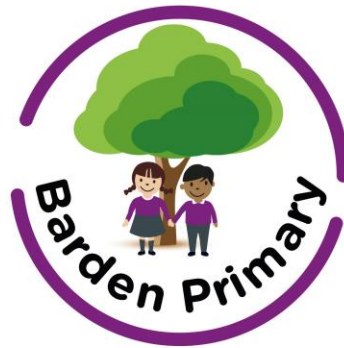


Welcome to  
Owlets  
at  
Barden Primary School





# Owlet's Class Teacher



Owlet's Class Teacher is  
Mrs Worthy



Mrs Kauser, Mrs Younis, Mrs Sultana, Mrs McGlynn

# Our Wonderful Teaching Assistants



# OUR CLASS



- Welcome to our class. We hope both you and your child will be very happy throughout the year.
- Myself and our teaching assistants will support and help your child every way we can.
- If you have any concerns during the year please feel free to come and see us.

- In the first few weeks at school the children will be settling in and learning different routines. We will be talking about how to respect school and keep safe around school. We will be teaching the children how to learn with the resources in the indoor and outdoor environment.
- *Baseline Assessment* - We will be completing the government baseline assessment and completing an assessment of all areas of learning. This enables us to get a starting point for each child in their learning.

# This half term our topic 'Superheroes!'



We will be thinking about what special super powers we might have and investigating our super senses. We will talk about caring for others. We will be answering the learning challenge questions - Are we all the same? What do I look like? What do my body parts do? When is my birthday? Who is in my superhero family? We might even have a superhero visit!!

# Future Topics

- Magical Moments!



- Off on a cold adventure!



- Amazing Animals



- If you go down to the woods today...

- Buckets and Spades



- What do we teach?

## Morning

- Weather, Music by different composers, Days of the Week, weather,
- Phonics, Talk Time, Maths and Writing

## Afternoon

- Toothbrushing, Story Time, Rhyme Time, Vocabulary, music, PSHE, woodland adventures, creative, dance, PE, past and present, healthy heroes and Key Person time



## Barden Supervised Brushing Programme



1. Children will wash their hands
2. Each child will have their own toothbrush
3. An adult will place a pea sized piece of toothpaste onto a paper towel.
4. Children will put the toothpaste on their toothbrush.
5. Brush teeth for 2 minutes
6. Toothbrushes will be rinsed and returned to the rack.



# Year 6 buddies

All reception children have a Year 6 buddy who will play with them and sit by them in assembly.



# Early Reading

- Your child will chose a picture book to share with you at home. This book can be read to your child at bedtime or another quiet time. Please talk to them about the pictures and the story. We will change this book twice a week as children should share the book several times. This will enable them to really understand the story and have lots of opportunities to ask and answer questions about the story.
- Please sign your child's book record each time you share a story with them (daily), if you would like to make a comment about their experience then please do.

- You child will learn to read through the scheme Read Write Inc, which begins with teaching the child letter sounds. There will be more information regarding the scheme in the near future. - Early Reading Meeting -



- Children will bring letter sound cards home each week, please practise these sounds and the letter formation.





# Class PE



- PE will be on a Thursday.
- Your child will not be able to take part in PE lessons if they do not have the correct kit.

## PE Kit

- White T-shirt
- Black shorts
- Pumps
- Please ensure your child's PE kit is fully labelled with their name on and in a labelled PE bag.



# UNIFORM



- CHILD WILL NEED TO WEAR THEIR SCHOOL UNIFORM.
- They will need to bring a coat if the weather is not good and a sunhat if it is sunny.
- **HAIR** - Please ensure your child's hair is in line with the school uniform policy. No lines/patterns to be shaved in hair please. •
- **BRINGING ITEMS INTO SCHOOL** your child must only bring their book bag and PE kit into school.  
Their PE kit will remain in school until half term when we will send it home to be washed.
- PLEASE PUT YOUR CHILD'S NAME in ALL THEIR CLOTHING.

# Uniform Policy



- **Footwear - Pupils should wear smart and sensible black school shoes only**
- **Plain black boots are permitted**
- The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels and they are not permitted in school. Neither do we allow the wearing of trainers or canvas pumps to school. This type of footwear can be damaging, in the long term, to growing feet and is only appropriate for sports, PE or leisurewear. Neither is it in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. Sandals are not allowed for Health and Safety reasons.
- **No Jewellery, no nail varnish, no make up.**

# Homework



- Your child should share a story with you every day.
- **Read Write Inc Sounds and Letter Formation**
- We will send 'Talk Homework' for you and your child. It will be based around a theme we are studying. Please take the time to complete this homework with your child and write in their 'Busy Bee Book' what they have said/done.
- **Busy Bee books will normally be sent out on a Friday and should be returned to school on the following Wednesdays.**
- Star Moments



Our playgrounds are an imaginative, engaging and active space. We have various 'zones' where children can engage in numerous fun activities at break times, which will develop their imagination and independence.

Here is a short video to showcase what OPAL play is  
[Our Amazing OPAL! See How We Play & Explore at Knop Law 😊 - YouTube](#)



We visit the woodland area every week - your child needs wellington boots in school.





# Rewards/Sanctions



- **Celebration Assembly** - When the reception classes are ready we will have a special assembly on a Friday with the rest of school. **You will get a text on a Thursday to invite you to attend. Shhhhh - don't tell your child - it's a secret!**
- Jar of Joy
- Traffic Lights (+ silver and gold)
- Praise Pads and stickers
- **Children can bring in achievements from home that can be celebrated in celebration assembly (like swimming awards)**
- Sanctions



# Start and finish Times

- School starts at 8.35am.
- We finish at 3.05pm.
- Please can you ensure that you are on time in the morning as the children begin their learning immediately we walk across the school yard. Most children do not like to be late and entering the classroom when the other children are all on the carpet learning.

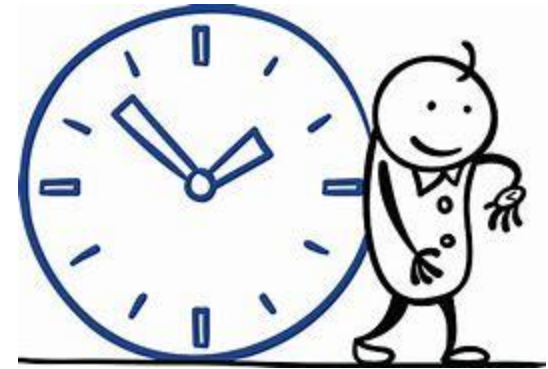
# Clubs

- Breakfast Club - available.
- After School Clubs - Clubs are available from year one onwards. We feel reception children are not quite ready to attend after school clubs yet.

# Attendance

- It is extremely important that your child is on time and attending school everyday.
- Attendance of all pupils is monitored by our attendance team - they meet weekly and take action to support families that fall below our expected attendance rate
- Attendance is important and children should not be taken out of school for holidays. Only absences in exceptional circumstances can be authorised.

# Rise and shine and please be on time!



- Our school starts at 8.35am
- **If children are late they can miss important starts to the day. We don't wait for all children to arrive before beginning.**
- Research has shown that children who are late experience a sense of having to try a little bit harder just to understand what is going on and what other children are talking about or doing.
- **Children feel uncomfortable if they come into class late – they can be embarrassed.**
- Being on time helps children's self-esteem. Children who rarely miss sessions and come on time are more likely to feel good about themselves. This is because they know what goes on and what to expect, feel more confident with the adults and the other children and have more opportunities to be valued and praised for their own special contribution.

# Attendance

- Legally children must attend school (and we know parents want them to)
- You may think 90% attendance is good – BUT – it is the equivalent of having half a day off a week! This is 4 whole weeks of lessons over a year and over 5 years it is half a school year. WOW!
- We give lots of reward and prizes for 100% attendance. Children get a badge for 100% attendance over a term. They also go into the prize draw for a bike and helmet
- If your child is too unwell for school, that cannot be avoided. The best place for a very unwell child is at home. However, if they are a little under the weather try giving them some calpol and sending them into school.
- We will look after them at school and if we think they are too unwell to be here, we will give you a call immediately.
- Please contact school on 01282 226777 on the morning your child is unwell with a reason as to why they will be absent

# Leave in term time

- At Barden we have many families that have relatives living abroad
- We understand that people may wish to visit their families, however, we ask that you please do this in the school holidays.
- Taking children out of school in term time is classed as an unauthorized absence. You could be fined by the local authority for this.

# Leave in term time

- Headteachers are unable to grant leave in term time unless it is **EXCEPTIONAL** circumstances. This very rarely happens.
- If you are planning to take your child out of school in term time – it means that as a parent you are breaking the law.
- Our school policy, set by our governors, is that you must complete a request for leave form from the school office. This must be giving the school as much notice as you can.
- You will then meet with Mrs Holgate (or a member of the senior leadership team)
- You will then be told if the request is accepted or not
- Following this process and letting the school know is both respectful and courteous. Some families have just disappeared, taking their children away for long periods of time without even informing us. This is very upsetting for the school as it does not show us that parents value education, Barden School or the staff that work there.

Last year at Barden over  
3,1000 sessions were  
missed by children  
taking leave in term time.  
This has a huge impact on  
our school and the  
resources we have.



**Your child misses out on valuable learning time.  
This affects the continuity of their learning.**

**When your child misses out on learning—they  
develop gaps in their knowledge and skills —  
these may never be made up.**

**Your child's absence may affect their academic  
achievements—outcomes in assessments, SATS  
and exams.**

LEARNING



# The Impact of leave in term time on our school

- Children miss important learning that will NOT be revisited.
- Your child will miss out on enrichment opportunities such as trips, visits and experiences.
- Teachers have to spend time helping your child to catch up, which is extra work for them and also takes time away from other children in the class.
- Teachers and support staff work very hard to provide the very best for your child. Taking your child out of school in term time indicates a lack of respect for the education process and those involved in providing it.
- Children can miss out on SEN interventions and lose their place in a queue for support
- Your child will miss out on enrichment opportunities such as trips, visits and experiences.
- Children feel upset and anxious upon their return.
- It does not show children how we need to respect education
- It shows a lack of respect to the teachers at school and to the education system. Some families do not even let us know. This is very rude and upsetting.

- **The time taken for schools to deal with attendance meetings, paperwork and the fining process is significant. This time could be spent making the school better for your children, such as working on exciting new initiatives and projects.**
- **\* The money that it costs for staff to deal with attendance issues could be much better spent on providing the best possible education for your child.**



# Other Information

- **Snacks** - Your child will be given a piece of fruit or a vegetable each day to eat.
- **Lunches** - Your child can have a school dinner or a packed lunch. It should be a healthy packed lunch. School dinners will be eaten in the hall.
- **Water**- all children have access to water. Please do not send your own water bottles into school.
- **Milk** - Milk is free in the first term. After this time there will be a charge for this if your child is 5 or turning 5 in that term. If you are in receipt of Free School Meals milk will be free.

# Areas in the Early Years Foundation Stage

## Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Self Regulation
- Managing Self
- Building Relationships

## Communication and Language

- Listening, Attention and Understanding
- Speaking

## Physical Development

- Gross Motor Skills
- Fine Motor Skills

## Literacy

- Comprehension
- Word Reading
- Writing

## Maths

- Number
- Numerical Patterns

## Understanding the World

- Past and Present
- People, Culture and Communities
- The Natural World

## Expressive Arts and Design

- Creating with Materials
- Being Imaginative and Expressive

# Other useful contacts in school

Our Headteacher is Mrs Holgate



• Our SENCO is Mrs Hindle



• Our bursar is Mr Fairclough



• Our pastoral Lead is Mr Dowling



• Our attendance Lead is Mrs Rawcliffe



Please feel free to speak to any of the above if you require help/support



We can't wait to be involved in your child's learning adventure.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch with me in person or via class email -

[2025NewStarters@barden.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:2025NewStarters@barden.lancs.sch.uk)

We will help you all we can.

Thank you  
Mrs Worthy



School website

Barden Primary school.

[www.barden.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.barden.lancs.sch.uk)