



"A good school with outstanding pupil behaviour"- "Most groups of children make outstanding progress"
OFSTED July 2013
"A good school" - OfSTED March 2017



The newspaper of William Barnes Primary School has been written by the staff and pupils to celebrate the school's successes. If you have any ideas or comments concerning the newspaper, please speak to Mrs Wrixon or Mr Hull. Issue 43 Easter 2019

"We Couldn't Do It Without You" This is the message the staff and children at William Barnes would like to share with all the volunteers who have supported the school in a host of different ways since September last year. All of your help is very much appreciated and without it William Barnes would not be the vibrant and successful school that it is today. We are thinking of parents who come in to help in class, come on school trips, walk children to the church or give lifts to and from sporting fixtures. We would not forget the members of the PTFA committee who tirelessly fundraise to update and improve our school's resources. We must mention all the parents who generously contribute at the various events the PTFA organise and help make the discos, pyjama parties and Bingo afternoons a huge success. We must not overlook the governors, all volunteers, who work in the background as guardians for the school ensuring that the staff achieve the very best outcomes for all the children. Many member of the community come into to school to hear 1:1 readers, particularly in KS1 where they make a huge difference to the progress the children make. We must not forget local charities such as the Blackmore Vale Lions, the Rotary Club and the William Williams Trust who make donations to the school and give up their time to raise funds that allow us to help financially with trips and residential when families are struggling. Once again, the staff and children would like to thank all of you for your contribution however great or small.

Local Charity Redecorates William Barnes' School Hall As the staff and children have come to terms with the fact that the school's promised new site and new buildings are unlikely to appear in the near future, the governors at William Barnes have been turning their attention to improving the existing site.

Plans have been in the pipeline for some time now to redecorate the school's substantial hall, a task that has not been undertaken in twenty years or so. The hall is used daily for the breakfast club, assemblies, PE and drama lessons as well as after school clubs such as basketball, fencing and archery.



After acquiring a number of eye watering expensive quotes for the work, the Governors had all but given up hope until the Rotary Club kindly offered their services and stepped into the breach. During the half term a gallant team of keen volunteers organised by Keith Brown, set about the mammoth task of repainting the huge space. Staff covered displays and put away equipment before the arrival of professional scaffolding, pot after pot of white emulsion, rollers and the newly formed team of painter and decorators. Working hard from Sunday to late in the week, the Rotarians did an incredible job, with staff and children literally astonished at the improvement. Everyone at William Barnes would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who was involved for the fantastic job they have done.

Cheese Festival Generosity Much Appreciated Once again the Cheese Festival Committee have supported a bid from the Staff at William Barnes for funds, this time to replace and update the school's resources for the teaching of mathematics. Soon an order for everything from new sets of weighing scales to replacement calculators will be on its way thanks to all those involved with Sturminster Newton's premier fundraising event. Many other local organisations as well as the school also benefitted with successful applicants being informed during an evening at the Exchange held in February. In the past, the Cheese Festival have given monies to buy resources for the breakfast and after school clubs, maintenance of the swimming pool and to help purchase iPads.

Local Charities and Benefactors Support School Trips and Residentials William Barnes' exciting curriculum is supported by a variety of school trips and residential visits. A key message we give to all families is that no child should miss out on an educational experience because their families are struggling financially. With rising fuel costs the price of trips have increased rapidly due the upwardly spiralling fees to hire coaches. As a result, the school (as well as having its own hardship fund) draws on the generosity of various local charities and benefactors. For example, the William Williams trust will help families whose children live in Sturminster Newton, and have supported the children at William Barnes for many years by providing financial help with residentials such as Leeson House and year 5's annual excursion to the Ancient Technology Centre. On other occasions Mr and Mrs Pitt Rivers and members of the town council such as Chris Spackman have raised funds or generously offered financial support for various trips such as the forthcoming KS2 visit to the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra at Poole Light House.

Public Health Dorset Help Fund New Running Track The children at William Barnes have seen two major improvements to the playing areas in the school grounds over the last month or so. Firstly, the school's wooden climbing and play equipment has been replaced or mended following a grant secured by parent and governor Alex Willoughby. Secondly, a brand new all weather 100m running track has been built surrounding the children's grass playing area.

Although the play equipment won't be in use until the Summer term when the ground is dry, the running track has already proved a hit with the children. Used before school, play time and during the lunch break, the children are set off sprinting around the track one person at ten second intervals. The excitement generated amongst the children was so great during the first week that queues have extended across the concrete play area with upto thirty children waiting to run. Using the track, some children have ran as much as 2 Km during the school day. Classes have also been using the track twice a week in KS2 for their minute run.



The installation of the running track was paid for by funding from a grant from Public Health Dorset and using funds from the school budget provided by the Sugar Tax. There were sufficient monies available to reinstall the school's long jump pit and revamp the pit's run up. These will again find their first use in the athletics season this Summer and staff are already excited about

training the children in the long jump for the first time in about ten years. Mr Hull would like to thank Mrs Ware for offering to be a parental contact for the grant application to Public Health Dorset.

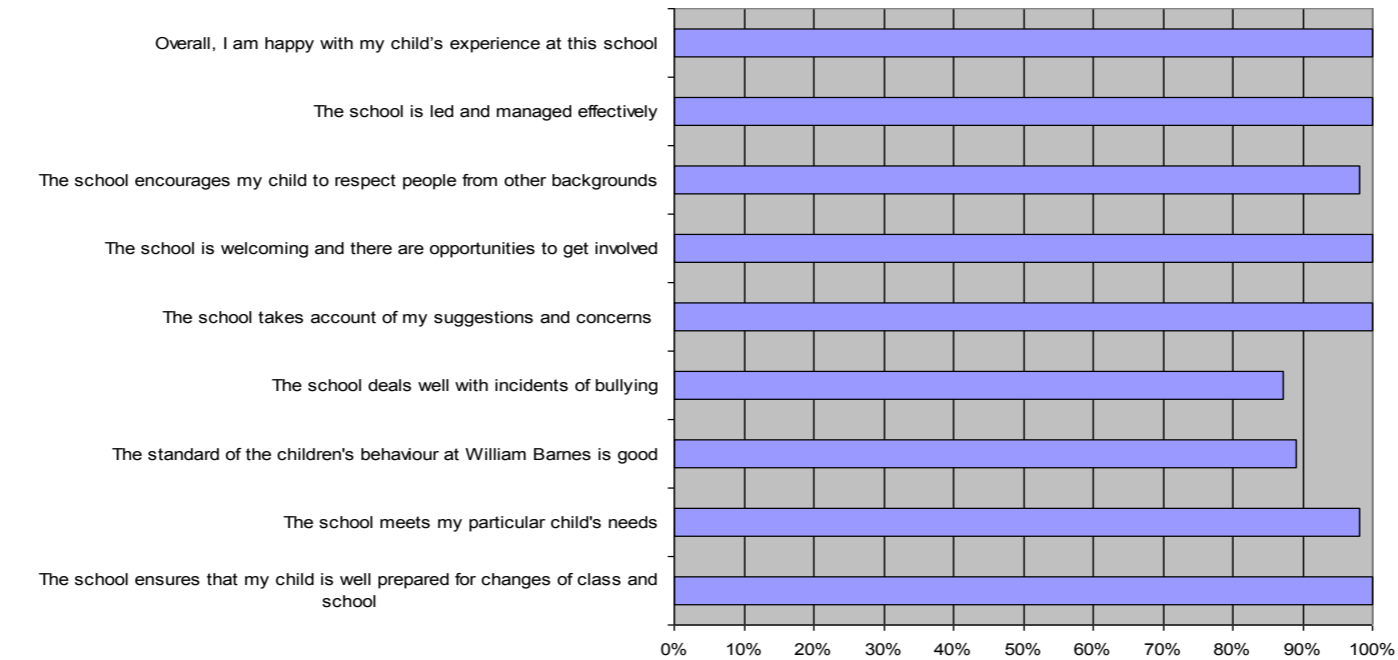
English Cricket Board Coach Volunteers to Work With Year 4 The children in year 4 have been given a head start this year by beginning their cricket coaching in the Spring term. Coach Mr chambers from Marnhull cricket club has been fortunate with the weather and the children have really enjoyed their weekly sessions during which they have learnt how to field, bowl and bat.



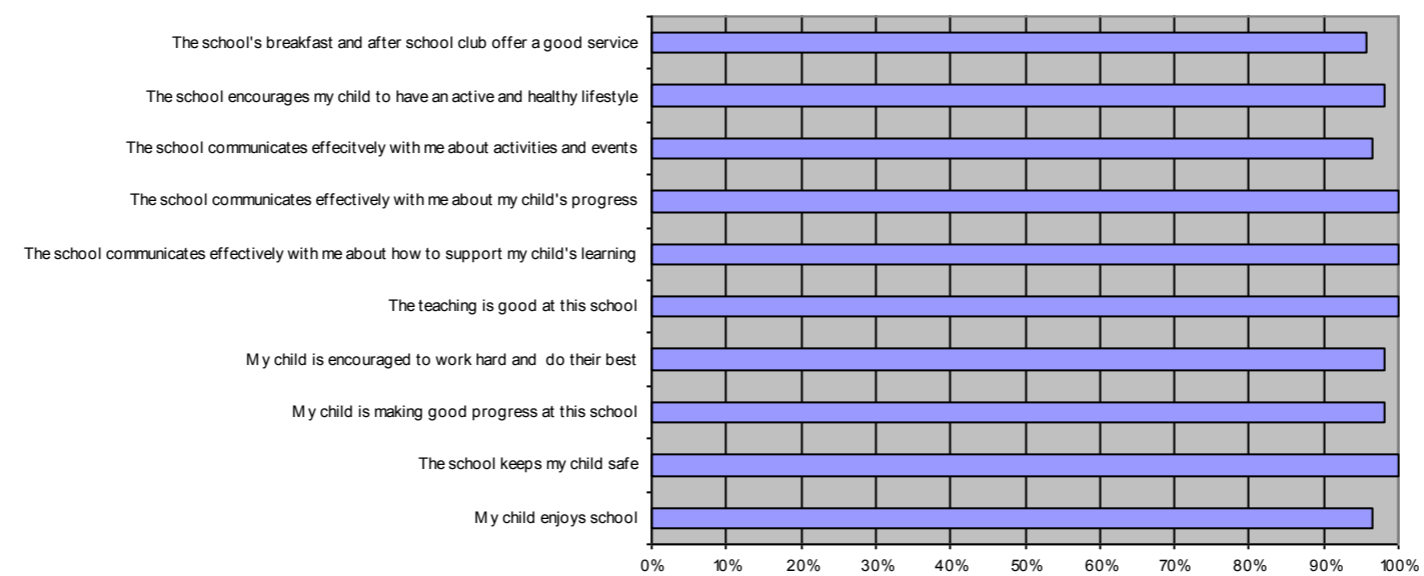
Parents' Questionnaires Give an Overwhelming Vote of Support The staff and governors were very pleased with the outcomes of the our recent parental questionnaire.

Over 98% of the responses from over sixty families were positive. The bar charts below show the % of parents either agreeing or strongly agreeing with each statement. Recent improvements to communication due to the use of tect messaging and e-mail have proven popular with parents with close to 100% of parents agreeing that school

The Results of the December 2018 Parental Questionnaire at William Barnes



Results of the December 2018 Parental Survey at William Barnes



"communicates effectively." Efforts by all the staff to make parents feel welcome and to try and involve parents more with the day to day running of the school were also pleasing with nearly 100% of parents agreeing that the "school was welcoming with opportunities to get involved." All parents thought that "the school is led and managed effectively." As has been the case for many years, nearly 100% of parents thought that "the teaching at the school is good." Some parents also gave highly valued feedback about various aspects of school life including attendance certificates and after school clubs. The results of the survey and the comments of parents in the questionnaire are taken very seriously by Mrs Wrixon and the leadership team and are used to help decide on priorities for school improvement in future years. The staff and governors would like to thank all the parents who took part in the survey and shared their opinions and suggestions.

The Governors at William Barnes Nobody within the school is more generous with their time and energy than our volunteer governors. Campaigning tirelessly to promote the reputation of the school, they ensure that the school is well led and managed by attending various meetings and joining a range of committees. Governors also regularly visit the school and attend training so that they can hold the staff to account and act as "critical friends" to the teachers. In the long term, the Governors have a role of stewardship, ensuring the staff remain true to the values of the school enshrined in our mission statement - "William Barnes—where every child counts." To help you as parents and children to get to know the governors a little better, some of the governors recently found time to write a brief personal biography.

Andrew Donaldson I have been a Governor at the William Barnes School for 8 years, a Town Councillor for 9 years and Mayor from May 2016 to May 2018. I was born and raised in the town and in fact I was a pupil myself at the school for three years in the mid 1950's. I see my role not only as a Governor but as a liaison between the school and Town Council and vice-versa. I remain committed to looking after the best interests of the school, the children and the staff.

Catherine Dunkley-Jones I've been Clerk to the Governors since 2013 and my role is to advise the Board of Governors on governance, constitutional and procedural matters, as well as taking minutes. I am very fond of William Barnes Primary School as my son thrived here and I think it is an excellent school of which the community should be very proud. In my spare time, I enjoy exploring the beautiful countryside of North Dorset with my dog, and spending as much time as possible with my family and friends who are now scattered all over the country.

Jane Davey I was co-opted to the governing body at the end of 2018. I have lived in Sturminster Newton since 2016, when I moved with my husband from Surrey. I spent nearly 20 years as a School Business Manager at a large junior school as well as being staff governor for 15 years. I am pleased to be able to use my skills as a governor at William Barnes. I am a member of St. Mary's church and also enjoy singing with the Sturminster Newton Choral Society. My interests include gardening, reading, & theatre visits.

Maria Dixon-Amphlett I am the current Chair of Governors at our school. My background and experience is quite varied; my early working life began in Leisure and Recreation Management and included employment as a Cultural Rep at Walt Disney World in Florida, as well as posts in Local Authority Leisure Centres in Dorset, Surrey and London. This was followed by 15 years' Service as a Prison Officer stationed at Brixton, Wandsworth and Wormwood Scrubs Jails, where I specialised in Forensic Psychology and delivered associated Cognitive Behavioural Therapy programmes. I chose to take a career break when I had my daughter and during that time I somehow got "roped in" at my Parents Nursery School in Bournemouth, I realised that I could put my experience and skills to much better use and more effectively by teaching in Early Years and have been involved ever since. I am passionate about the importance of good quality Early Language for children and have been invited as a Lead Practitioner to participate in a number of successful Early Language initiatives operating across Bournemouth and Poole. Active as a Governor at WBPS for almost 9 years, initially as a Parent Governor, and currently in post as the Local Authority Governor. I find volunteering as a member of the Governing Body exceptionally rewarding, working strategically with School Leaders to ensure that the best Education is available for the children of our community who attend our school where "every child counts".

Alex Willoughby I am a Parent Governor at the School, my name is Alexandra. Both my sons have been to William Barnes, with my youngest son now in Year 5. I've been a Parent Governor for five years now and focus mostly on the School's finances, bidding for grants and the maintenance of the School. The great thing about Governorship is that you can bring your own skills to the job, whatever they are. The more varied our backgrounds, the better we can make the School and our children's enjoyment of their time here. If you want to chat or discuss anything about the School with me, or might like to be a Governor, I am usually around by the school entrance railings at the end of the school day. I'm the parent accompanied by the friendly fluffy white puppy dog, sometimes referred to by the children as "fluffy monster."

Rachel Barbet I am a new parent governor starting just last month. I am Mum to Imogen in year 2 and Emily in year 1. I have worked as a Teaching assistant at the high school for almost 3 years. I am keen to support the school in any way I can so our children get the best possible start in life with a great education, in a safe, caring and happy environment. I want the children at our school to achieve the best they possibly can and leave us well prepared for the next stage of their education, with lasting, happy memories of the years spent at William Barnes.

Drivers Finally Listen about School Car Park Dangers Concerns about safety in the staff car park have led to a campaign by the School Council to stop people parking there without a permit. There have been several 'near miss' incidents involving pupils and cars attempting to park in the restricted area and we are concerned that a child is going to be badly injured.

The Y5 Reps have designed a flyer to discourage people from acting without thinking about the safety of our children. (JN)



Preparation for Mother's Day Reception Class were lucky enough to be invited to Castle Gardens- Sherborne to explore the garden centre and plant their mummies a beautiful planter for Mother's Day. The day started off with a tour of the garden centre, looking at all the different seeds and herbs that they have on offer. The children then had a delightful surprise, a glass squash or water and a delicious chocolate brownie! Next children then each made

their mummies a beautiful planter. The children had to listen carefully and follow the instructions that were given them. With no time to spare the Reception children then made their way to the coach and just made it back to school for lunch! Reception Class would like to say a special thank you to Louise and everybody at Castle Gardens for their kindness and help creating the special gift for their mummies. The class would also like to thank the helpers that came with us. (SW)



Book Mad In Reception On Friday 8th March Reception Polar bears class celebrated World Book day by dressing up as their favourite book characters. All of the children could say who they were disguised as! The exciting morning started with lots of parents coming in to read books alongside their children and friends for twenty minutes. A big thank you to all of the parents who joined us for this!

Next we went into the hall and danced and posed to disco music and showed each other our costumes by doing a World Book Day Fashion parade! This was an introduction to saying a sentence about our book character costume to our Talking Partners, and then we used these sentence ideas to write them down during our English lesson too! Later in the afternoon we got to visit another teacher and classroom to listen to different books too. A great day was had by all. (JOR)

House Competition Sees Stour Take Lead Final Spring scores are being counted by our sports ambassadors the House competition has been really hotting up this term.

Cedar 155 Bulbarrow 150 Meadow 165 Stour 215

These scores did not include a number of tournaments held in the last week of term. Mr Hull and Mr Newman would like to thank the sports ambassadors for keeping the score board up to date. This is situated in the main hall by the pillar next to the curriculum cooking area.

William Barnes' Attendance Nearly Reaches Target. After a Spring term in which many children were poorly with various viruses and colds, the school's attendance data has taken a little bit of a dip. The table below shows the average attendance for each class with the mean average for school being 96.2%. However, with our target at 97% the staff and governors are anticipating a late surge in the Summer term, so that we may still be able to exceed 97% this year.

Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4M	Year 4W	Year 5	Year 6
96.6%	95.6%	94.4%	95.6%	98%	97.6%	95.6%	96.2%

Health and Well Being for Year 1 The children were very lucky to have a special lesson on health and well-being with one of our Sport's Coaches Mr Barratt. They investigated a wide range of food packaging and learned how to read the labels that tell them whether a food is healthy or not. The session prompted lots of discussion and the whole class agreed that too much sugar, salt and fat is not good for you and that we should all eat a lot more fruit and vegetables. Is there such a thing as a healthy Easter Egg? (JH)

Key Stage 1 visit China As part of their Geographical learning Years 1 and 2 have learned about China and compared it with the United Kingdom. After studying globes and



maps, the children were keen to find out what life in China would be like.

With this in mind, the children made themselves passports and prepared to board the William Barnes Airways 'flight' to China. Once onboard the plane, we experienced a smooth take off followed by a tasty snack and straightforward landing in Beijing.



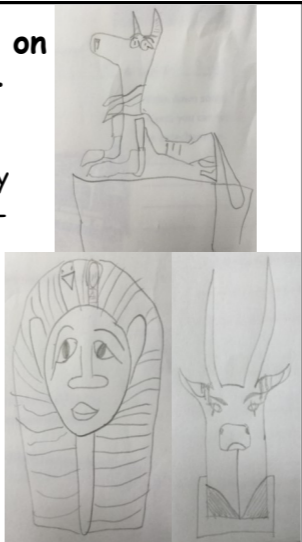
During the day, the children moved around several stations, enabling them to enjoy a variety of China based activities. The morning involved making Chinese lanterns, learning to count in Mandarin and acting out the story of the Chinese New Year followed by an afternoon of tasting Chinese food. A quick flight back home brought our day to a close and fostered further interest in learning more about China. (SS)

Travelling back in time On Thursday 21st March, Year 3 embarked on journey to Ancient Egypt and the tomb of Tutankhamun with a little bit of help from Dorchester's Tutankhamun Exhibition.

All of the children enjoyed looking at the replicas of Ancient Egyptian mummies especially the different mummified animals. Exploring the exhibition was a huge success as the children showed off their knowledge impressing our guide Naomi. We particularly enjoyed seeing the replica antechamber and burial chamber which hugely immersed the children in our topic.

After a quick lunch, we walked back to the exhibition to sketch some of the artefacts in the impressive treasury. Take a look at Year 3's excellent sketches which of various Ancient Egyptian figures and statues.

"I really enjoyed it; I have learnt a lot" Elisabeth summing up our trip in their visitor book. (JN)



Regular Helpers Make Huge Contribution But More Needed Urgently Ms Eva (Keelie) volunteers in Year 2 every Thursday morning. She spends all morning working with individuals and groups within the classroom. Our Parent Reading Guardians each listen to a Year 2 child read every morning at 8:45. It would be great.



In year R,
In year 1,
In year 5, Mrs Oliver helps several times a week by listening to children read.

If you would like to help the school by volunteering to hear readers on a regular basis then please enquire at the school office or see Mrds Strudwick.



Victorian Day for Year 2 KS1 had a bit of a shock this term, when they turned up for their Victorian dress up day to find the classrooms and teachers transformed!

The classroom displays were all covered up and the tables put in pairs, to give the children a flavour of life as a Victorian School child. The

teachers dressed in sombre black and ensured that the children knew they must be seen and not heard, or there would be trouble! Fortunately for the children, the teachers had left their wooden canes and Dunces' hats at home.

The children were separated into boys and girls groups and rotated



around their morning lessons of Arithmetic, Handwriting, learning the Lord's Prayer and Deportment - where they were taught the importance of good personal hygiene and how to walk smartly. I think we can all agree that although we learnt lots about how different Victorian schools were in the morning, we had the most fun in the afternoon. As part of our family learning week, we invited parents in to make some traditional Victorian toys with us. The boys made some marvellous hobby horses and the girls produced some intricate little peg dolls. Many thanks to our parents for their continued support! (LG)



Another Win for William Barnes The Year 5/6 football team have had an extremely successful season in 2018/19. After reaching the quarter finals of the Davison Cup and narrowly getting knocked out following an extremely fortuitous wind enhanced goal, the pyramid football tournament was upon us and the team took it by storm. Forgetting the quarter final loss the previous day, William Barnes showed the rest of the pyramid schools they were still a force to be reckoned with. Winning every game was an achievement in itself but to not concede a single goal shows how talented our Year 5 and 6s are. (JN)



Hotpot and Apple cake for Year 4 Foodies As part of their UK topic, year 4 have been writing recipes and cooking some British food. Firstly, we made a Lancashire Hotpot.



The children peeled, chopped and prepared the vegetables as well as making the stock and cooking the lamb. We then had the opportunity to taste the hotpot and we all agreed it was delicious! We then made a scrumptious Dorset apple cake, which was equally as scrumptious. The children reviewed their cooking and made suggestions on how they could improve the dish if they were to cook it again.



Cooking forms an important part of the National curriculum and is part of the Design Technology subject area which is ably led by Mrs Strudwick. Children in every year group are given the opportunity to cook a variety of dishes as they move through the school. Mr Wharton, Miss Marks and



all the children would like to thank Mrs Warwick-Price and Mrs Day for all their hard work during this project. (GM)



Clean Sheet for Talented Tournament Winners A team of skilful year 4 footballers adventured to Child Okeford for their first tournament of the year!

The children played against four other schools, in four 10 minute matches. The children worked well together, displaying some great teamwork and sportsmanship; it was great to see! With such divine football on display from the William Barnes team, success was inevitable! After winning our first game 5-0, the children continued with the same enthusiasm throughout every game. Eventually they were crowned tournament champions without conceding a single goal! (GM)

The Sound of Brazil is Alive and Kicking On Monday 25th March Year 4M and Year 4W performed a music concert to years 2, 3, 5, 6 and over 40 parents.

Year 4 have just completed a 10 week Musicianship programme with the Dorset Schools Music Service. The sessions were lead by Pete Whitmarsh (Head of Percussion at the Dorset School Music Service). He introduced the children to the sound of samba, a music style mainly associated with Brazil.



Over the ten weeks the children learnt to play arrange of traditional samba musical instruments including: surdo drums, repinique drums, ganzas, agogo bells and tamborims. They explored a number of different rhythms and some advanced skills such as dampening the sound.



It all culminated in a loud 20 minute concert that amazed all.

"The children performed brilliantly. Concentrating hard and playing sensitively and in time. I was incredibly impressed, said Mr Wharton, Year 4 teacher.

Now a number of children, in year 4, are looking too take their music skills to the next level by continuing their musical journey by learning to play the guitar. Perhaps the next Jimmy Hendrix or Eric Clapton is amongst us! (NW)

World Book Day! After last year's delayed WBD, due to the weather, this year's celebration of all things books and reading was delayed a day by staff being out of school on the actual day itself.



There was a plethora of Potters, absolutely loads of Alices, millions of Marys (Poppins) and a cache of comic strip superheroes!

Many parents joined in with the morning read in classrooms and the assembly introduced the school to the Golden Ticket competition; there was much excitement as Mr Field revealed the contents of the Golden Bag of Goodies for Writers. (The ticket remained hidden until the 26th of March and was found tucked under the eaves by Sinead in Year 4. Well done!)

The day was rounded off with the Book Carousel, where children had chosen from a list of books to listen to, but only on the day did they find out where and with which teacher. The Reading Club and Year 6 had worked hard in the lead up to the event by making WBD bookmarks which have sold out!

Keep reading everyone! (RF)

Year 6 have been discussing aspirations in their RE / PSHCE lessons. Look at this wonderful expression of aspiration from Lina...

Never	Fight fiery, hot dragons, Tackle frosty, cold Yetis	Don't allow bullying, Child! Speak to somebody
Never accept second best	And rare, speedy, swift cheetahs	You trust
When you can be top	Never tight, almost suffocating dresses,	And the sun and the twilight
Wear bright, streaming colours,	Sharp, delicate glass slippers	Moon
And don't be blindly pushed away.	Or a heavy, painful crown.	Will shine on you..
Never fret when you can slash	Don't wear the latest	
Those thoughts away.	Expensive clothes,	Lina Felsa
Don't bother listening to	When you can strut	Year 6
Sexist quotes.	In an impressive Sky Blue.	
Believe positivity is	Go outside, make a base	
Possible,	Stuffed with the things you	
Because it is.	Love.	

Amazing Year of Sport for William Barnes Continues The school's 'golden era' for competitive sport has continued this Autumn and Spring. Children across KS2 have contributed to an astonishing series of victories.

Tag rugby A team tournament—winners

Tag rugby B team tournament—winners

Netball tournament—winners

Football A team tournament—winners

Football B team tournament—winners

Cross Country Relay—winners in years 4,5 and 6

The cross country competition was particularly pleasing with the year 4,5 and 6 teams all winning. Only year 3 were pipped at the post coming a valiant third, however with only one year 3 child coming to running club and training for the event, Mr Hull and Mr Newman will be expecting improvements next year.

Stepping Stones New Classroom Opens After a massive and prolonged effort from the whole of the Stepping Stones team and committee, and from Donna Peters and Val Cuff in particular, the extension to the pre-school opened in January. After a year of meetings, planning inspections, unrealistic quotes, endless paper work and last minute let downs, the building was completed late in the Autumn term ready for the pre-school staff and children to enjoy their new classroom as the Spring term began. Obtaining funding for the extension was an extremely complex and time consuming process, with Val and Donna giving up many hours of their own time to ensure that their bids for funding were successful. Eventually, the extension was part funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. The expansion of the pre-school improves the availability of pre-school education in Sturminster Newton which has languished since the closure of Sturminster nursery four years ago.

Planetarium comes to William Barnes As part of this year's Science week, the children across the whole school were given the opportunity to spend forty minutes in the Science Dome. Year 5 enjoyed an extremely exciting experience when it came to be their turn, as the ceiling of the dome was transformed into a projector screen allowing images of the Solar System and beyond to be seen. After counting down to lift off in an imaginary rocket, the children headed away from planet Earth, to the far reaches of the Solar System and then further still towards the centre of our Galaxy the Milky Way. The session culminated with a journey to the edges of a Black Hole before we turned around and raced back to Earth in time to finish our work in the classroom.

Year 5 Delighted by Leeson House Adventure The children in Mr Hull's class had a truly magical time this year at Leeson House. Every single one of the twenty six children in year 5 took part in the residential, and they all had a tremendous time learning about sand dune formation, environmental art, habitats and food chains and the English Civil War at one of the country's premier Field Studies Centres. On returning to school the children commented on how the experience had enabled them to deepen friendships; the time they spent with class mates in their rooms was a source of great mirth and fond smiles. It was genuinely a once in a lifetime experience for all of the children. Looking ahead, year 5 have another trip on the horizon when they visit the Ancient Technology Centre at Cranborne on May 22nd, and then in the Autumn they head off for three days adventurous activities at PGL at Osmington Mills near Weymouth.

Physical activity for children and young people (5–18 Years)



BUILDS
CONFIDENCE &
SOCIAL SKILLS



MAINTAINS
HEALTHY
WEIGHT



DEVELOPS
CO-ORDINATION



STRENGTHENS
MUSCLES
& BONES



IMPROVES
SLEEP



IMPROVES
CONCENTRATION
& LEARNING



IMPROVES
HEALTH
& FITNESS

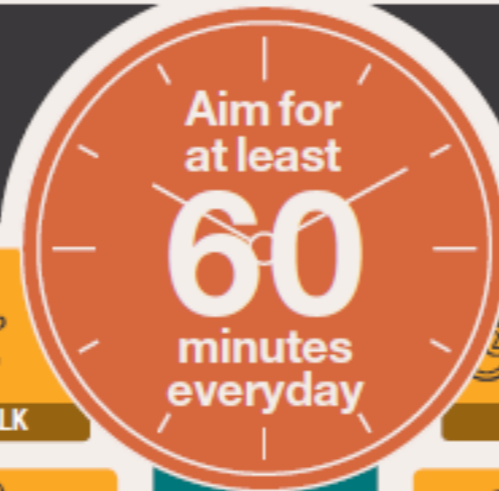


MAKES
YOU FEEL
GOOD

Be physically active

Spread activity
throughout
the day

All activities
should make you
breathe faster
& feel warmer



Include muscle
and bone
strengthening
activities
**3 TIMES
PER
WEEK**



Sit less



Move more

Find ways to help all children and young people accumulate
at least 60 minutes of physical activity everyday

UK Chief Medical Officers' Guidelines 2011 Start Active, Stay Active: www.bit.ly/startactive

An inspirational,
stimulating well resourced
environment.

preparing all
children for
life

A high quality
professional
staff team

A safe and secure
School at the heart
of the community.

inquiry,
independence
and enthusiasm
for learning

Taking Pride
in all our
achievements

High Standards
of behaviour
From all



William Barnes Primary School

Where every child counts