



# Barrow Hall Community Primary School

I am here to feel secure, to be valued, and to learn  
Newsletter 17th February 2017



School Web Site: [www.barrowhall.co.uk](http://www.barrowhall.co.uk)

## Academy Conversion Consultation

The consultation period for the school's proposal to convert to academy status as part of the Omega Multi Academy Trust (MAT) has now closed. At the time of writing, governors have yet to meet to finalise a decision (meeting 16<sup>th</sup> February). Governors will issue a formal response shortly.

## Swimming

Four of our Y6 pupils represented Warrington in the Cheshire Finals recently. Millie Duncan ( 1st ) Sophie Weston (2nd ), Kyle Briars (2nd ) and Jack Moss (7th) are seen proudly displaying their medals below.

## Netball

Our Y6 netball teams took part in the local cluster competition last week. The team won through to the town finals which are taking place at the Ball Hall on 6<sup>th</sup> March.

## Rugby

The Rugby festival for Y5 and Y6 finished last week. Both Barrow Hall teams were placed in the top half for the final games and played each other in the semi final. Unfortunately, 'Team 2' lost to a 'Golden Try' in the final.

## Athletics

In the last newsletter, I reported that our Athletics team had got through to the town finals, following the local cluster competition. I am pleased to report that the team won the town competition (by over 60 points!) and have now progressed to represent Warrington in the regional competition in March.

## Gym

On Tuesday, a team of Key Stage 1 gymnasts took part in a competition with St Phillips School. St Phillips won the competition overall, with Iris Bray (Y2) taking the prize for best gymnast. Well done to all of the children who took part .

## Chester University

Our Year 6 children have visited Chester University today to have a 'taster' of university life.

## Parent Survey

There were (a fantastic!) 358 responses to the recent Parent Survey and I would like to thank all of you who took the time to respond. Overall, the survey indicates that parents have very positive opinions of the provision at Barrow Hall. The results can be viewed on the school website. The main area for school to respond to relates to the information parents receive about their child(ren)'s progress. Although the vast majority responded positively to this, 6% disagreed. There were also a number of additional comments related to this area. As a result, we plan to engage with parents about this issue to consider how this area may develop further.

## Sickness

We would like to remind all parents that children who have had vomiting bugs should be kept off school for 48 hours after their last episode. This is in order to reduce the likelihood of the infection spreading to other pupils.

## School Council River of Pennies

The School Council 'River of Pennies' took place yesterday to raise money for the Foundation for Peace. Children placed coins next to each other to form a 'river' which stretched through the school. The School Council will report on the total raised after half term. Many thanks to all of you who supported this event.

## Parentmail

We have decided to upgrade to ParentMail's latest platform - PMX. You will have received a letter this afternoon explaining some of the benefits of the new platform. Watch out for a registration email and/or text over the next couple of days and follow the instructions. If you do not receive a text or email please speak to the office.

## Barrow Hall Science Week Monday 13th March

As part of our celebration of science during Science Week, we would like to invite parents who have a science based job into our classrooms to talk about their work. This would be of great interest to our pupils and would give them an understanding of relevance of science learning in the wider world. If you would like to share your experiences by giving a short talk to your child's class, please contact the class teacher.

## Punctuality

Parents will have received information on their child(ren)'s attendance rates recently. As well as monitoring attendance, we also closely monitor punctuality rates. As with attendance, the rates at our school are very high and we are grateful to parents for supporting us with this. School is aware that occasional lateness is, often, unavoidable. However, there are a small number of pupils who have a high number of lates recorded this academic year and school will be writing to these parents shortly.

## Local Community Group Funding

We have been asked to share the information below with our local community:  
*Could your **community group do with some funding for their next project?** Why not apply to the local fund. The local fund can fund projects up to £2,500 that make a difference in your community. For more information email [westneighbourhoods@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:westneighbourhoods@warrington.gov.uk) or phone 01924 443098. The next deadline is Tuesday 14 March. Examples of previously funded projects include the refurbishment of a community centre kitchen, and support to start a new group.*

## World Book Day/Reading March

World Book Day is 2<sup>nd</sup> March. As with previous years, we will be inviting children to come into school dressed as a book character. However, this year, we will also be holding a number of other reading activities as part of 'Reading March'. Information has been sent home separately with further details.

## E-Safety

Thank you to all parents/carers who took the time to visit the O2 NSPCC Mobile Device Stand during Thursday's Parents' Evening. It was a huge success and the O2 Gurus were kept very busy. We hope to do this again very soon.

## Half Term

School closes today for spring half term. We reopen to pupils on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February. Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February is a staff training day.