

Barnby & North Cove Primary School

Newsletter

27th November 2026

Message from Mr Lea

Dear Families

As we head towards the end of the first term of the year it is so pleasing to see how our pupils have progressed since the start of September.

They have become more confident in participating in lessons; in improving the quality of written work but most importantly they have showed both respect and kindness to each other - whether this is on the playground, at lunchtimes in the hall or as they move round the school. I am so proud of this aspect.

In the final three weeks of the term, we have several events which we hope you will attend. Please see the dates below.

I would like to extend my thanks to everyone involved with the PTA and in the organisation of the Christmas Fayre which takes place tomorrow, Saturday 28th November, from 11am to 3pm - this is a great way to kick start the festive season!

Thanks in advance for all your support
Simon Lea
Academy Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

27/11/2026 – Learn more with Mr Lea – SEND 2:00 – 2:30pm
27-29/11/2026 - Hungate Christmas Tree Festival
04/12/2026 – PTA wreath making evening
07/12/2026 – Parents Evening 1 - 3.30pm to 5.30pm - **Please book on Arbor**
08/12/2026 – iRock! Concert at 2.30pm
09/12/2026 – Parents Evening 2 – 3.30pm to 5.00pm - **Please book on Arbor**
10/12/2026 – EYFS/KS1 Nativity at 2.00pm
11/12/2026 – EYFS/KS1 Nativity at 2.00pm
15/12/2026 – KS2 Winter Warmer at 2.00pm
16/12/2026 – Non-school uniform/hat making morning
16/12/2026 – Christmas Dinner/Mrs B's Karaoke
17/11/2026 – Christmas celebration with the church at 9.30am in school – everyone welcome
18/12/2026 – Festive jumper day
18/12/2026 - Last day of Term!
05/01/2027 – Children return to school 😊

Well done everyone!



Message from Mrs Tilley – Hazel Class

This week has been incredibly busy in our class and the children have worked hard on developing their sharing and turn-taking skills. We have been using the bikes and scooters to practise waiting, taking turns and encouraging our friends, and it has been lovely to see the children becoming more confident and cooperative during play. We have also had a big focus on letter and number formation, and this is something we will continue to practise every day to help build confidence and fluency.

We have also been using our imagination and developing our problem-solving skills through construction activities. The children loved the challenge of designing and building bridges across the astro squares, carefully testing their ideas and making improvements when things did not go to plan. Some of the bridges were so strong that they could even be stood on! It has been wonderful to see the children persevering, working together and feeling proud of their achievements.

Message from Miss Danks – Acorn Class

Hello Everyone!

In our class story we are getting along swimmingly and have now chosen our settings! We are now beginning to build the story together, choosing adjectives to describe where we are and how we might be feeling. We are now working on drawing our story map together.

In Art we have started learning about Andy Goldsworthy. He is a sculptor and land artist who only uses natural materials. His work is site-specific so he builds his art then leaves the materials where they are and takes photos because his work gets washes away by nature and is only temporary. Here are some of the children's pieces of art.

In Maths our special numbers have been 4 and 5! We have be learning to name, count, find, represent, compose and subitise (please ask your children what this means!) the numbers 4 and 5. We have done this in many different ways and the children have worked really hard exploring and solving number problems, we have even had a go at writing our own number sentences!
In our UTW learning we continue to explore the big question 'What makes a good story?'. Last week we learned the story of the three little pigs and this week have started focusing on 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. We have got inspiration from Michael Rosen who explains beautifully what a fairytale or traditional tale is and where they come from. We have learned

about characters and settings and that most fairytales/ traditional tales have a moral to the story and have hidden lessons within them. We have been describing, discussing and sequencing to be able to retell the story.

Finally, though we are well on our way to Christmas, and I know it is a very busy time for everyone, but can we please remember how important it is to read with your children, story books AND their school reading books. If you aim for every night, you may just get 3 in!

Last note - Can you please make sure your child has a spare change of clothes in school and maybe 2 or 3 pairs of socks as we are in and out of water and wellies all day and have no socks left! 😳

Have a great weekend, I hope to see you all at the PTAs Christmas fair on Saturday!
Miss Danks



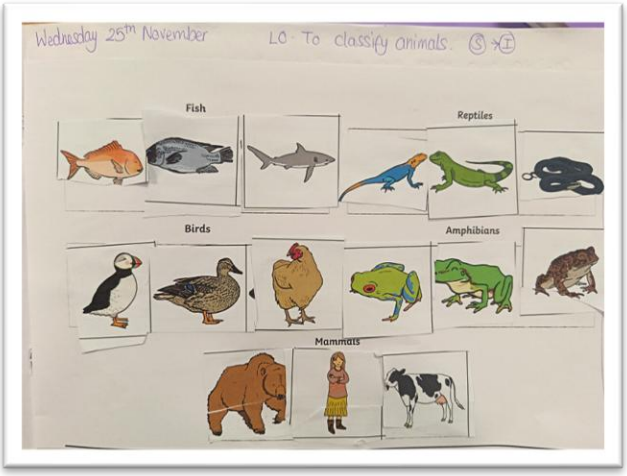


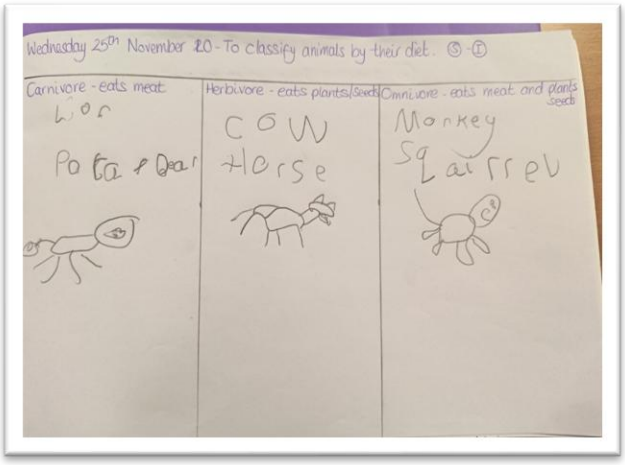




Message from Mrs Stannard – Juniper Class

In Juniper we have been learning all about 3D shapes, where we find examples of them in school, as well as the outside world. During one lesson, we made repeating patterns using 3D shapes and practised giving instructions to our classmates so they could make their own patterns. In science, we sorted animals by type and diet; lots of interesting and thoughtful questions were asked by members of the class, some of which that even the adults initially struggled to answer! It has been a time of celebration during our PSHE lessons as we all shared the different talents and gifts that we feel confident about; this ranged from dancing to building Lego, to hula hooping to playing Uno. We also spoke about the skills we would like to practice in the next few months so that we can add even more things to our confidence jar!





Message from Mrs Bramwell - Oak Class

Over the last couple of weeks, we have been developing our writing stamina by innovating a diary about a magic adventure. This week we have published our own individual diaries. Everyone has made a really good effort and I can't wait to read them all.

In PSHE we have been learning about what makes our family special. All our families look different on the outside but on the inside, they are full of love, kindness and want to keep us safe. In our lesson this week we discussed jobs that we do around the house and how we do these jobs to show our love and kindness. So hopefully there will be a lot of special helpers getting on with tidying bedrooms and helping with the dishes this week at home.

We have shared our Nativity this week - can you please make sure if your child has a reading part they can learn it at home. Also, could you please make sure scripts are in book bags daily to support practise. All costumes will be arranged by us - so no need to worry about that.

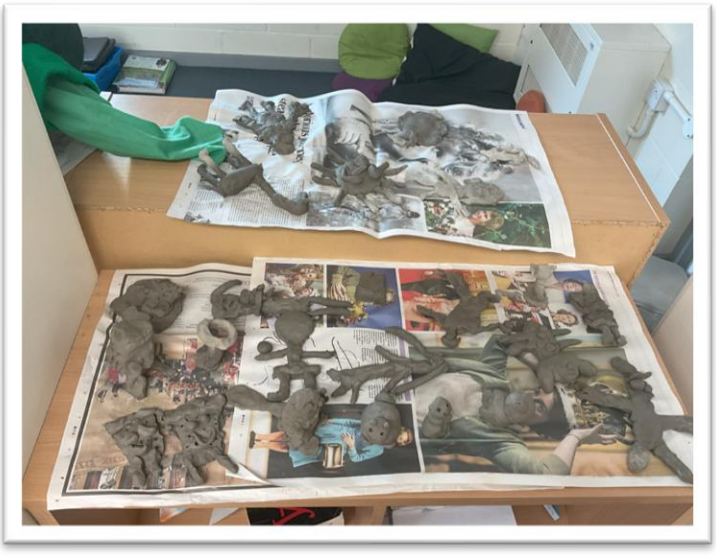
Have a great weekend!

Message from Mrs Hall – Willow Class

This week in Willow class we have been tackling our maths and reading assessments. The children have worked exceptionally hard showing off all they have learnt.
In DT, we are working towards creating mini greenhouses. This week we were trouble shooting things we needed to consider with its design.

In computing with Mr Lea, they have been making clay models ready for their stop-start- motion videos.

We have now finalised our idea for the winter warmer and all children have been assigned a role. Over the next couple of weeks, we will be starting rehearsals and look forward to sharing our sketch with you.





Message from Miss McCloskey - Chestnut Class

This week has been a busy one in Chestnut Class as we completed our assessment week. The children have worked hard and approached the week positively, giving us a valuable opportunity to celebrate their progress and identify next steps in their learning. In RE, we explored how the teachings of Jesus can be applied to everyday life through role-play activities. The children considered a range of modern scenarios and discussed how they could show kindness, compassion and support to others.

In English, we have been expanding our writing toolkit by exploring a variety of sentence structures and refining our setting descriptions. The children have been considering how authors create atmosphere and engage their readers through carefully chosen language. In Maths, we have been bringing our division unit to a close, using practical resources to support understanding of short division, while most Year 6 pupils and some Year 5 pupils have been applying long division methods with increasing confidence.

Alongside our usual learning, we have also begun preparations for the festive season. The children have started creating pieces for a Christmas display based on the theme of peace and love. These crafts will contribute to a wider school display and have encouraged the children to reflect on the values of kindness, friendship and community.









iRock!

iRock have decided to feature our school in their nationwide marketing - please see the attached poster

SCHOOL CASE STUDY

iRock

BARNBY AND NORTH COVE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Small school, big impact: how iRock works at Barnby and North Cove

Shared by **Simon Lea**, Academy Head



Pictured: iRocker at an iRock partner school

AT A GLANCE **78** pupils **4** iRock bands **30%** participation Partner school since **June 2026**

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Strong participation in a smaller school

> **We had parents turning up with signs supporting bands! This showed the success of iRock.**
>
> SIMON LEA, ACADEMY HEAD

30%

OF PUPILS TAKING PART

Being a smaller school was never a barrier. Pupils and families trusted the school to introduce an opportunity that would benefit children, and the community quickly got behind iRock.



Pictured: iRockers at an iRock partner school

Developing the whole child

> **"Allowing pupils to flourish in a subject that is not all about Reading, Writing or Maths. Valuing their talents and skills."**

Confidence beyond music

The school has seen pupils grow in confidence during band lessons and carry that confidence into other subjects and the classroom.

Easy to fit around the school day

Regular lesson times help teachers plan ahead so pupils don't miss key classroom learning, while lessons in the school hall make iRock a visible part of school life.

Working smoothly with the school team

The school describes Band Coach Ross as exceptional. He sets up independently, works well with staff and collects pupils from class without disruption.

> **It has been so easy to integrate iRock into our school.**
>
> SIMON LEA, ACADEMY HEAD

Giving every child a chance to thrive through music

Book your free iRock assembly

irockschool.com/school-request

Safeguarding Information

The DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead) for safeguarding in school is Mr Simon Lea. The ADSL's (alternate Designated Safeguarding Leads) are Mrs Kathy Lloyd and Mrs Melanie Bramwell.

A copy of the safeguarding policy and all other policies are available on the school website.
The Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership website contains a wealth of information: www.suffolksp.org.uk

If you are worried about the welfare or safety of a child speak directly to Mr Lea, Mrs Lloyd or Mrs Bramwell. If concerns are outside school hours, please contact Customer First on 0808 800 4005 (open 24 hours).

If the matter is urgent because a child or vulnerable adult is in immediate danger, phone 999.


Safeguarding Children