



WILLIAM BARNES PRIMARY SCHOOL

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November Newsletter 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have all had an enjoyable half-term and returned to school refreshed and ready for the exciting events over the next few weeks.

Please do call in for any of the events happening or just pop in! It is your school and you are very welcome anytime.

We welcome Ms Keira Hargreaves as Breakfast and Afterschool Club Assistant and Mrs Phyllis Johns as Breakfast Club Supervisor as Mrs Palmer has left these posts. We thank her for all her hard work.

Thank you to everyone who has brought in a shoebox for the Rotary collection. I am sure the children who receive them at Christmas will appreciate them enormously.

As the seasonal weather can be wet and windy, with some very unpredictable weather please make sure your child has a coat every day, even if it seems sunny in the morning. As a reminder, please name all items of clothing - it is then very easy to return a lost item of clothing to a child.



Also, children do need a pair of sensible school shoes which are waterproof, as well as trainers. Our site means that every class has to move around outside between classes and the hall, and it is important for children to have the right kit at the right time.

If the school needs to close, we will inform you by text. Do also listen to local radio for any updates and visit DorsetforYou website.



If you would like to join the Remembrance Service at the war memorial in the Recreation ground on Monday 11th November at 10.55 a.m. to observe the minute's silence, you are very welcome. There will be a child from William Barnes to lay the wreath. Poppies are being sold every morning and every afternoon by Year 6 in the playground or the school hall if it is raining.

We will be holding a non-school uniform day for Children in Need on Friday 18th November. Please can children bring in a contribution or by ParentPay. Parent Pay is our parent's payment system that we are now using as the school continues to try and become cashless.

We are very aware that the cost of living crisis affects everyone. We will try to keep costs to a minimum. If you need help or someone to talk to please do arrange to come and talk with myself. I can also arrange support from a family worker.

Year 5 parents will soon receive a letter regarding PGL and Leeson House visits. The first payment for PGL is due in November and the first payment for Leeson House is due in December. We are in the process of finalising costs and hope to get this letter out to you as soon as possible. We really need parents to keep to the payment plan to spread the costs for yourselves and also so we are not chasing late payments prior to your trip.

Dorset are running the annual consultation on the School Admission Arrangements with effect from **Monday to Friday**. Details of the consultation will be available to view at <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/your-council/consultations/find-a-consultation.aspx>. Responses must be submitted either in writing to School Admissions Team, Dorset Council, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ or by email to schoolorganisation@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk. Upon the conclusion of the consultation period all responses will be considered carefully and a report will be presented to The People Scrutiny Committee prior to the determination deadline on **28th February 2023**.

I hope you were able to attend our open evening and/or day on 12th October but if you were unable to visit and you would like to be shown around, please contact the school office and we will be able to arrange a visit.

We will be running our Rising Fives in the summer term but we will be unable to email prospective parents due to GDPR (general data) regulations, until their school place is confirmed. We will therefore put up posters to advertise the afternoon.

The government is giving money to schools to help children from lower income families do their very best. This funding is called a 'Pupil Premium'. For every child registered, William Barnes Primary School gets £1300 per year and with this money we could help target pupils' specific needs and support them better in their learning. If you are registered for Free School Meals, you will also qualify for a free school jumper in KS1 and KS2 and may be able to access help with costs of residential visits. Please speak to the office staff if you think you may be able to apply. The process takes a very short time and will be treated with the utmost confidentiality.

If you know anyone who would like support with reading; then ReadEasy are offering the following sessions. Here at Read Easy we teach reading to adults who have for any reason are struggling with their reading skills and would like to learn. The sessions are one-to-one, confidential and free. Many non-readers are unaware that help is available and don't know how to access our services, so if the school knows of anyone who may like to find out more, please pass on my phone number 07510 250365.



Anti-Bullying Week commences on Monday 14th November. Children can wear odd socks if they choose on the Monday 14th November.

Over the next few weeks we have a number of events planned, some of them leading up to Christmas, so please do come and join us and help your child take part.



The Christmas Pyramid Concert will be Tuesday 13th December in the evening for the school choir at the high school. Details to be confirmed.

The Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Play will now be held on 8th December at 9.30.

The whole school Christmas lunch is on Wednesday 14th December. **Christmas Lunches are available now to order on Local Foodlinks.**

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will still have their meals free but we still require you to let us know whether they will have meat or the vegetarian option.

Pyjama Night will be on Friday 25th November - TBC

The Christmas market will be on 9th December, this will start at 2.15 at the school playground.

With best wishes for a very happy and busy half term!

Karen Wrixon
Headteacher

Dates for Your Diary

November 2022

Tuesday 1st November

Wednesday 2nd November

Week commencing 7th November

Monday 11th November
a.m.

Week commencing 14th November

Thursday 15th November

Friday 16th November

Friday 18th November

Tuesday 22nd November

Friday 25th November

Saturday 26th November

Tuesday 29th November

Y4 Orienteering at Hazelbury Bryan

Y4 Roman Dress Up Day

Family Learning Week

Remembrance Service at the War Memorial at 10.55

Anti-Bullying Week

Y4 Orienteering at Child Okeford

Y6 height check with the school nurse

Children in Need - Non School Uniform

Y4 Orienteering at Shillingstone

Pyjama Night - TBC

Choir to sing in town - 4pm

Orienteering at William Barnes