

BARNHAM CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL

12th September 2025
Newsletter 2



We Inspire, Cherish and Believe
in each person that they might flourish
and fulfil their potential

Our New Thrive Hive



We are pleased to share with you a brand new initiative: our internal alternative provision, called Thrive Hive.

We recognise that some children benefit from a more personalised and nurturing approach to support their emotional and social development. While external alternative provision can be helpful, it often comes with financial challenges and can unintentionally affect a child's sense of belonging when they are away from their school environment.

Thrive Hive is designed to offer a supportive, structured space within our school community—so children receive the help they need without missing out on the connection and continuity of daily school life.

It has been a really successful first week in Thrive Hive and we have had some really positive feedback from the children involved in this!

A huge thanks to Rhonda and Catherine for leading this exciting new initiative, we are excited to hear of future successes and all the adventures that the children enjoy over the coming weeks and months.

If your child will attend Thrive Hive, you will have a letter about this giving you all the information you will need.

We originally said that children could come to school in Forest School clothes on the days they attend Thrive Hive but recognise that some may prefer to wear school uniform and then change ahead of their afternoon at Thrive Hive. They are welcome to do whatever they feel most comfortable with.



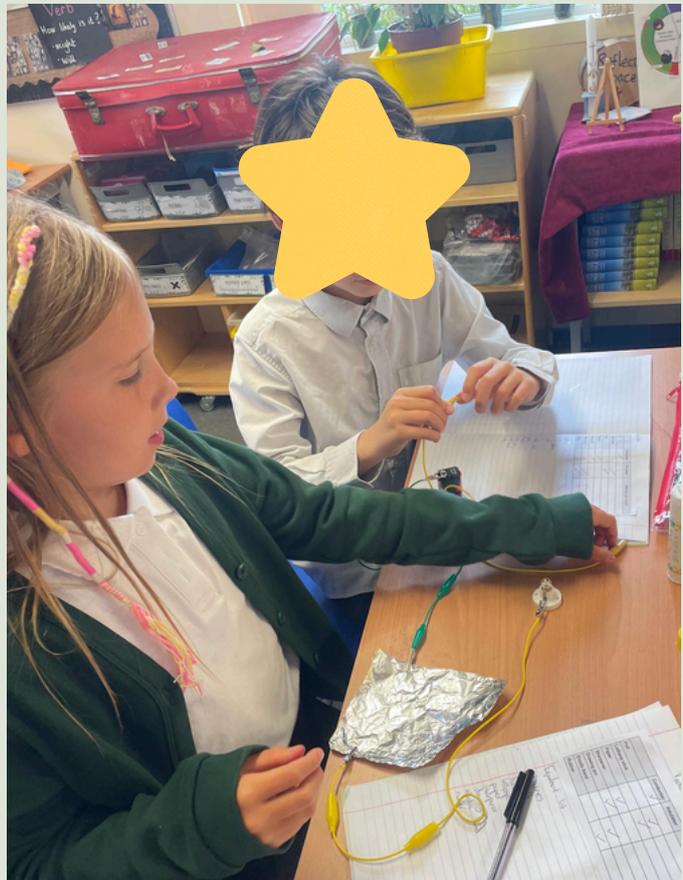
News from Otter Class

Otter Class have made an excellent start to the school year. From the very first day, the classroom has had a calm, thoughtful and hardworking atmosphere, and all of the staff have been really impressed with how quickly the children have settled into their new routines and responsibilities as the oldest pupils in the school. They are already showing maturity, kindness and determination - a wonderful way to begin Year 6.

Our topic in history this term is World War II, which has already captured the children's imagination. We have been using Google Slides to begin recording and sharing our historical knowledge, and everyone is keen to contribute facts, questions and ideas. This collaborative way of working is helping the children learn from one another and build confidence in presenting their understanding.

In Art, we have been studying self-portraits, looking carefully at how artists represent themselves and experimenting with different techniques to capture our own features and expressions. It has been fantastic to see the children's personalities shining through their work.

In English, our learning has been based on *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan. This beautifully illustrated, wordless book is a silent tribute to migrants, refugees and all those who have made difficult journeys in search of safety or a new life. The children began by investigating a mysterious suitcase that had "arrived" in the classroom; inferring who it might belong to and what its contents revealed about its owner. Since then, they have been thinking carefully about the power of verbs, experimenting with modal verbs, and exploring how language choices can affect the atmosphere of their writing. The work produced so far has been thoughtful and imaginative, with plenty more exciting opportunities to come.



Year 6 enjoyed investigating conductors and insulators in Science.

Otter News Continued...

In Maths, we started the year by using playing cards to recap our place value knowledge and also played games with the cards using our addition and subtraction skills. We have been saying, reading and building numbers all the way up to one million. To bring our learning to life, we used acorns outside to help us represent and build large numbers; a practical and memorable way to understand place value. We also had great fun looking at property listings on Rightmove, where the children discovered just how much some houses in London cost. This activity sparked lots of discussion about numbers in real-life contexts and the value of money.

Looking ahead, we are feeling very excited about our upcoming residential trip. As a class, we have been talking about the challenges it may bring and the opportunities it offers for teamwork, independence and fun. This links perfectly with our core value for the year - resilience. Already, the children have been reflecting on what resilience means to them and how they can develop it in the classroom, on the playground and beyond.

It has been a brilliant start to the year for Otter Class. With such enthusiasm for learning, supportive friendships, and a strong sense of responsibility, we know that the year ahead will be full of achievement and success.

National Teddy Bear Day

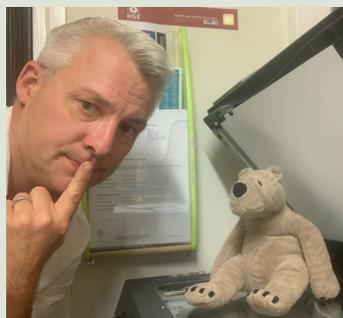


Did you know that 9th September every year is National Teddy Bear Day?

We celebrated this in school on Tuesday with lots of BEAR themed reading and writing with an extra special Collective Worship which had us all joining in with Michael Rosen's classic 'We're going on a bear hunt!' - this story fits perfectly with our value of resilience.

We have challenged the children to write their own bear stories with a theme of resilience and we hope to share these over the coming days/ weeks- maybe even acting out a few to share with the whole school community!

Some of our staff members enjoyed this special day and brought their teddy bears to help with some work around Barnham School!



Thrive Activity of the week

Grow your own resilience tree!

We've been learning all about resilience in school this week - that means bouncing back when things are tricky and not giving up. Here's an activity you can try at home to keep practising:

1. Draw a big tree with roots, a trunk, and branches.
 2. In the roots, write or draw your strengths - things you are good at or proud of.
 3. In the trunk, add some challenges you've faced or things that sometimes feel tricky.
 4. On the branches, write or draw ideas that can help you bounce back (like keep trying, take a breath, ask for help).
 5. Colour and decorate your tree - make it as bright and strong as you are!
- Your Resilience Tree will remind you that you already have strong roots and you can keep on growing - even when the wind blows.

We would love to see your pictures so please send them in to Catherine at cstocking@barnham.org

We might even pop some up on our prayer space which we are looking to develop next week!



Messages from FOBS

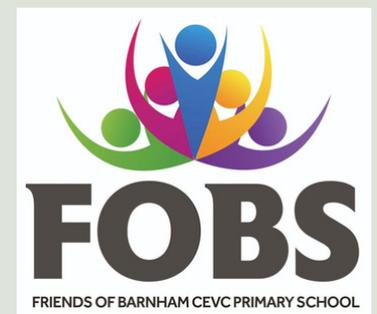
Don't forget that FOBS have their first meeting TONIGHT, Friday 12th September at 7pm - The Warrener, Thetford.

They will be discussing this year's calendar of ideas, so please come along and share any ideas you have so that we can plan for another successful year of fundraising for our wonderful school.

The FOBS AGM will be held on Tuesday 7th October in the evening. A zoom link will be sent out nearer the time.

FOBS have their own instagram for you to follow - [@friendsofbarnham](https://www.instagram.com/friendsofbarnham)

Their e mail address is ptabarnham@gmail.com



Finally, please save the date - they are planning our Autumn School Disco for Friday 3rd October- more information will follow soon.

The Return of Wake Up, Shake Up!

Wednesday 24th September is National Fitness Day – to celebrate this, we are going to bring back an old favourite ‘Wake Up, Shake Up’ at 8:40am on the front playground!

We will see how popular this and may consider trialing bringing it back more frequently. So if you’re keen for this– get ready and show us your enthusiasm! Here’s your week and half warning– plenty of time to warm up.



New Awards at Barnham

We are delighted to introduce two brand-new awards that will be presented in our Friday Celebration Assembly each week. These awards are designed to celebrate the personal growth, determination, and character of our children, linking their achievements to the strength and beauty of trees in nature which fits with our school vision and ethos.

Rooted in Resilience Award

Just like the strong roots of a tree hold it steady through every season, this award recognises children who show determination, perseverance, and strength in the face of challenges.

Whether it’s tackling a tricky piece of learning, showing kindness and consistency in their friendships, or bouncing back when things don’t go their way, this award celebrates the deep resilience that helps our pupils grow.

Branching Out Award

As trees spread their branches wide, reaching towards the light, this award recognises children who show confidence in trying something new or stepping beyond their comfort zone. It might be taking on a new responsibility, sharing an idea in class, or showing courage in a new situation. This award celebrates the bravery and growth that comes when our children “branch out” and challenge themselves. This may also be given to children who have been positive Change Agents in their class or in the community bringing about positive change for others.

Each week, class teachers will face the tricky—but wonderful—job of choosing one child from their class to receive each of these awards. The children will be presented with their certificates during our Friday Celebration Assembly, where the whole school community can applaud their achievements.

We are so proud of the way our pupils demonstrate resilience every day, and we are excited to see who will be recognised with these special awards each week.

For those of you familiar with ‘Barnham’s Best’ and ‘Citizen of the week’ – these awards will replace these.



Well done to this week's award winners,
we are so very proud of you!



Congratulations to our Super Readers!

In our celebration assembly today, we celebrated all of the children who completed the summer reading challenge at the library over the holidays.

We are so proud of you all and hope that you'll continue to love reading and keep reading all year long! If you didn't get involved, there will hopefully be another chance next summer.



Barnham Bunnies

Barnham Bunnies, our parent and toddler group for 0-4 year olds will begin again next week - 19th September 2025.

There is no need to book- just come along and join the fun. Do let your friends and family know if they have a baby or toddler that they'd like to bring along.

The dates for the Autumn Term will be:

19/09/25, 26/09/25, 03/10/25, 10/10/25, 17/10/25,
7/11/25, 14/11/25, 21/11/25, 28/11/25, 5/12/25

Barnham Bunnies sign in at the office and then meet in the school hall.

Barnham Bunnies will cost £1 per child this academic year- this is so that we can fund some more resources and exciting opportunities for the group in the days ahead! Please tell your friends and let's make this a thriving group again!



Barnham's 'Book-Nic'

We hope to see you all next
Thursday from 2:30pm

Safeguarding Focus - September

**Safeguarding Focus
September**

Is there something on your mind?
Are you worried about something or someone?
Do you feel unsafe?
Are you worried about somebody else's safety?

Please remember you can always talk to your class teacher or any adult in your class.

There are also adults in school who are called 'Safeguarding Leads' and they are also available to talk if you need to.
They are: Mrs Arnold, Miss Bacon & Rhonda

Outside of school, you can talk to a trusted adult or Childline is always available online or on the phone.

Your VOICE MATTERS

0800 11 11
www.childline.org.uk

ChildLine

BARNHAM CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL

You are warmly invited to our



Early Years Open Days



(for prospective families of children starting
school in September 2026)

We would love to show you
around our unique school
environment on:

Thursday 6th November – 9:30am

Friday 7th November – 1:30pm

Monday 10th November – 5:30pm

Please e mail or phone the school office to book
a place.

admin@barnham.suffolk.sch.uk

01842 890253



**We Inspire, Cherish and Believe
in each person that they might flourish
and fulfil their potential**

Please, can you help us?

If you have any spare teaspoons or any other cutlery that you don't want or need anymore- we would be very grateful to receive any donations of some!
Thank you so much!



Our School Amazon Wishlist

"How can I help Barnham School?"

"Is there anything that my company can do to support the school?"

These are questions that we get asked frequently and we are so grateful for the wonderful support we receive from all of the families of Barnham but also the wider community and the companies and businesses that you work for.

We have considered ways to support school that can be really simple and so we have created a wishlist on Amazon. Items can be purchased directly from this list and then delivered to the school. If you do this, please include a gift-note so that we know who we can thank.

Here is a link to our list that we regularly update:

[Amazon Wish List for Barnham School](#)

amazon.co.uk

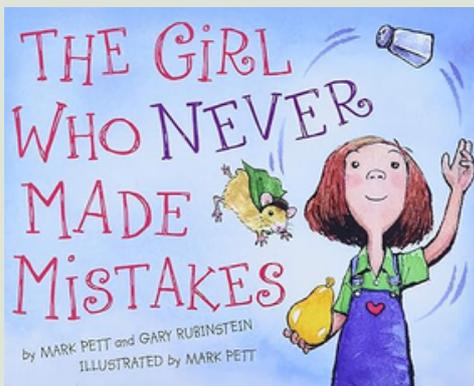
Our Value is Resilience

This week, we've been exploring how mistakes aren't setbacks—they're stepping stones. Every time we try something new, we take a risk, and sometimes things don't go as planned. That's okay. Mistakes help us grow stronger, give us new insights, and remind us that progress comes through effort, not perfection.

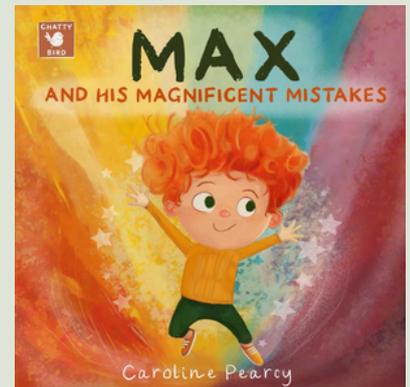
Our big question for you to think about as a family over the week is:

What can we learn from making mistakes?

Do share with your children any examples of mistakes you have made and what did it teach you. It is so important for adults to model to children that making mistakes is OK, it helps us to learn and often make us grow stronger.



There are many amazing books on this theme that we would love to recommend to you! Here are just two suggestions.



We were so thrilled to receive this e mail last weekend:

I read in the newsletter that the school value is resilience, and I'd like to share a story about Charlotte today. We had to walk along the river to find her daddy, and we didn't realise how hard it was. The path was really narrow and full of stinging nettles. It was hard to navigate but we were stuck in it with no turning back, so we had to go forward. It was a long walk too. Charlotte kept on saying to herself, "I have to be resilient, it's a long walk but I have to move forward and be brave". She kept on repeating "remember resilience". She really seems to have really took it on board and it's helping her in real life situations.

Well done Charlotte- we are so proud of you and thanks to your mum for sharing this story with us. Remember we'd love to receive stories and photos of resilience, please e mail them to the school office - admin@barnham.suffolk.sch.uk

Our RESILIENCE Bible Verse -

"I can do all things through Christ because he gives me strength."

Philippians 4 v 13

Lunch Menu for Next Week

Monday 15 th September	Tuesday 16 th September	Wednesday 17 th September	Thursday 18 th September	Friday 19 th September
Pizza, rice and sweetcorn OR Jacket Potato	Meatballs, spaghetti and peas OR Tomato Pasta	Chicken goujons and herby potatoes OR Quorn Fillet	Chicken Roast OR Quorn Fillet	Fish fillet, chips, beans and veg OR Vegi fingers
Ice cream choc pot	Ginger shortbread	Pancakes & ice cream	Ice lolly	Lemon drizzle cake

Please note, our menu is subject to changes and these will be communicated via ParentMail

Diary Dates

Friday 12th September - FOBs First Meeting of the year at The Warrener, 7pm

Wednesday 17th September - Friday 19th September - Year 6 Residential to Grafham Water Centre (more information coming soon!)

Thursday 18th September - Wake Up Shake Up - 8:40am on the front playground

Thursday 18th September - Barnham's Booknic from 2:30pm

Tuesday 7th October - FOBs AGM Meeting

Thursday 16th October - Harvest of the seas afternoon
(more information coming soon)

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

