

# St Barnabas CE Primary School Newsletter

13/09/2024



*'Let your light shine'*

There's a really happy, positive buzz around school this September, with all our children really well settled in their new classes and enjoying their learning. Behaviour around school is excellent and it is wonderful to everyone welcome and support the many new pupils who have joined our school so far this year. We have many exciting trips, speakers and special events planned for the term which link to our curriculum and will enable our children know more, remember more and do more.

Our staff are working harder than ever to ensure all our children make excellent progress. You can help too and it's really easy...

1. Make sure your child is in school every day **on time**. We can administer prescribed medicine and pain killers (such as Calpol) to children with your consent so even if they have a cold or are a bit under the weather, send them in and we will call you if they become too unwell to be in school.
2. Read **WITH** your child every night – just 10/15 minutes will make a HUGE difference. Talk with your children about what they are reading and encourage them to read independently if they are able to. This is the **MOST IMPORTANT THING YOU CAN DO** to support your child's future success; as children who read widely and often achieve better than those who don't.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

*Miss Hodgkinson*

**HERE ARE SOME OF THE WAYS OUR AMAZING CHILDREN HAVE 'LET THEIR LIGHT SHINE' THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL...**



### Starting reception class

If your child was born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021, they are due to start reception class in September 2025.

You will need to apply for a place here:

<https://www.warrington.gov.uk/primary-school-admissions>

### Our Christian Value for this half term is:

*'Hope'*

*"The world is only changed by hope filled people."*

Rebecca Solnit

**This week we pray for:** all those for all of those who have lost loved ones.

**This week's big question:**

*Can hopes be divided into 'big ones' and 'little ones'?*

### Start and Finish Times

School opens at **8:40am** and all children should be in school by **8:45am**. Gates are locked at 8:50am and anyone who arrives after this time will need to enter via the school office and be marked as late. At the end of the day, doors open at 3:10pm and all children should be collected by 3:15pm. Being just a few minutes late each day adds up to days of lost learning over a year - **BE ON TIME!**



## Staying Safe Online

This week our message centres around children's mental health and specifically supporting them in managing conflict.

As children go through life, they will inevitably experience conflict. Supporting our children to deal with conflicts in a calm and mature manner is a life skill. Our guide this week offers advice on what we as educators and parents can do to support the children with conflict resolution.

Come and join our school family.

We would like to welcome you to look around St Barnabas CE Primary School and have the following open days:

Friday 20th September 9am to 11.30am

Tuesday 8th October 1.30pm to 3pm

Wednesday 6th November 1.30pm to 3pm

Friday 8th November 9am to 11.30am

If you are unable to make one of the open days we can offer tours of the school upon request, please contact [stbarnabas\\_primary@sch.warrington.gov.uk](mailto:stbarnabas_primary@sch.warrington.gov.uk) or phone 01925 633606 to arrange.

**10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO MANAGE CONFLICT EFFECTIVELY**

Disagreement is a natural part of human interaction. This can seem particularly true when dealing with the sensitive issues that arise for secondary-aged pupils. This guide brings you 10 top tips which can help prevent conflicts arising or mitigate their impacts when they do.

- 1 INSPIRE RESPONSIBILITY**  
The best opportunities to conflict resolution are real-life. This means that rather than imposing their own solutions on children who have had a disagreement, they should work with them to help them find their own solutions. Young people will hopefully learn to manage their own disputes as they move towards adult life.
- 2 ACTIVELY LISTEN**  
Remember to give every child the opportunity to voice their opinion, regardless of their age, stage of development, special educational needs, or other individual requirements. This can be done using a variety of different communication methods. For example, some children find it easier to express how they're feeling using pictures and drawings, while some prefer to write their ideas down.
- 3 BE CURIOUS**  
Demonstrating how to approach conflicts with a curious and non-judgmental mindset can set a good example to children, which can prove a useful skill for them later in life. So, this tip is by asking inquisitive yet respectful questions about the issue at hand. Be sure to be understanding where all parties are coming from, and share information between them when and where appropriate. This should encourage young people to mirror your behaviour, teaching them to be curious about the other side of a conflict, and thus being more willing to hear them out.
- 4 PROMOTE DIFFERENCES**  
Children and young people may come from a range of different backgrounds and cultures or have protected characteristics which may cause them to see things from various angles. Having a school and community culture which celebrates diversity in its many guises - including diversity of opinion - means people are more likely to feel heard and understood.
- 5 BE SUPPORTIVE**  
Discussions may be sensitive or, in some cases, even trigger negative emotions. Pupils may have mixed feelings about the issue at hand. They could be nervous or anxious before even coming to the table to talk about it. Try and create a space where all parties feel safe, welcome and comfortable. Allow breaks and time-outs if the conversation gets heated, to prevent anyone from saying something they might later regret.
- 6 MENTALLY PREPARE**  
Think of how you can approach the conflict in a calm and regulated manner. Consider taking some extra time to prepare beforehand and feeling somewhat quiet to reflect. Even if you're not directly involved with the conflict, mediating can be a stressful experience in its own right. Make sure you're hydrated, fed and comfortable, and do the same for the young people involved. These may seem like insignificant factors, but it's important to be aware of them. Discomfort can trigger dysregulation, which can make it much harder to have a calm, productive conversation.
- 7 GET YOUR FACTS STRAIGHT**  
Make sure you have all the facts, figures and timelines of the situation prior to the discussion. This should be done as objectively as possible with the aim of resolving the ongoing issue. You may want to risk assess any problems that may arise and look for possible solutions during your preparation time.
- 8 STICK TO THE POINT**  
Make the reasons for, and purpose of, any meetings or communications clear prior to setting them up. Provide an agenda. Act as a neutral disperson who can keep all parties on track. Make sure everyone has a chance to air their concerns about the issue being discussed and try to avoid talking about unrelated incidents. Close off with some action points detailing what everyone can do to resolve the conflict.
- 9 BE SOLUTION FOCUSED**  
It's often said that the art of diplomacy is about giving others a ladder to climb down. This means the main aim of any meeting or correspondence should be finding mutually acceptable and amicable solutions. Parents, carers, teachers and pupils should be aware there may need to be a compromise for the common good - and, most importantly, the good of the children you're supporting.
- 10 DON'T IGNORE OR AVOID CONFLICT**  
No one benefits from allowing concerns and grievances to fester, as this can lead to further division and animosity. It's ultimately better to help the children involved. Use our tips to open meaningful lines of communication. There should always be a suitable resolution and minimise the number of conflicts you're faced with in the future.

Meet Our Expert  
Cathryn Lamb is a neurodivergent former SEND and advisory teacher, the founder of her company, Neurochance, to improve inclusion for neurodivergent people. She works with nurseries, schools, colleges and businesses providing consultancy, training and mentoring to create belonging and understanding for people with the full range of neurotypes.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College

source: see full reference on the page at <https://thenationalcollege.com/guides/supporting-children-to-manage-conflict-effectively>

@wake\_up\_weds | /www.thenationalcollege | @wake.up.wednesday | @wake.up.weds

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## St Barnabas CE Primary School and Nursery

"Outstanding at enabling all pupils to flourish"

**OPEN DAYS & TOURS AVAILABLE**

[www.stbarnabasceprimary.co.uk](http://www.stbarnabasceprimary.co.uk)  
[stbarnabas\\_primary@sch.warrington.gov.uk](mailto:stbarnabas_primary@sch.warrington.gov.uk) Tel: 01925 633606

## Playtime Snacks

We exercise lead to positive mental and physical health. Part of this is to educate our children to eat as healthily as possible, as this contributes to future success. The only snacks we allow at playtimes are **toast or fruit**, these can be brought in from home or toast can be purchased via ParentPay. Thank you for your support. We are a healthy school and constantly reinforce with our children that healthy eating and regular exercise lead to positive mental and physical health.

## Calling all Jigsaw enthusiasts

St Elphin's, St Barnabas & Holy Trinity Churches invite you to join them at St Elphin's Church, Church Street, Warrington, WA1 2TL for a

# Jigsaw Festival

20th - 22nd September 2024

Friday: 12.00 - 5.00pm

Sat: 10.00 - 4.00pm

Sunday: 1.00 - 4.00pm



Other Stalls include:

Refreshments      Cake Stall  
Chocolate Tombola      Jams Stall  
Knitted goods      Candles

Stained Glass



Admission £2.00 - includes free raffle ticket (free re-admission with programme over the 3 days)  
Proceeds to be split between the 3 churches

## Water Bottles

Children are asked to bring a bottle to school filled with water which they can drink throughout the day. Drinking water throughout the day keeps children's brains hydrated and helps them to learn well. Only water is allowed in these bottles, as drinking juice throughout the day causes tooth decay. Children can drink juice or with their lunch. If any children persist in bringing juice in their water bottles, parents will be contacted.

## Nut Allergy

Our school is a **nut free zone** as we have children in school with severe allergies. Please do not send any food in packed lunches containing nuts or traces of nuts, including chocolate spread. Thank you.

### Movie Night

Come to movie night and enjoy a film and popcorn with your friends!

**When?** Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 3:15 - 5pm  
**Which classes?** Reception - Y6  
**Cost:** £3 per child (snack and drink included)

SEPTEMBER  
**19**  
2024

*Community*  
**Safe & Well**  
"one-stop" Shop

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**12.00PM - 3.00PM**

**Whitecross Community Centre, Lexden  
St, Whitecross WA5 1PT**

This is a **FREE** community event where you are invited to come along for information & advice from:

- WBC Communities & Wellbeing Team
  - Cheshire Police
  - WDP's Energy Efficiency Team
  - Trading Standards
  - Torus Foundation
  - Warrington & Vale College
  - NHS & The "Living Well" Bus
  - EE
  - "Talking Points"
  - Warrington Voluntary Action
  - Dept of Work & Pensions
- & more**

**FREE**  
refreshments  
& "SPOT" Raffle  
prizes will be  
available

EE will be on  
hand to help with  
all your digital  
needs

**Taster Sessions**  
• Mindfulness &  
energy healing  
• Cooking taster

HEALTH CHECKS WILL BE  
AVAILABLE ON THE "LIVING  
WELL" BUS



**Dates for your Diary 2024 - 2025**

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	School opens
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	School closes for half term break
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	School opens
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December at 1:30pm	School closes for Christmas break
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	School opens
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	School closes for half term break
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	School opens
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	School closes for Easter break
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	School opens
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank holiday (school closed)
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	School closes for half term break
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	School opens
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Warrington Walking Day (school closed)
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	School closes for summer break

**Dates for your Diary Autumn Half Term 1**

Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	Y5 Swimming
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	9 – 11:30am Open morning for families of children starting school in September 2025
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> - Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Jigsaw Festival at St Elphin's Church – all families welcome
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	School Photos
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Y5 Swimming
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	9am Harvest Worship led by Y5 Parents of Y5 invited
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	9:10m Bible presentation for new Reception pupils in St Barnabas Church – parents/carers of reception pupils invited.
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Film Night
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Y5 Swimming
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	8:45am Parent Coffee Morning
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	1:30 – 3pm Open afternoon for families of children starting school in September 2025
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Book Fair
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents' Evenings for all classes
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	School closes for half term