

Bedale Church of England Primary School Newsletter



Newsletter Date: 24th November 2017

Dates for your Diary

Sat 25th Nov

FSG and Year 5/6
Bag Packing at the
Co-Op, Bedale

Friday 1st Dec

FSG Christmas Fayre
2.00 – 4.30 pm
(details in separate
letter)

Mon 4th Dec

EYFS, Y1 & Y2 Elf
Day

Sun 10th Dec

Toy Service at St
Gregory's Church
10.00 am

Tues 12th Dec

EYFS Christmas
Production
2.00 pm & 6.00 pm

Thurs 14th Dec

Year 1 Christmas
Production
2.00 pm & 6.00 pm

Friday 15th Dec

Christmas Lunch and
Jumper Day

Year 2 Christmas
Songs to Parents
2.00 pm

Dear Parents/Carers

This week I must begin our newsletter by congratulating our Year 2 cohort, for their outstanding performance in the national phonics screen test last June.

We received a personal letter from the Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP congratulating staff and pupils on the schools outstanding achievement.

96% of pupils at Bedale reached or exceeded the pass mark in the check, putting our school in the top 6% of all primary schools in the country. He stated that our success in teaching phonics means our pupils are developing a firm foundation in reading, from which they can become increasingly fluent and develop a lifelong love of reading!

I believe this achievement reflects all the hard work that goes on in our school by the children, the staff and yourselves. Your support is so valuable and makes such a huge difference. Thank you!

Next week we look forward to our official opening of our Peace Garden on the back field, on Thursday 30th November. Mrs Pike has been working hard on this project over the last year. We have been very well supported by donations from our community including The Rector and Four and Twenty of Bedale and Bedale and District Methodist Church as well as our Friends Support Group. It is lovely to see some of the ideas our pupils had for the garden in reality, it is looking so beautiful. Rev. Ian and Rev. Kathleen will be leading our ceremony on Thursday afternoon. We are all crossing our fingers for some dry weather! It is an area I hope the children will be able to use when they need a quiet, reflective moment away from the hustle and bustle of every day life in school.

Finally, a huge thank you for your kind donations for Children in Need. We managed to raise a fantastic total of £300.15 for the charity by dressing in a spotacular fashion! Everyone looked amazing!

Mrs Turnbull, Head Teacher

ASSESSMENT TESTS

Next week children in Year 1 to Year 6 will take part in some reading and maths assessments, in order for us to monitor their progress. All class teachers will ensure these tests do not make the children feel anxious in any way.

GIFTED AND TALENTED MATHS DAY

On 21st November, we welcomed pupils from Masham, Pickhill, Kell Bank, Snape and Thornton Watlass, Hackforth and Hornby, Crakehall, RAF Leeming, Hunton and Arrathorne and Burneston Primary Schools to our school and wow! There were a lot of children, altogether there were 40!



It was an amazing day and a fantastic opportunity to make new friends for High School, as well as developing our mathematical minds. One of our favourite activities was about ratio and having to find out how much we needed of each ingredient to make and design our own amazing mocktails; we can't wait until we do it again in the Spring term.

By Ella-Grace and Chloe

GIFTED AND TALENTED SCIENCE AFTERNOON

On Monday 13th November four lucky children went to Bedale High School to a gifted and talented science afternoon. We had to investigate who had stolen the cake from the staffroom on the Friday before by doing a series of experiments. First of all, we did fingerprint analysis, and got to test our own fingerprints. After that, we found out about some types of fingerprint, some examples are: tented arch, wold and normal arch. Next we did chorography, which is when we used different felt tips and water to find out what colours the pen was made up of. Ours didn't go very well! For the next part of the case, we tested different salvias to find out if it was alkali, acid or natural. Finally, we used Bunsen burners to investigate soil and to find out what colour they changed to when they touched the flame. Out of 5 teachers at the school, it turned out that Mrs Harrison was the culprit! It was a fantastic afternoon and definitely one to remember. Our favourite part was soil testing because of all the pretty colours it made the fire go. We hope we can go again one day as we had so much fun.

By Libby, Oliver, Riley and Natasha

We have been thoroughly enjoying our PE sessions and have been learning lots of playtime games which the children are now playing outside. We would like to say thank you for sending in their PE kits and also for showing them at home how to get dressed and undressed. Their behaviour in the hall has been exemplary and they have had great fun.

Reception News

There is a letter coming to you about Elf Day which is on December 4th. Please don't hesitate to ask us about it if you feel unsure.

Year 1/2 News

Over the past few weeks we have been reading the story Ronald the Rhino which fits in brilliantly with Anti-bullying week. Ronald was special and unique and this lead up into us thinking that makes us special and unique. We have been doing reading assessments in Year 2 this week and all the children have tried very hard. Please see your child's diary for personal comments and targets.



On Monday 4th December we are having our Elf Day. Children can wear their elf costume in school on this day and we will be doing lots of fun activities to help Santa. See separate letter for more information regarding this.



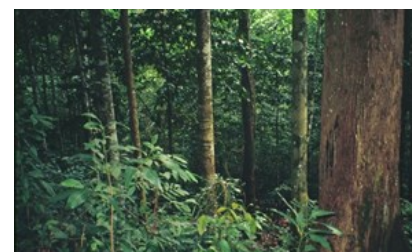
It has been anti-bullying week in school so we have promoted this by taking part in discussions, drama and making our own anti-bullying leaflets. The theme was 'all different, all equal' and the children were able to think about what makes us all unique.

Year 3/4 News

We hope the children are enjoying the topic homework—this does not need to be handed in until Thursday 18th December; however we will still be sending maths and English homework weekly.

Year 5/6 News

Thank you to everyone who has been busy collecting coins in a jar for our rainforest project. Please keep them coming if you still have any lying around at home. We will be counting these up soon and using the money to sponsor some areas of rainforest via the World Land Trust. Keep an eye on our newsletter and Facebook page for news.



You can read about our Y5 Scientists' visit to Bedale High School and our Y6 Mathematicians event too elsewhere in this newsletter. Our pupils have also been busy preparing with Mrs Hall for the upcoming netball tournament and we will be holding our second inter-house sports

SCHOOL GROUNDS

Polite reminder that pupils should not be on the school grounds during the weekend. Gates are securely locked for this purpose and should not be climbed over. Thank you.

YEAR 1 AND YEAR 2 YOUNG WRITERS

Congratulations Young Writers in Year 1 and Year 2. Out of 12,000 entries to the young writers riddle competition, a large number of you have been selected to have their work published! If your child has been selected you will have received a letter this week. Please follow the instructions within the letter if you wish your child's riddle to be published. Congratulations to you all, our young writers!!



ONLINE SAFETY



Over the next few weeks we will be using our Facebook page to promote some online safety tips and resources such as how to set up parental controls – just in time for any new devices that might arrive at Christmas. If you would like a paper copy of these instead, please contact the school office.

SWIMMING GALA

On Wednesday we took a team of swimmers to Bedale Leisure Centre to compete in the cluster Swimming Gala. The 11 schools were placed in groups to ensure every school was able to participate in each race. Isla and Jack S started Bedale off with excellent efforts in backstroke, finishing 1st and 2nd in their heats. Phoebe and Matthew kept up the pace in freestyle, followed by Elodie and Jack SH with breaststroke. After winning some more heats, it was Ella and Remy that looked like fish in the water as they made butterfly look so elegant! We maintained the super high standard by storming in the two relay races. Results are given electronically at a later date but I am confident that we were very near the top spot. Well done to all the swimmers on another successful sporting event. Mrs Turnbull had some feedback from a head teacher from another local school saying how kind you all were supporting one of her children who was struggling, by cheering her on! It was lovely to hear. Well done and thank you!



Mr Holmes