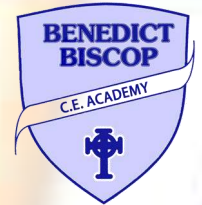


Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter

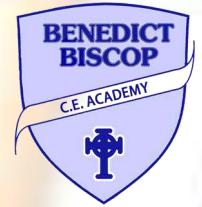


Dates for your Diary

- **Thursday 7th November**—Bags2school donation drop off in school hall 8:45—9:00 am
- **Thursday 7th November - PTFA Disco**
Reception - Year 2: 4.30pm - 5.45pm
Year 2 - Year 6: 6.00pm - 7.30pm (more info included)
- **Friday 15th November**—Service of Remembrance, led by our Children with special guests of honour (see main article for more details). We are not participating in Children In Need this year due to the service.
- **Tuesday 19th November**—**Year 2 and Year 6 SAT meetings.** 5pm—for parents of pupils in Year 2 and Year 6.
- **Week commencing 2nd December - Book Fayre.** All children have the opportunity to visit the book fayre to see if there are any books they would like to purchase and will bring a slip home with their choices. We will be holding book & breakfast on **Tuesday 3rd December** where parents/ carers can browse the selection of books with their children before school.



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Christmas Dates

- **Thursday 28th November - Year 1-6 Trip to The Customs House to see 'Snow White'.**
- **Friday 29th November - Christmas Fayre.** Parents are invited into school from 2.30pm to collect their children then browse a selection of stalls including, cakes and treats, games and a tombola along with a raffle. Children are free to leave with parents after they have visited the fayre.
- **Wednesday 11th December - EYFS Trip to the The Customs House to see 'The Elves and the Shoemaker'**
- **Wednesday 11th December - Carol Singing around Moorside.** We will be meeting at 6pm to carol sing around Moorside. Everyone is then invited for refreshments and mince pies in the school hall afterwards and the PTFA Christmas raffle will be drawn, to get everyone in the festive mood!
- **Thursday 12th December - Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper day.** We will be holding a school Christmas meal which all children are invited to take part in (pupils on packed lunch may also have a school meal on this day). Pupils are also invited to wear a festive themed jumper to raise money for the 'Save the Children' charity.
- **Monday 16th December - St Matthew's Church Service.** Everyone is welcome to attend our KS2 performance at St Matthews Church. It will take place at 6pm. More correspondence will be sent closer to time.
- **Tuesday 17th December - KS1 Performance.** KS1 will be showcasing their performance. The doors will open 1.15pm for a prompt 1.30pm start. *Please note; 2 tickets per family. Unfortunately we are unable to accommodate younger siblings.*
- **Wednesday 18th December - EYFS Performance.** EYFS will be showcasing their performance. The doors will open 9am for a prompt 9.30am start. *Please note; 2 tickets per family. Unfortunately we are unable to accommodate younger siblings.*
- **Friday 20th December - School closes for Christmas holidays**
- **Monday 6th January 2020 - INSET DAY**
- **Tuesday 7th January 2020 - Pupils return to school**



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FANTASTIC NEWS: School received a congratulatory letter from the Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP, congratulating us on our outstanding achievements in the Phonics Screening this year.



Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP
Minister of State for School Standards

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

Mrs Sarah Armstrong
Benedict Biscop Church of England Academy
Marcross Drive
Sunderland
Tyne and Wear
SR3 2RE

(November 2019

Dear Mrs Armstrong,

I would like to congratulate you, your staff and your pupils on your school's outstanding achievements in the 2019 phonics screening check. Your excellent teaching of phonics is something I hope to see replicated across the country: decoding skills are the foundations for pupils to progress to reading fluently, for purpose and for enjoyment.

There is a substantial body of evidence that demonstrates that systematic phonics is a highly effective method for teaching children to read. We want to ensure that every child develops a firm grasp of phonics, which is why I was delighted to see your results. With 97 per cent of pupils at Benedict Biscop Church of England Academy reaching or exceeding the pass mark in the check, your school is in the top five per cent of all primary schools in the country.

This year's figures show that 88 per cent of pupils who achieve the expected standard in the check go on to achieve at least the expected standard in key stage 1 reading teacher assessment, which underlines the importance of teaching pupils to decode words effectively at an early age.

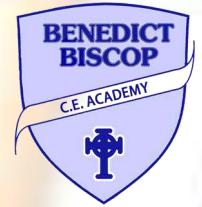
Your success in teaching phonics and early reading so effectively means your pupils are developing a firm foundation in literacy, from which they can develop excellent vocabulary and cultivate a love of reading that can last a lifetime.

Thank you for your commitment and success in teaching the next generation to read so effectively.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

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Our Curriculum

Following in the footsteps of Benedict Biscop himself, a man passionate about education and sharing the History of the world and his local community, the curriculum at Benedict Biscop is developed around Historic themes. Children study their own rich **cultural heritage** and develop an understanding of how this culture is enriched by the multi-cultural British society of today, based on **British values** of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs. Lessons are taught creatively where cross-curricular links are encouraged.

Our themes this term are:

Y6—WW2 in Sunderland

Y5—Settlers [Anglo-Saxons and Vikings]

Y4—Ancient Greeks

Y3—Over 2000 years ago

Y2—Homes in Tudor times

Y1—Me , my family and where we live



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Coding!!!

As part of our computing curriculum, children have been investigating unplugged coding activities. Children have been learning how to make algorithms for different tasks, creating and following sequences and instructions. We can't wait to see how this develops throughout the year.



New Baby Arrival

We would like to extend our congratulations to Mrs Hunt who recently delivered a baby girl. We wish the whole family well.



School Disco

£2.00 entry

**Tuck, Hot Dogs and drinks will also be on sale.
Entry and collection from KS1 rear door.**

Rec/Year 1/Year 2 starts: 4:30pm

Year 3/Year 4/Year 5/Year 6 starts: 6:00pm

All proceeds go to the PTFA to fund the pantomime.

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OPAL [Outdoor Play and Learning]

As part of our **Physical Development** curriculum and commitment to increasing the time our pupils are **active**, we continue to develop our OPAL curriculum. It continues to be enjoyed by the children as they explore different areas of the school grounds and use a range of different resources to support their play.

You may have noticed that we now have a new OPAL shed which we are using to store our resources, however we need your help to fill it! As we look to expand and improve the play opportunities and establish and develop new areas we would welcome donations of any of the following items:

- *wood*
- *pallets*
- *crates*
- *cable reels (big or small)*
- *material*
- *dressing up clothes*
- *bikes/scooters or skateboards*
- *helmets*
- *pots/pans*
- *kitchen utensils*
- *prams/dolls/action figures/toy cars*
- *old/unused household items*
- *old electrical items for us to deconstruct e.g. hoovers, computer keyboards*

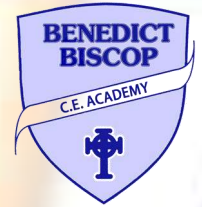


These resources offer the children limitless opportunities to manipulate and construct their ideas through play.

PLEASE NOTE: Opal equipment should not be used before school due to limited supervision.



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Christian Values

Underpinning our curriculum at Benedict Biscop are the **Christian values**, taught both explicitly and implicitly throughout the day and made real in our everyday lives. As part of our curriculum, we provide pupils with the opportunity to take part in and lead worship.

We would like to thank everyone, who came to worship, together with our pupils for our Harvest service. Thank you for all of your generous donations to the food bank, which the children regularly support. We were overwhelmed with the amount of items we received, which will help a huge amount to those in need. The items were delivered before the half term break.



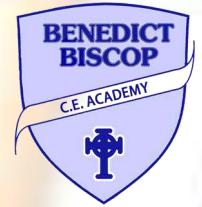
If you would like to join us for our pupil led worships,

*** YEAR 4's worship on Trust is on Friday 22nd November 2019**

*** YEAR 5's worship on Service is on Friday 29th November 2019**

Worship begins promptly at 9am. Please be aware that the doors to worship close at this time. We apologise for any inconvenience caused but this is to allow minimal distraction for the children, thank you for your understanding.

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Service Of Remembrance

Friday 15th November 2019 at 9:00am



We would like to invite family members who have been or who are currently serving in the emergency services and armed forces to join us, in uniform, and be part of our special service.

These guests of honour will have the chance to hear the children lead Worship and then there will be a special morning tea for them in the learning centre after the service, also led by the children. If any child has a family member who is no longer with us or unable to attend, it would be lovely for them to still be part of our service. Children can bring in photographs or mementoes (clearly labelled with name and year group) honouring that person. These will form part of a display in the school and will be returned afterwards.



Skiing Club

At Benedict Biscop we are exceptionally lucky to live next to an dry ski slop. We feel like this is too good an opportunity to miss and have therefore arranged for our pupils to take part in an after-school club at the slope— long may this continue!

Schoolz Out Clubs

Please be aware that children **MUST** be collected after Schoolz Out Clubs at 4:30pm. Children are not permitted to walk home alone after a club.



Considerate Parking

Please can we reiterate the importance of showing consideration when driving parking around Moorside. Please refrain from blocking residence's driveways.



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Year 2 Walkwise

As part of our personal development curriculum and our continual drive to keep pupils safe, Year 2 will start their walk wise programme this week which will continue every Wednesday morning for six weeks.

This programme teaches the children about road safety and the importance of being aware while out in public.

A letter has been sent home with more information and the opportunity to volunteer for sessions.



Breakfast Club and After School Club

Activities include a range of:

Games Crafts Cookery Books Computers Music Reading

Breakfast Club

7.45am-8.45am

Cost £4.00

Breakfast is served until
8.20am.



After School Club

3.15pm-6.00pm

Cost £8.50

Children are given a snack and
need to be collected before 6pm.



The Care and Learning Facility will provide:

- ◆ Exciting opportunities for children to meet socially with children of all ages
- ◆ High quality care and provision for all children while promoting healthy eating
 - ◆ Opportunities for children to extend their learning
 - ◆ A stimulating environment

For more information, or to book, please contact the school office.

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PTFA Donations

Our PTFA are asking for donations towards their Christmas Raffle. If you have unwanted gifts and would like to donate them to us, there will be boxes at each entrance into school and the office. Alternatively, if you work for a company who can make donations, please contact the school.

THANK YOU FOR ALL OF THE AMAZING DONATIONS RECEIVED SO FAR!



Year 5 Bikeability

Keeping children safe!

Well done to Year 5 who completed their bikeability course where they learned and reinforced important skills to ensure they ride their bikes and use the roads safely.

EYFS are drumming crazy!

EYFS have absolutely loved the new addition to their provision, thanks to a very generous donation of a drum kit.



Please check out our Facebook page for videos of our EYFS children enjoying the drums.



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School calendar 2019-2020

Benedict Biscop CE Academy 2019-20



September 2019						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

October 2019						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

November 2019						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2019						
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
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29	30	31				

January 2020						
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2020						
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						1
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March 2020						
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29	30	31				

April 2020						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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26	27	28	29	30		

May 2020						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2020						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July 2020						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2020						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

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

The Inset days may be subject to change.