



William Barnes Primary School

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June 2026 - Summer Term 2



Head teacher Update

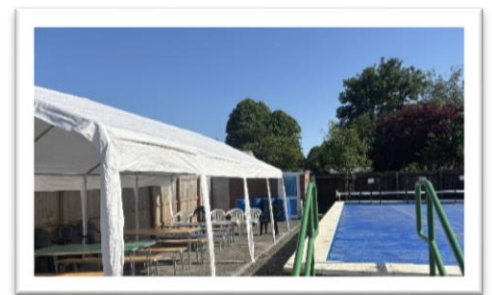
In a turnaround from the UK's usual Bank Holiday weather, it's been a very hot half-term break! I hope that everyone has managed to keep cool and enjoy themselves. Although the temperature has thankfully dropped a little, the climate remains highly changeable and we are likely to experience more hot weather as well as some rain. It is important this term, therefore, that children are sent in with a named hat with a brim/peak and sun cream applied before they come to school. On sunny days, children without adequate protection from the weather will be sent into the shade (or inside if it is raining). Please also ensure that your child brings a named bottle of water to school. I know that school staff emphasise naming items **a lot** but we do end playtimes with quite a collection of bottles, hats, jumpers and cardigans; they are easy to return when clearly named so it's well worth checking items regularly. When queuing for ice-cream behind a William Barnes family over the holiday, I found out that I can be quite unrecognisable when wearing a bandana and sunglasses so we won't necessarily recognise every child's hat, coat and water bottle as belonging to them!



Do you know a fellow parent/carer who doesn't seem to get the messages sent out on Arbor? Please tell them to ensure they have the Arbor app downloaded and have enabled notifications. They can pop into the office if they need any help.

Swimming

Mr Newman has given up some of his annual leave to put up the new gazebo and Ms Lacy to ready the changing rooms and outdoor areas. Many staff and volunteers have also undertaken their 'Reach and Rescue' training ready for our swimming lessons to begin. Please read messages from class teachers so that you know which days your child has swimming and what they need to bring. We are so privileged to be able to offer these lessons, however there will be rare occasions when, due to weather, chlorine levels or staffing, changes may have to be made at short notice and while we apologise for this, we will always put safety first.



#WB Proud



You can check attendance on the Arbor app. Last academic year, our overall attendance was 95.3% - above the national average, and the top in our group of schools although a little short of the 96+% to which we aspire. This year so far we are a little below:

My School	Primary National	Difference
94.6%	94.8%	-0.2%

As you know, regular school attendance correlates closely with future ambition and achievement as well as being so vital to those early social connections. The first thing KS1 & 2 do every day is read a story together – a lovely, calm, start to our day together!

Before school (8:35 – 8:45am)

Key Stage One children on the playground before school begins at 8:45am should always be supervised by a parent or carer. While it is natural that they will want to play with their friends before the bell, please ensure that they are mindful of adults and other children; we don't want any bumps, slips or trips before the beginning of the day, or anyone to be harmed by a small child racing into them at speed! This is why I ask that no-one rides a bike or scooter on the playground. Being aware of those around them is an important skill for everyone to learn and doesn't stop us having fun. Key Stage Two children who are not with an adult must be in the basketball area so that they can be supervised. Please do remind your KS2 children of this. Thank you

Summer term dates for your diary

With only 36 school days left of this academic year, here are just some of the things we are going to fit in:

Tuesday 2nd June

Wednesday 3rd June

8th – 12th June

Friday 12th June

Tuesday 16th June

Tuesday 23rd June

Wednesday 24th June

Friday 26th June

Friday 26th June

Wednesday 1st July

Wednesday 1st July

Thursday 2nd July

Wednesday 8th July

Wednesday 8th July

Thursday 9th & Friday 10th July

Thursday 16th July

Friday 17th July

Monday 20th July

Tuesday 21st July

Tuesday 21st July



First day back at school!

Year 2 trip

Family Learning Week/Great Big Green Week

Family Festival (PTFA *), 5-7pm

Class photographs

Mental Health Schools Team – Year 5 & 6 Transition sessions

Sports Day

Year 6 trip

Year 1 & 2 Rounders tournament (a.m.)

Aquathlon

piano & keyboard concert (invitation only), 2:30pm

Year 5 'Step Up' Day @ Sturminster High School

Transition Day

Year 5/6 Rounders @Child Okeford

Year 6 performances

Rocksteady Concert (invitation only), 2:45pm

Year 6 Leavers' event (PTFA *)

Year 6 Leavers' assembly

Last day of term, 3:15pm

All lost property items will be disposed of.



***What is a PTFA?** Most schools have a Parent/Carer, Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA), which is an organisation of parents, carers, grandparents and often school staff. PTFAs are best known for their fundraising work, but they have a useful social function too, working collaboratively with the school to organise events that raise invaluable funds to support your children and allow the school community to get together. Any money raised through the work of the PTFA is for your children, helping to provide 'extra' resources and experiences that will enrich their time at school. Some of the roles are time-consuming, although also rewarding. If you can't commit to a big job, look out for things you can do less frequently. You will be guaranteed a warm welcome and it is a fantastic opportunity to meet other parents, make new friends and feel part of our school community.

Parking

If you have not been issued with a current permit, do not park in our car park unless you are collecting a sick child. As it is part of our premises, we reserve the right to shut the gate at any time, including evenings and weekends. Permits issued will become invalid on July 22nd, 2026 and will need to be renewed in September.

Warm regards

Head teacher

We are an allergy aware school; thank you for helping to keep all our children safe by not sending nut and sesame products into school.

William Barnes



Where every child counts