

St Benet's RC Primary School



Ouston, Chester-le-Street, Durham, DH2 1QX

www.st-benets.durham.sch.uk 0191 4105857

twitter -@Stbenetsouston email- stbenets@durhamlearning.net

Dear Parents, Carers and Governors,

Happy New Year!

Welcome back to 2018! I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas surrounded by family and friends and on behalf of all of the staff and children here at St Benet's, I wish you a very happy new year!

Happy Feast of St Benet!

Today, we have celebrated the feast of our patron saint, St Benet. As it is a special day for our school, we have had a fun-filled morning where the children have played with the games that they've brought into school, ending with our celebratory liturgy this afternoon.



Class Collective Worships from Next Week

As mentioned before Christmas, Friday Collective Worships shall be celebrated in the classroom instead of the school hall and shall be celebrating the topic that the children are learning about in the Come and See RE Curriculum. The liturgies shall be more personal, celebrated only with the class and their parents/carers. Year 6 shall have their worship next Friday and parents can enter the classroom on Friday morning via the classroom door in the playground.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend,

Catherine Harper (Head teacher)

January 15

New Nursery January Starters begin at St Benet's

January 16

Year 6 SATS Club starts after school (3:30pm-4:30pm)

January 17

Year 4 Mass, 9.15am

January 18

Year 6 SATS Family Learning Session, 9.15am

January 18

Friends of St Benet's Annual General Meeting, 5pm

January 19

Y6 Class Collective Worship, Y6 Classroom, 9.00am

January 20

Y5/6 Cross Country at Bullion Lane Primary School

January 21

Year 1 Mass, 9.15am

January 25

Year 1/2 SATS/Phonics Family Learning Session, 9.15am

January 26

Reception Class Collective Worship, Reception Classroom, 9.00am

Please see the diary dates letter for all Spring Term events

Wonderful Writing Awards

Starting next week, we shall be handing out 'Wonderful Writing Awards' each Thursday in Reward Assembly. There will be one child selected in each class.

Gold Book Winners

Miss Harper – **Elizabeth Olive**
 Mr Rooney – **Ava Wears**
 Miss Loughlin – **Dominic Bradley**
 Miss Williamson – **Isaac Smith**
 Mrs Rowley – **Luke Baker**
 Mrs Readman – **Effie Scott**
 Mrs Wealleans – **Frankie Pinkington**
 Mrs Donaghy – **Mason Hewitt**
 Miss O'Sullivan – **Joe Sizeland**
 Mrs O'Neill – **Tom Stewart**
 Mrs Finley – **Zach Wardle**

Miss Caulfield – **Summer Grange- Ogle**
 Mrs Lauder – **Zaina Chowdhury**
 Mr McQueen – **Alfie Sharp**
 Mrs Calvert – **Aaron Poole**
 Mrs Malpass – **Isla Ash**
 Mrs McNally – **Lucy Baines**
 Mrs Brown – **Martha Dowson-Jones**
 Mrs Tallentire – **Leon Walker**
 Mr Kent – **Joe Lavery**
 Mrs Bissell – **Aran Huey**
 Mrs Stone – **Joe Sizeland**



Nursery- September 2018 places

If you know of anyone who has a child who shall be three years old between 01 January and 31 August 2018 and they may be looking for a nursery place, remind them about our lovely Nursery here at St Benet's. We are currently accepting applications for September places 2018.

Reading Records and Homework

It's lovely to see how enthusiastic our children are about their home reading. Plenty of certificates have been handed out to children since the Christmas holidays. Keep on reading at home! Please ensure that you sign the reading record because stickers cannot be allocated otherwise. Also, your children's completed homework should be back by Friday.

Year 4 Gibside Trip

Reminder to Year 4 parents: there will be a meeting about Gibside on **Monday 5th February at 3.30pm.**

Dance Festival –Years 1 and 6, Thursday 29th March

Another date for your diary- our children in **Years 1 and 6 shall be performing at the Annual Dance Festival held at the Gala Theatre, Durham on Thursday 29th March (performing between 9.20am – 11.45am).** Tickets to this event go on sale at The Gala Theatre on **Friday 26th January at 9am.** Tickets can be purchased over the phone, online or in person. They sell out fast so don't miss out!

Holidays During Term Time

I completely understand why parents choose to take holidays during term time, but can I please remind you that the **government guidelines are that holidays should only be taken within the holiday periods.** Absence from school during term time does affect children's learning and progress within subjects as well as impacting on their overall attendance which should be much higher than 90%. A child with an attendance rate below 90% falls into the category of a persistent absentee.

Friends of St Benet's Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM for the Friends of St Benet's shall be held on **Thursday 18th January at 5pm.** Please come along and get involved in our PTA. It would be lovely to see some new faces ☺

Sickness/Diarrhoea Reminder: Please note that children should remain absent from school for **48 hours** after the last bout of sickness/diarrhoea. This is to ensure that germs are not spread amongst the rest of the school community. Thank you for your support.



'A happy and holy place of learning, and the centre of a thriving community'

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