

Benfieldside Primary Newsletter May 2019



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that our May newsletter finds you fit and well and that you all enjoyed a rest and some family time over the Easter holidays.

Having been Headteacher at Benfieldside for a whole year now, I have sent out the parent/carer questionnaires again, so please look out for them. I will be interested to know your views of the improvements made to our school so far, plus any ideas you have for future development. Please return them to school by 10th May (spare copies available at the school office). Thank you for making me so welcome this year and for the support that you give to your school.

Enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend,

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)

Spotlight on Sport:

Benfieldside pupils have enjoyed some great sporting opportunities recently (a rugby club trip, multi-sports trip for example) in addition to our usual PE and Coaching sessions. In the coming weeks we will also be offering activities such as: Dance Festival, Judo sessions, Tennis Festival and Multi Sports. Following on from the successful Fitness sessions she offered earlier in the year, Miss Williams will be providing an Athletics Club and Miss Looney continues to offer the Ball Games club. If your child's year group is eligible to attend the events and clubs this half term, you will have been notified by letter.

Other clubs on offer:

Some pupils will also be attending the various Reading and Writing clubs running across school, plus Mrs Bovill is running an Art Club and Relax Kids will also continue to run.





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.

April 2019 Reading Averages:

Class 1 59%	Class 6 95%
Class 2 86%	Class 7 85%
Class 3 75%	Class 8 67%
Class 4 96%	Class 9 88%
Class 5 94%	Whole school average 83%

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.

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday 7th May - Y5 Taster Day at Consett Academy

7th May School Nurse drop-in session 9.00 Discovery Den

8th May Kindness Puppet show in assembly

KS2 SATs week 13th May (official test period ends 24th May)

May 2019- KS1 SATs

23rd May- NO BREAKFAST CLUB (Community Room/Discovery Den to be used as Polling Station for European elections)

Monday 27th May -half term Holidays

Monday 3rd June - return to school after half term

6th June classes 5 and 7 Museum trip

7th June class 6 Museum trip

10th June- Phonic screening fortnight begins

20th June Classes 2 and 8 performing at the Dance Festival

24th June Northumbrian Water Pantomime in school for Y1-Y6

27th & 28th June Judo sessions for pupils in school

2nd July Y6 Transition Day at Consett Academy

10th July Parents' Evening 3.45pm-6pm

17th, 18th & 19th July Robinwood residential

19th July - end of the academic year

Attendance update:

As registers are a legal document, the Local Authority has advised that our Headteacher must be satisfied with reasons given for absence in cases where a pupil's overall attendance is low. In such instances, some parents may be asked to provide medical evidence (e.g. appointment card) to account for their child's absence from school. This does not apply to children who are usually very good attenders at school but experience a short period of illness. If satisfactory medical evidence cannot be provided, the record of unauthorised absence will be referred to the Council's Enforcement team.