



Barming Primary School

A member of the Orchard Academy Trust family of schools

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Headteacher
Mr C Laker

Executive Head
Mrs A Crittenden

Our Core Values

Respect - Responsibility - Courage - Wisdom

Friday, 20 September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Here is this week's Headteacher Newsletter,

Harvest Festival



Our Harvest Assembly will take place this Monday 23rd September. We would be so grateful if you could donate any non-perishable items which have a long shelf life. Such as dried pasta, tins of soups, beans etc.



Please drop any donations into the school office. **THANK YOU!!**



Attendance: Our Target is 95%

This week's attendance figure is...

95.75 %

Brilliant attendance this week!!! Thank you! 😊

What am I allowed and what am I not allowed?



Earrings/Jewellery: Jewellery is not to be worn in school unless for a religious purpose. In this case the school should have a letter from the parents on file. In those cases where a child's ears have been pierced, then small studs must be worn, and these should be removed for PE, games and swimming lessons.

Hair: All long hair must be tied back. Children are permitted to wear hair clips, but they must be a plain, small and in the school colours. Please no large bows or anything that may get caught whilst out playing. Thank you.

The last thing we want is any child getting hurt when we can prevent this.

Thank you for your support.



School Admissions

Please see attached information from the Kent County Council website regarding Admissions for those children starting Primary school next year (September 2025).

For children starting school in September 2025 applications for the reception year will open on 5th November 2024 and close on 15th January 2025.

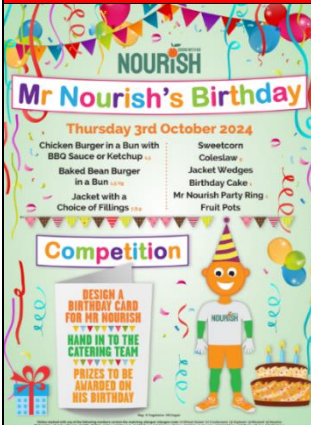
Our open day for new entrants will be on the 6th and 13th November, if you know of anyone seeking a YR space for next September, please tell them to contact the school office to book on, thank you.

Kent County Council



<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places#tab-2>

Menu Change



We would like to inform you of a special menu change that will be in effect on **Thursday 3rd October** for Census Day.

What is Census Day? Census Day is a national day when the government collects information about the population. This data helps to understand the needs of our communities and plan for the future.

To celebrate Census Day, our school will be serving a special menu. Please see attached flyer. There is also **a competition to design a birthday card** where prizes can be won! Please ask your child to hand in their entry to the kitchen team, thank you.

Nut Free

It's important to ensure that our school environment is safe and welcoming for all children. One way to do this is by being mindful of the foods we bring to school for lunches and snacks.

We kindly request that all lunches and snacks brought to school be nut-free. This is especially important for students with nut allergies, which can be life-threatening.

By avoiding nuts in lunches and snacks, we can create a safer and more inclusive atmosphere for everyone. Some snacks may not be obvious they contain nuts such as **chocolate spread** – please keep this for a treat at home!



Here are some suggestions for delicious and nut-free lunch options:

- **Sandwiches/Wraps:** Fill them with hummus, vegetables, and your child's favourite protein such as ham, chicken or cheese.
- **Salads:** Pack a variety of fresh vegetables and a light dressing.
- **Leftovers:** Repurpose last night's dinner into a lunchbox-friendly meal.
- **Fruit and vegetable snacks:** Apples, bananas, grapes, carrots, and cucumbers are all great options.
- **Cereal bars:** Make sure these are completely nut-free – those that say “may contain nuts” are still not safe to bring into school.

Some of our children have severe allergies that require them to have an EpiPen at all times. Even if your child isn't allergic to anything, please be considerate to those who are. By following these guidelines, we can help ensure that our school is a safe and welcoming place for all children. Thank you for your cooperation!

Achievements Outside of School

Dariya K and **Amelia F**, both from Y4 Cheetah Class, travelled to Alton Towers with their club Dance Dynamics last weekend to take part in a dance competition.

The girls did 5 dances under different categories for 8 years and under (Jazz, Musical Theatre, Hip Hop, Contemporary and a Quad) and won four 1st places and one 3rd! Their families are so proud of their achievement as are we at Barming! Well done girls! 😊

If you would like to share your child's achievement in our school newsletter, please email the school office@barming.sch.uk we would love to see what t they have been up to!



Nurture Competition



Term 1 Nurture Principle: **School is a Safe Space**

Barming Primary is a place where we celebrate diversity. A place where everyone feels safe and secure to be themselves and to be accepted for who they are as an individual.

This terms **nurture competition** is to design or describe your own safe space at school. You can work independently or with a friend. The deadline for this competition is **18th October**. Please make sure your name and class are on you

work and hand your entry to your class teacher. Mrs Selfe will choose some winning entrants to join her for a small **Halloween party** in the hut on the last day of term. Please drop your entry into the school office, thank you.

Mrs Darby



As you may know, Mrs. Darby, our dedicated Family Support Worker, is undergoing an operation this week. We wish her all the best during this time and hope for a swift and successful recovery.

Mrs. Darby's absence will undoubtedly be felt by all, but we know she will be back to her usual self in no time. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation during this time.

Online Safety: The Digital World & VR

With the growing popularity of virtual reality (VR) headsets, children are immersing themselves in new and exciting digital experiences. While VR can offer educational and entertainment benefits, it's crucial to understand the potential risks and take necessary precautions to ensure your child's online safety.



Key Safety Concerns:

- **Cyberbullying:** VR environments can provide anonymous platforms for bullying behaviour.
- **Inappropriate Content:** Children may encounter age-inappropriate content or harassment.
- **Physical Safety:** VR can lead to physical injuries if not used responsibly.

Tips for Parents:

1. **Set Clear Boundaries:** Establish rules regarding the time spent using VR headsets and the types of content allowed.
2. **Monitor Online Activity:** Regularly check your child's VR history and discuss their experiences.

3. **Educate About Online Etiquette:** Teach your child about respectful online behaviour and the consequences of harmful actions.
4. **Choose Age-Appropriate Content:** Ensure that the VR games and apps are suitable for your child's age.
5. **Supervise VR Sessions:** Keep an eye on your child while they are using the VR headset to prevent accidents.
6. **Discuss Privacy Settings:** Explain the importance of privacy settings and how to protect personal information.
7. **Encourage Open Communication:** Create a safe space for your child to discuss any concerns or uncomfortable experiences.

Additional Resources:

- **Common Sense Media:** <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>
- **Internet Watch Foundation:** <https://www.iwf.org.uk/>

By following these guidelines and staying informed about the latest online safety trends, you can help your child enjoy the benefits of VR while minimizing the risks.

Golden Duster Award



The children and staff have been in competition to see who can have the cleanest classroom!

At the end of each week **Mr Roberts** (Caretaker) will award the tidiest and most sparkling classroom with the Golden Duster Award!



This week's winners are...Cheetah Class! Well done!



House Points

Well done to all the children that have worked so hard to win House Points this week!

House Points this week

Yellow = St Margaret's	623
Red = Bermelie	805
Blue = Kettle Bridge	679
Green = Oaken Wood	680

Barming Primary School PTA

**** HELP NEEDED ** Fireworks 2024 – 8th November 2024**

Preparations have begun for this year's Barming Primary School PTA Fireworks Display! This year's display is on Friday 8th November 2024 (15th November 2024 as reserve date in case of bad weather).



We cannot run such a major event without the help of our amazing volunteers. As we welcome over 1000 people through the gates, we need all the help we can get! This event takes months to organise, and the team has been working on it since July.

If we don't have enough volunteers, we will have to scale back the event considerably, therefore, we want to reach out now and ask for your help. There are plenty of jobs, some during the day when we set up, some during the event itself and some post event to help tidy up.



Please use the link below or scan the QR code to sign up.

More details will follow closer to the time but in order for us to know what we can offer; we need to know what help we have. It's worth noting that **by volunteering, you will not miss out on seeing the display**. All trade stops during the show.

Thank you! 😊 <https://bit.ly/BarmingFireworks2024>

DISCO TICKETS ON SALE

bit.ly/BarmingPTA

Disco will be held on Friday, 4th October.



As its early in the term, year R will not be included on this occasion, as its too overwhelming for them. They will have a small disco in their classrooms during the school day instead. The PTA will provide sweets.

Deadline for buying tickets is Wednesday 2nd October – NO LATE BOOKERS.

It was great to see some new faces in our AGM last week.

A new committee has been elected for the 2024/2025 academic year as well as year reps:

Chair – Charlotte Newman

Vice Chair – Charney Bromley

Secretary – Caroline Barton

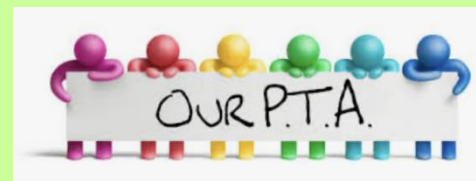
Treasurer – Rob Bushell

Events co-ordinator – Charney Bromley and Caroline Barton

Catering – Caroline Morgan

Uniform – Diane Barton and Caroline Barton

Marketing – Caroline Barton



Year Reps:

Pre School – Danielle Goodfellow **Year R** – Jamie leigh Mace **Year 1** – Caroline Morgan

Year 2 – Caroline Barton

Year 3 – Lorraine Bromley **Year 4/5** – Marie Albrow

Year 6 – Sophie Browning

You can get in touch via our email address below... 😊

barmingschoolpta@hotmail.co.uk | <https://www.facebook.com/barmingschoolpta>



Pupils of the Week

Year Group	Class	
1	Hedgehog: Mrs Murray	Olivia D
	Squirrel: Mrs Catmull & Mrs Hooker	Nick M
2	Penguin: Mrs Coleman	Dollie-Rose B
	Flamingo: Miss Histed & Mrs Visscher	Ivy G
3	Husky: Mrs Dyer & Mrs Paton	Archie S
	Wolf: Mr Edwards	Edijs A
4	Jaguar: Mr Baker	Evan M
	Cheetah: Mrs Robinson & Mrs Davis	Rejoice O
5	Panda: Mrs Rathbone	Gus H
	Hippopotamus: Mrs Wade & Mrs Stere	Aaliya C
6	Giraffe: Miss Russell	Neriah G
	Elephant: Mr Morgan	Magdalena G V



Key Stage 1 Numbots Champions of the week

Year Group	Class	
1	Hedgehog: Mrs Murray	Raina E
	Squirrel: Mrs Catmull & Mrs Hooker	Edward H
2	Penguin: Mrs Coleman	Somto O
	Flamingo: Miss Histed & Mrs Visscher	Cameron N



Key Stage 2 Times Tables Rockstars Champions of the week

Year Group	Class	
3	Husky: Mrs Dyer & Mrs Paton	Aaron S
	Wolf: Mr Edwards	William S
4	Jaguar: Mr Baker	Joshua B
	Cheetah: Mrs Robinson & Mrs Davis	Chris D
5	Panda: Mrs Rathbone	Maxwell W
	Hippopotamus: Mrs Wade & Mrs Stere	Aaliya C
6	Giraffe: Miss Russell	Lorelei T
	Elephant: Mr Morgan	Frankie Y



Attendance Ted Award

Squirrel Class



Punctuality Pup Award

Elephant Class



Active Award

Kanzi Class



Active Award

Discovery Class



Coming Up...

Dates to remember:

Term One:

Tuesday 3rd September 2024 to Friday 25th October 2024

- **INSET One: Monday 2nd September** (Closed for children – Staff in)
- **Tuesday 3rd September and Wednesday 4th September:** Parent Meetings for New Entrants Parents.
- **Wednesday 4th September:** Year 1 and Year 2 'Meet the Teacher' (3.30pm to 4pm)
- **Wednesday 4th September:** Year 3 and Year 4 'Meet the Teacher' (4pm to 4.30pm)
- **Thursday 5th September:** Year 5 and Year 6 'Meet the Teacher' (3.30pm to 4pm)
- **Friday 13th September:** Reception children start full time.
- **Monday 23rd September:** Harvest Assembly for children by Rev Wil North
- **Wednesday 16th October:** Read Write Inc (Phonics) Meeting for EYFS Parents
- **Monday 21st October to Wednesday 23rd October:** Year 6 Residential
- **Year 5 Class Assemblies Thursday 24th October First Class 9am and Second Class 2.45pm 15 mins max**

Term Two:

Monday 4th November 2024 to Friday 20th December 2024

- **INSET Two: Friday 29th November 2024**
- **Wednesday 6th November:** New Entrant Tours 9.30am to 11am
- **Wednesday 13th November:** New Entrant Tours 9.30am to 11am
- **Tuesday 12th November:** Parent Consultations - 3.30pm to 5.30pm (Early)
- **Thursday 14th November:** Parent Consultations - 3.30pm to 7.30pm (Including half hour teacher break - Late)
- **EYFS Christmas Production:**
- **Wednesday 4th December 9.30am:** Production 1, 2.15pm: Production 2 (Two tickets per family)
- **Pre-School Christmas Songs: Thursday 5th December:** 9.30am
- **Thursday 12th and Friday 13th December:** Year 1 School Trip
- **Monday 16th December:** Year 1 Christmas Activity Afternoon with Christmas Songs – Parents/Carers invited 1.30pm to 3pm
- **Tuesday 17th December:** Year 2 Christmas Activity Afternoon with Christmas Songs – Parents/Carers invited 1.30pm to 3pm
- **Wednesday 18th December:** Year 3 and 4 Carols on the playground 3pm (Top playground)
- **Wednesday 18th December:** Christmas Lunch for the children in school
- **Thursday 19th December:** Year 5 and 6 Carols on the playground 3pm (Top playground)
- **Thursday 19th December:** Christmas Jumper Day
- **Thursday 19th December:** EYFS/Year 1/Year 2 Christmas Activity Morning
- **Friday 20th December:** Class Parties – Afternoon – No change of clothes needed.

INSET Days 2024 to 2025:

- **INSET 1:** Monday 2nd September 2024: Trust Inset
- **INSET 2:** Friday 29th November 2024: Closed
- **INSET 3:** Friday 28th February 2025: Trust Inset
- **INSET 4:** Monday 21st July 2025: Trust Inset
- **INSET 5:** Tuesday 22nd July 2025: Closed

Have a great weekend,

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Laker', written in a cursive style.

Mr Laker
Headteacher