



Spring Term Newsletter 1 Friday January 10th 2020



Happy New Year and Welcome Back

We hope you have all had a wonderful break and a happy holiday. I would like to thank all of the children, staff, volunteers and parents for making Christmas time in Shotley Bridge Primary School so special. Thank you again to everyone who attended our Lighting the Christmas Tree event in school and then in Shotley Bridge Village back in November. Incredibly well done to every YR, Y1 and Y2 singer and performer in our Christmas plays. Thank you to our Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 children for their wonderful carol singing and Christmas performances in St Cuthbert's Church. Thank you again to Reverend Jackson for making us so welcome. Thank you to all of Y2 and Y5 who sang Christmas carols and songs to the local residents of Golden Acre in our annual event where we give the residents their Christmas cards. Thank you to the Y6 singers who entertain the residents of Shotley Park care home with their lovely singing at this time each year. Thank you to the brass and violin musicians for your amazing Christmas 'Brassembly' to parents, KS2 and Y2 children. I only wish the hall was big enough to fit in other parents who would love your performance. Well done to all the children who had lots of fun at Christmas parties and during Christmas dinner. A huge thank you for the donations for the Christmas Raffle. Well done to Penny, Xander, Sophie, Sophie, Alex, Maison, Georgia and Will, who won the fabulous Christmas Hampers. The raffle raised a total of £460 which will go towards Private School Funds to be spent on fun things for the children. Once again, we appreciate your generosity.

Foodbank Donations We are so proud of the children who asked if we could donate to local foodbanks and to all of you for your donations which were overwhelming. Thank you so much to the dad of Sam in Y6 who took some of our Pupil Council children in his police van to deliver your donations to Consett Foodbank and Stanley Foodbank.

Sporting Success Congratulations to the Y5/6 Girls football team. Having already won the Derwentside league last term the girls came a very respectable 3rd place in their Champions League Cup. The Y5/6 boys football team, currently top of the league, won the Derwentside Champions League Cup in December. They will now face the best teams in the whole of Durham County, and Sunderland, later this term. Watch this space for news of our netball teams, lower KS2 teams and all the teams and classes across the whole school as the year progresses.

Thank you again to all the boys and girls who have represented school so well and a special thank you to Mr Murphy who trains the footballers, organises and supervises at each match.

KS2 Drop-in Thank you to those parents who attended or emailed. We are always working towards making school the best it can possibly be for all children and the drop-in provided an excellent platform for parents to be able to talk freely with school's Chair and Vice Chair of governors and the school Leadership Team.

The start of the school day and communicating with teachers on a morning Parents of KS2 children are incredibly welcome to be on the yard each morning at drop off time for the start of the school day. (Contrary to what some of your KS2 children may tell you.) The KS2 yard is opened and staffed from 8:40. The reason we allow KS2 children to come onto the school yard without an adult is to enable parents/carers with YR/KS1 siblings to get up to the Infant site. It is your choice as parents to decide whether you believe your KS2 child is mature enough to enter the school yard without you. At the end of the school day we do not let Y3 and Y4 children leave school unsupervised. Please be aware that if you choose to leave your KS2 child unsupervised before entering the school yard and if they do not go to school we will not be aware of this until school contacts you after class registers are sent to the office at 9:00 to ask where your pupil is. We do of course insist that all YR/KS1 parents supervise their children until handover to school staff.

If you need to get a quick message to your teacher then all teachers in each site are on the yard to collect their classes from 8:50 to 8:55 when children begin the school day. Please be aware that at 8:55 all teachers are teaching and not available to talk with parents. At the Junior site you can also pass any message to the 8:40 staff. If you need to speak with staff for more than a quick message then please contact school from 8:30 when each office opens. Mrs Parker and Mrs Coombe will pass on any messages and ensure teachers speak to you at an appropriate time in the day.

Packed Lunches Please see an updated packed lunch policy on our website. This statement is taken from the policy. *To ensure consistency and to keep packed lunches in line with food standards for school meals, packed lunches should not contain the following:*

Fizzy / sugary drinks in cartons, bottles or cans
Chocolate-coated products / sweets / confectionery
Chewing gum
Sugared / toffee and salted popcorn

Please reduce the frequency of placing cereal and fruit bars, crisps and savoury snacks in your child's lunch box. They are often very high in sugar, salt and fat.

As some pupils in school have allergies to nuts please could we request that any type of nut and peanut butter are not included in a lunch box. As your child may sit next to a child allergic to nuts and this contact could trigger an anaphylactic shock.

Of course there are children who have an Individual Health Care Plan for dietary reasons for whom this may not apply. Staff will do everything to make those children feel confident to eat the food in their packed lunches even though it may differ from their peers.

Safeguarding your children online. Phones, tablets, apps and games consoles Many Primary aged children now have their own phone. Many have access to tablets and games consoles too. In one of our Y6 classes 20/22 have their own phone. 1/22 use Facebook, 0/22 use Twitter, 11/22 use Snapchat, 6/22 use Instagram. 5/22 use Houseparty. 3/22 use Pinterest, 2/22 use Discord and currently 18/22 use Tiktok. Each of these apps has a recommended age limit of 13 (16 for Whatsapp and 18 for creating a Youtube account) Tiktok's default setting, for example, is Public. This means that everything your child posts on Tiktok can be viewed by anyone, of any age, anywhere in the world. Those viewers can then strike up conversations in text form or in skype type form with your child. Mr Bell, Mr Patterson and Mrs Lamb have viewed videos, comments, text conversations and skype type video conversations involving our pupils and unknown adults on Tiktok this week. We would strongly encourage parents to not allow access to these apps until the recommended age. However, we fully understand that some parents are choosing to allow their children to use these apps so would like to direct parents to the controls that you can put in place. Please visit saferinternet.org.uk for advice and internetmatters.org and search 'how safe is Tiktok?' for specific advice. Please also remember that as most apps update they return to default settings and not the safe settings you can impose.

Cars and taxis on our school sites

Please can cars not come onto the school sites to drop off children for school, when late for school and/or to pick up children after clubs. This includes parents who come to school by taxi. This includes the grassed areas at the entrance to the Infant site. Those that need to park on site can do by arrangement with school.

Parents' Evenings, Termly Reports, End of Year Reports. Our Spring parents' evenings take place on Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd April 2020 from 3:30 to 6:00. Our short End of Term Update slips will next go home in the last week of Spring term. This year, end of year reports will be presented at summer parents' evenings for all children, on Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th July from 3:30 to 6:00.

School Clubs We continue to offer a wealth of after-school clubs for children. KS2 children have taken home a letter highlighting which clubs are available this term. KS1 children will bring a clubs letter home next week.

Staffing Changes We wish Mrs Ord good luck as she begins her maternity leave. Mrs. Orrick is now teaching Class 8. Mrs. Humble will teach Class 4 on Fridays.

Parent Questionnaire results

Here are the results of July's parent questionnaires alongside the 2018 results. The staff really appreciate your comments. Thank you to everyone who replied.

Ofsted Parentview Questions	Strongly Agree/Agree May 2018	Strongly Agree/Agree July 2019
My child is happy at this school.	98.6%	99%
My children feels safe at this school.	100%	100%
My child makes good progress at this school.	99.3%	100%
My child is well looked after at this school.	100%	100%
My child is taught well at this school.	98.6%	100%
My child receives appropriate homework for their age.	93.1%	95%
This school ensures that pupils are well behaved.	97.9%	100%
The school deals effectively with bullying.	84.9%	100% (Of only 8% of returns. 92% of returns were N.A.)
The school is well led and managed.	97.2%	99%
The school responds well to any concerns I raise.	92.5%	99%
I receive valuable information from school about my child's progress.	95.2%	97%
I would recommend this school to another parent.	97.2%	98%

Calendar of Events Jan to Sept 2020

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

	Event	Venue	Involving
January 2020	22 nd Class 5 Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Class 5 Parents
	29 th Class 13 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 13 Parents
February	12 th Class 12 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 12 Parents
	13 th Valentine's Discos	Both Sites	All children
	Half-term Holiday 17 th – 21 st inclusive	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN	
March	4 th Class 4 Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Class 4 Parents
	5 th World Book Day 2020	Both sites	All children
	11 th Class 14 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 14 Parents
	13 th Sports Relief Day 2020	Both sites	All children
	20 th Mothers' Day Activities Afternoon	Both Sites	Children and Parents
	25 th Class 7 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 7 Parents
April	1 st Class 6 Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Class 6 Parents
	1 st Parents Evening	Both sites	All parents
	2 nd Parents Evening	Both sites	All parents
	Easter Holiday April 6 th – Fri April 17 th inclusive	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN	
May	6 th Class 10 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 10 Parents
	8 th Early May Bank Holiday	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN	
	13 th Reception Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Reception Parents
	20 th Class 11 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 11 Parents
	Half-term holiday Mon 25 th May – Fri 29 th May	SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN	
June	10 th Class 9 Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Class 9 Parents
	17 th Class 8 Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Class 8 Parents
	19 th Fathers' Day Activities Afternoon	Both Sites	Children and Parents
	24 th Class 3 Assembly	Benfieldside Road Site	Class 3 Parents
	26 th pm Sports Day	Snows Green Road Site	All children and parents
	30 th Y6 Transition Day Consett Academy	Consett Academy	Year 6
July	8 th Parents Eve's	Both sites	All parents
	9 th Parents Eve's	Both sites	All parents
	10 th Summer Fair 3:30 to 5:00	Snows Green Road Site	All children and parents
	15 th Whole School Trip to beach.	South Shields Beach	All children and Staff
	17 th Year 6 Leavers Assembly	Snows Green Road Site	Year 6 Parents
	20 th INSET Last day of Summer Term	School CLOSED to children	
September 2020	First day of term	School returns Weds 2nd September 2020	