

NEWSLETTER

No 23: 12th Mar 2021

Full Return to School

Thank you to all the families who returned their children to school this week. It has been fantastic to hear the productive hum of busy classrooms.

World Book Day yesterday was an unqualified success and hopefully raised the profile of reading for pleasure and enjoyment. A fuller report on this is further down in this newsletter.

We have managed to engineer a single lunchtime slot (which makes the day more even for the children) and still enable the yeargroups to play entirely separately. The children have also been eating in their classes and sitting in those groups too. These are all part of our wider protective measures. Unfortunately, Covid-19 is still prevalent in our community which necessitated us to close the Y5 bubble on Tuesday after a single positive case was reported.

Year 4 will have PE with Colchester United on Friday 19th March in addition to their usual days and Year 5 will have the same on Friday 26th March.

If you have any questions about our ongoing provision then please use remotesupport@barnesfarm-jun.essex.sch.uk to contact us.

Mr McTaggart – Headteacher

★ Stars of the Week ★

12th March 2021

Y6	Sophie Ford	William Hall	Joseph Wain
Y5	Joshua Williams	Orla Farrell	Maisie Beecham
Y4	Harry Cansdale	Archie Wheal	Hannah Devonish
Y3	Nathan Kong	Bojidar Manar	Kitty Hodgson

World Book Day Costume Winners – Voted by the class

11th March 2021

Y6	Alice Tyler	William Edwards	Max Illinessi
Y5	Logan Walpole	Jacob Bowling	Ethan Maciver
Y4	Jasmine Picton	Mya Reynolds	Ivy Hards
Y3	Oakley Silverman	Sienna Snow	Mason Roche

WhatsApp Messenger

App review by Diana Anderson, Common Sense Media



Common Sense says

age 14+



Text, call, and chat with individuals and groups data-free.

iPhone, Mac, Android, Windows app | Free | Social Networking

Save | Rate app

Parents say

age 15+



Based on 15 reviews

Kids say

age 10+



Based on 24 reviews

Get it now

Common Sense is a nonprofit organization. Your purchase

WhatsApp Guidance

We have previously advised parents about the age rating for the use of WhatsApp. The official rating is 16+. Commonsense media advises 14+.

There have been recent examples of children finding the use of this app challenging to deal with (around being added/removed from groups etc). It has also been reported that parents are allegedly messaging other children from their child's account when difficulties occur. Our advice is for our school-aged children not to use WhatsApp. Our advice is also that if parents need to deal with any issue related to school, that they contact the school directly rather than another child in this instance.

World Book Day

We held our World Book Day on **Thursday 11th March** at school (1 week after the official date). Children came to school in their book character costumes and there was so much creativity and thought that went into them.

Costumes + Toilet Roll Creations



Classroom Doors – Opening up to a new world!



*Mrs Crumlish
Reading Lead Teacher*

Budding Bakers!!

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Over the school Easter holidays Church of Our Saviour is offering a children's picnic bag scheme for those who are struggling at the moment. This will be available on weekdays between Monday 29th March to Friday 9th April and you can dip in and out as suits you. Information has been emailed out on how to access or contact Claire - 07807 472414 or Judy - 07946 535198 or email mypicnicbag@churchoos.org.uk



Tel: 01245 467973 <https://barnes-farm-junior.eschools.co.uk>
<https://www.facebook.com/FOBFSPTA> Twitter @barnesfarmjnr





The Big Bird Box and Feeder Competition

We are looking to increase the wildlife at Barnes Farm for us all to enjoy. There are never enough holes and hideaways where wildlife can shelter, however we can help them by making a nest box and putting out food.

If you'd like to help the birds around our school, why not have a go at making your own nest box or bird feeder? We would love to choose our best examples to share with RSPB! Here are some links to help get you started;

[RSPB Build a birdbox step by step guide](#)

[RSBP Make a small nest box](#)

[RSPS Make a recycled bird feeder](#)

[RSPB Produce a pine cone feeder](#)

Please ASK AN ADULT TO HELP. You may need to use tools that could hurt you

We would love for these to be hung up in and around our school site after Easter, so please remember to include a hook or bracket. You have plenty of time to design and get creative!

Have fun,
Mrs Jordan