



Dear Parents,

We are mid-way through the half term and there's definitely been the sense that Spring is in the air over this last few weeks...

Family of Schools' Choir event

As many of you may have seen and heard on Facebook, Barnard Grove hosted our annual Family of Schools' Choir event last Wednesday morning. Choirs from St. Bega's, West View, Clavering and St. Hild's took part in the events, which was an extravaganza of musical talent. Each school sang two songs and the morning finished with a karaoke medley of Disney songs for the children to all join in with. There was a lovely, supportive atmosphere in the hall with children from all schools appreciating the singing and hard work of all of the children. A special thank you to Mrs Reed for her hard work with our Glee Club and to Ellen and Libbie McDonough and Olivia Veart for being brave enough to sing solo in front of so many people.

World Book Day

Although we didn't dress up this year, that certainly didn't stop us having great fun on this year's World Book Day last Thursday... The children took part in lots of activities that were designed to encourage a love of books and reading:

- ★ **Take One Book** – each class spent the day reading books with no (or very few) words! These books were beautiful picture books written to ignite children's imaginations and from the work we've seen, they certainly did just that.
- ★ **Drop Everything and Read (DEAR)** – at two points during the day, a bell rang and the children had to stop everything they were doing, grab a reading book and read for 10 mins.
- ★ **Paired Reading** – older pupils spent time reading with younger pupils. They all really enjoyed this and it is something that we will be doing more of in the future as it has **HUGE** benefits for both the younger and older child.
- ★ **Big Book Swap Shop** – The response to this was amazing with so many children bringing books to swap and some children even donating extra books so more children could have a new book to take home.

Sponsored Read

Just a reminder that our Sponsored Read finishes this **Sunday** so please encourage your children to complete their daily reading challenge and collect their sponsor money to bring into school next week. Every bit of money would be appreciated to help us reach our £1000 target (that's only around £3 per child) as we would then receive **£1,600 of books** from Usborne. Remember, there's also the chance to win a fantastic book pack for every child who completes the challenge.

Grammar Police!

On the next page, is copy of our BGPS Grammar Police poster that we have displayed all around school as part of our drive to improve the Standard English of our pupils, something that is very high on the Government and Ofsted's agenda at the moment. It was developed by our school staff based on the most common errors we hear children make and we thought it would be useful for you to see so that you can also reinforce this when speaking to your children at home...

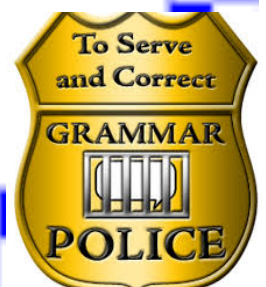


B.G.P.S GRAMMAR POLICE



Against the BGPS Grammar Law	Standard English
I <u>seen</u> her yesterday.	I <u>saw</u> her yesterday.
We <u>done</u> it right.	We <u>did</u> it right.
I've <u>wrote</u> the date.	I've <u>written</u> the date.
They've <u>came</u> to school late.	They've <u>come</u> to school late.
Pass me <u>them</u> pens.	Pass me <u>those</u> pens.
My teacher <u>learned</u> me to count.	My teacher <u>taught</u> me to count.
You shouldn't <u>of</u> done that!	You shouldn't <u>have</u> done that!

The Grammar Police will be looking and listening for good grammar at all times...



KEY DIARY DATES

SPRING AND SUMMER TERMS

2017

(Updated version)

March		June	
2	World Book Day	12-16	Y1 Phonics Screening Assessment Week
20	KS2 Shakespeare Week	19-23	School Sport Week
24	Comic Relief	23	Sports Day
		30	PD Day - school closed to pupils
April		July	
6	Easter Egg Contest	3	Y6 Leavers' Shows (pm/evening)
10-21	Easter Holidays	4	Y6 SATs Results Parents' Meetings
		5	House Points Winners' Reward
		6	Reports out to parents
		6	Y6 Leavers' Party (evening)
		7	Y6 Leavers' Assembly (pm)
		8	Summer Fun Day
		10-14	2017-2018 Transition Week
		18	KS1/KS2 Summer Discos
		19	100% Attendance Trip
		21	Last day of term
May		2017-2018	
8-11	Key Stage 2 (Year 6) SATs Week - all children MUST be in school	5 Sep	Pupils return to school for new academic year
12	Year 6 trip to Flamingo Land		
29-2 June	Half Term Holiday		

BARNEY'S EASTER EGG RAFFLE

As you'll know, we recently started an after school wraparound care club – Barney's – for parents who require childcare beyond the end of the normal school day.

Although the club is extremely popular with the children who attend, numbers haven't been as high as we'd hoped so we are trying to fundraise to ensure we can keep the service going...

We have had many kind donations of Easter eggs and so will be raffling a fantastic hamper on **Friday 31st March**.

Tickets cost **£1** per strip and are available from Mrs Archibald and Mrs Howard.



YEAR 6 STARS



We are almost mid-way through this half term, which is a crucial one, especially for our Year 6s, who are working extremely hard in preparation for their forthcoming SATs tests in May.

We thought they deserved a special mention this week as they are showing great commitment to their learning: staying back after school for booster classes, coming in early each morning for extra reading practice and completing homework every night as part of a 30 day challenge.

We are very proud of their effort so far and we're sure this will continue in the run-up to SATs. Well done everyone!

COMIC RELIEF – PUT A NOSE ON IT!

Comic Relief is in a few weeks time and this year we're planning a big, all singing, all dancing extravaganza!

We've been practising the Comic Relief song – Put a Nose on it – in assemblies ready for a whole school (staff and pupils) performance that we're hoping to record and send into Comic Relief to see if we can possibly get it played on air or put on their website. There'll also be a special showing of the video for parents on Comic Relief day.

Children will need to wear something **RED** for the recording and on the day itself. Please see attached flyer for more details.



24 March

ATTENDANCE

Our school target is **96%**

Whole school attendance for the last two weeks was:

94.50%

That means our current cumulative figure is **94.52%**

7/10 classes had attendance above 95% last week.



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