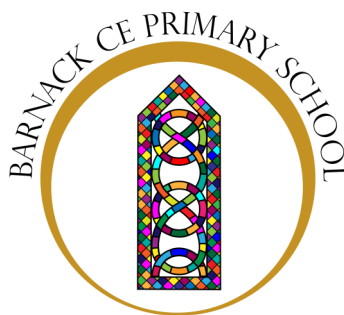


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EXECUTIVE HEAD: MRS C FIRTH

HEAD OF SCHOOL: MRS A JONES

A happy caring environment, where we help to develop the potential of each child.

15th January 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

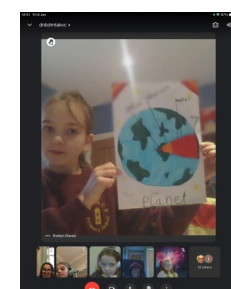
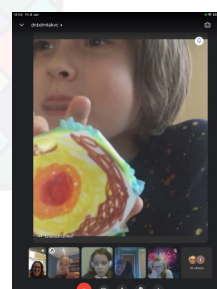
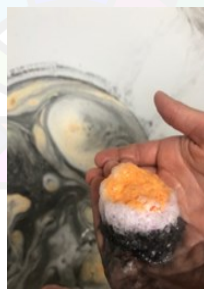
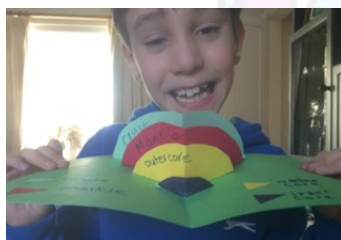
Welcome to the first newsletter of 2021 and what a first couple of weeks it has been! Wow! In this edition we meet some new recruits to the school, Sticky and Ricky, and find out what has been happening in the classrooms at school and at home.

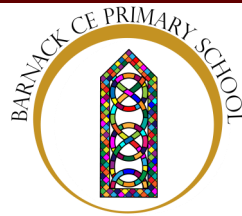
News From The Classrooms:

We have had a very different but successful start to the term in Year 2. Both the children in school and at home have worked so hard in all of their lessons and it has been wonderful to see all of them so engaged and focused. We were lucky enough to have had a good start to our new topic of The Great Fire of London before we went into lockdown and we have loved learning all about it and the impact it had. Children both at home and in school have had a great time at Forest School and PE this week, Miss Dobson has loved seeing all of their dance videos that they have sent in and the pictures from their Forest School activities. We have also celebrated the arrival of our class pets! Two have finally hatched and have been named by the children, introducing...Ricky and Sticky!



The children in Year 4 have had a great start to the new term whether learning in school or at home. In our topic work we have been finding out about the structure of the Earth. The children's creativity has been very impressive. They have represented the structure of the Earth using modelling dough, pop-up pictures, Lego and even bath bombs!

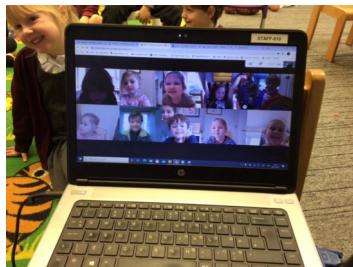




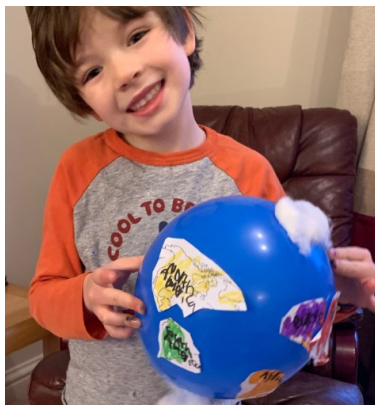
This week in Year 4 we found out about how earthquakes occur and are how they are measured. In the classroom we used a junk-modelling seismograph to record the strength of a simulated earthquake! There was some very enthusiastic wobbling of tables! Some of the children at home were inspired to make their own seismographs following video instructions.

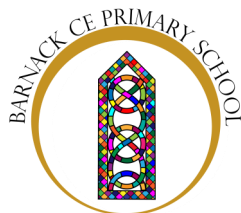


Over the last two weeks we have been very busy in Reception! We started the term last week thinking about how we stay healthy, the children came up with brilliant suggestions and we have had fantastic discussions around this topic. This week we have started to think about the different things we can do to help our world. We have also been learning all about water - what we use it for, the water cycle and how we can reduce how much we use. Miss Brass has been so impressed with how engaged and enthusiastic the children have been, both in school and online. Well done!

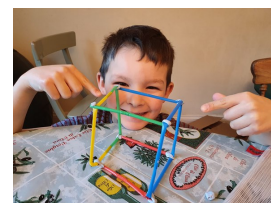


This week, Year 1 have been focusing on numbers to 100, they have been using place value grids to see the value of tens and ones! In literacy, they have used adjectives and expanded noun phrases to describe aspects of Handa's Surprise then summarised the book using all the features they had learnt. The children have also compared animals in the UK to those found in Africa and created flipcharts to show where we live in relation to the wider world. Finally, they have been very creative, making the earth out of Paper Mache and building African animals out of junk.





Year 3 have really risen to the challenges of blended learning. Both in class and at home, we have been working hard in Maths and have explored fractions and shape in the last 2 weeks. We have begun our learning journey on light and the children have created a dazzling array of posters, highlighting the risks and benefits of sunlight. Our class reader, Ted Hughes' The Iron Man, has provided inspiration for our writing and reading sessions.



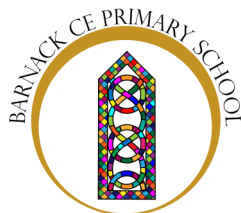
Year 5 this week have been busy planning a non-chronological report about our Solar System. We have been researching all types of celestial bodies.



We have also been making time capsules for the future, which have been wonderfully reflective. In maths we have tackled prime numbers, factors and multiples. Our online learning has been fantastic and everyone in year 5 should be proud of themselves.

We have had a fantastic week of online learning this week in Year 6, The pupils have been online promptly and eager to engage with their learning. In maths we have been developing our knowledge of shapes and angles whilst we have thoroughly enjoyed using refugee boy, our class read, to improve our reading comprehension skills. The pupils enjoyed learning how to read maps using six figure coordinates and produced their own maps which included OS symbols. Forest school was a massive hit this week even though there was torrential rain and snow showers. We managed to dig our own pond and make a slip and slide!





Wellbeing Wednesday

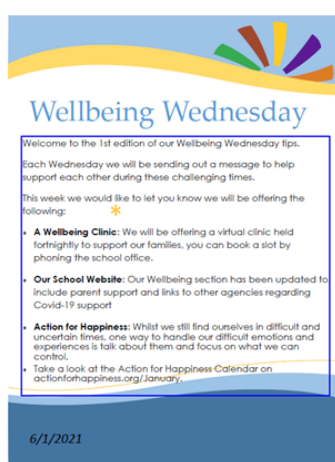
These days, when people talk about self-care they are generally talking about the conscious and deliberate choice to do something that looks after you and your wellbeing. Performing self-care will enable you to do your job, care for others and do all the things you need or want to accomplish in your day.

Why not try these ideas in the poster? These small gifts you give to yourself can help you to be more resilient and grounded, even in uncertain times.

Be kind. Be patient. Be generous. Be accepting. Be all these things to yourself. That is where it begins.

Remember...

We offer a virtual clinic every fortnight to support our families, which you can book by phoning the school office. Our Wellbeing section on the school website has been updated to include parent support and links to other agencies regarding Covid-19 support.



A message from Mrs Jones

I would like to thank and congratulate all our parents and carers for how well they have supported our children to access remote learning. What a great team - together we are continuing to ensure that our children (and staff, parents and whole school community!) challenge themselves, learn and be the best we can be!

As we embarked on our final day of our first full week of remote learning, we celebrated our successes together this morning in Collective Worship. 79 children joined us from home and it was lovely to share all the great work the children have produced. The engagement we have had is outstanding – 97.5% of home learners have been online for every lesson – incredible and 100% have engaged throughout the week!

This week we have purchased Accelerated Reader which the BSA have kindly funded for the year. This is an exciting reading opportunity for children with engaging quizzes and activities which help sharpen children's reading skills with authentic practice, encouraging growth. As soon as the logins have been sent to us, we will get this up and running. It even measures how many words each child reads!

Thank you for all your continued support, at school and at home. The teachers have really enjoyed working with all the children and seeing them learn.

Warmest regards,

The Barnack Team

