



WE INSPIRE, CHERISH AND BELIEVE
IN EACH PERSON THAT THEY MIGHT FLOURISH
AND FULFIL THEIR POTENTIAL

Welcome Back and Happy New Year



Happy New Year!

Welcome back to the Spring Term of 2024
It has been wonderful to have the building filled
with children's voices and laughter!

We know that getting back into a routine can be
tricky sometimes, please do not worry if your child
seems very tired after two days back at school.
This is completely normal and over the next week
or two their stamina will increase!

We have been busy planning some irresistible
learning adventures for 2024 and cannot wait to
share these with you over the coming weeks and
months!

Attendance Matters

We have so many things planned for the Spring Term
and would not want any child to miss out!

Teachers carefully plan for teaching and learning, if children are not in school,
it is difficult to go back on the learning from the day(s) they were absent; the rich
discussions and practical demonstrations often cannot be recreated.

Please ensure that your child attends school each and every day to give them the
best chance to flourish and thrive in all areas of development.

If you are experiencing any difficulties with getting your child to school, please just speak to
one of the team and support you.



Kings Day - Epiphany

We really enjoyed celebrating Kings Day at Barnham on Friday. Kings Day is also called Epiphany in the Church or some know it as 12th Night. Well done for your creative crown designs!

Some of our children from Badger Class dressed up as Kings and they followed the star to each classroom and delivered gifts of chocolate coins in the children's shoes!

In many countries in Europe, it is common for the children to get money or small gifts in their shoes to celebrate Kings Day. In France, they even have a special cake called The Galette des Rois or the King's Cake. This is traditionally eaten on the 6th January each year to celebrate the Kings visiting baby Jesus. The Galette des Rois comes from the Roman tradition where the Romans would choose a slave to be King for the day. The cake was baked with a lucky charm inside and whoever finds the charm gets to be King or Queen for the day!

There are so many lovely customs and traditions for this day celebrated all around the world. Traditions don't always involve children's songs, home-made crowns or chocolate coins but ice swimming. Would you fancy that in January? Russian Orthodox Christians believe that on this day, water becomes holy and is imbued with special powers. So they cut holes in the ice of lakes and rivers, often in the shape of the cross, and bathe in the freezing water. Brrr!

We had a short Collective Worship at the church to celebrate with joyful singing and readings. Thanks to Vicar Cat for sharing with us.



Contextual Safeguarding

With the busyness of Christmas and Advent, we didn't share our Contextual Safeguarding Focus for December with you on our newsletter.

There are some important messages here especially if we experience colder weather over the coming months.

Please do talk to your child about staying safe around frozen water. With recent storms this week, it might be worth talking to them about how to stay safe by avoiding flooded areas too.



Contextual Safeguarding

It's getting colder now and sometimes it is even frosty and the ground can be very slippery. How can you stay safe and keep others safe?

If the paths you walk on become icy, walk like a penguin, the image below explains.

Is it safe to walk on frozen water? How about skating on a frozen river or lake?

No!

Stick to ice skating at an official ice rink.

STAY SAFE

STAY OFF THE ICE



Stay Safe On Ice, Walk Like A Penguin

HOW TO WALK ON ICE

- 1. Normally, when we walk, our legs ability to support our weight is split into circles.
- 2. Walking this way on ice forces each leg to support the weight of the body at an angle that is not perpendicular to the surface of the ice, resulting in a wobbly fall.
- 3. To walk on ice, keep your center of gravity over your front leg.
- 4. One animal that has figured this out is a penguin. Think of yourself as a penguin and you'll be all right.

Talk to a trusted adult if you have any worries.

Monthly Focus - December 2023

Our focus for January will be around the NSPCC Project PANTS and speaking out to stay safe. We will share our poster with you later in the month. But do visit the NSPCC website for some excellent resources to help you keep your child safe.



SIMPLE CONVERSATIONS TO KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE FROM ABUSE

LEARN THE UNDERWEAR RULE

PANTS

TALK PANTS AND YOU'VE GOT IT COVERED!

NSPCC
Credibility in children's work since 1985

Shopping at Tesco?

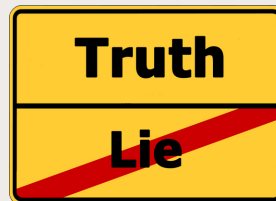
If you are shopping in Tesco Thetford, both the big store and Tesco Express, please pop your blue voting token in the blue box! Please let your friends and family know!

We are hoping get our project: Eat, Play and Thrive on the ground!

This will allow us to have a little lunchbox top up station for the days when the banana has been squished or the sandwich has fallen on the floor! We are also looking to extend the resources for children to play with outside at playtimes and lunchtimes!



Our Value is Truth



Our new value this half term is going to be Truth.
We will launch this with the children during Collective Worship on Monday.
We have a new gathering greeting to welcome children to Collective Worship:

Call: The bible tells us,
Response: **Jesus is the way, the truth and the life.**

Our dismissal at the end of Collective Worship will be:

Call: Help us to hold onto the truth,
Response: **the truth will set us free.**

These are some of the BIG QUESTIONS that we will think about whilst learning about this value:

- What does truth mean?
- Sometimes we are tempted to lie to get out of trouble or make ourselves look better. Why is it important to tell the truth?
- How do you feel when somebody lies to you? Is it important to always tell the truth?
- When do you have the opportunity to listen to each other's points of view and how do you learn from this?
- Who helps you decide what is right and wrong?
- When some Christians find it difficult to make a decision, they ask themselves the question "What would Jesus do?". Why do you think this is helpful for them?

Our Truth Bible Verse - John 8 v 31-32:

Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching; you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free."

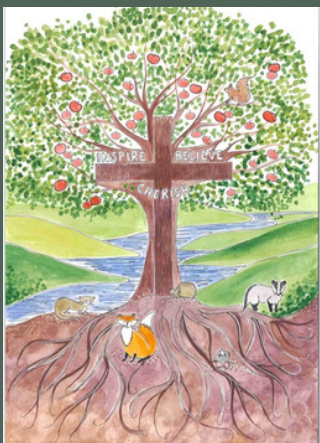


Lunch Menu for Next Week

Monday 8th January	Tuesday 9th January	Wednesday 10th January	Thursday 11th January	Friday 12th January
Meatballs & Pasta	Chicken Curry & Rice	Mac & Cheese or Tuna Pasta	Sausage Roast and Seasonal Veg or Quorn Fillet	Fish Fingers, Chips and Beans / Veg
Rice Krispy Cake	Shortbread	Fruit Jelly	Chocolate Mousse	Jam Sponge & Custard

Diary Dates

Friday 12th January 2024 - Barnham Bunnies restarts!
Monday 19th - Friday 23rd February 2024 - HALF TERM
Thursday 28th March 2024 - Last Day
Friday 29th March - Thursday 11th April 2024 Easter Holidays
Friday 12th April - PD Day
Monday 15th April - Children return to school



OUR SCHOOL BIBLE VERSES:

"But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord,
whose confidence is in him.
They will be like a tree planted by the water
that sends out its roots by the stream.
It does not fear when heat comes;
its leaves are always green.
It has no worries in a year of drought
and never fails to bear fruit."
Jeremiah 17:7-8

Jesus said 'I am the vine; you
are the branches.
Those who abide in my and I in
them, will bear much fruit.'
John 15:5

