



Newsletter Date: 2nd February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Last month we celebrated receiving a letter to acknowledge the academic success of our year one superstars, with their amazing phonics results.



This week I would like to share with you some of the wonderful things your children have been up to in school, with regards to the extended curriculum.

We believe in offering a wide range of experiences for the children at our school to enhance and enrich the curriculum and to broaden their skill set. This week our EYFS children shared their wonderful dance skills in a celebration afternoon based on the work they have been doing related to China. They were so confident performing in front of an audience and impressed us all. Thank you to all those parents who joined us for this event, I am sure you were as proud of them as we all were.



Our year 5 have been developing their culinary skills, making spring rolls. The aroma on Thursday morning in the year five corridors made us all feel incredibly hungry. It was lovely to see the children so excited.



We have had yet more sporting success this week with years 3/4 and 5/6 competing in dodgeball competitions at Richmond School. Year 3/4 battled hard and secured a solid second place in their division. The year 5/6 children were fantastic and came out on top out of 19 schools competing. All of the children representing our school showed great determination and sportsmanship, respecting their peers and children from other schools. We are so incredibly proud of them all! Thanks to Mrs Illingworth for all the practices that have been taking place over the last few months during the lunch hour. You really were a dedicated coach, keeping the practice up

despite all the wild weather we have had!

Please do take a look at our Facebook page and all that has been going on. There is so much to celebrate.

Finally, a bit of sad news to share; Mrs Haw has decided to have a career change and will be leaving school at the end of this half term. She has been with us 12 years and has been a wonderful member of our team, supporting many pupils over her time with us. We wish her and her family well and hope she keeps in touch with us all!

Have a lovely weekend, Mrs Turnbull, Headteacher





## HEIGHT AND WEIGHT

All EYFS and year 6 parents should have had a text about height and weight checks. The date is confirmed and these checks will take place on **Thursday 29th February 2024**. If you are happy for these checks to go ahead, you do not need to do anything. However, if you do not want your child to be measured and weighed, please let us know so we can opt them out.

## PARKING/WAC DROP OFF

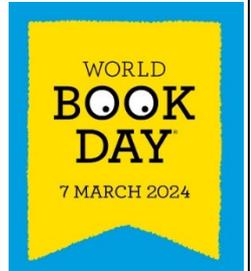
Unfortunately we have had no update from North Yorkshire Council regarding a school crossing patrol. If we can just ask all parents to be extra vigilant with parking outside school for the safety of all the children. In addition, those of you who drop off early for WAC, please take care in the car park, as we often have early deliveries, and vans in and out of our school carpark before the start of the school day.

**PLEASE**  
*Be Careful*



## WORLD BOOK DAY

Thursday 7th March is World Book Day. This is something we always like to celebrate in style at Bedale Primary. The theme this year is 'read your way' and we invite the children to come to school dressed as their favourite character from a book. We will be doing lots of exciting reading activities in school on the day and they will be spending time in their house groups sharing stories.



We would also like everyone to bring in a photo of the place where they most like to read. Can you think of some interesting places where you have read in the past?



## A SPECIAL WELCOME

This term we have welcomed a few new pupils to our school. The children are always incredibly kind and are just wonderful at looking after new members of our school community.



This week we have welcomed Matheus and Maria to EYFS and year 1, all the way from Brazil! We hope everyone will make the family welcome as they settle in to a new country and have a new language to learn.

*Bem-vindo*

## BEDALE LITTER BUSTERS

We're looking forward to getting back into working with the community with the first litter pick of 2024. Please join us at 9am on Sunday 18th February, outside House and Home if you'd like to help with this event. All equipment is provided. We hope to see lots of you there!

Come along and start your day with football drills with Mr Holmes!



School council will be selling fruit as a snack for after your workout.



# WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

### The need to knows:

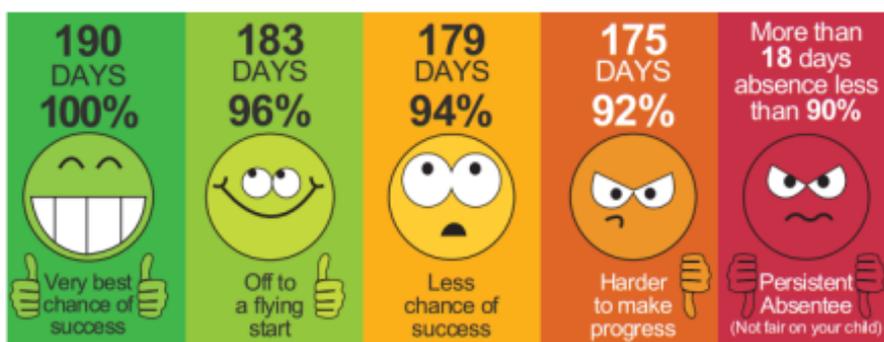
- We will start at 8.45 on the back yard on Wednesday 7th February.
- Parents are welcome to come and join.
- Please stay with your child until the bell goes and then take them to class as normal.
- Fruit will be sold at 30p a pot.
- Children can come in PE kit.

## ATTENDANCE

Below is the attendance and lates for each year group this term so far.

Year Group	EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Attendance	97.5%	96.3%	94.4%	96.2%	96.6%	94.9%	94.6%
Lates	12	7	5	8	8	12	7

**Please be reminded that school starts at 9.00am.** The below table shows how much education could be missed for children that are repeatedly late to school.



Minutes late per day:	Equivalent of Missing:
5 minutes	3.4 school days a year
10 minutes	6.9 school days a year
15 minutes	10.3 school days a year
20 minutes	13.8 school days a year
30 minutes	20.7 school days a year

### Did you know?

Children who reached the expected standards at the end of KS2 have less than five days off school a year during their whole time at primary school.

### Did you know?

90% school attendance seems good, right? No, the Department of Education (DfE) classes 90% and less as **persistently absent**.

## EYFS NEWS

In Early Years we are really proud of the rich experiences we give the children and we strive to make their learning real and fun.

Enrichment activities are planned out across the year and involve regular visits into the community for various different reasons.

This week we have visited the Dales Centre as part of our learning around friendships in our 'Chinese New Year' topic. In China they believe that their community is more important than themselves and we used our visit to

demonstrate what good friendships we have in our community. We decorated cakes to share with the adults

who access this service, and took along books to read together. It was a lovely morning and the adults there were absolutely thrilled to see us again. We invited them to our 'Chinese Party' this week and we enjoyed showing them our dances, singing and poems.



## YEAR ONE NEWS

Year 1 have had a lovely week exploring their new story Meerkat Mail by Emily Gravett by writing their own postcards pretending to be Sunny who has visited Bedale. The children wrote **how** and **why** questions for one another to gather ideas on what Sunny could have done during his holiday, some of the children decided that he went swimming, visited Bedale Primary school and even had a trip to Big Sheep Little Cow! The children also enjoyed creating their own animal riddles using their knowledge of animal groups, animal features and what animals eat. Here are some super examples

*"I have feathers, I have 2 legs and wings and I am pink. What am I?" by Jack.*

*"I can slither on the floor, I have scales and I stick out my tongue. I am a reptile with no legs. What am I?" by Evelyn.*

The children had a wonderful surprise last week when we were able to use our animal knowledge for an animal we have all seen or even have at home, with a great visit from Dogs Trust! We learnt the 5 happy dog rules including:

1. When a dog is eating, leave them alone.
2. When a dog is resting, leave them alone
3. Dogs don't like hugs, they like strokes.
4. Always keep quiet near a dog
5. When a dog takes your toy, tell an adult.

We can't wait to keep learning more about animals both local and exotic!



## YEAR TWO NEWS

Since starting year 2, the children have had so many wonderful experiences. We kicked off the year with Farmer's Day where we had a visit from Farmer Pete and he talked to the children about the importance of farming, where our food comes from, and they got the chance to plant their own bean seed. Using our knowledge



of healthy and unhealthy foods, the children created their own salad as part of their DT lesson. In English, we retold the story of 'The Runaway Chapatti' and shared these with parents, the children did a wonderful job! Year 2 also had a visit to Fountains Abbey where we learnt all about the life of monks and the history of the place, we loved exploring the ruins. Mrs Eldridge came to talk to us about Mettupalayam and what their life is like there. We finished off the term showcasing our fantastic talent in our Christmas Showcase, where the children, danced, sang songs, and performed using sign language. They were brilliant!



We have so much to look forward to this year, for example our artist visit in Spring, our visit to the synagogue and a visit from a vintage fire engine.



Coming up we've got our maths party workshop on 14<sup>th</sup> March at 2.45pm, we hope you can join us for the party!

## YEAR THREE NEWS

Last term Year three had lots of exciting opportunities as part of our enrichment programme. One of our highlights was leading the Harvest festival in St Gregory's and we were so proud of how many children volunteered to speak in front of the whole church.

As part of our history work we found out about the schools in Bedale and what schools were like in the past. Did you know that the church office building used to be a school? We couldn't believe how small it was! We also looked at the old school building on Wycar and compared them to our school and the other schools in Bedale such as Mowbray and the High School. We also had a lesson where we found out what it would have been like to be in a Victorian school. The children weren't sure about working in dim lighting and writing lines and they definitely didn't like the idea of the cane as a punishment!



We have several exciting opportunities coming up straight after half term. We are visiting the library on the first morning back (letters are coming separately next week) and have special visitors from Yorkshire Dales National Park to help us become Rock and Fossil detectives. We will also be learning a poem for the annual school poetry competition. We can't wait!

## YEAR FOUR NEWS

This week, year 4 loved getting outside of the classroom to complete our Geography enquiry! We carried out some research to find out how many cars actually used the high street within the time that we were there. This was in order to enable us to make an informed decision about whether the high street should be pedestrianised or not. Thank you all for your responses to this enquiry on google classroom too.



We have also spent some time creating our electrical hand games in DT. The children did

super well with this and

have loved getting busy with it. Look out for some sneak peaks on Facebook - but we will be saving them for our electrical showcase next week! The children will then be able to bring them home with them to keep.

You will be getting a letter with further details about this showcase.



## YEAR FIVE NEWS

Year 5 have thoroughly enjoyed the enrichment events and activities that have taken place so far this academic year. In the autumn term, they loved visiting Reeth to learn from a Yorkshire Dales 'expert' about the features of the River Swale as part of their geography work. From their experience outdoors, they produced a piece of artwork based on a local landscape. Towards the end of the term, we learned about the charity, WaterAid, and enjoyed a visit from Adele Eldridge who explained more about water and the challenges people who live in Mettupalayam face to have access to clean water.



This term we have already researched, planned and made our own spring rolls using a variety of ingredients following a taste test session. We had so much fun preparing and cooking our ingredients using a pan. Everyone said school smelt delicious!

We are very much looking forward to being French shop keepers soon; buying and selling fruit at our class French fruit market and using our super French pronunciation of the varied, new vocabulary we have learnt.

## YEAR SIX NEWS

Where has this half term disappeared? Over the past few weeks, Year 6 have been working extremely hard in all areas of the curriculum. With a particular focus on improving our mental arithmetic skills. We have been engaged in challenging activities and exercises aimed at enhancing our number skills with percentages, decimals and fractions. In addition, we have started learning about algebra, which has opened our eyes to the world of patterns and sequences. It has been exciting to uncover the hidden mathematical gems behind these concepts.

In English, we have been working on our suspense stories and are currently in the innovation stage. We have been diligently using various tools and techniques to create an atmosphere and

ensure the success of our narratives. Our hard work and dedication have truly paid off, as our stories are coming to life. Outside the classroom, our PE lessons have been dedicated to improving our hockey skills. We are becoming more familiar with the rules of the game and are now gearing up for our termly House competition. Our progress has been remarkable, and we are proud of



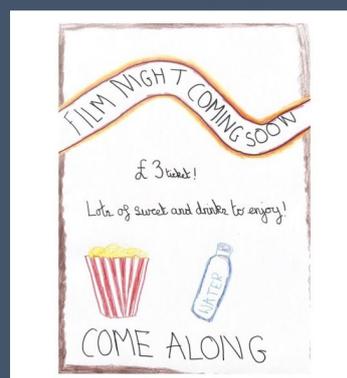
how far we've come.

On a different note, we have been fortunate to have passionate visitors in our school throughout the year, including Imran, Dogs Trust, and Mrs. Eldridge. These experiences have been enriching and have allowed us to broaden our horizons.

Finally, we would like to remind you about the importance of your child coming to school in the correct uniform and being well-equipped with their PE kit, including a top and socks, as well as a water bottle. These items are essential for their active participation in school activities.

## MOVIE NIGHT—BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

The last movie night went down so well that the School Council have been busy planning the next! This will be held on Thursday 21st March. Further details on the chosen movies and payment will be available closer to the time.



## SCHOOL DINNERS



ParentPay® School dinners are charged at £2.50 per day. Accounts should always be credited **in advance** of dinners being taken. Overall there are currently 30 accounts with debit balances totalling over £245. **Can any debit balances please be cleared ASAP with additional funds added in readiness for dinners being taken.**