Barlaston First School Newsletter

12th June 2026

'Let your light shine through family, friendship and faith.'

Our whole school vision…

'Enabling our whole school community to flourish and let their light shine, preparing them for their role as gentle and humble agents for change in the world we share.'

Activity Week 22 – 26 June

We are holding an activity week commencing 22nd June. During the week children will take part in the activities listed below. The purpose of the week is to provide the children with interesting and slightly different experiences which they wouldn't encounter in a usual school week, and simply to have fun doing so. Further details on all of these activities / days will be provided next week.

Monday 22nd	Poetry with visiting poet Angela James
Wednesday 24th	Art and Spirituality with Mrs Clarey
Thursday 25th	Chocolate Making
Friday 26th	African art in the morning. African Drums in the afternoon

Angela James, our visitor on Monday is offering her latest book for sale and will personally sign any copies purchased. A letter is at the end of the email with details of how to place any orders should you wish to take advantage of this offer.

Wedgwood Visits

I was very keen that Wedgwood should figure in our activity week. They were unable to accommodate any visits during our chosen week but we have been able to arrange visits across 3 dates outside of that week. We will visit in groups as set out below. All visits will take place during school hours and will not impact drop off or pick up times. You will notice that Year 4 are mentioned twice. This is because we have had to split 4 classes into 3 equal groups so Year 4 have been split across 2 dates on an entirely random basis. This makes no difference to their experience on the visit. All children in all 4 classes will take part in all activities in exactly the same way.

The School Day

Entry to Breakfast Club – 7.45-8.45am
Main School Gates Open - 8.40am
Classroom Doors Open – 8.45am
Classroom and Main Gates Closed – 8.55am
Enter through the Office after 8.55am
End of the day Main School Gates Open – 3.25pm
Classroom Doors Open – 3.30pm
(3,25pm Hedgehogs)
Classroom Doors Closed – 3.40pm
Collection After 3.40pm is From the School Office

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Wedgwood thought this specific visit was probably not suitable for our youngest children, but we are exploring other similar options for our Nursery and Reception children.

Wedgwood Trip	
16 June	Year 1 and half of Year 4
30 June	Year 2
2 July	Year 3 and half of Year 4

I do need to put on record my thanks to our PTFA for their support in helping enable this activities week. They have paid in full for the visitors providing the Chocolate Making and the African Drums and Art. This is a significant commitment and only possible because of their tireless efforts in putting on events that raise that money.
Thank you very much. It really is appreciated.

PTFA Fathers Day Activity

Our PTFA will be delivering a Fathers Day activity on the afternoon of Friday 19 June at school. All of the children will take part throughout the afternoon and will bring the fruits of their labours home with them that afternoon.

Stoke City Penalty Shoot Out

The stoke City Penalty Shootout will take place next Wednesday morning 17th, with all children taking 5 penalties each against goalkeepers including Stoke City mascot Pottermus.
All sponsor money will need to be returned by **Wednesday 24th June.**

Balances on Accounts

Thank you from me, for your response to the request to clear account balances. This helps greatly in discussions about the viability of our provision and to keep future costs to a minimum. We will continue to send reminders and follow up any outstanding balances as part of the processes we are required to follow.

Dates for the Diary

16th June – Yr 1 & Yr 4 Wedgwood Trip

17th June - Stoke City Penalty Shoot Out morning

19th June – PTFA – Father's Day Activity

22nd June – Poetry with Angela

24th June – Arts & Spirituality Day with Mrs Clarey

25th June – Chocolate Making

26th June – African Arts & Drums

29th + 30th June – Yr 4 Transition Days

30th June – Yr 2 Wedgwood Trip

2nd July – Yr 3 + Yr4 Wedgwood Trip

5th July – Longton Junior Park Run 8.45am

7th July – PTFA Activity Day – Details to follow

8th July – Reports come home

9th July – Owl Leavers Disco

14th July – KS2 Performance 1.30pm

15th July – KS2 Performance 5.30pm

17th July - End of Term Service in Church 9am

17th July – Leaver's Picnic 1.30

17th July – Break for Summer

Return to School – Thursday 3rd September 26.

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Fishing for Families

As those of you who have taken part in this initiative will know it has been an enormous success. Children (and grown-ups) are reporting how positive their experience has been. Here is a picture of our fishing superstars, celebrating their success.

Owl Class Leaver's photo's will be taken on Monday 15th June – Please come to school wearing your new Leaver's hoodies.

Attendance Stars this Week !

Hedgehogs -87.6%
Squirrels -96.97%
Badgers -98.29%
Deers -96.97%
Owls -97.04%

Well Done to Badger Class our highest attenders of the week with 98.29%
Keep it up!

PTFA news

Next PTFA meeting is:

Thursday 9th July
@ The Upper House
7pm Start

Lost Property

We currently have an overflowing box of lost property in the foyer! This includes over 25 jumpers / cardigans with no name on, if you are missing some uniform please come and collect them. Any unclaimed items will be donated at the end of term. Thankyou

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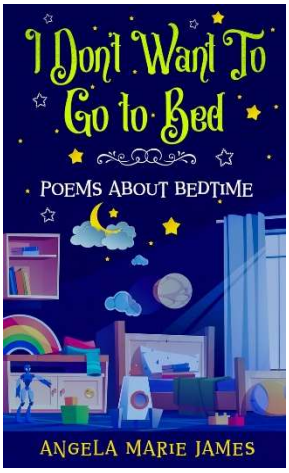
AUTHOR VISIT

We are delighted that the author **Angela Marie James** will be visiting our school on Monday 22nd June.

Angela writes books for both children and adults. She is also a performance poet and storyteller, and has performed her work in schools, nurseries, colleges, libraries, museums, clubs and at community events.
Angela will be sharing her poems, stories and creative inspiration with our children. Her engaging workshops are a fantastic way to encourage a love of reading, writing and imagination.



As part of the visit, the children will have the opportunity to purchase a signed copy of Angela's children's poetry book ***'I Don't Want To Go to Bed'*** at a cost of **£8.00**. (This will be dedicated to your child).

A fun collection of poems about bedtime. The first in the 'I Don't Want To' children's poetry book series. Avoiding going to bed, story time, teddies, sleepovers, not wanting to get up and lots more. For anyone who dislikes bedtime (both children and parents alike). These poems are a hit with children of all ages, as they are about something they can really relate to – bedtime and how to avoid it! They inspire children's imagination and creativity, allowing them to feel free to explore and write their own poetry. They are also popular with adults and teachers alike.
FUTURE TITLES IN THE SERIES: I Don't Want To Eat That, I Don't Want To Go to School

How to Order

- Books will be available to purchase in the shop on Eduspot
- Purchases will need to be made by Wednesday 17th June 2026 for Angela to have enough time to dedicate the books before her visit.
- Angela will bring the signed books with her on the day of the visit

For more information about the author, please visit the website below: https://amjames.co.uk/