



'To give of our best, to work together, to value everyone and learn for life.'

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term. The children and staff have returned ready to again, "Give of their Best".

We hope you have found the new updated Curriculum Guide useful and have had time to explore our new school website.

We will be requesting feedback about the changes we have made and would be grateful if you could let us know your thoughts in the coming survey.

Parent Open Evenings

Feedback from Parent Open Evenings was again very positive. A group of our year 6 pupils enjoyed supporting the staff in running the front desk, welcoming you to your appointment. Thank you to our Year 6 volunteers who gave up their time to support the school during this important annual event.



Remembrance Day Poppies

This year, our Year 6 School Council representatives, were responsible for selling this years' poppies.

The children did a fantastic job, completely selling out of poppies within two days!

The 'very heavy' donation box is being collected by the British Legion, this week.

Thank you for again, supporting this important cause.



Staffing News

Congratulations to Mrs Emma Feenan and her partner Tom who welcomed the arrival of their new baby boy, Benjamin Thomas Feenan. I am sure you would like to join me in wishing them well.

We are pleased to welcome, Miss Victoria Chialton back to the team, after enjoying some family time during her maternity leave



Attendance

Attendance continues to be a major focus of our School Improvement Plan. Unfortunately, owing to parents still taking children on holiday in term time, our overall attendance figure for 2016-2017 was 95.3%. Although this is a slight increase on the academic year before, it is still below our school target.

As detailed in our Ofsted report, attendance remains a high priority of the school. Please support us in ensuring your child is only off school if they are too unwell to attend.

Holidays in term time remain unauthorised and may receive a penalty notice.

As you are aware, all children should be aiming for 100%. We have set the school target at 98% although all pupils should aim to achieve 100% attendance.

Thank you in advance for working with us to achieve the school target this academic year.

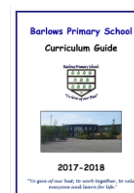


Themed Weeks

As detailed in our Curriculum Guide, our curriculum is based around a number of cross curricular themes.

Themed weeks, days and events can be found in this important guide. Our new revised Curriculum Guide can also be viewed online at:

<http://barlowsprimary.co.uk/curriculum/curriculum-guide/>





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Vote for our Opera Project! - Vote by 21st November 2017

"North Liverpool Schools Music Theatre Productions"

Barlows is again fortunate enough to be working with the European Opera, Mr Kenneth Baird and our Chair of Governors, Mrs Fiona Chambers.

We would be grateful if you could support us by voting for us using the link below: <https://community-fund.aviva.co.uk/voting/project/view/17-2715>

There is a simple registration process which results in you being given 10 free votes. Our project is called "North Liverpool Schools Music Theatre Productions"

We would be delighted if you could spend 5 minutes Registering in order for us to win a bid for funds to support this exciting school project. Thank you in advance.



After School Activities

Miss Howarth continues to organise the excellent range of After School Activities, which started the week beginning **Monday 06 November 2017**.

Miss Howarth, will be more than happy to deal with any of your questions concerning the activities on offer.

The activities start at 3:30pm and end each evening at 4:30pm or 5:00pm. Please refer to the attached timetable.

The Clubs are free of charge, where possible, when organised by the school staff. External agencies such as David Campbell and other organisations do charge a fee per session.

Please Note: After School Activities run in blocks of approximately 4 or 5 weeks depending on the length of the half-term and staff commitments.

The dates of these weeks are detailed at the bottom of the After School Activities Time-Table which is attached to the newsletter.

Please ensure that your child is collected at the end of the club, as we cannot allow any child below Year 6 to go home on their own without your written permission.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could collect your child on time to allow the teaching staff to return to their planned activities.
Thank you for your support with this.



Harvest Festival

Thank you to Miss Qershori who organised a fantastic Harvest Festival collection.

Over 100 items were donated by children and their parents/carers.

We would like to say a special thank you to everyone who donated.

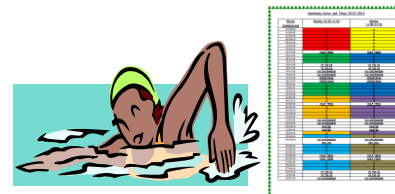
The items of food were sent to the North Liverpool Food bank, who will distribute the food to families in need across north Liverpool.



Swimming Dates

These are detailed in the Curriculum Guide.

Please note a slight amendment to the version in the Curriculum Guide, owing to a Bank Holiday which was omitted. This does not affect the dates of swimming for other days.





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Nepal Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who supported the Nepal raffle during the first half term in Multicultural Week.

The raffle raised £129.31, with pupils winning authentic Nepalese elephant novelties. Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket.

Thank you also to Miss Kattou, who organises these fundraising events, and to the International Schools Committee who supported the sale of these.



Here On Time

Please support us in getting your child to school on time.

We now open doors at 8:50am to enable pupils to arrive in time for the prompt 9am start.

At 9am all external doors to the building are closed following the sound of the school bell.

All children must arrive inside the building by 9am, in order to be on time. Pupils who arrive after the 9am bell, will need to do so through the main entrance.

Please support us in ensuring your child (ren) arrive in school **by 9am**.



Macmillan Cancer Coffee Morning

On Friday, 29 September Miss Manchester, one of our Teaching Assistants, once again organised a great Coffee Morning in support of Macmillan Cancer Research.

The event raised a super £175 in support of Macmillan.

Thank you to the team of teaching assistants and members of the PTA who supported the organisation of this important event.

Thank you also to the many families who supplied cakes and cookies to be sold at the event. Your support is much appreciated.

Children and staff from morning club enjoyed selling biscuits on the yard to raise additional funds for this excellent cause.

Eco Committee Energy initiatives

Our Eco Committee have been undertaking a special undercover mission to try and reduce energy in our school.

They have been carrying out unannounced energy checks round the school, identifying any lights, PCs or electrical items left on when not in use.

The committee will be reporting back to the school during assembly as they try to encourage people to reduce energy use.

Switch off Fortnight - 20th November - 3rd December 2017

During Switch Off fortnight, the Eco Committee will be promoting energy saving activities and encouraging staff, pupils and parents to switch off electrical items when not in use.





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Allotments

Our allotments continue to be a huge success thanks to the work carried out by Tom and Lesley Feenan to ensure the allotment continues to offer a valuable learning experience for our pupils.

Pupils attending the Allotment Club have enjoyed taking home some of the exciting produce grown.

This year's sprouts are growing well, and may well be a contender for the Christmas dinner table!

Miss Lacey Howarth, Mrs Tracy Hope and Mrs Lesley Feenan will again be running an allotment after school activity throughout the year.



Stay and Play Dates for Reception / Nursery

The Stay and Play dates for Nursery and Reception classes in Autumn 2 are :



Reception - Friday 1st December, 9am - 10am
Nursery am - Friday 1st December, 8:30am-10am
Nursery pm - Friday 1st December, 12:30am-2pm

Christmas Dates

The Christmas dates have been attached to the back of this newsletter.

These are also available in the Curriculum Guide and online at:

<http://barlowsprimary.co.uk/parents/>



Parent Teacher Association (PTA)- Recruiting Now!

Our PTA is made up of friendly, energetic and committed people who enjoy working hard to provide quality fundraising events for the children, teachers and parents of Barlows.

At present there are only 2 parents on our school PTA, we would be delighted if more parents would be able to commit to this valuable part of the school community.

If you would like to join this dedicated team please contact Ms Lynsey Knibb (Year 6 teacher), who will be more than happy to assist you.

The first meeting for this term will be at 3:30pm on Wednesday, 22 November 2017 in the school Conference Room which can be accessed through the main reception area.



Lunchtime drinks

In line with our Healthy Schools Status, fizzy or sugary drinks are not permitted at lunchtime.

Cans of any sort, are also not allowed

Thank you for your support with this.



Water Bottles

Each child is provided with a school water bottle which are cleaned and sterilised regularly.

Therefore, children do not need to bring their own water bottle in to school as one is provided.





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Morning Snack

Pupils in Year 3,4,5 and 6 are welcome to bring a healthy morning snack into school to be consumed at snack time .

Children are allowed to bring any one of the following in line with our Healthy schools' Status:

- A single round of toast (ideally wrapped in foil) chocolate spread or jam should not be included
- Cereal bar (non chocolate)
- Fruit - whole or in pieces (not in syrup)
- 1 crumpet
- 1 bagel (without a filling)
- 1 teacake



Grapes - in the interest of safety and guidance previously received by the school, if you supply your child with grapes for school, we would be grateful if these can be cut in half (length ways) to avoid the possibility of choking.



Pupils in Early Years and Key Stage 1 receive free fruit as part of the national fruit scheme and therefore do not need to bring an additional snack in to school.

Peanuts

As you are aware, some children and adults suffer from peanut allergies. This can include an allergic reaction to peanuts in their vicinity without directly consuming these.

We would be grateful if you could support us in not sending peanuts in to school as part of lunch or snack.



School Car Park

Please be reminded that the school car park should not be used unless you are dropping off or collecting from Morning Club/After School Club or the Children's Centre.

Please do not use the school car park or car park entrance in any other circumstances as this causes unnecessary queues which in the event of an emergency, can cause delays in emergency vehicles being able to access the site. It also prevents staff from being able to park in the allocated staff parking areas.



There have also been a number of near misses with parents backing out of parking spaces unable to see owing to the quantity of vehicles blocking the entry and exit routes.



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Eco Committee - Litter Picks

Our Eco Committee have been working hard to promote a litter free site. They have been supporting our caretaker, Mr McCartney, carrying out litter picks with specialist equipment as part of a 'Big tidy Up'.

Please help support our pupils in their anti litter campaign by promoting the use of onsite litter bins for any rubbish as families are entering and leaving the school site.



Thank you for your continued support.

St Andrews's Day - Thursday 30th November 2017

On Thursday 30th November 2017 children, who are involved in associations such as Brownies, Rainbows, Beavers and/or Cubs, are invited to wear their special uniforms to school.



Music at Barlows

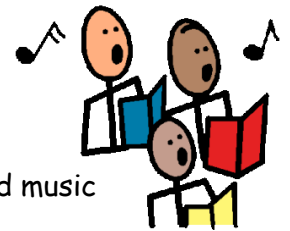
Our new Music Coordinator, Mrs Stephanie Webster, has been working extremely hard to engage more pupils in music opportunities outside the curriculum.

Our school choir meet regularly on a Tuesday and now includes pupils from Year 3 to Year 6.

Primary Choir of the Year Competition

Pupils in Year 4,5 and 6 are busy rehearsing for the Primary Choir of the Year Competition which will be held in St John Bosco , later this term.

The choir, led by our new choir teacher, Ms Bowyer, have enjoyed preparing their range of songs , ready to 'give of their best' in the competition. We would like to wish them every success.



Thank you to Mrs Stephanie Webster who has been working hard to organise and lead music provision in the school.

Booky Breakfast

Thank you to Miss Rachel Bamber and Miss Lauren Williams who organised a fantastic Booky Breakfast during our first ever Author Week.

Children enjoyed getting involved in our Author Quiz and sharing our learning journeys in relation to book centred curriculum work.



Liverpool School Girls football

Congratulations to Aimee, Abbie and Sadie from our Year 6 Girls' Football Team who were successfully selected for the Liverpool School Girls' Football Team this year.

Congratulations to all the girls who attended and gave of their best, during the two evenings of trials.





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Odd Sock Day 14th November 2017 - Antibullying Week

To mark the start of Anti-Bullying Week children, staff and parents are invited to come to school wearing odd socks. This is to reinforce the message of how we are all different, yet all equal.

We think this will be an exciting day for the children with a memorable message. Socks may be worn over tights or trousers for extra effect.

There will be a special assembly to celebrate individual difference as part of our Odd Sock Day.



Children in Need - Friday 17th November 2017



Own Clothes Day

To raise funds for Children in Need, we will again be holding an own clothes day. Children can wear their own clothes; this can include Pudsey ears and t-shirts etc, if you wish. We are requesting a Voluntary Contribution of £1 which will go to Children in Need.

Cookie and Cake sale

Our school Council have been working hard to think of ways of raising funds for this important charity. Chartwells, our school catering supplier, have agreed to bake 100 cookies, which will be decorated by the School Council and sold on Friday 17th November before and after school for approximately 50p. A further letter from the school council will follow.

Parliament Week - 13th November 2017

This Year we are taking part in our first ever Parliament Week. This is a new addition to the Curriculum Guide which is being led by Miss Lauren Williams and our school Council.

During the week, pupils will learn more about parliament and democracy. Developing their understanding of the rule of law and voting.

The children have already started work on their class manifesto which will be shared as part of a whole school celebration.



Dare to Be Week - 20th November 2017

Mr Christopher Beech and Mrs Stephanie Webster have been busy organising an industry inspired week of business for our pupils to engage in. They have also been organising a range of musical opportunities to engage children in being musicians.

This week encourages children to be creative business entrepreneurs. Each class are given a small amount of capital and as a team they must create a business plan to make a product which will make a profit. The products will be sold at a later date. Dates will follow in a letter from the Enterprise Committee.

Thank you to Mr Christopher Beech for organising this exciting event.



Swimming Dates and Times 2017-2018

****Updated to reflect an omitted Bank Holiday - please note, this does not affect the swimming dates , other than swimming not taking place on 07 May 2018****

Week Commencing	Monday 10:00-10:30	Monday 10:30-11:00
11/09/17	Year 6	Year 6
18/09/17	Year 6	Year 6
25/09/17	Year 6	Year 6
02/10/17	Year 6	Year 6
09/10/17	Year 6	Year 6
16/10/17	Year 6	Year 6
23/10/17	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
30/10/17	Year 6	Year 6
06/11/17	Year 5	Year 5
13/11/17	Year 5	Year 5
20/11/17	Year 5	Year 5
27/11/17	Year 5	Year 5
04/12/17	Year 5	Year 5
11/12/17	NO SWIMMING	NO SWIMMING
18/12/17	NO SWIMMING	NO SWIMMING
25/12/17	CHRISTMAS	CHRISTMAS
01/01/18	CHRISTMAS	CHRISTMAS
08/01/18	Year 5	Year 5
15/01/18	Year 5	Year 5
22/01/18	Year 4	Year 4
29/01/18	Year 4	Year 4
05/02/18	Year 4	Year 4
12/02/18	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
19/02/18	Year 4	Year 4
26/02/18	Year 4	Year 4
05/03/18	Year 4	Year 4
12/03/18	Year 4	Year 4
19/03/18	NO SWIMMING	NO SWIMMING
26/03/18	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK
02/04/18	SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK
09/04/18	Year 4	Year 4
16/04/18	Year 3	Year 3
23/04/18	Year 3	Year 3
30/04/18	Year 3	Year 3
07/05/18	NO SWIMMING-May Day	NO SWIMMING-May Day
14/05/18	Year 3	Year 3
21/05/18	Year 3	Year 3
28/05/18	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
04/06/18	Year 6 Top Up	Year 6 Top Up
11/06/18	Year 6 Top Up	Year 6 Top Up
18/06/18	Year 3	Year 3
25/06/18	Year 3	Year 3
02/07/18	Year 3	Year 3
09/07/18	NO SWIMMING	NO SWIMMING
16/07/18	NO SWIMMING	NO SWIMMING

Important Christmas Dates 2017

Christmas Dinner

The school Christmas dinner will be on Wednesday 6th December. Children and staff all have their dinner together and are encouraged to wear their favourite Christmas hat!

Christmas Plays

Nursery	Monday 11 th December (am/pm)
Reception	Tuesday 12 th December (am/pm)
Y1/2	Wednesday 13 th December (am/pm)
Y3/4	Thursday 14 th December (am/pm)
Y5/6	Friday 15 th December (am/pm)



Christmas Parties

Nursery	Tuesday 19 th December (am/pm)
Infants	Tuesday 19 th December (pm)
Juniors	Wednesday 20 th December (pm)

Christmas Grotto

Our Christmas Grotto will be held on Monday 18th December. This will be organised by Ms Knibb- details to follow.

Pantomime

When the children return after their Christmas break, on Monday 8th January, they will be treated to a performance in the school hall of 'Robin Hood'.

Autumn 2: After School Activities to commence week beginning Monday 6th November and finishing Friday 8th December 2017

	Activity			
Monday 6/11 13/11 20/11 27/11 4/12	Y3 Game Making Mrs Farrell & Miss Topping Y3 Classroom	Mini Master Chef Miss Williams & Mrs Sullivan Reception Classrooms	Y3/4 Christmas Crafts Mrs Winstanley & Miss Manchester Y4 Classrooms	Y5 Super Spag Mr Beech, & Miss Mills-Baines Y5 Classrooms
Tuesday 7/11 14/11 21/11 28/11 5/12	David Campbell Soccer School (School Field)	Y3-6 Choir Miss Bowyer Y1 Classrooms	Y2 Matball Sports Coach School Hall	STAFF MEETING
Wednesday 8/11 15/11 22/11 29/11 6/12	Y 2-5 Allotments Miss Howarth, Mrs Hope & Mrs L Feenan		Y6 English Booster Miss Kattou, Miss Bamber & Miss Bakstad Y6 Classrooms	
Thursday 9/11 16/11 23/11 30/11 7/12	Y6 Maths Booster Miss Knibb, Mr Mattocks & Mr Bulmer Y6 Classrooms		Y3/4 Boys Football Mr Wade School Field	Y5 Maths Games Mr Beech & Miss Mills-Baines Y5 Classrooms
Friday 10/11 17/11 24/11 1/12 8/12	Y4,5,6 Sports, Fitness and Nutrition Mr Yates & Miss Bakstad School Field			

Clubs to take place weeks beginning: 6/11, 13/11, 20/11, 27/11 & 4/12

