



Barnaby Newsletter September 2025

Dear all,

Welcome back to a new school year. We hope that you have all had a good holiday. We really would like to hear what you've been up to, whether that's trips to the local park, a walk with family or friends or maybe a special day trip or holiday. Please send in photos or just a few words. We love to be able to talk to the children about what they have been up to. The same is true of a weekend or a half term holiday. Please do email in or send a note.

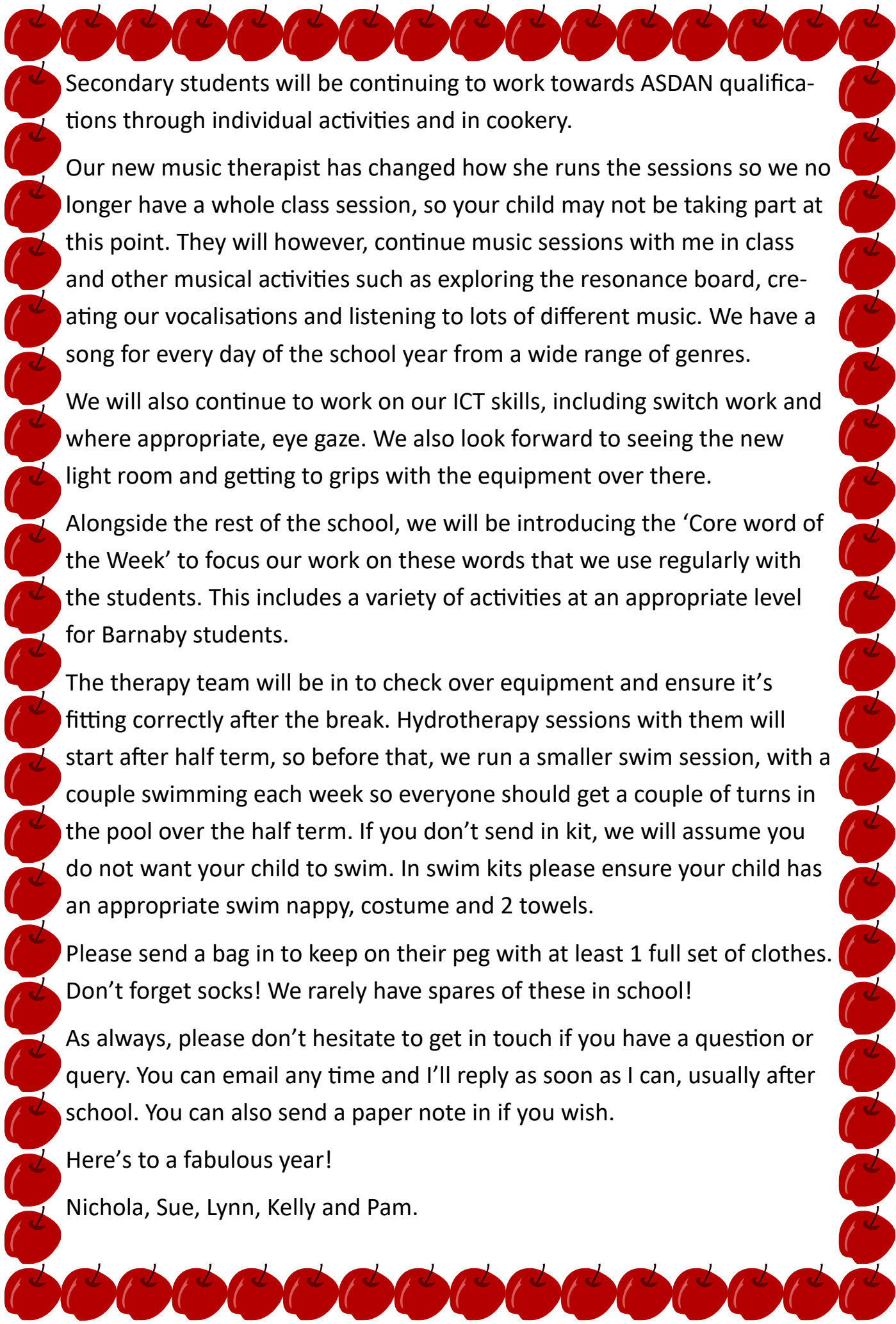
Our class team this year is mostly the same as 24/25, me as class teacher, supported by Sue, Lynn and Pam. We are also joined this year by Kelly, who has been spending time in Barnaby with another pupil so already knows the students well.

This year our topic for the Autumn Term across school is 'Celebrations' and we'll be looking at International celebrations with such diverse occasions as 'International Talk Like a Pirate Day' on 19th September to exploring Rosh Hashanah.

Pirates feature in our Sensology this half term, with parrots, treasure, coconuts and more! Our massage session is also linked to pirates, where we will be doing 'What shall we do with the lazy pirate?'. This is what I will be sending home as homework for you to do with your child should you wish to do something at home too. Our cookery sessions will continue, with 2 groups taking it in turns each week to go up to the cookery room. We'll be looking at some traditional Jewish foods as well as pastel de nata for the whole school European Day of Languages where we have been given Portugal to explore.

Our sensory art sessions will be exploring the art of artists with a disability, starting with Stephen Wilshire and moving on to Matisse. In music we will start by looking at Sea Shanties, then on to Portugal and then on to traditional Jewish music.

Our sensory story will be about Rosh Hashanah, and is entitled 'Apples and Honey' which gives us great opportunities for sensory exploration.



Secondary students will be continuing to work towards ASDAN qualifications through individual activities and in cookery.

Our new music therapist has changed how she runs the sessions so we no longer have a whole class session, so your child may not be taking part at this point. They will however, continue music sessions with me in class and other musical activities such as exploring the resonance board, creating our vocalisations and listening to lots of different music. We have a song for every day of the school year from a wide range of genres.

We will also continue to work on our ICT skills, including switch work and where appropriate, eye gaze. We also look forward to seeing the new light room and getting to grips with the equipment over there.

Alongside the rest of the school, we will be introducing the 'Core word of the Week' to focus our work on these words that we use regularly with the students. This includes a variety of activities at an appropriate level for Barnaby students.

The therapy team will be in to check over equipment and ensure it's fitting correctly after the break. Hydrotherapy sessions with them will start after half term, so before that, we run a smaller swim session, with a couple swimming each week so everyone should get a couple of turns in the pool over the half term. If you don't send in kit, we will assume you do not want your child to swim. In swim kits please ensure your child has an appropriate swim nappy, costume and 2 towels.

Please send a bag in to keep on their peg with at least 1 full set of clothes. Don't forget socks! We rarely have spares of these in school!

As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have a question or query. You can email any time and I'll reply as soon as I can, usually after school. You can also send a paper note in if you wish.

Here's to a fabulous year!

Nichola, Sue, Lynn, Kelly and Pam.