



# Barrow Hall Community Primary School

I am here to feel secure, to be valued, and to learn  
Newsletter 24th March 2017



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

## Academy Conversion Consultation

Earlier this month, Mr Chris Forrest, Chair of Governors wrote to inform parents that 'Following a thorough review of all responses to the consultation, and considering the views of all other stakeholders across the community, the Governing Body met on the 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017 and, have decided to proceed as planned with its partners to join the Omega Multi-Academy Trust.' The letter is available on the school website.

## Sophia Drive/Road Safety

School is aware that, despite assurances to the contrary, there has been significant HGV traffic on Sophia Drive recently, including some at peak times. Due to the concerns of parents and the school, we have been informed that Miller Homes are sending a Project Manager to the site opposite school early next week to address this issue. The local PCSO has also written to the contractors to reinforce the need for HGVs to avoid Sophia Drive. We will continue to monitor the situation.

Unfortunately, I have to report that school has been approached by the local PCSO about the behaviour of a small number of our parents towards Royal Mail staff and the PCSOs themselves. There have been reports of a small number of incidents of parents being threatening & abusive towards Royal Mail employees (to the extent that the police have been officially contacted) as well as parking illegally in such a way to block the HGV entrance to Royal Mail. The police have asked if we can remind parents that abusive and threatening behaviour won't be tolerated and that action will be taken against the illegal parking near Royal Mail.

## Athletics

Our Y5/Y6 athletics team took part in the regional finals in Ellesmere Port today. We will inform parents of the outcome in the next newsletter and via the school Facebook page.

## Netball

Our netball teams played two games against St. Phillips recently. On this occasion, they drew one game and lost the other. We now have a large number of children taking part in netball every week and I am very grateful to Mrs Akrill, Mrs Glover and Miss Mills for their time and commitment to this.

## School Council River of Pennies/Jumpers for Jensen

The School Council have asked me to thank parents and friends of the school for the fantastic support for two of their recent fundraising events. The River of Pennies raised £344.83 for the Foundation for Peace which we will present to them shortly. The Jumpers for Jensen Day raised £500.81. Jensen's mum came into assembly recently to thank children and to collect the funds.

## Water Bottles

Unfortunately, we have only a very limited supply of cups for children to use to drink water during the school day. Obviously, for hygiene reasons, these cannot be shared. Therefore, I would like to remind parents to ensure that your child has a water bottle in school so that they can drink during the day.

## School Meal Arrears

I have been informed by the school office that there are still a number of school dinner accounts that are in arrears and, despite letters from the school, these have not been paid. On 31<sup>st</sup> March, these debts have to be paid from the school budget. At the last check, the total of owed money was close to £1000. Therefore, I would request that all parents check their account and pay any outstanding amounts as soon as possible. Any outstanding and unexplained arrears will need to be reclaimed by school after 1<sup>st</sup> April, which is something that the school would prefer not to spend precious time doing. I am aware of some issues with the payment service and would, therefore, ask parents who feel that their account is inaccurate to inform the school meals service. This can be done via the school office or directly to the service provider.

## Barrow Hall Science Week

Science Week took place in school last week. Children took part in a number of scientific investigations and other science related activities. We would all like to thank all of the parents and friends of the school who gave up their time to come and speak to the children about their jobs in science and engineering - the children loved these activities. There was also an 'Ice Cube Challenge' where each class had to insulate a cup in an attempt to slow down the melting of an ice cube. There were some fantastic ideas but the winning class was 4M who insulated their cup with 'air wool', newspaper, felt and another layer of 'air wool'. Thanks also go to Mrs Roper and Miss Connah for leading the event in school.

## Book Fair

Thank you to all parents who have supported the recent Book Fairs in school. The books bought by parents mean that we will be able to purchase a significant number of new books for our children. These will supplement the significant order of new reading books that we have currently made.

## New Guide Unit

I have received the information below and been asked to share with parents:  
A new Guide Unit is opening soon at the Tim Parry Community Centre on Wroxham Road, and there are some places available for girls aged 10+. (Girls do not need to have been a Brownie to join Guides.) For more information please phone Sylvia on 07710 69 1550.