



## **NEWSLETTER**

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November**

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families well. This is a very different lockdown experience for staff and pupils at Barns Green Primary as our lives seems to be carrying on as 'normal'. We are fortunate that West Sussex is in the lowest 10% of local authorities for confirmed cases. I hope that by following the rules this remains the case.

There has been a lot of discussion across the media about whether schools should close to prevent the spread of infection. This has to be balanced against the impact on children's learning and their mental health. At the current time, I do believe that the best place for children is in school.

### **Lockdown Support**

All children and families who need support during lockdown and the upcoming winter can contact the Council's Community Hub, which is there to provide help during the COVID pandemic.

The Community Hub, which was set up in March 2020, gives practical support and information to anyone adversely affected by COVID-19, which could include the provision of food and essential household supplies.

Contact is totally confidential and is available seven days a week, between 8am and 8pm when staff will be on hand to respond to enquiries.

You can find more information and request support online at [www.westsussex.gov.uk/covid19communityhub](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/covid19communityhub) or to speak to someone call: 033 022 27980.

### **School website**

There have been a lot of changes to our school website in recent weeks and I would like to see it grow to become more useful to Parents & Carers over time. Thanks to the generous work of former Governor Rob Hammond, our site is now much clearer to navigate and easier for us to amend.

Do please have a look. I would welcome your comments about what we can add to make it a site that is useful for you.

<https://www.barnsgreen.org.uk/>

## Our best so far...

Classes have been showing off the best of their work so far in our corridor displays. We held a competition and the displays were judged by Rufus and Sofia from Dormouse class.



### Fox Class

Letters home from evacuees, photos of role-play and a plummeting plane show off the World War Two topic.

Judges' comment: "I like the London Tower Clock" and "I like the crashing plane!"

### Hedgehog Class

Lost and found – penguins, polar bears and newspaper reports make for a chilly display

Judges' comment: "This is from the book Leaf!" and "I like the Fox made from leaves!"



## Dormouse Class

Photos of pupils at work every day in so many different ways.

Judges' comment: "All the children are doing a really good job – it looks very complicated!"

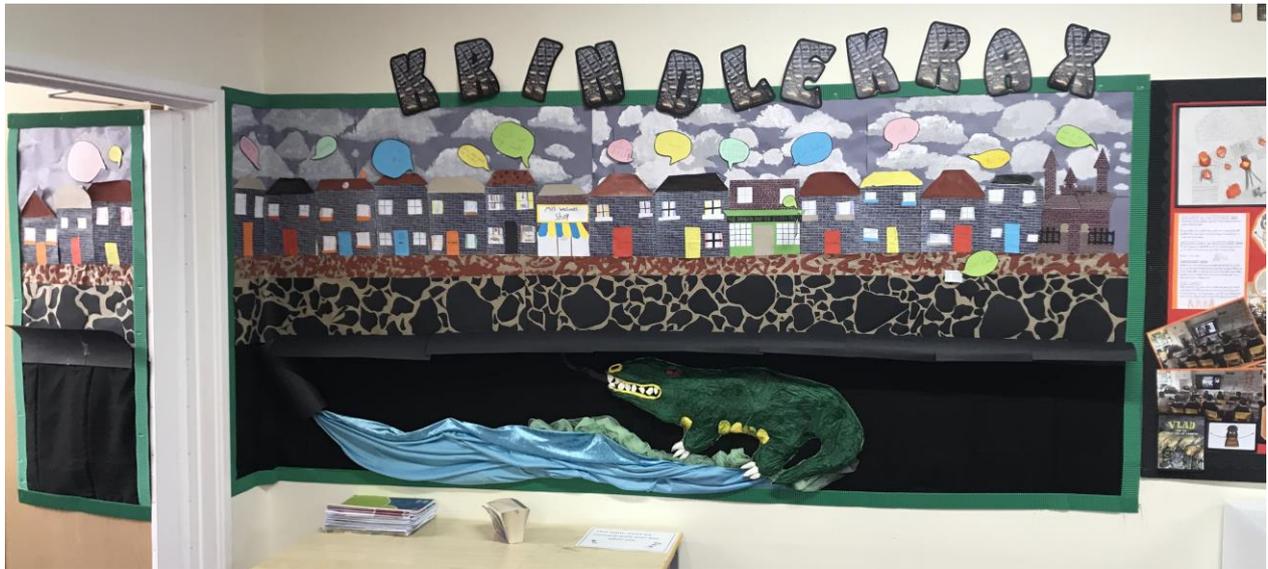


## Otter Class

Reports about the Fire of London, including photos of our online author 'visit'. The paintings are interactive – the flames are painted on transparencies to allow access to the detail beneath.

Judges' comment: "I like the pictures before the fire – fire is scary!"





### **Squirrel Class**

"Da-Boing!" Class novel 'Krindlekrax' by Philip Ridley provides the setting for this display, with its giant, sewer-lurking monster! This display was so big, it burst out of the display board onto the door!

Judges' comment: One of the judges had to hide under the table from the monster! *"I think the monster has broken the windows!"* and *"The monster could grow small, climb up the pipe and frighten the people!"*

It was a tricky decision as all the work on display was excellent. In the end, the judges chose Squirrel Class display. They were really captivated and were suggesting different ways the story could develop!

Squirrel class win a non-uniform day next Thursday – 12<sup>th</sup> November.

The 2 judges also judged who had the tidiest office in the school. Mrs Coxon won – well done to Mrs Coxon!

### **Children in Need**

Next Friday is Children in Need day. As we are in lockdown, and operating our COVID Safety Plan, we sadly won't be able to hold the fund-raising activities of previous years.

We **will** be holding a non-uniform day for all children next Friday.

Please don't send donations in to school. Instead, you can make a donation to Children in Need via the following link:

<https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>

## **Marketing the school**

Normally this time of year I would be showing prospective families around the school in anticipation of their children reaching school age. Now we're encouraging everyone to stay indoors!

To help those we have recorded a special video, which can be viewed on the link below:

<https://youtu.be/UsBmaEA2z2w>

I am also liaising with Bev at Play Group to arrange time when I can be available to answer any questions (on the Green, no more than 1 person from a household at a time) families might have.

If you know of anyone whose children are due to start school in September 2021, please steer them towards the web-site and encourage them to call the school if they have any questions.

## **Wrap up warm!**

Well-ventilated classrooms are an important part of our Covid plan. You may wish to send your children in extra layers on cold days as the classrooms are not as warm as they once were!

## **Policy updates**

Our medicines policy is available on our web site (Parents > School Policies). Along with this letter you should receive our Paracetamol permission letter and our photograph permission letter. We will accept permissions by email.

## **And finally...**

Remember that Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November is an INSET Day. School is closed for children.

Teachers are revisiting the research on '[What Makes Great Teaching?](#)' Support staff are reviewing the resources and activities available for use the school.