

14<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### Colourful Characters

Our celebrations of **World Book Day** brought some colourful characters to Berrywood. Not only this, there was a lovely atmosphere created when we mixed classes and age groups for the Story Studies. For example, it was lovely to see Year R children being supported and encouraged by Year 6 children, who seemed to revel in the responsibility.

Thank you to families for entering into the spirit of the day, and for all the lovely feedback we have received since. Mrs Adams is very keen to build on this success in making reading a real benchmark of Berrywood pupils' development and achievement, and the recent author visits held for all ages of children across the school exemplify this determination.

For families with younger children at Berrywood especially, the launch of our new phonics scheme – **Essential Letters and Sounds** – is another important strand in achieving our reading goals. Please do look out for an invitation from Mrs Adams to join one of two workshops taking place in May, one during the school day and the other early evening.

### Nurturing Parent Course

This term our lovely Mrs Dean and Mrs Everett have been hosting a nurturing parent course on Friday mornings. The sessions have been very successful, with those families taking part finding the sessions massively beneficial and enjoyable. As a result of this success, we are delighted to announce a repeat of the 10-week course beginning on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April. So if you're someone finding the many trials of parenthood a little challenging, then why not email [sdean@berrywoodprimary.co.uk](mailto:sdean@berrywoodprimary.co.uk) or [jeverett@berrywoodprimary.co.uk](mailto:jeverett@berrywoodprimary.co.uk) to find out a little more, and possibly book yourself a free place on the course.

### Spring Concert & Barnaby Bear

Just a reminder that on Thursday morning next week we have our spring concert taking place in the school Hall from 9.00am. Hopefully you have already seen the invite letter from Mrs Wilkie if your child is taking part. This concert is a long held tradition and Berrywood, and we hope to see a good number of you there.

The Berrywood KS1 choir children taking part in the Barnaby Bear singing event this week were amazing. This is a Hampshire wide concert held at the Anvil in Basingstoke. Well done to Miss Wilkie and all the children for having such a successful day. Thank you also to the parent volunteers who attended for making the trip possible.

Spaces have recently become available for weekly instrumental lessons (trumpet, cornet, trombone and violin) with Mr Warren. Any parents interested in finding out more should contact [timothy\\_warren@ymail.com](mailto:timothy_warren@ymail.com) directly.

### Project Celebrations and Other Parenting Opportunities

As we enter into the final weeks of the term, a number of year groups are holding project celebrations. This of course provides another opportunity for you as parents to interact up close with your child's learning journey. We hope you found the recent (still up-coming for some of you) parents' evenings useful in this regard too. However, and as I often state, it is consistency of good school attendance and home reading routines that help parents make the most positive impact on the education of their child.

### BSA Quiz Night

Please look out for a google form coming your way soon that will enable you to sign up for the BSA quiz night on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April** in the school Hall. This should be a really fun way to spend an evening with friends, whilst hopefully raising funds for the school.