

Team Bartons



Bartons Primary School

Newsletter 15

12th May 2017

This week has been another busy one with excellent learning taking place all over the school. On Wednesday the children in Years 3, 4 and 5 enjoyed some science workshops with Dr Gareth Francis from the Working Science group. He explored the science of forces with the children and it was very exciting. I hope that the children were able to tell you all about it. Thank you Mr Hayne for organising such an interesting day. Who knows; the workshops may have inspired some of the next generation of scientists. Please keep an eye out for photographs on the school website.

Maths Workshop for Parents



Please don't forget that there will be a Maths Workshop for parents to show you and to explain to you our teaching and learning approach to Maths. Since January, we have been using the Numicon Maths teaching approach which supports learning by giving children a range of concrete resources to use to explore their reasoning and problem solving skills. Please save the date; it is **Monday 22nd May starting at 2.30pm**. Please do come along as I'm sure you will find it invaluable in learning about the curriculum expectations, learning approaches and how you can support your child in Maths. We look forward to seeing you there.

INSET Days

There are two more INSET days this term where the school will be closed for pupils. These are: **Monday 5th June and Friday 7th July**. These days are for staff training and all schools have them. I hope to be able to let you know next years five INSET days shortly so that you can plan accordingly. There were some comments made in the recent questionnaire about the timing of the INSET days. In my previous schools, I have always spread them out over the year and have tagged them onto school holidays so that parents have a bit of flexibility in getting away at the cheaper times. They are also linked to specific work that the staff have to do and so some dates are impossible to move. I hope to have them for you as soon as possible.

Attendance Cup



Congratulations to Ash class who won the Attendance Cup this week with 100%. In the hall we now have a 'Team Bartons' display board that will show the winners of the Attendance Cup each week and the totals of the house points for each House.

Fidget Spinners



Over the last few weeks, many of the children have been bringing fidget spinners into school. If you haven't seen them, these toys have quickly become a national craze and are very popular with children. As is the case with these crazes, they have now become the centre of arguments and irritation between the children especially at playtimes. For this reason, we have told the children that these toys should now **not** come into school and should be enjoyed and kept at home. Any fidget spinners brought into school will be taken off the children for safe keeping and then returned at the end of the day. Thank you, in advance, for your support.

Music at Bartons



When I first arrived at Bartons, one of the areas that I wanted to grow and improve was the creative side of learning so that all children could have and experience a range of different opportunities. Last term, I was approached by the West Sussex Music Service to take part in a pilot Music teaching scheme. Naturally, we jumped at the chance and this week, Beech class have begun working with Judith Finlay from the Music Service on a specialist music programme. The children really enjoyed it and we are looking forward to seeing what they will explore over the term. In September, we hope to work with the Music Service again to take part in 'The Key to Music' scheme which again involves a specialist music teacher teaching KS2 children a musical instrument or instruments. Of course, we are fortunate to have Mr Parsons who is an expert Music teacher and he will be working more widely across the school next year with classes. All of this expertise, together with our musical productions will give our children more opportunities to explore their creative sides and further develop their love of music and the arts. I am also looking at developing sports so watch this space for further updates.

Have a great weekend! Kate Powell