

APRIL 2019

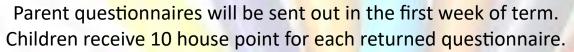
Dates for your diary this term

Week commencing 1st April – Easter celebrations and farewell events to mark Mrs Thompson's retirement

Friday 5th April - Last day of Spring term

Monday 8th April - Monday 22nd April — Easter Holidays

Tuesday 23rd April - Start of Summer Term



More dates for the summer term coming soon.....



School Office Closed

Please note that the school office will be closed on Wednesday 3rd April from 14:00.

If you need to collect a child on this afternoon, please can we request pick up is before 14:00.

Congratualations

We would like to extend our congratulations to Mrs Clark who has recently been appointed as our new Deputy Headteacher! She will take up this post after Easter and we wish her every success in her new position within school.

Check out our brand new website live now!

www.benedictbiscopacademy.org.uk





Goodbye from Mrs Thompson

WELL! I can hardly believe that it is my last week! I have no idea where January, February and March have gone, as they have flown by. There has been a lot of "handing overs" during the last few weeks, which have brought me great pride in knowing our school is so ready for their new journey.... and also great relief, that I can finally WIND DOWN!

I have reminisced so much that I have practically relived the highs, the lows, the funny and the sad events of my career, and I am so fortunate to have loved teaching. But, it is now a great opportunity for me to look forwards.

I am about to go "off into the sunset" [as I keep telling the children], on Route 500, round the coast of Northern Scotland in a few weeks, with my husband and 2 springer spaniels, looking forward to eagle and maybe whale spotting and lots of walking to the coffee shops. With lots of books to read, friends to catch up with and new hobbies to start, I certainly won't be bored!

With a trip to see family in Belgium and a holiday in France planned and then a Mediterranean

cruise in September... this year promises to be so exciting!
It has been a huge privilege to be part of the Benedict Biscop family for 31 years, having taught many of you and your children and I leave secure in the knowledge that together with a great team, we have created somewhere special for our children to learn.

In the words of AA Milne [Complete Tales of Winnie the Pooh] "How lucky am I to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard......"



We would also like to say a huge thank you and goodbye to Mrs Crane who is leaving us this week for pastures new after 12 years working at Benedict Biscop. We look forward to still seeing Mrs Crane regularly in school as a parent.



Miss Gamblin left us last week to start her Maternity leave and Mrs Ferguson is also leaving us this week to have her baby. We thank Mrs Ferguson for her time with us and we wish them both lots of luck with their new arrivals who are due any time!



Benedict Biscop CE Academy honours War Heroes



Benedict Biscop CE Academy has marked its support for the Royal British Legion 'Silent Soldier' campaign in remembrance of those who fought and died in the First World War. A near life-size 'Tommy' silhouette has been installed within our prominent garden entrance, to raise awareness of those who fought in the War and educate the children, their families and friends, and the local community about the sacrifices made by our Armed Forces.

The silhouette has been donated by the Doxford team at EDF Energy, who initially secured the silent silhouette to poignantly remember the fundraising and support work undertaken all year round by EDF Energy employees for local veterans' and armed forces charities.

"Being an integral part of the local community is really important to us as a school. We're very proud of our heritage and we feel privileged that EDF Energy's Doxford team thought of us for the silent silhouette donation. It's really important that our children, and their wider families and friends, understand the reasons behind 'Tommy' and we're looking forward to including the historical context and meaning within classroom teaching.

"Some of our children have parents who are currently serving in the Armed Forces and it's important to respect and appreciate this. I am looking forward to the discussions 'Tommy' generates!"

Mrs Armstrong, Headteacher





Parent, Teacher and Friends Association

PTFA

PTFA Spring Disco

We would like to thank all the PTFA volunteers who organised and helped out at the Spring school disco, everyone had a wonderful time and PTFA raised an incredible £357 towards their fundraising.



Family Friendly Quiz Night

On Friday 10th May

6pm

at St Matthew's Church, Silksworth £2 Adults, Children free

Everyone Welcome for a fun-filled evening

Wraparound Childcare

Breakfast and after school club - Our breakfast club opens at 7.45am and is £4.00 per session and our after school club runs from 3.30pm until 6.00pm every day and is £8.50 per session. Children will receive a healthy breakfast or snack and can take part in a number of activities. These clubs are available to all pupils and they must be booked and paid for in advance. You can do this through the School Money system.

Bookings are only open until midnight for the following day's sessions.

Can we remind parents to give the office 24 hours notice to cancel any bookings as you will still be charged for any sessions booked and not attended.

Nursery Parents - do you know we offer Educare care so your child can stay in Nursery all day. The cost of this is £15.00 per day and it is a great way to get your children ready to start in Reception full time in September.

Schoolzout - Look out for our summer schoolz out club newsletter which will be given out on the first week of term, it offers a range of fantastic extra curricular activities which take place after school.

If you would like any more information on any of our wraparound care options, please contact the school office.



World Book Day

It was a lovely day in school on Thursday 7th
March celebrating World Book Day. Thank you to
all parents/ carers for the huge effort in making
the children look fantastic! The staff did a great
job too! Thank you for all donations, which
totalled £211.

















Are you a Rights Knight?

As you know we are a Rights Respecting school. The House Captains have recently lead a competition to re-brand our school council as "Rights Knights" and to design a logo/ mascot to represent this. We had entries from across the school and we managed to narrow it down to 4. We then asked everyone in school to vote for their favourite. This is because article 17 states children have the right to their own opinion. So after lots of counting... we had a winner!



JACK GREENWELL YEAR 6 designed the logo/mascot.

What do Rights Knights do?

Anyone can be a Rights Knight but our Rights Knight leaders play a big part in develop pupil voice across school and leading change for improvement in order to ensure we are active global citizens. Recently we have relaunched our recycling scheme in school. We are hoping to reduce the use of paper and after negotiating a budget with Mrs Armstrong we have also been able to buy new paper recycling bins to go in every classroom and area in school. The Rights Knights empty them every week and with the help from Mr Lancaster the council collect the bins. WE ARE MAKING A HUGE DIFFERENCE TO THE ENVIRONMENT WITH SUCH A SMALL CHANGE.

LOOK OUT for more information from your Rights Knights in future Newsletters and on the school website!







Another HUGE well done to Joseph
McGinley, Neve Harrison and Ella Millington
who also designed posters to raise
awareness of our energy saving and
recycling!



The Rights Knights Need You!



To help further save the environment we have signed up to DURACELL BIG BATTERY HUNT. Your Child will soon be coming home with a Duracell battery box. The aim? To fill it with as many used/old batteries as possible and then return to school. As well as saving the environment the hunt is also part of a competition which has prizes like an overnight stay and visit to the Sustainability Centre a 3-year My Maths subscription and over £2,000 worth of school equipment vouchers for school. I'm sure you all have lots of unwanted batteries at home, so please hunt them out and join in.

From, The Rights Knights!

REMINDER: Can we please ask parents to regularly check pupils school bags for important <u>letters.</u> Also, to remind pupils to hand in letters from their school bags. Thank you.

Parking

Please can parents be considerate that they are not blocking residents' driveways or garages when parking outside of the school gates.





Benedict Biscop CE Academy 2018-19



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School Closed/Holidays
Bank Holidays
Inset Days - pupils not in
school

The Inset days may be subject to change.