

St Barnabas CE Primary School Newsletter

10/05/2024



'Let your light shine'

Christian Aid Week 2024

Next week is Christian Aid Week and the theme is 'Push Forward Against Poverty.' This year we focus on the poverty in Burundi, central Africa. It's a very mountainous country and one of the poorest countries in the world. Many people live in poverty, and most rely on farming to provide food to both eat and sell. Christian Aid has three local partners in Burundi that have vital local knowledge, understanding of the community, and specialist knowledge. Christian Aid supports and invests in local partners who are then able to deliver even more life-changing support. Families in Burundi grow fruit and vegetables such as bananas, sweet potatoes and beans, plus sugarcane, tea and coffee. Farming is hard work, but it's being made even harder because Burundi, like many places, is being affected by the climate crisis. Many farmers see their crops failing due to extreme weather events such as droughts and floods.

Families face many other challenges as well. Just like in the UK, the cost of everyday essential items is going up. In Burundi, most families don't have a water supply to their home, so they must collect water from rivers or shared water points. Healthcare is very expensive, and people often have to travel a long way to see a doctor or nurse.

Life in Burundi is tough – this is the story of Aline who has had an especially difficult life as a young person and for many years after. At one time she didn't even have a place to live.

Determined and resilient, Aline found support through Christian Aid's partners in her community. Aline received training that meant she had the skills and knowledge to set up a small business and form a

Village Savings and Loans Association with other local people. Aline and her neighbours contributed money to a shared pot that became available as loans for members, as and when they needed them. Aline took a small loan to set up her own business selling peanuts and avocados. Through her business, Aline has been able to buy a bike, build her own home, get better access to healthcare, and educate her family.

Aline hasn't stopped there though. She's now the chairperson of a Village Savings and Loans Association that she's founded. Aline's using her experience to help transform the lives of other families who want to do the same and build a brighter future together. Now, when crops fail, storms damage homes, and people fall ill, this community is in a position to work together to overcome these challenges.

This half term we are thinking about the value of courage – Aline's work is a true example of courage in action. Can you think of any actions you could take, as a class or school, this Christian Aid Week to support your global neighbour and help build a fairer world?





Staying Safe Online

Our guide this week focuses on well-being and positive mental health. For everyone, low quality sleep can become an issue. It has been theorised that poor sleep can have an impact on brain development. A healthy and consistent sleep pattern is incredibly important for children's well-being. There can be lots of stresses and distractions that prevent children from winding down in the evening, so our guide has some practical tips that could help.

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

'Courage'

"Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9

This week's prayer: We pray for all the children in Y6 who are taking their SATs tests next week. We pray you have the courage to persevere through these really challenging tests.

This week's big question is:

Is it ok to be scared?

Places in St Barnabas Nursery Available

We are now accepting applications for places in our nursery for September 2024. Please ask the school office for an application form or to make an appointment to look around.

We can also assist with 2 year old funding applications. If you think you may be eligible for 30 hours of free childcare please visit the Childcare Choices website:
<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/upcoming-changes-to-childcare-support/>



The Bread and Butter Thing helps people on low incomes to eat more healthily. They have mobile food clubs that provide nutritious meals to help people feed their families for free. They have a location – in partnership with WAS Good Neighbours, at Sankey Bridges Community Centre.
Open: 1:30 – 2pm on Tuesdays
Tel: 07860 063304 <https://breadandbutterthing.org>

Meet and Greet

Don't forget, if you have any issues in the morning or at the end of the day, a member of staff will be outside for you! We have staff available every morning at each entrance gate – we can help you with any issues you may have, no matter how small. Please come for a chat if you need to.

We are holding our first summer fair since Covid on **Friday 5th July at 1:30pm** but we need your help.

Summer Fair

On Friday 17th May we will have an own clothes day and are asking for donations of bottles for the tombola. We need new bottles such as fizzy drinks, juice, bubble bath, shampoo, shower gel... we'll even accept champagne!

We also need volunteers to help us run the stalls on the day – please speak to the school office if you are able to help.

School Uniform

Wearing the correct school uniform is really important. Sometimes people question why we are tough on uniform but we believe it teaches the children, at an early age, the importance of looking smart and the importance of wearing the correct clothes where required - all skills needed for high school and later, the workplace. Also, our school has a great reputation in the local area –visitors always comment on our children’s excellent manners, behaviour and uniform. How our children dress and look on the streets contributes towards this positive image too. Unfortunately, the uniform standards of a number of children have dropped recently and they are coming to school wearing trainers. **Trainers** should only be worn on **PE days**. The correct PE uniform should be worn on PE days, not cycling shorts (see picture below.) If you are struggling to get the correct uniform, we are happy to help and have uniform supplies in school. Please contact Mrs Fisher at school via ClassDojo or by calling 01925 633606.



Dates for your diary	
Monday 13 th May – Friday 17 th May	Christian Aid Week
Monday 13 th May – Thursday 16 th May	KS2 SATs Week
Wednesday 15 th May	KS2 Music Workshops
Thursday 16 th May	KS2 Music Workshops
Friday 17 th May	Non-uniform day – bring a bottle donation for the summer fair
Monday 20 th May	Y5/6 Bike-ability sessions
Monday 20 th May	EYFS Stay and Play – 2:15-3pm Nursery (start of the week) and Reception
Tuesday 21 st May	Y5/6 Bike-ability sessions
Thursday 23 rd May	EYFS Stay and Play 2:15-3pm – Nursery (end of the week)
Friday 24 th May	School closes for Whit break
Monday 10 th June	School opens
Tuesday 11 th June	St Barnabas Day
Friday 14 th June	8:45am Parent coffee morning
Wednesday 19 th June – Friday 21 st June	Y6 Residential at Forest Camp Activity Centre
Tuesday 25 th June	2pm New starters meeting
Wednesday 26 th June	Y1 trip to Sky Garden
Wednesday 26 th June	6pm Summer Concert – Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6 families invited
Thursday 27 th June	Paris Olympic Games Day at Orford Hub – KS2
Friday 28 th June	Warrington Walking Day – school closed
Monday 1 st July – Friday 12 th July	Health and Lifestyle Fortnight
Tuesday 2 nd July	Sports Day KS2 – morning Reception & KS1 - afternoon
Tuesday 2 nd July	4:45pm Children’s University Awards Ceremony at St Elphin’s Church
Wednesday 3 rd July and Thursday 4 th July	Y6 high school transition days – all Warrington high schools
Friday 5 th July	8:45am Parent coffee morning
Friday 5 th July	Summer fair 1:30pm
Monday 8 th July	Y4 trip to Warrington Museum
Tuesday 9 th July	Reserve Sports Day
Wednesday 10 th & Thursday 11 th July	First Aid sessions for all classes
Thursday 11 th July	Y5 trip to Safety Central
Thursday 11 th July	6pm Y6 Leavers’ Party
Monday 15 th July	Y5 adventure day at Forest Camp Activity Centre
Wednesday 17 th July	2pm Y6 Leavers’ Service
Friday 19 th July	Summer Fun Day!
Friday 19 th July	School closes for summer break
Tuesday 3 rd September	School opens for Autumn term

