



St. Benedict's Primary School

24.10.24



*We are enjoying our rights and fulfilling our dreams.
Ambition, Resilience, Respect*

Diary Dates

25.10.24 - 04.11.24 School closed

05.11.24 Start of term

**06.11.24 Jack and the Beanstalk – theatre in school!
No ESOL class today**

06.11.24 Parents Meetings 1 – 4:30pm (school closes 1pm)

07.11.24 Parents Meetings 3:30 – 4:30pm

07.11.24 Y1 trip to Eco Park

07.11.24 Stay and Play

08.11.24 Y6 Reading Workshop

19.12.24 End of term, school closes 1pm

20.12.24 INSET – school closed

We hope you make the most of the half-term holiday. By putting our training days either side, we have made it slightly longer so you can enjoy family time or a holiday. Do remember not to book holidays during term-time as these cannot be authorised and fines are now issued if you take 5 unauthorised days off school in a year. There is too much going on in school for your child to miss out!

Your child will have brought home an appointment letter for parents' meetings, which are held in the first week back. We do expect all parents to attend these as your support is vital for ensuring your child makes good progress in school.

Message from Mrs Nott

Proud headteacher alert!

As we come to the end of this first half term, I wanted to share with you some reflections on what a wonderful half term we have had in school. Here are some of the many achievements we should be proud of:

Attendance has improved. Our attendance this year so far is **94.8%**. In recent weeks, it has been over **95%** which is our attendance target. Thank you for ensuring your child comes to school every day. Good attendance shows that our children want to come to school and that parents value education.

We have opened our **Resource Base** for pupils with special educational needs. Our Resource Base is for children with an Educational Health Care Plan and provides additional resources, not usually available in a mainstream classroom. We are very proud of this provision.

Our partnership with **Royal Birmingham Conservatoire** is growing and they are now working in school twice per week, providing excellent music classes and after-school clubs. There are opportunities for our children to go there for concerts as well as them coming into school. We run a **wide range of clubs** now, including those run by the Conservatoire and our artist in residence, Claire Witcomb. Our free breakfast club is extremely popular and is available every day from 8am.

We have been really pleased with the **support from parents with reading at home** and we are regularly meeting our target for at least 75% of pupils to be reading at home. You have enjoyed coming in for workshops too.

Our **engagement with parents** is excellent. For example, we hold regular coffee mornings, where you have opportunities to come in to discuss topics, such as Safeguarding and these are well attended. Other weekly events include our 'Stay and Play' sessions for parents and preschoolers and our ESOL for parents who want to improve their spoken English.

At our recent '**Open Day**' we had over 50 parents come for a tour of the school, and they were impressed with what they saw. The school is becoming increasingly popular and is the school of choice in the area for many – we have a growing waiting list of families waiting for places!

Our **sporting achievements** should also be mentioned. Last week, our Year 6 girls took part in a football competition. They wowed everyone with their excellent attitude, teamwork and respect for others. We also happened to win every single game!



All of this is only possible because we have such a dedicated staff team, who provide the very best education for our children, and amazing families, who love coming to school and value the importance of education.