



# Belmont C of E Primary School

## Newsletter



Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that you and your family are well. I can't believe how quickly this half term is going! It's a beautiful time of year and we are looking forward to the next two weeks in school. We have some exciting things planned for the children and for when we return to school after the October holiday. Please see our diary dates below.

As usual, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact either myself or the school office. We are here to help you all!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. K. Harrison-Brown

Head Teacher

### Local Authority and Diocese Health Review

Our school improvement partners from the Local Authority and the Diocese visited us on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> September to carry out a supportive health review. This was our third review since our Ofsted inspection in December 2017. Our last two reviews in 2018 and 2019 were both very successful. Our partners observed lessons, talked to senior and subject leaders, talked to pupils and our Governors. They also listened to our children read and looked at the children's work. They looked at Safeguarding procedures in school and carried out 'Deep Dives' in English/Early Reading, Maths, PE, Geography and RE. The outcomes of the day were extremely successful, positive and strong. These successes celebrated our children and staff. We haven't received the report yet but we look forward to sharing the outcomes with you all.

### Friends of School- Parent Teacher Association

Now that restrictions have been lifted, we would like to rejuvenate our Friends of School parent/carer, staff group. This group is composed of parents, teachers and staff who together, make our school a better place for our children to learn and play. Our PTA brings together parents, teachers and children to raise funds to strengthen the school. Money raised is spent on things that the school budget does not cover.

There is no expectation on any parent volunteer, any amount of time you can give to the PTA will always be well received. There are a variety of ways in which you can get involved, from attending PTA meetings through to volunteering at events and co-ordinating events.

If you are interested in joining our PTA, please do get in touch by either letting the school office or know or by sending us an email to [belmontceprimary@durhamlearning.net](mailto:belmontceprimary@durhamlearning.net)

### **Harvest Festival**

We are looking forward to celebrating our Harvest Festival in church with Revd Heather Murray. This will now take place on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October** throughout the morning and afternoon. This will be for children from Nursery-Year 6 this year. Many of our children have not been to church yet and the majority of our children didn't visit church with school last year. We are delighted to be able to return. The children will fill the church on their own, therefore, apologies but parents/carers will not be able to be present. This year, we are asking for donations of food which we will donate to the Food Bank through Durham Christian Partnership. It would be wonderful if the children can bring them into school from the **week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> October**.

Shopping list for the foodbank

- UHT milk
- Juice
- Sponge pudding
- Savoury treats
- Biscuits
- Jam
- Chocolate/sweets
- Tinned ham
- Tinned/packet custard
- Savoury crackers

Many thanks.

### **Open Evening for Reception 2022 Starters - Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October 4p.m**

We know that many Nursery parents are starting to think about which primary school to apply to for their child for September 2022. To help them make this crucial decision, we will be holding an open evening on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October. Please come along, meet some of the key staff, have a look at the environment in Reception and Key Stage One and ask as many questions as you would like. Just email the school office and we will get back to you with some suggested dates. Choosing the right school for your child is probably one of the biggest decisions you will make for your child, therefore it has to be the right one!

### **School Office Information Contact Details**

Please make sure your contact details are up to date with the school office if you have moved house or have a new mobile phone. It is really important that we are able to contact someone if your child is unwell.

### **ParentPay**

Please make sure you keep your ParentPay account up to date and that you regularly check your balances, and keep your account in credit. If you have queries about your account, please contact the school office.

### **Pupil Absences**

Please make sure that you contact the school office if your child is not going to be in school with the reason for absence. This needs to be done before 9.15am, so that our registers are up to date.

### **Pupil Premium**

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, the school will receive extra funding called 'Pupil Premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school. We also use this funding to subsidise music tuition, provide milk and to greatly subsidise residential visits for eligible children. Pupil Premium is provided for pupils who:

- Are registered for free school meals
- Have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years
- Are, or have been, in care
- Have parents in the armed forces Eligibility Criteria

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on or universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

### **Pupils in Reception, Year 1 & 2**

Whilst pupils in Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 already get free school meals, it is still important to apply for pupil premium if you fit the criteria above.

How to Register:

If you think you are eligible, please contact the school office, who will give you a form to fill in and will then run a check with the local authority. If your child is already entitled to free school meals and pupil premium, you do not need to register again. However, if you were not eligible and your circumstances have changed, please do contact the school office to run another check.

### **Social Media**

At Belmont C of E Primary School, we aim for the best for all of our children, but we recognise that on some occasions, you may feel that we could have done better. We would like to encourage you to come in and discuss any concerns with the school by coming into school to speak to us. We would be grateful if you did not raise complaints about the school on social media but come into school so we can understand your concerns and help solve the problem. Complaints on social media

can be damaging for the school, its staff and most importantly the pupils. If you still feel that the issue has not been dealt with appropriately then we will provide you with a copy of the formal complaints' procedure

### Parking/driving onto campus

Please can I politely remind you that there is no parking or driving onto campus allowed at the beginning and the end of the day when our children are coming to school and going home from school. **We must work together to keep our children safe.** If you use a car to transport your child to or from school, please park outside of the school gates. The Belmont pub allows us to use their car park and there is also the car park near the Cheverly shops. Thank you.

### October holiday

We break up for the October half term holiday on **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**. The children return to school on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**.

### Noah's Ark Nursery

#### 2-year-old places

We are busy planning to open our Nursery in January 2022 for 2-year-olds. I know that we have many families who have 2-year-old children who have enquired about provision for them in our Belmont family. We will be able to offer full and part time places. We are also able to provide wrap-around care from 7:30a.m until the start of Nursery and after Nursery until 5:30p.m.

#### Nursery places for 3 and 4 year olds

We currently have places for Rising 3's, 3- and 4-year-olds.

If you would like to come and have a look around our Nursery, we are more than happy to show you around. Please contact Mrs Sleeman, our Nursery manager by contacting the school office or by emailing her on [l.sleeman300@belmontceprimary.co.uk](mailto:l.sleeman300@belmontceprimary.co.uk)

We look forward to hearing from you!

### Diary Dates

Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Y1/Y2 visit to Beamish World Mental Health Day
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Stone Age Day (Y3 and Y4)
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Celebrations
Last week of term	
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> and Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Behaviour treat- Circus show and workshops
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Break up for half term
<b>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November</b>	Children return to school
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Nursery Celebration Evening
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents Evenings Parents Evenings Photograph Day
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Services
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	Children In Need Day

15 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> November	Anti-Bullying Week Odd Socks Day - Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> November
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Adam Bushnell Author- Storytelling and writing workshops
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	School Lumiere Festival- after school
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Pantomime 'Jack and the Beanstalk' in school for the whole school
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> (To be confirmed)	Discos (To be confirmed)
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Christingle services
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Christmas Fair
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Flu vaccines for pupils
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Children's Nativities
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Movie Night
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas parties
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas lunch/Christmas jumper/non-uniform day
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Behaviour treat and break up for the Christmas break
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school to start the Spring term

Nursery, EYFS and KS2 visit dates to be confirmed.

### **Important Dates for 2021 - 2022**

- Year 2 Phonics Screening Check - November 2021
- KS1 Statutory Assessment Tests - May 2022
- KS2 Statutory Assessment Tests - Week Beginning Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022
- Year 1 & Year 2 Phonics Screening Check - Week Beginning Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022
- Year 4 Multiplication Test - Week Beginning Monday 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022