

BARNHAM CEVC PRIMARY SCHOOL

8th May 2026
Newsletter 30



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

Celebrating Sir David Attenborough



This newsletter is a bumper edition as this week has been an incredible week of learning adventures at Barnham. We have celebrated our national treasure, Sir David Attenborough in true style and we think he'd be proud of how we've inspired the next generation of planet protectors and change agents who are ready to play their part in changing the world.

The week began with every child being able to write their own message for Sir David in a special birthday card that we posted to him just in time for his special day.

It was really moving to read their messages mostly filled with heartfelt thanks for his dedication and commitment to raising awareness of climate change and for inspiring us all to do better in saving the planet.



We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting all our school events in the lead up to this extra special week.

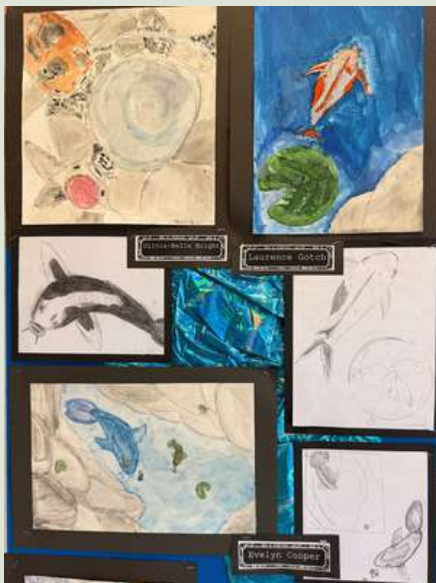
You will understand that a lot of hard work and commitment from our staff has gone into this too and we would like to show our appreciation to them.

Finally, a huge well done to our incredible children for showing enthusiasm, interest and genuine passion as we've journeyed through this week of learning adventures.



*What an wonderful week,
what a wonderful world.*

Art Exhibition



Thank you for visiting and viewing our amazing art work and for donating to our school by supporting this event.

Planet Protector Photo Competition



Thank you so much to everyone who entered our Planet Protector photo competition.

You are all incredible photographers and it has been a joy seeing how you've captured different aspects of nature.

These have been displayed for a while and the children are always talking about them and they have generated so many discussions in school about our beautiful world.



Different members of staff chose 10 photos to be part of a silent auction.

As our visitors came to the art exhibition, they were able to put a secret bid into an envelope as part of a silent auction.

If your secret bid was successful, the school office will give you a call next week and notify you of this so that you can come and collect your new piece of art.



If you purchased a frame at the art exhibitions, these will be available to collect from the school office next week.

Year 6 children will be selling the rest of the nature photos next week alongside the cake raffle, please do purchase one before it's too late.

*Well done to everyone that entered!
Votes will be counted and winners
announced next week!*

Animal Encounters

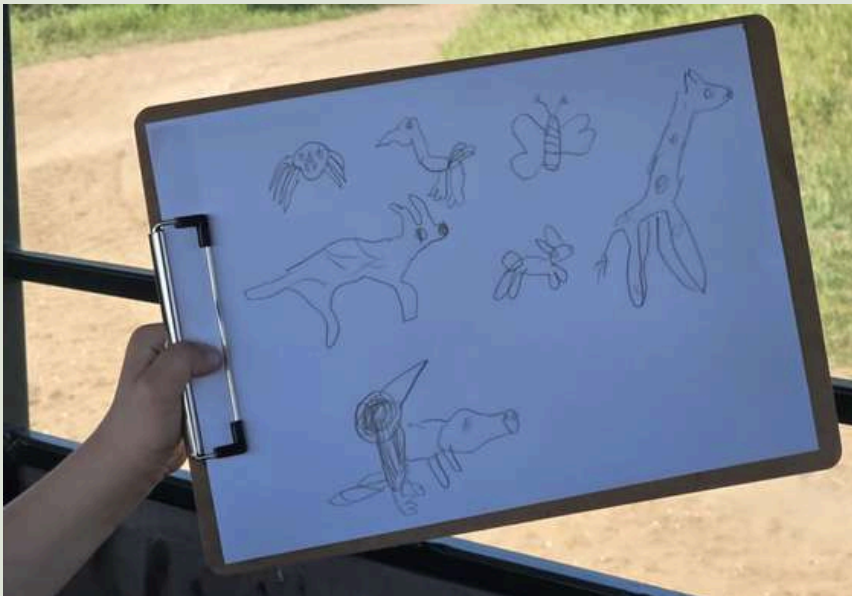


You'll know that we have been fundraising for a while now with a non-uniform day for Earth Day and with numerous cake raffles too. Thank you so much for your support with this because we were able to give every single child hands-on encounters with multiple animals for David Attenborough Day. We were visited by Kayleigh from The Animal Experience (which is near Stretham). She spent the whole day with us at Barnham with: a meerkat, a royal python, a tortoise, a tenrec, a blue-tongued skink and a chinchilla and a lizard! She taught us so much about these animals and shared some really fascinating facts about their habitats and how they should be looked after. We also talked about how it's not always appropriate to keep exotic pets because they can be quite high maintenance so it's often best to leave it to the experts!

The children conquered their fears, showed bravery and courage and truly enjoyed this experience! Thank you Kayleigh and The Animal Experience, we hope you'll be able to come back in the future!

Do visit The Animal Experience website to find out more about their animals and experiences that they offer:

Wildlife Spotting



Our Year 2 children had a special ride across the fields on the tractor and trailer to do some wildlife spotting and sketching. They thoroughly enjoyed this experience and we hope we might have inspired them to slow down, breathe in nature and look closely because sometimes you might see something surprising! Just for transparency, one child sketched a giraffe but do not fear, we can confirm that there are definitely no wild giraffes roaming the fields around our school but we do love a wild imagination- just imagine! Quite often in our busy lives we forget to appreciate the natural world all around us. We believe Sir David would encourage us all to observe and appreciate a little more. Perhaps that should be a challenge for all of us over the weekend?

A huge thank you to Farmer Ollie and Euston Estate for taking us on this extra special journey.

Heidi- The Pony



Megan (mum of Minnie and Rogan) kindly gave up her morning to bring in their pony, Heidi to meet every child in the school!

We were blessed with a beautifully sunny morning and each class in turn went out to spend some time with them and to learn more about horses and ponies. As always, we were impressed with the questions our children asked. We apologise in advance for any children that came home from school asking for a pet pony!

Heidi was truly beautiful and so well-behaved all morning long.

Thank you so much Megan and Heidi for visiting us at Barnham. We hope to see you again one day!

An Afternoon at Forest School for Year 5



It was a truly perfect afternoon for Year 5 to head out to Forest School on David Attenborough Day – and we're certain Sir David himself would have loved to join them!

Blessed with beautiful weather, the children spent the afternoon fully immersed in nature, exploring the outdoors and embracing every moment of their Forest School adventure. From gathering around the fire to cooking delicious garlic flatbreads, the atmosphere was filled with excitement, teamwork and plenty of smiles.

Forest School is always packed with adventure, but it also provides fantastic physical activity. The children enjoyed a long walk across the fields to reach the site (and of course the journey back again!), climbed trees, explored the woodland and breathed in lots of fresh country air along the way. By Friday evening, we suspect there were some very tired children – and perhaps some very grateful parents too! Experiences like these help children build confidence, resilience and a real appreciation for the natural world around them. We are delighted that there will be many more opportunities for Forest School adventures throughout the summer term.

A Video Call to Bruce in Mozambique Africa



We were so privileged to video call Bruce Missing (Uncle of Olivia-Belle and Noah) in Mozambique. Bruce works for Peace Parks Foundation.

We learned all about his incredible job and work in Limpopo National Park as a Counter Poaching Coordinator:

The children were gripped by his engaging presentation.

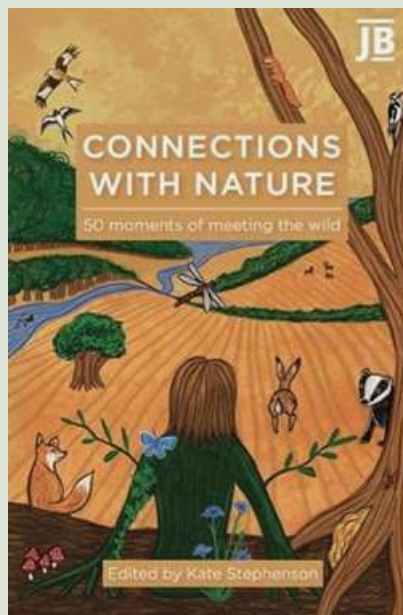
Thank you so much Bruce for inspiring our children to dream big and maybe one day they'll have a green career working and protecting animals in the future. We hope we might be able to hear updates from you again one day. Keep playing your part in saving the animals in our world.



Kate Stephenson- Conservationist Visits Classes



Our grateful thanks also goes to Kate Stephenson who is William and Ada's mum in Badger Class. She came in and talked to the children about her job with National Geographic and as a conservationist, the children were so curious and asked some incredible questions. Kate kindly donated copies of her book so every child in Year 5 and Year 6 has a copy to bring home- Miss Bacon read this over Easter and would thoroughly recommend you all have a read- do borrow it from your Year 5/6 child or read it together.



Tree Planting



As part of our David Attenborough Day celebrations, we continued our commitment to increasing biodiversity across our school grounds and supporting our decarbonisation journey by planting more trees on the back field.

A huge thank you to Fox Class, who worked so enthusiastically to plant the new trees. Inspired by Sir David's passion for protecting the natural world, the children took great care in helping to create greener spaces for wildlife and future generations to enjoy.

These trees will play an important role in improving biodiversity around our school, providing habitats for birds and insects, helping to improve air quality and contributing towards reducing carbon in the atmosphere. It was a fantastic way for the children to make a real and lasting difference to our environment.

We are incredibly proud of the children for embracing the spirit of David Attenborough Day so thoughtfully and positively, and we look forward to watching the trees – and our school environment – flourish in the years ahead.





"The future of the planet is in our hands."

Sir David Attenborough

Our David Attenborough Day has been far more than just a special event in school – it has marked our continued commitment to an important legacy that we hope will continue to grow for many years to come. Throughout the day, the children explored the importance of protecting our planet, caring for wildlife and understanding the small changes we can all make to create a more sustainable future. We hope that the experiences, discussions and activities have inspired our children to become passionate advocates for the environment both in school and beyond.

As part of this legacy, we have now appointed Eco-Warriors in every class, giving pupils an active voice and responsibility in helping to lead positive environmental change across our school community. In addition, every class has adopted a habitat within our school grounds that they are committed to caring for and developing, helping children build a real sense of ownership, responsibility and pride in the natural spaces around them.

Each class has also created its own promise and pledge for planet protection. These pledges reflect the children's determination to make meaningful changes through simple everyday actions – because every small action really can make a difference.

Moving forward, we will continue to use our school Sustainability Action Plan to help guide and focus our journey. In line with the Department for Education's sustainability aims, we are committed to finding new ways to improve biodiversity, reduce waste, support climate action, increase environmental awareness and empower our pupils to become responsible global citizens for the future.

Most importantly, we hope this week has helped to inspire our children to believe that they can make a difference and to cherish the world around them. These values sit at the heart of everything we do, and

David Attenborough Day has been a wonderful opportunity to bring them to life.

There is still lots more to share from the week, so keep your eyes peeled on our social media pages – and let's keep changing the world together, one small action at a time.

Celebrating Sir David Attenborough

Thank you for taking the time to share your feedback about our David Attenborough Day and sustainability activities in school. Your comments help us continue to improve and inspire our children to care for the world around them

[Sign in to Google](#) to save your progress. [Learn more](#)

How much did your child talk about David Attenborough Day at home?

A great deal

Quite a lot

A little bit

Not at all

We would love to gather your views, please click here to complete our short questionnaire.

This will help us plan future events.
<https://forms.gle/5Mc1zMkhQQNB3hnXA>

Thank you for inspiring us

Sir David





Please do continue the conversations at home



We'd love you to continue planet protecting themed conversations with the children at home this week. Here are some big questions you could discuss around the dinner table. We would love to hear about any Change Agent actions your family complete as part of taking responsibility for the world.

Please do share your photos and stories with us to inspire the whole school community. Please email your photos and stories to admin@barnham.suffolk.sch.uk - we'll try and keep sharing these over the next few weeks in the newsletter. Maybe you have a really easy recycling scheme at home, perhaps you go litter picking, maybe you compost all your food waste. We can't wait to hear your stories!

What do you think
the world will be
like when you turn
100 years old?

What does
responsibility
mean?

What can we do at
home and school to
help the planet?

What fascinates
you in nature?

Which places in
the world would
you most like to
visit?

How can we be a
planet protector?



SAVE
the
PLANET



Please can you help us?



We are trying to increase biodiversity in our school grounds. We are looking to install more bird boxes, an owl box, hedgehog homes etc. Are you a woodworker or do you know someone who is? We'd love to have a conversation with you about making some of these to install on the school grounds.

Equally, if you'd like to purchase one of these and 'sponsor a habitat' in our school grounds we would be very grateful.

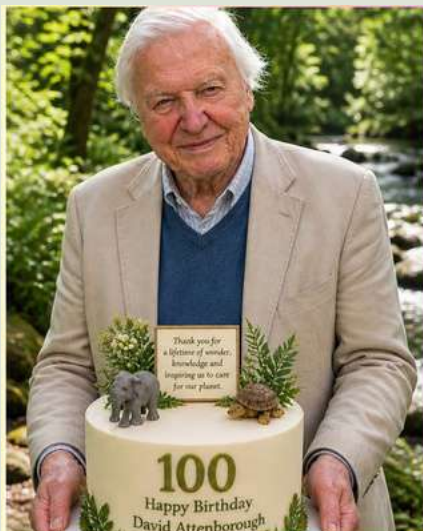
Please speak to us if you might be able to help in anyway.

We would LOVE to hear from you!

Thank you in advance.



Picture News This Week



Story: Sir David Attenborough, a famous naturalist and broadcaster, is celebrating his 100th birthday.

Question: Why do some people become so important to the world?

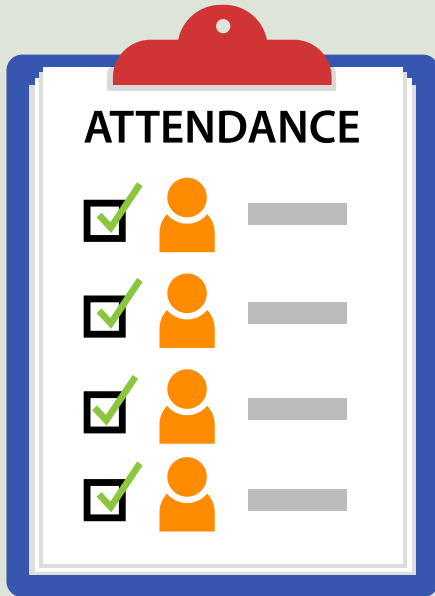
Virtual Picture News: www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

Attendance Updates

Please find below our attendance for this week.

A huge well done to **Hedgehog and Fox Class** for an incredible 99% attendance this week! Can any class make it 100% next week?

HEDGEHOGS	99.6%
MOLES	93.8%
BADGERS	95.5%
FOXES	99.6%
SQUIRRELS	93.2%
OTTERS	92.1%



News from FOBS



Thank you so much for supporting FOBS at our Art Exhibition this week and thank you to the team for providing some refreshments and the amazing cardboard cut out of Sir David Attenborough was a real feature of the day!

Please do continue to sell balls ready for our next big event - The Big Barnham Ball Drop - we are really excited for this new event coming very soon.

We hope to see you all there to end the half term in Barnham style!



Good Luck Year 6



As we approach the upcoming SATs, we want to take a moment to recognise just how incredibly proud we are of our Year 6 pupils. Over the past months, they have shown determination, resilience, and a real commitment to their learning. Their hard work – both in the classroom and at home – has not gone unnoticed.

While SATs are an important milestone, we know they only capture a small part of what makes each child unique and capable. They do not measure creativity, kindness, teamwork, or the many other qualities we see in our pupils every day. What truly matters is the effort they have put in, the progress they have made, and the confidence they are building along the way.

Our Year 6 pupils have approached their preparation with maturity and positivity, supporting one another and rising to challenges with admirable focus. This is something they should all feel very proud of.

We encourage them to do their best, believe in themselves, and remember how far they have come. No matter the outcome, each and every one of them has already achieved so much.

We are very much looking forward to celebrating their hard work once the SATs are over – a well-deserved moment to relax, reflect, and enjoy all they have accomplished.

Good luck, Year 6 – you've got this!

Good Luck
YOU GOT
THIS!

YOU ARE MORE

YOU ARE FUNNY. YOU ARE KIND. YOU ARE INTELLIGENT. YOU ARE A HARD WORKER. YOU ARE SWEET. YOU ARE UNIQUE. YOU ARE A GO-GETTER. YOU ARE GROWING. YOU ARE CARING. YOU ARE LOVABLE. YOU ARE NOT A QUITTER. YOU ARE SUPER. YOU ARE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING YOU SET YOUR MIND TO. YOU ARE LOVED. YOU ARE ABLE TO DO MORE THAN YOU COULD EVER IMAGINE. YOU ARE GOING TO ROCK THIS. YOU ARE AN AMAZING PERSON.

THAN A TEST!



News from Otter Class

Art work in Year 6

Year 6 explored the work of Terry Gilecki and used this as inspiration to create their own expressive water-themed artwork. The focus was on experimenting with texture, colour, and mixed media to recreate the movement and depth of water. Pupils began by painting beautiful Koi fish using watercolours, carefully blending colours to create tonal variation and detail. They explored techniques such as wet-on-wet to allow colours to flow and merge naturally, mimicking the fluid quality of water, as well as more controlled brushwork to define the shapes and patterns of the fish. To depict the water itself, children experimented with a range of creative techniques. They sprinkled salt onto wet paint to produce crystalline textures, added grains of sand for a tactile, rough effect, and used rice to create organic, raised patterns. Wax was also applied in areas to resist the paint, forming highlights and suggesting ripples or reflections on the water's surface. By combining these materials and techniques, the final pieces captured both the movement and texture of an underwater scene.

This artwork was created to celebrate the 100th birthday of David Attenborough, whose work has inspired generations to appreciate and protect the natural world. Through our vibrant water-themed scenes, we honour his lifelong dedication to exploring and sharing the beauty of habitats across our planet.



Musical Opportunities



Val began her music lessons in school this week and the children loved it! Well done for trying something new!

Please do e mail Miss Bacon - rbacone@barnham.org if your child is interested in playing the clarinet, saxophone, keyboard/ piano or recorder.

Val has said that clarinet and saxophone are only suitable for children in Year 4 or above but younger children are welcome to try the keyboard/piano or recorder with her.



Monday 18th May is our next Music Assembly- if your child would like to perform in this assembly- please e mail Miss Bacon so that she can add them to the programme.

Spaces @ Barnham School

If you've got friends or family members who would like to join our Barnham Family, we have limited spaces available **for September** in the following year groups:

Year 4

Year 6

Classes are filling up fast, though, so tell them not to hesitate in making an enquiry at the school office for more information.

Thank you for helping us spread the word



Badger Class Visit

Trinity Park, Ipswich



Our sheep entry earned us a place in the semi-final and won us an exciting day at Trinity Park to learn all about sheep and farming.

We started the day by meeting a sheep farmer who milks sheep. We also met a lady who turns the milk into cheese, and we were lucky enough to taste some ourselves. We even got to meet two sheep and learnt that sheep only have two teats on their udders. Next, we met some people from CLAAS who taught us all about the machinery needed to make bedding and food for sheep. We got to see a combine harvester up close. It was HUGE!

After that, we met a shepherdess who told us all about how she cares for her sheep. She explained that her crook and sheepdog are the most important tools for a shepherd. We also learnt about different breeds of sheep and discovered that eight breeds are on the critically endangered list.

After lunch, we made our own gnocchi by rolling out the dough and cutting it into small pieces. The chef then boiled it and cooked it in a delicious cheese sauce using the sheep cheese we had tasted earlier.

Our final workshop was all about wool. We learnt how wool is spun and even had a go ourselves. We discovered that moths love to eat wool and then tried weaving. We enjoyed it so much that we did not want to stop! We are already planning to do more weaving back at school.

It was a fantastic day filled with fun, learning, and lots of new experiences.



Pyjama Day - 5th June

Last week, Olivia in Badger Class shared the story of her brave best friend, Aubrey. Diagnosed with a rare brain tumour at just 2 years old, Aubrey showed incredible strength and resilience throughout her journey. Remembered for her love of purple, lions, and her joyful spirit, she remains deeply missed.

In her memory, Olivia is raising money for Abbie's Army, a charity supporting children with DIPG. We're very proud of Olivia for wanting to make a difference.

We will be holding a charity Pyjama Day on Friday 5th June to support this cause.

Olivia would like to invite everyone to wear their pyjama's to school on this day for a donation for Abbie's Army in their support of children with DIPG. If your child doesn't want to wear their pyjama's maybe they could wear something purple or lion themed to show their support instead.

Please support Olivia in her fundraising mission and give generously.



Cake Raffle News!

Thank you so much to Ava, Skyla and Lottie's Mum for making this week's offering for the cake raffle!

All the names went into the 'Lucky wheel' and in Collective Worship, we announced the winner!

Well done to **Harley Frost** for winning the raffle!

We've had a couple more volunteers so can continue the cake raffle until half term.

Please speak to Miss Bacon if you can help with further weeks after the half term holiday or e mail her at - rbacon@barnham.org

Our cake raffles bring in around £30-£40 each week which makes a huge difference to providing resources for our children in school. The children also love the excitement of announcing the winner each week.

Please help us if you can!

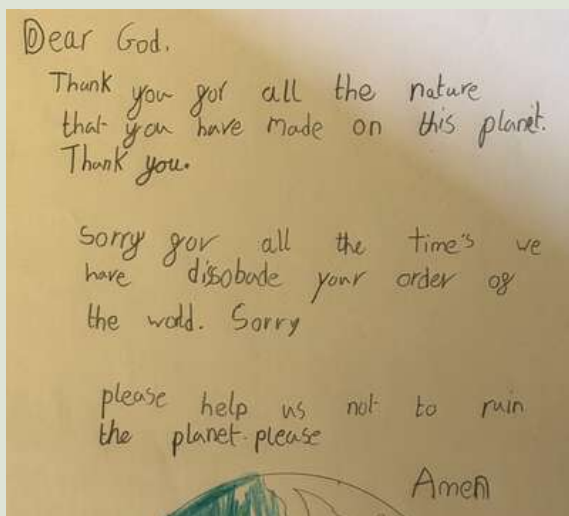
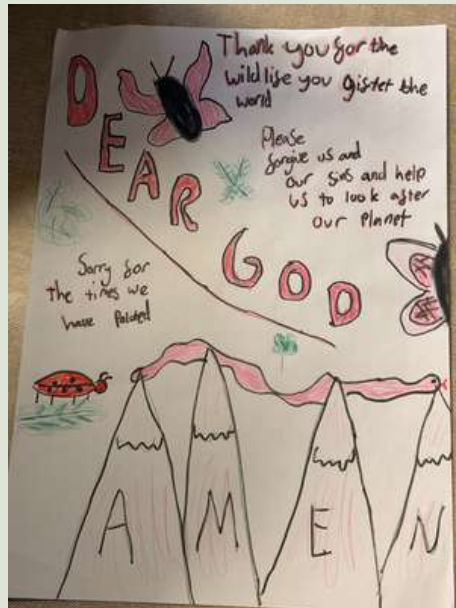


Our Value is Resilience

We are grateful for Steph Williams for visiting Collective Worship on Tuesday this week, she reminded us of the importance of being thankful. This was a really great choice of subject as we have reflected on so many things to be thankful for in the natural world this week.

As we continue to focus on our value of resilience, this week it feels appropriate to share some of our prayers for our planet after the theme of this week.

We are encouraging our children to be resilient in their mission to be Change Agents and Planet Protectors.



Prayers for our planet

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 18 th May	Tuesday 19 th May	Wednesday 20 th May	Thursday 21 st May	Friday 22 nd May
Mac and cheese Or Loaded your way jackets Marble cake slice	Meat balls and pasta Or Tomato pasta Chocolate drip rice Krispie cake	Sweet and sour chicken with rice and veg Or Quorn chicken Jelly and Fruit	Sausage roast & Fresh vegetables Or Quorn sausage Ice Lolly	Fish & Chips with beans or veg Or Veggi fingers Chocolate ice-cream pot

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

Diary Dates

Monday 18th May - Music Extravaganza Assembly
 Friday 22nd May - The BIG Barnham Ball Drop - FOBS Event 3:15- 4pm
Half Term - Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May
 Monday 1st June - Thursday 4th June - Bikeability for Year 6
Friday 5th June - Charity Pyjama Day
 Monday 8th June - Class Photo Day
 Thursday 11th June - Monster Kickabout - Special Football Themed Day in School
 Monday 22nd June - Sports Day (Reserve incase of bad weather- Monday 13th July)
 Tuesday 23rd June - Year 4 Concert @ The Apex
 Monday 29th June - Friday 3rd July - Vision & Values Week
 Thursday 2nd July - Crucial Crew Trip for Year 6
 Friday 3rd July - KidsFest 2026
 Tuesday 14th July - Year 5 & 6 Pantomime - 2pm and 6pm Performances

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

