



Benfieldside Primary Newsletter



December 2019



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.*** 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 website www.benfieldside.durham.sch.uk Twitter: @BenfieldsidePr1



CHRISTMAS APPEAL



We are supporting the Consett Salvation Army's Christmas Appeal again this year. If you are able to donate any new, unwrapped toys, these will be collected from the school on 13th December and distributed to Derwentside families who may not otherwise receive gifts.

We update our Twitter feed several times a week, with interesting class news, photographs and 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 2019

- 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)
- 13th December Christmas jumper Day for Save the Children
- 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



Please can parents and carers ensure that their child(ren) have warm clothing with them at school. We have noticed a few children around school without winter coats etc. and we wouldn't want them to catch cold!



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.



Reading at home: averages per class in November:

Carle	72%	Lewis	95%
Donaldson	93%	Wilson	89%
Milne	61%	Morpurgo	90%
Dahl	98%	Rowling	87%
Browne	100%		

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

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.

Please could smokers kindly refrain from smoking immediately outside the school gates please as a courtesy to others?

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

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.

Christmas Lunch Event:

Our school kitchens will be serving our **Children and Staff their delicious Christmas lunch on 11th December 2019**. For details see separate letters or contact the Office.

