



BARNARD CASTLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

The Barney Buzz

Friday 25th January 2019

Issue Number: 922

Headmistress's News

On Wednesday we saw yet another one of the many highlights of the school calendar take place ... House Singing. The hotly contested competition with a musical theatre twist saw the four Houses compete for the Scorton Shield. This was also a first as we saw our children in Pre-Prep join in with this competition and what fun was had by all. From crazy hair and luminous leg warmers, African face paints, coloured t-shirts and spectacular arrangements. For those of you that were able to join us, I am sure you will agree that the quality of singing was exceptionally high and thoroughly enjoyed by all ... not bad for a day's work! However, for the first time in twenty four years we had joint winners with Drake and Raleigh becoming the 2019 joint victorious recipients of the shield. Well done Drake and Raleigh!

I am excited about our forthcoming Phonics talk next Wednesday 30th January, 4-5pm in the Atkinson Hall. An informative talk presented by Mrs Bale and Mrs Robertson on the importance of phonics throughout your child's time at Prep School as they begin in Reception and continue all the way through to Year 6. Please let Mrs Morse know if you are planning to attend.

The Year 6 pupils have also undertaken final trial exams in preparation for the Entrance Tests to the Senior School that take place next Thursday. The children and teachers are working hard in preparation and I am pleased with their positive attitude and determination to give of their best.

The first three weeks of this term have flown by and I would like to wish the boarders an enjoyable 'family weekend'.

Laura Turner

Boarders' News

Last weekend the prep boarders enjoyed a lazy Saturday morning in their pyjamas. Mrs Stewart arranged for the children to have breakfast 'at home' in the Old Courts family room. There were sausages, bacon and all sorts of yummy treats. In the afternoon Mrs Small took the children across to the Prep School where they enjoyed a bit of dodgeball in the Atkinson Hall. On Sunday afternoon the junior boarders headed off for Billingham Forum for some ice skating fun. For some this was a chance to show off their triple Salchows and double axels, for others an opportunity to accompany a snowman around the rink! A lot of fun was had by all. The boarders are very much looking forward to the upcoming exeat this weekend with friends and family.

Mr Robson



Headmistress's Commendations:

Annabel Jackson
Toby Willsmore
Bella Staley
Ella Turner
William Banner
Samuel Wake
Emily Davidson
Sophie Winnard

Well done!



Totally tropical!

Year 4 have launched themselves straight into our new topic for the term of 'Rainforests and Climate Change'. Already in English, Science, History and Geography lessons we have looked at layers of the rainforest, animals of the rainforest, talked about Charles Darwin and examined where tropical rainforests are located in the world. It is clear to see that it has already captured the imagination of many of them as can be seen by the amazing array of 'Takeaway' homework we have received. Very well done so far Year 4! Watch out for further updates throughout the term.

Groovy Greeks!

Year 3 had a fantastic day at the Bowes Museum on Tuesday learning more about their topic, 'The Groovy Greeks'. They heard some ancient Greek myths and helped to recreate parts of the story like donning invisibility helmets and turning people to stone! In the afternoon, they enjoyed creating their own vases inspired by Ancient Greek amphoras. They also watched the infamous swan in action before becoming mini van Goghs and creating their own gallery-inspired sketch books. We are very proud of how well-behaved they were throughout the day and look forward to bringing some of what we learnt back into our own classrooms.



Beautiful birds!

The Reception class have looked at British birds this week. We talked about how many birds do not have enough to eat during winter time. Everyone had great fun making some homemade fat balls for the birds with Mrs Bainbridge.



Awards This Week:

Special Mention Certificates:

Isaac Binks, Juliette Harper-Wilkes, Lilly Cassidy, Hugo Thompson, Olivia Harland, Frankie Wilks, Jack Baptist, Fiore Catellani, Adam Lee, Georgina Chapman, Alice Burton, Sienna Lawson, Benjamin Dixon, William Watson, Lavender Lawson, Ella Turner, Joseph Swann, Max Hunton, Isabel Fall, Oscar Bennett-Collins, Anna Metcalf, Isabel Warren, Abygail Jameson, Sophie McGill, Harriet Robson, Lucy Harburn, Toby Gent, Poppy Hendrix

Merit Certificates:

Oliver Barrass, Matthew Blackburn, Jessie Burgess, Elliott Chapman, Juliette Harper-Wilkes, Georgina Jackson, Hugo Manners, Alia Saunders, Lily Shearn, John Turnbull, Carter Wake, Toby Willsmore, Daisy Allison, Lilly Cassidy, Fenella Heagerty, Annabel Jackson, James Nath, Hugo Thompson, Freya Turner, Pia Willcocks, Olivia Harland, Harriet Hatton, Elodie Lavery, Arabella Milbank, Thomas Scott-Priestley, Edith Smart, Archie Walder, Flora Whitaker, Frankie Wilks, Jack Baptist, Finley Cable-Jones, Fiore Catellani, Dylan Dougal, Isla Durban, Jacob Griffin, Reuben Hosking, Sebastian Howard, Oona MacConachie, Caitlyn McLean, Jenson Moody, Sophie Richardson, Peter Stevenson, Megan Sunley, Lucy Willsmore



Bringing the House Down!

Wow! What a year it was for this event, which was literally packed to the doors. The topic of 'Musical Theatre' was interpreted very differently by all Houses via songs from 'Fame', 'Les Miserables', 'The Lion King' and 'The Wizard of Oz'. There were magnificent solos and harmonies in all Houses and, as Mr Dearsley (the adjudicator and Director of Music at Senior School) pointed out, the range of textures produced had just about as many possible variants as could be conceived. The arrangements of the pieces also revealed considerable thought and imagination on the part of the House Staff. The enthusiasm for singing and the House spirit undoubtedly reached its highest thus far and the wonderful costumes really added to the event. The addition of Pre-Prep for the first time added even more to the buzzing atmosphere. The many lighting effects and microphones added a huge professional finish to each performance too. Mr Dearsley warmed up the adults who attended with their singing voices as well as the children! It was wonderful to have Mr Dearsley as our adjudicator before he retires from Barney at the end of this year and he gave us the most entertaining and lively send-off possible! We also thoroughly enjoyed hearing him play one of his own piano pieces – the whole room was literally enchanted. Huge praise goes to all of the children for this magnificent event and abundant congratulations to our wonderful joint winners, Raleigh and Drake. A lovely quote, in reviewing the event in class Music lessons, from a significant majority of our pupils: "So, what was your favourite bit of House Singing?". "Watching all of the other Houses." Our pupils clearly are not just following 'The Barney Way', but it's alive and embodied within them.

Dr Harrison



Brilliant Bee-Bots!

Year 1 have had fun this week exploring Bee-Bots! They all worked together to experiment moving them forwards and backwards. Some children even managed to make Bee-Bot move in squares and rectangles! The children have been reading the fantastic story of 'The Gruffalo' this week and were able to come up with lots of amazing adjectives to describe him and even create their own creature with equally as descriptive language to boot. In Maths, all the children have been counting on in twos and are starting to learn the two times table. Let's see how many children can get their first times table badge!



What's on your desert island?

Mr Joy's Year 6 English set have been reading 'Kensuke's Kingdom', a story about a young boy called Michael who is swept overboard from his family's yacht and washed up on a desert island. To understand his battle for survival the class were challenged to collectively decide on just ten items they would take with them to a desert island. They had to work co-operatively and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each item they wanted to take. Initial planned items such as iPads, mobile phones and X-boxes were soon changed as they realised they would be of no use to them and their items should be based on need rather than want. They started to think more practically about shelter, safety, food and water. Their final ten items were well thought-out and they gave clear reasons for selecting each.



App of the Week

Euclidea

This week's app was suggested by Mr Ayres and I know he has enjoyed playing it.

Euclidea is a collection of interactive geometric puzzles with 120 levels. The idea is to build geometric constructions using straight edges and the compass. I can see why Mr Ayres loves it as it is described as a game that values simplicity and mathematical beauty.

Find the most elegant solution — the one, which is built in the least possible moves — and you'll get the highest score.

Let me know how you do!

Miss White

aaw@barneyschool.org.uk










Maths Puzzler

Congratulations to Mila Johnson, Hannah Lynn, Sophie Winnard, George Goad, Matthew Burgess, Abygail Jameson and everyone else who submitted a solution to last week's puzzler.













This week I would like to see if you can solve either of the puzzlers below. Both require you to work out how much each alien is worth. The orange one is easier and requires you to turn numbers into letters to spell a word at the bottom. The red one simply requires an answer but is harder to work out.

SOLUTIONS, PUZZLES & LEADERBOARDS ONLINE

3	x		18	1 = v	6 = c
x		+		2 = u	8 = m
	+		15	3 = t	11 = e
33		10		4 = n	12 = j

SOLUTIONS, PUZZLES & LEADERBOARDS ONLINE

	+		+		= 36
	+		x		= 70
	+		+		= 34
	x		x		= ?

Good luck!

Mr Ayres

sta@barneyschool.org.uk



Forthcoming Events

January

Fri 25 Sports Scholarship Assessments for Y7 next year
Year 5 & 6 House Football, 2:15pm
Due to pitch conditions and weather forecast this has been rescheduled to Friday 29th March. Apologies for any disruption this has caused.

Sat 26 Exeat Weekend

Sun 27 Exeat Weekend

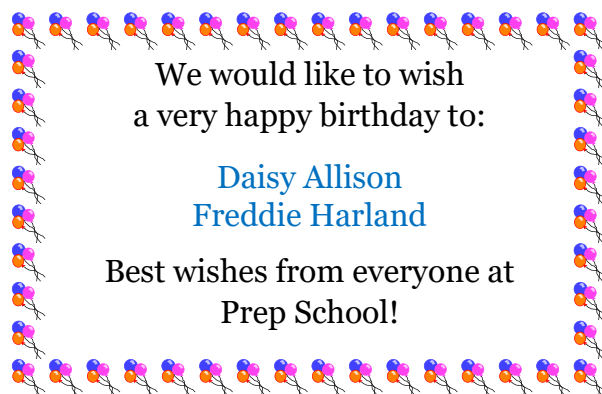
Wed 30 Football v Aysgarth: U11, U10 (H), 3:30pm
 Teaching Phonics to Your Child - presentation for parents of children in Reception to Year 6, Atkinson Hall, 4pm-5pm
This is applicable to all parents in Prep School and we would be delighted if you can join us
 Barney Friends' Meeting, 5pm-6pm

Thurs 31 **Year 5 trip to Bolton Castle**
(addition to the calendar)

Senior School Entrance Tests for Year 6, 12:45pm

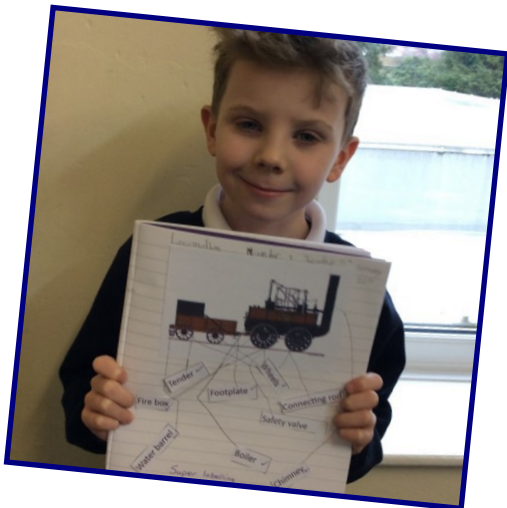
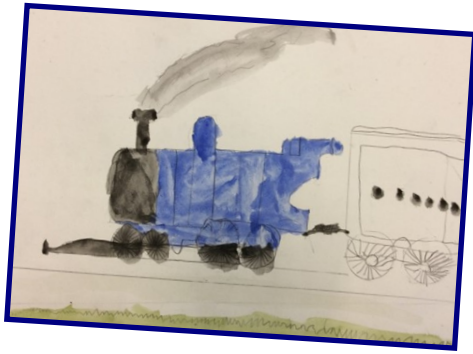
February

Fri 1 Hockey v Sedbergh: U11 (A), 2pm
 Netball v Yarm: U10 (A), 2:15pm
 Netball v Yarm: U11 (H), 2:15pm



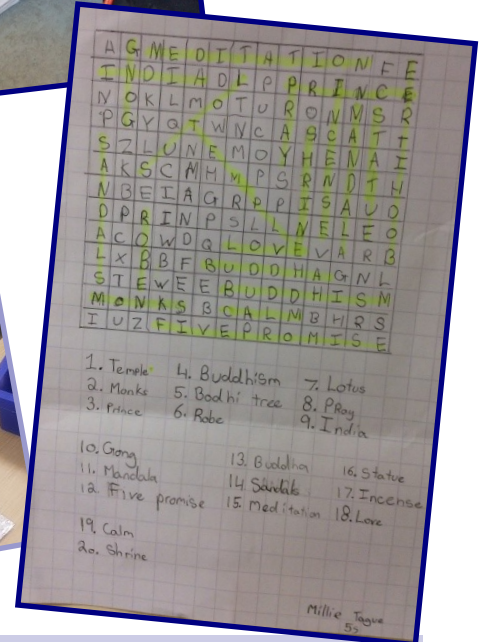
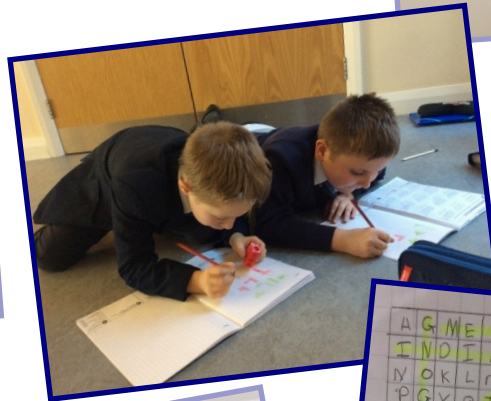
Steaming ahead!

This week our Year 2 pupils have been learning about their new topic of 'Railways and George Stephenson'. They have thoroughly enjoyed researching some of his inventions such as the safety lamp and his engines, especially 'The Rocket' which won the Rainhill trials. Since learning about this, the children have been getting creative and have designed their own engines and lamps. Well done everyone!



Perfecting Pentominoes!

The Year 5s have enjoyed their first lesson of our Pentominoes Investigations where they explored all of the combinations we can have when placing five cubes together. Next week we will look at repeated patterns, symmetry and tessellation. There have been some fantastic 'Takeaway' homework tasks completed already and the children are liking the new idea of choosing any subject from their timetable which might inspire them when choosing a task from the menu.



Barney Friends' News

We have attached a suggestion slip with today's email. If you have any ideas or suggestions which you would like to put forward prior to the next meeting, please feel free to complete and return it to your class representative, Jemima Harrison or Sarah Morse. You will see a list of the class representatives at the bottom of the box. The next Barney Friends' meeting is on Wednesday 30th January. We would love to hear any thoughts you may have prior to this meeting. Many thanks.

Barney Friends

Sideline



Congratulations to all pupils involved in House sports competitions over the last week. It has been pleasing to see some real improvements in performances as tournaments have progressed. It was great to see that three different Houses have won the three competitions held. Combined points (and then goal difference) across both Years 3 & 4 and Years 5 & 6 competitions will decide the ultimate winners, with overall champions being announced at the end of term.

Years 5 & 6 House Netball – Friday 18th January (report by Mrs Thompson)

I was immensely proud of the Year 5 & 6 girls who ‘manned up’ brilliantly and braved the very cold conditions to play House Netball last Friday. There were no complaints from the girls, with all players representing their respective Houses for at least one-half in each of the three games. Some players had only been playing Netball for a couple of weeks, so did very well to learn and remember new rules and this helped to make the competition all-inclusive. After a lack of goals in the first half, the posts were lowered and soon the shots were flying in. Raleigh battled courageously, but were missing key players and were up against the odds from the start. Gilbert won their first match, held the eventual winners to a draw in the next match, but sadly were defeated in their final game. Grenville may well have been victorious if they had converted early shots in their first game, as they went on to win the next two. The overall winners were Drake, with the same number of goals as Grenville, but with two wins and a draw taking them to victory. I was impressed with Drake’s solid team performance across all three games, from the amazing defence of Zara Dobson, through to the impressive shooting prowess of Harriet Robson. Well done Drake House.



Years 3 & 4 House Netball – Monday 21st January (report by Mrs Summerson-Brown)

With this competition running early in the season with a view to getting girls playing and remembering rules, I was very pleased with the quality of Netball played at this early stage of the term. Games were played at a very reasonable tempo and with posts set at 9ft. There were plenty of goals scored. Unfortunately, Grenville did not win any games but their scores were within one or two goals of the opposition in all three games. Drake finished in third place with their only victory being a narrow win over Grenville. Gilbert finished in second place with hard fought victories over both Drake and Grenville. This year’s winners were Raleigh who played some fabulous attacking Netball and won all three games. Congratulations on a great victory!



Years 3 & 4 House Football – Monday 21st January (report by Mr Killeen)

Well done to all Year 3 & 4 boys who improved throughout the House tournament. After a break in the bitter weather, the pitches looked superb, especially as they were set up with new goal posts for this age group. For some Year 3s, this was their first competitive football fixture, whilst for some Year 4s it had been a while since they had last played. Initially, players were not utilising the full space of the pitch and there was a bit of ball chasing. As the competition progressed, formations started to develop and the ball was passed around much better. In this respect, it was very good for the pupils’ developmentally to play the competition now, although we expect the quality of the football to improve significantly over the course of the term. Of the three games played, Drake managed one draw, Gilbert achieved one win, and Raleigh one win and a draw. The competition winners were Grenville who achieved three superb victories, scoring a grand total of sixteen goals whilst conceding only one.



Well done to all the Houses.



Sideline

Sports performer of the week:

This week, Mr Dearsley struggled to name just one winning House for House Singing and I too am having great difficulty picking just one sports performer of the week! Having, used House competitions as a basis of awarding last week's winner and deciding in advance that I would do the same again this week, I have to award sports performer(s) of the week to both Ella Turner and Harriet Robson.

Last term, Ella could have been awarded this accolade on a few occasions for exceptional gymnastic performances. Last week, she was sensational (not an overstatement) in the Year 3 & 4 House Cross Country, coming home first by a reasonable margin and this week she was instrumental in Raleigh House winning the Years 3 & 4 House Netball. What a great week, well done Ella!

Last term, Harriet performed exceptionally well as an attacking player for the school Hockey 'A' team. Last week, she finished high-up the field in her House Cross Country run to help Drake seal victory and this week she was 'on fire' in the Years 5 & 6 House Netball acting as Drake's main talisman, scoring goals that again helped Drake come out on top!

Much like the House Singing, this week it is too fine a margin to separate some of the best performances for representatives of Raleigh and Drake!



Forthcoming fixtures:

Wednesday 30th January – Year 5 & 6 'A' & 'B' Football (Home) v Aysgarth - KO 3.30pm

Friday 1st February – Year 5 & 6 'A' Boys' Hockey (Away) v Sedbergh - depart 12.15pm

Friday 1st February – Year 6 'A' & 'B' Netball (Home) v Yarm - KO 2.15pm

Friday 1st February – Year 5 'A' & 'B' Netball (Away) v Yarm - depart 1.00pm

Please note we have rescheduled the Years 5 & 6 House Football to the last day of term, Friday 29th March, in the hope that the weather and pitch conditions are much better by then and that all the boys can enjoy taking part. As always, parents are welcome to come along and support.

Mr Burgess

mab@barneyschool.org.uk