Together we care, learn and grow

All your best "BARRY NEWS" each term

Friday 17th July 2026

Diary Dates

Friday 17th July school closes at 1.30pm for Summer holidays - **Non-uniform day**

September 2026
Thursday 3rd September – school reopens for pupils

As another school year draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continuing support and working with us to ensure that your child has a successful journey both academically and socially through their primary schooling.

Children across the school have had many opportunities that enhance and deepen their learning and understanding of the world throughout the year. From visits both near and far to visitors in school, children in all year groups have benefited from the thoughtfully planned experiences that staff work tirelessly to provide. However, without the ongoing support of parent helpers we would not be able to offer the breadth of experiences that you help to make possible, we hope you will continue to offer your help next year.

As a school, we continue to work towards our school improvement targets and are keen to share these with you. As part of this journey our curriculum is constantly under review, evolving and adapting to meet the needs of the children.

Our free universal breakfast club has continued to be a great success this year with over 20% of children from Reception to Year 6 still joining us. We open the doors at 8.10am and offer a range of healthy breakfast options which include cereal, wholemeal toast, crumpets, pancakes, fresh fruit, fruit smoothies and ham and cheese toasties. We will continue to offer this provision next year, starting on 3rd September, and hope many more of you will take up this offer. It does not cost you a penny and provides a smooth transition into school, as well as the opportunity for children to socialise and play games together before the start of the school day. It also provides you with 30 minutes of free childcare. If your child is in Reception to Year 6 you can book a place via the clubs link in ParentPay. The more the merrier!

Please remember, school meals need to be ordered and paid for via ParentPay in advance but can be ordered on the day by 8am if needed. Please see attached menu for September order. If you have not booked a hot meal please remember to send your child to school with a packed lunch from home. We do not have 'spare' meals to give out freely so if you have not booked a meal or provided a packed lunch you will be called and expected to bring one in. All children need a balanced lunch in order to be able to make the most from the learning in the afternoon!

Goodbyes!

At the end of this week we will say a very fond farewell to our Year 6 children. We wish them all the very best of luck for the next stage of their learning journey through secondary school but know they will do brilliantly next year and in the future!

We will also be saying goodbye to Mrs Palmer-Dix and Miss Malpas. We extend our thanks to them both for all their hard work and dedication throughout their time at Barry and wish them well for the future.

Mrs Dann will also be leaving us to take some time to pursue other interests. Her support in the classroom and with Friends of Barry have made a huge difference and we wish her the best of luck in her next adventure.

After a staggering 29 years we will be saying our goodbyes to Mrs Fishlock as she steps into a well-deserved retirement. During her time at Barry she has worked with many, many children, supporting and nurturing them throughout their journey here. We wish her every happiness for a long and happy retirement – Barry will not be the same without her!

We thank you all for your dedication and hard work at Barry Primary and wish you all the very best for the future.

Welcome…

We extend a warm Barry welcome to…

Miss Austin as she returns to Year 5 from her maternity leave

Mr Hayes who will be joining our Year 4 team.

Miss Valentine who will be joining our Reception team.

The skills, knowledge and experience they bring with them will complement the fantastic team of staff we already have at Barry.

Miss Barrie will be taking retirement from her post as Deputy Headteacher. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to her for the support she has given me during my time at Barry and also to the entire school community. Fortunately for us, Miss Barrie will be remaining at the school as SENCo to continue supporting our children with Special Educational Needs, their families and the staff of Barry Primary.

As you will be aware, Mrs Cassiano has been appointed as the new headteacher. Until she takes up post, I will be returning part-time in the Autumn term to continue leading and supporting the school along with Miss Barrie who will continue as acting headteacher one day a week until a full handover has taken place.

Our Senior Leadership Team will look a bit different in September with Miss Barrie stepping down as deputy head and Miss Taylor being on maternity leave.

Our temporary leadership structure for the Autumn Term will be:

Mrs Gardner-Potter – Headteacher
Miss Barrie – Acting Headteacher & SENCO
Mrs Shaw – EYFS Lead & Assistant Head
Miss Wright – KS1 Lead & Assistant Head
Mrs Fisher – Lower Key Stage Two Lead
Mrs Roberts – Upper Key Stage Two Lead

House Cup Winners!
The children have worked hard all year collecting house points, both in class and on their sports days.

Total House points for the year, including sports day, across the school are:

Barkers	5238
Loake	5179
Church's	4946
Grenson	4719

Well done to you all! Every child in each house contributed to the weekly and yearly totals and are commended for this.

Our house cup winners of the year are:

Barkers

Barry the Bulldog

This year the classes with the highest overall attendance are…

Week commencing	Lower Phase (Y1-3)		Upper Phase (Y4-6) Class / attendance	
Overall highest attendance of the year	**2NW**	**95.4%**	**5LF/DP**	**96.6%**

We hope you all have a safe, very restful and enjoyable summer break. We look forward to welcoming new and existing families back in September.

Mrs Gardner-Potter
Headteacher

Friends of Barry Primary

Throughout the school year Friends of Barry have worked tirelessly to raise money for the school that enables us to improve the environment or buy equipment to enhance learning. Thank you all for your amazing efforts and the time you give throughout the year.

Snacks

We will continue to focus on the importance of a healthy diet and keeping fit in the new academic year. As a part of this, and to avoid any further confusion, for snack in the mornings please provide your children with fresh or dried fruit or vegetables only. This helps to ensure that we do not have chocolate or cereal bars that may contain nuts and reduces the amount of sugar children are consuming during the school day. We will only make an exception for substituting fruit or vegetables if a child has a diagnosed medical condition or allergy that prevents them from eating these.

School Uniform

Our school uniform is navy sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece, white or jade polo shirt – (these do not have to have the logo on and can be purchased cheaply in most supermarkets), grey skirt, trousers, shorts or pinafore dress, grey or navy tights, blue gingham dresses and black shoes. Hoodies, leggings and cycling shorts are not school uniform.

We understand that school uniform is not cheap and at times items are misplaced. We regularly have large amounts of clothing with no way of identifying who they belong to. In order to ensure that we can return items to the right child, **please ensure all uniform is labelled!**

PE Uniform

Please ensure your child comes to school dressed in the correct PE kit on their class PE days. This is a plain white T-shirt (no logos or pictures across the front of them), navy shorts or jogging bottoms, navy black sweatshirt (no logos or pictures across the front of them), trainers for outside games. If your child is not in the correct kit for lessons you will receive a message or phone call home requesting that correct kit is brought into school. Please do not send you child to school in tops with logos or pictures across the front of them, they are not part of school uniform and they will be asked to remove them. PE uniform should only be worn

on PE days – We do allow PE uniform to be worn during periods of extreme temperature and you will be notified accordingly when this is implemented.

Swimming

We will continue to offer swimming lesson to Year 5 and 6 as part of their PE curriculum next year. Year 6 will have swimming lessons for one term (September to Christmas) and then Year 5 will have their swimming lessons for one term (January until Easter). During the summer term, further catch up lessons will be offered where appropriate. The lessons will take place on Monday afternoon and all children will need to ensure they have a suitable swimming costume, towel and swimming hat (compulsory) during the term they swim. **These lessons are part of our PE offer and cannot be opted out of.** Please note, if children do not bring their swimming kit to school on Monday and you cannot bring one in for them they will be given a spare kit to use.

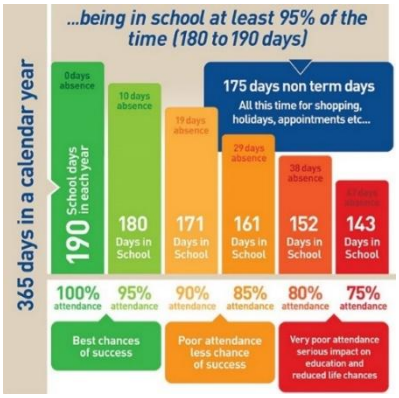
Attendance

Regular attendance at school is important. Every day a child is absent from school learning time is missed. Regular absence results in a child missing periods of learning and results in gaps in their learning which can have a huge impact on their attainment and progress throughout their schooling.

If you have not done so already, please sign up to the studybugs app and inform us of any absence through this. Please also ensure you read the information sheet that is available on our school website regarding absence. We do understand that due to the different illnesses that circulate sometimes children are not well enough to come to school. However, they are able to attend school with a common cold or cough. The studybugs app does provide some guidance for absence due to specific illness such as chicken pox. Our aim is for whole school attendance to be 96% or above.

We will continue to send notifications to you via studybugs if your child's attendance falls below 95% but remains above 90%. This is for information only to inform you of your child's current attendance at that point in the school year. Please remember that with each week of school attendance this does improve but if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us so we can discuss this further with you. Where attendance is a significant cause for concern (usually below 90% or developing patterns), parents/carers will be expected to attend a meeting to discuss any medical issues or concerns you or we may have. We want to work with you to keep you informed and identify how we can support you in improving your child's attendance and educational opportunities.

Please be aware that any absence, authorised or unauthorised, affects a child's attendance record and may result in their attendance dropping and you therefore receiving an automated notification from studybugs to inform you of this. However, this will not automatically trigger a meeting as we do review the reasons for a child's absence before arranging meetings with parents.



Please remember, **leave for family holidays or trips overseas during term time cannot and will not be authorised**. If you do choose to take your child on holiday during term time we have a duty to inform the Local Authority and you may be fined. Any unauthorised absence over 5 days in a 10 week period is reportable.

Parking

Unfortunately, parking outside the front of the school on double yellow lines remains a real concern for pupil and public safety. This has been reported to the local authority and we have also been advised to report number plates to the police.

We understand that drop off and pick up times are very busy times of the day. Please remember, parking is available in the Co-op car park during these times. **Unless you are a blue badge holder, you MUST NOT park directly outside the school on the yellow lines.** We are on a residential street and need to have consideration for the people who live here and maintain the safety of our children. **If you do park outside the school your registration number will be taken and you will be reported.**