



St. Benedict's Newsletter 28th February 2017

Term Time Leave

The law on requesting leave during term time:-

If you wish to request term time leave for your child, you must make an application to Mrs. Williams two weeks before the planned absence. This will only be authorised if there are exceptional circumstances.

Holidays are always 'unauthorised' and a Penalty Notice may be issued to each parent for each child taken out of school.

A Penalty Notice is an alternative to a prosecution through the court. It is a fine of **£60.00 per parent per child**, which increases to **£120.00 per parent per child** if not paid within 21 days. If the Penalty Notice remains unpaid after 28 days, this may result in legal action.

It is important that parents inform school about the reasons for all absences. If parents fail to do this and we are unable to locate children, this will be treated as a safeguarding concern and a referral may be made to the Children's Services.



Governor's Spot - Feb 2017

The Governing Board have a lot of work ahead of them in the coming months, with the new School Budget to approve and a number of other actions that require their attention. Our School Governors are very supportive of the school and we are grateful for their input.

We still have Governor Vacancies, so if you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact the school office for further information.

Environmental

This month, the children have taken part in the RSPB Big School Bird Watch. We have been busy feeding the birds with a variety of seeds and meal worms to help them as they make nests or migrate. The children have spotted magpies, pigeons, blue tits and sparrows.

As well as this, Gardening Club have been busy digging over our gardens ready to start planting after half term. We have already planted red and white onions, garlic, spinach and broad beans.

Next half term will be busy for us as we plan to grow a bumper crop this year and hope to sell it to the community – watch this space!

Nursery

Our topic for the beginning of this half term is 'People who help us'. The children will be learning all about people who help them such as doctors, nurses and lollipop people. Please talk to your child about how they help other people and what they would like to be when they grow up

We would like to say a big 'Thank You' to all of the parents and children who completed their home learning tasks, it is lovely to see so many pictures and how much effort has been made!

At home, practise singing number songs with your child and finding different shapes around the home. Can they find any squares, rectangles, triangles or circles?

Thank you for attending Parents Meetings, your support is much appreciated!

Reception

The children in Reception received a letter from the 'Big Bad Wolf' and thought of lots of different ideas to put in their letters that they wrote back to him. We have enjoyed finding the best material for a new cape for 'Little Red Riding Hood' by testing materials to see which were waterproof. The children also found the best way to take an ice lolly to granny on the other side of the woods without melting! Reception good work assemblies will begin on Monday 6th March at 2.10pm in Reception hall. We look forward to seeing you there!

Year One

We have been enjoying our topic 'I wish...' and have been writing instructions to make a witch's hat and getting creative with nasty potions!

The children have been looking at place value in Maths with tens and ones as well as measuring lengths and heights using their vocabulary.

We have learnt about Neil Armstrong in our topic lessons and his walk on the moon which has led to our amazing scientific enquiry investigations where we have made different rockets. Well done Year One!

Year Two

Year Two are continuing their topic of 'Really Wild', carrying out materials investigations, learning about houses and humans. In Maths, we will be continuing our learning on 3D shapes and beginning to learn about fractions of shapes and numbers.

Our literacy story this half term is 'The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig'. Can you think of the characters you would change? What material would you change the houses to? We are also planning our first trip for this year which will take place at the end of March – watch this space for the exciting details!

Reminders

- Keeping up with the Children for Nursery will be on Monday 6th March and Tuesday 7th March from 12.00pm – 2.00pm in the Community Room with Mrs. Butler.
- Parent Council gathering will take place on Wednesday 8th March from 1.45pm – 2.30pm – everyone welcome!
- ESOL classes every Tuesday 12.30pm – 2.30pm and 'Knit and Natter' every Wednesday from 12.30pm – 2.30pm.