

## Message from Mrs Gibbard



Dear Parents and Carers,

The past month has been filled with rich learning experiences across the school, with classrooms buzzing with curiosity, creativity and determination. Our children have shown great enthusiasm in their lessons and have continued to challenge themselves in all areas of the curriculum.

We are especially proud of the way pupils have been living out our school values each day. From acts of kindness and teamwork to resilience and responsibility in their learning, it has been wonderful to see these values shining through both in and out of the classroom.

One of the highlights of Spring term part 2 each year is definitely the return of our regular dance teacher. I'm sure your children will have told you all about Mr Rae, his dance sessions bring a new level of excitement and creativity to our children's learning experiences every week - not to mention joy to all the staff watching! We can't wait for the final performance on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 2pm.

As we move into March, there are also the first encouraging signs of spring around us. The days are gradually getting longer, bringing a little more light to our mornings and afternoons, and reminding us that brighter days are ahead.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to another month of learning, growth and exciting opportunities for all our pupils.

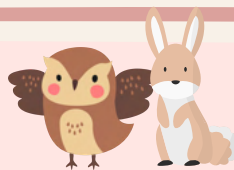
Kind regards,  
Mrs Gibbard



## Year Group News



Year R  
Hedgehogs and Squirrels



Year 1  
Owls and Rabbits



Year 2  
Badgers and Foxes

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March-Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

Scholastic Book Fair after school daily

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March**

World Book Day

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

Year 2 trip to Wisley

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

Parent Consultations 3:30pm-6:30pm

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March**

Parent Consultations 4pm-7pm

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

Whole school dance performance to  
parents 2pm

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March**

Last day of term. School finishes at  
1:30pm. Honeybees finish at 4:30pm

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April**

EASTER HOLIDAYS

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April**

School closed for INSET day

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April**

Children return to school for Summer term.

# Attendance- A message from Mrs Clements



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

## EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

This year, one of our school development priorities is to maintain attendance and punctuality and to reduce the percentage of persistent absentees. Please take some time to read our Attendance and Absence Policy which can be found here: [Attendance and Absence Policy](#)

Reception		Year 1		Year 2		Whole School
97.4%	97.4%	97.4%	97.8%	96%	96.5%	



Congratulations to Rabbits 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

## Penalty Notices

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the important guidelines regarding unauthorised absences from school. If a child is taken out of school without prior authorisation for five or more days (these days do not need to be consecutive), specific penalties will apply as outlined by Surrey County Council. These measures are in place to support regular attendance and ensure every pupil benefits fully from their education.

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to your child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to your child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, per parent/carer per child, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to your child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, per parent/carer per child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.



A reminder that requests for holiday during term time will not be authorised and may incur a fine if your child has 10 or more unauthorised sessions (equivalent to 5 days)

# My Happy Mind

myHappyMind



We are thrilled to announce that our school is officially a myHappyMind Bronze Accredited school! The Accreditation recognises schools that are embedding the myHappyMind curriculum into school life and taking real action to improve the mental health and well-being of the school community. We would like to thank those parents who provided feedback about the programme, which supported the application. As we were successful with our application, we will receive some fantastic resources to help us embed the myHappyMind curriculum next year including a Wheel of Gratitude to help us develop an Attitude of Gratitude.



A huge thank you to our PHSE leader Ms Higgins for leading the implementation of myHappyMind and all her hard work in collating evidence for this accreditation.

## Our next myHappyMind module - RELATE

We're excited to share that our next myHappyMind module is called Relate. This module focuses on helping children build positive relationships and understand how they connect with others. Developing these skills supports children's happiness, confidence, and readiness to learn.

### What Will the Children Learn?

Throughout the Relate module, children will explore:

- Friendship – what makes a good friend and how to show kindness and respect.
- Teamwork – working together, taking turns, and listening to others.
- Managing disagreements – using calm words to solve problems and repair friendships.
- Empathy – understanding how others might feel and showing care and compassion.

Through stories, discussions and activities, children will learn that positive relationships help our brains feel safe and happy.

### How You Can Help at Home

You can support this learning by:

- Talking about what makes a good friend
- Encouraging turn-taking
- Modelling calm problem-solving
- Asking, "How do you think they felt?"



Strong relationships are the foundation for happy, confident learners, and we're looking forward to seeing the children grow in kindness and empathy during this module.

# KSS Assembly



We were delighted to welcome Rachel from Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance (KSS Air Ambulance) to school for a truly memorable special assembly.

The children listened brilliantly as they learned about the life-saving work KSS carries out across our region, providing emergency critical care whenever and wherever it is needed. Rachel shared fascinating insights into how the helicopter operates, the vital equipment on board, and the difference their service makes to patients and families every single day.

As an extra surprise, the excitement reached new heights at lunchtime when the KSS helicopter performed a flypast over the school. There were plenty of smiles and waves as everyone looked to the skies — a moment the children will certainly remember.

To support this incredible charity, pupils took part in a “Wear Something Red” day in exchange for a donation. We initially set a fundraising target of £150, but thanks to the amazing generosity of our families, we raised an incredible **£608!** 😊



A huge thank you to all parents and carers for your kindness and support. Your donations will help KSS Air Ambulance continue their vital, life-saving work in our community. What a fantastic achievement — we are so proud of our school community!



# Paramedic Visit to Reception

On Tuesday this week Reception welcomed Lola's Mummy, Kate and her colleague Katie, to talk about their role as Paramedics linked to our 'On the move', transport topic. We found out about the different modes of transport paramedics use to help with their job. Did you know 6 people can travel in an ambulance? 2 in the front, one on the bed and 3 in the back.

“We got to put the bandages on, it was so fun!”



“The foil blanket was so warm, we wrapped up in it!”



The children found out about the equipment they use to help with their job. They also found out about the uniform they wear, including helmets to keep them safe.

Thank you for visiting us Kate and Katie!

# Future Leaders

Congratulations to our new Future leaders who were elected this week! Our Reception children have joined the groups too.



**Wellbeing Leaders**



**Reading Leaders**



**Eco Leaders**



**Lunchtime Leaders**

We are excited to see what projects our Future Leaders will be working on next!



**School Council Leaders**

# World Book Day

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**

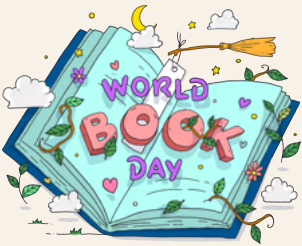
5 MARCH 2026



We love celebrating World Book Day, and it's purpose: to champion the fun of reading because it seriously improves children's lives.

Each year in March, it's a great opportunity to join in with the national buzz around reading and the celebration of books when we can encourage everyone to let go of pressure and expectations and give children a choice, and a chance, to grow a lifelong love of reading.

World Book Day is a chance to spotlight and celebrate reading for pleasure, supporting children's autonomy in book choice, and embedding a habit of reading that brings a wide range of benefits.



On Thursday March 5th, the children are invited to come to school dressed as one of their favourite characters from their favourite book. Please don't feel you have to buy a costume - home made creations or props are just as fun. Or they can even wear their pyjamas and bring their favourite bedtime story.



All children have been given a £1 book token in their bookbag today, that can be redeemed against any book in book shops, or exchanged for one of the special £1 World Book day books. See more information: [www.WorldBookDay.com](http://www.WorldBookDay.com)

# Scholastic book Fair 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> March

We are very excited to announce Scholastic Book Fair is coming to our school next week - just in time for World Book Day!

The pop-up book shop will be open every day Monday to Friday after school. Our school earns rewards for every book purchased - which means more books for our school too!

If you would like to purchase a book, both electronic and cash payments can be made. Electronic payments can be made using the QR code, which will be displayed when purchasing. You can also use your World Book Day £1 voucher to redeem against any books.

For more information, including browsing the books that will be on sale, please visit:

[Parents - Scholastic Book Fairs](#)



# Swimming Volunteers



A big thank you to everyone that came to the information session this week and to those that have signed up to volunteer on teams that help run our pool and swim scheme this year. We still need more volunteers! The more volunteers we have on each team, the less time commitment needed from each team member. Please complete the form even if you have been a volunteer before, so that we know how many we have for each team:

## [Swimming Pool Volunteers Form 2026](#)

We really can't run the pool and swim scheme without the support of our parents, so PLEASE consider helping out on one of the teams. For more information, please see the presentation here:



# Parent and Pupil Surveys



We kindly remind you to complete this year's Parent and Pupil Surveys, which will close on Friday 6th March.

This year, our survey questions align with the updated Ofsted Parent View questionnaire, reflecting the new inspection framework. This alignment ensures that the feedback we receive is consistent, meaningful, and directly comparable with national expectations.

Historically, about 30% of parents/carers complete the survey annually. While we appreciate every response, we would love to hear from as many families as possible this year. The more voices we hear, the better we can understand what is working well and where we can continue to improve.

Providing your name is optional. As a thank-you for sharing your views, every completed survey will be entered into a prize draw for a free family membership to the Summer Swim Scheme, worth £60.

Alongside the Parent Survey, we are also conducting a short Pupil Survey. This offers our children an age-appropriate way to share how they feel about school life. Their voices are equally important, and the combined feedback helps us build a clearer picture of our strengths and areas for growth. We would be grateful if you could support your child/children in completing the survey.

Thank you in advance for your feedback!



[Barnett Wood Parent Survey Spring 2026](#)

[Barnett Wood Pupil Survey Spring 2026](#)



# Friends of Barnett Wood



Our Friends team have lots of exciting events planned throughout the rest of this academic year, starting with the return of the popular Quiz night on 20<sup>th</sup> March. This is always a fun evening, so please look out for further details coming up. The dates below have also been added to the school website calendar.

*Friends Of Barnett Wood*

## ★ CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2026!

<b>MARCH</b> 	FRI 20 <sup>TH</sup> - Adult Quiz Night SAT 28 <sup>TH</sup> - Easter Trail & SUN 29 <sup>TH</sup>
<b>APRIL</b>	FRI 17 <sup>TH</sup> - Sip & Paint Evening WED 22 <sup>ND</sup> - Movie Night SAT 25 <sup>TH</sup> & SUN 26 <sup>TH</sup> - Volunteer Help Out Day's
<b>MAY</b> ★	WED 6 <sup>TH</sup> - Puppet Show WED 20 <sup>TH</sup> - Family Bingo SUN 24 <sup>TH</sup> - Table Top Sale
<b>JUNE</b> 	WED 17 <sup>TH</sup> - Movie Night SAT 27 <sup>TH</sup> - Summer Fair 

More information about each event will come out closer to each event.

# Safeguarding

## Helping Your Child Feel Safe to Speak Up

At school, we regularly talk to the children about “trusted adults” — grown-ups who are there to help keep them safe. One of the most important things we can teach our children is that they can always talk to us if something is worrying them.

Here are a few simple ways you can help at home:



### Keep conversations open

Ask gentle, open questions like:

“What was the best part of your day?”

“Was anything tricky today?”

Try to listen without interrupting (even when you're busy!).

### Reassure them

Children are more likely to talk if they know they won't get into trouble.

Try saying:

“You can always tell me anything.”

“You're not in trouble for telling me.”

“I'm really glad you told me.”

### Big feelings are okay

Sometimes worries come out as tears, tantrums, or tummy aches. Letting children know that all feelings are okay — and that grown-ups are there to help — builds their confidence and sense of safety.

### Talk about secrets

We teach children that:

Surprises are happy and temporary (like a birthday surprise ).

Secrets that make them feel worried, sad, or uncomfortable should always be shared with a trusted adult.

If you ever have any concerns about your child's wellbeing, please don't hesitate to speak to a member of staff. You can contact our Designated Safeguarding Lead via the school office — we are always here to help.

Our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is: Mrs Anne Gibbard Headteacher	Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) is: Mrs Becky Clements Assistant Headteacher	Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL) is: Mrs Leonie Theobald Senior Teacher
		

The DSLs can be contacted via the school office  
on 01372 272701 or via email: [dsl@barnett-wood.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:dsl@barnett-wood.surrey.sch.uk)

# General Reminders



- **Timings:** Thank you to everyone for working hard to be on time at drop off and collection so far this term. 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 and egg 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 and any subsequent days.
- **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.

**Our remaining INSET days for this academic year are:**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

**Monday 1st June 2026**