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September 4<sup>th</sup> 2023

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year. It was wonderful to see the children coming in through the school gate with smiles on their faces and full of chatter this morning. We are delighted to welcome the thirty new Wrens who started today. We are also welcoming Noa who has joined Year 2 and Harvey who has joined Year 3. We are looking forward to getting to know our new children over the coming term.

### **RAAC**

There has been a lot of attention in the media over recent days about RAAC (Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete) used in school buildings making them unsafe. We are pleased to reassure you that all of Barham's buildings were inspected in June and it was confirmed that we do not have any RAAC in our roofs.

### **Meet the Teacher Sessions**

A reminder that this week we will be holding 'Meet the Teacher' sessions for each year group from Y1 – Y6. These meetings will take place at 2:45 pm in your child's classroom (come through the main gate). Teachers will be going through the new class routines and offering advice on how you can help your child. A summary will be provided in next week's overview in case you are not able to attend. Dates for each year group are on the school website here: <https://barham.kent.sch.uk/news-and-events/calendar>

### **Contact Details**

Please ensure we have at least two emergency telephone numbers and your correct email address. It is important that you let the office know as soon as possible if any of your details change so please keep us updated.

### **Severe Nut Allergy**

One of our pupils has a severe nut allergy. No food containing nuts should be brought into school so please check contents of packed lunches very carefully, especially cereal bars, pesto and chocolate spreads.

### **Second hand Uniform**

We still have plenty of spare pre-loved uniform left over. If any of you would like a spare set for your child, please contact the office.



### **Mobile Phones**

A reminder that if your child brings a mobile phone to school, they must leave it in the school office when they arrive and collect it at the end of the day.

### **Blessing of the School bags**

Rev T has asked me to inform you all of a special short service that will be taking place at St John's on **Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>** after school at 3:30 pm. Children can bring their school bags to be blessed at this service.

### **Message from Rev T**

**Saturday 9th September** is Ride & Stride Day which offers an opportunity for families to take advantage of the good weather by 'cycling' or 'walking' between churches as sponsors of the Friends of Kent Churches. Money raised helps go to supporting church restoration and repair projects so that our children's generation can still enjoy our wonderful and sacred buildings. Do ask family and neighbours to sponsor you. You can take a picnic and some refreshments will be available at the churches along the way. Collected sponsorship money can be returned to the school office and I will ensure the monies are passed on to the Friends.

Finally, we (all the staff) would like to thank you for the many kind messages, cards and gifts received at the end of last year. You are incredibly kind and generous and the staff feel very lucky to have parents who are so supportive and positive but we are aware that families are affected by the rise in the cost of living so please do not feel that gifts are necessary or expected. Your kind words spoken or written mean a lot.

Yours sincerely



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