

# Benfieldside Primary Newsletter January/February 2022



## Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you have enjoyed spring half term one as much as we have in school and this newsletter finds you fit and well. The children and staff have been working hard as usual and have produced some fantastic work, across the curriculum, despite the challenges that covid continues to bring! Thank you for your ongoing support- we hope to see you all at School Cloud Remote Parents' Evening on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

**Best wishes, Mrs Addison Headteacher.**

## SPOTLIGHT ON: COMMANDO JOE'S

This academic year we have been introducing 'Commando Joe' to our curriculum. The children have really taken to it (and hopefully mentioned it at home). Here is some more information about Commando Joe and how it supports children to develop and learn:

The primary aim of the Commando Joe's programme is to help develop essential life and character skills to young people. This links very closely to our School Values which encourage our children to be **happy**, **respectful** and to **persevere**.

In lessons, children are given different themed missions which they have to complete. This can include saving an endangered animal, collecting items for a trip to the jungle and crossing obstacle courses to save another team member!

### **The COJO Character Curriculum is based upon the following 4 principles -**

1. Character development is a right for every child.
2. Character education will empower young people.
3. Character will inform the ethos, direction of learning and culture of the school.
4. Character should be developed in partnership with staff, pupils and parents.

### **The COJO Character for Learning programme will:**

Provide a great foundation on which all children will get the chance to achieve, be resilient, tolerate others and make great choices for life - in and outside school.

This will be achieved through children:

- Accessing coherent, sequential learning
- Being inspired to do their best and have ambition to achieve
- Leading and being led to achieve outcomes
- Engaging in deep thinking to support their decision-making and action(s)
- Experiencing a wide range of relevant and exciting activity

For more information please ask your child, but also see the CJ's website: <https://commandojoes.co.uk/>



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 Kerry- 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.

### **Diary Dates:**

18<sup>th</sup> February - break up for half term

28<sup>th</sup> February- pupils return to school

3<sup>rd</sup> March World Book Day

11<sup>th</sup> March School Photograph Day

### **Focus on Reading:**

Mrs Rowell, our literacy leader, has generated a display in our school hall of our teachers and their favourite children's books. In assembly on Friday, I read the first few pages of my personal favourite (George's Marvellous Medicine by Roald Dahl). All of the teachers' favourites are available for the children to borrow and enjoy.



"He wasn't going to fool about wondering whether to put in a little bit of this or a little bit of that. Quite simply, he was going to put in EVERYTHING he could find."

Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character for World Book Day on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2022

### **School Photographs:**

Mrs Yule will soon be sending out information about School Photographs, due to be taken on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2022. We will be allowing sibling photographs, if they are all current pupils at our school, but due to covid infection rates, we will not be allowing parents to attend with siblings from other schools or settings. Apologies for any disappointment this causes, but we have to be cautious.

