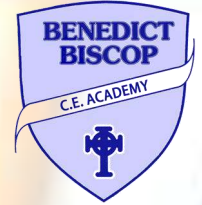


Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



MAY 2020

Dear parents,

Thank you for your continued support and patience during this unprecedented time. We are hugely grateful for all that you are doing at home to help support your child's learning. We have had an overwhelmingly positive response regarding Showbie and the interaction it has provided between staff and pupils.

Last week the Government announced that as the National transmission rate of coronavirus (COVID-19) has decreased, therefore schools may be able to welcome back children in some key year groups next month, alongside children of critical workers and vulnerable children, providing that the five key tests set out by the Government justify the change at this time.

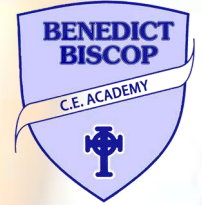
The Government is initially putting a limit on the numbers of children who are able to attend school, to ensure that pupils and staff attending can do so safely as part of the national social distancing measures to limit the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). Every school has been asked to complete a risk assessment following Government guidance, to determine when and how they open for these pupils, as each site is different, with rooms of different sizes and cohorts of varying numbers. Schools are currently completing this risk assessment and making arrangements for opening as soon as possible, where they can for these key year groups.

The government has also published guidance for parents, which can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers/reopening-schools-and-other-educational-settings-from-1-june>.

The Government are encouraging all children (who are asked to return), where there are no shielding concerns for that child or anyone in their household, to do so. It is no longer necessary for parents of eligible children to keep them at home if they can. For children with an EHCP this will be informed by a personalised risk assessment approach to ensure that their needs can be as safely or more safely met in the school environment once they return. Children should not attend if they are classed as clinically extremely vulnerable or have symptoms or are self-isolating due to symptoms in their household.

We understand that parents may be anxious to bring children back to school, however please be reassured that schools are following all guidance provided to ensure the safety of your child. We have been advised that parents will not be penalised if their child doesn't attend school, however, schools will follow usual attendance procedures to ascertain that all children are safe if they don't attend.

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



MAY 2020

The Government then plans to gradually increase the numbers of children attending schools. By returning pupils gradually, we can therefore initially reduce the number of children in classrooms compared to usual. Children will be educated in smaller groups spread out across the school. Children will need to stay within their new group wherever possible. This is part of a range of protective measures schools are being asked to put in place to keep children and staff safe. Additional cleaning, changes to drop off/collection areas, frequent hand cleaning and good hygiene practices, minimising contact and mixing and greater utilising of outdoor space for education will also be introduced.

The Government understands that Early Years and Primary age children cannot be expected to remain 2m apart from each other and staff, which is why they have issued schools with detailed guidance regarding reducing the risks through other practices. However, where we can keep children in those small groups 2m away from each other, we will endeavour to do so.

The Government is encouraging parents and children to walk and cycle to school where possible and to avoid public transport at peak times, as a further protective measure. It has also outlined that some roads will be closed to encourage this. We have not been informed of any planned road closures near Moorside at present.

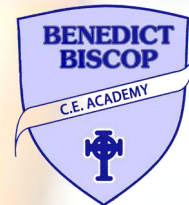
As well as offering face-to-face provision for those children who are able to attend, Benedict Biscop CE Academy will continue to provide remote education for pupils who are required to stay at home. However, as class teachers of year groups not in school will be teaching smaller groups of children who have returned, this may not be as extensive as previously provided. As always, we are conscious that educating at home is extremely difficult and that not everyone will have access to individual IT equipment, therefore we would like to reiterate there is no expectation or requirement for minimum completion, please just do what you can.

We will provide more information to parents of year groups returning to school, once this has been confirmed and further guidance received.

Take care.

Mrs Armstrong

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



HOME LEARNING QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you so much to everyone who completed our online questionnaire about homework and home learning. Based on our annual parental questionnaire we were committed to reviewing homework across the school and with 72% of parents completing the survey it has enabled us to gain a greater insight into your questions, queries and suggestions. Based on your responses we hope to streamline homework and make it more purposeful and engaging for children.

Summary of Responses

Does your child usually complete homework a set night/ time each week?	Yes (70%)	No (31%)
Does every child in the house have access to an electronic device?	Yes (88%)	No (12%)
Do you have an internet or Wifi connection at home?	Yes (100%)	No
Has your child accessed Showbie since it was launched?	Yes (94%)	No (6%)
If Yes... do you think Showbie has been helpful in engaging your child in learning?	Yes * (95%)	No (5%)
Based on what you have seen of Showbie so far, would you prefer this type of learning to replace our current homework method?	Yes * (73%)	No (27%)
My child engages easily with the homework which is set.	Strongly Agree (4%)	Agree (47%)
	Neutral (15%)	Disagree (11%)
	Strongly Disagree (23%)	

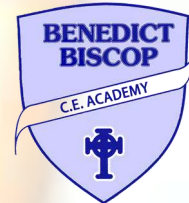
*including data wifi

*based on those who have accessed Showbie

Showbie

The introduction of Showbie as a learning tool was something we had always planned on in school and it has been received extremely positively during the COVID school closures; it has allowed staff and children to interact effectively and provided many families with a structure to aid their "home schooling" during his time. Ideally school would have liked to introduce this in a different way to ensure children had more "training" on how to use and navigate the programme; we are aware that new systems can be very frustrating and we would like to thank you for your patience and support of the children during this unprecedented situation. We understand that not all pupils may have access to a device and that learning from home is not always possible or ideal. **We would like to reiterate that during this period we are only encouraging children to access and complete what they can.**

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



Many of the same questions arose linked to homework and Showbie as a result we have produced a user guide and a brief list FAQ to further support you. User guides will be sent electronically to parents.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can Showbie only be accessed on an ipad?

NO.
Showbie can be accessed across a range of devices and platforms. The APP is downloadable from the Apple Store on any apple device. (an IOS of 10 or above is needed)
However, Showbie can also be accessed via any other web browser including those on android devices.

Q: How do I submit work?

Please see user guide.

Q: My child finds it difficult to type or use the pen tool, what support is available for this?

Adding a "comment" box is much more effective than using a text box. The class teacher can see where text has been added in the way and can open the comment to view the text fully.

Using the pen tool take some practice and we believe that in time this will become much easier for children as their handwriting naturally develops throughout their time in school. Please see the user guide for more information on the different tool options.

Q: I am concerned about handwriting development, will the use of electronic devices impact this?

Developing handwriting is something that we are also passionate about in school. Not only does our handwriting scheme develop fine motor skills and control but it ensures that children can write effectively and clearly. Many parents have suggested moving forward they would like weekly handwriting homework. This is something that will be a focus when the children return to school, especially given the current circumstances.

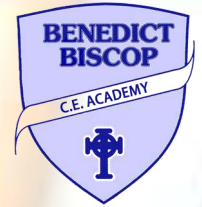
If you would like to continue to develop handwriting and motor skills at home while accessing our online learning, work can be written out on paper (without the need to print anything out - a lined sheet of paper will suffice) and scanned.

By pressing the + button on the assignment screen you can choose to "scan" a document. This will turn any camera attached to the device into a scanner and you can upload the work this way. Using your phone camera will also work. Please see the user guide for more information on the different tool options.

Q: How are things organised on Showbie?

As this is a new system designed to be used in school as well as at home we have organised work in key curriculum areas as well as with a specific name eg HT5.07. This indicates it is HALF TERM 5 session 7.

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



Certificate OF RECOGNITION

This certificate is presented to

**All of the children & staff at
Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy**



Thank you so much for all of your beautiful pictures which we have
displayed at the Hospice for all to see.

Date: 30/4/2020

Signed:

S. Moore

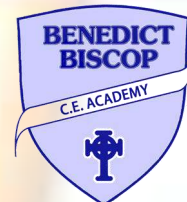
On behalf of St. Benedict's Hospice

A special thank you to everyone, both in school and at home, who provided beautiful artwork to be displayed within St Benedict's Hospice window.

I'm sure you will agree that this will brighten the day of anyone who will see it.



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

**'Strength is granted to us all when we are
needed to serve great causes'
Winston Churchill**

**Well done to everyone across the school for
completing your Showbie learning linked to
VE Day. It was lovely to see all the excellent**



**work everyone
produced and we
particularly enjoyed
this piece of work
from Lucas and
George, who investigated real historical
artefacts, belonging to their great, great Uncle
Ken from WW2.**



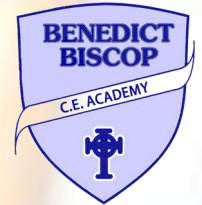
In Year 1, we have enjoyed beginning the Drawing Club weekly challenge. Children have been exploring the different media available to them at home, including using nature!

In Personal Development, we celebrated Earth Day on the 22nd April. We created posters and artwork exploring the theme of 'trees', and also experimented with making secondary colours out of the three primary colours.

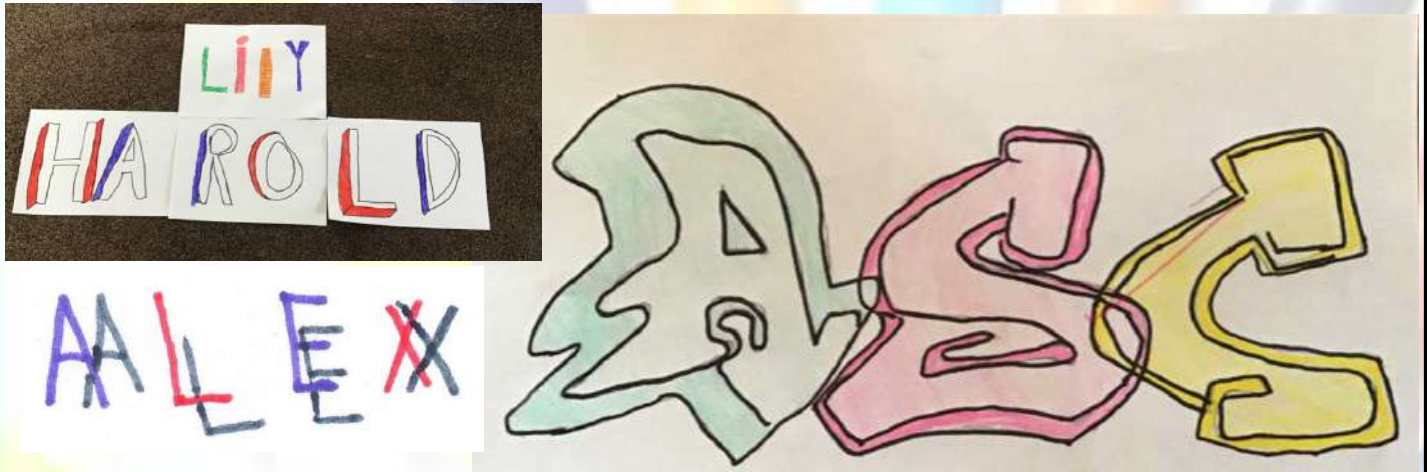
Our theme this term is 'The Seaside: Sunderland's History'. The children were challenged to write a message about Sunderland they would like to put in a bottle for someone faraway to find. There were some beautiful creative entries, and Penshaw, beaches, museums and landmarks were excellently described.



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



Year 5 have been learning about Banksy and how he has influenced street art. We have looked at a range of techniques used in street art from contrast colours to lettering styles. We then designed and created our own 'tag' using these techniques and inspired by Banksy.



The children in Early Years have been working hard, researching the city of Sunderland. The children chose a famous landmark to explore and recreate, using a range of media and materials. The children made a plan, listing what materials they needed and how they were going to make their landmark. After they had completed the activity, the children thought about what worked well, and if they would do anything differently next time.

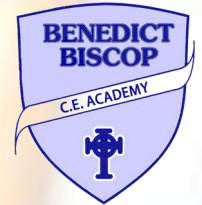


Look at what they achieved. We are so impressed!

My lighthouse
things I need
1. Tower
2. pier
3. sea
4. sand
To make this I need
1. Tube
2. egg box
3. cardboard
4. pot
5. paint
6. glue
7. tissue paper



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter

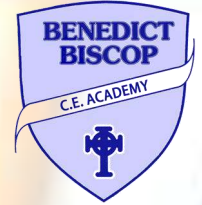


Year 4's theme this term is "Life in The Rainforest" so the children have been creating their own virtual Rainforest Café! First, they had to complete their research on different foods we could find in the rainforest. Then they designed a menu with the foods they had researched and found. The children could be as creative as possible and put anything on their menu, as long as it included an ingredient from the rainforest in each dish. Finally they created a dish from their menu! It looked like everyone had lots of fun!

The Year Four children also completed an Art project and created some beautiful work based on the return to normal life! We included a quote by the queen in which 'We will meet again', to spread some positivity.



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



The children in Year 3 have been learning all about Malala Yousafzai and how she stood up for girls' rights to education in her country Pakistan and around the world. This links to our theme "What I Believe: The right to choose religion and beliefs". The children explored her book "Malala's Magic Pencil" and thought about what they would do if they had a magic pencil. The children then represented their thoughts and ideas in an acrostic poem. The children carried out their own research about Malala and



Malala Yousafzai

Fact file.



Born:

12 July 1997, Mingora, Pakistan

Education:

Kinshasa Public School Pakistan.

Edgbaston High School, England, getting 6 A's and 4A's GCSE.

Lady Margaret Hall Oxford, England, Geography, History, Mathematics and Religious Studies at A level.

Malala is currently studying for a bachelor's degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics.

Known for:

Being an activist who, while still being a teenager, spoke out publicly against having no education of girls that was imposed by the Taliban. She gained world wide attention when the Taliban tried to kill her at age 15. In 2014 Malala was awarded the Nobel Peace prize for her efforts for children's rights.

CHILDHOOD:

Malala was born on 12 July 1997. She is the daughter of Ziauddin and Tor Pekai Yousafzai. Malala was born at home with the help of neighbours. She had two younger brothers, Khushal and Atal.

AWARDS:

National Youth Peace Prize

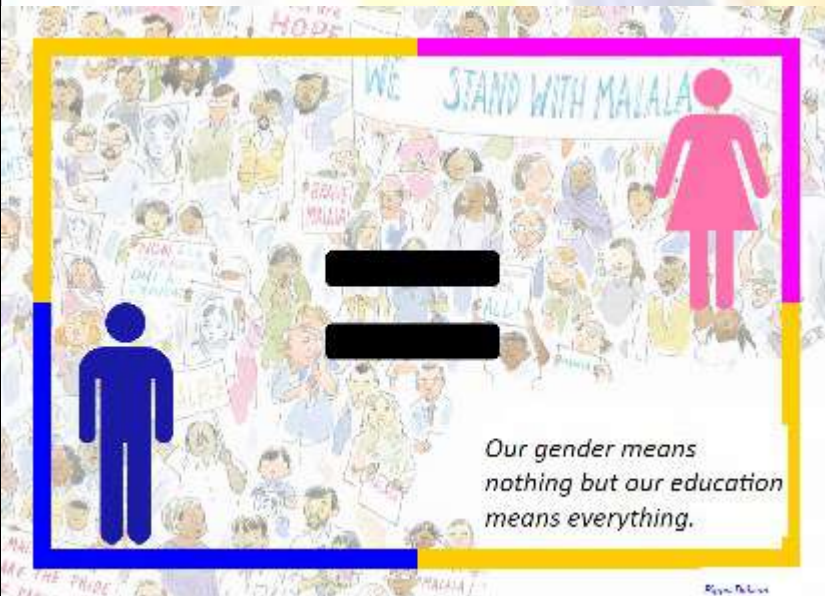
Sitara-e-Shujaat, Pakistan's third-highest civilian bravery award

Mother Teresa Awards for Social Justice

Rome Prize for Peace and Humanitarian Action

International Prize for Equality and Non-Discrimination

presented their findings in a fact file. They also created their own campaign posters to be used by Malala, using persuasive language, powerful images and slogans to capture the reader's attention and share Malala's message.



FIRST WOMAN FLIES ACROSS ATLANTIC!

21st May, 1932

The Journey

The journey across the Atlantic is one of the most dangerous routes to fly. High winds and rain mean the journey is very dangerous.



ATLANTIC FLIGHT

Amelia Earhart has just become the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.

The flight took twenty-one hours to fly across the Atlantic Ocean. Amelia set off from Newfoundland. The journey was going to land in France but due to bad weather the plane had to land in Northern Ireland.

Amelia said, "I am so proud to be the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean. It was very hard to fly across the Atlantic, but I landed safely".

Amelia was asked if she wanted to do it again, she replied "next time I will fly around the world!"



The plane

Amelia Earhart flew over the Atlantic Ocean in her red Lockheed Vega airplane.

An Inspiration

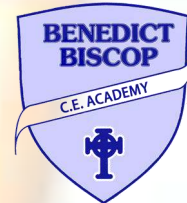
Amelia Earhart has inspired many people to take up flying and is an inspiration to others, especially women, telling people not to give up.

Ava in Year 2 made her own Newspaper report about Amelia Earhart's first flight as a pilot. The class had to decide what their newspaper report would look like and they used what they have learned about the event to write their newspaper report.

Owen then made his own model plane.



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



Year 6 are looking at slavery and the chronology of it. Last week they researched the history of slave ships and the geography of the slave triangle, creating an information text informing others.

In Art we have been focusing on Mark Titchner and over the last few weeks the children have been practising different fonts, looking at contrasting colours while taking inspiration from Mark's pieces.



Case Study








The Zong was a Dutch ship (previously the Zorgue) seized by the British in 1781 off West Africa, along with 244 Africans on board. It was then bought by the captain of a Liverpool slave ship With a new crew, captained by Luke Collingwood (a slave-ship surgeon), the Zong traded at Cape Coast and Accra, picking up 442 slaves. The ship along with the slaves, sailed for supplies to Sao Tome, an island off the west coast of Africa on 6 September 1781. Captain Collingwood was ill for most of the journey.

In November, as the ship was sailing the captain made serious mistake. He mixed up Jamaica for St Dominique and they soon realised they were out of drinking water. The crew decided to kill some of the 380 slaves onboard in order to survive. Between 29th November and 1st December, 132 slaves were thrown into the sea from the Zong.

The ship arrived in Black River, Jamaica, on 22 December. Captain Collingwood died soon after and the 200 slaves who survived were traded. The ship's log (a record of everything that happened) had mysteriously disappeared! I wonder what happened to the log?

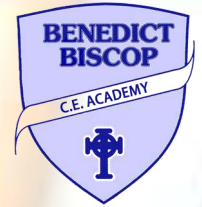


50. To understand how electricity has changed our lives.

What did we do before it was invented?	Electrical item (draw and label the item)	How does it help us in our lives?
Before the mobile phone was invented we used telephone boxes, black phones, and sometimes just met up.		The mobile phone helped us to contact people easier and faster. It can also be used for text.
Before the light bulb was invented fire or candles were used to light up houses.		The light bulb has helped us light up our houses or even work quicker and easier when lighting a fire/room.
Before the oven we would have to cook on a stove.		The oven has helped cook food and make food taste better.
Before the TV we would have to listen to the radio or go to the cinema.		The television has helped us watch movies, sports, and news from home.
Before music was played on a disc or played for people.		The music has helped us play music quicker than a disc.
Before the tap, people would collect water from rivers or streams.		The tap has helped us produce cleaner water quickly.
Before CCTV or video cameras we would just see things.		It has helped us record things for memories or to stop a crime.

In Science Year 6 have started to look at electricity. They were set a challenge to go around the home and look for electrical products. From this they had to think what was used before and how does it help and impact on our lives.

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



INTERNATIONAL SINGING SENSATIONS!



Well done to Ethan & James, who took part in a virtual international choir. 37 singers from 6 countries recorded 'Stay At Home' a song written to thank key workers and bring us together during this difficult time.

You can watch them perform at:

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=a5EUzUXPphg>

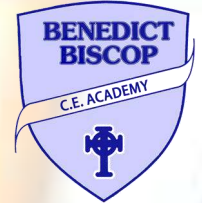
DON'T MISS OUT...

on your music tuition... Please join Mr King for a
online music session at



[https://
www.youtube.com/
channel/
UCI_iaZsaY4p2Rf-
9fComC7w](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCI_iaZsaY4p2Rf-9fComC7w)

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



Term Dates 2019-2020

Benedict Biscop CE Academy 2019-20



September 2019						
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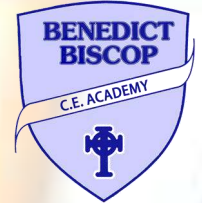
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	School Closed/Holidays
	Bank Holidays
	Inset Days - pupils not in school

The Inset days may be subject to change.

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



Term Dates 2020-2021

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy 2020-2021



September 2020						
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