



WILLIAM BARNES PRIMARY SCHOOL
Bridge Street
Sturminster Newton
Dorset DT10 1BZ

Tel/Fax: 01258 472257
E: office@williambarnes.dorset.sch.uk
W: www.williambarnes.dorset.sch.uk



October 2021 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic start to a new school year, you can all feel very proud of your children, my staff and I certainly do. They have all come in to school so happily and settled so quickly. The children all look so smart and ready for learning in their school uniforms, thank you so much for your support with this.

Covid

Although restrictions have been lifted to keep us all as safe as possible we will continue to keep some health and safety procedures in place. We will ask children to sanitise their hands on coming into school, after playtimes and before eating. We will continue to remind children to sneeze into tissues and bin them and sanitise hands and cough into elbows. We will keep arrangements under review and if there are any cases then we will look at potential measures needed.

Conduct

At William Barnes we value our relationship with parents and carers. Please come in and talk to your child's teacher or myself if you have any concerns. Working together is invaluable for children's progress.

Cold Weather

As autumn is here please make sure your child has a coat, even if it seems sunny in the morning. Please also name all items of clothing – it is then very easy to return a lost item of clothing to a child. If there is a school closure due to bad weather, or for any other reason, you will be advised by text message. You will also be able to hear about the closures on local radio stations and our website can also be checked. www.williambarnes.dorset.sch.uk

PTFA

A big, big thank you to our magnificent PTFA who ran a stall at the Cheese Festival and raised £822.30! This is much needed funds as we have not been able to raise money for a long time. Please do offer to help if you can to enable our children to have the best resources possible.

School Census & Pupil Premium

Every October, January and May the school has to produce a Census on the numbers of children at the school. In January we report the number of children entitled to Pupil Premium. From this data the school gets £1320 per child. Please apply if you think your child is entitled to Free School Meals (which is different to the school meals that children get in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2). We would be grateful if applications can be made as soon as possible. It takes a very short time to check and is totally confidential. I have included the link to the application page. <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/at-school/free-school-meals.aspx> If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, they will also receive a free jumper in KS1 and then another in KS2.

Dates for your Diary

Harvest Festival— Oct 4th at school.

Oct 7th— All eat together day for years R,1 and 2

Parents evening— Online

Oct 18th/19th.



You will also be able to have financial help with residential trips in Years 4, 5 and 6.

All Eat Together Day

All Eat Together On Thursday 7th October we are having a Years R, 1 and 2 all eat together where we have ordered a hot school meal for every child in those classes.

Harvest Festival

We will hold a special harvest festival assembly in school on Monday 4th October. We have sent a letter home with details of donations. This year we are focusing on **other necessities such as shampoo & conditioner, shower gel, toothpaste, liquid soap & bars of soap, deodorant, tissues and toilet rolls. But will also welcome non perishables like dried pasta and tins of soup. Many thanks for your continued support.**

School Places 2021-2022

Year 6 parents The Year 6 applications for secondary school must be with County Hall by 31st October 2021. The applications are to be submitted online but if you have any queries, please contact the school office.

New Reception children—Sept 2022 New Parents meeting on Wednesday 13th October - New parents meeting is for children starting school in September 2022, 6.00 p.m. in school hall. If you know of anyone who has a child due to start school in September 2022, please let them know about this first meeting regarding what educational opportunities our school offers. There is also an open afternoon on the same day when new parents can have a tour around the school at 1.30pm or 2.15pm. Please let us know if you wish to attend.

Parents Evenings

Parents' evenings will be held online again on the 18th/19th October. Teachers will send out details regarding booking a time slot in due course.

Rotary Shoe boxes

We will once again be sending Christmas Shoeboxes via the Rotary Club to disadvantaged children. A leaflet will be sent home in your child's book bag. A member of the Rotary Club will be coming in to school to do an assembly about the boxes on October 5th. Further details to follow.

Music Lessons

We are currently offering Music Lessons for piano and guitars. If you are interested in your child taking lessons please contact the office. Help is also now available if you are in receipt of Pupil Premium. Please see the information in the following link, <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/dorset-musicservice/dorset-music-service-help-with-fees.aspx>

Upcoming Events

Please see the attached date sheet—Please check as there have been some amendments .

Family Learning Week

Please look out for information sent out from your child's teacher on what will be happening in class.



Our school Nativity Service will be held on Monday 13th December at St Mary's church at 2.00pm, where you are all welcome to attend. Details will be sent out nearer the time.

Christmas Events

Non school uniform day in aid of Christmas hampers– date to be confirmed.

We hope that this year will see a return to some of our Christmas events run by the PTFA. December 10th will be the Christmas Fayre. Details will follow over the next few weeks.

Car Park

As you will be aware we are very concerned about the safety of the car park. The Governors have agreed that a barrier will be erected on the ramp. This means that there will be no access from 8.30-9.15 and 2.45-3.30. If someone with a permit has an urgent need to use a parking space we will arrange for your child to either start early at breakfast club or stay a little later to afterschool club. We will ask for your views in our travel questionnaire coming out next week.

Extra Day

We will be sending you out information about an extra day that school will be closed, due to the additional bank holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. This is likely to be 17th December .

Facebook

Facebook group as a way to share information about and organise PTFA events and would very much like for you to get involved. Please note the following to help things run smoothly: 1) This is a closed group that is only available for parents and carers of children who currently attend our school. 2) The Facebook group is purely for PTFA related information and discussions. School related issues must be directed to your child's teacher or the school office. 3) Please be respectful of others' opinions and be supportive of one another. 4) Anyone not adhering to the above will be removed from the group, and Mrs Wrixon will meet with them to discuss the outcome. The PTFA committee are looking forward to involving more people through this new venture so please bear with us and offer support and ideas whenever you can.

Thank you I wish you all a lovely autumn and a wonderful half term.

Kind Regards

Karen Wrixon

Headteacher