

# Benfieldside Primary Newsletter January 2020



## Happy New Year- Welcome to 2020 at Benfieldside Primary School!

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all had an enjoyable yet restful break over Christmas and the New Year period. We are all thrilled to be welcoming the pupils back to school and to the exciting learning opportunities we have planned for the spring term. If any parents/carers were lucky enough to receive new mobile phones as gifts, can they ensure that we still have the correct contact number at the School Office please.

Best wishes, Mrs Addison Headteacher.

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

### 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 works 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.

### Upcoming Events:

12<sup>th</sup> February Parents' Evening (letter to follow)  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February - school finishes for half term  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February - pupils return to school after half term

### Trips, Visits and Visitors!!

Our staff are currently finalising arrangements for this term's 'trips, visits and visitors'. Y1 and Y2 will be attending Beamish, Y5 and Y6 will be visiting Locomotion and Early Years will be visiting the Farm. The Y3/4 trip is currently being planned and details will follow.

We also have several visitors coming into school, including a selection of Engineers, Open the Book and Reverend Jackson.

### Reading Books

We very much appreciate you reading with your child at home, however there have been a couple of instances where reading scheme and library books have been returned to us damaged or in a state of disrepair. We know and understand that sometimes accidents happen, however we would really appreciate it if the phonics, scheme and library books that come home are returned to us ready for another child to use. Thank you for your support.





As you'll be aware, the school worked in partnership with Santa Claus again this year to ensure that **every child from Y1 to Y6 received the gift of a book**. 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.



**Polite Reminders from the school office:**

Please can any outstanding data sheets be returned to school urgently? It is essential that school has up to date contact and medical details for every child.

If any Y6 pupils have not already responded but would like to participate in the Robinwood residential visit, could parents please let the school office know by the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and provide a £20 non-refundable deposit.

Thank you

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

**Our eSafety Top Tips!**

<p><b>1</b> People you don't know are strangers. They're not always who they say they are.</p> 	<p><b>2</b> Be nice to people like you would on the playground.</p> 
<p><b>3</b> Keep your personal information private.</p> 	<p><b>4</b> If you ever get that 'uh oh' feeling, tell a grown-up you trust.</p> 

**Ten tips to stay safe online**

1. Never give out personal information.
2. Tell a grown-up if you find something that is not right.
3. Never agree to meet.
4. Never send your picture.
5. If someone says something mean online, tell a grown-up.
6. Don't do things online that you know are wrong.
7. Check before you download anything.
8. Don't give out your password.
9. Set up rules for going online.
10. Show your parents and carers how you use the internet. Share!

Teachers' Vault  
www.teachersvault.co.uk