

School Diary for the

Week Beginning:

20<sup>th</sup> June 2022

**Badgers - Music Lessons** 

PE for all

**Book**, Playground Games

& Eco Club

Badgers – Bridgewater

Hall to play with the

Hallé Rounder's &

**Construction Club** 

Monday

**Tuesdav** 

Wednesdav

Thursday

# Warmingham CE Primary School

School Lane, Warmingham Cheshire. CW11 3QN Tel: 01270 526260 Executive Head: **Nicola Badger** Principal: **Kate Appleby** 



'Do to others as you would have them do to you.'

Dear Parents,

Can you believe there are only four and half weeks left of this school year? Where has the time gone? Our Year 6 are preparing to leave us, and we are busy preparing to welcome our new reception children. We have also had a few in year applications and we will have some new children joining us before the end of term.

The next four weeks are incredibly busy with our end of year events – sports' day, STAR day, break the rules day, Year 6 prom, leavers' service, picnic and water fight. Otters and Squirrels are also going to Chester Zoo as part of their study theme, and Badgers are going to play with the Hallé Orchestra at Bridgewater Hall.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel last night's parent council as lots of the committee couldn't make the meeting. My principal's update and response to the questions raised by some parents can be found later in the newsletter. I would like to thank Debbie Ptak for chairing the council for the last two years. Her daughter will be starting high school in September so she has stepped down. Thank you.

Don't forget to visit St Michael's church in Middlewich this weekend to see the children's work displayed in the 'Big Story' Labyrinth.



PE for all Outdoor Games Club

# Happy Birthday Sophie and Charlotte





Have a wonderful weekend – fingers crossed this beautiful weather lasts.

Kind regards,

Kate Appleby Principal of Warmingham CE Primary Proud member of the Rural Church Schools Academy Trust

# Principal's Update

The school is in a much stronger position, and I now feel confident that we will be judged as a 'good' school by OFSTED and SIAMs. This has been echoed in our recent school improvement partner's visit and school review (mock OFSTED), which was carried out by Mrs Badger, Mr Goodwin, Malcolm Gate, our chair of the local governors committee and Sheila Loughlin, one of our directors.

Mark Whitehill, the School Effectiveness Officer and Sue Noakes, the Deputy Director of Education from the Chester Diocese both visited the school recently. Both commented on the Christian distinctiveness and atmosphere around the school. Sue Noakes, who knows the school well, felt the school was in a much better place.

COVID is now having less of an impact on everyday life in school. As you would expect, it is still having an impact on some of the children's emotional resilience and achievements – particularly lower down the school where the children have missed a larger percentage of their total time in school, and where online learning was less effective because of the age of the children. Nothing will ever replace a teacher in the classroom! Great care is being taken through the use of our tracking documents to ensure that we cover any missed objectives before moving on. This is particularly important with some of the Maths concepts which haven't been delivered in the classroom in recent years – mainly shape, space & measure. We now have a mental health register (similar to our SEN register) which tracks the interventions and support for some of our children who are struggling emotionally.

Over the last two terms, we have been able to invite more people into school and take our learning out of the classroom. The children in Hedgehogs, Squirrels and Badgers thoroughly enjoyed their residentials. At each centre the staff commented on the behaviour of our children, how they worked as a team and the respect they showed for each other and the adults around them. The 'robot man' came into school and worked with the children in KS2 (Squirrels and Badgers). The children adored using electric drills, screw drivers, hammers and plyers to make our robot who now stands proudly by The children in Badgers have a weekly music lesson with 'Love Music Trust'. Next our front door. week, they will be going to the Bridgewater Hall to play with the Halle Orchestra – this is an amazing event which the children will always remember. Otters and Squirrels are off to Chester Zoo later this term as part of their study theme. Year 6 will be going to a leaver's service at Chester Cathedral. Afterwards, they will be going to Pizza Express for lunch. We have also planned a surprise trip for our Year 6 children – they won't know what they are doing until we get there. Slowly, but surely things are getting back to normal.

I am in the process of organising some outside providers to run a variety of after school clubs next year – bell ringing, choir, chess, robotics, engineering, coding, science and dance. Mr Friel, the PE lead across the trust is also in the process of organising some outside sport clubs.

#### School Development Priorities for 2021/2022: <u>Priority 1:</u>

To further develop the teaching of RE and worship with particular reference to the development of religious and spiritual literacy, whilst also providing opportunities for the children to develop their courageous advocacy.

- The school now has a distinctive Christian ethos.
- The children's religious and spiritual knowledge has improved. Philosophy for children is used throughout school as a vehicle for religious, spiritual and ethical debates. The children enjoy debating 'big questions'.
- Reflection areas are interactive and support the children's religious and spiritual development.
- The children plan and deliver worship on local, national and international issues.
- The children write prayers during collective worship. These are shared at the end of worship and then displayed on our prayer tree.

• There is now a quiet area outside with resources for children to reflect and pray.

Next Steps

- Monitor the impact of our new 4-year scheme of work to ensure there is a depth of learning in the children's RE books and development of knowledge.
- Ensure our pupils understand the value of prayer and reflection.

# Priority 2:

To further develop the SEND provision with particular reference to the staff and pupils mental health.

- HEARTSMART (emotional resilience) is now embedded across KS1 and KS2. Monitoring shows that lessons are at least good.
- A mental health register is now in place to identify and track our most vulnerable children.

Next Steps – Focus for Summer 2022 Development, Monitoring and Training:

- Ensure the SEN pages on our website reflect current practice and provide a valuable resource for our parents.
- Arrange some 'Cool Connections' and 'Resilient Classrooms' training for all teaching assistants for the Autumn Term.
- Arrange 'Elsa' training for one member of staff.

# Priority 3:

To improve standards and raise expectations across the curriculum for all pupils through the consistent application of policies and RCSAT procedures for the teaching of reading, writing and maths.

- Expectations continue to improve.
- All teaching staff have attended some RWINc training.
- All teachers have attended science training.

Next Steps – Focus for Summer 2022 Development, Monitoring and Training:

- Continue to raise our expectations for our more able children so they reach their full potential.
- Review the connected curriculum documents have we got it right? How can we make it even better?

# School Development Priorities for 2022/2023

**Priority 1** – To further develop the children's religious and spiritual literacy through courageous advocacy.

**Priority 2** – To ensure all children make good to outstanding progress in all subjects with particular reference to:

- 1) Improving the communication with parents in the children's reading journals and providing reading workshops so parents can support their children further at home.
- 2) Continue to raise expectations in writing so standards continue to rise.
- 3) Improve the children's arithmetic and rapid recall of multiplications tables.
- 4) Raise expectations in the foundations subjects (our connected curriculum) so they are consistent with the core subjects (English, Maths, Science and RE).

**Priority 3** – To ensure the children have regular opportunities to apply their new skills and knowledge through purposeful tasks.

Learnt skills and knowledge need to be applied to more purposeful tasks. For example, instead of labelling mountain ranges on a world map, the children could create some 'Top Trump' cards which contained details of each mountain range, or after completing some research the children could create a timeline about Nelson Mandela, and then use this information to write a historically correct diary

entry for a specific period of time. The more able children could write an entry which reflects back on his life written the day before he was released from prison.

## Staffing Plan for 2022/23

Otters – Mrs Allen Hedgehogs – Mrs Bugliarello Squirrels – Miss Turrell Badgers – Mrs Wright/Mrs Appleby

Mr Barton – PE on a Friday

We are also in the process of appointing another TA who will spend the mornings in class and the afternoon delivering interventions across KS2 (Squirrels and Badgers) and a teacher to deliver forest schools one day a week.

## Purpose of the Parents' Council

When we set up our parent council last year, I stressed that I wanted it to be a forum where questions could be raised, and ideas shared. Parents must never wait until a parent council meeting to express a concern about their child. Instead, please raise any concerns with your child's class teacher or Mrs Appleby.

## **Questions Raised**

1) Will the school be open to all children at 8.30 for all and not for the few? like the old days pre covid when we could stand in the playground?

The school day officially starts at 9am when the register is taken. We open the doors early at 8:45am to welcome the children into school in a calm and relaxed manner. The school doesn't open at 8:30am for any of our pupils. There have been a few occasions when parents ask if they can drop their children off early as they may have a one off appointment they need to get to. Wherever, possible we also try to help. The school will not be opening any earlier than 8:45am.

2) What provision is being made to encourage inclusive play at break times, activities, play equipment, etc?

The children have access to a wide variety of equipment including bats, balls, board games, cards, colouring, construction, books, den making tools, tyres, large logs, trim trail, story chair, giant chess and Jenga. The children in Badgers are our play leaders and they take it in turns to organise and supervise the play equipment whilst outside. There is also at least two members of staff on duty who monitor the children closely.

Over the last term, we have also run a playground games club for the children lower down the school. Each week, we teach some traditional playground games. The children are then encouraged to play these over the course of the week.

If parents raise concerns, we share this information with all the staff so we can support the child. Each week we also have a weekly briefing where we discuss any children we are worried about. Minutes from these meetings are emailed to all staff – teaching and non-teaching so every member of staff is fully aware.

When I'm on duty or pop out to spend some time with the children, the children's behaviour is usually perfect so I asked Malcolm Gate, the chair of our local governors committee and a retired headteacher to observe a lunchtime whilst he was in school. His report is below:

# Rationale for Evaluation/Observation

- The quality of pupil learning in afternoon sessions can be impacted by events that occur during lunchtime.
- The lunchtime session has the potential to place pressure on pupil relationships and therefore has the potential to test the extent to which a school's Christian values and ethos impact upon pupils in practice.
- Safeguarding issues may be highlighted, reflecting the stimulating environment (eg in the woodland area and field) and the degree of freedom pupils (rightly) enjoy at lunchtime.
- Lunchtime supervisors and teaching assistants with lunchtime responsibility carry considerable responsibility in relation to the above. The practice of these members of staff is crucial to the operation of an efficient school.

# Environment - The Woodland Area and Playground

When the weather allows pupils to be outside (on the day of this observation it was sunny and warm), their surroundings are idyllic. This area is stimulating, providing pupils with wonderful opportunities to experiment, cooperate with each other and participate in imaginative play and during this observation pupils took full advantage. This area must be the envy of other primary schools, allowing pupils the freedom to test themselves and manage their own risk.

The pupils shared this area for 10 minutes from 12.50pm. They cooperated well with each other with the older pupils helping younger pupils when necessary. Play Leaders have particular responsibility in this respect and a rota is in place to ensure all Upper KS2 (Badgers) pupils have their turn. There were some adventurous, athletic moves on the equipment, all being applied without any pressure on a particular piece of apparatus. The physical benefits, including the advantages of developing gross motor skills, are beneficial inside as well as outside the classroom, and are particularly important for younger children.

Den making seems to be a particularly popular activity with groundsheets being supplied for this purpose. (A pupil remarked that she wished they had more of these sheets). Pupils appeared more active (and thus likely fitter) than I have seen in many other schools. No difference between boys and girls was observed in this respect. Although Warmingham is a very small school it is no surprise that it competes very successfully in inter-school sports competitions!

Such a rich and fulfilling environment however, comes with additional demands for staff. It is crucial that lunchtime supervisors employ sharp observational skills – yes, they do need eyes in the back of their heads! - so that they are able to pre-empt overly adventurous moves on the equipment. They were adept in this respect for the vast majority of the time with Mrs Dowman patrolling this area and providing appropriate warnings where necessary, especially when Mrs Brookes had to leave the area to deal with a bumped head pupil. As in most schools it seems that many accidents/incidents occur in the final few minutes of playtime! And as in most schools this is the time lunchtime staff need to be at their most vigilant. Pupils can become tired, hot and lack concentration and accidents will invariably occur.

Lunchtime supervisors used coloured, laminated cards relating to the four school `houses` to send the pupils back into school at the end of lunchtime at 1.00pm. This is good practice and promotes efficiency.

# <u>The Field</u>

There is a short, supervised walk from the woodland area/playground and used when underfoot conditions allow. KS2 used this area from 12.00 – 12.20 before going to lunch. EY and KS1 use this area after they have had their lunch until 12.50.

Many pupils I talked to said this was their favourite area to play, although one pupil said "it can get very hot on the field." Equipment (balls, bats, ropes etc), monitored by play leaders, is available from a cupboard in the playground and taken to the field. From observation and talking to pupils, football is very popular with boys and girls participating equally.

This field area is also idyllic with cows in the adjacent fields looking on and grazing happily. Pupils told me they "really liked looking at the cows," with one KS1 boy telling me he "liked to watch them pooing." The fact that one particular girl's father is responsible for looking after the cows just adds to the village community `feel.` The manner in which the pupils played with each other – and the fact they know each other so well - just added to the communal atmosphere.

As in the Woodland Area, pupils played cooperatively and I observed many of them inviting others to play with them. Lunchtime supervisors said they were mindful of any pupil being on their own and looked out for this. During the observation only one (Reception) pupil was alone "because no-one will play Avengers with me." Mrs Dowman had spotted this and was explaining to him the implications of his very specific request. It was good to see Mrs Brookes playing football with pupils who told me that "they really liked it when Mrs. Brookes and Mrs. Dowman play with us." It was also good to see Mrs. Brookes and Mrs. Dowman at opposite ends of the field, thereby ensuring a complete line of sight to all the pupils. It is all too familiar to see lunchtime supervisors in primary schools talking to each other in pairs/groups and thus incidents occurring amongst pupils going "unseen." This was not the case during my observation.

Football certainly allows some pupils to "let their light shine," with one particular KS1 girl observed as being a particularly proficient footballer. The long grass is limiting for the really keen footballers but it does help to avoid the ball rolling into all areas of the field and interrupting the activities of non football playing pupils. KS2 pupils said that there were few arguments at lunchtime play. I did not observe anything but a calm, cooperative and positive atmosphere; where arguments do occur pupils said that these were likely to be over football and most likely to involve boys. I asked, provocatively, if there were ever any physical fights, to which the answers were "no." Indeed, one pupil looked puzzled when I asked her this question as if to say, "that sort of thing doesn't happen at Warmingham."

A whistle was blown by a lunchtime supervisor when `field time` was over. Pupils responded appropriately and play equipment was picked up as the pupils moved to the line at the top of the field. In both sessions one or two pieces of equipment were left on the field but impressively, pupils following behind picked these up anyway. This was also the case where one or two packed lunch boxes had been left on the field. I was told that leaving items on the field was an `issue` and that the amount of equipment allowed was currently restricted as a result, so the altruism I witnessed in these sessions may not always be evident!

# <u>Eating</u>

The opportunity to eat outside on good weather days is particularly wonderful for pupils. The school kitchen backs onto the playground and the calm way in which KS2 pupils lined up, sat themselves down, said Grace and ate their lunch, reflected both their appreciation of these opportunities and the expertise of teaching assistants. The manner in which Mrs Knight and Mrs Morris spoke to and managed the pupils – and, in turn, the manner in which pupils related to them – contributed to the wholly pleasant atmosphere. One Year 5 girl said that she didn't like getting flies in her food, but this surely must be the only downside of this arrangement!

# Summary

- Pupil to pupil and pupil to staff (and vice versa) relationships at lunchtime, both at play and whilst eating their lunch, undoubtedly reflect the Christian ethos of the school
- There are countless opportunities for pupils to "let their light shine" at lunchtime and they take full advantage

- Where a variety of physical opportunities are on offer, vigilance from lunchtime staff is of the highest priority to ensure appropriate safeguarding responsibilities are executed. This was evident in the observation.
- The environment in which pupils play and eat is idyllic. Both pupils and staff demonstrated that they appreciate this through mutual cooperation and a good degree of Christian selflessness.

Thank you to staff and pupils for giving me the opportunity to observe the distinctive Warmingham lunchtime. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience and would like to repeat it in the not too distant future!

# Malcolm Gate (Chair of Warmingham's Local Governors Committee)

3) When are we going to go back to allowing the children to play in the playground before the school bell rings at the start of the day rather than going into school and completing "early work" before 9am? We seem to have lost play time before school.

After careful consideration, we will be continuing with our current routine because:

- The start to the day is a lot calmer. Before the children often came into school over excited after running around with their friends. Staff are no longer starting the day sorting out disagreements or dealing with accidents.
- As the children enter their classrooms, they are given time to chat to their peers, put things away before starting their early work. Early work often consists of a task which involves the children talking to solve a problem or completing a challenge. This is so much calmer than before. It also provides some additional time for the teachers to work with individual children to address any misconceptions identified in their marking the night before, whilst the other children are completing their early work tasks. Teaching assistants also spend time sharing books with children.
- > The children have lots of opportunities to play throughout the day. Teachers also take the children outside if they need an additional break.
- 4) What end of year trips are being organised? Chester Zoo Bridgewater Hall Chester Cathedral Pizza Express Y6 surprise outing
- 5) Only issue I have so far is school car park etiquette!
- 6) Some parents drive at an unbelievably high speed on the school car park, this is dangerous for all using the car park, can school address this? Also when using the village hall car park, could parents be asked to give more consideration with their parking and driving to others, so we can all get on the car park and also leave safely.

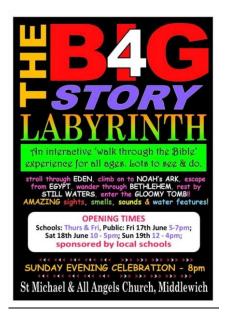
Regular reminders are put on the newsletter and from time to time additional emails or text messages are sent home. We have shared our concerns about the speed cars drive along School Lane with the police and highways.

#### The Big Story Labyrinth

We have been busy creating some work to display in the 'The Big Story Labyrinth' at St Michael's church in Middlewich. Each class has focused on one of Jesus' miracles - you will have seen the children's work on Facebook and the school website. You will be able to see the children's work this weekend at St Michael's - please try to pop along and see it.

> Opening times: Friday 17th June 5pm to 7pm Saturday 18th June 10am to 5pm Sunday 19th 12pm to 4pm

The children have also been learning some songs to sing at the 'Festival Praise' which takes place at 11am on Sunday 19th June. If you would like your child to take part, simply pop along to the Market Fields before 10.50am to join the choir. The children need to be wearing bright clothing.





# Sports' Day - Friday 1st July

The morning will involve lots of activities where the children will compete against their classmates in other houses. We will then be having a picnic on the field, which you are welcome to join us at 12pm. The children can either have a school picnic or eat with you - you're welcome to bring your own picnics (no alcohol please). Don't forget to bring your picnic rugs and chairs with vou.

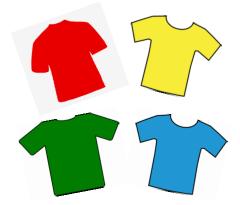
The afternoon will consist of traditional sports' day races which you are welcome to stay and watch. There will also be a parents and toddlers race at the end of the afternoon.

#### **Reserve Sports' Day – Friday 15th July**

#### Team Colours for Sports' Day

The children will need to wear their team colours on sports' day. Each child will need to wear a colour t-shirt to represent their team. The t-shirts can have a design on them, as long as the majority of the t-shirt is the correct colour.

> Birch House – Red Oak House - Yellow Sycamore – Green Willow - Blue





#### STAR Day

Each year we invite parents into school to look celebrate their child's work and achievements with them. This year our STAR day will be on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July from 1:30pm onwards.

Parents will be able to spend some time looking through their child's books - celebrating all the things they have achieved this year.

Let Your Light Shine ~ Ours Stars for this week:

**Otters** (Reception) ~ Rupert for his super work on his maths challenges.

**Hedgehogs** (Y1) ~ Isla for her confidence in Maths, especially during this week's quizzes.

**Hedgehogs** (Y2) ~ Imogen for her super diary writing travelling around Africa.

**Squirrels** (Y3) ~ Jack for his superb progression in Maths when answering challenging problem solving and reasoning questions.

**Squirrels** (Y4) ~ Tiana for her brilliant mature and sensible nature when we completed our first RHSE lesson this week.

**Badgers** (Y5) ~ Jenson for a much improved attitude to learning.

**Badgers** (Y6) ~ Frankie for his maturity in our RSHE lessons.

PE Award (KS1) ~Imogen for wonderful jumping and officiating skills in Athletics.

**PE Award** (KS2) ~ Caleb for encouraging others and showing excellent running skills in Rounders. **Mrs Appleby's Principal Award** ~ Dani for organising an ice cream to raise money for the children in the Ukraine.

House Points				
House	Birch	Oak	Sycamore	Willow
This Week	88	69	51	63
Top of the House	Alexander	Rupert	Jenson H	Alfie Charlotte Ellie
This Year	1597	1815	1182	1527



This week our Ethos Council have chosen Dinah for helping her classmate to write a prayer.



Valuing Difference Luke 7:1-10

After listening to the Bible story about the Roman Centurion from the book of Luke, we will thinking about how each person is unique and how everyone is special.



#### Prayer for the Week

Dear Lord, Open our eyes to value each person that we meet. Help us to recognise what we have in common and respect what makes each of us unique. Amen.

This Week's Family Bible Reading

The Apostles are freed Pages 370 – 371

Let Your Light Shine - Out of School Achievements



Lilly was dancer of the week. Well done Lilly



Jemima has completed Stage 1 in her swimming. Well done Jemima

# H B A G S T O R Y LABYRINTH

An interactive 'walk through the Bible' experience for all ages. Lots to see & do.

stroll through EDEN, climb on to NOAH's ARK, escape from EGYPT, wander through BETHLEHEM, rest by STILL WATERS, enter the GLOOMY TOMB!! AMAZING sights, smells, sounds & water features!

# **OPENING TIMES**

Schools: Thurs & Fri, Public: Fri 17th June 5-7pm; Sat 18th June 10 - 5pm; Sun 19th 12 - 4pm; sponsored by local schools

SUNDAY EVENING CELEBRATION - 8pm St Michael & All Angels Church, Middlewich





#### June 2022

23<sup>rd</sup> June – Badgers playing with the Hallé Orchestra at Bridgewater Hall 28<sup>th</sup> June – Badgers Rounders' Tournament at Middlewich High School – cancelled by MHS

#### July 2022

1<sup>st</sup> July – Sports' Day - Parents to join us from 12pm 6<sup>th</sup> July – Taster Day for Year 5 Middlewich High School 6<sup>th</sup> July – Y6 Leavers' Trip 7<sup>th</sup> July – Annual Reports8<sup>th</sup> July – RCSAT Ethos Council Conference @ Bunbury 13<sup>th</sup> July – Y6 Leavers' Service @ Chester Cathedral followed by lunch at Pizza Express 14<sup>th</sup> July – STAR Day with parents from 1:30pm onwards 15<sup>th</sup> July – Reserve Sports' Day 15<sup>th</sup> July – Break the Rules Day 15<sup>th</sup> July – Y6 Prom 18<sup>th</sup> July – Y6 Picnic and Rounders' Match with Staff – after school 19<sup>th</sup> July – Otters & Hedgehogs Chester Zoo Visit 20<sup>th</sup> July – Leavers' Service at St Leonard's Church @ 10am 20<sup>th</sup> July – Last Day in School

#### September 2022

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> September – INSET Days First day back for the children – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September