



ST BEDE'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

23rd Sept 2016

I'd like to take this opportunity to say what a delightful beginning to the new term we have had here at St Bede's. Our whole team of staff are very pleased at how quickly children have settled into their new classes and routines and are looking forward to a very busy term.

I would like to ask all parents to read through the notices on our newsletters to ensure important information about events and school activities are not missed. Please check your child's bag each night.

Mrs King

Headteacher

MacMillan Coffee Morning

We are holding a MacMillan Coffee Morning on **Friday 30th September from 9.15am** organised by Year 6 children. Letters have been sent out with further details.



Parent Governor Vacancy

There is a vacancy for a Parent Governor on the schools Governing Body. Our Board would welcome as many expressions of interest as possible, preferably by 30 September to enable them to be considered at the Board's meeting in early October. Ideally candidates will have skills such as understanding financial accounts and analysing and using data, or be willing to undertake training to acquire them. Being a Governor is very rewarding and support will be provided but it does require commitment, time and an ability to work as part of a team. If you are interested in this position please call into the school office and see Mrs Alderson.



Is your child starting school in September 2017?

Children born between 1st September 2012 and 31 August 2013 are eligible to start school in Reception in September 2017. You can start applying for your child's place from Monday 12th Sept through the local authority. The brochure is online and Information is available from the Darlington Borough Council

<http://www.darlington.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-years/admissions/starting-primary-education/>

If you have no internet access please contact the admissions department on Tel: 406333 and one will be posted out to you. Deadlines for Reception applications are 17th January 2017.

We are holding an Open Day on Wednesday 19th October from 1.30pm-2.30pm. An advisor from Darlington Borough Council Admissions Department will be available to discuss the application process. We would urge you to attend if your child is due to start school in Sept to ensure advice regarding the current procedure is given. Please pass this information on to anyone who has children ready to start school September 2017.

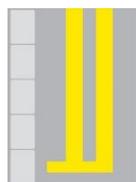


Photographs

Class photographs will be taken on Tuesday 27th September.

Playground gates

On a morning when children are dropped off at the playground gates could we politely ask that once parents have dropped their child off into the playground, we can be mindful of the children still coming into school grounds for safe access. There was an instance this week where a child was unable to manoeuvre easily through the gates leading to some distress. We thank parents for their understanding.



Parking around school

Please can we appeal to parents to be very mindful when parking around School. We have received information of various upsetting incidents. It is vital for the safety of our children cars are not parked over the yellow lines or on the corners. Please also be mindful of the local residents who require access to their property.

A reminder of our school uniform policy. Long hair *must* be tied up and haircuts that are suitable for school (no shavings), **no ear rings**, jewellery or nail varnish. Sensible school shoes must be worn, trainers are not suitable footwear and cannot be worn in school or be brought in for break times. School bags are **ONLY** to be the school book bags (our cloakrooms are not able to accommodate backpacks).



Football and football boots are NOT to be brought into school. Footballs are provided by school and are suitable for all children. Thank you for your cooperation.

Afternoon snacks for children in Years 3 - 6 that are brought in from home **MUST** be fruit based. Chocolate, crisps, nuts and other sweet snacks are not permitted. Children can bring in their own water bottle for use in class, but must only be filled with water.



Dates for Your Diary 2016-17

Parents are invited to your child's class liturgy.
Further information will follow regarding events closer to the time.

26 th Sept	2.30pm-3pm	Class 4 Meet the Teacher
27 th Sept		Class photographs
	2.30-3pm	Class 6 Meet the Teacher
28 th Sept	2.30-3pm	Rec A Meet the Teacher - Hedgehogs
29 th Sept	2.30-3pm	Rec B Meet the Teacher - Owls
30 th Sept	AM	MacMillan Coffee Morning
5 th Oct	All day	Nursery AM Meet the Teacher
6 th Oct	All day	Nursery PM Meet the Teacher
11 th Oct	2.45pm	Reception Classes and Year 6 – Class Liturgy
13 th Oct	2.45pm	Class 1 Liturgy
18 th Oct	2.45pm	Class 1/2 Liturgy
19 th Oct	1.30-2.30pm	Reception Open Afternoon – for Sept 2017 new starters
20 th Oct	2.45pm	Class 2 Liturgy
21 st Oct	2.45pm	Class 3 Liturgy
21 st Oct		Half term

31 st Oct		Return to school
3 rd Nov	2.45pm	Class 4 Liturgy
4 th Nov	2.45pm	Class 5 Liturgy
30 th Nov	3-6pm	Parent's Evening
1 st Dec	3-6pm	Parent's Evening
5 th Dec		Christmas Jumper Day / Christmas Lunch
6 th Dec	9.30am	Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance
	2pm	Class 3/4 Christmas Performance
7 th Dec	9.30am	Class 3/4 Christmas Performance
	2pm	Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance
8 th Dec	9.30am	EYFS Christmas Performance
	2pm	Class 5/6 Christmas Performance
9 th Dec	9.30am	Class 5/6 Christmas Performance
	1.30pm	EYFS Christmas Performance
12 th Dec	PM	Key Stage 1 Christmas Party
13 th Dec	PM	Class 3/4 Christmas Party
14 th Dec	PM	All EYFS Christmas Party
15 th Dec	PM	Class 5/6 Christmas Party
16 th Dec	10.45am	Christmas Mass

Parish News

St Thomas' Church will be holding a McMillan Coffee Morning on Sunday 25th September in the church hall after Mass.

St Anne's Church begin their preparation for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion in October. If you would like to join the programme there will be a meeting on Wednesday 28th September at 6.30pm in the Parish Hall. Your child needs to have been baptised in the Catholic Church or other Church.

ATTENDANCE

Class attendance for this week:

RECEPTION A	87.8 %
RECEPTION B	85.0 %
Class 1	83.1 %
Class 1/2	90.0 %
Class 2	87.2 %
Class 3	87.9 %
Class 4	89.0 %
Class 5	88.3 %
Class 6	87.6 %

RED – Danger Zone – Below 90%

AMBER – At Risk Zone – 90%-94%

GREEN – Safety Zone – 95%-100%

The winners of the Attendance Cup trophy this week:

Class 1 / 2 Mrs Buchan

WELL DONE!

Our Whole school attendance for last week was: 87.3 %

This is a very disappointing start to our new term. We cannot become an outstanding school with such low attendance. OFSTED requires whole school attendance to be 97% or above, this is our target. We are currently in the **RED DANGER ZONE.**

Children must be in school unless there is a very good reason, and medical appointments should be outside of school time unless in exceptional circumstances.

School starts at 8.55am and we would ask that children are punctual as it is often upsetting for them to come into school later than their friends.

All absences must be reported to the office. School requires parents to telephone on a daily basis before 9.30am to inform us of any absences. If we have not heard by that time we will contact you for information.