

Benfieldside Primary Newsletter February 2019



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that our February newsletter finds you fit and well. January was a really enjoyable month which flew by in school. I was impressed and delighted with how quickly our children settled back to work in their classes and I have pupils, staff and parents to thank for that. Clearly the pupils are all very well supported at home and at school and that is brilliant. Here's hoping that February is just as enjoyable and hardworking for us all.

Best wishes, Mrs Addison Headteacher.

Please view our website www.benfieldside.durham.sch.uk and/or follow us on [Twitter@BenfieldsidePr1](https://twitter.com/BenfieldsidePr1)



We will celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 7th March. Children may come into school dressed as their favourite character for a donation of 50p. They will have the opportunity to buy cakes and refreshments and will be able to take part in a variety of activities and win prizes for a small cost. If you have any unwanted books in good condition for our book stall, they would be greatly appreciated.



The book fair will be arriving in school week beginning the 4th of March. Parents can view books in the KS2 library on Tuesday 5th, Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th of March, after school until 4:15. Alternatively, please send your order and payment into school in a sealed envelope.

Attendance and punctuality update:

We continue to award the weekly trophy for the best attending class and individual pupils can collect a House Point each time they arrive at school on time. Termly 100% attendance rewards will also continue.

Upcoming Events:

- Tuesday 12th February 9am School Nurse drop-in at the Discovery Den
- 13th February Parents' Evening (see separate letter to follow)
- Friday 15th February - school finishes for half term
- Monday 25th February - pupils return to school after half term
- Tuesday 12th March School Nurse drop-in at the Discovery Den
- Friday 15th March - School Photograph Day
- 5th-7th March Scholastic Book Fair
- 7th March World Book Day
- Friday 5th April- break up for the Easter holidays
- Tuesday 23rd April - return to school to begin summer term
- KS2 SATs week 13th May (official test period ends 24th May)
- 16th May Nursery Theatre Trip

Polite reminder: Please do not send any products containing nuts in your child's packed lunch. Thank you.





Please support us with our reading initiative, by enjoying books and other reading materials with your child/children as often as possible.

We will continue to present our weekly Reading Trophy in Friday assembly.

Thank you for your support.



Social Media: At Benfieldside School we aim for the best for all of our children, but we recognise that on some occasions you may feel that we could have done better. We would like to encourage you to come in and discuss any concerns with the school by calling or making an appointment to see us. We would be grateful if you did not raise complaints about the school on social media but come into school so we can understand your concerns and help solve the problem. Complaints on social media can be damaging for the school, its staff and most importantly the pupils. If you still feel that the issue has not been dealt with appropriately then we will provide you with a copy of the formal complaints procedure.

January 2019 Reading Averages:

Class 1 83%	Class 6 96%
Class 2 73%	Class 7 86%
Class 3 66%	Class 8 76%
Class 4 81%	Class 9 54%
Class 5 97% Whole school average 79%	

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.

VEGPOWER – EAT THEM TO DEFEAT THEM

The Food Foundation and ITV are on a quest to get children to eat more vegetables. Benfieldside’s school catering company (Taylor Shaw) and our kitchen staff will be supporting the quest.

Here is an extract from a letter from the Taylor Shaw Regional Manager:

The health of the children we feed is extremely important to us, and we are excited to be supporting this. **VEGPOWER - what is it?**

Veg Power is an independent not-for-profit brand manager for vegetables which uses advertising and marketing techniques to inspire everyone to eat more vegetables. In January, Veg Power and ITV will be launching a national campaign to encourage children to love their vegetables, led by £2m worth of advertising space from ITV. The Campaign advertising itself will encourage children to have fun with vegetables whilst focussing on the important matter of eating them. It will feature a wide range of real vegetables. It will be funny, challenging and engaging.

VEG OF THE WEEK

For 10 weeks we will feature a different vegetable of the week, these are the chosen vegetables for the campaign:

- 04-Feb Veg of the Week - Carrots
- 11-Feb Veg of the Week - Sweetcorn
- 18-Feb Veg of the Week - Broccoli (Half Term)
- 25-Feb Veg of the Week - Peas
- 04-Mar Veg of the Week - Cauliflower
- 11-Mar Veg of the Week - Butternut Squash
- 18-Mar Veg of the Week - Cabbage
- 25-Mar Veg of the Week – Peppers
- 01-Apr Veg of the Week - Tomatoes
- 08-Apr Veg of the Week - Cucumber (Easter Holidays)

