



## Barkston Ash Catholic Primary School

*'With God's guidance we grow and learn'*

[www.barkstonash.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.barkstonash.n-yorks.sch.uk)



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year! It has been wonderful to see everyone again and hear about summer holiday adventures! A special welcome to our Reception children and their families who have joined us for the first time this week. The children have settled in very well and it has been a pleasure to see their buddies having fun with them and taking good care of them during outdoor playtimes.

Today, all classes have spent some time reflecting upon the life of Queen Elizabeth II; we thank her for her service, for the example she has set us all and for the legacy that she leaves behind. Attached to this newsletter are some prayers from the Bishop's Conference that you could share with your families at the weekend.

Our Barkston Ash community will join together to pray for the repose of the soul of HM Queen Elizabeth II. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Have a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Vaughan

**Virtue** Our virtue for the start of this half-term is '**Love of Learning**'. If we develop a passion for learning, we will never cease to grow. We are inspired by Jesus. Our entire lives are a learning journey, with many start and end points that require us to open the doors to discovery and reflect upon our experience along the way. We want our children to be aspirational for themselves and their futures, through the education we provide, nurturing the thirst to know and learn more.

*Luke 2:40 "The Child continued to grow and become strong, increasing in wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him."*

**Weekly Mission** To know that we are very precious to Jesus.

**Nut-free school** Just a reminder that we are a nut-free school due to this being an allergen for some members of our school community. Please ensure that any food that your child brings from home is nut-free.

**Snacks** Your child is able to bring a piece of fruit to eat at morning playtime. If sending grapes, please ensure that these are cut in half lengthways. We provide fruit daily to children in classes 1 and 2.

**Autumn Clubs** An email was sent yesterday regarding clubs that we currently have on offer for Autumn term. Please refer to the letter to see how to request a place for your child.

**Expectations** The children look very smart in their school uniform this week. Just a reminder that we ask children to attend school in PE kits on their PE days as this helps us to maximise learning time and the amount of active minutes the children experience during PE lessons.

Please ensure that your child has their water bottle and planner in school with them every day.

**Celebration Assemblies** Every Friday at 2.45pm, we have our weekly Celebration Assembly in school. During this assembly, children will be awarded certificates if they are selected for a Lunchtime award, a Class Superstar award or a Headteacher award. Two of our Year 6 children will host the assembly each week and our classes will take it in turns to present a snapshot of their learning.

If your child is selected to receive an award or host assembly, you will be notified by Marvellous Me message and invited to attend in order to celebrate this special occasion with your child. If it is the turn of your child's class to share learning, you will also be invited to attend.

Dates this half-term:

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September- class 1 parents and carers invited to attend

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September- class 2 parents and carers invited to attend

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September- class 3 parents and carers invited to attend

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October- class 4 parents and carers invited to attend

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October- class 5 parents and carers invited to attend

**Tins on Tuesday** Our fantastic group of Mini Vinnies organise a monthly collection for the Selby Foodbank. We ask a different class each month to contribute any items that you are able to, including food and toiletries. The Selby Foodbank are always incredibly grateful for the support of our Barkston Ash family.

Dates:

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October- Class 5 donations

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November- Class 4 donations

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December- Class 3 donations

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January- Class 2 donations

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February- Class 1 donations

**Autumn Dates** Please see our school website calendar for all dates.

Dates coming up next week:

First week of extra-curricular clubs and activities (see letter emailed on 8<sup>th</sup> September for further details)

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September- Year 3 and 4 swimming (first session)

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September- 2.45pm- Celebration Assembly (Class 1 parents and carers invited)

**Contacting a member of staff** If you wish to contact any member of staff in school, please do so via the school office by calling 01937 557373 or by emailing [admin@barkstonash.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@barkstonash.n-yorks.sch.uk). This ensures that messages are directed to the most appropriate member of staff in a timely manner and gives due regard to the workload and wellbeing of all staff in school. Thank you in advance.

**Parking** A reminder to please park safely around school and always allow children to exit the vehicle onto the pavement. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate you in our school car park but the Ash Tree Inn have kindly offered the use of their car park. We allow a wider window of time to drop your children off at school (between 8.45am and 9.00am) and to collect your children (between 3.15pm and 3.25pm) in order to ease congestion.

**Attendance** A reminder about the importance of good attendance. Our school target is for each child to achieve at least 97% attendance across the academic year. We expect good attendance and punctuality from all members of our school community as this correlates with good attainment, wellbeing and wider outcomes for all.

In school, we analyse attendance data each month so that appropriate support can be put into place, where required. If your child's attendance falls below 92%, you will receive a letter from school. We will then monitor your child's attendance the following month. If it continues to raise concern, you will be invited to attend a meeting with myself and Ms West with the aim of identifying and overcoming barriers to good attendance.

**Free School Meals** If you believe that your child may be entitled to receive free school meals, please complete the form on the following link [Free school meals | North Yorkshire County Council](#). If eligible, this brings additional funding into school for your child which can contribute towards their education in many ways such as through learning support, educational visits, experiences, clubs, activity packs and funding for school shoes and uniform.

**Helping Hands** We hope everyone enjoyed the Summer holidays and had a wonderful break. Aliaa has been very busy with our School Uniform Recycling Scheme over the holidays and the scheme has now raised £187!! What a fantastic amount! Many thanks to everyone who has donated items to this and especially to Aliaa McCormick for running this.

Our 100 Club draws for July and August were completed by Mrs Vaughan and Kate Murray this afternoon with the lucky winners being numbers **79** - Gavin Duffy and **6** - Laura Pawson. Congratulations to you! We will deliver your £51 winnings each to you shortly. Our attention now turns to the new year's numbers. Please see the attached flyer for details. Thank you to everyone who has already secured a number. Be sure to get your number soon as the next draw will take place on 30th September! Many thanks to Nicola Taylor for organising this year's event.

Our first meeting for this academic year will be on Wednesday 14th September at 7.30pm at The Ash Tree pub on London Road, where we will be planning for the year ahead. We would love to see you there! If you are not able to meet in person then you can still join us virtually via Google Meet using the following link:

<https://meet.google.com/eut-orag-vxx>

We look forward to seeing you then!

The Helping Hands Team

**We have an exciting term ahead! Please look out for key dates and messages on future newsletters including weekly celebrations and activities from each class!**

*Newsletters, class curriculum letters, other useful forms and letters and the Wednesday Word are available on the school website.*