

Issue 2



St. Benedict's Newsletter 24th October 2019

Environmental

Although Gardening Club has not yet started back, many have already asked if they can join this year, which is great news! The gardens are looking better than ever, full of produce and ready for our green-fingered helpers to begin helping. As well as harvesting at this time of year, it is important to help wildlife where possible as the temperatures drop throughout autumn and into winter. Putting seeds, cereal and breadcrumbs out for birds is a good place to start and placing cat food out for hedgehogs, as well as taking care when sweeping up leaves for these lovely creatures! Making a pile of leaves down the end of your garden is the perfect place for a hedgehog to hibernate over the winter: so get leaf collecting now!

St. Benedict's is also waiting for our Eco Schools Green Flag reassessment which if successful, we will be the only school in the whole of Midlands to hold the Green Flag for 10 years! Good luck Eco Committee - you can do it!

Packed Lunch

Important message for all children who bring a packed lunch in Years 3 and 4. Please read the Packed Lunch Policy that was sent out to you last week, In future, you may receive a slip in your child's lunch box if there are items included not in line with school policy

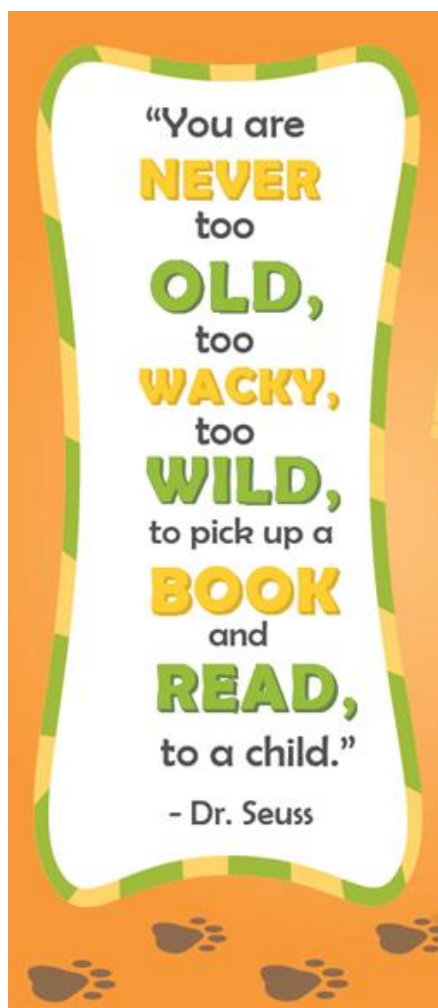
Attendance

Broken Weeks - children who regularly miss a day here or there have what we call '**broken weeks**' of learning. At St. Benedict's Primary, we are constantly striving to enable all our children to achieve their full potential. Even occasional absence can lead to large amounts of learning being lost and 'gaps' being created. Teacher will not always be able to re-explain missed work and children can become confused about tasks when they return.

As we approach the winter months, we urge you to send your child into school, even when they have minor ailments. Your child can come to school if they have a cough, cold, sore throat, minor head ache, ear ache or tooth ache. We will monitor your child closely and call you if there are any changes. Children with a raised temperature above 38 degrees, vomiting or diarrhoea should of course be kept at home.

If we become concerned about the number of broken weeks, even if attendance appears to be above average, we will write to you letting you know the number of broken weeks your child has accrued and offer the opportunity to discuss ways in which the school may be able to improve the pattern of attendance.

Home Reading Books



First of all, a big **WELL DONE** to S in 2H who took part in Summer Reading Challenge at her local library and was awarded with a medal, certificate and a bag! Fantastic! If you took part too and would like to be included in the next newsletter please bring your certificate to the school office.

Bedtime Stories - We have story time every day at school even for our Years 3 and 4 children because listening to stories has a huge impact on children's learning and you can be part of this too. Reading a story every day to your child will improve their memory and concentration. Your child will have better language skills and do better in school. Your child will learn to love books because they are sharing them with someone they love. So come along to our swap shop today, by the school office and choose a book for tonight's bedtime.

Timebank

Beginner's English classes with Timebank will be starting after the half term break. Please sign up at the school office. Please note there are limited spaces available. We are sorry we are unable to provide crèche facilities.

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 AT THE NORMAL TIME.