

## Shotley Bridge Primary School

Benfieldside Road Site	Snows Green Road Site
Shotley Bridge	Shotley Bridge
County Durham	County Durham
DH8 0SQ	DH8 0ES
(Yr R to Yr 2)	(Yr 3 to Yr 6)



Telephone: 01207 260444

E-mail: [shotleybridgeprimary@durhamlearning.net](mailto:shotleybridgeprimary@durhamlearning.net)

Headteacher: Mr M. C. Bell

---

## Autumn Term 2016 Newsletter 2 14 11 2016

### Mr McBride, Chair of Governors Retires

Following this Autumn's Full Governing Body meeting Mr McBride announced that he would be retiring from his position as Chair of Governors after more than 30 years of governance at Shotley Bridge. Mr McBride has worked tirelessly in this voluntary but vital and very demanding role. I have personally thanked him for his commitment, support and guidance to school.

As Vice Chair Mr Grimes will now chair the governing body until a new Chair is elected at the Spring Full Governing Body meeting.

### Fundraising for Charities. Children in Need Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November

This Autumn Term we are supporting Children in Need. Children can come to school on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November in Children in Need themed fancy dress and bring a minimum of a £1 donation for this worthwhile cause. There will be fun activities in the afternoon for all children.

### Friends of Shotley Bridge Primary School and Fund Raising for School

Thank you to all of the parents who gave their time to make the Halloween discos so successful. The children enjoyed the dancing, games and food. We raised over £600 profit which will go to our fund to improve the outdoor environments of each site. In other fundraising for these projects, each child has drawn a picture of themselves and we are having them made into **tea towels**. These are at the printers as we type and will be on sale as soon as we receive them. There is one tea towel for the Benfieldside Road site and one for the Snows Green Road site.

### Thank you to Northumbrian Water

Each year for the past 5 years a team of Northumbrian Water volunteers have cleared, unblocked and cleaned the drainage around our Benfieldside Road site. Mr Pears, one of our parents, has arranged this as part of his company's commitment to community service. I would like to thank Mr Pears and his team for the incredibly hard work they put into this voluntary task each year which has contributed to alleviating flooding problems in our notoriously flood prone part of County Durham.

### Anti Bullying News

In all schools bullying can occur and in addition to this children and parents will have different perceptions of what bullying is. In academic year 2015 2016 in Shotley Bridge Primary School two parents made formal reports of their child being bullied and school acted on these reports. This year we are introducing a new initiative throughout school called STOP. STOP stands for Several Times On Purpose and will help our children to identify what is and is not bullying and will empower all our children to know how to respond. This year we will also focus on Bystander Behaviour and how everyone at times is a bystander and how bystanders can have a huge impact on any behaviour that is perceived as bullying. To launch our new anti-bullying initiatives we are holding an anti-bullying roadshow in each site on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November. **PARENTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND TO JOIN WITH STAFF AND CHILDREN TO LEARN ALL ABOUT WHAT IS AND IS NOT BULLYING AND HOW TO WORK TOGETHER IN ANTI-BULLYING.** YR/KS1 Anti-bullying roadshow 1:00 to 2:00 in Benfieldside Road site and KS2 Anti-bullying roadshow 2:15 to 3:15 at Snows Green Road site. Since September 2016 school has had no reports of bullying by children, parents or staff.

### **School photographer Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November. Individual children and family groups.**

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November is school photographer day for individual children and family groups. Photographers will be set up and ready to photograph at 8:30 in each site. Parents who wish to have family group photographs taken with brothers and sisters from different buildings must organise their group in either site at 8:30. During the normal school day school staff will ensure each individual has their photograph taken and also any brothers and sisters who are in the same building will be photographed together.

### **Lighting the Shotley Bridge Village Christmas Tree**

We have been invited to sing at the lighting of the Christmas tree in Shotley Bridge village at 4:15 on Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Any Shotley Bridge Primary School pupils and parents are welcome to attend and to sing along. Parents must be responsible for the supervision of their children.

### **Procedures in Case of Snow**

I want to clarify for you the procedures we may have to adopt over the winter period and the rationale behind them. Firstly, I will endeavour to keep school open wherever possible. Where this is the case and we are keeping school open as on a normal day you will not be informed by text, you will not be telephoned and our website will not indicate this. If I make the decision to close the school you will be informed by text through our service TEACHERS 2 PARENTS, school will inform Durham County Council and the closure information will go on the County website and our school website. If school opens but I am concerned that having children arrive at 8:50 will endanger them then the text you receive will inform you that we will; cancel Breakfast Club, open the school doors at each site at 8:50 AM, but not take registers until 10:00 AM. This will allow families to make their way to school at a sensible and safe time and will give school staff time to arrive safely at school also. We ran this system in previous snowy winters and it worked very well. If school ever has to close during the day and children have to be collected then we will also use our text service to contact you.

I know how frustrating it is for parents when schools have to shut and as stated earlier I will endeavour to keep school open whenever safe to do so. However, there will be circumstances when school will be closed.

These circumstances can include;

- It is impossible to keep a path clear from school gates to the school entrance.
- Crossing the road outside of school presents such a danger that it is unreasonable to open school.
- School heating is not at an adequate level.
- School kitchens can not provide lunch facilities for children.
- School staff have made a reasonable effort to get to school and have failed.
- The number of adults in school is not adequate to safely care for the children.

### **Reading Records \ Homework Diaries**

Children need to bring Records \ Diaries and reading book in to school every day even if they have not finished their book. These books are used to communicate between teacher and parent.

### **Absences**

Some parents will have received letters regarding attendance this term. Please be aware that a very small number of days off school at this point in the term will result in attendance under 90%. The purpose of the letters are to make parents aware of this

### **Vomiting and Diarrhoea**

Most recent County guidelines state that all children and staff are kept off school for 48 hours from the last incident of diarrhoea or vomiting. If children come into school and tell us they have vomited or had diarrhoea at home we will isolate them from their classmates and telephone you. This is the only way to stop the spread of infections in school.

### **Staff changes**

We say goodbye to Mrs Hagan who has been a Teaching Assistant with us since covering Mrs Humble's maternity cover. Thank you Mrs Hagan for all your hard work this year. Mrs Dipper intends to return from her maternity leave on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November and is really looking forward to being back in Year 2 with Class 5. Mrs Dipper and Mrs Kelly are already meeting regularly in preparation for Mrs Dipper's return. Mrs Kelly will join our Year 1 team.

## SHOTLEY BRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL UPDATED CALENDAR OF EVENTS 14 11 2016

	<b>Event</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Involving</b>
<b>November</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> Children in Need Dress Up Day	Both sites	All children
	24 <sup>th</sup> Anti-bullying roadshows	Benfieldside Road Site 1:00 Snows Green Road 2:15	All children and parents
	25 <sup>th</sup> School photographer (Family groups at 8:30)	Both sites	All children
<b>December</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Singing at Shotley Bridge Village Christmas Tree 4:15		Any child and parent
	12 <sup>th</sup> 1.30 – Year R and Class 6 Christmas Play 2.15 – Year 1 and Class 5 Christmas Play	Benfieldside Road Site	Year R,1,2 plus parents. 2 tickets for family per child.
	13 <sup>th</sup> 1.30 – Year R and Class 6 Christmas Play 2.15 – Year 1 and Class 5 Christmas Play	Benfieldside Road Site	Year R,1,2 plus parents. 2 tickets for family per child.
	14 <sup>th</sup> KS2 Christmas Service St Cuthbert's Church 1:45 to 2:45 to enable parents to leave with KS 2 child if they wish to pick up YR/KS1 child at 3:15	St Cuthbert's Church	KS2 children plus parents. No tickets needed, room for 2 per family.
	14 <sup>th</sup> am Year R Christmas Party	Benfieldside Road Site	Year R children
	15 <sup>th</sup> pm Y1 Christmas Party	Benfieldside Road Site	Year 1 children
	15 <sup>th</sup> Y3 and 4 Christmas Party	Snows Green Road Site	Year 3,4 children
	15 <sup>th</sup> School Christmas Lunch	Both sites	All children
	16 <sup>th</sup> pm Y2 Christmas Party	Benfieldside Road Site	Year 2 children
	16 <sup>th</sup> pm Y5 and 6 Christmas Party	Snows Green Road Site	Year 5,6 children
<b>January</b>	Dec19 <sup>th</sup> -Jan2 <sup>nd</sup> Holiday. 3 <sup>rd</sup> INSET. Term starts Jan 4 <sup>th</sup>	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN	
	18 <sup>th</sup> Class 13 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 13 Parents
	25 <sup>th</sup> Class 6 Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Class 6 Parents
<b>February</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Class 12 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 12 Parents
	8 <sup>th</sup> Class 3 Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Class 3 Parents
	14 <sup>th</sup> Valentine's Discos	Both Sites	All children
	15 <sup>th</sup> Class 9 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 9 Parents
	Half-term Holiday 20 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> inclusive	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN	
<b>March</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> World Book Day	Both sites	All children
	8 <sup>th</sup> Parents Evening	SGR Site	All parents
	9 <sup>th</sup> Parents Evening	SGR Site	All parents
	16 <sup>th</sup> Class 7 Assembly	SGR Site	Class 7 Parents
	24 <sup>th</sup> Mothers' Day Assembly / Red Nose Day	TBC / Both sites	TBC / All children
	29 <sup>th</sup> Class 11 Assembly	SGR Site	Class 11 Parents
<b>April</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> Easter themed Merit Assembly	SGR Site	Year 3,4,5,6 plus parents
	Easter themed Good News Assembly	BR Site	Year R,1,2 plus parents
	Easter Holiday 10 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> inclusive		
<b>May</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Bank Holiday		
	10 <sup>th</sup> Class 4 Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Class 4 Parents
	17 <sup>th</sup> Class 8 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 8 Parents
	24 <sup>th</sup> Class 10 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 10 Parents
	Half-term holiday Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> May – Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> June		
<b>June</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> Fathers' Day Assembly	TBC	TBC
	21 <sup>st</sup> Class 5 Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Class 5 Parents
	28 <sup>th</sup> Year R Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Year R Parents
<b>July</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> Summer Fair	SGR Site	All children and parents
	17 <sup>th</sup> Sports Day (18 <sup>th</sup> Sports Day Reserve)	SGR Site	All children and parents
	19 <sup>th</sup> Whole School Trip to Beach		All children and Staff
	21 <sup>st</sup> Year 6 Leavers Assembly	SGR Site	Year 6 Parents
21 <sup>st</sup> Last day of term			