



**WILLIAM BARNES PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
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## October Newsletter 2022



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

We welcome Mrs Karen Hudson as our Finance Officer and Mrs Catherine Dunkley-Jones to join us in the school office on a Wednesday.

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.

A big thank you to all the PTFA for their help at the Cheese Festival - £1135 was raised! This will make such a difference to the support we can give to our children.

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, it will be dealt with through Texting Parents. If you feel that this is a problem, please contact the office. 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](http://www.williambarnes.dorset.sch.uk)

You will receive details about our Family Learning Week which starts the week commencing 7<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Please come in and enjoy learning with your child.

### Harvest Festival Assembly



A special Harvest Festival Assembly will be held in school on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October. Please send in Non Perishable items for the Trussell Trust Foodbank - particularly UHT Milk, UHT Fruit juice, Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Meat, Rice Pudding, and Steamed Puddings. Contributions are preferred in smaller sizes i.e. 100g coffee, 80 tea bags, 300-500g cereal packets, or packet soup (not tinned).

### How Pupil Premium can help your child and the school

Every October, January and May the school has to produce a Census on the numbers of children at the school and, also in January, we report the number of children entitled to Pupil Premium. From this data the school gets **£1300 per child**. Please let us know 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 really need to sort this by **the end of October** so please pop into the office if you think there is any likelihood of you being entitled to Free School Meals. It takes a very short time to check and is totally confidential. Thank you. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, they will also receive a free jumper in Key Stage 1 and then another in Key Stage 2. You will also be able to have financial help with residential trips in Years 4, 5 and 6.

[www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/at-school/pupil-premium](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/at-school/pupil-premium)

### **Free School Uniform**

The Boutique in Sturminster Newton have asked us to inform you that they are offering free school uniform items, some of which are brand new! They are also delighted to receive any donations of school items.

### **Y4 and Y5 Residential Trips**

A letter will be out soon about Year 5 trip to Leeson House in March and Year 4 trip to Carey Camp. Also in 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.

### **New Parents Meeting**

New Parents Meeting will be on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October - New Parents Meeting is for children starting school in September 2023, 6.00 p.m. in school hall. If you know of anyone who has a child due to start school in September 2023, please let them know about this first meeting regarding the educational opportunities offered by our school. There is also an open afternoon when new parents can have a tour around the school at 1.30 or 2.30.

### **PTFA News**



The PTFA are holding a disco on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October. Entry to the disco is £2.50 per child and is now on Parent Pay. They are also hoping to hold a Pyjama Night on 25<sup>th</sup> November 5-7pm.

### **Parents' Evenings**

Parents' evenings will be held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October. We have put on a later evening as this was requested in our parental engagement survey, if this is not late enough please let us know. Lists will be on the classroom doors soon.

### **School Photos**

Class Portraits will be visiting the school on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Your child will have their photo taken with their siblings unless you let us know otherwise. Single children will have theirs taken individually.

### **Year 6 Secondary Applications**

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

### **Half-Term**

Half-term starts at 3.15 p.m. on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October and children are back in school on Monday, 31<sup>st</sup> October.

### **Rotary Christmas Shoeboxes**

We will once again be sending Christmas Shoeboxes via the Rotary Club to disadvantaged children. More information will be sent out as soon as we have the details. A member of the Rotary Club will be coming in to school to do an assembly about the boxes. Collection should be at the end of October.

### **Children in Need**

Children in Need is on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November. We will be holding a non-school uniform day and asking for donations towards this charity.

### **School Carol Concert**

Our school carol concert will be held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December where you are all welcome to attend. Details to follow.

There will be another non-school uniform day on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December for contributions towards the Christmas hampers needed for the Christmas Market on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December. More details to follow. Please come along to the Christmas Market which will start at around 2.15, there will be items that your children have made for you to buy and games in the class rooms and stalls in the hall. It will be opened by the choir singing on the school playground.

### **Pantomime**

Pantomime for the whole school is on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December with the production of Cinderella. You will have received a letter and hopefully all paid via ParentPay. The deadline for payment is the end of October. If you have any questions, please see the office staff.

### **Safeguarding Info**

A reminder that we have signed up to Operation Encompass which means that we will receive police notifications of domestic incidents. The Headteacher, Mrs Wrixon is the Designated Safeguarding Lead and the Deputy Headteacher, Mr Hull and Mr Field are the Deputy DSLs. If we have safeguarding concerns, we will try and speak to you first but in some circumstances a referral may be made to Social Care. As ever if you have any concerns please come and speak to me or the Class Teacher.

I hope you all have a wonderful half term when we get there.

### **Dates for Your Diary**

#### **October 2022**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October                                    | Harvest Festival Assembly                     |
| Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> October                                 | New Parents Meeting                           |
| Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> October                                    | PTFA Disco                                    |
| Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October       | Parents' Evenings                             |
| Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October?                                | Class Portraits                               |
| Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October to Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October | Half-Term                                     |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> October   | Deadline for Y6 secondary school applications |

#### **November 2022**

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Week commencing 7 <sup>th</sup> November  | Family Learning Week |
| Week commencing 14 <sup>th</sup> November | Anti-Bullying Week   |
| Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> November          | Pyjama Night         |