



ST BEDE'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

21st October 2016

Drop In Session, Thursday 10th November 2.30pm

We will be hosting a drop in session on Thursday 10th November at 2.30pm with Mrs King and Mrs Millward. All parents/carers are very welcome to attend and refreshments will be available. This will be an opportunity to look informally at and speak to staff about our new reading and writing resources Read, Write Inc and how they support our literacy learning.



Gardening club

There is an after school gardening club starting on Monday 31st October for Year 5 and 6 children. (It will be offered to other year groups on a rotation.) The aim of the club is to create a wonderful garden area for all of the children to enjoy. We would appreciate any donations to help us create this space, if you have any pots, plants, seeds, shrubs, bulbs, grow bags etc. All donations are always gratefully received. We look forward to updating you on this new venture!

Breakfast Club

If your child attends breakfast club you will have received a letter about a few changes. When we return after half term: Sessions **MUST** be booked and paid for **IN ADVANCE**. Booking and payment is to be made on ParentPay by **Thursday 12noon** for the week ahead. If you require a place after the booking time of Thursday at 12pm, you must telephone the school office first, who will check availability for the day you require. We will do our best accommodate all requests where possible.

Breakfast Club Vacancy

The Breakfast Club at St Bede's provides many children with a healthy and nutritious start to the day and is vital for many families who need their children in school early because of work commitments. We want the Breakfast Club to continue but do not at present have enough staff. We are, therefore, seeking people who would be willing to help set up, prepare and serve breakfast each morning. We can offer a competitive salary for the post which would be for 1.25 hours per day/6.25 hours per week with hours being from 7.45am-9am. If you are interested please contact the school office for an application form and further information. The closing date for applications is: Friday 28th October.



After school clubs are starting after half term. You will receive a text message to confirm if your child has a place and in which club. We are currently looking to see if we can run any other clubs but at the moment we have: Monday: choir Years 3-6, gardening club – Year 5 and 6, Tuesday: nature club Year 1 and 2, Thursday: homework club Year 4,5 and 6 and Lego Education club that has been running since Oct for Year 5. We are looking into providing a new sporting club for Reception Class with the classes being offered the club Reception A one half term and Reception B the other. Further information will follow as soon as possible. Further letters have been sent out today about Football club for Years 4,5 and 6, we now have the support of the Foundation of Light from Sunderland Football Club who will be running this for us.

Cross Country

Our Cross Country team participated in the Darlington Primary Schools Cross-Country event yesterday. Well done to everyone who represented St Bede's! There was a wonderful sense of sportsmanship and we are so proud of all our children. A special well done goes to Áine Rochester who came 6th and Anya Storey who came 7th place. Congratulations everyone!



School bags

May we please remind parents that school bags **must only be the standard school PE bag and school book bag**. Our cloakrooms are very short on space and children are struggling to hang up other bags on their pegs and find space for them. We expect **ALL children** throughout school to use a burgundy school book bag. All other types of bags must not be brought into school due to this shortage of space.



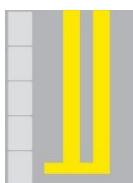
Is your child starting school in September 2017?

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 would like to invite you to our Reception/Nursery Open Evening on Wednesday 9th November from 5.30pm-6.30pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to meet the Early Years Team and to look around the Reception and Nursery environments.



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).



No dogs on school grounds

As a reminder dogs should not be brought onto school grounds either walking or carried please. If you bring your dog with you they must be tied up outside of school grounds away from the paths. Thankyou.



WRITING
competition

Writing competition – Calling all authors!

Mrs Mitchell is running a monthly competition to celebrate our St Bede's authors. The competition is open to all children and we would like them to have a go at writing at home. The writing can take any form e.g: a poem, story, report,

diary entry etc. The children should bring into school before the end of each month then Mrs Mitchell will choose a piece of writing to be displayed in the library. The winning child will receive a certificate and prize. Good Luck!

Friends of St Bede's Notice

The Friends of St Bede's will be supporting an additional **non-uniform day on Friday 11th November.**

In preparation for the Christmas Fayre, we would like to ask for non-cash donations on the non-uniform days.

On 11th November we have suggested a theme for donations for each Class below but you can send any item you like, entirely voluntary of course ☺

Nursery & Reception: Christmas Colouring Books/Craft/Activity Sets

Y1: Books (Preferably Christmas)

Y2: Stationery

Y3: Pocket Money Toys

Y4: Pocket Money Toys

Y5: Sweets

Y6: Chocolate

All donations, of any kind, would be gratefully accepted!

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.

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
9 th Nov	5.30-6.30pm	Reception/Nursery Open Evening
10 th Nov	2.30pm	Drop in session with Mrs King/Mrs Millward
23 rd Nov		Friends of St Bede's Film Day (further information will follow)
30 th Nov	3-6pm	Parent's Evening
1 st Dec	3-6pm	Parent's Evening
3 rd Dec	1-4pm	School Christmas Fayre
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
	7pm	Bishop Séamus visit to St Anne's Church 60 th Anniversary Celebrations
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

ATTENDANCE

Class attendance for this week:

RECEPTION A	85.2 %
RECEPTION B	87.9 %
Class 1	84.5 %
Class 1/2	89.3 %
Class 2	88.6 %
Class 3	89.7 %
Class 4	86.7 %
Class 5	89.7 %
Class 6	89.7 %

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 3, Class 5 and Class 6

WELL DONE!

Our Whole school attendance for last week was: 87.9 %

This is very disappointing. 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.