjoyed their first swimming lesson, this week.

Learning to swim is a very important life skill, and now forms part of the National Curriculum. Year 4 children are swimming, weekly, until Thursday 30th March. Please ensure that you send your child with their swimming kit every Thursday.



We want our pupils to leave our school as a well educated, self confident and caring member of society.