



Issue 1



St. Benedict's Newsletter September 2019

Environmental

Our School gardens are currently full of fruit, almost ready to harvest. Each week we will be collecting any of the fruit which is ready to eat and we will be selling it in the school office for you to buy if you wish to. We have a range of delicious apples available at the moment which are perfect for chutney. We also have our Eco Schools Green Flag assessment due this term and the Eco Committee will be working hard to ensure we are doing all we can to be an environmentally friendly school. You can help too by walking to school wherever possible to cut down on pollution in our local area and using litter bins to make sure our playgrounds are litter free.

WOW - Let's Walk to School

St. Benedict's Primary School has chosen to be part of an exciting nationwide challenge to encourage more children and their families to walk to school. WOW - the year round walk to school challenge is delivered by the UK charity Living Streets. It is a pupil led initiative where they self-report every day how they get to school. If they walk, cycle or scoot twice a week every month they will receive badges. It's that easy! More information will follow for parents. We start the campaign in October. Let's help every child to get all the badges.

Attendance

Good school attendance is essential if pupils are to be able to take advantage of the opportunities available to them. At St. Benedict's, we do everything we can to provide children with a first rate education, but children can only benefit fully from it if they are here. When we talk to the children about good attendance, we tell the children they must be a HERO (Here, Every day, Ready to learn and On time). But, of course, children cannot do this on their own! Where there are attendance and punctuality concerns, parents will be met with a robust response. In line with current government advice, we do not authorise any term time holiday leave at all. The governing body take the view that there enough opportunities outside of term time for holidays to be taken. Parents who take their children on unauthorised term time leave risk being fined. The fine is currently £60.00 per parent, per child. If fines are not paid within the specified time limit, the fine doubles. Failure to pay the fine will result in prosecution through the courts. All schools have to account for any whereabouts of all registered children. If your child is absent from school for any reason, please contact the office before 9.00am.

Home Reading Books

Your child will have started bringing home a reading book regularly. Your child will change their reading book every week. Sometimes once, maybe twice.

Sometimes, their book will be one that they can try reading themselves but sometimes the book will be much trickier to read and it will need to be read to them by a parent, or maybe older brother or sister.

We have a huge selection of books in school but we need your help to look after them.

- Please encourage your child in looking after the books they bring home by encouraging them to keep their book in their book bag or back pack and **bringing it to school with them every day.**
- Please don't let your child draw, write or damage the book in any way. Most children really respect the books they take home and we will be charging for damaged books again this year.

HAPPY READING EVERYONE!



Community Room Events

- We are lucky to provide ESOL classes for beginners every Tuesday morning 8.45am - 11.15am in the community room. Please speak to Syra Butler or the staff in the school office if you require further information.
- Parent Café gathering is available every Wednesday afternoon 1.00pm - 2.45pm in the community room. Everyone welcome!

HALF-TERM HOLIDAY

SCHOOL WILL CLOSE ON FRIDAY 25TH OCTOBER AT 2.45PM FOR HALF-TERM HOLIDAY. DUE TO OUR BUILDING WORK, SCHOOL WILL RE-OPEN TO CHILDREN ON WEDNESDAY 6TH NOVEMBER.