



BARLESTONE CofE PRIMARY SCHOOL

News from Mrs Murray

12th February 2026

It is the end of the half term, with it brings the promise of lighter nights, sunnier and warmer days and the hope that the children can get back on the field and play quest (fingers crossed).

EYFS have been busy celebrating Chinese New Year this week and have performed a Dragon Dance, they had a great fun and the whole school got to see their performance. Please see pictures below.

We have lots of exciting events coming up over the next half term please take a look at the dates on this newsletter and on our website. If you have any questions, teachers are always available at the end of the day to catch for a chat.

[A message from Miss Davies about World Book Day.](#)

We are excited to be celebrating **World Book Day on Thursday 5th March.**

This year, children will not need to come to school in costume. Instead, they will be creating small costume pieces in school to wear during the day, these will relate to the book they will be reading throughout the day. Each class will take part in fun activities based on a book, and teachers will be swapping classes to share stories with different year groups.

We are looking forward to a fantastic day celebrating our love of reading.

Have a fantastic February Half Term and we look forward to seeing you on the 23rd February.

Important Dates

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 13/2/26 | Inset Day |
| 16/2/26 - 20/2/26 | February Half Term |
| 23/2/26 | Back to School |
| 23/2/26 - 27/2/26 | Book Fair Week in the School Hall 3.15-4pm |
| 24/2/26 | Relish Pancake Day |
| 25/2/26 | 2.30pm Year 2 Reading Afternoon |
| 2/3/26 - 5/3/26 | Parents Evening Week |
| 4/3/26 | 2.30pm Year 1 & 3 Reading afternoon |
| 5/3/26 | World Book Day |
| 11/3/26 | 2.30pm Year 4 Reading Afternoon |
| 13/3/26 | Non Uniform day - Donations for PTA Chocolate Bingo |
| 25/3/26 | PTA Bingo |
| 26/3/26 | Easter Special Menu |
| 27/3/26 | Last Day of Spring Term |
| 30/3/26 - 10/4/26 | Easter Holidays |
| 13/4/26 | Back to School |

2026



SPRING READING NEWSLETTER



WELCOME TO OUR SPRING READING NEWSLETTER!

At Barlestone CofE Primary School, we believe in the power of reading to inspire and educate. This term, we are excited to launch our very first reading newsletter. We aim to bring out a newsletter every term with information, events and recommendations for the whole school.

READING FOR PLEASURE

When children pick up a book outside of school, they naturally build stronger vocabulary, better comprehension, and sharper thinking skills. Even better, research shows that children who enjoy reading often do better academically and grow into more empathetic, culturally aware young people.

Parents play a big part in sparking that love of reading. Simple things like setting aside a relaxed family reading time or chatting about what everyone's reading can make books feel exciting rather than like homework.

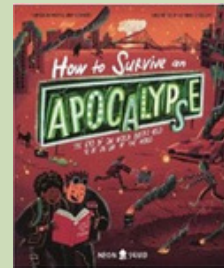
JOIN US FOR READING AFTERNOONS!

We are thrilled to announce our upcoming Reading Afternoons, where we invite adults to join us in reading with our students. These events are a wonderful opportunity to foster community spirit and reinforce the importance of reading together.

We ask that you bring a book that you would like to read to a small group of students! Please find the dates for year groups on the reverse of the newsletter!



BOOK OF THE TERM



How to Survive an Apocalypse by Coby Coonradt and Cameron Hardy.

This book encourages creativity, problem-solving, and discussion, making it a great choice for shared reading in KS2.

AUTHOR OF THE TERM



Rachel Bright

Rachel Bright is our author of the month. She has written a range of picture books suitable for EYFS & KS1. Some of her most famous works are *The Lion Inside* and *The Worrysaurus*.

READING RECOMMENDATIONS:

| YEAR GROUP | Recomendation | Recommended by |
|------------|---|----------------|
| EYFS | The bear and the piano by David Litchfield. | Miss Davies |
| YEAR 1 | That rabbit belongs to Emily Brown by Cressida Cowell & Neal Layton | Mrs Noble |
| YEAR 2 | Fungus the Bogeyman by Raymond Briggs | Miss Lavendar |
| YEAR 3 | You're a bad man Mr Gum! by Andy Stanton | Mr Clifton |
| YEAR 4 | Dave Pigeon by Swapna Haddow | Mrs Bartlam |
| YEAR 5 | The thief of Farrowell by Ravena Guron | Mr Bratton |
| YEAR 6 | The Final Year by Matt Goodfellow & Joe Tood-Stanton | Miss Wilkins |

QUICK REMINDERS

In every year group it is an expectation that children read 5 times per week.
In EYFS & Year 1 this can include when an adult reads to the child.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2:30pm
25th
Feb

Reading afternoon
with Year 2

2:30pm
4th March

Reading afternoon
with Year 1

2:30pm
4th March

Reading afternoon
with Year 3

2:30pm
11th March

Reading afternoon
with Year 4

Watch this space for more information about activities Year 5 & 6 have been up to!



Barlestone C of E Primary School



Healthy Together 

Leicester Partnership NHS offer services to help families with children aged 0-11 a link to the website can be found [here](#)



If you receive certain benefits you may be entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) please follow this [link](#) to find out more and apply online



**Be In SCHOOL
Be On TIME**



Please put your child's name in their uniform. We can not return uniform that does not have a name in it or be held responsible for your child's uniform.

It is illegal to park on zigzag lines outside of schools. Please park sensibly

School opens @ 8.40am

If your child arrives after 9.05am they will get a late mark. After 9.15am they will be classed as unauthorised absence.

How to Contact School

- Email – office@barlestone.risemat.co.uk
- Call – 01455 290511

Please use these two methods for contacting school, this guarantees your message will get through and dealt with promptly. School email address is regularly monitored.

School Office Hours

Please note that the school office is closed daily from *12:00 PM to 1:00 PM**. If you need to administer medication or pick up your child for a medical appointment, we kindly ask that you coordinate this with either Mrs. Murray or Mrs. Hart in advance and ensure it is done outside of these hours.

If you need to reach the school during this time, please call and leave a message or email [**office@barlestone.risemat.co.uk**](mailto:office@barlestone.risemat.co.uk).

Thank you!

CHARITY NUMBER: 516219



THE BIG BARLESTONE COLOUR DASH

and SUMMER FESTIVAL

Friday 15th May 2026
3.30pm - 5.30pm

BARLESTONE PTA UPCOMING EVENTS

20

26

MAR
13

NON SCHOOL
UNIFORM

SPRING
BINGO

MAR
25

MAY
1

NON SCHOOL
UNIFORM

SUMMER
FESTIVAL

MAY
15

JULY
8

SUMMER
DISCO

PLUS

MOTHER'S DAY AND
FATHER'S DAY GIFTS

