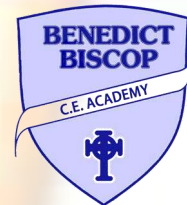


Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



February 2021

Dates for your diary:

9th February—Internet Safety Day

12th February—Break up for Half Term

22nd February—Return to school/home learning after Half Term



Congratulations!

Everyone in the BB Community would like to say a huge congratulations to our CEO, Mrs Heaton, who has been awarded an OBE in the Queen's New Years Honours list for services to education in the North East. This is fantastic recognition of all her hard work and we want to say a huge well done!

WELL DONE

A special well done to one of our pupils, Tiffany N in Year 6, whose amazing writing work is being published after entering a young writers competition. Well done Tiffany, we are very proud of you!

Critical Worker Bookings

In order to help keep people safe please only book a place in school if absolutely necessary.

Remote learning is in place for all children from EYFS to Y6, further information can be found on the school website.

Please contact the school office if you are having any issues accessing this learning.

If you do have to attend the school yourself please remember that a face mask should be worn and only 1 adult in your support bubble should drop off/collect a child.

There are markings outside on the pavements to help you to maintain your 2m social distancing.

Thank you.

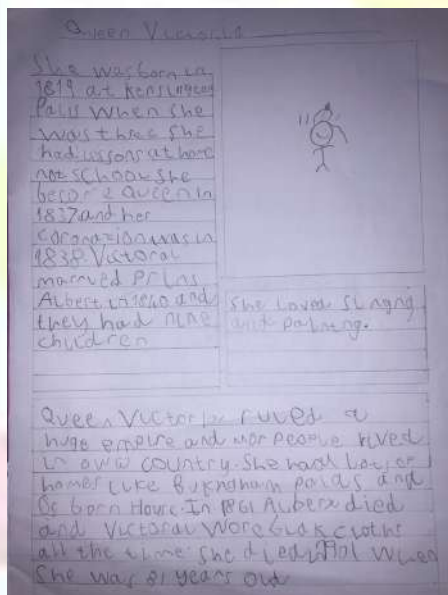
Please remember to wait outside the school office if another adult is in the waiting area.

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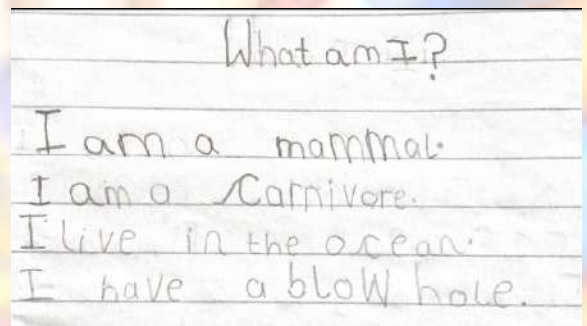
KS1 & KS2 Statutory Assessments

Due to the disruptions to children's learning this academic year and the need for pupils to isolate, we have been informed that the end of key stage statutory assessments will not be taking place this year. This will include the KS1, KS2 Assessments and the Y1 phonics screening. School will continue to work with the children to assess their understanding using ongoing teacher assessment and use this to inform our planning and to support transition.



Year 1

Year 1 have learned so much already this term! We've been to Norway to see the Northern Lights, Australia to visit the desert. We took a trip around the world with a grumpy meerkat and even went back in time to meet Queen Victoria! We wrote a biography all about Queen Victoria's life, and we learned lots of facts about her. We also wrote some diary entries pretending to be a grumpy meerkat who can't find a good place to live. The story is called Meerkat Mail in case you want to read it (we thought it was very funny!)



We have particularly enjoyed learning all about animals. Here are some of our animal riddles. Can you work out who we've been describing?

YEAR 4

Year 4 have been learning about Rome and researching different tourist attractions. They have used their knowledge of persuasive features to create their own persuasive leaflets.

<p>WELCOME TO THE FANTASTIC CITY OF ROME! One of the world's most exciting cities!</p> <p>Rome is one of Italy's most famous cities. It can charm it's visitors with it's amazing food and architecture. If you have not visited Rome before you may wonder what we have for you to see. Well, we have a bit of everything for everyone! With two local airports then Rome is easy to travel too. We have an excellent transport service as well. Everything you could want is a short distance away from each other. From visiting our Ancient ruins, our magnificent museums to The Vatican city itself. How lovely would it be to take a cruise along the river?</p>	<p>WHEN IN ROME!</p> <p>Our most famous church is Saint Peter's Basilica and our most famous fountain is the Trevi fountain which has been in many well known films. We also have our ancient roman ruins for example The Colosseum. See the dungeons where the slaves once waited to fight the gladiators. Or sit on the throne where Cesar use to sit. Our museums are famous across the world for it's amazing pieces of art and statues.</p> <p>If you want to taste some of the best foods in the world we have lovely food like pizza, pasta, cheese and seafood. But the best of all is the ice-creams.</p>	<p>USEFULL INFORMATION</p> <p>Points of Interest - Colosseum - Vatican Museums - St. Peter's Basilica - Trevi Fountain - Pantheon - Roman Forum - Circus Maximus - Palatine Hill - Via Veneto - Piazza del Campidoglio - St. John Lateran - Castel Sant'Angelo - Villa Borghese - Spanish Steps - Trevi Fountain - Pantheon - Roman Forum - Colosseum - Circus Maximus - Palatine Hill - Via Veneto - Piazza del Campidoglio - St. John Lateran - Castel Sant'Angelo - Villa Borghese - Spanish Steps</p> <p>https://www.visitromaitalia.com/en/your-visit/where-to-visit https://www.tourism.gov.uk/rome-italy https://www.pinterest.com/explore/rome-italy/</p>
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Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



EARLY YEARS—FOUNDATION STAGE

Let's do brunch!

After reading 'Handa's Surprise' - one of the children's favourite stories - the children decided they wanted to host their own brunch. In the story, Handa decides to take seven pieces of delicious fruit to her friend as a surprise. Each time the children read the story they query what these fruits taste like, which this week led to them wanting to host their own brunch in order to try some of these fruits with their friends.



"The avocado is really nice - it's really soft!" Isaac C

"The mango so slippery." - Aaron

"The mango is so sweet." - Evie

"It's yummy - the melon is so juicy!" - Isaac B

"I haven't tried avocado before - I like it." - Hannah

"The melon is sliding in my hand." - Sophie

Free School Meals

During the current lockdown school can continue to provide school meal support for these children who are required to stay home, if they are registered for free school meals. This can be a valuable support for families if their child is required to stay home. This support is also available during the half term school holiday.

To be eligible you must be in receipt of one of the benefits listed below:

- Income Support
- Income-Based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, as assessed by the Inland Revenue that does not exceed £16,190 or Guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit



By registering, the school will receive extra funding to support your child's education should you be entitled.

Please apply if you think you are eligible. Applying online is easy, please follow the link below or contact the school office for more information:

https://emsonline.sunderland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

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YEAR 2

This week, Year 2 have been learning more about where they live. The children were challenged to explore and find out more about their local area, and in particular they have been learning about building and land use in Moorside.



The children in school took a walk to find out more about what the land in our locality is used for. We were lucky enough to enjoy a frosty, snowy walk and it was magical! The children loved sharing their knowledge of their local area and were able to explain their favourite walking



routes and buildings they know or love to visit.

Those children who are learning at home also rose to the challenge, many videos photos were uploaded of walks in our local area, where children shared their knowledge of where they live. Some even used Google Maps to find out more - how amazing! The children shared their learning in a variety of ways - they drew maps, recorded videos, left voice notes and wrote some

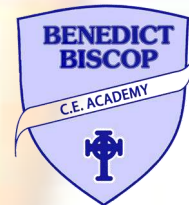
fabulous explanations of building and land use. Next, we are learning about how our local area has changed over time.

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.

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



Internet Safety Day

Internet Safety Day is on Tuesday 9th February—this day aims to promote safe, responsible and positive use of internet technology. It hopes to raise awareness and start a conversation about internet safety.

If your child is learning at home please do use our online safety guide which can be found on our school website. Please also find below further online information to help parents and carers protect their child whilst they are learning remotely

[Childline](#) - for support

[UK Safer Internet Centre](#) - to report and remove harmful online content

[CEOP](#) - for advice on making a report about online abuse Support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online includes:

[Internet matters](#) - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online

[London Grid for Learning](#) - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online

[Net-aware](#) - for support for parents and carers from the NSPCC

[Parent info](#) - for support for parents and carers to keep their children safe online

[Thinkuknow](#) - for advice from the National Crime Agency to stay safe online

[UK Safer Internet Centre](#) - advice for parents, carers and students

[National Safety Online](#) – advice for parents and carers

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



YEAR 3

This term Year 3 have been exploring the Ancient Egyptians. We started the topic by exploring what life was like in Ancient Egyptian times by investigating the different roles in society. We explored different pieces of artwork to gain a better understanding of what life was in in Ancient Egypt. Then, we looked at how the River Nile was important for different aspects of life in Ancient Egypt. The children have created some amazing information leaflets and compiled some great research about life in Ancient Egyptian times using historical sources.

The Queen Of The Nile

Hello, I am Cleopatra the VII, the great, powerful ruler of Egypt. I am also known as the Queen of the Nile. I am known for my intelligence and beauty, I can also speak 7 languages!

I have had a busy, tiring day talking with the Viziers because the River Nile hasn't flooded for three years. The land is getting very dry but there is only little vegetation and not all of the ground is fertile. "My people are starting to starve since we are unable to farm" I said to my Vizier. It is late afternoon and I am feeling exhausted. So, I decide to go on an evening cruise along the River Nile. It will give me the chance to see for myself if there is anything we can do.

As I arrive at the sloping banks of the River it is late afternoon. The River is very calm and peaceful today since not many people are here. As I swiftly moved towards the River Nile, my large, wooden boat was already here! I stepped carefully onboard and I could see lots of delicious fruits, meat and wine waiting for me under the cool shade on the boat. The tranquil River is still, and I can hear the water lap the shore. The warm evening sun colours the water a magnificent shade of orange. I feel relaxed and calm.

I take my comfortable, relaxing seat out of the scorching sun and then the boat sets away from the shore into the warm breeze which blows gently on my face. I enjoy some of the delicious, juicy fruits and a cup of cold wine.

I am pleased that there is still food in the River as I see people fishing on the bank of the River. I could see that the fishermen were throwing large nets into the river with a big splash!

As we travel quietly along the river, I could see in the distance some small sand-coloured houses and families with the children coming down to the river to play, while the grown ups bathe. I could hear the children laughing as they play and swim. I was relieved to see that people were still happy.

It's getting late and the sun is setting. I was surprised that I could still see some thin strips of vegetation, I could see the trees shadowing onto the relaxing River Nile as I peacefully passed by.

When do you think the River Nile will flood again?

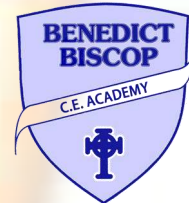
Lateral Flow Testing

As you may be aware, the Department for Education has recently announced that it is starting a programme of asymptomatic Covid-19 testing in primary schools. Along with the other protective measures which school are taking, testing will allow the school to take further measures to help us all to keep our school community as safe as possible. As up to one in three people who have Covid-19 have the virus without symptoms so could be transmitting the virus unknowingly, by testing staff we will help to reduce the spread in schools by identifying asymptomatic individuals.

As a result of the regular testing and a member of staff testing positive, we may need to close a bubble in school as a precautionary measure until we receive additional guidance from Public Health England. If sadly, a bubble does have to close, parents/carers will receive an automated text on an evening informing that the children who have been in the critical worker and vulnerable bubble need to isolate. The following morning, a member of the school will contact them with further details and action going forward.



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



Remote Learning Parents Feedback

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete the remote learning questionnaire after our first full week of remote learning in January. Despite asking for it to be completed in a short time frame, we were very pleased by the level of engagement and feedback we received. School received 152 responses from 197 families.



It helped school gain a greater understanding of the challenges and expectations facing families are very different during this lockdown and help us refine and improve our remote learning offer.

We would just like to highlight some of the common positives parents and carers shared:

- parents have been able to see more of what the children are learning and their child's capabilities
- that we are providing high quality of resources
- that learning is progressive
- that there is a good level of support given to pupils
- quality of 'live' lessons was high
- that there is good communication with staff and the school
- that children are enjoying the lessons
- that there is variety of activities which parents feel is a positive
- that the days are well structured and organised

Many parents commented that children are really enjoying the live lessons on MS TEAMS and that the sessions helped to motivate and engage the children. A positive highlighted was that pupils were able to interact in real time with their class teacher and other children.

95% of parents felt that their child benefitted from access to Showbie. Again, school are very pleased with how well Showbie has been received by families. When looking for a platform, school reviewed several, but feedback from other schools was that Showbie was child friendly and easy to use, with a simple layout. We felt this was very important when having to provide remote learning to younger pupils. It also provided a greater opportunity for how work could be uploaded than other applications and enabled staff to provide feedback in a variety of forms.



showbie

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



YEAR 5

In Art Year 5 have been analysing different portraits of Tudor monarchs. We have looked at the different clothes they are wearing and what these symbolise, such as King Henry VIII's rubies, showing incredible wealth! We have also investigated what we can see in the background, for example, did you notice there are tapestries behind Queen Elizabeth of a sea battle in the background, to represent when England triumphed in the Spanish Armada? We've really enjoyed looking at these portraits, and the pupils have presented their work in a range of ways.



Henry VIII

This portrait was painted by Hans Holbein. It was painted in 1536. This was also painted while Henry VIII was married to Jane Seymour. In this picture I noticed that Henry is holding a handkerchief. I think this represents how Henry is posh. I can also see that Henry is standing with his hands in his hips. I think this shows bravery.

I can see that Henry is looking straight at the painter with a powerful expression on his face. I have noticed that Henry is wearing a slot of animal skin and fur, this shows that Henry is wealthy. I can also notice that Henry is holding a dagger, this shows that he is a warrior and he is brave. He is wearing lots of red, I think this represents that he is powerful.

I can also see that Henry is wearing a garter, this tells me that Henry is in a society for knights. Henry is standing in a very posh area. I think this is to show that he is royalty. He is also wearing puffy clothes to make him look bigger and to show that he had enough money to feed himself well enough. Henry is wearing a lot of jewellery, this is to show that he is rich.



Elizabeth I

This portrait was painted by an unknown person. It was painted in 1588. I can see that Elizabeth's crown is in the background, this shows that she is the queen. I have noticed that there is two tapestry's in the background. One of them is failing and one of them is succeeding. Elizabeth is turning away from the failing one and turning towards the succeeding one, this shows that she is ready for anything.

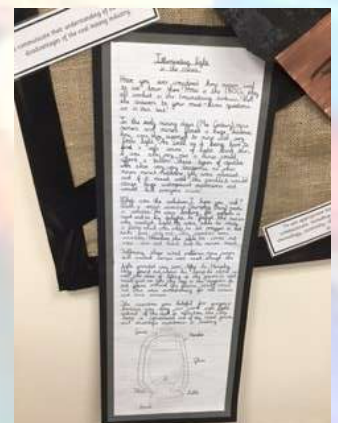
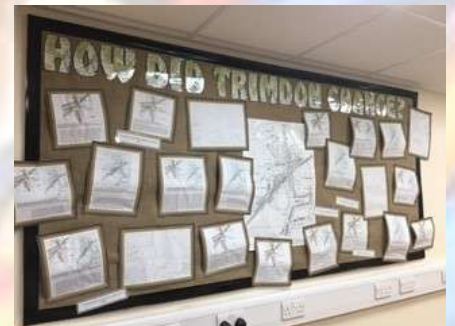
I can notice that Elizabeth's hand is on a globe. It is particularly on North America, this is because she conquered it. Down by the side of her there is a golden mermaid, this represents the sea and wealth.

Elizabeth has very pale skin, this is to show that she was rich. Another reason was because she had scars on her face. She also has a very large ruff around her neck, the larger the ruff the richer someone was. She has lots of pearls and decoration in her outfit, this was to show that she was wealthy.

YEAR 6



Year 6 have been looking at the geography of mining towns and villages, focusing on the changes that have happened. We have also been investigating the history of the miners lamp and why they were needed.



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



Term Dates 2020-2021

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy 2020-2021



September 2020						
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February 2021						
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August 2021						
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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 2021-2022

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy 2021 - 2022



September 2021						
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November 2021						
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February 2022						
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	School Closed/Holidays
	Bank Holidays
	Inset Days - pupils not in school

The Inset days are yet to be determined – an updated calendar will be published once agreed.