

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

One family, branching out together

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13th December 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

As 2019 draws to a close I would like to share the fantastic news that 3 weeks ago we had our 5 yearly SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) and received a 'Good' status with the report truly reflecting our fabulous school. The staff and governors deserve a big thank you for making this 'Good' status possible with their hard work and dedication.

Christmas Productions

I am sure that you will agree that the children excelled this week during their enthusiastic performances of Straw and Order. A big round of applause goes to all of our staff who worked tirelessly to choreograph, direct and support the cast. Every single child played an important part in the production and they should also be applauded for their individual and group participation. Thank you to our parents and carers for your support in providing costumes and ensuring that the children arrived on time for their evening performances. I am sure that a sigh of relief could be heard in school at the end of this exceptionally busy but enjoyable week in school.



Raffle tickets are also still available for you to purchase on ParentPay at a cost of 50 pence per ticket. Donations of prizes have been gratefully received and if you would still like to donate a prize, please see the list of suggested prizes outside the office door. The winners will be presented with their hampers during Christmas Collective Worship which will be held on Wednesday 18th December at 3.00pm. All family members are welcome to join us for this final worship of 2019.

Raffle tickets will be sent home in book/school bags on Monday before the performances and a text will be sent out to confirm that they have been distributed.





Class Christmas Parties

Class 1 and 2 Christmas parties are taking place in school on Thursday, 19th December during the afternoon, as follows:-

- Class 1 to bring a sweet/dessert contribution, e.g fruit (pre-cut/prepared), cake (sliced), buns, etc
- Class 2 to bring a savoury contribution, e.g sandwiches, veg sticks/dips, crisps, breadsticks, etc but no nuts please.

Our party food will take the form of a buffet, so please could you ensure that the food provided is suitable for this purpose, i.e to be finger food. If you are sending containers in with your food, please ensure that this is clearly marked with your child's name.

Party wear may be brought into school in a named bag and the children will get changed into this after lunch. The children will be taking part in party games during the afternoon, so please ensure that appropriate footwear is worn.

Year 5/6 Federation Christmas Party

Following popular requests to Mrs MacDonald from the Year 6 girls at Burton Salmon School, on Friday 20th December our Year 5/6 children from across the federation will be joining together at Chapel Haddlesey Village Hall for a Christmas party. Coaches have been booked to transport the children from Burton Salmon and Barlow Schools to the party and Mrs Lofthouse from Barlow school will be accompanying our children. We are looking forward to hearing about the new friendships which such an event will create across our federation.

Stay and Play

Our Stay and Play families will be joining Class 1 on Friday 20th December for a free-flow session with nursery rhymes and activities.

Afterschool Clubs

A letter detailing the selection of afterschool clubs that will be available from January will be sent home next week, so that you will be able to sign up for these before we break up for Christmas.

Young Voices

The Young Voices concert fast approaches on Tuesday, 7th January. Our choir have been practising hard at home and also with Elizabeth and Mary's Mum during Friday lunchtimes, so thank you to her for giving her time to our choir.

The t-shirts have just arrived in school and will be sent home early next week and we are expecting the delivery of parent tickets next week too. The children will be travelling on a coach, leaving just after lunchtime on Tuesday 7th January 2020. The children will spend the afternoon rehearsing the songs and then eat their pack up for tea. The suggestion from school is that each child has a hot school lunch before departing and then brings a pack up tea and a drink in a named disposable bag. They will need to come to school dressed in their Young Voices t-shirt with their school jumper or cardigan over the top and will need a coat. They should wear black or grey trousers or leggings and comfortable shoes.

Parents are to make their own way there, ready for a start time of 7.00pm. Please be aware that the area around the arena does get busy and to allow plenty of time to get there and park. Car parking is available to pre-book and more information is available here - https://www.flydsaarena.co.uk/home Last year, we were informed that the event was cashless, so if you are planning to purchase merchandise or food and drink, please take a card with you. The event finishes at 9.00pm so we expect the children to return to school by approximately 10.15pm. For safeguarding reasons, parents and children are kept completely separate at the arena including access to the toilet facilities and priority goes to the school coaches



departing the car park over parent cars. Your child must travel home on the coach with the rest of the school party.

France Residential March 2020

Thank you to the Year 5/6 families who have paid the deposit for next year's residential to France. The interim payment of £75.00 is due to be paid by Monday 16th December. Please make payment via ParentPay, thank you.

Swimming Lessons

A letter was sent home earlier this week to the parents and carers of our Year 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 children regarding swimming lessons which will start on Friday, 10th January for 4 weeks during the afternoon. A voluntary contribution of £5 is asked per child, per session and will be available to pay on ParentPay. Please refer to the letter and return the attached slip with details of your child's swimming ability and any badges or awards that they have received by **Wednesday**, 18th **December**.

Outstanding ParentPay debts

Please could parents and carers ensure that any outstanding ParentPay debts are cleared before **Wednesday 18th December**? Across the federation, there is an agreed maximum debt per child, which is £30.00. This includes any school dinner, trip, and out of school club payments. Within ParentPay there is the facility to pre-load your Parent account with a credit balance, in order that you can make payments for items in advance. To do this, just select the payment item and choose how much you would like to add. The cash will be debited from your bank account at that time but will sit within your ParentPay credit balance to be debited each time your child has a lunch or attends Breakfast Club. Should any outstanding balances not be cleared, there is the risk that your child would be unable to use Breakfast Club.

New Website

Mrs Marwood is incredibly excited to share with you the news that each federation school will have a brand new website launching by the end of January 2020. The website will be fully updated, be much easier to use for the parent and the admin team and will be available as an icon on smart phones and ipads. Please bear with the old website, which looks a little tired, whilst we make the updates behind the scenes.

Christmas Dinner

On Tuesday, 10th December our Cook, Miss Godfrey-Davies cooked up a feast of a traditional Christmas dinner with all the trimmings and as a rare occasion was able to join the children and staff to enjoy her well-deserved meal. There were empty plates all around and as you can see from the faces of the children they all enjoyed their dinner. Please see The Three Wise Men also pictured below, Oliver, Jack and Charlie!









School Dinners

As we are a small school, we strive to keep our school meal service sustainable, ideally with as many children as possible taking school dinners. Miss Godfrey-Davies regularly monitors the uptake of school dinners and adjusts the menu to allow more preferred menu options as necessary. From January, in an attempt to raise our number of diners, we are pleased to be able to offer a sandwich option all week with a hot panini option on a Tuesday, served with pasta, chips or salad.

Please look out for your menus coming home via book/school bags and return your completed forms by no later than **Wednesday**, **18**th **December**, so that the registers can be completed ready for January when we return to school.

Breakfast Club and Kids Korner

Booking forms for Breakfast Club and Kids Korner for January to March have been sent home via book/school bags this week. Please complete and return these by no later than **Wednesday**, **18**th **December**, so that the registers can be completed ready for January when we return to school. Many thanks.

Save the Children - Christmas Jumper Day

On the last day of term, Friday 20th December we will be supporting Save the Children by asking the children and staff to come to school in a Christmas Jumper for a donation of £1. We invite you to spend as little as possible on a Christmas jumper and to encourage you and your children to be as thrifty and creative as possible by jazzing up an old jumper with tinsel, baubles, sequins, etc. Prizes will be given for the most inventive 'home made' Christmas jumper in Class 1 and Class 2. https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/christmas-jumper-day

Uniform Updates

Following a request from a parent at Barlow School, the governing body have approved a change to the Uniform Policy across the federation. Pupils in all year groups now have the option of wearing a navy embroidered polo shirt at Burton Salmon and Chapel Haddlesey and a royal blue embroidered polo shirt at Barlow or the standard white polo shirt or school shirt. I'm sure this will be welcomed by parents of KS1 children who enjoy exploring the mud kitchen and painting stations in Class 1 on a daily basis. Mrs Briggs will be setting this up with our supplier, Classroom Clothing, and these should be available to buy in the New Year.

Parking News(ance)

As a school we cannot emphasise enough that we exist to educate your children who have a right to enter and leave school safely **at all times**. However, all rights come with responsibility and our parents and carers have a responsibility to set a good example to your children by parking safely and lawfully.

School staff, together with our JRSOs will work to educate parents to park more responsibly but school staff cannot be held responsible for policing parking issues amongst parents and carers. If you spot an illegal parking or traffic incident outside school then please report such issues, as follows:-

- Contact NYCC Customer Service Centre on 0845 8727374 or email <u>customer.services@northyorks.gov.uk</u>
- Phone the Police on 101

Last week a North Yorkshire County Council leaflet, 'Safer Parking at the School Gate' was sent out to all parents and carers highlighting tips for how to make it safer outside your school. Please refer to this leaflet for further information.



Open Day

On Thursday, 5th December from 9.15am until 11.30am, Class 1 hosted an open day for prospective new parents and their children. We were joined by the pre-school children from Barlow and Camblesforth Kids Korner who were accompanied by their play workers and some parents with children who will eligible to join us in September 2020. A big thank you goes to Mrs Lane and Mrs Edenbrow for making the children and adults feel welcome and for providing a wide range of activities for the children to enjoy. Thanks also to Mrs Janet Smith who baked with the children during the morning. If you know anybody who has children and who would like to know more about our school, please invite them to attend or ask them to telephone Mrs Briggs in the school office for further details.









Mrs Hugill

By the time you read this newsletter we will have said a warm goodbye to Mrs Hugill in an assembly this afternoon. The staff, governors, children, parents send our warmest wishes her and Mr Hugill and wish them peace before the patter of tiny feet takes over their home.

May I end by wishing all of our staff, governors, parents, carers (and not forgetting our children) a Merry Christmas and hope that you all have a lovely Christmas with your families, whatever you are doing and wherever you are celebrating.

Yours sincerely

Mrs F Lofthouse Head of School





Diary Dates

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Wednesday 18 th December	 Christmas Collective Worship – Parent/Carers welcome from 3.00pm
Thursday 19 th December	 Class 1 and 2 Christmas Party Afternoon
Friday 20 th December	 Non-Uniform Day – Save the Children – Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 20 th December	 Year 5/6 Federation Christmas Party at Chapel Haddlesey School
Friday 20 th December	Break up for Christmas
Tuesday 7 th January	Back to school
Tuesday 7 th January	 Young Voices – Sheffield Arena – Year 3 to 6
Friday 10 th , 17 th , 24 th , 31 st	 Swimming Lessons Block 1 – Years 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 – Abbey Leisure Centre
<mark>January</mark>	
Friday 14 th February	Break up for half term
Friday 14 th February	 Non-Uniform Day – Melanoma UK
Monday 24 rd February	Back to school
Wednesday 11 th , 18 th , 25 th	 Swimming Lessons Block 2 – Years 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 – Abbey Leisure Centre
March, 1 st April	
Monday 16 th – 20 th March	Year 5/6 Federation residential trip to Chateau du Tertre, Normandy
Friday 3 rd April	Break up for Easter
Tuesday 21 st April	Back to school
Friday 8 th May	May Day holiday – revised date
Friday 22 nd May	Break up for half term
Monday 1 st June	Back to school
Friday 17 th July	Break up for Summer

New dates added

