



## Autumn Term Newsletter 1 September 2019



**Welcome** to the beginning of academic year 2019 2020. Staff have been so impressed by the attitude, behaviour, work ethic, enthusiasm and friendliness of all of our children. Our new Reception children have made a great start and all year groups have made the transition to their new classes look effortless. Year 3 have clearly benefitted from all of their transition activities to their new building and have made an excellent start to Key Stage 2.

**Terms for classes, year groups, Key Stages** In Newsletters and other communications different phrases and abbreviations are used for different age groups, classes, phases of education and in our split-site school. Reception class will also be referred to as YR. Year 1 and Year 2 as Y1, Y2. Y1 and Y2 together comprise Key Stage 1 (KS1) Years 3 to 6 are Y3 to Y6. Y3 to Y6 comprise Key Stage 2 (KS2) The YR/KS1 children go to school in the Benfieldside Road site or the YR/KS1 site. KS2 children go to school in the Snows Green Road site or the KS2 site.

**School/Parent communication** School will continue to use the newsletter to: celebrate successes in school, share news and inform you of up-coming events. Important dates will be added to the calendar once confirmed. School will also communicate a wealth of information via the school's website and regularly keep you informed by letter. School will sometimes contact you by text as a reminder of certain events or if we have to give you information at short notice. Teachers will communicate with you by talking to you on the yard, writing a note in your reading diary or telephoning you where necessary. To discuss anything about your child please in the first instance communicate with your class teacher. Parents can communicate with teachers in many ways: by chatting to your teacher on the yard at the start and end of the day (staff are on duty on KS2 yard from 8:40 and YR/KS1 yard from 8:50), by writing a note in your reading diary, (the Reading Diary is also a home/school communication diary for anything, including reading comments), by ringing, emailing or visiting the school office to arrange a time to meet with your class teacher (Office staff are on duty from 8:30 each morning.)

If communicating with your class teacher does not resolve your needs then in the next instance communicate with Deputy Head, Mrs Lamb or Assistant Head, Mr Patterson. If this does not resolve your needs then of course contact Mr Bell after this.

Parents can email [shotleybridgeprimary@durhamlearning.net](mailto:shotleybridgeprimary@durhamlearning.net) or leave a message via the school website.

School's telephone number is 01207 260444. You can of course communicate by visiting either office.

We are currently trialing an email service in addition to our text service. Please can you ensure school knows your up-to-date email contact details. Please also contact school if you do not have an email address.

**Timings of the school day:** The school day starts at 8:55 for all children and ends at 3:15 for YR/KS1 and 3:20 for KS2. Staff are on duty on the YR/KS1 yard from 8:50 am and from 8:40 on the KS2 yard to allow parents to leave children in their care. Prior to these times the care of children is the responsibility of parents. Please can parents keep children away from the YR/KS1 wooden play areas, swings and grassed areas at the start and end of the school day as we encourage a calm, ready to work atmosphere and a safe, efficient exit from school at the end of the day.

**School Events** We will continue to hold most events for children in their own site and we will also provide lots of opportunities where our younger and older children will come together. Children are expertly supervised by staff whenever walking between sites and whole school events take place on the most suitable site for each activity. We will inform you of confirmed dates for events that you can attend in newsletters, on the website and in letters.

**Merit/Good News and Class Assemblies** Merit/Good News Assemblies take place on Fridays at 9.00am on respective sites. Parents of children receiving awards will be invited to attend by text or by your teacher. Parents of children bringing in awards from home are also welcome to attend. Each class will present one Class Assembly per year in addition to whole school productions and events. Class assemblies will take place

in your child's building. Please can no more than two adults attend their child's class assembly as space in each hall is limited.

**Parents' Evenings** This term's parents' evenings for all children take place on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October from 3:30 to 6:00. Reception, Y1 and Y2 teachers in the Benfieldside Road hall. Y3 to Y6 teachers in the Snobs Green Road school hall. Please also visit your classrooms on that evening for your children to show you their classroom, their work and their targets. Please see teachers on each yard or ring your children's office to arrange appointments closer to the time.

**Charities and other fundraising events** This term we will support Children in Need. KS2 children will support our efforts to raise money to install a defibrillator outside the KS2 site. In Spring we will support Sport Relief and in Summer we will support a different charity, which is yet to be confirmed.

**Uniform** Thank you to every child in school for beginning the year in smart, school uniform and adhering to policy on ear rings, jewelry and school shoes. Please ensure items of clothing are labelled with your child's name, regardless of what age they are, to aid lost items being returned to rightful owners.

**Reading Diaries** These are used to record reading comments and also for other home school communication. Children need to bring reading diaries and reading book in to school every day even if they have not finished their book.

**Parking** We have been contacted by several local residents about dangerous and inconsiderate parking near school. We have also been contacted by residents of Summerdale House asking that parents do not use their car park as a drop off point for school. The police have advised that residents and concerned parents take photographs of offending vehicles, with registration plates and send them to Durham Police. Two local residents have also reported that they have been sworn at by parents, when they have asked them to park elsewhere. Please can parents park safely and considerately without blocking access to residents' driveways, cul-de-sacs, etc.

On a positive note, following school's requests to Local Councillor, Highways Department and the Police we are pleased to announce that parking restrictions are set to be introduced on Benfieldside Road. Please see The Northern Echo for details.

**Social Media Concerns** On occasion, concerned parents show school staff and governors Facebook threads that make derogatory comments about named school staff members. We continually encourage and educate our children not to put anything online that could be construed as trolling or cyberbullying and I ask that parents set an example by doing the same. Thank you to those parents/governors who make sensible comments in these threads advising that parents contact school for clarification about perceived events or to direct parents to follow correct procedures. Thank you to those parents/governors who alert school to such comments. Where any parent needs clarification about anything please contact school. Where any parent wishes to make a formal complaint please contact school for the correct policy.

**Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Patterson** Congratulations to Mr Patterson and Mrs Patterson (Formerly Miss Smith) who were married in August.

**Calendar of Events on page 3**

## Calendar of Events Sept 2019 to Sept 2020

Please note some dates may change and other dates will be added throughout the year.

	Event	Venue	Involving
<b>September</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> KS1 Parents Transition Meeting	Benfieldside Road Site	
	23 <sup>rd</sup> Y4 Residential	Begin and end day at S G R	Year 6
	24 <sup>th</sup> Y6 Taster Day at Consett Academy		
	26 <sup>th</sup> Early Years Curriculum Evening 5:00	Benfieldside Road Site	Year R parents
<b>October</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> KS2 Re-start a heart Day	Snows Green Road Site	KS2 children
	16 <sup>th</sup> Parents Evening	Both Sites	All parents
	17 <sup>th</sup> Parents Evening	Both Sites	All parents
	23 <sup>rd</sup> – Hallowe'en Disco	Both sites	All children
	24 <sup>th</sup> and 25 <sup>th</sup> INSET School CLOSED to children		
	Half-term Holiday 28 <sup>th</sup> Oct – Nov 1 <sup>st</sup> inclusive	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN	
<b>November</b>	6/8 <sup>th</sup> Y6 Robinwood		
	12 <sup>th</sup> Flu immunisation	Both sites	All children with consent
	15 <sup>th</sup> Children in Need Dress Up Day	Both sites	All children
	25 <sup>th</sup> School Photographer	Both sites	All children
<b>December</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> School Christmas Lunch Non-uniform – donations for Christmas hamper.	Both sites	All children
<b>December</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> YR and KS1 Christmas Plays (1.30 and 2.15pm)	Benfieldside Road Site	Year R,1,2 plus parents
	13 <sup>th</sup> YR and KS1 Christmas Plays (1.30 and 2.15pm)	Benfieldside Road Site	Year R,1,2 plus parents
	18 <sup>th</sup> KS2 Christmas Performance	SGR Site	KS2 children plus parents.
	18 <sup>th</sup> pm YR Christmas Party	Benfieldside Road Site	Year R children
	19 <sup>th</sup> pm Y1,Y3/4 Christmas Party	Both Sites	Year 1,3,4 children
	20 <sup>th</sup> pm Y2,Y5 and 6 Christmas Party	Both Sites	Year 2,5,6 children
	Dec 24 <sup>th</sup> – Jan 5 <sup>th</sup> Holiday. Term starts Jan 6 <sup>th</sup> 2019	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN	
<b>January 2020</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> Class 5 Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Class 5 Parents
	29 <sup>th</sup> Class 13 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 13 Parents
<b>February</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> Class 12 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 12 Parents
	13 <sup>th</sup> Valentine's Discos	Both Sites	All children
	Half-term Holiday 17 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> inclusive	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN	
<b>March</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> Class 4 Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Class 4 Parents
	5 <sup>th</sup> World Book Day 2019	Both sites	All children
	11 <sup>th</sup> Class 14 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 14 Parents
	13 <sup>th</sup> Sports Relief Day 2020	Both sites	All children
	18 <sup>th</sup> Class 3 Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Class 3 Parents
	20 <sup>th</sup> Mothers' Day Activities Afternoon	Both Sites	Children and Parents
	25 <sup>th</sup> Class 7 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 7 Parents
<b>April</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Class 6 Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Class 6 Parents
	1 <sup>st</sup> Parents Evening	Both sites	All parents
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Parents Evening	Both sites	All parents
	Easter Holiday April 6 <sup>th</sup> – Fri April 17 <sup>th</sup> inclusive	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN	
<b>May</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Class 10 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 10 Parents
	8 <sup>th</sup> Early May Bank Holiday	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN	
	13 <sup>th</sup> Reception Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Reception Parents
	20 <sup>th</sup> Class 11 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 11 Parents
	Half-term holiday Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> May – Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> May	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN	
<b>June</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> Class 9 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 9 Parents
	17 <sup>th</sup> Class 8 Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Class 8 Parents
	19 <sup>th</sup> Fathers' Day Activities Afternoon	Both Sites	Children and Parents
	26 <sup>th</sup> pm Sports Day	Snows Green Road Site	All children and parents
	30 <sup>th</sup> Y6 Transition Day Consett Academy	Consett Academy	Year 6
<b>July</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> Parents Eve's	Both sites	All parents
	9 <sup>th</sup> Parents Eve's	Both sites	All parents
	10 <sup>th</sup> Summer Fair 3:30 to 5:00	Snows Green Road Site	All children and parents
	15 <sup>th</sup> Whole School Trip to beach.	South Shields Beach	All children and Staff
	17 <sup>th</sup> Year 6 Leavers Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Year 6 Parents
	20 <sup>th</sup> INSET	School CLOSED to children	
	Last day of Summer Term		
<b>September 2020</b>	First day of term	School returns Weds 2nd September 2020	