

Barnett Wood

Infant School



June/July 2025

NEWSLETTER



Kind, Confident, Successful Learners

Barnett Wood Infant School
213, Barnett Wood Lane, Ashted KT21 2DF

Message from Mrs Gibbard



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to a bumper edition Newsletter! Covering June and July, we are delighted to share all the exciting learning and events that have been happening at Barnett Wood.

As we approach the end of another busy and productive term, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support during my recent teaching commitments. It has been a hugely rewarding experience to be in class, witnessing the lovely Reception children's enthusiasm and growth first hand. I haven't been on the gate every morning as I usually would, been available for meetings, and I may not have been able to respond to emails as promptly as I strive to. Your understanding during this busy time has been greatly appreciated, and I thank you for your patience.


I also acknowledge that the absence of our regular newsletters and bulletins over the past few weeks may have left some of you feeling disconnected. This period has been particularly hectic as we wrap up the term and prepare for the exciting activities and learning opportunities that lie ahead. Normal service has resumed!

A HUGE thank you to all the staff for their support too..... taking on extra leadership responsibilities in our Assistant Headteacher's absence, covering gate duties, leading assemblies, covering playground duties, assisting with newsletters and bulletins, making me cups of tea and offering to help out whenever they can!

The good news is.... Mrs Clements will be back from maternity leave on Monday 21st July! She has been in regularly for 'Keep in Touch' days over the last 8 months and is rearing to get back, although I'm sure lots of you will understand/remember how tricky it can be leaving your baby to return to work! We are all very excited to have her back at Barnett Wood.

Our last two days of term will be busy with Leavers Assembly, saying goodbye to our Year 2 families and also good bye and good luck to some staff.

As we start to prepare for the next academic year, our school office is brimming with new uniforms and resources for the upcoming year, thanks to the hard work of Mrs. Thorn! Please feel free to stop by and see her or Mrs. Burrows if you'd like to purchase any new items - we gladly accept card payments. We would like to remind Reception parents that they will need to buy a chair bag for Year 1 to store their essentials; we have plenty in stock.

Kind regards, 
Mrs Gibbard

News from the Classrooms...

Don't forget to check your child's year group page every Friday for news straight from the classroom. Click the pictures below for the relevant year groups:



Year R
Hedgehogs and Squirrels



Year 1
Owls and Rabbits



Year 2
Badgers and Foxes

Attendance - A message from Mrs Theobald



We firmly believe that all children benefit from regular school attendance and that

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

School Matters!



Class attendance for September to July:

Reception		Year 1		Year 2	
96.5%	96.4%	95.6%	95.5%	95.6%	96.1%



Congratulations to Hedgehogs for having the highest attendance so far this year!



What does this look like in terms of number of days absent for my child?	100%	97%-99.9%	93% - 96.9%	90% - 92.9%	Below 90%
	Attendance Superstar!	Well done, excellent attendance!	Be careful!	Improvement needed.	Persistent absentee.
Academic year Sept-July	0 days absent	approximately 4 days absent	approximately 10 days absent	approximately 15 days absent	approximately 19 days absent

Whole school attendance update

To date our whole school attendance figure is



95.9%

Thank you for working with us to instill positive attitudes towards attending school in your children. Regular attendance is crucial for our pupils' academic success and overall well-being. It helps them develop essential social skills, fosters a sense of belonging, and enables them to fully engage with the rich and diverse curriculum we offer. While we celebrate this achievement, we also recognise that we have set a target of 97% attendance. This goal is not just a number; it represents our commitment to providing every child with the best possible educational experience.

Fines for absence

Please ensure you take some time to read section 5.6 of our Attendance and Absence Policy about fines issued by the Inclusion Service on behalf of Surrey for unauthorised absence from school

[Attendance and Absence Policy](#)

Our policy will be updated for the beginning of next academic year in line with the new guidance from the DfE.

Year R trip to Nower Wood



On Tuesday 24th June Squirrels and Hedgehogs went on their first school trip. Let's find out what they did...

"We went on a coach to get to Nower Wood. It was fun! When we got there we had to go up lots of steps to start our activities.

For one activity we used our magic powers (senses) to go on a walk. On our walk we had to make a potion and say abracadabra to turn the green water into red water! We used smell to check it before we poured it onto the plants to help them grow.



On our walk we were given cards with adjectives to look for something to match. We had to turn our sense of taste off! We also pretended to be woodlice and were blindfolded to feel our way round the rope to get to the end.



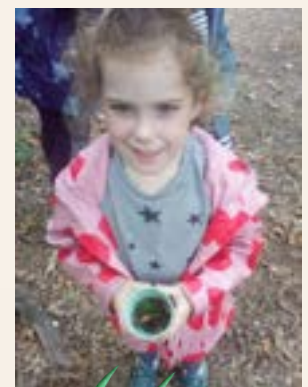
We went on a minibeast hunt in the woods and had to look under wood to find them. We found a spider but couldn't catch it because it was too fast! And we found a woodlouse, they have 14 legs!



We had fun pond dipping, looking for minibeast that live in water. We used a net to catch them and put them in the tray to look at them. We had to tip and dip, dip, dip to get them out safely. We found dragonfly larvae, cherry beetles and newt tadpoles.



It was a very hot day but it was great fun. We came back to school on the coach, it was so big because it had to fit both classes on it!



Year 1 trip to Painshill Park



We were feeling very excited but also a bit shy when we got on the coach to go to Painshill Park. Each class had a coach each!



When we arrived, we put our bags away and then got ready for our first activity. Owls went on a treasure hunt and found lots of plants. Meanwhile, Rabbits class had a story with a very funny man called Adam!

Tilly was the fairy god mother and Sophia was Little Red Riding Hood. Adam made us laugh by calling Tilly a 'hairy' god mother! Tristan played the part of the big bad wolf.



After that, we had our packed lunch and had a really fun play on the playground. It had a playhouse and a climbing frame.



In the afternoon, we visited a crystal cave. It had shells on the floor and was so sparkly and pretty. We walked over a pretty bridge too.

We had an amazing trip! Thank you to all our teachers and parent helpers.



Recount by: Skylar and Joshua (Rabbits), Vincent and Willow L. (Owls)

Year 2 Maypole at Ashtead Village Day



Our Year 2 Maypole team did us proud once again at the Ashtead Village Day!



Weeks of hard work learning and practising the dances as they put on a terrific show for the whole community.



Well done to everyone involved and thank you to all the staff for preparing them so well.



Sports Day and Family Picnic



What an incredible Sports Day! The weather was just perfect for us—neither too hot nor rainy! A heartfelt THANK YOU to Coaches Jack, Harvey, Peter, and Theo for their dedication in organizing the event, setting everything up, supervising, cleaning up, and, most importantly, preparing the children so wonderfully for the activities. We are truly fortunate to have the Kiko team at Barnett Wood!



Friends of Barnett Wood Summer Fair



Thank You



A special thank you to our dedicated Friends team, staff, parents, and volunteers who worked tirelessly to organise a wonderful Summer Fair yet again!

Even our children were involved, with our school council leaders running the Wheel of Fortune stall! Thank you to Sienna, Megan, Bella, Alana, Daisy, Luke and of course Mrs Ball!



Boom Wacker Workshop



Our children recently had the unique opportunity to participate in a vibrant Boom Wacker workshop. This engaging musical experience not only brought joy but also lots of music and creativity!



Boom wackers are colourful, tuned percussion tubes that produce musical notes when struck. They are a fantastic tool for introducing rhythm, melody, and teamwork in a fun and interactive way. Our children had the chance to explore different sounds and create harmonious music together, enhancing their appreciation for music and the arts.



The workshop was generously funded by Mrs. Ball as a retirement gift to the children. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Mrs. Ball for her thoughtful gift! Her generosity has not only provided our pupils with a memorable experience but has also enriched their musical education!



**THANK YOU
SO MUCH**

Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge is a FREE holiday activity for children. It's all about reading for fun, aiming to improve children's reading skills and confidence - all things we are passionate about at Barnett Wood too! The Challenge runs every year throughout the summer holidays, and all children aged 4-11 are welcome to take part. Children can read anything they like (really - anything!) and collect free rewards for their reading.



I LOVE READING

This year's theme and how to take part

This year's challenge theme is Story Garden – Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors. This exciting new theme will inspire children to tap into a world of imagination through reading, exploring the magical connection between storytelling and nature.

You can sign up at your local library and take part in person. A librarian will give you a special collector folder and help you find books to read. You'll collect special stickers and rewards for your reading.

OR

You can take part online by signing up below, on the official Challenge website. You'll set up a profile with a reading goal and log your books. When you reach your goal, you will unlock a virtual badge and certificate.

[Summer Reading Challenge 2025](#)

Kiko After School Clubs 2025-26

As we come to the end of another fantastic term, we want to say thanks for your continued support over this term. The coaches have really enjoyed running the classes this term and we hope it has been a positive experience.

I am pleased to confirm that we will be running the following clubs at Barnett Wood next year:

Mondays – Afterschool Football Club – Years 1 & 2

Tuesdays – Gymnastics Club – Years 1 & 2

Thursdays – Multisport Club – Years 1 & 2

We're excited to let you know that the booking process for next term went live on Monday 14th July at 7:00pm. Places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis, so we encourage you to book early to secure your spot.

The booking link which will only work once the system has gone live is below:

www.kikosoccerschools.com/barnettwood

Thank you again for your support.

Coach Jack



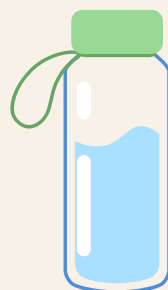
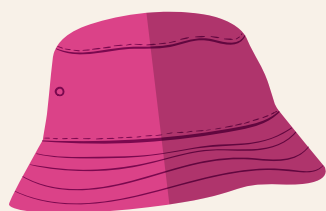
Summer Weather - Sun Safety



We have been very lucky with the weather this term! However, it is important to ensure that all our pupils are protected from the potential risks associated with hot weather and strong sunlight. At Barnett Wood, we have a Sun Safety Policy in place to safeguard the health and wellbeing of our children during the summer term.

Sun Safety Policy

Please ensure your child brings their sun hat and water bottle (both named please) every day. Sun screen (at least factor 30 with UVA protection) should be applied before school. Children can bring their own, named sun cream to re-apply again at lunchtime (or after swimming) but must not share their cream with other children (due to allergies).



General Reminders



- **Timings:** Gates open at 8.20am, classroom doors open at 8.30am. Gates/doors close at 8.35am and collection for all at 3.05pm.
- **Snacks:** Children are provided with a piece of fruit/vegetables at break time. Please be aware that a number of our children have severe allergies and therefore we are a nut free school - please respect this and ensure no products containing nuts are included in packed lunches or snack boxes.
- **Named water bottles to be in school daily** - no squash or juice please!
- **Absence** - please phone (01372 272701) or email (info@barnett-wood.surrey.sch.uk) school as soon as you know that your child will be unable to attend school that day.
- **Sickness / tummy bugs** - please remember that children cannot come into school until 48 hours after the last episode of sickness or diarrhoea, in order to prevent spreading the infection.
- **Named clothing and personal items** - please ensure that all items are named as we cannot guarantee lost unnamed items are returned to the owner
- **Coats** - please remember that your child/ren need a coat suitable for the weather to be in school with them. Our outdoor learning spaces are used every day.

Safeguarding - Staying Safe around Water




Whether it's sunny days at the beach or fun in the paddling pool, children are naturally drawn to water. But with excitement comes risk. This guide brings together 10 clear, practical tips to help parents and educators protect children around water - whether that's at home, on school trips or on holiday.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators STAYING SAFE AROUND WATER

Enjoying time in, on, and around water plays a vital role in a young person's overall development, offering a healthy and exhilarating way to have fun. This guide outlines essential safety advice, based on the Royal Life Saving Society UK's Water Safety Code, to help ensure children can enjoy swimming and similar activities safely and responsibly.

1 STICK TO LIFEGUARDED AREAS




It's never advisable to enter unsupervised bodies of water, especially alone. Instead, it's considered best practice to accompany children to places with lifeguards, as they will be trained to respond swiftly in emergencies and provide first aid when needed.

2 LEARN SIGNS AND FLAGS



When going to a new environment, it's important to research the local area and make children aware of safety signage before entering the water. If visiting the seaside, make sure children are always supervised by an adult and that they know what different beach flags mean, so they're knowledgeable of where and when they can enter the sea.

3 STOP AND THINK



Young people should be cautious before entering water, as it's difficult to know what hazards could be underneath. Use the Water Safety Code and encourage children to ask themselves questions such as, "Is the water too deep or too shallow? Are there currents, tides, or underwater objects?" Make sure children know never to enter water from a height, as what lurks below could cause serious injuries.

4 CONSIDER WATER TEMPERATURE



Even on hot days, water can be deceptively cold. Tragedies strike when young people experience cold water shock. Never let children enter water quickly; instead, ensure that they enter slowly and carefully to allow their bodies to adjust to the temperature or exit easily if needed.

5 INFLATABLE SAFETY



Although inflatables may seem like a fun idea when visiting locations like the beach, they can float further out from shore and into more dangerous water. It's advisable only to use inflatables in spaces like appropriately managed swimming pools, where they're used in more controlled and supervised environments.

6 SUPERVISION IS KEY



For young children, and particularly those under the age of five, it's important for them to be supervised at home, outside and at the pool at all times. It's essential for parents and educators to understand that young children can drown quickly and silently; therefore, anyone supervising them must maintain constant watch in case they get into difficulty.

7 DON'T GO TOO FAR




When swimming, especially in open water, it's best to teach children to stay within a safe depth. Shore advice with them such as only entering water up to a standing depth, and in the case of visiting the beach, swim parallel to shorelines. This will allow a child to stay in control and get out of the water easily.

8 KEEP POOLS AND TUBS DRAINED




For parents of young children, a simple way to protect them at home is to keep outdoor spaces and bathrooms tidy after playtime. This includes removing water from paddling pools after use and turning them over, returning lids to hot tubs and taking toys out of baths, so all water can be fully drained from the tub.

9 FLOAT AND CALL 999



If a child gets into difficulty in the water, they should try to float on their back, stay calm, and call for help. If a young person sees someone else in trouble, they should dial 999 or 112 immediately, then shout to reassure their friend, encouraging them to float on their back, and letting them know that help is on the way. Children should never enter the water to attempt a rescue or retrieve belongings.

10 TEACH WATER SAFETY



Beyond swimming lessons, children should be educated in school on water safety. Use RLSS UK's accredited programme, 'Water Smart Schools', which offers free lesson plans and resources on how to be safe on, near and around water by following the Water Safety Code.

Meet Our Expert

The Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS UK) is a national water safety charity that gives children the chance to enjoy a lifetime of fun in the water, safely. Water safety education provided in schools is vital and, in some instances, could be a child's only opportunity to learn about the water.





Planning your holidays for next year? Our term dates for 2025-26 are on our school website:



Term Dates 2025-26

Friday 4 th July	9.15am - 1pm	Sports Day and Family Picnic
Monday 7 th July	AM	New Reception Induction session – without parents Move Up session for current Reception and Year 1
Monday 7 th July		Annual Record of Achievement sent out - all year groups
Friday 11 th July	5pm – 7pm	Celebratory Parents Evening with Exhibition of Work. Come and see your child’s work and meet your child’s new teacher at any time during the evening. Whole family welcome.
Tuesday 15 th July	9.30am – 12.00pm	Year 2 Swimming Gala Badgers - 9.30-10.30am Foxes - 11am - 12pm
Thursday 17 th July	5.30pm – 7.00pm	Year 2 Leavers Disco
Monday 21 st July	9.15am	Year 2 Leavers Assembly to parents and Tea Party
Tuesday 22 nd July	1.30pm	Last day of term – No Honeybees Club
END OF TERM		
Next year 2025-26		
Tuesday 2 nd and Wednesday 3 rd September 2025	All Day	INSET Day
Thursday 4 th September	8.30am	Years 1 and 2 return to school
Thurs 4 th , Fri 5 th and Mon 8 th September	All day	Reception Classes Home Visits