

# Benfieldside Primary Newsletter November 2019



**Dear Parents and Carers,**

I hope that our November newsletter finds you fit and well and that you enjoyed the October half term break.

Thank you to all of those parents and carers who were able to join us on Parents' Evening- we hope that you found the meeting useful. Thank you also for your contributions to our 2019 Harvest Appeal for the Consett Foodbank. We are sure that local families will benefit from your generosity and support. We managed to collect the 300 Sport Stickers required for the Aldi chart. Thank you so much for your support with that too.

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. Further details will follow in due course but having the dates in advance may help you to plan your attendance at relevant events.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Mrs C Addison, Headteacher

## Reading averages for October 2019:



Donaldson 88%

Milne 81%

Dahl 92%

Browne 100%

Wilson 95%

Lewis 98%

Morpurgo 91%

Rowling 86%

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

## Christmas Dates 2019 (details to follow):



**4th December:** Y6 Baptist Church carol service (pm)

**5th December:** Y5/6 Performance (am)

**9th December** KS1 party (pm)

**10th December** Y3/4 Performance (am)

**11th December** - School Christmas lunch

**12th December** - **No Breakfast club** due to General Election Polling in Discovery Den.

**13th December** Early Years Christmas play (am & pm)

**16th December** Y3/4 Christmas Party (pm)

**17th December** KS1 performance (am)

**17th December** Y5/6 Christmas Party (pm)

**18th December** - Y1- Y6 Pantomime at Consett Empire

**18th December** Reception class party (pm)

**19th December** Nursery Party

**20th December** Early years Pantomime in our hall.

**20th December** - Break up for Christmas

**6th January 2020** - Teacher Training Day

**7th January 2020**- Pupils return for spring term

### Children in Need:

We will be supporting Children in Need on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November, by coming to school in our pyjamas. Children and staff are welcome to make a donation - whatever they can afford. All donations are very much appreciated.



### Polite Reminders:

Can you please try to ensure that dinner money is paid on Mondays, for the week ahead.

Also, in the interest of safety, can parents please refrain from parking on the zigzags or in the school carpark.

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

### Our SNOW procedure:

With winter being just around the corner, 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.**



### Attendance & Punctuality:

The Government set a target for every child of 96% attendance. If a child's attendance falls to 90% or below, it is classed as persistent absence and must be followed up swiftly and rigorously by the school. Each month, Mrs Coombe will be working with families to ensure that any persistently absent pupils, or those at risk of dropping to 90% or below, are able to meet targets set for them to improve attendance. Our teachers plan amazing, lively and interesting learning opportunities for pupils of all needs and abilities and it is important that we work in partnership to ensure that all children access their full curriculum entitlement. Please support us in helping your child progress and achieve by ensuring that they attend and are punctual. Thank you.

### 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.

### Pantomime:

Pupils from Y1 to Y6 will be attending the Pantomime at Consett Empire on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December. The £10 payment requested for the visit needs to be paid by 29<sup>th</sup> November please.

