



# Barnsbury Primary School and Nursery

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**Headteacher: Mrs J Harrup**

15th November 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

It was lovely welcoming so many parents into school this week for our Parent/Teacher Consultations. If you have not managed to make an appointment with your child's class teacher, please ring into the school office to arrange a mutually convenient time.

### **For Parents of Children with Additional Needs**

The Additional Needs and Disabilities (AND) Partnership has designed a survey for all parents and carers of children and young people with AND in Surrey. They want to understand your experience of accessing help and support related to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in Surrey. They will use your feedback to improve local services that support Surrey's children with additional needs with their education, health (including diagnosis) and care. The survey closes on Sunday 24th November and can be found [here](#).

Please also see the body of the newsletter for a poster with information about an online session for ethnic minority parents and carers of autistic children to support you with navigating your child's special educational needs within the education system. The event is on Thursday 3rd December between 10.30am and 12.00pm.

### **Christmas Lights 'Switch-On'**

On Saturday 16 November, Tunsgate Quarter in Guildford will host a day of festive fun and entertainment for the whole family, featuring live bands, a choir, artisan gift market, children's crafts, face painting, seasonal drinks and free mince pies, all culminating in a lights switch-on moment with Yvonne Arnaud Theatre's Robin Hood pantomime stars Peter Gordon and Matt Pinches. Please see the body of the newsletter for more information.

### **The ELSA study: Early Surveillance for Auto-immune diabetes**

Please look out for communication from us regarding the ELSA study. The ELSA study is screening children, aged 3-13 years to find out their risk of getting type 1 diabetes. This is a simple finger stick blood test, and we have organised for the screening to be available at Barnsbury on Tuesday, 26th November. We have sent out further information within a separate email. Closing date for signing up is **Monday 18th November**.

Please scan the QR code to find  
out more.



Please scan the QR code to  
register interest.



## Pupil Absence

Just to remind parents/carers that if you take your child/ren out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

With kind regards



Mrs J E Harrup  
Headteacher

# Dates for your diary 2024-25

## Autumn Term

### November

Monday 18th	9.00am Prospective Parent Tour
Wednesday 20th	2.00pm Prospective Parent Tour
Friday 22nd	Non-uniform day—donations for PTA Christmas Fair
Friday 22nd	9am—Rocksteady Concert—Friday Bands
Wednesday 27th	Diabetes screening
Friday 29th	9.00am 6L Class Assembly
Friday 29th	10am—PTA—Hedgerow Planting
Saturday 30th	2-5pm—PTA Christmas Fair

### December

Monday 2nd	KS1 Christmas Pantomime experience
Thursday 5th	9am Rocksteady Concert—Thursday bands
Friday 6th	9.00am 3M Class Assembly
Tuesday 10th	9am Rocksteady—Tuesday bands
Wednesday 11th	Christmas Dinner and Jumper day
Thursday 12th	KS2 Pantomime visit—Woking Theatre
Friday 13th	KS2 Pantomime—Woking Theatre
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



### Star of the Week

### Effort

### Values

Oak	Billy	Conor	Muhammad
Ash	Emma-Rosie	Aaryadeep	Florence
1B	Daniel	Dakota	Tristan
1M	Edmund	Richard	Charlie
2M	Isaac	Alexia	Tommy
2T	Mary-Kate	Auriella	Ted
3B	Bea	Skylar	Molly
3M	Jude	Chloe G	Chloe S
4D	Frankie	Maya-Mae	Isla
4J	Abubakr	Florence	Zaki
5M	Ella	Quinn	Ben
5T	Dexter	America	Adele
6G	Angela	Hannah	William
6L	Myra	Ava	Freddie

Congratulations to the Lionesses this week: KS1 - Haseeba, LKS2 - Emily, UKS2 - Emma B



**PLAYER OF THE MATCH**

Congratulations to the recipients of a WOW certificate this week:

Harri, Kaja, Isabelle, Matthew, Evangeline & Amelia (6G), Abi, Zoe & Bella (5T), Yusuf & Steve (4J).



## Reception

Reception are getting to know the new layout of the classrooms. We have lovely new furniture which is prompting independence. The children are accessing learning across all areas. We are reinforcing our phrase 'Choose it, use it, put it away', to ensure we are being respectful by keeping our resources safe and tidy when we have finished using them.



We are enjoying our Fairytale topic so far. We have had fun using expression as we act out stories, taking on the roles of different characters. In maths, we have played some fun subitising games.

## Year 2

Year 2 are thrilled to share that our Great Fire of London workshop was a fantastic success! The children were fully immersed in the events of 1666, exploring how the fire began, why it spread so quickly, and the dramatic ways it changed London. Through role-play, storytelling, and hands-on activities, they engaged deeply with this important historical event and learned so much about life in Stuart London. The workshop sparked their curiosity and brought history to life in such a memorable way. Thank you to Samuel Pepys for making this an unforgettable experience.

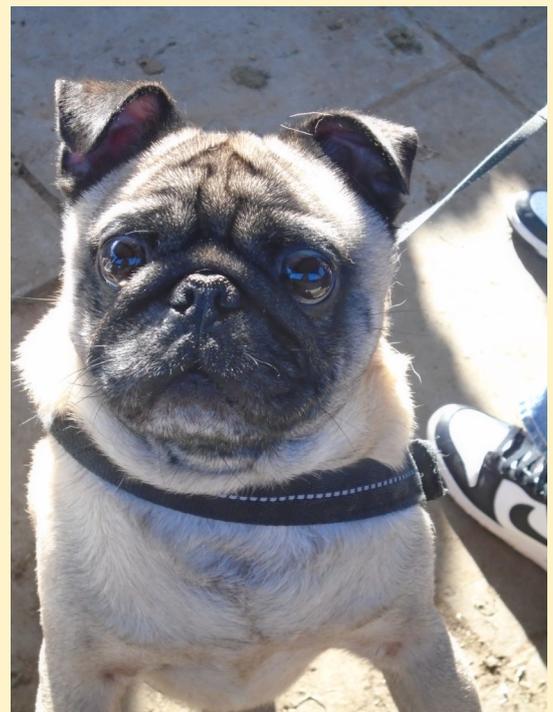


## Year 4

At the end of Autumn 1, the Year 4 children had an incredible day learning about different countries in this amazing world we live in. The children had the opportunity of 'visiting' a variety of classes, where they learnt about the culture and diversity of different nationalities. Among these were the United Kingdom presented by Mr Moore, South Africa by Mrs Mollett, and The United Arab Emirates by Mrs Hillier. All enjoyed the experience, and most were disappointed that only a day was devoted to this worthy topic.



In English, we have been reading "Pugs of the Frozen North", and this week we have been writing our own fact files about pugs. Year 4 had to research more about the breed, including finding out about their appearance and history. Milo's visit meant that we had the opportunity to meet a pug in person - as well as experience his snorting! Now we have begun to think about what looking after 66 pugs might be like - as this is what Shen in our story has to do!



# Year 6

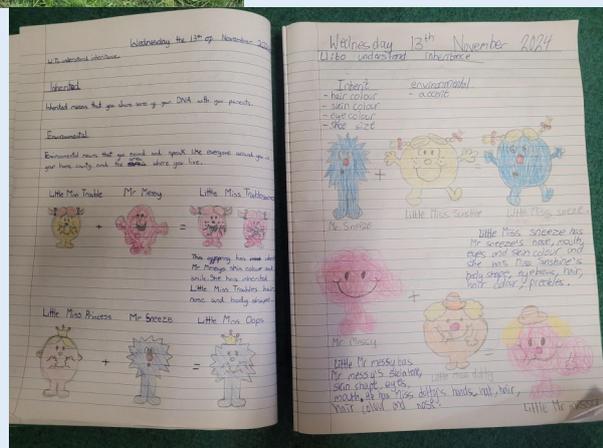
Year 6 is all about creativity at the moment! Inspired by 'West Side Story', we are creating a piece of physical theatre that tells the story of waring communities through dance.



Outdoor PE is Cricket, with Coach Ed coming in to run 'Chance to Shine'. We start each week with warm up activities before learning more technical skills for batting and fielding within games - it certainly brings out our competitive side!



During art lessons we have been looking at portraits and how we could represent our own identities. Working hard using our sketch, shading and observations skills we sketched self-portraits and then considered what else could be included to represent ourselves.



As we prepare for our school trip to Marwell Zoo, we have been looking at how animals adapt to their environment and also characteristics that we inherit from our parents. We discussed inherited traits and environmental traits before creating our own Mr Men families, considering which traits offspring would inherit from their parents.

# Whale Wise Assembly

On Tuesday, KS2 had a fantastic assembly from Whale Wise. They are a charity that study whales, dolphins and porpoises, focusing on the interactions between whale populations and human activity. They are currently doing research in Iceland. For more information, click here: [ABOUT US | Whale Wise](#)

It was such a fun and informative assembly. We measured the length of three different whales, learning that humpback whales are longer than the hall! We also learnt that all whales are born with hair! Click here for a short introduction to Whale Wise: [Introduction to Whale Wise](#)

It was lovely to see the children so engaged in learning about this. Tom, Alyssa and Jess commented on how impressed they were with the behaviour at Barnsbury.

The Eco Council met with them after to ask further questions. We spoke about entanglement and how this can be really dangerous for whales. Whale Wise would like us to help come up with some ways to stop or reduce entanglement (getting caught in rope and nets). If you have any ideas, please let the Eco Council know! We look forward to working with Whale Wise in the future.



# Firework Phonics

My children loved this activity last year. I used old cake cases and wrote words with targeted sounds in. The children then had to match the word with the 'special friend' sound they can hear whilst reading the word themselves.





# **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](mailto:pta@barnsbury@surrey.sch.co.uk)**

# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## TEACHING CYCLE SAFETY

Cycling is an amazing way to spend quality time together as a family, as well as keeping everyone healthy and active – and it's an excellent exercise, whatever the age of your children. Getting started can sometimes be daunting, and there are obvious safety concerns over youngsters who are still getting used to a bike – so follow our top tips to help you ride with confidence.

### 1 CONSIDER CYCLE TRAINING

Courses like Bikeability are extremely useful, and training in general has come a long way since cycling proficiency began; there are Bikeability courses for adults, too. Cycle training teaches invaluable skills (such as good road positioning, signalling and visibility), and can help both parents and children feel more at ease on busy streets.

### 2 USE A SUITABLE BIKE

Find a bike of an appropriate size for its rider and resist the temptation to have children 'grow into' theirs by buying one too large for them. A bigger bike will be heavier and more difficult to control, making accidents more likely and potentially putting youngsters off cycling forever. If your child has any specific physical needs, or has dyspraxia, then try out a trike, handcycle or other adaptive cycle to see what works best.

### 3 TRY A CARGO BIKE

Cargo bikes, particularly the box-bike style, are ideal for transporting small children around. Depending on the type of bike chosen – as well as the size and age of the children – it can be possible to transport up to four little ones in this way, with additional space for other cargo as well.

### 4 INSPECT YOUR CYCLE

It's a good idea to do some routine checks on any bike before going for a ride to make sure everything's working correctly. The 'M check' is particularly useful: assessing the condition and position of the bike's wheels, handlebars, brakes, pedals, chain and saddle, working from front to back. Online tutorial videos can also teach you how to carry out basic repairs if needed. For more complicated fixes, head to your local bike shop.

### 5 BRING SUITABLE GEAR

Ensure whatever you're wearing, and any attachments for your bike, are suitable for the ride. A waterproof jacket will let you cycle safely in almost any weather. Make sure any helmets are fitted correctly. If you're riding after dark, remember to fit your bikes with a white front light, a red rear light and a red rear reflector. These are required by law.

### 6 STICK TO FLAT TERRAIN

Take a smooth, flat route if possible, so it's more suitable for younger cyclists. You might be surprised by how many quiet roads or back streets there may be in your area. Don't be put off by an indirect but easier path as opposed to a shorter, busier one. Look out for the National Cycle Network, canal towpaths and even parks that you can cut through.

### 7 STAY ALERT AND IN SAFE FORMATIONS

For maximum protection and visibility, ride in a line with children in the middle and adults at either end. If you're the only adult present, take up a position at the rear to ensure all children remain in your sight. Don't be tempted to hug the kerb if cycling on the road – riding approximately a metre out will make you more noticeable to other road users, and you'll also stay clear of any debris in the gutter.

### 8 AVOID PARKED CARS

When riding past parked cars, try to stay at least a metre away, just in case anyone inside opens a door unexpectedly or the vehicle itself starts to move. This precaution will also deter anyone driving behind from trying to squeeze past you when there isn't enough space, so don't be afraid to ride in a prominent position.

### 9 START A 'BIKE BUS'

Cycling to school with other families is a potentially fun experience – one which comes with the added benefit of safety in numbers, in case anything goes wrong along the way. Team up with other parents, carers and educators and pick a day to cycle to school together. Who knows – maybe, in time, you'll have other folks asking to join you?

### 10 HAVE FUN!

Keep in mind that cycling should be fun! A good bike ride can be really enjoyable for adults and children alike, while also being a superb form of exercise. Ease children into the hobby by starting them off with shorter journeys – such as a trip to the park – and build them up to longer, more complicated outings. Some children may get bored on a longer ride, so try to keep a conversation going with them.

## Meet Our Expert

Sophie Gordon is the campaigns manager at Cycling UK, a charity which inspires and enables people to start cycling. She has spent six years campaigning for safer roads and more protected cycle paths, while supporting communities to call for better cycling conditions where they live.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/teaching-cycle-safety>



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# Volunteer Mornings

## Hedgerow Planting

Surrey CC are working with Barnsbury this year to plant hedgerows on the school field.

The hedgerows will be planted to mark out the end of the sports area and the 'wild' area on our sports field.

It's a fantastic learning opportunity for the children watching them grow and creating a habitat for birds, small mammals and insects, increasing bio diversity.

We are looking for around 9 volunteers to help.

FRIDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

**TIME:** 10am. We aim to plant the hedegrow in 3 hours.

Please let the school office or your PTA Rep know if you can help.



**BARNSBURY PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA**

# *Christmas Fair*

**Join us for Christmas Fun,  
Music & Games!**

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**November 30th • 2 pm to 5 pm**

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**Tombolas, Raffle, Hot chocolate, Crafts,  
Secret Shop, Stalls, Entertainment**





# BE INFORMED!

SMEF & SEND Advice Surrey would like to invite ethnic minority parents or carers of autistic children to our event. Learn how to navigate your child's special educational needs in the education system.



Tuesday  
3rd December 2024



10:30am - 12:00pm



Online Via Zoom

**REGISTER HERE**

**SCAN  
ME!**



## Event Agenda

### Interactive talk

Come and learn how to support your child through **the school system**, your **rights** and the **special needs services** that exist to support autistic children through the **education system**.  
Dedicated **question & answer** session.

### Online

Come and join us from the comfort of your home and meet the professionals.

Once you register you will be sent an invitation link to join.

For more information contact  
[Sadia.Sultan@SMEF.org.uk](mailto:Sadia.Sultan@SMEF.org.uk)

[WWW.SMEF.ORG.UK](http://WWW.SMEF.ORG.UK)



In Partnership  
With

**SEND  
Advice  
SURREY**

Special Educational  
Needs and Disabilities  
Information, advice  
and support

## Celebrate the Start of the Festive Season at Tunsgate Quarter's 'Christmas Spectacular' Lights Switch-On Event

Tunsgate Quarter in Guildford is pleased to announce its annual 'Christmas Spectacular' lights switch-on event, scheduled for Saturday 16 November 2024, promising a fun day brimming with activities and entertainment for all ages, and the perfect way to kick off the festive season with family and friends.

The festivities will commence at 10am and run throughout the day until 6pm. All activities are free, with donations being collected for the centre's charity partner The Fountain Centre.

There will be a lively atmosphere as the centre's atrium is filled with the sounds of talented local musicians. Kicking off proceedings will be Godalming, Guildford and Farnham Jazz Choir, followed by performances from Stefan Kotlarz's jazz quartet, sing-along Christmas classics from popular singing duo The Decades, and Irish-inspired party tunes from Guildford-based Cheesecake Band to get everyone up and dancing.

The first-floor mezzanine level will host face painting, a gingerbread house family photo moment and craft station where children can decorate their own gingerbread biscuits. Also upstairs, visitors can browse unique, handmade gifts crafted by local artisans at Etsy Guildford's Christmas Gift Market, providing the perfect opportunity to find one-of-a-kind presents for loved ones. The excitement will reach its peak at 5pm as we count down to the big light switch on moment, led by Yvonne Arnaud Theatre's Robin Hood pantomime stars Peter Gordon and Matt Pinches.

Tunsgate Quarter's giant Christmas tree will be illuminated with twinkling lights, officially marking start of the festive season. Throughout the day, attendees can warm up with mulled wine served by The Royal Oak pub and Cosy Club hot chocolate, whilst savouring free mince pies .

### Throughout the rest of the festive season:

**Etsy Guildford Christmas Markets:** On Saturday 7 December, Saturday 14 December and Sunday 15 December from 10am to 5pm, Tunsgate Quarter will host a wide variety of stalls selling handmade items, unique gifts, homeware and jewellery. Stallholders will be announced nearer to the date.

**Guildford Festive Family Fun Day:** Free family-focused festive event organised by Guildford Borough Council and Experience Guildford on Sunday 24 November 11am – 4pm. Tunsgate Quarter will host free face painting, a craft table and a walk-in Giant Snow Globe for memorable photos. Across the rest of the town centre, visitors can enjoy a parade, disco, walkabout characters, an ice cave, choir and brass band performances, creating a magical experience for all.

**Charity Gift Wrapping:** Between 17 – 23 December 12pm – 5pm, visitors can take their gifts to be wrapped while supporting a good cause. The charity gift wrapping pop-up will take place on the ground floor in partnership with Experience Guildford and Real Change Guildford, a charity helping local people experiencing homelessness to access the practical items and opportunities they need to rebuild their lives.