

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy Newsletter



February 2022

Dates for your diary:

W/C 7th February—Online Safety Week

Friday 18th February—School closes for February Half-term

W/C 21st February—Fairtrade Fortnight

Monday 28th February—School Re-opens

Thursday 3rd March—World Book Day

W/C 14th March—Book Fair

Wednesday 23rd & Thursday 24th March—Parents Evening

Friday 8th April—School closes for Easter Holidays

Monday 25th April—School Re-opens



Red Sky Foundation

We had some crazy fun when Little Miss Beats turned up at school. She showed reception children all the way up to year 6 how a defibrillator works, how the human heart works and what to do when someone falls ill from a sudden cardiac arrest or a heart attack!

As a school we will be fundraising to help the Red Sky Foundation 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 children in school were concerned that this is only available to the wider community during the school's opening hours.

We will hopefully be raising money to be able to put a defibrillator outside of the school gates. This will be available to members of the public, 24 hours a day, to use in the case of a life-threatening emergency.

You can also help support us and Red Sky Foundation by using the clothing re-cycling bin, just as you enter through the front gate.



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Gold Active Mark

Benedict Biscop has been awarded the Active Sunderland School Gold Award for the fourth year running!

This award celebrates our continuous commitment to PE across school. Well done to Mr Holt and everyone involved.



Events

Girls from across years 3,4 and 5 attended a football festival, held at the Beacon of Light. The morning covered different aspects of football including passing, shooting, dribbling and even some tricks! All the girls had an amazing time and showed off their brilliant football skills. For any girls who are interested in taking up football outside of school, please see Mr Holt for more information.



Online Safety Week

The theme for Online Safety Week this year is "All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online".

As part of Online Safety Week in school, each class explored different ways to have positive and healthy relationships online as well as learning about different ways to stay safe and keep their personal information safe. Our digital leader have created their own video which you can view on Facebook or the school website, sharing tips learned from across the week.



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Formulas

Year 6 have been exploring circles this week. They've been doing some really challenging investigations and learning about how formulas can be used to solve all kinds of problems.



They've worked really hard all week, shown some amazing endurance and asked some fantastic questions!

WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday 3rd March we are celebrating 'World Book Day' in school. This year marks 25 years of WORLD BOOK DAY! We would very much like your child to come to school dressed as their favourite book character on this day.



The children will be completing a range of activities during the day linked to a chosen author and even taking part in some live author events and other reading theme "surprise" activities.



Watercolour Techniques

Year 3 have been exploring different pieces of artwork of Ancient Egyptian landscapes. The children have explored and mastered different watercolour techniques such as, wet on wet, dry on dry, gradation, dabbing, wax patterns.

The children then explored what techniques would be appropriate for making their own Ancient Egyptian landscape. They discussed how the techniques showed different textures and how this would represent different parts of their artwork.



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School Trips



Woodhorn Colliery

Year 6 visited Woodhorn as part of their coal mining topic. Part of the visit was exploring the Pitman Paintings from The Ashington Group who painted what life was like when the mines were open and getting the opportunity to take their style and recreate similar pieces. The class also took part in a colliery tour, inside the colliery buildings but also behind the scene in the stores of the museum. Finally, they analysed artefacts and sources from the Hartley mine disaster to see what did happen and how Queen Victoria changed the law to prevent similar happening again.



Segedunum Fort & Museum

The year 4 children visited Segedunum to experience what life was like in a Roman fort 2000 years ago! The children were able to act as Roman soldiers for the morning, trying on uniform and holding weapons—they even got to clean their shields. The children were taken on a tour of the outside grounds where they got to see part of Hadrian's Wall and went to the top of the Segedunum tower, to look at the Roman fort. Following our visit, we were lucky enough to have a Roman visitor in school who taught us even more about the Roman invasions and the children were able to ask questions based on prior knowledge.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Following recent guidance from the Department for Education around the supply and cost of school uniforms, we are considering reviewing our School Uniform provider.

We invite parents/carers to complete the following form for us to obtain as much feedback as possible in order to inform our future decisions and to feedback to our School Governors—

<https://forms.gle/SNBAQdx62jdMqJyX7>

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DO I NEED TO KEEP MY CHILD OFF SCHOOL?

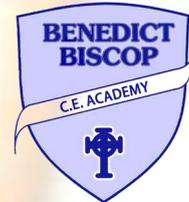
The minimum expected level of attendance set by the Government is 95%. Our research has shown that when attendance is below 95%, pupil achievement/attainment is negatively affected, which is why our attendance is reviewed daily to ensure children are in school. We have included information below that we have been provided from Public Health, as to when your child should remain off school. Please be aware that if you leave a voicemail advising school of your child's absence, the School Office will only call if they require further information regarding this. If you require advice on how long your child should remain off school for, please call the school office who can offer you guidance. Alternatively, you can find our Attendance Policy on our school website which provides you with further information, including information regarding holiday requests:

Do I need to keep my child off school?



Chicken Pox Until all spots have crusted over	Conjunctivitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Diarrhoea & Vomiting 48 hours from last episode	Glandular Fever No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Hand, foot & mouth No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Impetigo Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Measles or German Measles 4 days from onset of rash	Mumps 5 days from onset of swelling	Scabies Until after first treatment	Scarlet Fever 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	Slapped Cheek No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Whooping Cough 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
	Flu Until recovered	Head Lice No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Threadworms No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Tonsillitis No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	

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Chinese New Year

The children in EYFS have loved learning about the story of the Chinese Zodiac and why animals are used to represent different years. The children used the internet to watch videos about Chinese New Year and what these celebrations look like to families. The children then enjoyed having their own celebrations by tasting foods from a Chinese inspired banquet, making red lanterns and envelopes,



creating observational drawings of a tiger mascot and dancing along to some traditional music.



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.

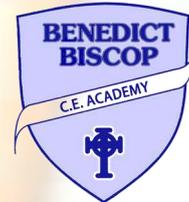
To be eligible you must be in receipt of one of the benefits listed below:

- 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

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SCHOOLZ OUT CLUBS



OPAL CLUB

In OPAL club we have made some super quick bird feeders and placed them around the school grounds.

The children are excited to see how long they last and will, no doubt, be checking them to see if the birds have enjoyed a little treat.

ARTS AND CRAFTS

The children have been very busy in Arts and Crafts this half term! They have really enjoyed completing a range of projects, including making dream catchers, creating their own characters as well as lots of junk modelling. They have used a range of mediums and have loved being creative with their ideas!

LIGHTHOUSE LEADERS

Lighthouse Leaders are looking at the provision we have in school to allow people to express their views and their faith.

We have decided that the Postinina needed a makeover to make it inviting and interesting for children of all ages to use.

We're going to update it termly and make it an interactive space for all - watch this space!

SPORTS CLUB

In Sports Club, the children have been focusing on improving their throwing and catching skills—we have been learning the game 'Lineball' to help us to this.

The children have all had great fun learning this new game and are getting more and more competitive every week!

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SCHOOLZ OUT CLUBS

SING & SIGN

In our sing and sign group we have been learning to use British Sign Language signs to show the meaning of the songs we are singing - this is also known as Sign Supported English (SSE).

We have learned a few simple songs such as Colours of the Rainbow, to help us to learn different hand shapes build up our knowledge of signs. We have now started to learn the signs to some of the songs we will be singing this term in worship.

PERFORMING ARTS

In Performing Arts we have been learning a range of songs and dances, using vocal warm ups and practising different techniques to allow them to get the most out of their vocal range. The children discuss their favourite songs, both from musicals and pop songs, to decide which we are going to be working on over the next half term to create and produce a music video! The children have shared their ideas about what might be good in the video and are excited to put these into action!

MAD SCIENCE

In Mad Science we have been looking at floating and sinking!



We have made predictions, deciding how to test and then recording our results. It was interesting as sometimes what we thought would sink, actually floated! We have made boats and problem solved making them as watertight as possible. Last week, we have started investigating the causes of global warming and changes we can make to reduce in the future.

KARATE CLUB

This half term in karate club, we have been working on basic punching and blocking skills, as well as movement and stances in preparation for our grading at the end of next half term. We have had lots of new starters who have never done Karate before, but have come on leaps and bounds this half term!

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SCHOOLZ OUT CLUBS

CROSS STITCH

As part of cross stitch, we have started stitching our chosen pictures using a variety of coloured threads and sewing techniques such as back stitch, cross stitch and running stitch. The children have made a great start and have developed great independence over a short space of time - helping each other if they come across a problem.

DIGITAL LEADERS

The digital leaders have created posters to display in school, as well as developing a screen saver for our school devices in preparation for Online Safety week.

The children have embraced the phrase "Think before you click" to ensure that they clearly explain how to stay safe online and be role models to their peers.



Roman Architecture

The Year 4 children have been looking at Roman architecture.

We have researched different buildings and found out who had built them and how old they were—we were even

able to visit Segedunum where we got to see some of Hadrian's Wall!



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Soup Kitchens



As part of our Design & Technology this term, we have explored soup kitchens across Sunderland and what support they give to those who may not have a home.

The children made posters to create awareness and tell others what soup kitchens offer—we also decided to make a batch of soup for the homeless and began our research. The children looked up vegetable soup recipes and how to make them, researching the ingredients on supermarket websites to make sure they were getting value for money!



After that, we prepared all of the vegetables using skills such as cutting, peeling, grating and weighing. Finally, it was their chance to taste what they had made and it was a big success!

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 from KS1 & KS2 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.

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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

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.



Polite Reminder

If you would like to contact your child's class teacher, please email bbinfo@nllt.co.uk and the School Office will forward your correspondence onto the relevant staff member.

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Daniel and the Lions' Den

In R.E. Year 1 have been learning about Daniel and the Lions' Den, and our work has included long term memory activities, identifying different word classes as well as acting out freeze frames to tell the story!



We have also studied a Victorian artist - Mondrian, learning about primary and secondary colours, creating our own colour wheels.

Properties of Materials

Year 5 are exploring properties of materials this term in science and are investigating thermal and electrical conductivity as well as reversible and irreversible changes.



The children have enjoyed planning and conducting a series of scientific experiments, to discover properties of a range of materials. They identified the independent and dependent variables in each experiment and focussed on ensuring a fair test was carried out.

Following their experiment, they drew conclusions to assess the outcomes of each material.



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Term Dates 2021-2022

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy 2021 - 2022



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

The Inset days may be subject to change.

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Term Dates 2022-2023

Benedict Biscop C.E. Academy 2022 - 2023



September 2022						
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****INSET DAYS STILL TO BE DETERMINED****