



I would like to formally welcome Mr Richard McIntosh to the school as our new Deputy Headteacher. He is teaching Class 7 for two days a week and brings with him a wealth of experience and expertise gathered in other local schools. He is keen to meet the wider school community so please introduce yourself and let him know what works well here and what could be improved!



We have continued to enhance the school environment over the holidays. We have invested in some new planting in the lower playground and a new 'wildflower' area is planned over by the allotment and the new fruit trees. We intend to sow poppies here to mark the centenary of the 1st World War with a specific reference to local people affected. More news on this over the coming months. A section of the playground has been resurfaced as well as a new shed installed to house PE equipment. This last area is part of a wider plan to enable major improvements to be made to our kitchen in the summer holidays. I look forward to bringing you more news on this soon.



Finally, there is a new central location for Lost Property outside our main office. This will be emptied after every half term but can now be accessed before or after school without needing entry to the main building.



### Safeguarding Message

Your children tell us that they overwhelmingly feel safe and secure at school. A recent incident occurred, however, where a small penknife was brought into school. This serious issue has been dealt with. Can we all be vigilant to ensure that no inappropriate items, however innocently intentioned, are brought through the school gates? If in doubt, please check with the school. Thank you.



### Leadership and Governance Update

In our continual search for self-improvement, we have requested a Teaching and Learning review by the Local Authority and this will take place on Monday 28th April. Two LA inspectors will spend all day in the school and will be 'out and about' in the morning to meet parents. Please let them know your views on the school.

### Key Messages from the Office



**ParentPay**— This new online cashless system is up and running, thanks to those of you who have already registered and are using it. Until September our traditional cash system is still available but please note any payments made prior to ParentPay will not show online but are still accounted for.



**School Clubs**— Please note the letter going out regarding extra spaces.

### Other Key dates

**Mon 5th May** Bank Holiday

**12th May—16th May** KS2 SATs week

**Thurs 22nd May** Polling Day—School Open

**Fri 23rd May** Non-Pupil Day 5

**Mon 2nd June** Return from half term

**Fri 20th June** Sports Day

**Tues 22nd July** End of Term

**Weds 3rd Sept** Non-Pupil Day 1

**Thurs 4th Sept** Pupils return

**Fri 24th Oct** Non-Pupil Day 2

**Mon 23rd Feb** Non-Pupil Day 3

**Fri 22nd May** Non-Pupil Day 4

**Weds 22nd July** Non-Pupil Day 5



### Friends of Barnes Farm Schools

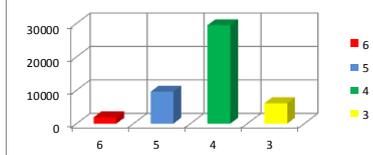
**Logo**— We have had some designs handed in, but have decided to **extend** the deadline to the end of this term.

Can you design an idea for the new logo for the Friends of Barnes Farm Schools? Put your ideas on a piece of paper and hand it in the office. See the back of this newsletter for more details.



### Mathletics Year Group Challenge

Mathletics points Summer Term 2014



Year 4 are our defending champions for the Spring Term and they have got off to a great start!

**Readathon Update** We managed to raise £ 1231.72 for the Readathon charity. As well as helping some great causes, the school receives 20% of this money back to buy more books for our new 'Library Lane'. Thank you to all those who donated.