

BARNHAM CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL

30th January 2026
Newsletter 19



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

Dancing the night away!



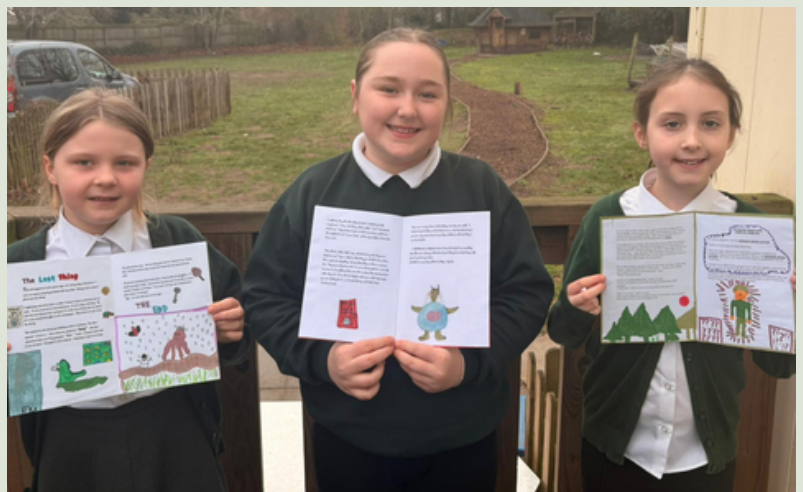
*Thank you so much FOBS
for a wonderful disco!*



Squirrel Class News

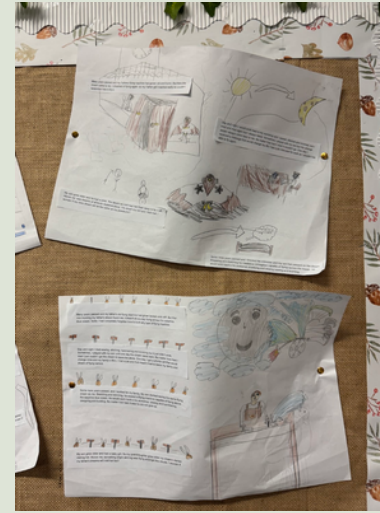
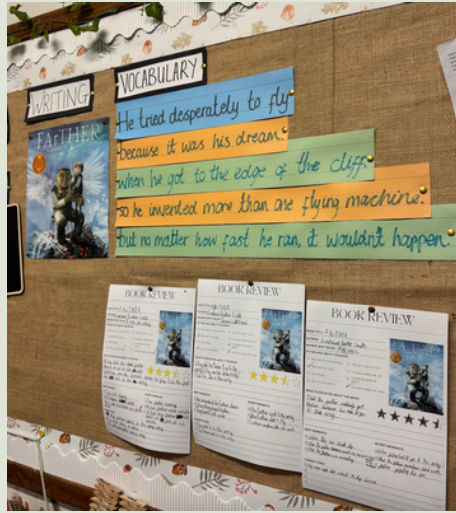
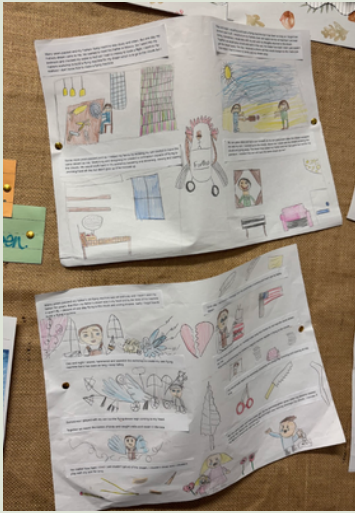
In Squirrel Class, we have been doing some incredible writing this year and have even made our own fabulous books inspired by Shaun Tan's 'The Lost Thing.' We are currently studying 'Ramaysa' by Radiya Hafiza as our writing text..

In maths, we have been mastering long multiplication and short division and have been exploring efficient methods to solve word problems. In ICT, we enjoyed making databases and in PE have been impressing Alex with our amazing gymnastics skills.



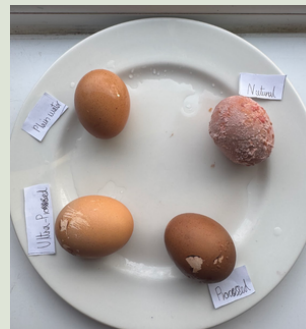
Fox Class News

Fox Class finished reading FAR^TH^ER, where they explored themes of lifelong dreams, family and determination. Inspired by the story, the children designed their own flying machines and wrote imaginative narratives about them, capturing their hopes and dreams of taking flight.

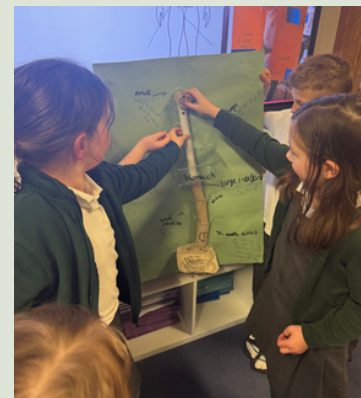
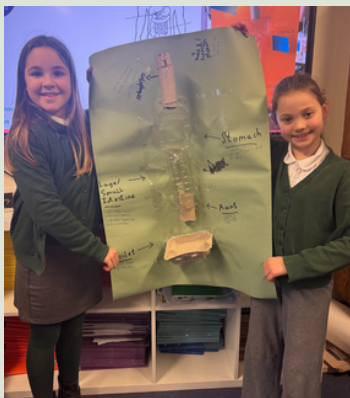


Foxes are currently reading Varjak Paw and are loving every minute of it, although Miss Cross does have a habit of leaving them on cliff-hangers!

In Science, the children have been learning about teeth and the digestive system. They carried out an "egg-periment" (as they enthusiastically named it!) using eggshells to represent teeth, testing the effects of different liquids. It was fascinating to observe the changes over time and helped the children reflect on the importance of choosing water over fizzy drinks.



Building on this, they have been learning about the digestive system and how digestion begins with chewing. Once they had learnt about each stage, the children were challenged to create their own 3D models using recycled materials. The results were fantastic - take a look at their brilliant creations!



In History, Fox Class have been enjoying learning about the Anglo-Saxons. They are very excited to bring their learning together next week by creating an Anglo-Saxon village. A reminder that each child will need to bring in a box no bigger than a shoebox by Monday 2nd to create their own house. Thank you for your support!

Artistic Talent in Otter Class

Otter Class have been exploring the work of British artist Patrick Hughes, who uses clever perspective techniques to create the illusion of depth and distance in his art. Inspired by his work, the children created their own perspective drawings and transformed them into three-colour layered prints. By carefully layering the prints, they were able to achieve a strong sense of depth and distance in their final pieces.



Holocaust Memorial Day & Remembrance



every year, on this day

From history, we learn important lessons
Love is key
Accepting people for who they are
Making the world fairer
Everyone deserves to be safe and loved

These activities are inspired by resources available...



On Tuesday 27th January, we paused in collective worship to reflect and remember Holocaust Memorial Day.

Year 5 led a special prayer and even used their own time during wet play to create memorial candles, which will form a beautiful display on our prayer space in the coming days.

Year 6 wrote their own acrostic poems using the letters of FLAME, reflecting on hope, kindness, and remembering those who suffered. Their poems were very moving and showed how we can all make a difference.

Holocaust Memorial Day is an important time to remember the millions of people who lost their lives and to reflect on the lessons of the past. By remembering, we can help make the world a kinder, fairer place today.

Let's all work together to be a light on this dark day by showing kindness, respect, and care for others.

UV Sports at Thurston



On Tuesday, six pupils from Year 5 and Year 6 took part in an exciting and energetic UV Sports event.

The session began with pupils applying UV face paint, with plenty of whiskers and moustaches on show, setting a fun and lively tone for the afternoon.

Pupils then took part in a range of activities under the UV lights, including running races, rugby passing using a glowing ball and an energetic game of glow tag. The event finished with a large and very enthusiastic game of glowing dodgeball, which was enjoyed by everyone involved.

The event was a fantastic spectacle to watch and provided a fun and active experience for all pupils. Everyone commented on how much they enjoyed the session – as well as how hot and sweaty they felt by the end!

The pupils were an absolute credit to the school, demonstrating excellent enthusiasm, respect and energy throughout the event.

A big thank you to Mrs Shepperson for taking the pupils and supporting them throughout the event.

Supporting Transition

We've noticed that morning drop-off can be really tricky for some of our children and families and we want to work together to try and make this as smooth as possible.

We absolutely recognise that mornings can be a whirlwind—backpacks, breakfast, lost shoes—and for children, they can also be a time of big feelings. Saying goodbye to a parent or caregiver, even for just a few hours, can feel overwhelming, especially for younger children or those who have experienced stress or trauma. One of the simplest and most powerful ways to support your child is by making morning goodbyes predictable, calm, and quick. Children feel safe when they know what to expect. When goodbyes are rushed, prolonged, or uncertain, anxiety can spike—making the start of the day harder for everyone.

Here are some tips to make mornings easier:

1. Keep Goodbyes Brief and Consistent

Create a short, loving routine: a hug, a high-five, a special phrase ("See you soon, superstar!").

Avoid lingering. It may feel counterintuitive, but a quick, confident goodbye helps your child feel secure.

2. Use Scripts

You can say things like:

"I love you. I can't wait to hear about your day."

"I'll be thinking of you while you have fun with your friends."

"You're safe here. I'll see you at pickup."

Notice how these scripts reassure your child, acknowledge feelings, and model confidence in the separation.

3. Limit Urgent or Last-Minute Conversations in the Morning

We understand mornings are busy, but if you need to share information with your child's teacher, it's usually easier—and less stressful for your child—to send an email or note. Urgent messages can be communicated in advance so the teacher can plan without disrupting classroom routines.

If messages are sent via email this means that the adults on the playground can have more time to focus on helping the children separate from their care-givers and escort them into school with extra support if needed.



Supporting Transition Continued...

4. Create Predictability

Children thrive on routines. A consistent morning schedule—waking up, breakfast, getting dressed, leaving for school—helps children know what's coming next, reducing anxiety and power struggles.

5. Model Calm and Confidence

Children pick up on adult emotions. If parents appear rushed or anxious, children can mirror that stress. Showing calm confidence communicates that school is a safe, predictable place.

Remember: Quick, consistent goodbyes are not unloving—they are an act of care. By sending children into the day with reassurance, a clear routine, and a sense of safety, we help them feel secure, capable, and ready to learn. Using visual prompts like the ones here might also help your child or even a social story about coming into school in the mornings.

A Message for Cub Club Families

Cub Club is designed to give children a soft, welcoming, and enjoyable start to their day. Our team loves greeting the children and helping them settle in gently—and we truly appreciate the trust you place in us each morning.

To help Cub Club run safely and smoothly, we're asking for your cooperation with morning transitions. For safety reasons, it's really important that the **office door can remain closed and locked as much as possible.**

If your child is willing, we encourage families to do goodbyes before coming to the door, so children can transition in quickly and confidently. Quick, calm goodbyes help children settle more easily and allow staff to focus fully on welcoming them.

Please refrain from entering the office area and support your child to go through the second door independently and as promptly as possible. This small change makes a big difference in keeping all children and staff safe.

As shared above, if you have a message for staff, the best way to communicate is by email, or by calling the school office later in the day. This helps keep mornings calm, predictable, and focused on the children.

Thank you for working alongside us to keep Cub Club a safe, happy, and nurturing start to the day for everyone. We're so grateful for your support and partnership.

We'd also love to collect some feedback and views on Cub Club so if you wouldn't mind taking a few moments to fill in this questionnaire, please click this link :

<https://forms.gle/AvyWVyr4oy2EcbfX6>



Barnham Burns Night Celebrations



On Monday we enjoyed a fantastic Burns Night assembly, celebrating Scottish culture and traditions. Children bravely sampled Scottish products, learned about Robert Burns, and enjoyed hearing bagpipes played by Laurie, our school counsellor - with some children (and Mr Holman!) even having a go themselves. Miss Anderson also shared her family's Scottish traditions, including Anderson tartan. We finished by singing Auld Lang Syne together - a wonderful experience for all! We have also really enjoyed hearing about children's Scottish heritage in school with two of our children sharing that their Great Grandpa was the man on the Scotts Porridge Oats and their family tartan was called Johnson Tartan. We love learning more about history, heritage, traditions and celebrations at Barnham.



NSPCC Number Day

Don't forget!

We're excited to be taking part in NSPCC Number Day next Friday! It's a fun-filled day of maths-themed activities, games and challenges, all while helping to raise money for a very important cause. Children are invited to dress up in number- or maths-themed outfits - this could be anything from favourite sports shirts with numbers, to homemade number costumes, to something bright and creative!

We also kindly ask families to make a small donation if they are able, to support the fantastic work of the NSPCC in keeping children safe.

Thank you for helping us make Number Day a fun, memorable and meaningful experience for everyone!



Attendance Updates

Regular attendance at school is essential for children's learning, wellbeing and progress. This week, we met with our Education Welfare Officer (EWO), who challenged us to reflect on how we are supporting and encouraging good attendance across our school. Improving attendance is something we can only achieve by working together, and we kindly ask for your support in helping your child attend school every day whenever possible. If you have any worries, concerns, or challenges affecting attendance, please do talk to us – we are always here to listen and to help.

Here are this week's attendance statistics, compared to last week.



Hedgehogs - 93.8% - 95.3% - an improvement, well done!

Moles - 92.2% - 95.3% - an improvement, well done!

Badgers - 95% - 95.7% - an improvement, well done!

Foxes - 92.2% - 91.4%

Squirrels - 96.4% - 93.3%

Otters - 95.8% - 96.8% - an improvement, well done!



Four classes out of six had improved attendance this week, this is a great effort.

Congratulations Otter Class for the best attendance this week!

Can we work together to improve our attendance even further next week?

Our WISH LIST

Please can you help us?

We are looking to enhance our play provisions across the school.

We would love any donations of the following:

Lego/ Duplo

An old typewriter

Old Cable Reels

(anyone got an electrician in the family?)

Potato peelers

Please bring them into school and Miss Anderson will be co-ordinating this exciting project if you have any questions.

If you know any businesses or have any links to companies that might be able to help, we'd love to hear from you!

We know that lots of you have found it much easier to support the school by buying small gifts from our Amazon Wish List, so here's the link for that if you can help in anyway:

[Barnham's Amazon Wishlist](#)

Thank you so much for all the donations that we have received so far!

Safeguarding Notice



Please consider your parking carefully at the village hall for the safety of all children. Children should not be dropped off on the road side or in the car park as this is a huge safety issue. Please park safely before letting your children get out of the car. Please also remember the staff car park is for staff only or anyone with a blue badge.

Our Value is Resilience

This week in Collective Worship, we've been exploring the power of patience. We've talked about how resilience often means learning to wait, especially when challenges last a long time. Waiting isn't easy, but it helps us grow in perseverance, trust, and hope. Through the story of Abraham and Sarah, we reflected on how patience can strengthen faith and remind us that good things often take time. We encouraged pupils to think about moments in their own lives when being patient helps them keep going, even when the outcome isn't immediate.

Here is this week's Big Question to discuss as a family:

*How do we maintain hope
during long waits?*

Patience
is a
VIRTUE

It was lovely to have two visitors this week, Matt Heard and Ruth Winterton. We always love having visitors in school! Thank you so much for coming in this week and sharing stories from the Bible with us. Matt spoke about Moses and Ruth spoke about David.



Picture News

What do you think to this week's big question and news story?
The Football Association (FA) has published a review looking at behaviour in football across England.
Question: **Does how we behave matter as much as how well we play?**

Virtual Picture News: www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



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 2 nd February	Tuesday 3 rd February	Wednesday 4 th February	Thursday 5 th February	Friday 6 th February
Pizza, diced herby potatoes and sweetcorn OR Jacket Potato	Hunters chicken, rice and veg OR Quorn Fillet	Cottage Pie and veg OR Vegi Sausages	Sausage Roast OR Vegi Sausages	Fish fillet, chips and veg or beans OR Vegi Fingers
Chocolate Crunch & Sauce	Strawberry Smoothies	Sprinkled Cake	Jelly & Fruit	Chocolate sprinkled ice cream

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

Diary Dates

Tuesday 3rd February - FOBS AGM

Friday 6th February - NSPCC Number Day "Dress up as digits"

Tuesday 10th February - Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 10th February - Tiny Plays Workshop for Year 5

Wednesday 11th February - Tiny Plays Workshop for Year 6

HALF TERM - Monday 16th - Friday 20th February 2026

Tuesday 24th February - Tiny Plays Workshop for Year 5

Wednesday 25th February - Tiny Plays Workshop for Year 6

Thursday 26th February - Author Visit

Friday 13th March - FOBS Non-Uniform Day

Thursday 19th March - FOBS Easter Bingo

Monday 23rd March - Parents Consultations (from 1:10pm - 6:50pm)

Tuesday 24th March - Year 5 & 6 Tiny Plays visit to Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds

Wednesday 25th March - Year 3 & 4 Performance - 9:30am and 2pm

Thursday 26th March - Church Services - 9:30am and 2pm (Split similarly to Christmas)

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

