

Barnett Wood

Infant School



May 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,

This half term has certainly flown by - it was a short one, but we certainly packed lots in! It's hard to believe there are only seven school weeks left in this academic year. As we near the end, we acknowledge that moving up to a new year group or transitioning to a new school can evoke feelings of both excitement and anxiety for many children. It's perfectly normal for children to feel a bit nervous about this change, and we are here to support both you and your child during this transition. Please feel free to reach out to us if you believe your child may need some additional assistance.

In the last week of the half term, our Governors convened for our annual Strategic Planning day, where we took time to reflect on the successes of the year thus far, assess our progress on key strategic themes, and plan our next steps. We look forward to sharing more details soon.

This month, our swimming lessons have kicked off with great enthusiasm and participation. Our focus in these lessons is to help children build their confidence in the water, refine their swimming techniques, and grasp the importance of water safety. Miss Gill, our swimming teacher, has been highly impressed with the children's resilience, even in less than sunny weather! Thank you as always to parents for your lesson contributions and support with swim changes and to the teams of volunteers who keep the pool running to make these lessons possible!

As we transition into June and July, we have a variety of exciting events and activities lined up, including Sports Day, Year R class assemblies, Friends events like the Summer Fair, and preparations for a grand send-off for our wonderful Year 2s. Our Badgers and Foxes have been diligently practicing their Maypole dances for the Ashtead Village Day fair on Saturday, June 14th - we can't wait to see their performance! Please come and show your support if you can, they will be performing in the main arena at approximately 1.15pm.

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 May

Reception		Year 1		Year 2	
96.1%	96.3%	95.4%	95.7%	95.9%	96.0%



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



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



Our end of year target is more than **97%**



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.
Sept-May Half term	0 days 0 hours of learning missed	3 days 18 hours of learning missed	7 days 42 hours of learning missed	9 days 54 hours of learning missed	11+ days 66+ hours of learning missed
Academic year Sept-July	0 days absent	approximately 4 days absent	approximately 10 days absent	approximately 15 days absent	approximately 19 days absent

Fines for absence

Please ensure you take some time to read section 8.2 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](#)



Punctuality

We have noticed there are still a number of children who are coming in late.

School starts at 8:30am, and the gates open at 8:20am to allow for plenty of time to arrive ready for the doors to open. Arriving on time is important as late arrivals can cause children anxiety and means they are missing out on vital learning. We'd appreciate your cooperation in getting your child to school on time everyday.

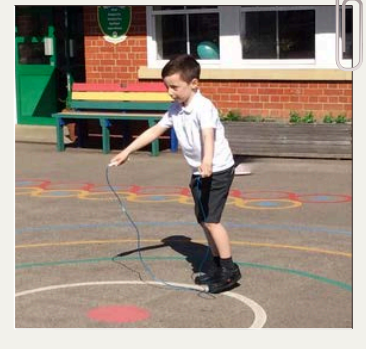
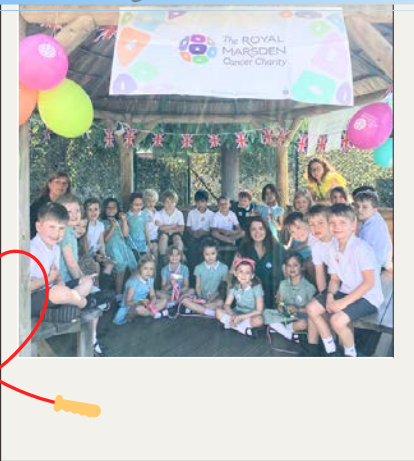
If you are finding that there is a specific reason for your child arriving late, please speak with myself or Mrs Gibbard and we will do all we can to support overcome any difficulties you are experiencing at home.

Congratulations

 Congratulations to the

 children who have an attendance percentage at or above our whole school target of 97% with 1 half term to go for this academic year!

Skipathon for The Royal Marsden



The sun shone for our Skipathon on Friday 16th May! Everyone gave 100% effort and lots of fun was had too!

Our final fundraising total for the Royal Marsden Cancer Charity was an amazing

£1,131

which is more than double our target! Thank you so much to everyone who donated.



A message from Marie....



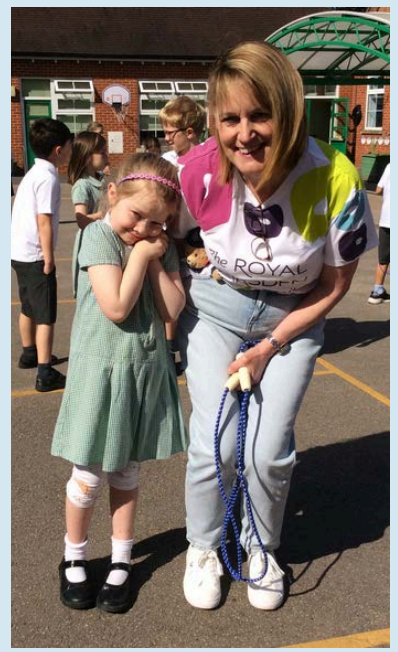
I am writing to thank you, the staff and above all, the children at Barnett Wood for the amazing efforts of you all with taking part in the Skipathon and making it such a great success.

It was wonderful to see so many children taking part and enjoying it, all whilst being reminded about staying safe in the sun and raising an amazing sum of money for The Royal Marsden.

Natalie would have been so humbled and equally so proud of everyone.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart - keep skipping!

Love, Marie Devereux x



Forest School - Year 1 and 2



Our Year 1 and 2 classes each had a fantastic Forest School session with Conker Claire (aka Mrs Dickenson) on Wednesday 14th May. This time, the theme was 'bees' and the children took part in craft activities, digging for minibeasts and of course...fire lighting and marshmallows!



I loved it because it was all to do with nature and I love nature. The fire and marshmallows were brilliant.
Leo H - Foxes



The fire made the marshmallows all gooey!
Max - Owls

It was fun making the bees!
Olive - Foxes



I love digging and making homes for minibeasts. I also love bees because they are pollinators and they make honey!
Dylan S. - Foxes



It is was so much fun lighting the fire with the flint and making a spark. The marshmallows were yummy too!
Teddy (Owls) & Freddie (Rabbits)



Thank you Mrs Dickenson from Tiny Trees for providing these wonderful experiences for our children!



VE Day 80th Anniversary Celebrations

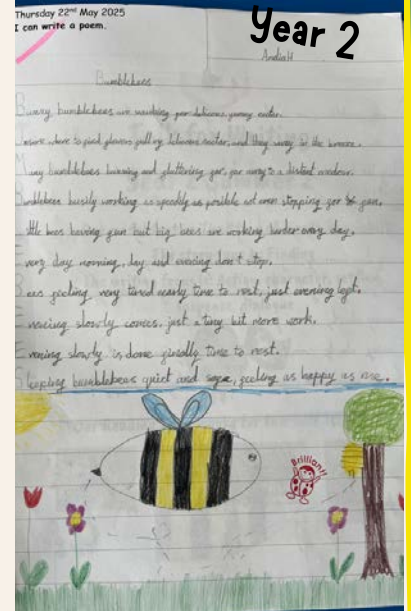
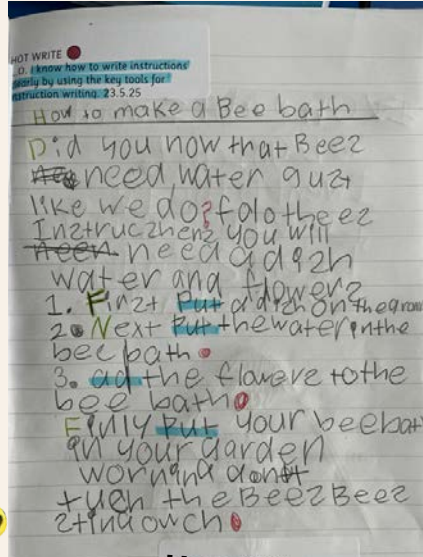
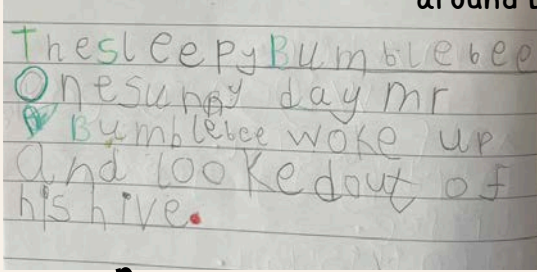


World Bee Day

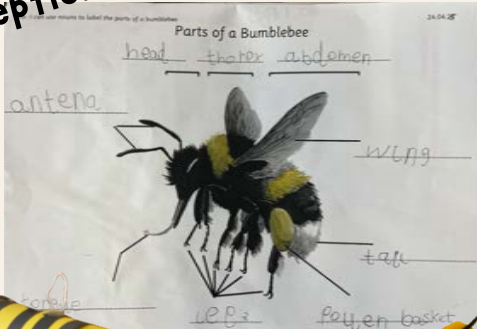


On May 20th, we joined millions around the globe in celebrating World Bee Day, a day dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of bees and other pollinators in our ecosystem.

World Bee Day inspired our writing lessons for the week. Pupils explored their creativity by writing stories, poems, and instructions all centred around bees. We are looking forward to showing you more on our celebration of work evening in July!



Reception



Year 1

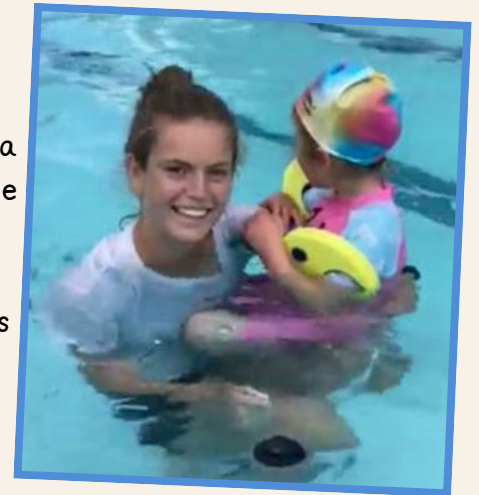
Swimming Lessons

Hi everyone!

I'm Katie, the swimming teacher from Surrey Swim School, and I'm really excited to be working with the children this summer term. It's been such a joy getting to know the students and seeing their confidence grow in the water each week.

My goal is to make swimming fun, safe, and rewarding for every child—whether they're just starting out or already swimming lengths. We focus on building solid technique, water safety skills, and of course, having a great time in the pool!

I'm looking forward to a fantastic term ahead and seeing how far everyone progresses.



See you poolside!

Katie



Relationships, Health and Sex Education



As we enter the second half of the summer term, we would like to inform you about our curriculum coverage for Relationships, Health, and Sex Education (RHSE) at Barnett Wood Infant School. We follow the Jigsaw PSHE scheme, which provides a comprehensive and age-appropriate approach to these important subjects.

Jigsaw!



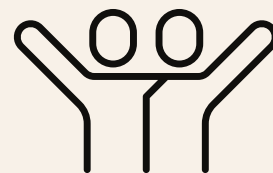
Overview of the Jigsaw PSHE Scheme

The Jigsaw PSHE scheme is designed to support children in their personal, social, and health education, ensuring they develop the knowledge, skills, and attributes they need to manage their lives now and in the future. The scheme is structured around six half-termly units (Puzzles) which cover different aspects of PSHE education, including relationships and health education.

During the summer term, our focus will be on the following key areas:

Relationships

- Understanding the importance of family and friends.
- Developing skills to form and maintain healthy relationships.
- Recognising and managing emotions in relationships.
- Learning about different types of families and respecting diversity.



Changing Me

- Understanding how our bodies change as we grow.
- Understand the physical differences between male and female bodies, and know the correct words for private parts of the body.
- Developing a positive body image and self-esteem.
- Understanding the concept of consent and personal boundaries.



For our infant school pupils, the content will be tailored to the developmental stage of each year group. The lessons will be delivered in a sensitive and inclusive manner, ensuring that all children feel comfortable and supported. You can see more information on the progression of knowledge and skills map for PSHE here: [Jigsaw PSHE Progression Map](#)

We believe that parents play a crucial role in the education of their children, especially in sensitive areas like RHSE. We encourage you to discuss these topics at home and reinforce the learning that takes place in school. To support you in this, please do have a read of the Jigsaw Guide to Relationships, Health and Sex Education in Primary Schools leaflet here:





Summer Fair – Saturday 28th June 2025

Preparations are well under way for our grand Summer Fair on Saturday 28th June.

Thank you for all your donations of toys.

We will be having a second non uniform day on Friday 20th June (change to previously published date of 27th) for donations of bottles for the tombola, lucky bags and second hand uniform.

Barnett Wood Infant School
WELCOME TO THE
JUNGLE
Summer Fair 2025
Saturday 28th June 11am-2pm
Volunteer Information

This year we really could do with as much help as we possible! These are some of the jobs we need help with. It really doesn't take up much of your time and is greatly appreciated.

Raffle team- We need couple people to help send emails, delivering letters, collect and organise prizes.

Refreshments team- A couple of people to help with the buying/ordering and running refreshments stall

BBQ- Calling dads to help Sam on the BBQ cooking a serving yummy food!

Set up and clean up- On the Friday after school we need help setting up and then on the day help clearing everything away.

We Need Your Help!

Class stalls- We need one volunteer from each class to help create and organise their class stall or help with another. Then if class reps could organise a rota of volunteers to run their stall on the day.

Hedgehogs- Banana Shoot Out
Squirrels - Treasurers Table
Rabbits - Obstacle Course
Owls - Inflatables
Foxes - Tyre Roll
Badgers - Jungle Hoopla

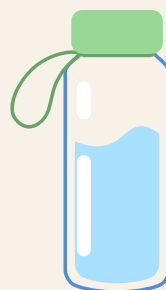
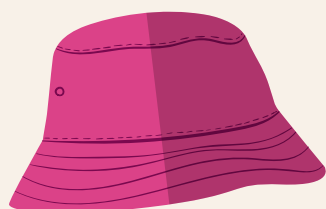
Summer Weather - Sun Safety



As we move into the warmer months, 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.



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

ENCOURAGING HEALTHY FRIENDSHIPS

Navigating the complexities of childhood and adolescent friendships can be challenging – but with the right guidance, children and young people can cultivate meaningful, supportive relationships, some of which may last for many years. These top tips provide a comprehensive approach to fostering healthy friendships among children and young people. It's important to remember, however, that each child is different, and will require an individual approach to relationship support.

1 GRANT FRIENDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Encouraging children and young people to join extracurricular activities can foster healthy friendships by providing shared interests and common ground. Engaging in these pastimes offers a platform for interaction, sometimes alleviating the social pressure of knowing what to say, and helps children develop meaningful connections.

2 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

The children and young people in our lives see how we behave, the connections that we've made and the interactions between us and others. When we model healthy friendships, we set an example and help youngsters to understand what healthy friendships looks like and how to navigate them.

3 HELP THEM LOVE THEMSELVES

Healthy friendships aren't just about dynamics with other people. They're about our relationship with ourselves. For overall wellbeing, it's important for a child to have the space to build their self-esteem and a positive self-image, as these factors can have a notable influence on the friendships they form throughout life.

4 MONITOR SCREEN TIME

Too much screen time can affect some children's wellbeing in general, but it can specifically impact friendships if it results in fewer positive social interactions. In some cases, reducing screen time and encouraging children and young people to find ways to interact face-to-face can have positive results. It's also important to remember that young people can make positive friendships online, but they will require support to do this safely.

5 TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING

Inevitably, friendships can run into problems. However, this is also an opportunity to support children and young people to work through any difficulties that may arise. It can be tempting to intervene and try to fix these issues for those involved, but helping them consider ways of resolving conflict or managing difficult situations for themselves can help them create stronger friendships.

6 EMPOWER THE CHILD

When we give children and young people the confidence to choose their friends, navigate interpersonal boundaries and consider how they want to interact with the different people around them, we empower them to take control of the friendships they have. When young people feel in control of these things, they're more likely to make positive choices and remain aware of the signs of a negative relationship.

7 TEACH EMPATHY

'Healthy friendships' doesn't always mean 'perfect.' Sometimes, disagreements can happen. When we teach children and young people to have empathy, we help them to see both sides of a relationship; to be mindful of the challenges a friend might be facing or whatever else might be going on. This can help children and young people to build stronger friendships.

8 BE OPEN TO QUESTIONS

Talking to young people about their friendships, who they spend time with and who they interact with can open the door to questions if they have concerns. Initially, these queries may be straightforward, but if we are receptive to discussion from the outset, young people are more likely to come to us for help when they are older as well.

9 UNDERSTAND BOUNDARIES

One of the keys to a healthy friendship is honouring boundaries. This can include anything from respecting personal space and belongings to acceptable language and behaviour. Understanding the importance of setting these limits and upholding those set by others can help children stay safe. If young people figure out their boundaries and feel comfortable enforcing them, they're more likely to call someone out if they go too far.

10 SPOT THE SIGNS

We can't always supervise young people: sometimes, we need to step back and give them some space. However, it's important to consider any indicators that they may be struggling in their friendships. Are they becoming increasingly irritable? Does their behaviour alter when they've been with their friends? Are they becoming withdrawn or reluctant to take part in certain activities? These could all be signs that they're finding things difficult, and we should remain alert to such changes.

Meet Our Expert

Becky Dawson is an experienced educator who has worked in primary and secondary schools for 20 years. She is a facilitator, consultant and coach working with young people and the adults who work with them, with a focus on developing understanding and skills around mental health, wellbeing and safeguarding.



The National College

Dates for Diaries



Our final INSET day for this academic year is:

Monday 2nd June 2025

Monday 26th May to Friday 30th May HALF TERM		
Monday 2nd June	All day	School closed for INSET Day
Monday 9th – Friday 13th June		Year 1 Phonics Screening Check
Wednesday 11th June	8.45am	Yr R Hedgehogs Class Assembly to parents
Saturday 14th June	1.00pm	Ashtead Village day – Year 2 performing Maypole Dance
Sunday 15th June	1.45pm	Summer Family Swim Scheme starts
Wednesday 18th June	8.45am	Yr R Squirrels Class Assembly to parents
Friday 20 th June	All day	Non-uniform day for Friends of Barnett Wood Summer Fair donations
Tuesday 24th June	All day	Reception Classes trip to Nower Wood
Wednesday 25 th June	AM	Year 2 Music Festival at St Peter's Primary School
Friday 27th June	PM	Year 2 'Mini Olympics' at The Greville Year R visits to Ashtead Library

[Barnett Wood School Calendar](#) 

[Subscribe to our Calendar](#) 