



Barnsbury Primary School and Nursery

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Barnsbury
Woking
Surrey
GU22 0BB

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Email: info@barnsbury.surrey.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs J Harrup

13th December 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

It was wonderful to see all of the children and staff in their Christmas jumpers on Wednesday. Our Christmas lunch was absolutely incredible—huge thanks to the ladies in the kitchen for cooking us all such a delicious Christmas meal and to the Barnsbury staff for being so flexible and making sure the day was special for the children.

Years 3 and 4 went to see Sleeping Beauty, the pantomime at the Woking Victoria Theatre yesterday. A huge thank you to our wonderful PTA who purchased the tickets for the children. The members of staff who accompanied the children said the children were absolutely entranced by the production and enjoyed every single moment. I'm looking forward to going with Years 5 and 6 this afternoon. Thank you to Mrs Gilkerson for organising the trips—a tricky job considering it involved getting 240 children safely to the theatre and back!

Key Stage 1 and Early Years Nativity

We are looking forward to the performances next week. Children and staff have been practising hard and the singing sounds amazing. There will be money collection buckets after the performances, with all proceedings going towards Woking Food Bank.

A message from Mrs Colman (Acorns Nursery)

THANK YOU

A while ago I reached out the wonderful PTA to help with some items for Nursery, they got straight to it and every class group were sent a message. To say I am blown away by your generosity would be an understatement. Thank you to everyone who so kindly donated toys, books, dress up clothes and so much more to the Nursery. I have very happy children in my class.

Your child's first device

This Christmas, you might have decided to give your child their first phone, tablet, laptop or gaming console. This is a big decision as the responsibility and freedom that comes with owning a device is a big step for children. It might even be their first 'grown up' responsibility. As a parent or carer, it's important to remember that even if a child is tech-savvy, they need to be taught how to be tech-safe. INEQE Safeguarding Group have created information for parents which can be accessed [here](#).

Next Friday is the last day of term, please remember we finish at 1.15pm.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

With kind regards

Mrs J E Harrup
Headteacher

Dates for your diary 2024-25

Autumn Term

December

Friday 13th	KS2 Pantomime—Woking Theatre, Years 5 & 6
Monday 16th	9.15am—KS1 Christmas Production Dress Rehearsal
Monday 16th	2pm—KS1 Christmas Production
Tuesday 17th	9.15am -KS1 Christmas Production
Tuesday 17th	2pm—KS1 Christmas Production
Wednesday 18th	Christmas Carol Concert Years 3 & 4
Friday 20th	1.15pm End of Term

Dates for your diary 2024-25

Spring Term

January

Monday 6th	First day of term
Thursday 9th	9.00am—Prospective Parent Tour
Friday 17th	Local Governing Committee Meeting

February

Friday 7th	6G Class Assembly
Friday 14th	4J Class Assembly
Friday 14th	PTA Non Uniform Day—Love What You Wear
17th-21st	Half Term
Monday 24th	INSET Day

March

Friday 7th	9.00am Rock Steady Concert (Friday bands)
Weds 12th	Local Governing Committee Meeting
Friday 14th	5T Class Assembly
Tuesday 18th	9.00am Rock Steady Concert (Tuesday bands)
Friday 21st	1M Class Assembly
Thursday 27th	9.00am Rock Steady Concert (Thursday bands)
Friday 28th	1B Class Assembly

April

2nd-4th	Year 6 Residential to Avon Tyrell
Friday 4th	1:15pm End of Spring Term



Star of the Week

Effort

Values

Oak	Harry	Hania	Lola
Ash	Ava	Haniya	Isla
1B	Shauna	Ayyan	Elliott
1M	Abdullah	Azal	Pipaliina
2M	Amirah	Nate	Aliza
2T	Arla	Malakai	Elize
3B	Theo C	Reece	Zach
3M	Chloe G	Mohammad Raees	Ella
4D	Flint	Khayaati	Logan
4J	Callan	Josh	Lucy
5M	Ayush	Georgie	Lexi
5T	Victoria	Ben P	Mia S
6G	Balazs	Daniel	Amelia
6L	Annucca	Ethan	Matthew

**Congratulations to the Lionesses this week:
Isla, Samantha and Havanna**



PLAYER OF THE MATCH

**Congratulations to the recipients of a WOW certificate this week: Abi, Rosie, Harriet, William, Daisy, Lucy, Amber, Charlotte, Myra, Sophie
Jonah (Ash), Michael (1M), Mohammad Raees, Emily R, Jude, Niyam, Sarah
Luisa, Fin & Roslyn (3M)**



Congratulations to our Super Spellers this week: Isla (2M), Jude (3M), Natalia (4D)

Reception

What a busy half term we have had! In maths, we learnt about 2D shapes and used our learning to identify, name and describe these in our environment. Then we learnt positional language, such as over, under, on, behind and in front, using this to direct our friends around an outdoor obstacle course. Lastly, we started learning about number building on our knowledge and understanding of number up to 5! We explored the composition of number using physical resources.



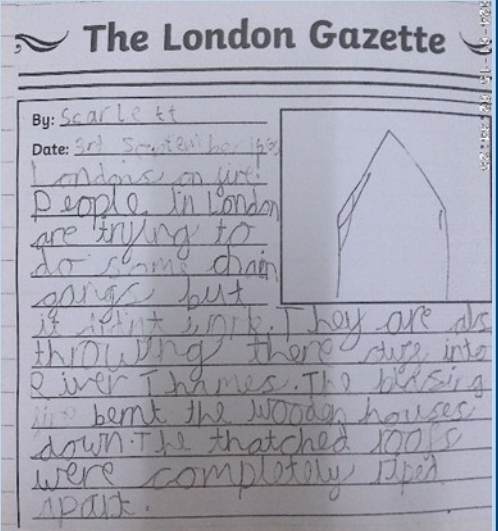
For our topic of 'Fairytales' we shared the story of The Three Little Pigs and built houses using different materials. We read Jack and The Beanstalk and were inspired to plant our own beans, discussing how we need to care for them to help them grow. Recently, we have enjoyed seeing your pictures showing us how well they are growing at home!

We have been busy drawing, designing and building castles for our topic of 'Castles and Knights', showing our Barnsbury values by choosing to build co-operatively. We then used our 'Fred-Talk' to write labels to add to our castles.

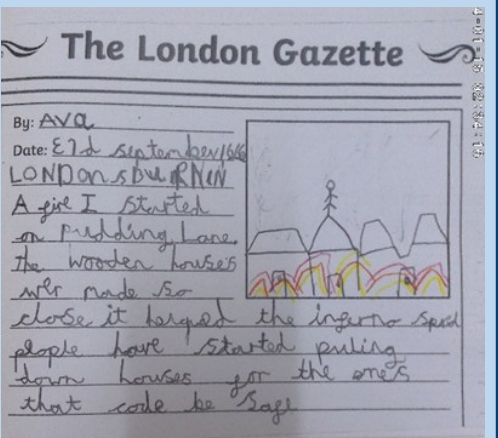
Year 2

We have had a super half term in Year 2! We have continued to learn about life in London during The Great Fire of 1666. We even had a visit from Surrey Fire & Rescue who taught us about fire safety. We have remembered that you need to... 'Get out, Stay out and call 999!'.

Our learning inspired us to write newspaper reports about the Great Fire. Look at our fantastic examples. We have also been getting into the Christmas spirit, practising for our Nativity as well as enjoying our annual Christmas Jumper Day. A big thank you to all our parents and carers for your support this term, we wish you a very Merry Christmas.



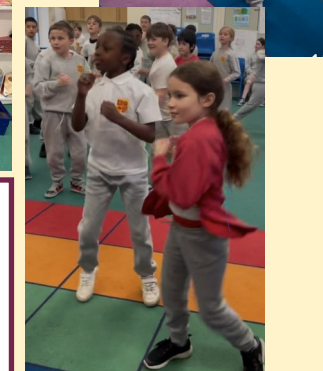
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Year 4

What a busy week for the year 4 children! They participated in specially designed English collaborative activities, based on the set novel, Pugs of the Frozen North. The children had to discuss and formulate a path across a chasm, based on the emotions the characters might experience, when undertaking some really tricky situations, on their journey to the North Pole.

The classes worked hard on their Christmas stockings, and the adults were all amazed at the incredible stitch work the children produced. All designs were individually cut and stitched, with minimal help. We were suitably impressed and proud of the manner in which they got down to the planning and execution of their D.T project.



Indoor PE sees the children learning various dance moves and using choreography to establish a routine together as a class. It has been delightful to see children, who appear quite reserved, suddenly come to life in a dance group. I cannot wait to see the complete result.

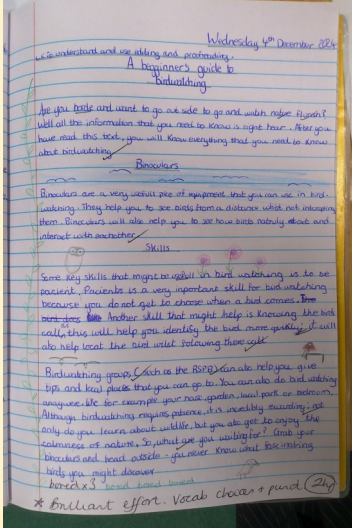
Year 5

This week in Year 5, we have been continuing our work on Forces. We have been looking at the forces of gravity and air resistance, and using this knowledge to try and build Chinese-style paper kites. Below you can see a picture of our proto-types - some of which were successful. Next week, we are going to use what we have learned to build our full-size kites. Then all we'll need is a windy day!



Year 6

This week, Year 6 have been busy with some exciting projects! We've been designing and building prototypes for bird houses in DT, and it's been great to see everyone's creativity in action. Alongside this, the students have been writing explanatory texts about bird watching, sharing their newfound knowledge and enthusiasm.



In Geography, we started our new topic on the Americas with a fun quiz that got everyone thinking and excited about what's to come. The students really enjoyed it, and we're looking forward to exploring this fascinating region in more detail!



Our fabulous choir

On Saturday, children from our Barnsbury Choir attended the Seymours Christmas Carol Concert in Aid of Woking & Sam Beare Hospices. Well done to Abi, Rosie, Harriet, William, Daisy, Amber, Lucy, Charlotte, Myra and Sophie for singing so beautifully. We are so proud of you! Thank you to Mrs Norfolk for all of her hard work each week and to Miss Freeland and Mrs Colman for accompanying the children at the event. It was a wonderful celebration of music with other school choirs, the cast of Mamma Mia, Bloomfield Avenue and a trio from Italia Conti. What a way to start the weekend!



Hedgerow Planting

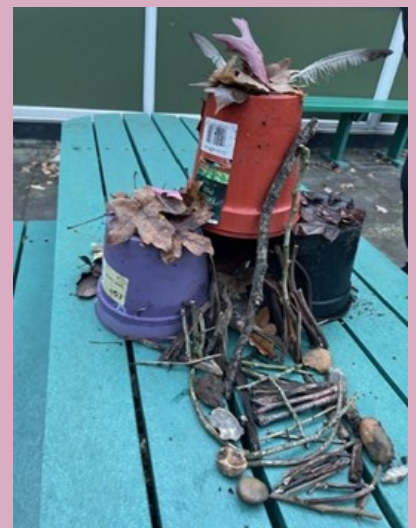


A huge thank you to Surrey County Council Trees and the wonderful parent volunteers who did a fantastic job at planting the hedgerow on the KS2 field. The Eco Council joined for part of the morning and really enjoyed getting involved. There was a lot of great teamwork as some children learnt how to part a tree for the first time. We are looking forward to nurturing our trees and watching how they grow over time. Thank you again to the generous volunteers for their time and hard work to plant over 400 whips!



Teachers' Outdoor Learning

The teachers got creative last week as they did some outdoor learning after school. They had to work as a team to build a fairy house / elf den using items found in the sensory garden. Team 1 included a yellow 'brick' path, golden carpet and camouflage exterior to protect against predators. Team 2 made a den using a range of natural materials, including an elf made from a stick and a leaf. Team 3 included an extension as the elves extended their family, a stick and stone path, and a reindeer shaped leaf. I wonder which would be your winner?



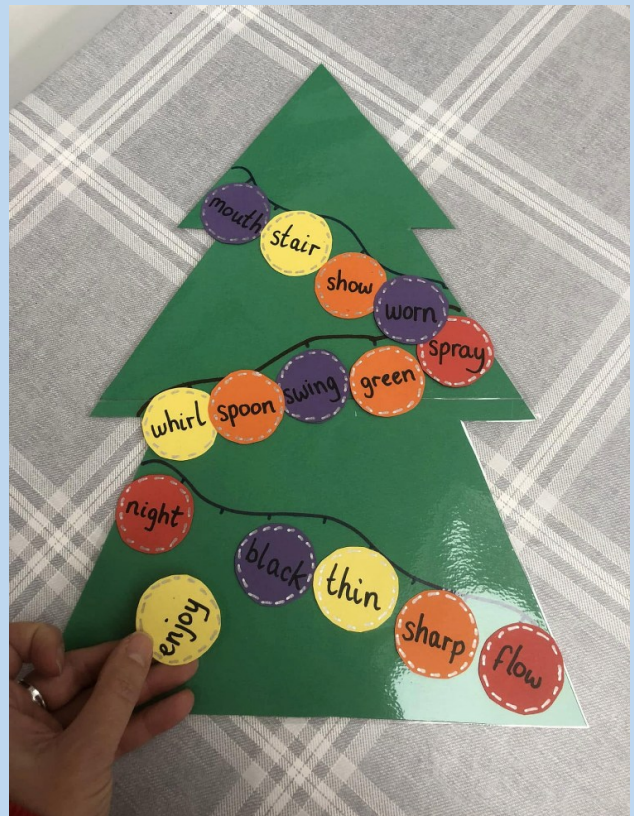
Phonics

This one was super fun! The children loved it and wanted to do it all the time.

Decorate the Christmas tree after reading out baubles with designated words on, related to the sounds your children has been practising.

Miss Paice

Trainee Teacher, Year 4



BARNSBURY AND KINGFIELD



BARNSBURY VS KINGFIELD

09 DECEMBER - 16 DECEMBER 2024

* ANSWER AS MANY QUESTIONS AS POSSIBLE *
PLAY IN ANY GAME TYPE * THE WINNING CLASS WILL HAVE
THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF CORRECT ANSWERS PER PUPIL *
ASK YOUR TEACHER FOR FULL DETAILS AND RULES *





YOUR BARNSBURY PTA NEEDS YOU!

**Help us shape the future of
Barnsbury school and it's
children by helping us raise
vital funds...**

WE NEED YOUR:

**INPUT...your opinions matter
TIME...however much you can spare
DONATIONS...big or small and your
help CREATING AWARENESS**



**Contact your class rep or email:
pta@barnsbury@surrey.sch.co.uk**

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON.

The holiday season, marked by Christmas and New Year, brings joy and togetherness but also presents unique safety challenges for children, families and educators. From busy holiday shopping, traveling and family gatherings to managing digital activity during school breaks, staying safe during this period requires heightened awareness. This guide offers practical tips to help families and educators maintain a more secure and fulfilling festive period.

1 MONITOR DIGITAL ACTIVITY

Children spend more time online during school holidays, increasing exposure to potential dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and online predators. Balancing screen time, avoiding harmful websites and ensuring children engage positively online can be difficult without proper monitoring tools. Set clear boundaries, encourage open discussions about online safety and use parental controls to manage content exposure and screen time effectively. Regular check-ins and positive reinforcement around digital habits encourage safe online behaviour.

2 PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The incidence of house fires increases during Christmas due to greater use of candles, cookers and electrical decorations. Open flames, electrical overloads and the need for quick response plans can make fire safety challenging. Ensure smoke detectors are operational, keep fire extinguishers on hand and teach children how to respond in case of a fire emergency. Avoid leaving cooking unattended and use fire-safe candles to prevent mishaps.

3 CREATE TRAVEL SAFETY PLANS

More families tend to travel during the holidays, resulting in busier roads, increased traffic accidents and weather-related hazards. Weather conditions, road rage, fatigue and busy airports can all compromise travel safety. Pack emergency kits and adhere to seatbelt laws. Plan routes in advance and allow extra travel time to avoid rushing and mitigate risks on busy roads.

4 BEWARE OF ALLERGIES

Holiday meals often involve many foods that may contain allergens. Cross contamination, unclear labelling and lack of allergy-friendly options can lead to severe reactions. Communicate any allergy needs to hosts, provide safe food alternatives and carry necessary medications like antihistamines or EpiPens. Teaching children how to advocate for themselves and recognise dangerous foods also contributes to safer celebrations.

5 PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS

Cold weather and seasonal socialising can increase the spread of viruses like flu and COVID-19. Crowded gatherings, schools out of session and frequent travel can lead to higher infection risks. Emphasise hygiene, encourage vaccination, disinfect surfaces and isolate symptomatic individuals. Communication with children about proper hygiene practices is essential to reduce the spread of illness.

6 STAY VIGILANT ON THE ROAD

Increased holiday traffic heightens the risk of accidents for both drivers and pedestrians. Distracted driving, pedestrian safety and inclement weather can complicate road safety. Encourage pedestrian safety practices, avoid distracted driving and never drive under the influence.

7 MAINTAIN SAFE DECORATIONS

Festive decorations such as Christmas lights and candles can pose electrical, fire and choking hazards if mishandled. Frayed wires, toppling Christmas trees, small ornaments and open flames can be difficult to control, especially in busy households with children. Inspect and maintain decorations, secure Christmas trees, place fragile or small items out of reach and ensure candles are never left unattended. Testing smoke alarms and using flame-retardant decorations can significantly reduce risks.

8 SET BOUNDARIES FOR GIFTS

Some toys and gadgets can present choking, sharp-edge or safety risks, particularly for young children. Ensuring that gifts meet safety standards and are age appropriate can be complex with so many options available. Inspect all toys carefully and ensure any tech devices have parental controls. Setting expectations around safe gift use and discarding packaging that poses a risk also helps to prevent accidents.

9 ADDRESS STRESS & FATIGUE

Holiday pressures can lead to burnout, which affects both physical and mental health. Overpacked schedules and a lack of downtime can cause stress and fatigue, leading to accidents or poor decision making. Incorporate rest, maintain regular routines and seek support to reduce stress. Encourage activities that promote relaxation to create a healthier, happier holiday experience for everyone.

10 DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Alcohol is commonly present at holiday events, raising concerns about safety and supervision. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to accidents, impaired judgment and lack of supervision for children. Designate responsible adults, limit consumption and provide transportation alternatives for guests. Teaching moderation and modelling responsible behaviour in front of children ensures that celebrations remain positive and secure.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is a chartered health and safety consultant with 10 years of experience in promoting family and community safety. Specialising in risk assessment and preventative strategies, he has worked with educational institutions, public health agencies and community groups to deliver safety education and training.



The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/safety-over-the-festive-season>



We are hiring

School Catering Assistant Barnsbury Primary School & Nursery

Looking for a local, term-time only position with great work life balance and benefits?

- *15 hours per week*

Don't miss out - apply now.



[Join our team](#)



MEADOW SPORTS & OLD WOKINGIANS

CHRISTMAS WISHING TREE

Pop an unwrapped
present under the
tree, and bring a
smile to a child

Presents will be
distributed to poorly
children across two
local hospitals and our
local children's hospice



ROYAL SURREY CHILDRENS WARD

ST PETERS CHILDRENS WARD

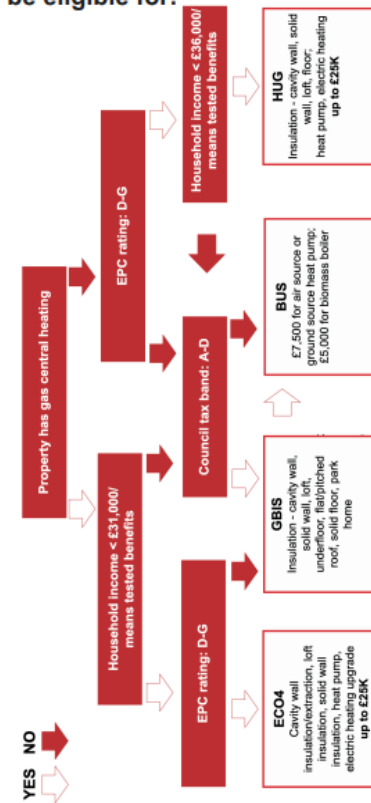
Final collection: Friday 20th December

Please deliver all presents to Meadow Sports, Loop Road, Old Woking

SAVE ENERGY SAVE MONEY



Check which grants you might be eligible for:



Help with costs of living

- ➔ **Pension credit:** pensioners on a weekly income of under £218.15 (single) or £332.92 (couple) can apply.
- ➔ **Attendance allowance:** if one pensioner has a disability and their partner cares for them then they may be eligible for circa £70 - £100 per week towards the cost of care.
- ➔ **Water social tariff:** on a means tested benefit? Eligible claimants can get the social tariff circa 20% cheaper than regular.
- ➔ **Benefits calculator:** find out what you could be eligible for: <https://benefits-calculator.turn2us.org.uk>

Where to look for impartial advice?

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL
www.surreyenergyadvice.org.uk

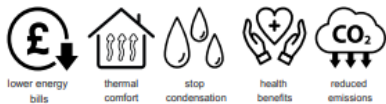
energy saving trust
www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home/

MoneySavingExpert
Cutting your costs, fighting your corner
www.moneysavingexpert.com/utilities/how-to-get-help-if-you-are-struggling-with-your-energy-bills/

Need bespoke advice?
Email us:
 cat@surreyclimate.org.uk,
 anna.jolley@zerocarbonguildford.org

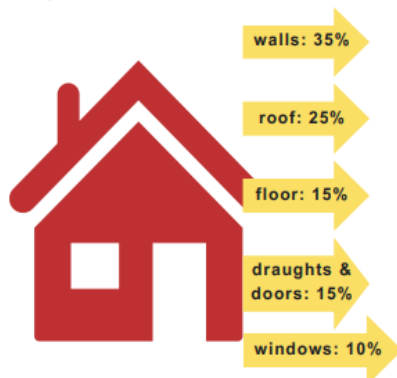
Why save energy?

You can save energy by reducing your consumption and insulating your home. This provides a lot of benefits, not only to your wallet but health and wellbeing.



Where does the heat go?

Knowing where the heat escapes from your home helps you identify ways to reduce it. Below is an estimate for a typical home. You can check where the heat goes in your home by booking a free thermal survey with the HEAT service.



Book a FREE thermal survey of your home:
www.zerocarbonguildford.org/energy-surveys

How much should I pay for my energy?

Energy use	Example - home type & no of residents	Typical annual gas use (kWh)	Typical annual electricity use (kWh)	Typical annual electricity use (multi rate) (kWh)	Estimated cost/year
Low	Flat or 1-bedroom house, 1-2 people	7,500	1,800	2,200	£1,148
Medium	2-3 bedroom house, 2-3 people	11,500	2,700	3,900	£1,568
High	4+ bedroom house, 4-5 people	17,000	4,100	6,700	£2,182

The figures above are from OFGEM.

Quick wins

- Turn the thermostat down by 1 degree **+£100**
- Draught proof windows, doors, gaps, floorboards **+£125**
- Reduce shower from 15 min to 4 min **+£95**
- Lower your boiler flow temperature to 60 degrees **+£112**
- Cylinder lagging **+£70 - £300**

save up to £500 a year!

Cavity wall insulation



- ➔ Cheapest option for wall insulation
- ➔ Non-disruptive
- ➔ Very reliable when done correctly
- ➔ Not a DIY job
- ➔ Use a trusted company that guarantee work

Suitable for many houses built:

1923 - 1986