



Barnsbury Primary School and Nursery

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Headteacher: Mrs J Harrup

15th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

As the winter chill sets in and the festive season approaches, it's time for us to reflect on the wonderful achievements and memorable moments that have filled our school with warmth during this autumn term. The children have worked so hard throughout the term, engaging in a wide range of subjects, activities and events and impressing us with their dedication and enthusiasm for learning. I am so very grateful to our amazing members of staff who work so hard each and every day to ensure the children experience the very best opportunities to develop academically, socially and emotionally.

A big thank you to all the parents and members of our community who have actively participated in school events and volunteer activities. Your support is invaluable, and it reinforces the strong sense of community that makes Barnsbury Primary School and Nursery a special place for our children to learn and grow.

This week in particular has been very special at Barnsbury. The children in Key Stage One and Reception treated us to a truly magical nativity production. Everyone was so impressed with their singing (so many words to learn!) and the confidence and clarity of the actors. It was wonderful to see all of their faces enjoying taking part. Thank you to all of the amazing members of staff who worked so hard to bring it all together and to all of the parents and family who supported the children by coming to watch.

Yesterday afternoon was the Year 3 and 4 Christmas Carol Concert at St Mary of Bethany's Church. The children's singing was exceptional; they put their heart and soul into performing and it sounded absolutely beautiful. The speakers from Year 4 all did a wonderful job narrating the Christmas story and they spoke so confidently. Again, huge thanks to our wonderful teachers, especially Mrs Norfolk and Miss Murray for organizing the event. Thank you to all of the parents and family who came to the event—I hope it has put you all firmly into the Christmas spirit!

The children had their Christmas parties on Thursday afternoon. They had fun with their friends and teachers to celebrate the end of the Autumn Term and the coming of the Christmas break. This morning the whole school came together for our final assembly of the term and we looked at a story highlighting 'the true spirit of Christmas'.

Thank you for the kind toy donations to Early Years. The children have played with some already and they will be excited to explore the others in the new year.

Thank you to the Nursery and Reception families who kindly donated money for our sponsored event. You have helped to raise an amazing £354 which will go towards new construction resources for Early Years. We will keep you updated with photos during the academic year.

I wish all of our families a wonderful Christmas break. Take care of each other and enjoy spending time with your loved ones. We look forward to welcoming the children back at school on Wednesday 3rd January 2024.

With kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J Harrup".

Mrs J E Harrup
Headteacher

Dates for your diary 2023-24

Spring Term

January

Tuesday 2nd	INSET Day
Wednesday 3rd	First day of Spring Term
Wednesday 10th	Local Governing Committee Meeting (8am-10am)
Friday 26th	Creative Arts Day

February

Friday 2nd	9am—3M Class Assembly
Friday 9th	9am—6J Class Assembly
12th—16th	Half Term
Monday 19th	INSET Day
Wednesday 21st	Year 5 Trip

March

Wednesday 6th	Local Governing Committee Meeting (8am-10am)
Thursday 7th	World Book Day
Friday 8th	9am—1M Class Assembly
Friday 15th	9am—3B Class Assembly
Tuesday 19th	9.30am Rock Steady Spring Concert
Thursday 21st	9.30am Rock Steady Spring Concert
Friday 22nd	Y4 & 5 Production Dress Rehearsal (KS1) 9.30am
Monday 25th	Y4 & 5 Production Dress Rehearsal (KS2) 1.30pm
Wednesday 27th	Y4 & 5 Production—adults only—6pm
Thursday 28th	End of Term—Finish 1.15pm

April

Monday 15th	INSET Day
Tuesday 16th	First Day of Summer Term



Star of the Week

Effort Award

Values Award

Oak	Edmund	Ohene	Ayesha
Ash	Alexander	Dakota	Jack
1B	Talia	Alexia	Kabir
1M	Mikael	Auriella	Elize
2M	Poema	Fin B	Caitlin
2T	Beatrice	Emma	Eddie
3B	Florence	Veda	Mukund
3M	Maya-Mae	Frankie	Violet
4T	Henry	Hansraj	Isobel
4D	William	Dominik	Nicole
5M	Harriet	Kaja	Diesel
5B	Ethan	Lucy	Dylan
6J	Maisy	James	Daniel
6G	Mia	Claudia	Hudhayfah

Congratulations to the recipients of a WOW certificate this week: Ben (1M), Abby (2T), Khaleesi (3B), Bella (4D), Pip-pa (4D), Ben (4D), Liam (4D), Oscar T (4D), Tabitha (5B), Catalina (5B)



Congratulations to our Super Spellers this week: Jayden (3B)



Congratulations to our Reading Ambassadors this week: Lucy (3B), William (3B), Mila (3M), Isla (3M), Zoe (4D), Sedef (4D), Jack (4T), Grace (4T), Noah (5M), Amelia (5M), Florence (5B), Anna (5B), Diamond (6G), Kayla (6G), Atharv (6J), Charlotte (6J)

Reading Deputy: Tabitha (5B)



Christmas Card Competition

After various year groups entered a Christmas Card competition, an email arrived announcing Emma Yau - 4T had been awarded 'runners-up.' I am sure you will all agree that her card design was outstanding! The theme was Christmas in Woking, and was depicted by Emma in a bold and creative way. We are super proud of her.



Woking Park Junior Park Run

Some of our Athletics Club members ran the Junior Park Run on Sunday 10th December, and seem proud and satisfied with their results. Thank you to Tracy for suggesting and arranging this wonderful idea, for the enthusiastic runners of Barnsbury to meet up, and have a fun morning running. We are looking forward to the next team run on 7th January 2024, and welcome any budding Barnsbury runners. We are super proud of them!



Barnsbury Autumn 2023 Cross Country

The Barnsbury Autumn 2023 Cross Country was a resounding success. The school was out in full force to cheer our Athletes on, and motivate them despite the really muddy conditions. I am super proud of all our runners, and look forward to getting back into action in the first week of Spring 1. Thank you to Tracy for helping with the event and the training of our Athletes, and am super excited to make this a termly fixture - something for our Athletes to work towards.

The winners of this Terms race are:

Year 4

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| 1. Spencer | 1. Abigail |
| 2. James | 2. Adele |
| 3. Theo | 3. Bella |

Year 5

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. Harrison | 1. Kaja |
| 2. Thomas C | 2. Tabitha |
| 3. Freddie | 3. Evangaline |

4 -Awarded due to time - Jack and Praise

Year 6

- | |
|---------------------------------|
| 1. Thomas |
| 2. James |
| 3. Seba |
| 4. Awarded due to time - Edward |





During the days between Christmas and the start of January, it's easy to get lost in the festive haze, savouring mince pies and enjoying the cosy indoors.

This year, we've got an exciting challenge for you, your family and friends! Join us for an adventure that will add a touch of wild excitement to your holiday season.

Introducing 12 Days Wild - Just the ticket to enjoy the enchantment of nature during this magical time of year! By signing up, you'll receive a daily dose of activity ideas and inspiration that will rejuvenate your spirit, boost your wellbeing and help you kick-start the new year with a renewed sense of wonder.

Sign up here: [12 Days Wild | The Wildlife Trusts](#)



Daily Activity Ideas

Each day, you'll receive exciting activity suggestions that will help you explore the magic of nature during the festive season. Whether it's birdwatching, crafting with natural materials, or simply taking a mindful stroll through the winter landscape, you'll find something to spark your curiosity.



Discover new species

Every email will shine a spotlight on a unique species, providing you with intriguing information and insights about the plants and animals to keep an eye out for during the winter season. With a bit of luck, you might even spot one of these fascinating species during your daily stroll!



Connection and Community

Share your 12 Days Wild experiences with a vibrant community of fellow nature enthusiasts on the 30 days Wild Facebook group. Together, we'll celebrate the joy of connecting with nature and inspire one another to make the most of this special time of year.

How to Make a Christmas tree out of sticks



1. Gather different sized stick/straw
2. Put them in size order from biggest to smallest.
3. Get a big stick and place it in the middle stick it on with hot glue.



We will probably run out of oil in around 50 years (2070's)

• www.PuzzleMaker.com

Tips

• Make your own



• Use paper tape or string

• Don't use glitter

• Enjoy a meal in nature



• Sleep or give a little old tree!



Have an eco-Christmas

Save any Christmas cards and cut them up to use as tags for next year.



Help save the planet this festive season!

PRESENTS

- Try making gifts yourself! From knitting a scarf to baking a batch of cookies, there are lots of fantastic presents you can DIY.
- Buy presents from shops that make their products in an ethical and sustainable way... just like The Wildlife Trusts' store.
- Think quality not quantity: having a family Secret Santa means you don't have to buy for everyone and helps to create less waste.
- Avoid non-recyclable wrapping paper by using brown paper and brown paper tape. Better yet, go for a reusable option like a bag or a box.



FOOD

- Plan your meals so food doesn't go to waste. Leftovers can make some of the tastiest meals!
- Shop local. Are there ingredients for your Christmas dinner that you can source from local farms or shops?
- Compost your vegetable waste.
- Try out some veggie and vegan alternatives to cut down on meat and dairy.



DECORATIONS

- If you already have a cupboard full of sparkly Christmas decorations, make sure to reuse them.
- Instead of plastic tinsel, try using bunting, pinecones, or popcorn tinsel instead.
- Avoid buying Christmas crackers that contain plastic toys. You might want to try making your own using toilet roll tubes instead. Writing your own jokes is the best bit!



l u h y m g u d h c t a i f y
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 p r o r w u r s u d y r e r d
 s n o i t a r o c e d u p e z
 a v d y q s k f p s t t a j r

Christmas



angel
 decorations
 presents
 snow

bell
 elf
 reindeer
 star

Christmas
 globe
 Santa

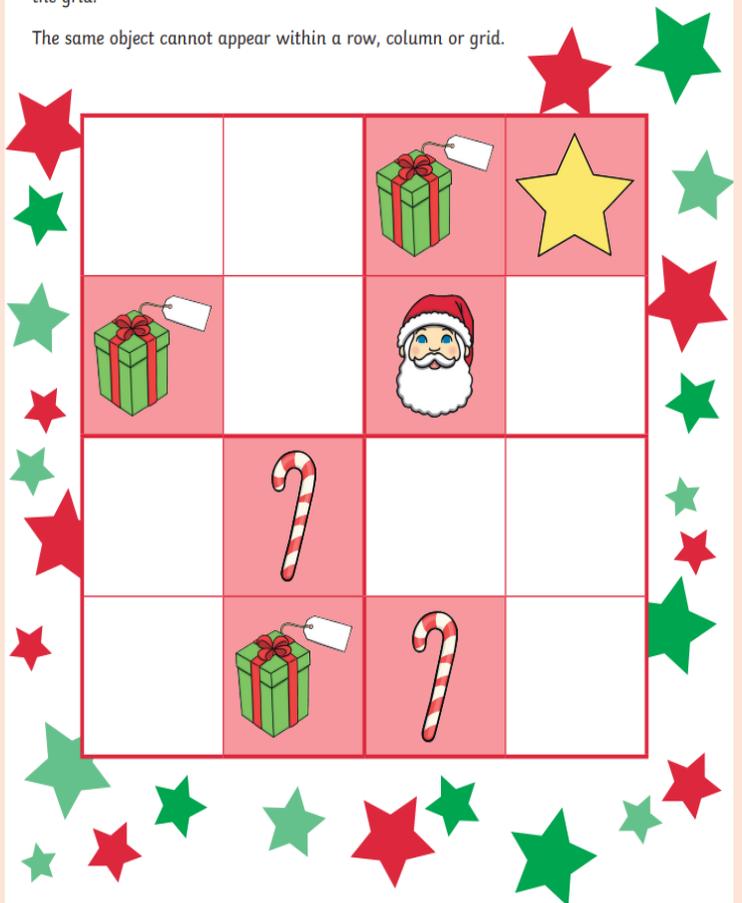
Festive sudoku



How to play:

Simply cut out the Christmas picture tiles and place them in the correct section on the grid.

The same object cannot appear within a row, column or grid.

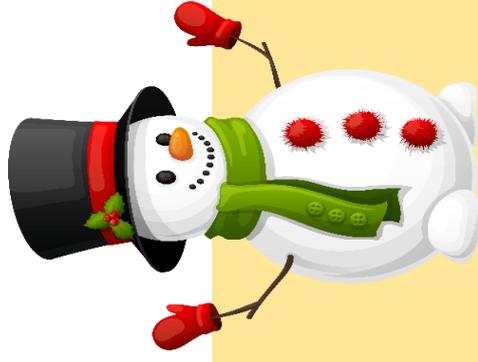
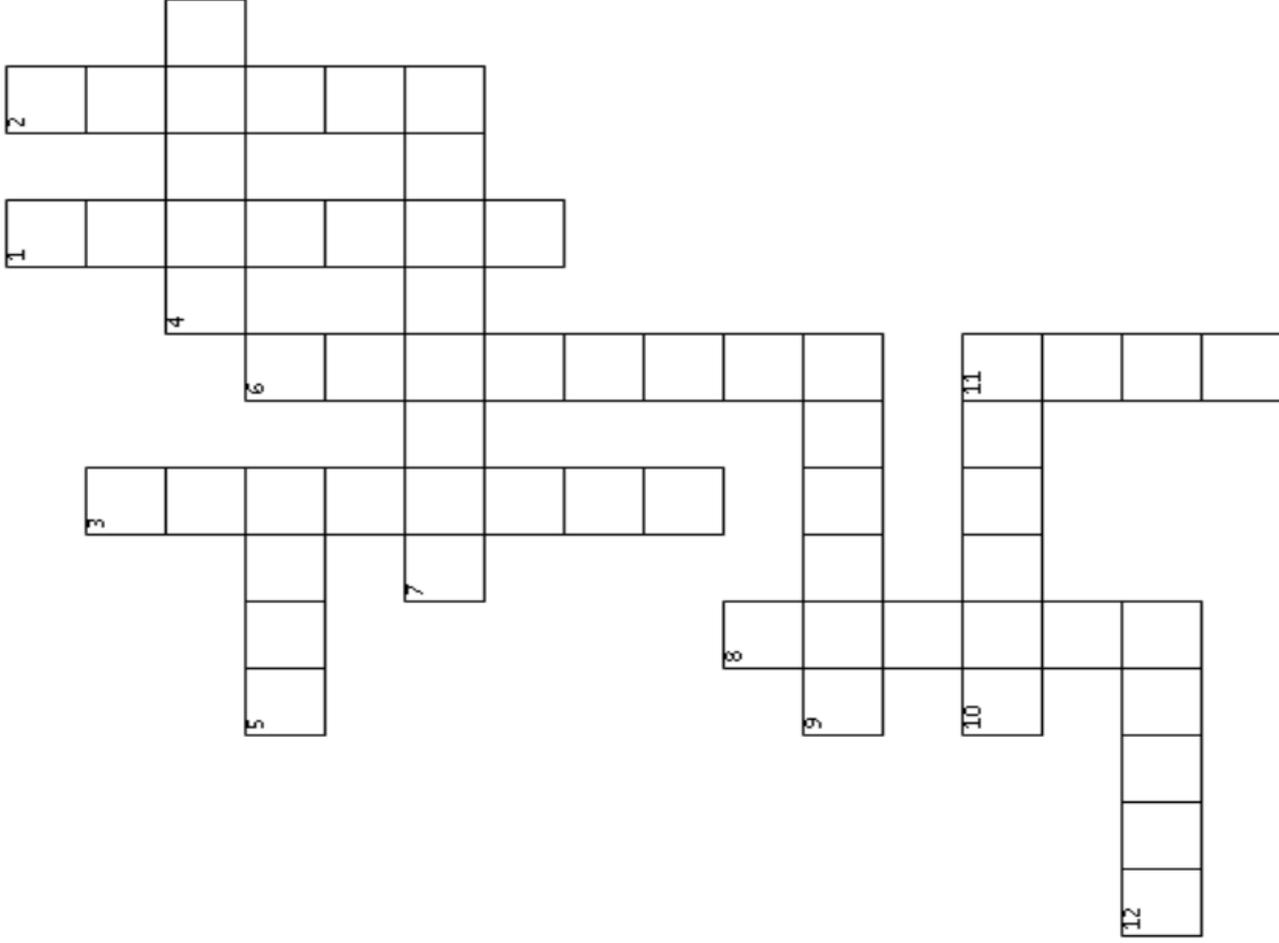


ACROSS

- 4. lives in the North Pole
- 5. something green that you decorate
- 7. pulls Santa's sleigh
- 9. round decoration
- 10. something colourful that can go on a tree or outside your house
- 12. ...the elf

DOWN

- 1. pull it to reveal a joke and hat
- 2. write your Christmas wishes
- 3. give to others
- 6. tasty festive snack
- 8. spend time with...
- 11. shines at night



Christmas crossword



THANK YOU

**Barnsbury Primary School &
Nursery**

for raising a fantastic

£593.03

The money you have raised will be used
to help change the lives of children and
young people facing disadvantage in
communities across the UK.

B B C
**CHILDREN
IN NEED**

BBC Children in Need has not verified the above fundraising. This is not a receipt.
© BBC 2007 Reg. charity England & Wales no. 802052 and Scotland no. SC039557.

12 Top Tips for Children and Young People to Enjoy a TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

The Christmas holidays are tailor made for families to enjoy relaxed quality time in each other's company – but with distractions like pinging phone notifications, the lure of games consoles and online Boxing Day sales, that can be more difficult than it sounds. Staying off our phones, laptops and tablets, however, can really help us to appreciate the things that genuinely matter at this special time of year. Follow our 12 top tips for a tech-free festive season ... Yule be glad you did! Merry Christmas!

CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

Get out the paper, glue and scissors and have a go at hand-making cards or gift tags. You could also create your own decorations to add a uniquely personal touch to the Christmas tree.

NATURE QUEST

Try a scavenger hunt in the garden or your local park. Challenge yourself and your family to find natural treasures that are symbolic of this time of year – like holly or pinecones, say.

CAROL KARAOKE

Sing your hearts out with a Christmas carol karaoke night. Pick out your favourite tunes and enjoy a musical celebration with family and friends.

WANDER DOWN MEMORY LANE

How about making a scrapbook filled with your favourite memories from Christmases gone by? Unleash your creativity while you enjoy reliving those magical holiday moments.

TRY REFLECTIVE JOURNALLING

Dot down your thoughts, feelings and reflections on the holiday in a notebook or diary – you could also list some of your main goals for the new year.

WRAP IT UP

Take time to get inventive with some luxurious gift wrapping. Break out the wrapping paper, ribbons and bows to make parcelling up those presents into a creative adventure.

WALK IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

Delight in the great outdoors with some gentle walks over the holiday. The family can all wrap up warm as you add to your step count and savour the crisp winter air together.

BE A SEASONAL CHEF

Get the whole family working together in the kitchen for some Christmas cooking. Choose a recipe and whip up a festive feast that all of you can enjoy.

ENJOY A CHRISTMAS STORY

Christmas is a perfect time for sparkling stories. Get cosy and lose yourself in a brilliant book, from Dickens to Dr Seuss or a more modern favourite by Chris van Allsburg or Tom Fletcher.

SNOWY SCULPTURES

If we're fortunate enough to get a white Christmas this year, make the most of the opportunity by having a family snowman-building competition!

GAMES NIGHT GALA

Dive into some old-school fun with a tech-free games night. Classic board games and card games have stood the test of time for a reason!

GOODWILL TO ALL

You and your family could spend a day volunteering – perhaps at a food bank or helping a local charity. After all, kindness and thinking of others are part of what Christmas is all about.

Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday



Twelve15

JOIN OUR TEAM

Looking for a secure, local, Term-time only position with great work/life balance and benefits?

Twelve15 has been delivering high quality and nutritious school meals for over 70 years. It has a range of permanent and flexible job opportunities for Chef Managers and Chef Assistants.

Visit www.surreycc.gov.uk/jobs and search 'Twelve15' to find out more and apply.



JOIN OUR 200 CLUB BARNSBURY PTA



**OCTOBER 2023
THROUGH TO
JULY 2024**

2 chances to win every month

Two draws made at our monthly meetings.
£10.00 to enter all 20 draws.
50% of all entries go to our prize fund
50% to our fundraising



Complete the
entry form -
[click here](#)



Pay your
subscription
£10 per
number



You are assigned
a number /
numbers



Oct 23 - Jul 24

Your number /
numbers are
entered into
monthly draws

Account Name: Barnsbury Primary School PTA /
Account Number: 00090038 / **Sort Code:** 30-99-80

**Please reference your payment with
"200 CLUB"**