



Proud to be part of The White Rose Federation

Barlow C of E Primary School
Park Road
Barlow
Selby
YO8 8ES

One family branching out together

Executive Headteacher: Mrs S. MacDonald
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11th December 2023

Newsletter No 6

Welcome to our final newsletter of 2023 and we wish a very MERRY CHRISTMAS to all of our families, staff members, governors, BPASA members and volunteers. We have had a very long and busy term since September and we hope that you all have a well-deserved rest and restoration time and are able to make joy and happy memories with your loved ones this Christmas. We look forward to welcoming you all back to school in the New Year on **Tuesday, 9th January 2024**.

We still have 2 weeks to go before the festive period arrives, so please help to each other healthy and to avoid spreading unnecessary illnesses by ensuring that your child stays at home if they have a temperature (until it is under control) and/or any other symptoms such as diarrhoea or vomiting. [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)



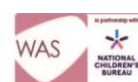
Afterschool Clubs

We are looking at our range of Afterschool Clubs and will advise by letter (via ScholarPack) before the end of term which clubs will be available from January, as some Clubs will change. The Clubs which will remain the same in January are Young Voices Club on a Monday, Sports Club on a Tuesday and Cooking Club on a Thursday. All of these Clubs plus any additional ones will be advised in the letter and will be available to book via ParentPay, or by emailing Mrs Briggs, if your child is attending a Club, then Kids' Corner afterwards. Please note that all of our Afterschool Clubs end at 4.30pm promptly, so we urge parents to be on time to collect their children please. Thank you.



Please Refrain From.....

Performing U-turns anywhere near school and especially in the Car Park entrance and anywhere outside the front of school, at the beginning or the end of the school day. Our children and families deserve to be kept safe and such manoeuvres will not save time if anyone is injured in the process. Some of our children in Year 5 and 6 walk to and from school alone and need to be able to cross as safely as possible and avoid as many hazards from vehicles as possible. Thank you for your consideration towards our whole community.



Peace, Friendship and Endurance

Late Arrivals

Please be aware that the Pedestrian Gate is open from 8.45am until 9.00am daily which is plenty of time for parents to ensure that their children arrive to school on time, taking into consideration any mitigating circumstances such as traffic or weather! Children are expected to arrive in school on time the same as our staff are expected to arrive on time for work, or parents are expected to arrive to work on time themselves. The Pedestrian Gate is promptly closed at 9.00am and parents MUST sign their children into the Late Book after this time, regardless of the reason. From after 9.00am until 9.10am children are marked as Late and after 9.10am children are marked as U for Unauthorised Absence (which counts as a morning session of absence affecting the pupil's attendance percentage), as per DfE guidance. If your child is ill or absent for another reason, or you know that they are going to be later than 9.00am then please either ring the school to leave a message on the answerphone, or email admin.barlow@wrfed.co.uk to advise the reason, so that your child can be given the appropriate mark in the register. For further information please visit [Pupil Attendance Policy Autumn 2022 | Barlow Primary School \(barlowschool.org.uk\)](#) If we don't know where your child is then they are classed as Missing in Education which triggers our procedures to be followed to ascertain the whereabouts of your child.



Some parents are not always happy when asked to sign their children into the Late Book but please remember, our staff are carrying out the duties they have been contracted to do under the Local Authority, following our policies. Thank you for your cooperation and for treating our staff with due respect.

Please note that if the school needs to close because of severe weather or in case of an emergency, parents will be sent a text, as soon as possible to advise the full details.



Online Safety Newsletter

Here is our latest Online Safety Newsletter for your information. This month the features are Age Ratings and how to protect your child, Minecraft, Snapchat, Fake Profiles and Cyberbullying. Please click on the link to read the full article [online-safety-newsletter-primary-december-2023.pdf \(barlowschool.org.uk\)](#)

Food Policy Reminder

Food Policy Please refer to our Food Policy [MODEL SCHOOL FOOD POLICY \(barlowschool.org.uk\)](#) and in particular to the extract below: -

Water Fresh, chilled drinking water is available for all pupils throughout the day and pupils will be encouraged to drink water at frequent intervals. All packed lunch pupils have access to water at lunch time meaning there is no need for an additional drink to be brought as part of a packed lunch. Pupils are encouraged to bring a water bottle every day that they can refill as necessary. Bottles go home at the end of every day to be washed and returned. **No drinks other than water will be brought into school by pupils unless recommended by a doctor for medical needs, if this is the case for your child, please provide a Doctor's Note to advise.**



Please refrain from adding ANY medications to your child's water, unless the necessary Medicine Form has been completed and handed to your child's class teacher, along with the water bottle.



Break time snacks

The School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme (SFVS) provides a free piece of fruit or vegetable to every 4- to 6-year-old attending a state-funded school. We usually receive enough fruit to be able to offer this to all our Nursery children too. Pupils in other year groups can bring in a healthy snack for morning breaktime. This can be a piece of fruit or vegetable, or a plain rice cake. Children eating these snacks outside must stand still whilst eating them to reduce the risk of choking.

Change of Dinner Menu – Tuesday, 9th January 2024

When we return to school on the **Tuesday, 9th January** the menu will be Week 2 and the school dinner will be Pizza instead of Cottage Pie (jacket potato and panini options are still available). Please don't forget to email Mrs Briggs to advise if you need to change your child's menu on this day. For the rest of this week the menu will remain as printed. Thank you.



Class Christmas Parties

The final school celebration of Christmas will take place on **Friday, 22nd December** from 1.30pm until 3.00pm when all classes will have a Christmas Party. School will provide snacks and prizes for the games which the children will take part in during the afternoon. So that the children have more time to party and less time is focussed on dressing up, we would like all children to arrive in the morning wearing their party attire which should be suitable for the school day please. We ask for a donation of £1 per child, available via ParentPay to cover minimum costs please.



During the last few weeks of term, we will be visited by a special gentleman in red, who will bring a Christmas gift to all of the boys and girls who have been good this year! IN OTHER WORDS, EVERY ONE OF THEM. We give a big thank our BPASA for providing the special gentlemen with gifts for the children.

KS1 Nativity



The children in KS1 are having their dress rehearsal today in Barlow Village Club, so we wish them all the best and look forward to seeing as many parents, carers and family members possible across the 3 performances.

Just to reiterate the performances will be as per the dates and times below (please read the coloured information) and we invite you to attend 15 minutes before the start to take your seats with the performance duration of approximately 30 to 45 minutes. We request that no photos or video recordings are taken please, so that the consent of other parents is respected. Our Class 1 staff will take photos of the children in their costumes before the dress rehearsal which will be added to our website (for the children whose parents have given photograph permission).

If you have any family members who need special seating arrangements due to their mobility, please email admin.barlow@wrfed.co.uk. If we have any tickets left for sale, after every family has taken their allocation, these will be offered on a first-come, first, served basis this week and parents will be notified by text to advise availability.

Performance 1 - Wednesday, 13th December at 2.00pm. Children whose parents attend can be signed out with a member of staff when the performance ends and the remaining children will be walked back to school to be dismissed at the normal time of 3.30pm, or to attend Kids' Corner. If another person is collecting your child other than the person or persons who normally collect your child from school, please email Mrs Briggs to advise.



Performance 2 - Thursday, 14th December at 2.00pm – same information as above.

Performance 3 - Thursday, 14th December at 5.30pm – Please can children be returned to the Village Club at 5.00pm wearing their Nativity costume, ready for the 5.30pm performance. At the end of the performance children will be handed over to their parents by a member of staff. If another person is collecting your child other than the person or persons who normally collect your child from school, please email Mrs Briggs to advise.

Our school BPASA have kindly offered to provide refreshments after each performance and will also be selling raffle tickets (cash only) for their Winter Raffle which has already been launched in our previous Newsletter No 4, so please bring plenty of change!

Refreshment Costs (cash only)

Tea/Coffee/Hot Chocolate £1 Juice (Free) Chocolates/Biscuits 50p
Hot chocolate with marshmallows and cream £1.50

May we offer a big thank you to our BPASA members who have worked hard to provide events and resources for our families that have raised a worthy amount of money towards school funds.

Winter raffle

As advised in our previous newsletter, raffle ticket sales have now been taken off ParentPay. If you would still like to purchase raffle tickets, don't despair, please look out for the BPASA selling raffle tickets after the three KS1 Nativity performances, for cash. Alternatively, by the end of the day on Wednesday, 13th December, please send cash in an envelope with your child marked with the quantity and type of raffle tickets that you would like to purchase from the list below. The BPASA members will draw the winners on **Friday, 15th December at 10.00am. Don't delay, purchase today!**



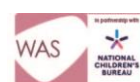
There will be a **Chocolate Hamper**, **Alcohol Hamper** and **Childrens' Toy/Game Hamper**

Chocolate Hamper Raffle Tickets for BPASA 1 strip for £3
Chocolate Hamper Raffle Tickets for BPASA 4 strips for £10

Alcohol Hamper Raffle Tickets for BPASA 1 strip for £3
Alcohol Hamper Raffle Tickets for BPASA 4 strips for £10

Childrens' Toy Hamper Raffle Tickets for BPASA 1 strip for £3
Childrens' Toy Hamper Raffle Tickets for BPASA 4 strips for £10

Mixed Raffle Tickets for BPASA 4 strips for £10 to receive 1 strip of each raffle ticket for the Chocolate Hamper, Alcohol Hamper and Childrens' Hamper, plus 1 extra random ticket per transaction).



Dodgeball Fun Festival



On **Thursday, 30th November**, our Year 2 children joined other pupils across our federation to take part in a Dodgeball Fun Festival which was hosted at Read School. The federation teams competed against one another and a range of other schools from our newly formed Sports Cluster. All of the children enjoyed taking part in the event, which was about having a go, whilst enjoying themselves in a sporting environment. Congratulations to Team Barlow (pictured below) for coming 2nd.

Tockwith	1 st
Barlow	2 nd
Barkston Ash	3 rd
St Joseph's	4 th
Burton Salmon	5 th
Chapel Haddlesey	6 th

Georgie said "I loved the 'doctor' game we played and I liked how there were different schools there to play against."



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Class 2 Viking Day

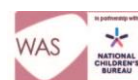
On Friday, 1st December, to enhance our Class 2 studies of history, our children joined Class 2 from Chapel Haddlesey Primary School to attend an action-packed Viking workshop. The workshop was provided by Murton Park, Danelaw Living History Services. Our children spent a full day learning about the life of a Viking settler. The Murton Park Vikings brought their Viking village to Chapel Haddlesey School which comprised of a number of houses, workshops and fields, providing the perfect setting for a hands-on activity day.

After an initial introduction led by a real-life Viking, as can be seen below the children were taken to the settlement to meet the rest of the community, to prove to the Lord or Lady of the village that they have the necessary skills to be an asset!

Working in groups the children learnt about farming and food in the Viking age, pottery, and household tasks. They had to take their turns on guard duty and learn how to defend the village from attack.

Brooke: "I found the day very fun, and my favourite part of the day was making the pottery!"

Henry: "It was very exciting and I loved the part where Rhys and the Viking had the fake battle!"



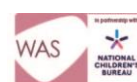
Christmas Movie Night

The only Grinch's to be found on **Wednesday, 6th December** were on the screen, as 47 children from school and Kids' Corner attended Christmas Movie Night, whilst having short breaks to demolish the feast of hot dogs, crisps and buns. Thank you to Mrs Alnajjar and Mrs Parris for giving their free time to run the event and for ensuring that the children were seated comfortably, entertained and well-fed. The night raised approximately £140 towards the School Fund.



Christmas Dinner

On **Friday, 8th December** Miss Franks our Cook (who is camera shy), along with Mr Thompson (who isn't camera-shy), cooked an AMAZING, traditional Christmas dinner with all of the trimmings, finished off with a dessert selection of Christmas cookies, cakes and mince pies which were all carefully handmade and beautifully individually wrapped by Miss Franks. A big thank you to both of them from our staff, volunteers, governors, BPASA members, Rev Pete and pupils who all enjoyed the meal together and were subsequently sleepy afterwards. It is the only time of year when our children all eat together at the same time and it was noted how well-behaved and well-mannered they all were. Well done children! Everyone wore Christmas jumpers on this day, raising **£49.50** towards Save the Children. The donations will remain open on ParentPay this week for any further donations. Thank you.





Rev Pete

As you will all be aware Rev Pete is leaving our community and it is with sadness that we see him go, as he has been such an integral part of our school, wider federation and community for so long. We kept Rev Pete back after the Christmas dinner and gently pushed him into a surprise assembly, so that the children could give thanks for his work with our school and say a proper goodbye to him. The children showed their appreciation by presenting him with the gift of a peacock picture, lovingly made from their individual fingerprints, representing his colourful and vibrant personality. Henry, (pictured below) read

out a beautiful, heartfelt message that he had composed for the occasion. Goodbye Rev Pete we will ALL miss you but wish you the best of luck in your new journey and welcome you back to visit at any time.



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Good attendance is linked to success in all aspects of life!

Whole school attendance target is: **97 %**

The whole school attendance for the fortnight: **94%**

House	Percentage	Rank
Attenborough	88.33	4th
Kahlo	97.72	2nd
Moore	99.21	1st
Rashford	94.12	3rd

48 children in the 100% Club for the fortnight!

Yours sincerely,
Mrs E V Briggs,
Admin Assistant



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Please also refer to the Calendar page of our website for our full school calendars for the next 2 years: -

<https://www.barlowschool.org.uk/calendar/term-dates>

[nycc-school-term-dates-calendar-2023-24-final.pdf \(barlowschool.org.uk\)](#)

Monday, 11 th December 2023	Christingle Making and Worship – BPASA Members to help – 1.30pm to 2.30pm
Tuesday, 12 th December 2023	Design a Christmas Bauble Competition Closes
Wednesday, 13 th December 2023	KS1 Nativity – Reception to Year 2 – 2.00pm at Barlow Village Club
Thursday, 14 th December 2023	KS1 Nativity - Reception to Year 2 – 2.00pm and 5.30pm at Barlow Village Club
Monday, 18 th December 2023	Christmas Post Box – Last date for posting cards
Friday, 22 nd December 2023	All Classes – Christmas Parties - 1.15pm – 3.15pm
Friday, 22 nd December 2023	School Closes for Christmas - 3.30pm
Thursday, 4 th January 2024	BPASA Committee Meeting at Barlow Village Club – 7.00pm (to be confirmed)
Friday, 5 th January 2024	BPASA Winter Quiz – Barlow Village Club – 7.00pm – 9.00pm
Monday 8 th January 2024	Staff Training Day - School Closed
Tuesday, 9 th January 2024	School Open for Spring Term 1 - 9.00am
Tuesday, 9 th January 2024	Change of Menu to Pizza – parents please advise Mrs Briggs of any menu changes
Monday, 15 th January 2024	Closing date for Primary School applications for Reception 2024
Tuesday, 23 rd January 2024	Open Morning for Prospective Nursery & Reception Families – 9.30am to 11.30am
Friday, 9 th February 2024	School Closes for February Half-Term
Monday, 19 th February 2024	School re-opens Spring Term 2
Tuesday, 5 th March 2024	Open Morning for Prospective Nursery & Reception Families – 9.30am to 11.30am
Wednesday, 21 st February 2024	Young Voices Concert - Sheffield Arena
Monday, 11 th March 2024	Robinwood Residential Depart
Wednesday, 11 th March 2024	Robinwood Residential Return
Friday, 22 nd March 2024	School Closes for Easter
Monday, 8 th April 2024	Training Day - School Closed
Tuesday, 9 th April 2024	School re-opens for Summer Term 1
Monday, 6 th May 2024	School Closed – Bank Holiday
Monday, 13 th - Friday, 17 th May 2024	KS2 SATs Tests
Friday, 24 th May 2024	School Closes for May Half-Term
Monday, 3 rd June 2024	School Opens – Summer Term 2
Friday, 19 th July 2024	School Closes for Summer Holidays
Monday, 22 nd July 2024	School Closed – Training Day

New Dates Added

Important to remember

School Holiday Dates



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