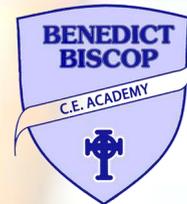


# Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



## November 2021

### Dates for your diary:

**Tuesday 4th January**—Inset Day

**Wednesday 5th January**—School reopens

**W/C 10th January**— Instrumental Lessons commence

**Wednesday 12th January**—Benedict Biscop Day

**W/C 17th January**— SchoolzOut Clubs commence

**Wednesday 19th January**—RedSky Event

**Tuesday 1st February**—Chinese New Year

**W/C 7th February**—Online Safety Week

**Thursday 3rd March**—World Book Day

**Wednesday 23rd & Thursday 24th March**—Parents Evening



## **BREAKING NEWS!!**



We are immensely proud to announce that we have been ranked in the top 10 performing schools in the region...  
in fact we are number 2!

Thank you to everyone involved in our school and community - your continued support for our WONDERFUL children is phenomenal!

ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE at Benedict Biscop!



Thank you for supporting our Book Fair at the end of last year. We raised a huge £700 in book rewards to fill our library shelves with books for children to enjoy!

# Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



## Welcome Back!

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope that you have had a lovely Christmas and were able to spend time with your families and loved ones.

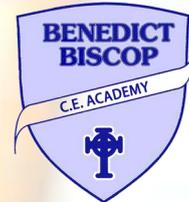
We would like to say a special thank you to everyone for your support and understanding with the late changes made to our Christmas programme of events at the end of last term. It was lovely to welcome family members onto the site, even if it did mean visitors had to remain outdoors. We hope that you enjoyed everything that the children had prepared and that it helped spread some festive cheer! We would also like to thank our PTFA members for helping us to make sure that our events could run smoothly.

As you will be aware, the Omicron variant of Covid-19 is becoming more dominant with a high rate of transmission. As a result, The Department for Education released further guidance for schools at the start of the week, specifically around testing and isolation. We have outlined some of the key changes below:

### **Information on the changes to self-isolation period for individuals who test positive:**

Since Wednesday 22nd December, the self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID -19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason. Individuals, inclusive of pupils may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be 24 hours apart. If both test results are negative and you do not have a high temperature you may end self-isolation and your child may return to school on day 8. Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 days self-isolation period.

# Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



For children and young people aged 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for 7 days and continue to attend school if negative and do not have any symptoms. If symptoms develop then a PCR is still recommended. Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts but if symptoms develop then a PCR is recommended.

## **Face Coverings:**

Guidance remains the same for Primary aged pupils, in that pupils are not required to wear a face mask.

Staff will continue to wear masks in communal areas etc.

Any visitors who attend school for any meetings will be asked to wear a face covering, unless medically exempt.

We would also recommend a face covering is worn when entering the main office reception area to talk to our admin staff or when dropping anything off or collecting anything from school.

Please be reassured that as a school we will continue to follow our risk assessment and mitigating measures that we have in place and we thank you for your continued support with regards to these. At this point in time schools have been advised that there is no need to return to previous 'bubble' measures. However, please be aware that we may need to introduce further measures if cases rise within school. This is part of our contingency planning to keep everyone as safe as possible. If this is to occur, parents and carers will be informed.

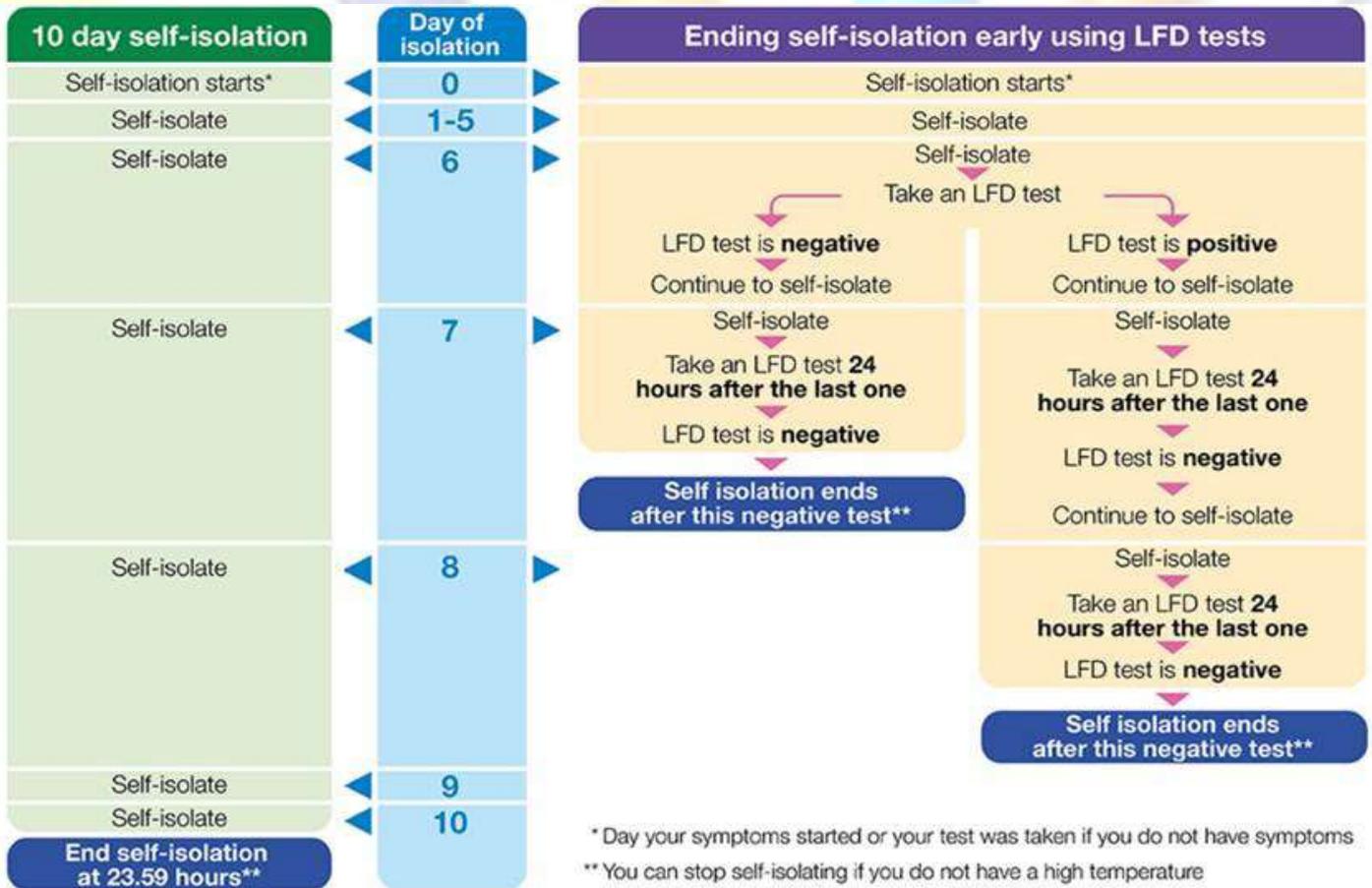
If you have any queries or concerns then please do not hesitate in contacting school via the info account at [bbinfo@nllt.co.uk](mailto:bbinfo@nllt.co.uk).

Take care everyone.

Mrs Armstrong

Head Teacher

# Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



## Spring Term— Class Theme



**Year 1** - Light & Dark: Living in Victorian Sunderland

**Year 2** - What I Believe: I have the right to a safe place to live.

**Year 3** - Along The River

**Year 4** - What did the Romans do for us?

**Year 5** - What happened after 1066?  
Tudors & Stuarts

**Year 6** - Sunderland's Heritage;  
Coalmining

## Nursery Spaces

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

Please contact the School Office who will provide you with a Nursery Initial Interest Form.



# Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter

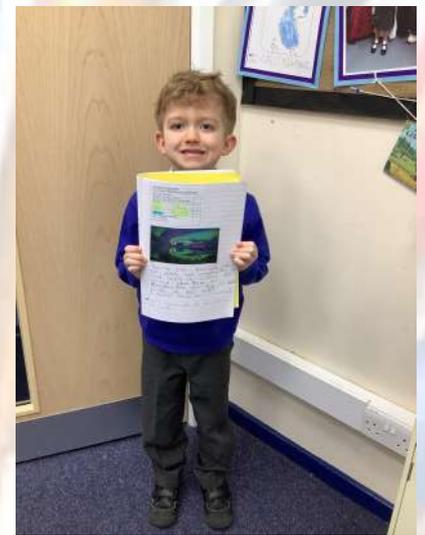


## NORTHERN LIGHTS

Last term Year 1 learned about seasonal change. When we returned to School, we were lucky to spot some signs of winter. The children found ice in our playground and enjoyed exploring it as a material!



Our topic this term is “light and dark” and the children enjoyed their first geography lesson learning about the northern lights. We looked at pictures, watched videos and used exciting adjectives to describe what we had seen.



## ICE SCULPTURES

This week, the Early Years children have enjoyed exploring the garden and talking about all of the seasonal changes they’d discovered. The children were so excited to find pieces of ice in and around the garden.

Some of the children have enjoyed painting the ice and creating their very own ice sculptures, using a variety of natural and found objects.



Some children then decided to bring the ice indoors and create their very own small world Antarctica.



# Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



## Clothing Re-cycling Bank

Our School Council have met and decided that they would like the school to support a charity and their chosen charity is Red Sky Foundation. As a school we will be fundraising to help the charity achieve their aim of providing life-saving defibrillators in our local community. At Benedict Biscop we are fortunate to already have a defibrillator on site, but the school council were concerned that this is only available to the wider community during the school's opening hours, what if a member of our community needed help during the times the school was closed?



“The Red Sky Foundation’s mission is to improve the life of cardiac patients who are born with or develop heart conditions by providing lifelong support to them and their families. We do this by providing a range of services to relieve sickness and preserve the health of individuals across the north east of England. We assist with the provision of grants, equipment, and awareness to support the Children’s Heart Unit at the Freeman Hospital in Newcastle. However, we also support other regional health services within the NHS and other charitable organisations.

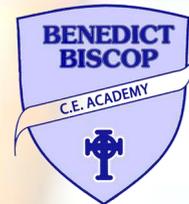
The Red Sky Foundation provides life-saving defibrillators for local school and public spaces, working with local education and council representatives. We collaborate with third party organisations to offer a range of training and education from defibrillator use and CPR through to advanced support for babies, children and adults with heart problems and their families.”

We are hoping to take delivery of a clothing re-cycling bank to help raise funds for Red Sky Foundation. The recycling bank will be located next to the main school entrance (inside school grounds) near to the pedestrian access gate.



Please help support us and Red Sky Foundation by using the re-cycling bin.

# Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



## WE NEED YOUR OLD CHRISTMAS JUMPERS!

Please keep any old Christmas Jumpers which you might have been donating or throwing away for us.

Next Christmas we will be selling donated jumpers for £2 each to raise funds for the PTFA as well as saving parents from having to buy new ones each year.

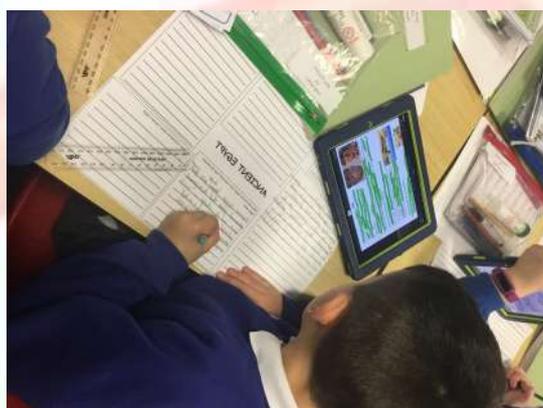
If you have any Christmas jumpers you would like to donate, please hand these into the School Office.

Thank you

## ANCIENT EGYPT

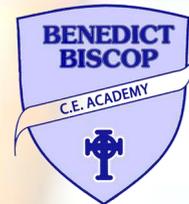
In Year 3 we have started our new Theme about Ancient Egypt.

The children have been using historical sources to find information about Ancient Egyptian times and created an overview by answering historical questions.



Year 3 were really excited and engaged when they were finding out new and interesting facts. We have found out lots about why Ancient Egyptians were famous, what the land was like within Egypt and explored the Ancient Egyptian hierarchy of society.

# Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



## YEAR 6

As part of Year 6's science topic they investigated the impact exercise had on their bodies. Many of them developed investigation questions linked to how it impacted their heart rate.

We then found our resting pulse rate and planned to do short bursts of exercise, getting longer each time and measuring our heart rates to see the impacted. We all found out that the more exercise we did the higher our heart rates went.



## Is your child eligible for funding?

Are you eligible for free school meals [different to the meals provided throughout Reception and Key Stage 1]?

Did you know that if you are, the school attracts pupil premium funding which is used to support them to access additional music tuition sessions and to provide access to some after school clubs and residential visits free of charge.

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

Please register using the link below to find out if your child is entitled to receive extra funding in school to support their education. Applying online is easy, but feel free to contact the school office for more information:

[https://emsonline.sunderland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal\\_LIVE/en](https://emsonline.sunderland.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en)

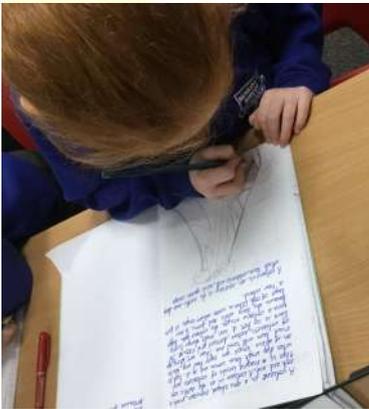
# Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



## VOLCANOES

Year 4 have started their new Geography topic this week, and we have been looking at volcanoes.

The children were able to conduct their own research to gather different facts about volcanoes. They then sketched their own volcanoes, labelling them appropriately and explaining the function of each part of a volcano.



## Help us to keep everyone safe!

Please can we ask all parents, grandparents and carers to be considerate to our neighbours 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 roads are accessible.

We would also ask that once children have been dropped off at school, that families move parked cars as soon as possible to help avoid traffic congestion in our neighbouring streets.

Remember that families are now able to drive into the school car park and use the drop of layby. We do ask however that children are of an appropriate age to walk around unsupervised to their entrance door and that families respect the 5mph speed limit.

Can we also remind parents to check that roads are clear before crossing, as cars are now driving in and out of the car park.

# Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



## King Henry VIII

Year 5 have been introduced to their new theme topic for this term - The Tudors. They have been really interested to find out about King Henry VIII and his six wives.

This week Children have learned about the succession of Tudor monarchs, created a Tudor family

tree and conducted research on their chosen wife to create a fact file.



## THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

Last half term as part of our Design Technology, Year Two have been researching ways to create a weaved landscape representing The Great Fire of London.

First, we thought about Samuel Pepys and the different views he would have had from his window before, during and after the fire - from this we designed our weaved piece using squared paper.

After, we chose five different pieces of material in a variety of colours. We then weaved these through our chosen coloured card. We then dyed some BINCA to represent a building before stitching the BINCA to the weave.

Finally, we added a sequin to represent a star or a piece of ash.

We have had a lot of fun and used a variety of skills!



# Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



## Term Dates 2021-2022

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy 2021 - 2022



September 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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October 2021						
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31						

November 2021						
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28	29	30				

December 2021						
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January 2022						
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30	31					

February 2022						
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27	28					

March 2022						
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April 2022						
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May 2022						
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June 2022						
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July 2022						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August 2022						
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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.