

Benfieldside Primary Newsletter March 2020

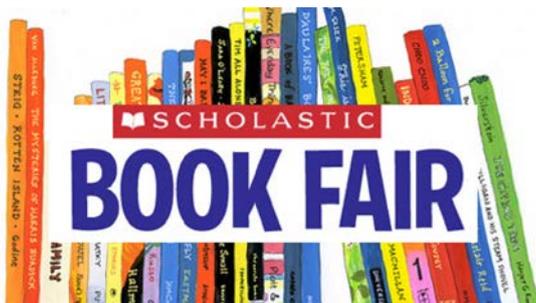


Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that our March newsletter finds you fit and well. February was a really enjoyable month which flew by in school and our hardworking pupils and staff were definitely ready for half term, when it came. It was fantastic to be able to welcome so many of you to our Spring Term Parents' Evening- the children love being able to show their work to you and for you to hear how well they are progressing. If you were unable to make it but are keen to know how well your child is working, please contact the classteacher for an appointment.

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)



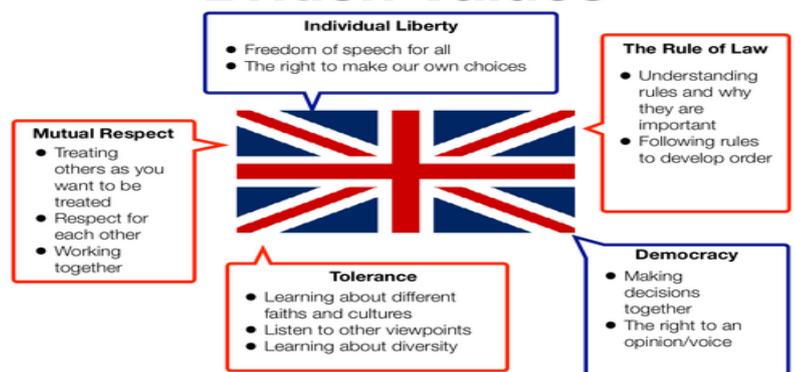
The book fair will be arriving in school week beginning the 9th of March. Parents can view books in the KS2 library on Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th of March, after school until 4:15. Alternatively, please send your order and payment into school in a sealed envelope.

It was fantastic to see so many pupils and staff dressed as their favourite book characters when we celebrated World Book Day at Benfieldside on Monday 2nd March.

Thank you to all those who donated prizes, cakes and ingredients or organised and ran the stalls and activities.

Within our curriculum, we teach **British Values** and we prepare our pupils for life in **Modern Britain**. To support this work, we were lucky enough to be visited by the MP for North West Durham Mr Richard Holden. He spoke to the children about his job, democracy and what he values. He also shared his priorities for the local area, in an age appropriate manner for the children to understand. Y6 pupils enjoyed their Q&A session with him. He answered all of their questions and gave them an insight into the workings of and purpose of parliament, what it means to be an MP, what MPs are paid (our pupils always ask this one!) and what he aims to achieve in the role, both locally and nationally. We were very proud of the respectful attitudes shown by all pupils during Mr Holden's visit and how confidently they spoke about their school and their area.

British Values





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.



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:

4/3/20 Y6 Height & Weight checks

10/3/20: JM Crazy Creatures Visit to school

10/3-13/3/20 Book Fair in school

19/3/20 Dance Festival (Donaldson & Morpurgo classes)

20/3/20 French themed school dinner organised by SNAG

23/3/20 School Photograph day

24/3/20 Y5 Taster Day Consett Academy

25/3/20 Wilson and Browne classes - trip to Palace Green

26/3/20 Donaldson class attending multi-skills festival

27/3/20 Early Years trip - Hall Hill Farm

1/4/20 Uniform recycling event in Discovery Den from 3pm (Mrs Knapp)

2/4/20 Lewis Class trip to Palace Green

3/4/20 break up for Easter holidays & return on 20/4/20

Attendance and punctuality update:

We continue to award the weekly trophy for the best attending class. 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.

Thank you for your continued support.



EASTER EGG RAFFLE

As in previous years, we will be running our hugely popular Easter Egg Raffle for our pupils. The staff have already begun donating Easter Eggs for the Raffle, but if any parents/carers wish to donate an Easter Egg, they will be gratefully received at the main school office. **Thank you** in advance for any support you can offer.

We need
Easter
Eggs



February 2020 Reading Averages:

Rowling 87%	Morpurgo 76%
Lewis 88%	Wilson 96%
Browne 100%	Dahl 85%
Milne 84%	Donaldson 87%
Carle 84%	Whole school average: 87%