

Alison Higgins & Jo Duhig  
Co-Headteachers  
Email: office@barham.kent.sch.uk



Barham CE Primary School  
Valley Road  
Barham, Canterbury  
Kent  
CT4 6NX  
Tel: 01227 831312  
Fax: 01227 831096

February 7<sup>th</sup> 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Once again, it was fantastic to see so many of you at this week's Drop-in session and joining in with our weekly celebration assembly this morning. We hope you got a flavour of all the exciting things happening in our school. Please see the weekly newsletter for photos of events that have taken place this week at Barham.

### **Attendance**

We are very pleased to see that attendance figures are slightly higher compared to this time last year. We know that it cannot be helped when children are poorly but taking the odd day off here and there can have a significant impact on your child's learning and progress.

Regular attendance and punctuality play a vital role in ensuring children can make the most of their time in school and achieve their full potential. We understand that sometimes challenges can make it difficult to get to school on time or attend consistently. If you're experiencing any difficulties, please don't hesitate to reach out. Mrs Anderson, our Attendance Officer and FLO, is here to offer support and guidance to help overcome any barriers you may face.

Please see our revised Attendance Policy for clarification about what constitutes an authorised absence and the government's recent guidance on issuing fines.

[https://barham.kent.sch.uk/assets/documents/policies/Attendance-Policy-\(September-2024\)-1738311595.pdf](https://barham.kent.sch.uk/assets/documents/policies/Attendance-Policy-(September-2024)-1738311595.pdf)

### **Safer Internet Day**

Safer Internet Day takes place next Tuesday. This year's theme is 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'. During class time children will be learn how to keep safe online in age-appropriate sessions. Please see the class weekly overviews for more detail.

We are sending home a useful online safety newsletter linked to Safer Internet Day about how you can keep both your child and your family safe online; but should you ever have any concerns, please speak to Mrs Duhig, our safeguarding lead.



### **Staff Changes**

We are sorry to be saying goodbye to Ms Everitt and Mrs O'Keeffe in Wrens and Mrs Rolfe in Owls at the end of this term. We would like to thank them for all their hard work and commitment to the children in their classes and wish them every success in their new adventures.

We have welcomed Mrs Barrs who will be joining Owls, Miss Brice will be the interim teacher until Mrs Morgan returns in Wrens and Miss Jones (who is already known to the children) will be taking the place of Mrs O'Keeffe in Wrens.

### **Dance competition**

A reminder that a letter went out this week about a dance competition that will be held in school on the morning of Tuesday 4th March. Children can choreograph and perform a solo routine of between 30 and 60 seconds. Then, winning children from this will be put forward for the Canterbury schools competition. It is all virtual so we will record each performance on the morning of the 4th. Please email Mrs Gurney on [sally.gurney@barham.kent.sch.uk](mailto:sally.gurney@barham.kent.sch.uk) if your child would like to take part so we can timetable enough time in the hall.

Finally, have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely

Handwritten signatures in blue ink. The first signature reads 'Al Higgins' and the second reads 'Jo Duhig'.

Alison Higgins  
Co-headteacher

Jo Duhig  
Co-headteacher