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18/11/2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

How quickly we seem to be hurtling towards Christmas! In the past week, at Barrow 1618, we have had lots to celebrate; the children have truly championed all of our Barrow values.

Firstly, how proud I felt of the School Council members who joined the Broseley community on Sunday in the memorial garden to read a poem and join in with the Remembrance service! They read beautifully, demonstrating our values of **care** and **respect**.

The poppy display in the hall looked fabulous; thanks to the children for their creative contributions which were especially appreciated during Remembrance Day Assembly in school.

The pupils who took part in the cross-country at William Brookes yesterday showed that they were winners all-round: not only did they achieve their personal goals but our teams were placed second and third out of all of the schools and one of our children came first. Without exception, they all did incredibly well, demonstrating our values of **ambition**, **teamwork** and **resilience**.

Children have also shown their **curiosity** in the classroom, outdoors and beyond this week:

- in Yew class, the pupils been curious outdoors by searching for and collecting seeds for their clay seed pots;
- in Elm class, children have been asking questions about the moon and finding out more about it to write poems – they have also discovered new things about the weather;
- Ash class have not only found out about and created their own 'Wonders of the World' structures, but taken them into the forest to film using perspective to give the impression of their actual size;
- in preparation for their visit to Shrewsbury School, Oak class have been carrying out research about Charles Darwin, based on their own lines of enquiry.

In the next few weeks, the children will be involved in choosing a family of Barrow Bears; there will be a Barrow Bear to represent each value, reminding us of the importance of these in school as well as out in the wider world. We will be looking to dress each of the six

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bears in a T-shirt with a symbol that signifies their value sewn onto it. If any you feel you have the skills to be able to help with this, please let us know. We also, want our new values to be visible around school and in the grounds, through a variety of media, so we would welcome your ideas and expertise.

I will be sending out a survey next week to discover what you would like to see in the parents' area of our new website which is beginning to take shape.

This week, saw the return of Cookery Club, which is extremely popular and brilliantly run by Sally Hobday. If there is anyone else who is willing to run – or help with - a club, please contact the school office.

You will be aware that tomorrow is Pudsey Day; we look forward to seeing the children dressed-up and ready to embrace the occasion. Thanks to all of you who have donated to Children in Need so far. Please continue to use the link below to make online donations via ParentPay. If you would prefer to make cash donations, this can be brought in to school by your child tomorrow. Unfortunately, we have now sold out of merchandise in school.

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=4805>

On Wednesday, Oak class are excited to be visiting Shrewsbury School where they will learn more about Charles Darwin in his own school environment. Many thanks to Katie Rothwell for her help in organising the visit.

During the final week of term, Yew Tree class will be enjoying a trip to the pantomime in Oakengates to see Aladdin; Elm, Ash and Oak Class are able to look forward to their visit to see Beauty and the Beast after Christmas at the New Vic Theatre. An email will shortly be sent out to Yew Tree class with further details.

Our plans for events that were explained in last week's newsletter remain the same:

- The Yew Tree and Elm Class plays will be recorded and shared with parents.
- The Carol Service may be held in Barrow Church, otherwise it could be outdoors or recorded.
- The Christmas Craft Fayre will be organised for staff and children only.
- Older and younger pupils will attend Christmas parties in staggered groups.
- Classes will sit together in the hall on Christmas Lunch Day.

19/11/2021	Pudsey Day	Children wear their own choice of clothes or fancy-dress and make a donation to Children in Need. Related activities will take place in school.
24/11/2021	Oak Class Visit to Shrewsbury School	As part of their learning in Science and English, pupils will learn more about the life of Charles Darwin and his theories of Evolution
25/11/2021	Friends of Barrow AGM –	Details have already been emailed to parents/carers and can be read at the end of this newsletter.
03/12/2021	Cross Country	To be held at Broseley Primary. Further details to follow for those children who wish to take part.
06/12/2021	Flu Vaccines	All pupils – please return forms if you haven't already done so.
08/12/2021	Christmas Lunch Day	This will be another big day with children taking part in Christmas activities and crafts. They will enjoy a celebratory lunch with crackers and carols. Children can wear their own clothes.
10/12/2021	Christmas Craft Fayre Christmas Jumper Day	This will take place in the school day. Information to follow. It is Christmas Jumper Day. Children wear their Christmas jumpers and donate to Save the Children.
14/12/2021	KS1 & KS2 Christmas Parties – refreshments and a visit to see Santa.	Yew and Elm classes: 13:30 – 15:15 Ash and Oak classes 15:30 – 17:15 Yew and Elm children to arrive in party clothes; Ash and Oak pupils to bring party clothes to change into. There will be a disco, a visit to see Santa and refreshments.
15/12/2021	Barrow Carol Service	Further details will be provided.
16/12/2021	Yew Tree Class Panto	Further details will be provided.

Thanks again to Mrs Hayes for organising the Christmas Card Project that raised £164.34 for art materials. It was such a treat to see the children's artwork.

The Barrow Values Art Competition, will be running until 26<sup>th</sup> November. Again, there have been some thoughtful entries so far. See attachments to previous newsletters for rules and how to enter.

Mrs Swankie and the children are busy preparing the garden for winter. From the last sale of fruit and vegetables, £57.27 was raised. The money raised will be used by the children and put towards growing more produce for our kitchen and community next year.

For those of you who have taken part in consultations with your child's teacher this week, we apologise for any difficulties you may have had communicating online. Our internet connection has been intermittent. However, I have been assured by Telford and Wrekin Council, our network providers, that they are on the case. We will contact parents/carers, who have been affected, to rearrange meetings.

We should soon be in a position to rearrange consultations with Mrs Adams that were not able to take place this week. As soon as we are able, parents/carers will be contacted by the office and provided with the same booking slot on the same day of the week. If this is not convenient to you, we will do our best to accommodate.

Many thanks to Miss Francis-Dodd, a qualified teacher who works in Elm class, for standing in to cover for Mrs Adams this week. She has done a brilliant job!

We want the children's Christmas Lunch Day to be special this year so we are busy preparing. A menu is attached to this newsletter and your child's lunch can be booked via this link <https://forms.office.com/r/fsBRab8DHu> . Please ensure that this is completed by Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December to allow time for food to be ordered.

Finally, could I remind you to email or telephone the office to inform school of alternative arrangements for the collection of your child/children, even if a relative, who is unknown to the staff, is picking them up.

We are all grateful to our Barrow families - so many of you have approached us with offers of help and support both now and in the future. It is the whole of our community that makes Barrow 1618 such a wonderful, unique school!

Yours sincerely,

Sian Stephenson

(Headteacher)