

St Barnabas CE Primary School Newsletter

13/02/2026



'Let your light shine'

With World Book Day coming up on 4th March, I thought it was a good time to reflect on the importance of reading. When children read regularly, they're not just learning how to recognise words on a page, they are increasing their vocabulary, improving their spelling, and developing a stronger understanding of how language works. This supports learning across all subjects; from understanding a maths questions to exploring science and history. Reading stories helps children grow their own imagination and creativity. They can travel to new worlds, meet different characters, and experience situations they might never encounter in real life. This helps develop empathy and builds emotional awareness. Reading also strengthens concentration and memory. Sitting with a book, following a storyline, and remembering details all help train the brain to focus; a skill that benefits children in every area of learning. Most importantly, reading can just be a nice way to relax and unwind. Children who see reading as enjoyable not just 'school work' are more likely to become lifelong readers, which is what we would love all of our children to be.

Have a lovely half term break everyone and if you can, take the time to pick up a good book. We look forward to seeing you back at school on Monday 23rd February.

Miss Hodgkinson

HERE ARE SOME OF THE WAYS OUR AMAZING CHILDREN HAVE **'LET THEIR LIGHT SHINE'** THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL...



Parent Workshop

Want to know how to keep your children safe online? On Monday 23rd February we are holding an informal parent workshop about online safety. Come along for a brew and a biscuit and get some top tips to keep you up to date and help you support your child as they navigate their way through the tricky online world.

Local Authority Attendance Update

The Local Authority will now be issuing fines (fixed term penalty notices) for parents who take children on holidays during term time. The link below will take you to the LA webpage containing information about penalty notices:

[School attendance | warrington.gov.uk](http://warrington.gov.uk)

Meet and Greet

Don't forget, if you have any issues in the morning or at the end of the day, a member of staff will be outside for you! We have staff available every morning and afternoon at each entrance gate – we can help you with any issues you may have, no matter how small. Please come for a chat if you need to.

Packed Lunch ideas

A healthy packed lunch will give children the energy and nutrition they need to get the most from their school day – helping them to stay healthy, feel good and be ready and able to learn. Just like school meals, packed lunches should be made up of foods from the main food groups in the Eatwell Guide <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/eat-well/food-guidelines-and-food-labels/the-eatwell-guide/> and portions should be appropriate for a child's age and size. This will ensure every child has a healthy and nutritionally-balanced lunch.

5 top tips for your packed lunch

- Freezer packs can keep food cool. Freeze a (reusable) bottle of water which will be ready to drink by lunchtime.
- Get your child to help pack their lunch box – they are more likely to enjoy it.
- Love to dip? - cut up pitta bread or veg sticks to have with a dip.
- Use pastry cutters to cut funny shaped sandwiches.
- Protect your fruit by putting it in a small plastic container.

Some GREAT ideas for upping the veg content in your lunchboxes can be found via <https://simplyveg.org.uk/lunchboxes>

Our Christian Value for this half term is:

'Compassion'

This week we pray for those who have lost loved ones.

"Clothe yourself with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience."

Colossians 3:12

This week's big question is:

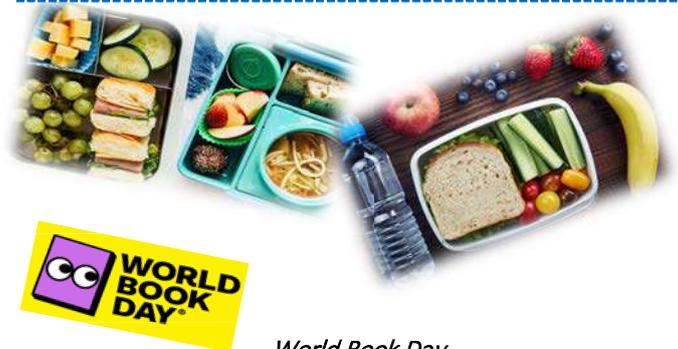
What makes some people give everything for other people?

Nut Allergy

Our school is a **nut free zone** as we have children in school with severe allergies. Please do not send any food in packed lunches containing nuts or traces of nuts, including chocolate spread.

Thank you.

Please be aware that from Monday 23rd February the cost of a school meal is increasing to £3.20.



World Book Day

We're excited to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book characters, and throughout the day they'll take part in a range of fun, book-themed activities designed to spark imagination and inspire a lifelong love of reading. It's always a joyful occasion, and we can't wait to see the creativity it brings.

Staying Safe Online

The online world is an exciting place, and in this digital age, children have easy access to many forms of technology. As curious beings, they're naturally driven to explore; therefore, as with the offline world, it's our role as parents and educators to ensure they only delve into online places that are safe.

Unfortunately, staying on top of our child's tech use can be challenging, especially if they're more tech-savvy than we are! Making use of parental control tools can be an excellent way to help protect and support your child's digital journey. For more information and support, click this link [Online Safety Hub - Warrington Safeguarding Partnership](#)



Parental controls

Navigating the Need for Parental Controls

- In the digital age, children have easy access to technology, and it's essential for parents to ensure their online experiences are safe.
- Parents may find it challenging to monitor their child's tech use, especially if the child is more tech-savvy. Using parental control tools can be an effective way to protect and support children's online activities and reduce parental stress.



8am-6pm

16th-19th February



February Holiday Club

Den Building
Fires
Tools

Forest School

07873811881
@footprintsintheforest.fs@gmail.com
Facebook: Footprints in the Forest at Chapelford Primary School (Great Sankey)



Booking link: <https://footprintsintheforest.kidsclubhq.co.uk>

PIC-COLLAGES

Join us for a free 2-hour outdoor family session at CAFT this half term. All craft activities located in the woodland have a minibeast theme, alongside marshmallow toasting. Our playpark and farm will also be open

CAFT provides visits for children and their families who are impacted by illness, complex medical needs, special educational needs, disability and social disadvantage.

Please go to our website to check our eligibility criteria and to book a slot www.caft.co.uk/families

FEBRUARY HOLIDAY CAMPS

SEND SPECIFIC
5+ Years Old

9AM - 3PM
17-20th Feb, 2026

£30 Per Day
(Siblings Go Half Price)
£100 for Full Week

Activities Include...

- MULTI SPORTS
- SOCIAL ACTIVITIES
- CREATIVE ARTS

Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR
Registered Charity 1110734

Green Lane Special School
WA1 4LS

WillRadcliffe@WarringtonWolvesFoundation.com

01925 2488949

February Rugby Camp

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
03	04 WAITING FOR CAMP	05
10	11 LOOKING FORWARD TO CAMP	12 GETTING EXCITED
17 HOLIDAY CAMP	18 HOLIDAY CAMP	19

HOW TO REGISTER:
[HTTPS://REGISTER.ENTHUSE.COM/SEVENT/RUGBYLEAGUEHOLIDAYCAMPS2026](https://register.enthuse.com/event/rugby-league-holiday-camps-2026)

🕒 8:15 - 15:20, DROP OFF 8:15 - 9:15

📍 ST ELPHINS PRIMARY SCHOOL, FARRELL STREET, WARRINGTON WA1 2GN

SPACES ARE LIMITED SO BE SURE TO BOOK EARLY TO AVOID MISSING OUT!
PRICE: £25

Registered Charity 110734