

Benfieldside Primary Newsletter November 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that our November newsletter finds you fit and well. I'm delighted to say, that although Christmas in school will be very different for us all this year, Santa agreed to drop off a present of a book each for KS1 and KS2 children. These have already arrived and are 'in quarantine' so that they will be safe for the pupils to take home for Christmas. A huge thank you to Mr and Mrs Rowell for collecting the party food- drinks, crisps and chocolate are all stored away in individual party boxes (also in quarantine) ready for the children. The majority of classes will have individual parties this year so that there are not too many pupils mixing. Children can wear party clothes to school on party day (see dates below).



Like many theatres Nationally, Consett Empire cancelled the annual Pantomime this year. Instead, individual classes will watch Polar Express and enjoy chocolate milk - dates will be communicated through class Dojo and there will be no charge.



With best wishes and kind regards,
Mrs C Addison, Headteacher

P.S please view our website www.benfieldside.durham.sch.uk and/or follow us on Twitter@BenfieldsidePr1 and check for posts on Dojo.



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



9th December 2020: school Christmas Dinner day

9th December 2020: Christmas jumper day for Save the Children



18th December 2020- Break up for Christmas

4th January 2021 - Teacher Training Day

5th January 2021 - Pupils return for spring term

Children in Need:

Thank you everyone who supported us with our PJ day for Children in Need. Our final total was £205.15



Polite Reminders:

Please continue to observe social distancing when dropping off and picking up, leaving the school site promptly when you have done so.



Our SNOW procedure:

With winter being just around the corner, we'd like to take the opportunity to remind you 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 and DOJO. 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.



Party Dates:

7th December Browne (pm)
8th December Rowling (pm)
10th December Wilson (pm)
11th December Lacey (pm)
14th December Morpurgo (pm)
15th December Dahl & Donaldson (pm)
16th December Hughes (am)
17th December Nursery (am)
17th December Carle (pm).



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

Mrs Coombe- Deputy DSP

Miss Clarkson -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.

ECO Committee news:

Our Eco committee has swung back into action! They recorded an assembly for classes to watch, we have a water butt installed and this week they will be planting bulbs in our grounds - hopefully these will attract butterflies etc. in spring. We will also be making bird boxes, bird feeders and bug hotels. Our efforts to recycle waste paper continue and our Eco Code has been shared.