

Bedale Church of England Primary School Newsletter



Newsletter Date: Friday 18th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of the year it is an ideal opportunity to reflect. It has without a doubt, been a challenge for us at school this term in so many ways. However, we have adapted and our children have taken to all the new routines with enthusiasm. It is highly likely that the measures in place, e.g. staggered starts, staggered lunch times, classes having individual break-times are all likely to stay for the foreseeable future. I completed another risk assessment this week which can be seen on our website. Our website has copies of all our letters if you ever need a re-cap of information. I am aware we have needed to send out more information than usual this term!

As we come to the end of term we say a goodbye to Mrs Lynch who has decided to take a break from teaching. I would like to pass on my thanks for all her hard work in our EYFS unit and also with regards to the way she has lead French across the school. In January Mrs Harding will be moving into EYFS to job share with Mrs Ball, and I know she is very excited to be working with our younger pupils.

Well they say things come in threes and this certainly seems to be the case with the baby stork in Bedale. Following the announcement that Mr Hartley-Haw and Mrs Lucas are looking forward to new arrivals in March, it is with great pleasure I can let you know Mrs Fessey is also expecting a baby in May. Our congratulations go to Mr & Mrs Fessey.

As the term draws to a close I really do hope your children have had a happy (if not somewhat different) Christmas in school and enjoyed their parties, the pantomime and their little treats. I wish you all a very happy and healthy Christmas and again thank you so much for working with us through this pandemic. It has been very demanding on staff, who as always work tirelessly to deliver the best education possible. I know google classroom has not been the easiest to get to grips with but hopefully everyone is becoming more confident with it; it does have many advantages.

Finally, just a reminder that school re-opens on Tuesday 5th January 2021 (as Monday 4th January is a staff training day).

Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year to everyone.

Mrs Turnbull, Head Teacher



WOW WOW WOW!

Our Blue for Bailey fundraising on Just Giving has now reached a staggering £12,123.00 which is absolutely fantastic! Thank you to everyone who has contributed; it really has been humbling and I am sure you will all join me to wish Bailey a Merry Christmas as he comes to the end of his treatment. The way everyone has responded is a reminder of what a truly wonderful community we live and work in.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

Our school lunch menu will remain the same for the Spring term.

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL—FIRBY ROAD

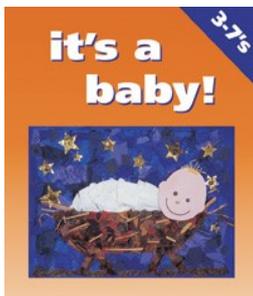
The Local Authority still has a vacancy for a school crossing patrol person. If anyone is interested in this position please contact: 07971 543548. During the absence of a crossing patrol officer please could we ask parents to be mindful of where they park on Firby Road when dropping off/picking up from school as some parents/pupils are having to cross between parked cars. In addition, for those pupils who walk to school on their own please could parents remind them of safety measures to consider before crossing roads.

SCOOTERS

PCSO Smithowen visited school this term to give a talk on road safety and riding scooters to all our Year 6 pupils. Please remind your child to keep themselves safe if they come and go to school independently.

Reception News

We would like to say what a lovely time the children have had celebrating Christmas. Elf day was a big success and the children really worked hard to help Father Christmas with all of his jobs.



Their performance of 'It's a Baby' was so lovely. They worked hard on the songs and dances and enjoyed being filmed. We hope you have enjoyed watching it on Google classroom. Their behaviour at the Christmas party was impeccable and they enjoyed traditional party games and the food you kindly sent in from home. We hope you like the tree decoration they have made for you and wish you all a safe and happy Christmas.

The children have been very busy finishing their learning about old toys. They made their own paper toys called thaumatropes and have been writing about the story of Brown Paper Bear. If you have time with relatives over Christmas, see if your child can talk about different toys from the past.

Year 1 News

We had a very special mission from Santa who had holes in his boots! The children helped decide which material would be best for his new boots and wrote back to tell him that rubber was the best at repelling water.

We hope you all have a very merry Christmas and will see you in 2021!

These last few weeks the children have continued to work hard in class. Their descriptive writing in English has been fantastic and in maths they have been working on telling the time. Please keep practising telling the time (to 5 minute intervals) with your child over the holidays.

Year 2 News

The Great Fire of London



We are looking forward to starting our new topic and learning about 'The Great Fire of London' in the New Year!

Year 3 News

We have spent the last week designing a new sleigh for Father Christmas and writing about what makes it so special. We have made our own Christmas cards after thinking about the true meaning of Christmas in our religious education sessions.

We had a lovely time at our party and enjoyed our hot chocolate and marshmallows. What a busy term it has been.

Happy Christmas to all our year 3 children and their families.



We have had a brilliant end to the Autumn term with the children working hard as always. In DT, we been researching, designing and creating our own Roman aqueducts.

Year 4 News



In our English lessons, we have written and presented persuasive speeches to join or fight the Roman Army! We have really enjoyed learning about the Romans and their legacy in Britain this term.

Year 5 News

In DT, year 5 have been learning about bridges and thinking about the different designs used to make strong structures. The children have carried out an experiment in Science, testing the strength of different materials which will help them when designing our own bridges. They had lots of fun!

In our writing, the children have been working on a newspaper report about Bedale's Christmas tree being vandalised.



We have completed our study of the Ancient Maya Civilisation by comparing concurrent events in Britain, and by making fantastic prints (in Art) based on Mayan Hieroglyphs. So inspiring was our live zoom Science lesson with Dr Sawyer that we have created posters to inform our adults how they can help reduce the air pollution on Firby Road. We intend to further investigate this in Spring Term.

Furthermore, our writing goes from strength to strength and we have particularly enjoyed writing the narrative of Bear and Hare.

Congratulations to Oliver!

A special well done must go to Oliver in Year 4 who has managed to raise over £1,200.00 for South Tees Hospitals Charity by riding 100 miles on his bike. Oliver was keen to support the hospital after his brother became critically ill with sepsis last month. Well done Oliver, an amazing achievement.



CATCH UP SESSIONS

Children and staff have worked incredibly hard this term to close the gaps in learning due to the disruptions caused by the pandemic since March. 86 children had 'catch-up' tutoring after school this half term. Another 111 are due to receive this additional support in the Spring term. We are targeting some of our more able children in groups to ensure they continue to exceed with their work. We are all working particularly hard to look at the gaps the children have in maths as these need to be filled in order for them to learn, and build up new skills. In Key Stage 2 there will be a focus on percentages, fractions and decimals.

Children in lessons are building up their resilience in writing and I know the teachers are delighted with how many pupils have already 'caught up' this term.

MENTAL HEALTH & WELL BEING

As this has been a difficult year for everyone we have been promoting wellbeing and positive mental health throughout school over the past few months. Following anti-bullying week, we have introduced Wellbeing Wednesday to help support children with any mental health issues they may be facing. Each week every class takes part in a short activity designed to help them manage their emotions, anxiety or stress. This includes learning breathing and mindfulness exercises as well as finding out more about our emotions, what their purpose is and how they affect our body. Children in our school are so supportive of each other and it has been lovely to hear all of their fantastic ideas for staying positive!