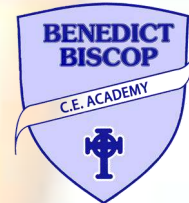


Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are nearly at the end of another academic year, and again I can't believe just what this year has brought us. The world of education has continued to evolve and respond to the impact of the pandemic, with bubble closures, testing and the introduction of new and improved remote learning styles.

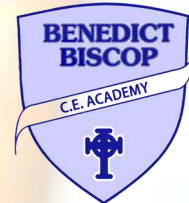
At Benedict Biscop, we have been very fortunate that none of our pupils and staff have become seriously ill, we have had very few bubbles impacted by closures and we hope and pray that this continues to be the case as we move forward. We are saddened by the huge losses across the world and in our neighbouring communities and we hope that as the vaccine programme continues to be rolled out, that we will eventually see an end to the need to socially distance.

Unfortunately, we do not know yet what restrictions will look like in September for schools and we are awaiting updated guidance. We are therefore planning to keep arrangements as they are for the start of the next academic year. If guidance enables us to make changes to provision such as staggered start times, we will aim to provide updates to families in a timely fashion, with sufficient notice for changes. We will continue to update the coronavirus information section of our website [under the parents menu tab] and will email parents with any updated requirements.

The school itself has also been through a transformation this year, with the extension of our Early Year's provision and 3 new classrooms. The programme of works is due to be completed within the Summer holidays and we are looking forward to our increased numbers in September for our Reception and Nursery cohorts.

Despite a challenging year, with restrictions and reduced space, we could not be prouder of all our pupils' achievements this year. Our pupils and staff have all worked really hard to accelerate progress across the curriculum in an aim to counteract the impact of lockdowns, isolations and bubble closures. We are pleased that our recovery curriculum has been effective and the standards in school remain high across the curriculum. Our pupils have adapted remarkably well to remote education and we again thank parents, carers and family members for their continued support with the delivery and encouragement to participate in remote learning.

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



July 2021

Our Rights Knights have continued to lead our pupil voice across the curriculum, working on improving our Anti-bullying provision and helping to educate pupils on healthy eating. They were recently successful in achieving the Platinum Anti-Bullying Award for the second time.

This term, we have been overjoyed that once again we were able to start after school club provision and that pupils have once again began to participate in educational visits and trips. Whilst these may have been slightly adapted to ensure safety within the pandemic, we see it as a positive step forward to returning to the experiential curriculum that we have always offered.

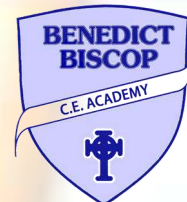
We are saddened that we will soon say goodbye to a fantastic year 6, who have shown that they can adapt to whatever is given to them and have demonstrated amazing outcomes. In the last few weeks it has been a joy to hear singing again in school and we are looking forward to their leavers presentation for their families via MS TEAMS.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all of the staff and the staff of the Trust. I am so lucky to work with such an exceptional team, who continue to work together to support our pupils and families. Everyone has worked tirelessly, working from home, working onsite in rotas and continuing to educate pupils in school whilst also trying to accelerate progress in areas impacted during lockdowns. I would also like to thank the school governors and directors of the Trust, who give up their time voluntarily to support us and have been instrumental in enabling the school to open safely for our pupils.

I hope that in the next few months restrictions will continue to lift and that once again school life will resume as we once knew it, with children mixing across year groups, parents on site and families joining us for events and community worship. I hope that all our families remain safe in the coming months. So once again, take care and thank you for your hugely positive support... we really appreciate it.

Regards
Mrs Armstrong

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



July 2021

Dates for your diary:

Friday 9th July—Picnic in the park (in school event) & non-uniform day

Wednesday 14th July—Y6 Presentation afternoon

Friday 16th July—End of term.

Thursday 2nd September—Inset day.

Friday 3rd September—Inset day.

Monday 6th September—Start of term.



Nursery Spaces for September 2021

Due to the extension of our outstanding Early Years provision, we still have limited spaces available for children born between 01.09.2017 to 31.08.2018 to start our Nursery in September 2021. This is a rare opportunity so if you know anyone who may be interested please ask them to contact the school office on 0191 594 7033 or bbinfo@nllt.co.uk for more information. We offer 15 hours and 30 hours childcare.

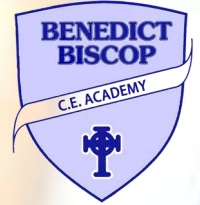
Please note nursery is an admissions criteria so these children who attend our nursery are given higher priority to attend the school than those who don't (*places cannot be guaranteed and applications are to be made through the Local Authority in Autumn term*).

Nursery Spaces for September 2022

If you have a child born between 01.09.2018 - 31.08.2019, please complete an initial interest form as soon as possible as the admissions process for this intake will begin in October 2021.

Please note that you can register interest for your child to attend our nursery when they are 3, anytime from birth.

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



Year 2

In Science we continued our research about the scientist Rachel Carson. A part of her research identified that there were some problems in the ocean. She noticed that the water of the ocean had chemicals in it, and that the animals that lived in the ocean also had chemicals in their bodies. We decided to prove how this happened. First of all, we set up a small world in a tray, we then sprayed some rain on to our world and collected water samples. We then sprinkled different coloured sprinkles on to the world (pesticides and fertilizer) and sprayed more rain on the world. We then collected more samples and could see the damage these chemicals had caused.



Year 6

Year 6 have been taking part in Children Challenging Industry with our partner company Alpek. We have been learning about all of the different plastics that there are, the similarities and differences and how to test the type of plastic that it is. We also learnt about the different roles that we could aspire to if we wanted to go into industry in the future.

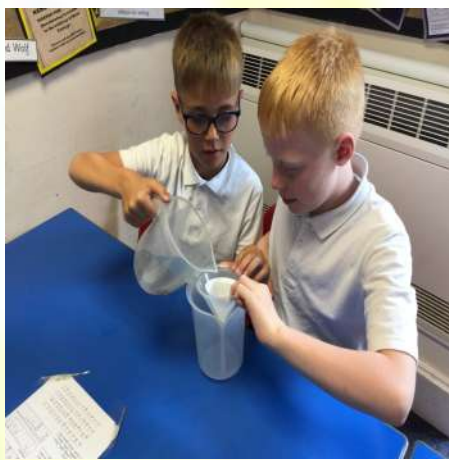


Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



YEAR 5

This half term year 5 scientists have been very busy completing a range of experiments! We have learned about pulleys, levers and gears, creating and testing our own pulley systems. We



have also learned about friction, using Newton meters to measure the friction encountered across a range of different surfaces around the school. Finally, we tested a range of mixtures and learned different ways to separate them, including filtration, magnets and evaporation.



BUILDING UPDATE!

As you can see, we have nearly completed the school extension. School now has 3 brand new classrooms at the upper end of the school and we are aiming to move the whole of Key Stage 2 into this side of the



school in September. This will mean that our Year 6 pupils may enter by our new door (located just next to our new classrooms) in September.

Our Early Year's provision has also been extended, providing an additional entrance and large open space in the provision. We can't wait to see how the early years now develops with this amazing addition to our outstanding provision! As the provision is nearly complete, we are pleased to announce that we will be able to offer provision to increased Nursery numbers from September. If anyone is interested in a Nursery place for their child, for this September or in future years, please contact the school office to complete an expression of interest form.



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



EYFS



The children in Early Years celebrated International



Mud Day on the 29th of June and what fun we had!

We explored in the mud kitchen, making mud pies and soup. The children planted their own flowers, discussing what their flowers needed to survive. As you will have noticed, the children loved another opportunity to get muddy & dirty.



Free School Meals

School can continue to provide school meal support for children who are eligible and are registered for free school meals. This can be a valuable support for families and is also available during the half term school holiday.

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



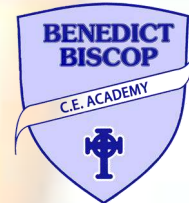
- Income Support
- Income-Based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, as assessed by the Inland Revenue 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

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



YEAR 4

In Year 4 we have been practicing our cooking skills! We have been looking at different foods which originate and grow in the rainforest and created different dishes. This week we have been



looking at banana biscuits. We had lots of fun planning and preparing our biscuits, as well as eating them. The children enjoyed the biscuits much more than they thought they would!

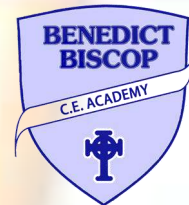


Car Parking

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



Year 1



It has been a super busy month for Year 1! We have been so lucky to go on a trip to Beamish, and we didn't let the rain get us down! We had some writing and drawing lessons in a real Victorian classroom with a real Victorian teacher. She wasn't as scary as we thought, and although we saw a cane she certainly didn't use it! We've also been cooking in our DT lessons, making a Victorian picnic. We wrote a menu, made a shopping list, and used the iPads to research the price of our ingredients to make sure we found the cheapest shop! We finally got to make and eat our delicious picnic and we had so much fun! Just like at a real Victorian picnic, we had some entertainment in the form of jokes and singing. What a perfect end to a brilliant year!



Year 3

As Year 3 have been learning about religions around the world, we decided to take a trip to Durham Cathedral. The children had a fantastic time doing some geography on the morning and a tour of the cathedral in the afternoon. For our geography part of the day, we explored the land around the cathedral and used a map to navigate to different landmarks. We then completed a coordinate hunt using our map to find the landmarks and write coordinates that matched.



After, we had a spot of lunch in the Monk's garden. We then explored the Cathedral itself. The children were very respectful and enthusiastic to see what the Cathedral had to offer. They were all extremely excited to learn that a scene from Harry Potter was filmed there too. Mr Cain and all the staff were extremely proud of Year 3 as they were fantastic ambassadors to our school!

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



Transition

As part of Year 5's transition to Year 6 they investigated how Alnwick had changed over the years. To do this we used Digimap and applied our GIS skills to investigate historical and modern maps. Everyone recreated a map of Alnwick from World War 2, used this as a layer over a modern baseline and



made predictions to why things had changed since the 1940's.



PLATINUM!

At Benedict Biscop we work so hard to promote Anti-bullying and we are thrilled to announce that we have been recognised for the fantastic work we do by receiving Platinum Anti-bullying Award!

The House Captains and Rights Knights have worked tirelessly to compile evidence in order to meet the criteria and we are so proud of everyone. As part of our Rights Respecting Gold School Award, we know how important it is to keep children safe and promote positive relationships; we work throughout the year and across every area of the curriculum to ensure that our children use restorative practice approaches to help deal with conflict and recognise how their own actions affect others.



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



RIGHTS KNIGHTS PACKED LUNCH POLICY REVIEW

WHY?

Because... as part of feedback from parental questionnaires it was noted that **96%** of parents agreed "that the school encouraged their child to eat and drink healthily"- this was **down** from previous years!

Because... Article 24 of the United Nations conference for the Rights of the Child states that Children have the right to the best health care possible, **clean water to drink, healthy food** and a clean and safe environment to live in. All adults and children should have information about how to stay safe and healthy.

Because... Article 27 states that children have the right to food, clothing and a safe place to live so they can develop in the best possible way.

Because... WE WANT TO BE AS HEALTHY AS POSSIBLE.

We thought that by looking at the policy around packed lunches and speaking to children and we could try to promote healthy eating and balanced diets a lot more.

What we found out?

Nearly 10% of children shared they did not have any fruit or vegetables in their packed lunch on a daily basis.

Around 51% of children said they did not or only sometimes have a daily source of protein. Around 61% of children shared they sometimes or always had crisps in their lunch- as part of our policy this is not recommended.

Nearly half of the children we surveyed said they often brought sweets or chocolate items in their lunch – another thing that is not recommended.

Over 90% of children shared they either have water/ fresh fruit juice or a healthy smoothie to drink. This is very pleasing and we think this is because we are encouraged to drink water throughout the day in school – bringing in water bottles and have cool water from the fountains.

What we did?

We, the Rights Knights and School Council, have reviewed the policy and carried out some further work with children in school. Please watch our video on SHOWBIE for more information. If you would like to give us any feedback please contact the school office (FAO The Rights Knights)



Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



Term Dates 2020-2021

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy 2020-2021



September 2020						
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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



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