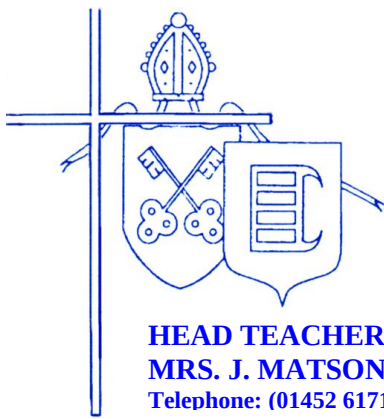




HEAD TEACHER:
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Thursday 11th March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Barnwood's World Book Day

Hot off the press... I just had to share a snippet of our special day! The children and staff have been fantastic with how much they have embraced our belated World Book Day today.

The day has been centred around the book 'One Hundred Steps' by Captain Sir Tom Moore and this has been linked to our school vision and values:

For Barnwood to be a school where we 'Love our neighbour' and work together to 'be the best that we can be' for the good of all.

I'd like to thank Mrs Knight, our Deputy Head and English Lead, who has gone above and beyond to coordinate this across the whole school. It has been so moving to hear the children explain who inspires them and why.

On the following page you will find the open letter to our children that was shared with them at the start of the day. I'm sure it will resonate with you too. It is an extremely powerful letter and captures what an unprecedented time we have all had to navigate over the last year and the skills and values we have had to draw upon to help us.

There are also a few photographs from today in school. We have lots more and hope to get them added to the school website, in the next week or two, once the work on our IT system is completed.

With best wishes,

Julia Matson
Headteacher



Thursday 11th March 2021

Dear Children,

The past year has brought many changes to your life. Many of you have had considerable time out of school and this has meant time away from your teachers and your friends, and time away from the things you know and love. This hasn't been easy nor is it what we would have wanted for your childhood. But, it hasn't all been bad, either! It is important to remember that often out of storms come rainbows.

There are really important lessons we can learn in the face of adversity. You have learnt to be **resilient** and for that we are really **PROUD** of you. You have learnt to **appreciate people** who are important to you and we love you for that. You have learnt to find **joy in the simplest of things** as you've occupied yourself at home. You've learnt; to **respect people**, in society, who give to, and care for, others, on a daily basis, like the Keyworkers who played a really important role, during this pandemic. We aspire to be like them. You have learnt that life isn't always kind but that **we can get through anything if we have each other**. You have also learnt that **not all superheroes wear capes**. There are seemingly normal people, who walk amongst us every day, dedicating their lives to helping others in the most selfless of ways. These are people who don't look for fame or fortune or to be adored by people but are purely motivated by a heart-warming desire to care and give back. This is the true vision of

'Love Thy neighbour, for the good of all'

I hope the story of Captain Sir Tom Moore inspires you to think about what it means to be 'the best you can be'. The book tells the incredible story of the old man who walked 100 laps of his garden, for the NHS and the greater good of all, and captured the heart of the nation. The book recounts the key moments in Captain Sir Tom Moore's life and highlights what is possible when we all come together and never give up. It shines a light on determination, resilience, selflessness, the act of giving and love. These are all values we want to celebrate and live up to.

Remember life is a lesson, for the good and the bad

And that , , , 'Tomorrow WILL be a better day!'

Barnwood, we are so PROUD of you. The way you have coped and got on with things is nothing short of inspiring! It is SO good to be back together, as a school family, once again

Welcome Back!