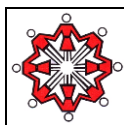


Issue 4



St. Benedict's Newsletter 30th January 2017

Welcome Back!

We know it's almost February however we would like to wish all our parents and carers another fantastic year at St. Benedict's!

A big 'Thank You' to those Year One parents who attended our Talk for Writing workshop. The feedback that we received was very positive. We have some great storytellers amongst our mums and dads!

If there are any workshops you feel would help you and your child in the future then please come and have a chat with Mrs. Butler or Mrs. Parmar.

Thank you also to all of the parents who attended our 'E-Safety' event. We all need to work together to keep our children safe. Please see below for information on how to access the resources.

Governor's Spot - Jan 2017

The start of the year has been a busy one for Governors with lots of meeting and things to be approved. Governors have been completing training to ensure that they can do their best to support the school. The role of a Governor is a very important one and is also very rewarding. If you are interested in becoming a Governor, please come to the school office for further information.

Environmental

Across the school, we are busy taking part in the RSPB Big School Bird Watch. So far, we have spotted a number of different birds including gulls, pigeons, crows and even a buzzard! Take the time to look out of the window with your children and see what you can spot!

As well as being busy in the gardens feeding the birds, we have had some exciting news about a competition we have been entered into. The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) have chosen St. Benedict's to go forward to the next stage of a European competition which celebrates schools who work to protect their environment and encourage wildlife into the school gardens.

Your children's hard work in making bird nests, log piles, minibeasts homes and generally caring for nature has got us into the next round! We are the only school from the UK to be selected and could receive some fantastic funding for the gardens if we win!

School Website and E-Safety

We have updated our website to include all of the links we informed parents about at our E-Safety workshop. The website address is www.stbendic.bham.sch.uk; the links to help support you in setting up filters or to provide information in general can be found in the 'Parents Information' section. Please let us know if you require further help or support.

Nursery

Our topic this half term is 'Bears'. The children have been learning the story 'We're going on a Bear Hunt' and have been doing lots of bear activities. Please talk to your child about bears and ask them what they know about them. The children will also be learning about Chinese New Year and will be taking part in lots of activities around this. Please keep practising counting up to ten and name writing with your child, they are working very hard in Nursery learning these.

A big 'THANK YOU' to all parents supporting the Story and Number Cafes. It has been wonderful to see so many of you and the children loved carrying out activities with you. The Cafes run most Thursdays, if you have not been to one yet, please try and attend one before the half term.

Swap shop for books is still open, please swap your books as often as you like with your child. Parent evening will be at the end of the half term and we will be giving out appointments shortly.

Reception

The children in Reception have been busy learning about traditional tales. They have been drawing and painting characters from the story, making masks and finger puppets. Also, finding out about the different places that some stories take place. Reception children have enjoyed using the computers to draw their characters too.

Please ask your child to tell you the story of 'Little Red Riding Hood', they all know it very well!

Year One

We have started the New Year as we mean to go on and our topic 'I wish.....is creating some wonderful imaginative work across the year group! The children will be able to tell you the story of 'Aladdin' with actions.

We will be discussing Neil Armstrong and adventures in space.

In Maths, we have been working hard to learn which numbers go together to make 10, 11 and 12. In addition, we have also been practicing telling the time. All these wonderful things can be talked about at home. Please bring back your reading books each week and practise your spelling!

Year Two

Our topic this half term is 'Really Wild'. The children have begun learning about different types of animals and their habitats. In Maths, we have been learning about money, the value of different coins, combining amounts, working out change and solving money problems. We will also be learning about shapes.

In English, the children have been adapting and changing the book 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark' – what characters did you change in the story?

Don't forget to continue practising your spellings for Monday spelling tests.

Half-term Holiday

School will finish at 2.30pm on Friday 17th February and re-open on Monday 27th February at 8.35am.