

Barnsbury Primary School and Nursery Newsletter

(FORTNIGHTLY)



“
We nurture every child in meeting their potential without limits.
”

23rd January 2026

A message from Miss Harbridge

Somehow, as the weeks fly by, we find ourselves half way through our first spring half term and almost at the end of January. As always, classrooms have been full of enthusiasm, curiosity and purposeful learning from the very first week, setting a positive tone for the term ahead.

Last week, Year 1 enjoyed an exciting trip to The Milestones Museum, where they had the opportunity to investigate a fascinating collection of old toys. The children were particularly captivated by the chance to step onto a real Victorian tram, bringing their history learning vividly to life. The trip was filled with questions, excitement and wonderful discussions back in class.

Meanwhile, Year 5 pupils have been reaching for the stars as part of their learning about space. Their visit to Intech in Winchester proved to be a real highlight, especially the immersive experience in the planetarium. The children were able to deepen their understanding of planets, stars and galaxies in a way that truly inspired awe and wonder. Many came back eager to share new facts and continue their scientific exploration.

We also have some fantastic sporting news to celebrate this week. Our school athletes delivered an outstanding performance at the sports hall competition on Tuesday, finishing in first place against several local schools. This is a tremendous achievement and a testament to their teamwork, determination and commitment. A huge thank you goes to Mrs Darne and Mrs Living for their incredible dedication, support and enthusiasm in preparing and encouraging our athletes. Their hard work has made a real difference, and we are extremely proud of both staff and pupils.

We are looking forward to many more exciting learning opportunities as the term continues.

Focus Value: Responsibility

This term, we have been focusing on the values of responsibility and growth mindset, using the inspiring book 'You Are Awesome' by Matthew Syed. Through stories and discussion, children have been learning that they have a choice every day about how they behave, how they respond to challenges and how they treat others.

A key message we have explored is deciding whether we want to be "Kid Average" or "Kid Awesome". Children are encouraged to take responsibility for their own actions, attitudes and effort, understanding that small choices can make a big difference. Being "Kid Awesome" means trying your best, making positive choices and not giving up when things feel difficult.

We have also talked openly about learning from failure. Rather than seeing mistakes as something to fear, children are learning that setbacks are an important part of learning and improvement. By reflecting, being resilient and trying again, our pupils are developing confidence, independence and a belief that they can always grow and improve.



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Key Messages

Drop off times- Please note our drop off time begins at 8:30am

KS1 - the gate closes at 8:50am

KS2 - the gate closes at 8:45am

After these times, children will need to come in via the main entrance and school office.

Parking reminder - please be considerate to others as drop-off and pick-up times can be very busy. We have to remember that Barnsbury is surrounded by people's homes and we need to display our Barnsbury Values at all times and be respectful of that. If you can, please walk to school or park further away from the school and walk in from there. Please do not park across people's driveways, on double yellow lines or on grass verges.

Attendance

The Importance of Good Attendance

Good attendance at school is one of the most important factors in supporting children's learning, wellbeing and future success. Research and national guidance are clear that the more time children spend in school, the more they learn, build confidence and make progress. Every day in the classroom matters, as learning is carefully planned and builds step by step over time.

We are determined to keep making our attendance as good as it can be, because being in school every day helps children to feel settled, secure and part of the school community. Regular attendance supports positive friendships, strong routines and good learning habits, all of which are essential for success both in school and beyond.

We also recognise that improving attendance is not something schools can do alone. As highlighted in Working together to improve school attendance, strong partnerships between schools and parents are essential. When school and families work together, children receive a clear and consistent message that attending school every day is important and valued. We are always here to offer support and guidance where needed and encourage families to talk to us if there are any concerns affecting attendance. By working together, we can ensure every child has the best opportunity to learn, thrive and reach their full potential.

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Barnsbury Athletics Club – January '26 Update

It's been a busy - and brilliantly successful - week for our Barnsbury athletes.

Reigate Cross-Country

Saturday saw 17 of our Year 5 and 6 athletes take part in the annual Surrey County Schools Primary Cross-Country races in Reigate. This year's event welcomed its largest field in many years, with exceptionally strong competition from across the county.

Due to the high numbers, each category was split alphabetically into two races. Even then, most races still had more than 60 runners, with over 80 competing in each of the Year 5 Boys. Despite the challenging conditions - including hills far steeper than anything our Barnsbury fields can offer, even after our enthusiastic "hill training" on every mound we could find - our athletes rose to the occasion. Standout top-30 finishes included:

- Abigail (6G) - 6th place, Race 1 Year 6 Girls (13th overall; selected for the Surrey Schools training day)
- Louis (5T) - 12th place, Race 1 Year 5 Boys
- Thomas (5T) - 16th place, Race 1 Year 5 Boys
- Holly (5T) - 27th place, Race 1 Year 5 Girls

Every Barnsbury runner delivered an outstanding performance and should feel incredibly proud. The experience gained will serve them well in future cross-country events. Well done, Barnsbury!



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Barnsbury Athletics Club – January '26 Update

WASPS District Sportshall

On Tuesday, the eagerly awaited WASPS Year 5/6 District Sportshall event took place at Guildford Spectrum - arguably the highlight of the school sporting calendar. Barnsbury entered as reigning champions... but could we possibly do it again?

After weeks of focused training, our team of 11 girls and 10 boys arrived determined and ready. Their performances - on both track and field - were exceptional.

We're thrilled to announce that Barnsbury finished 1st out of the 11 Woking District schools, securing the title of District Champions once again. This means we will be representing the district at the County Finals on 26th March.

We are still awaiting the full breakdown of field event results and will share these with the children as soon as they arrive. What we can say already is that this victory is truly deserved. The standard in Woking is extremely high, and both Goldsworth Primary and St Dunstan's were strong contenders this year. Our athletes showed grit, determination, and brilliant teamwork throughout.



1st

1st

Looking Ahead!

We are incredibly proud of our Athletics squad and excited for the events still to come this term. Year 3 and 4 will have their turn at Sportshall in March, followed by the WASPS Cross-Country races - all before the Sportshall County Finals at the end of term.

Thank you to all parents for your continued support, especially on those dark, early-morning training sessions. It makes a huge difference.

Mrs Darne & Mrs Living
Barnsbury Primary Athletics Coaches

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Awards - week commencing 12/01

| Star Award, Effort Award and Values Award |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|---|
| Oak | Taim | Alizay | Karter |
| Pine | Darren | Harry | Alex |
| 1B | Amelie | Zara | Raff |
| 1M | Oscar | Anna | Emma-Rosie |
| 2A | Sophie | Richard | Bernie |
| 2T | Cooper | Alexander | Ruobing |
| 3M | Mary-Kate | Damari | Joe |
| 3MC | Aliza | Amelia | Jessica |
| 4B | Eddie | Sarah Luisa | Roslyn |
| 4J | Christian | Saph | Avy |
| 5D | Abdul | Amber | Mara |
| 5T | Flint | Precious | Cecilia |
| 6G | Pippa | Will B & Abi | Victoria |
| 6L | Ayush | Sasha | Andrew |

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Awards - week commencing 12/01

Congratulations to our Super Speller of
the Week:



Congratulations to the recipients of a
WOW certificates this week:

Conor & Isra - 1B
Luna - 4J
Flint - 5T
Abdul and William - 5D



Congratulations to the Lionesses of the week:




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Awards - week commencing 19/01

| Star Award, Effort Award and Values Award |  |  |  |
|---|---|--|---|
| Oak | Mrs Arbab | Skyla | Evie |
| Pine | Jasper | Sofia S | Otis |
| 1B | Billy | Lucy | Elizabeth |
| 1M | Anna | Reggie | Enoch |
| 2A | Angelica | Paul | Imogen |
| 2T | Flora | Yuri | Ayyan |
| 3M | Scarlett | Zidaan | Eva |
| 3MC | Arthur | Rebecca | Logan |
| 4B | Mohammad | Chloe S | Poema |
| 4J | George | Maximus | Skylar |
| 5D | Joshua | Leo | Margot |
| 5T | Finlay | Waheeda | Sylvia |
| 6G | Victoria | Vinnie | America |
| 6L | Jemima | Henry | Tammy |

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Awards - week commencing 19/01

Congratulations to our Super Speller of
the Week:

Saharsh - 3M



Congratulations to the recipients of a
WOW certificates this week:

Hugo - Pine

Alizay - Oak

Reggie - 1B

Bernie - 2A

Azhaan - 3MC

Emily R and Finley - 4B

Finlay - 5T



Girls Football Shout Out...



A BIG shout-out and congratulations to Emily (4B), who took part in trials last Thursday and has been selected for the under-10s Woking district girls team. Well done Emily!

Miss Paice
Girls Football Coach

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Dates for your diary 2026 - Autumn Term

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| January 2026 | |
| Wednesday 28th | Parent Coffee Morning at The Lighthouse (on Barnsbury Estate), 08:45am - 10am |
| Friday 30th | 6L Class Assembly |
| | |
| February 2026 | |
| Wednesday 4th | Parent Coffee Morning at The Lighthouse (on Barnsbury Estate), 08:45am - 10am |
| Mon 9th - Thurs 12th | Scholastic Book Fair - further information to follow |
| Wednesday 11th | Parent Coffee Morning at The Lighthouse (on Barnsbury Estate), 08:45am - 10am |
| Friday 13th | 5D Class Assembly |
| Friday 13th | Wear What You Love - Non Uniform Day |
| Mon 16th - Fri 20th | Half Term |
| Monday 23rd | Year 6 Mayans Workshop |
| Wednesday 25th | Parent Coffee Morning at The Lighthouse (on Barnsbury Estate), 08:45am - 10am |

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Dates for your diary 2026 - Autumn Term

| March 2026 | |
|----------------|---|
| Tuesday 3rd | Parents Evening, 3.30pm - 5.30pm |
| Wednesday 4th | Parent Coffee Morning at The Lighthouse (on Barnsbury Estate), 08:45am - 10am |
| Thursday 5th | Parents Evening, 3.30pm - 7pm |
| Thursday 5th | Author Visit |
| Friday 6th | 1M Class Assembly |
| Wednesday 11th | Parent Coffee Morning at The Lighthouse (on Barnsbury Estate), 08:45am - 10am |
| Friday 13th | 1B Class Assembly |
| Wednesday 18th | Parent Coffee Morning at The Lighthouse (on Barnsbury Estate), 08:45am - 10am |
| Monday 23rd | KS2 Production Dress Rehearsal - times TBC |
| Tuesday 24th | Rocksteady Spring Concert 9am - Tuesday Bands |
| Wednesday 25th | Parent Coffee Morning at The Lighthouse (on Barnsbury Estate), 08:45am - 10am |
| Wednesday 25th | KS2 Production Dress Rehearsal - times TBC |

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Dates for your diary 2026 - Autumn Term

| March 2026 continued | |
|----------------------|--|
| Thursday 26th | Rocksteady Spring Concert 9am - Thursday Bands |
| Thursday 26th | KS2 Production Final Performance - times TBC |
| Friday 27th | Rocksteady Spring Concert 9am - Friday Bands |
| Friday 27th | End of Term - finish at 1:15pm |

GET INVOLVED AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Join the Barnsbury Primary School & Nursery

PTA

Open to all Parents and Carers

WHY JOIN?

Your Child Benefits

The PTA is an important part of the school and **helps to enrich your child's learning** and make every student's experience at school better.

Its Totally Flexible

Anyone can get involved. **It's less commitment than you think and you don't always have to attend meetings.** Small jobs such as designing a poster or running a stall, keeps everything running smoothly.

Create Lasting Memories

Children will learn using resources we fund, cherish the activities and trips we organise and fund. As well as remember the events we hold.
Keep the PTA going so future pupils can benefit too.

Because its fun!

Be part of a team which organises the best fundraising events. Suggest new ideas, gain new skills, meet new people. **But most of all, have fun and be your children's biggest fan!**

To get involved please speak to a class rep or email the PTA
pta@barnsbury.surrey.sch.uk