



Barton Clough Primary School

BRIGHT FUTURES EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Spring 2 Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this message finds you well. As we reach the end of the Spring 2 term, I want to take a moment to reflect on the achievements and events from these past weeks at Barton Clough Primary School. It has been full of activity and learning, despite its short length.

This term, we had the pleasure of engaging our pupils in Science Week, which saw them participate in a wide array of experiments and science-related activities. The enthusiasm with which our pupils approached these learning opportunities was truly inspiring: from investigating the principles of physics through catapulting jelly babies, to exploring freezing and melting through making ice-cream.



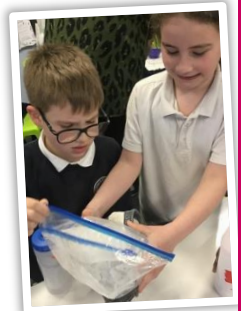
World Book Day was another standout moment of the term, bringing the magic of literature into our school. It was a joy to see so many of our pupils and staff embracing the spirit of the day, dressing as their favourite literary characters, and sharing stories with parents and carers at the Reading Cafés. This celebration of books and reading is crucial in fostering a love of literature and promoting literacy among our pupils.



On the staffing front, we have a couple of important announcements. Miss Williams, who has been an integral part of our Year 6 team this year, will be starting her maternity leave at the beginning of the new term. Her contribution to the school and the impact she has had on Year 6 has been fantastic. We wish her all the best during this exciting time. Similarly, Miss Evans will be taking her maternity leave in the third week of the next term, and she too will be greatly missed. We wish them both the very best as they start this exciting new chapter. Mr Forster will be returning to us to ensure continuity for our Year 5 pupils until the end of the year.

We also have Mr Stanley leaving us at the end of this term, moving on to a new opportunity. I know you will join us in thanking him for his great work over the last two years across the school and wishing him the best for the future.

We have a new teaching assistant, Miss Hunter, who will be joining the Year 1 team after the Easter holiday.



I also want to extend my gratitude to you, the parents and carers, for your support in maintaining high attendance and punctuality rates this term. This half-term, we've seen the highest attendance rates of the year, a clear indicator of our collective efforts. We look forward to this continuing in the Summer term.

Thank you once again for your unwavering support and commitment to Barton Clough Primary School.

Best wishes for a restful and enjoyable break.

Mr Foster-Carr





Reception

This half term we have been exploring the topic "Growing and Changing". We started with looking at our baby pictures and discussed how we have grown and changed since we were babies. We then moved onto looking at the life cycle of a duck and were kindly invited to the pre-school to hold their ducklings. They were incredibly cute and fluffy!

We then explored the season of spring, going on a spring hunt in our very own Wild Woods. Finally, we ended the half-term with a fantastic trip to Smithill's Farm where we fed and held lots of animal babies. We had a tractor ride, a donkey ride and saw the milking of the cows. It has been a wonderful half-term filled with lots of awe and wonder.

We wish you all a lovely Easter and will see you in Summer!

Miss Hulme, Miss Tati and Miss Brogan



Year 1

Year 1 have been learning about animals including humans in science. To apply the knowledge, we visited the Manchester Museum.

The children had a fantastic day looking at everything from living frogs, snakes and lizards in the vivarium, to skeletons of huge creatures such as elephants and sperm whales. They were able to identify mammals, amphibians, reptiles, fish and birds, explaining clearly their features.

They were fascinated by creatures that they had never encountered before such as the rare tigon, half lion half tiger!

The behaviour of the class was excellent and commented on by members of the public and museum. We could not have been prouder.

At the end of the trip, we also found time to visit the dinosaur room to explore the bones of the gigantic tyrannosaurus rex and woolly mammoth.

We would highly recommend a trip to this free museum.

Mrs Bennion, Mrs Crouch, Mr Stanley and Mrs Phoenix





Acorn

We all took part in a fun experiment as part of Science Week!

Miss Law did a 'magic' trick where she made a butterfly fly! Miss Law shared her trick of how she did it using a magnet. We searched around the room for other items which were magnetic before we made our own butterfly and did the magic trick ourselves.

Little Acorn joined us and it was so much fun. We had to have a lot of patience and share the resources which we did amazingly.

Miss Law, Mrs Bessassi and Miss Scott

Oak

Oak class had a wonderful time attending the Inclusion Sports Festival at Manor Academy this half-term. We moved around a carousel of different sports activities, led by the Duke of Edinburgh students at Manor Academy. We worked together as a team to take part in different activities including sit down volleyball, challenge courses and bowling. We were even blindfolded in some activities and had to use our senses and our team mates to work together to complete the activity. We had a brilliant time and Oak class showed superb behaviour and attitudes to taking part in different competitive team sports. Well done, Oak!



Miss Higgins, Miss Scott and Mrs Johnson



Year 4

Year 4 have been practising hard for the Trafford Music Festival all term. The children learned an impressive five songs, two of which were solo performances. The children not only sang their hearts out, but also performed one song in sign language. Everyone showed great bravery and positivity when we arrived at Sale Waterside, pushing away any stage fright! The children performed beautifully, and we're all immensely proud of them! Well done, Year 4!

Miss Ball and Mrs Khalid



Year 5

This half term has been full of great successes for Year 5. As you know, we have been attending swimming lessons each week and it has quickly become our favourite activity! Some children, who were initially extremely worried, are now really enjoying being in the water and some have already progressed to not needing any buoyancy aids. The maturity, resilience and determination they have shown has been fantastic.

Miss Evans and Miss Garcia



Year 6

Year 6 have enjoyed linking reading and art this half term. During World Book Day we explored 'Dear Earth' and wrote some fantastic persuasive speeches to prime ministers all over the world to encourage them to take action to save the planet. We also modelled and decorated our own clay fish to reflect the beautiful, delicate life within our oceans that needs protecting too.

Miss Kucharski and Mrs Albar



Friends of Barton Clough Donation

This term, The Friends of Barton Clough donated £132 to school to support purchasing maths resources. These resources are now in classrooms, supporting our children with their learning daily. Thank you for continually supporting FOBC! Your work and support really does have a great impact on our pupils!



Friends of Barton Clough AGM

The Friends of Barton Clough hosted their AGM this week, electing a new Chair and Secretary for the coming year. Congratulations to Vicky Webb, who will be taking over as Chair, and Cherelle Dowling who will be new Secretary.

We wish to extend our thanks to Sadaf Chaudhry and the team for their fantastic work over the past year.



Social Media

We conducted a parent survey about social media usage last term. The results of that showed that Facebook is the preferred option for most of our community for social media. As a result, we will be launching our brand-new Facebook page this week, which we will use to keep you informed about all the fantastic things happening at Barton Clough.

Our new page can be found here:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100092562770445>.

Please like and follow our new page by 26th April to be entered into a draw to win a family pack of board games!



Attendance

We aim for each child's attendance to be above 96%.

Children who have attendance less than 90% are classed as persistent absentees. Children who are persistently absent generally do not achieve as well as their peers who regularly attend school.

Persistent absentees who have further time off school may be issued with a penalty notice by the local authority.

Science Week

Last week, Barton Clough Primary School took part in National Science Week. The children worked with a different adult each afternoon to carry out an experiment from start to finish, meaning that they got to work scientifically, as well as getting to know some different staff across school. Here's what some of our pupils said about the week:

I enjoyed making ice-cream. It was tricky as the bag leaked but we ended up with lovely ice-cream to eat. I learnt that adding salt lowers the freezing point of water, making it easier to make ice cream before the ice melts!



I liked making lava lamps with Miss Kennedy. I learnt that oil floats on top of water!

We made egg zip lines and tried to make them as fast as possible. I learnt that if you add more weight to the zip line, it travelled faster!



I enjoyed the catapulting jelly babies activities. I know I could do it at home by myself. I learnt that changing the length of the arm changes how far the jelly baby flies.

Summer 1 Upcoming Events

Start of Term for Pupils	Monday 8 April
Big Spring Clean (Local litter pick)	Week commencing Monday 8 April
Tennis Coach in School	Tuesday 9 and Wednesday 10 April
School Council Elections	Thursday 11 April
Year 1 Parents Phonics Check Session	Monday 15 April (3:30pm)
Year 5 Class Assembly	Monday 15 April (2:35pm)
Careers Week	Week commencing Monday 15 April
Eid Party (FOBC Event)	Wednesday 17 April
Class and Leavers' Photos	Thursday 25 April
Year 3 Crowden Trip	Friday 26 April
Oak and Acorn Class Assembly	Monday 29 April (2:45pm)
Author Visit (Jack Meggitt-Phillips)	Tuesday 30 April
KS2 SATS	Monday 13 to Thursday 16 May
Year 2 and Year 6 Trip to Quarry Bank Mill	Monday 20 May
Year 1 Class Assembly	Monday 20 May (2:45pm)
Year 6 Bikeability	Tuesday 21 to Friday 24 May
Culture Day	Tuesday 21 May
Year 1 Trip to Pizza Express	Wednesday 22 May
Outdoor Classroom Day	Thursday 23 May
End of Term	Friday 24 May
Start of Summer 2	Monday 10 June

The School Day

Timings for the school day:

Breakfast Club – 8:00am-8:30am

Gates Open – 8:30am

Gates Close – 8:45am (**children arriving after this time will be marked late**)

Gates Open for Pickup – 3:10pm

Children Dismissed – 3:15pm

Parents of children who are regularly arriving at school late may be issued with a penalty notice by Trafford Local Authority.



Uniform

Please ensure that your child is in the correct school uniform each day:

- A white polo shirt
- A navy-blue jumper or cardigan with the school logo
- Black trousers, skirt or pinafore dress
- Sensible black shoes
- A school tie and V-neck jumper in Year 6.

Hoodies or other jumpers should **not** be worn.

Jewellery (except 1 pair of small, stud earrings) and makeup should not be worn.

Our uniform policy is available on the school website.

Parents of children who are in the incorrect uniform or PE kit will be contacted and asked to bring the correct uniform in.