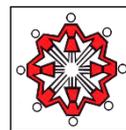


## Issue 3



### St. Benedict's Newsletter 29th November 2019

#### Environmental

This half term, the Eco Committee and various members of KS2 have been helping to sell the school apples to both parents and children in the mornings. The children have done so well and have developed great confidence through doing this - thank you to all children who have been helping! Apples are 10p each and are sold in the school garden most mornings. As well as this, the Eco Committee are working hard to prepare for their Eco Schools Green Flag Assessment, which takes place after Christmas holidays. They are learning in more depth about the problem with plastic and have their pencils poised to write more letters to supermarkets and suppliers to try and reduce the amount of plastic the school uses.

As for the schools gardens, we are in the process of harvesting our carrots which will be for sale soon and are busy preparing the garden for the winter months by collecting leaves to make leave mulch, which is fantastic for the soil. The children are also helping the birds at this time of year by putting out seed every week and providing energy full meal worms in order to help the garden birds to keep warm as the temperature begins to fall. You can help birds at home by putting out bits of cereal such as muesli, corn flakes or weetabix crushed up, as these too help the birds to conserve energy and feed their young ones over the winter.

#### Attendance

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school when they are unwell. There are government guidelines for schools, provided by the Public Health Agency, that say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't. Vomiting and diarrhoea - children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school for 48 hours after their symptoms have gone.

A high temperature of 38c or more - if your child has a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes away.

Coughs and colds - it is fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or cold but if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes away.

Head lice and nits - there is no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice.

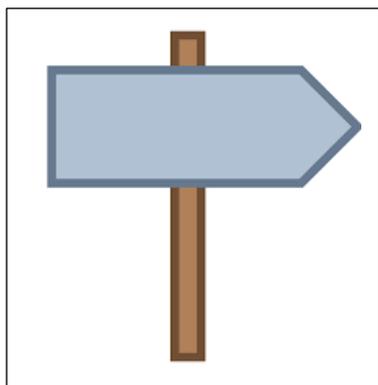
Sore throat - you can send your child to school if they have a sore throat but if they also have a fever, they should stay at home until it goes away.

Chickenpox - if your child has chicken pox, keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.

Cold sores - there is no need to keep your child off school if they have a cold sore.

Conjunctivitis - your child can attend school with conjunctivitis, however do get advice from your pharmacist.

If your child is absent from school, please contact the school office before 9.15am.



### Swap Shop

We have two book 'Swap Shops' in school for parents and children to come to at the end of every day to choose a book. You can come to our 'Swap Shops' and help yourself to a new book, then swap it for another one when you've read it. **We have picture books for story time, books that little ones can read themselves and chapter books for our older readers.**



We have one 'Swap Shop' at the school office and another one in the main school hall. All our 'Swap Shop' books are labelled, so there will be no worries about getting them mixed up with the class reading books that children change each week in the classroom. We look forward to seeing you use our 'Swap Shops' very soon.

### Governor Spot

We still have 2 vacancies for Parents Governors and did not receive any nominations as a result of the letters sent out few weeks ago. As such, we will accept any expressions of interest from any parents of children at our school or of those people who have children in any school in Birmingham. We are looking for people with the following skills:

Financial Management

Premises or Facilities Management

Human Resources or The Education System

If you believe you have the skills we are looking for or know of anyone who does, please contact the Clerk to Governors via the school office.

### CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

**SCHOOL WILL CLOSE ON FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER AT 12.45PM FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY AND WILL RE-OPEN ON MONDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020 AT THE NORMAL TIME.**