



Benfieldside Primary Newsletter



December 2018



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that our December newsletter finds you fit and well and that you are looking forward to joining us for our various festive performances and activities. Below you will find a list of dates/times for our Christmas Events- please take the time to find those which will involve your child/children. We look forward to celebrating with you. **Polite reminder: Photographs and videos cannot be taken during performances & mobile phones must not be used inside our building. Thank you for your support.** Thank you to all those who supported our Children in Need appeal this year- we raised a total of £334.92.

With very best wishes for Christmas from all of the staff, pupils and governors here at Benfieldside,

Mrs C Addison, Headteacher

P.S please view our new website www.benfieldside.durham.sch.uk Twitter: @BenfieldsidePr1



CHRISTMAS APPEAL



We are supporting the Consett Salvation Army's Christmas Appeal this year. If you are able to donate any new, unwrapped toys, these will be collected from the school on 17th December and distributed to Derwentside families who may not otherwise receive gifts.

We update our Twitter feed most weekdays, with interesting class news, advance notice of events etc. Although you'll be able to keep up with the feed on our Website's Homepage, why not follow us and find out more?



Twitter@BenfieldsidePr1



Christmas Dates 2018

- 3rd December:** Early Years Parent Craft session- Nursery (am) Reception (PM)
- 11th December** Y5/6 Carol Concert 2.30pm
- 12th December** Y3 Carol Concert 2.30pm
- 13th December** Y4 Carol Concert 2.30pm
- 14th December** Nursery Christmas Concert (AM)
Reception Christmas Concert (PM)
- 17th December** Y3/4 Party (PM)
- 18th December** Y1 & Y2 Performance 10am
- 18th December** Y5/6 Party (PM)
- 19th December** Y1-Y6 Pantomime Trip (AM)
- 19th December** Reception party
- 20th December** Nursery Party (AM)
- 20th December** Y1 & Y2 Party (PM)
- 21st December** Nursery and Reception pantomime for pupils in school.

School closes on Friday 21st December and re-opens for pupils on Tuesday 8th January 2019

Attendance Trophy Winners:

Week beginning 5th November: Class 2
Week beginning 12th October: Class 6
Week beginning 19th October: Class 8
Week beginning 26th November: Class 9

Reading Award Winners:

2nd November Class 6
9th November Classes 5 & 6
16th November Classes 4, 5 and Reception
23rd November Classes 4, 5 and 6
30th November Classes 5 and 6



Reading at home: averages per class in November:

Class 1	93%	Class 6	98%
Class 2	84%	Class 7	74%
Class 3	65%	Class 8	86%
Class 4	94%	Class 9	70%
Class 5	100%		

Please support us by encouraging your child to read at home and by signing and returning their Reading Record.
Thank you

Governing Body Update:

Mr T Clark is our Chair of Governors
Mrs V Knapp is our Vice Chair. Our new governors are: Mr C Neil, Mrs M Nealis and Mrs C Davie. Mrs Murray and Mrs Carlin are experienced governors (and parents).

Staff governors are: Mrs Lisle, Mrs Coombe, Mrs Rowell and Mrs Addison.

Upcoming Events:

- **School Nurse Drop-in** session: 9am in the Discovery Den 11th December 2018. Please call in to discuss any health concerns you may have about your child or to seek advice.

Safeguarding:

Safeguarding and Child Protection concerns can be shared with our Senior Designated Person (DSP) and the four Deputy DSPs, who will listen, advise, or report as appropriate.

Mrs Addison- DSP

Mrs Rowell -Deputy DSP Miss Clarkson -Deputy DSP

Mrs Coombe- Deputy DSP Mr Wright - Deputy DSP

Please be aware that any parents or carers who are worried about a risk of significant harm to a child can share their concerns by contacting First Contact on 03000267979

All Benfieldside staff are L1 safeguarding trained.
Our Safeguarding Governor is Mrs Knapp.

Our SNOW procedure:

With winter being upon us, we'd like to take the opportunity to let you know what our procedures are:

If significant overnight snowfall or other extreme conditions prevent us from opening, we will notify Durham County Council, who post school closures on their website. The message will be added to our own [Website](#) and to our [Twitter feed](#). We will attempt to notify parents, carers, staff and governors through our [texting system](#). **Please make sure that we have your most up to date contact details.**

We will make every effort to open our school when it is possible to do so and when access is safe for pupils, parents and staff.



Christmas Lunch Event:

Our school kitchens will be serving our **Children and Staff their delicious Christmas lunch on 12th December 2018**. For details see separate letters or contact the Office.

