All your best

"BARRY NEWS" each term

Friday 11th September 2026

Diary Dates

14th September – 5 Week Clubs Begin

15th September 3.30 – 4pm - Meet the teacher and visit the classroom

17th Reception to Year 6 – Flu Immunisation

30th September – 1.00 – 2.30pm 1SJ visit to Abington Park

1st October – 1.00 – 2.30pm 1WW visit to Abington Park

6th October 2.30-3.15pm – Phonics information meeting for Reception parents

9th October – World Mental Health Day (10th)– wear something Yellow (£1 donation for young minds charity)

12th October – School photos (Individual)

13th October – Year 5 visit to Black Country museum

15th October 4.00 – 7.00pm – Parents Evening

19th – 23rd October – CARE week

20th October 3.30 -6.30pm – Parents Evening

Date TBC – School Disco

23rd October 3.20pm – Term 1 Ends

Welcome back for the new school year!

The start of the new academic year is always one of my favourite times of the year as we welcome back our children and families and extend a warm welcome to our new families.

As always, I have had the privilege of popping into classrooms to see everyone. Even after such a long break, there is a real sense of calm and engagement, which is wonderful to see – long may it last!

Our new Reception children who have already joined are adapting to their new surroundings quickly. There will be a Phonics information meeting for Reception parents on Tuesday 6th October to share with you what it is and how we teach phonics in Reception. We would love to see you all there so you can support your child with the start of their reading journey.

We also look forward to welcoming our Nursery children as they start (or continue) their journey at Barry Primary.

During the first week back, all classes have focused on getting to know each other, setting expectations and learning about how our emotions can impact on how we think and how we behave in response to them. We have revisited our Behaviour Curriculum with all children to help reinforce our school expectations for classrooms, around the school and on the playground, as well as 'Zones of Regulation' to help children identify how they are feeling and develop some strategies that can be used both individually and with support to help them manage in school and beyond.

Monday 2nd November – school re-opens to children – Term 2 begins Monday 2nd November – Y6 residential	Our free breakfast club is continuing and has given many children a smooth start to the school day on their return. We open the doors at 8.10am and offer a range of healthy breakfast options across the week which include cereal, wholemeal toast, crumpets, bagels, fresh fruit, fruit smoothies and ham and cheese toasties. We 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. Reading really is the key to children being able to access all areas of the school curriculum. Regardless of the year group your child is in, please take 5 minutes out of your day to read to, read with or listen to your child reading. You will see from the diary dates that some year groups will begin to have visits in the local area. We are always looking for adult volunteers to support being able to carry out school visits – if you are interested and available to help, keep your eye out for requests for help from your child's class teacher. Please note any dates that are relevant to you and put them in your calendar. We will endeavour to send reminders out about events nearer the time. **Mrs Gardner-Potter** **Headteacher**

Leadership and point of contact

Senior leaders will be available at the school gates in the morning and class teachers in the afternoon daily. If you have any questions, queries or concerns please speak to one of them.

Welcome!

We are very fortunate to extend a warm Barry welcome to Miss Valentine who joins our Reception team.

Snacks

We will be continuing to focus on the importance of a healthy diet and keeping fit. As a part of this, and to avoid any further confusion, for snack in the mornings please provide your children with fruit or vegetables only. We have several members of our school community (children and adults) who have specific allergies and this helps to ensure that we do not have cereal bars that may contain nuts. It also reduces the amount of sugar and salt 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.

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, and leggings are not school uniform.

Over the last few years we have seen an increase in the number of children wearing trainers or trainer like shoes to school. We understand that they can be more economical and provide children with comfort when they are running around at break times. If children wear trainers instead of school shoes please ensure they are plain black, in line with expectations for footwear. If your child wears coloured trainers you will receive a message or phone call home requesting that black shoes are brought into school.

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, plain navy sweatshirt (no logos or pictures across the front of them) and 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.

If your child is participating in an after-school sports club they will need to bring their sports kit in separately and time will be given for changing.

Year 5 and Year 6 attend swimming sessions on a Monday in alternating terms. This term (Autumn) Year 6 will swim so need to ensure they have swimming kit in school with them on Monday,

Class PE days

Monday	Year 2, Year 6 swimming
Tuesday	Year 2, Year 3, Year 4
Wednesday	Nursery, Year 1, Year 5
Thursday	Reception, Year 3, Year 6
Friday	Year 1, Year 4

Sporting events

Last year we maintained our Gold Mark for our participation in Sports! We will be continuing our engagement with Northampton School Sports Partnership and School Games again this year to continue our journey towards achieving the prestigious Platinum Mark. We will be encouraging children to engage in a wider range of sporting events with other schools across Northampton. Sporting events will be open to children from different age ranges and sporting abilities throughout the year. More important than anything else is for children to be enthusiastic, work well in a team, have a go and have fun! We will arrange for children to have taster sessions in as many different sports as possible as they arise throughout the year. Some examples of the sports on offer are: cross country, boccia, archery.

Start and end of the school day

The school gates are open at both ends of the school playground at the start and end of the school day. The gates are opened at 8.40 am and close at 8.55am every morning and are opened again at 3pm at the end of the day. At the end of the school day please vacate the playground by 3.30pm. Please be advised that no children should be allowed to use the playground equipment outside of school hours.

All children should be in school and ready for learning by 8:55am. If you arrive once the gates are closed you MUST take your child to the School Office. If it is after 9am you will need to sign them in, they will be marked as late and you will asked to provide a reason why.

Whilst we understand parking is an issue around the school area, please ensure you are on time to collect your child. It is upsetting for them, regardless of their age, if they are not collected on time. If you are unable to collect your child on time on a regular basis there is an after-school club facility available through Kids Stop. If on an odd occasion or in an emergency you are going to be late collecting your child at the end of the day please inform the school office as early as possible so the class teacher can be informed of any alternative arrangements and let your child know. If your child is going to be collected by a different adult please ensure you inform the school office, we will not allow children to leave with any adult without your consent.

For parents of children in Years 3 to 6, your children will be taken to line up on the playground for you to collect. Please wait for them in the area beyond the goal posts but off the playground until all children are out and lined up. This avoids children having to navigate their way through a sea of adults to get to the playground to be collected safely. Please do not try to take your child as they come out of the building/before they have been dismissed by the class teacher.

Attendance

Good attendance at school is essential if children are to get the best out of the opportunities available to them throughout the year. We do understand that due to the different viruses and illnesses that circulate at different times of the year there are occasions that children are unable to attend school. Please remember that it is your responsibility to inform the school by phone or via studybugs if your child is unwell and unable to attend school. We do follow the advice from the NHS on childhood illnesses and will pass this onto parents where it is considered necessary, e.g. if a child has chicken pox, vomiting. **Unless a child has a temperature over 37.5 degrees accompanying it, there is no medical reason to keep a child at home with a cough or cold.**

Punctuality is equally important! In all classes, the school day begins with phonics, maths or English lessons. When children arrive even 5 minutes late it impacts on their understanding of the learning and this in turn can cause anxiety and upset. A child who is 5 minutes late every day misses 25 minutes of essential phonics/reading which leads to gaps in their learning, can contribute to a lack of progress and ultimately could limit their ability to access other areas of the school curriculum. Please be on time!

Any lateness after 9.30am has to be recorded as unauthorised absence.

Parking

Drop off and pick up times are very busy times of the day and once again we request that vehicles do not park on the double yellow lines outside the school! 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. Traffic wardens do patrol the area periodically and we are in contact with the local authority regarding the difficulties outside the school during these times.

School Meals

School meals can be ordered via ParentPay up to midnight the night before. If you have not ordered a hot meal before or there are changes to your child's allergy/dietary needs, please ensure that the Allergy Needs & Dietary Requirements Form has been completed and sent to the School Office in advance of placing an order, to ensure that you are able to order what is suitable for your child to eat.

If you think that your child may be entitled to Free School Meals, you can check this by going to Free school meals and pupil premium eligibility for school aged children | West Northamptonshire Council
Free School Meals has been expanded, so more families are now eligible.