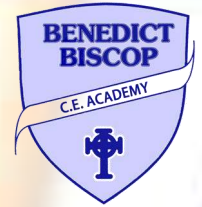


Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



SEPTEMBER 2020

Dates for your diary:



Monday 28th September—Flu Vaccinations (Y1—Y6)

Tuesday 29th September—School Photographs

Friday 9th October—Closing date for Nursery 2021 Applications

Monday 12th October—16th October—Parents Consultations

Friday 23rd October— Last day of half term

Monday 2nd November—School re-opens

Welcome Back!

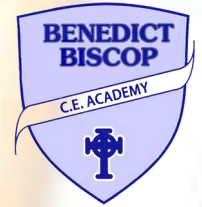
It is an absolute delight to welcome back all of our existing and new pupils. We want to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported the school through this difficult period, staff and governors have been overwhelmed with the level of support and gratitude we have received.

Although the school initially remained open for key workers and then reopened for as many pupils as it was safe to do so, we are extremely glad that we are now able to open school to all pupils and begin to welcome our new Nursery starters. It has been wonderful to hear our classrooms buzzing with the sound of our pupils enjoying their learning and seeing their friends and staff.

Mrs Armstrong
Headteacher



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School Photographs

The photographer will be in school on Tuesday 29th September to take the children's individual and sibling photo's.

For this date only could Y2 and Y6 please come into school in their full school uniform with their PE kit in a drawstring bag.

To ease the process every child will have an individual picture taken, children will go to the photographer in the learning centre in their class bubbles. All siblings will also have their picture taken, but please remember that you are under no obligation to buy any photographs.

Your proofs and order forms will be sent home with your child as soon as we receive them.



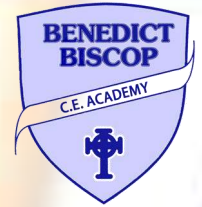
School Uniform Orders



We understand that a number of parents are experiencing difficulties with delivery of school uniform. We have been in contact with our supplier, Emblematic, who apologise for the delays.

We have been advised that If you have already ordered, they are currently catching up, but delivery is still about 4 weeks. However for any new orders placed they hope to be back to normal delivery of 1 week soon.

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Parents Consultations

Unfortunately we are unable to hold our usual Parents Evenings/Visits this year due to the current Covid19 restriction in place.



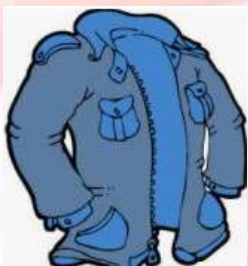
All parents will be contacted via telephone by their child's class teacher during week commencing 12th October. (This may be extended to w/c 19th October if necessary).

We will text parents prior to their phone call so that they are aware when staff will be ringing.

Outdoor Coats

Could all children please come to school dressed appropriately for the weather— children have outdoor playtimes whatever the weather. If one child does not have their coat this means that the whole class bubble will be unable to go outside.

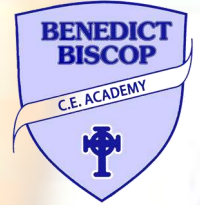
We like to encourage children to move about as much as possible as movement around school is so restricted currently.



On behalf of the Staff, Pupils and Parents, we would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Anderson for all her hard work and commitment in her role as Parent Governor.

Mrs Anderson has now served her term of office on our Local Governing Body.

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



EARLY YEARS—FOUNDATION STAGE

It has been lovely to have the children back within Early Years! They have settled brilliantly and loved sharing what they have been up to over the six weeks' holidays. We have spent a lot of time outside exploring within our poly tunnel; the children have shown great care and bravery while handling creatures, such as: giant spiders, slugs, snails and caterpillars. We even came back to a surprise as the potatoes we planted early this year had grown into huge spuds! We loved discussing similarities and differences between the potatoes and talking about size; some of them were bigger than our heads!



YEAR 1

Year 1 have settled into KS1 life so well. They have loved exploring their new classroom and outdoor areas, making new friends in their class, and eating lunch in the dining hall. Their topic this term is Me, My Family and My World with the children making family trees and writing about themselves and important family events.



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



YEAR 1

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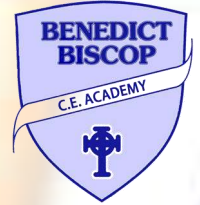


YEAR 2

The children have been studying habitats in science. They investigated the outdoor habitats within our school grounds. They made observations and then used the internet to research what they found.



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YEAR 3



Year 3 are really happy being back at school, playing with our friends in a safe way. We have enjoyed using our practical apparatus to support our Maths learning.



Year 4

The children have settled really well into Year Four and have been working extremely hard! We have been focusing on Ancient Greece and have been looking at ancient Greek myths including Medusa.

The children have worked really hard to write excellent character descriptions.

Medusa

Feared, cursed abandoned- Medusa is an unusual and dreaded creature with snakes as her hair and red lips like burning fire.

She has fiery eyes that if you look at her even just once you will automatically turn to stone. Her eerie, heckling voice echoes in the cave that she lives in. If you get turned to stone then you will stay like that forever, as she pulls a horrifying grin on her scary, ferocious looking face.

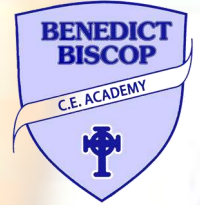


Medusa!

Medusa is a dangerous and unusual creature she is cursed and abandoned she has shiny red lips like they are on fire she has horrible snakes as hair which tight each other she has a voice is like someone screaming for help! She lives in a dark creepy cave which has statues in of people in scared positions she pulls terrifying faces every time she turns someone into stone you can here the hissing of the snakes as medusa approaches you she has scales on her they are so smooth it is like she is a crocodile.



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Year 5

Year 5 have been really enjoying learning about the Anglo-Saxons as part of our topic of Settlers and Settlements. We have been looking at why Britain was invaded, where the invaders came from as well as what they brought with them, such as illuminated lettering. The children are currently in the process of making their own illuminated letter designs!



In science, we have been studying plants and the life cycle. The class particularly enjoyed dissecting a flower during one lesson, see photos attached. Pupils have also been doing maths a little bit differently on a Friday, in the form of #maths! This is where we are given a word problem and try and solve it in several different ways.

Year 6

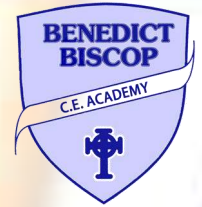
Year 6 have been exploring how WW2 started, who was involved and researched the geography of the war. Our journalist skills have been put to the test writing for the local newspaper in 1939, stating that war has been declared!



Also in Year 6 many made fantastic applications to become our House Captains for 2020-2021. However, after a selection and interview process the new House Captains are : Jack (Bede), Lucas (Caedmon), Hannah (Aidan) and Amelia (Cuthbert).

Well done to all who took part and congratulations to our new House Captains

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Car Parking

Please can we ask all parents, grandparents and carers to be considerate when parking outside of school and the surrounding streets. Please make sure that you are not blocking any residents driveways and that you do not double park at any time. It is important for emergency vehicles that Marcross Drive is accessible.

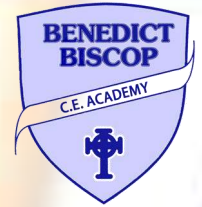
Once children have been dropped off at school it would be appreciated if you could leave immediately to facilitate our staggered drop off times and to assist the school with our social distancing measures.



School Start and Finishing Times

EYFS Reception -	8:30am to 3:00pm
EYFS Nursery -	8:45am to 11:45am (3:30pm if full day)
Year 1 -	8:30am—2:55pm (front gate)
Year 2 -	8:45am—3:05pm (front gate)
Year 3 -	9:00am—3:15pm (front gate)
Year 4 -	8:40am—3:10pm (back gate)
Year 5 -	8:55am—3:20pm (back gate)
Year 6 -	9:10am—3:30pm (back gate)

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PE Kit

Children should attend school in their outdoor PE kit on the days that they have PE (see below). The outdoor PE kit is either the school tracksuit bottoms & top or a dark navy/black plain tracksuit. Plimsolls should be brought in a drawstring bag in case PE is indoors.

Year 1:	Friday
Year 2:	Tuesday
Year 3:	Thursday
Year 4:	Wednesday
Year 5:	Monday
Year 6:	Tuesday & Thursday

Rainbow Award

In order to celebrate some of the fantastic work that the children have been doing, both at home and at school, we have come up with a new award which Y1 suggested be called the 'Rainbow Award'. We think this is the perfect name for an award during this unusual time. They chose this ... "as the award is for someone who brings cheer, works hard and does something special. There are lots of ways to get the award ... like there are lots of colours in a rainbow." We love your sentiment Y1, I'm sure you all agree! I wonder who our winners will be? Check out our Facebook page on a Friday afternoon to see who has received the rainbow award each week.



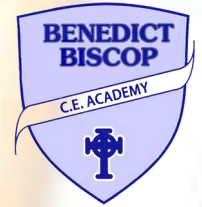
Parent Governor Elections

In October we will be electing a new Parent Governor to our Local Governing Body.

If you would like to nominate yourself or someone you know who would like to take up this fantastic opportunity please contact the school office and ask for an expression of interest form to be emailed to you.



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



School Banking

Unfortunately due to the current restrictions in place we are unable to open our school bank.

We have contacted NE First Credit Union (formerly Prince Bishops Community Bank) and have been advised that if parents contact them on the number shown below they will be able to arrange setting up a standing order until we can re-open the school bank safely.

Telephone: 0330 0553 666 for more information

Booster Clubs

As part of our catch up plans following lockdown, we are offering additional booster sessions for identified pupils, running before and after school on different days for different year groups.

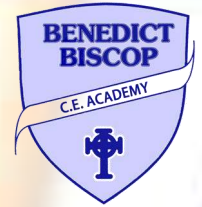


These sessions offer additional Reading and Maths activities and are a fantastic opportunity for your child to receive additional support outside of curriculum time in a smaller group.



Emails will be forwarded to the parents of those pupils identified and the sessions will be reviewed at the end of the term.

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



School Councillors

Class elections have taken place and we are pleased to announce that our new school councillors are:

Year 1:	Ava and Zac
Year 2:	Ben and Ella
Year 3:	Emily and Owen
Year 4:	Isabelle and Rowan
Year 5:	Scarlett and Sam

Good luck in your new roles working alongside our Year 6 House

Special Educational Needs Reviews

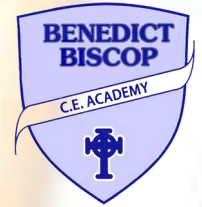
Review invitations have been sent to Parents/Carers.

It was hoped that we would be able to hold these reviews in person in school, however due to the current restrictions in place these reviews will be held via Microsoft Teams with either Mrs Armstrong or Mrs Merron (our SEN Support).



Thank you to all parents, grandparents and carers for helping us all to stay safe by lining up in an orderly way with your children before and after school. It has been lovely to see the children cycling and scooting to school, please don't forget to ask the children to dismount in the queue as the paths are quite narrow.

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Harvest Worship



This year, due to the exceptional circumstances we will be unable to hold our usual Harvest Worship.

We are, however, hoping to be able to record our children taking part and sharing this with you via our Facebook page.

Nursery Admissions 2021

We are in the process of accepting applications for Nursery Admission for September 2021. Those children born between 01/09/17 and 31/08/18 can apply.

Please contact the school office for further information

**CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS
FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER**

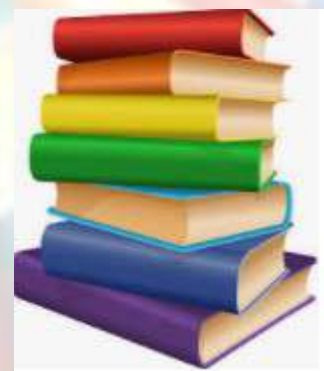
You can register your child from birth for a nursery place by completing an initial interest form please email the school office

info@benedictbiscopacademy.co.uk

Free Online Books

The National Literacy Trust is offering a free online book for children to read every week, this is a great opportunity to get your free online book please follow the link below:





<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/virtual-school-library/author-week-zoe-antoniades/>



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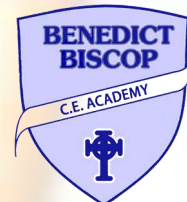






COVID-19 (coronavirus) absence: A quick guide for parents / carers

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 ...my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Child should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school immediately about test results 	...when child's test comes back negative
 ...my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) • Inform school immediately about test results • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - <i>even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</i> 	...when child feels better, and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell / taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.
 ...somebody in my household has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Household member with symptoms should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school immediately about test results 	...when household member test is negative, and child does not have COVID-19 symptoms*
 ...somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - <i>even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</i> 	...when child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during the 14 days

- Symptoms include at least one of a high temperature; a new continuous cough; a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste. See more at:
- www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms

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What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 <p>...NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms* or confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Child self-isolates for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace) – even if they test negative during those 14 days • Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too 	<p>...when the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 14 days</p>
 <p>...we / my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not take unauthorised leave in term time • Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel • Provide information to school as per attendance policy <p>Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days – even if they test negative during those 14 days 	<p>...when the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days</p>
 <p>...we have received advice from a medical / official source that my child must resume shielding</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Contact school as advised by attendance officer / pastoral team • Child should shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again 	<p>...when school / other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again</p>
 <p>....I am not sure who should get a test for COVID -19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only people with symptoms* need to get a test • People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive 	<p>...when conditions above, as matching your situation, are met</p>

For further information:
www.gov.uk/backtoschool

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Term Dates 2020-2021

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy 2020-2021



September 2020						
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October 2020						
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November 2020						
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December 2020						
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January 2021						
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31						

February 2021						
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28						

March 2021						
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28	29	30	31			

April 2021						
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May 2021						
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30	31					

June 2021						
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July 2021						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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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.