

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



Upcoming Events

December 11

Key Stage 1 (Years 1/2) Christmas Play
'The Bossy King' 2.30pm and 6pm

December 12

Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) Christmas Play
'Five Gold Rings' 2pm and 6pm

December 12

Year 4/Year 6 Christmas
Boomwhacker/African Drums
Christmas Performance (Straight after
2pm play performance)

December 13

Early Years (Nursery/Reception)
Christmas Play 'A Miracle in Town'
10am and 2.30pm

December 15

National Christmas Jumper Day-
children can come to school in their
Christmas Jumper Day for a suggested
donation of £1. All funds raised go
towards the Save the Children
Christmas Appeal

December 18

Prayer Stations in school all day
celebrated in houses (times to follow)

December 19, 20 and 21

Children's Christmas Parties

December 20

Whole School Christmas Mass, 9.15am

December 20 Christmas Lunch

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors and Children,

What a busy and exciting week we have had here at school. Our Early Years children had a fantastic time at Down at the Farm on Tuesday, as did Year 6 deepening their knowledge of World War II at Eden Camp. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children enjoyed celebrating this festive season with our parish schools on Thursday at church during the Jesse Tree Service. Our school choir also sang beautifully at Ushaw College during the Durham School Choir Competition. We are very proud of all of our children this week for their wonderful attitudes to learning, both in and out of the classroom!



Welcome Back Rob!

It is lovely to see Rob, our lollipop man, back supervising the roads and ensuring we cross the road safely this week when he returned to school on Monday. Rob thanks all parents and children for their well wishes.

Christmas Plays Next Week

Our children will be performing their wonderful Christmas plays next week (see right for times). **For the Infant and Junior 6pm performances, please can all children be returned to school for 5:40pm.** As mentioned during the week, the Infant and Early Years' plays will now start at **2.30pm for the afternoon performances.** We will be holding a Christmas raffle next week during the plays, drawn at the Early Years final play performance on Wednesday afternoon so be sure to bring your pennies to grab yourself a ticket!

Diary Dates Spring Term 2018

Your child will bring home a copy of the Spring term diary dates, as attached to this email. We hope you like the new format!

We are looking forward to seeing you next week at our Christmas Plays!

Catherine Harper (Head teacher)

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

Friends of St Benet's Contributions

At St Benet's, we are extremely grateful for the successful Friends of St Benet's group and the support that all members have given to our school over the years. Last year (2016-17) the FOSB raised **£6,700 profit** and to date, since March 2017 they have spent **£9,251.80**. This includes funding the remaining costs for the outdoor playground equipment, buying resources for each class to use during wet playtimes, heavily contributing towards the cost of the Peter Pan pantomime as well as transport and for Mr Windbags in the Early Years. More recently, they have bought at the school's request, a new portable and wireless sound system for the school, so watch out for a sound speaker on wheels around school after Christmas! We are eternally grateful to all parents and children who support our PTA group and hope that you will continue to support them in 2018 as all funds raised go towards enhancing your children's time here at school.



Facebook Parent Groups

The use of social media has increased significantly over the years and there are various forms of communication used to relay messages to people in today's world. Here at St Benet's, we have an official school twitter account which we use to promote our school and celebrate the success and rewards of our children. We are very aware that there are many Facebook groups being used by parents. These are not official school communication groups and information about school events/decisions etc should not be discussed via Facebook. Information relating to school events can be accessed from our school website, school twitter page or by contacting the school directly. If anyone wishes to discuss something relating to the school, please contact the school directly as Facebook is not the platform for this. Thank you in advance.

Admission Policy 2019-2020 Where changes to admission arrangements are intended, all schools are required to consult before these are determined and published. This time we are consulting on the policy for the years 2019-2020. It is that time again when we are consulting on our school admission policy for the years 2019-2020. This policy is available on our school website under 'School Admissions.' If any parent wishes to participate in the consultation, a consultation response form is available by request from the school. The governing body will consider all comments received before they determine the arrangements for 2019-20. Thank you.

Gold Book Winners

Miss Harper – **Ruaridh McEwen**
Miss Caulfield – **Ciara Drady-Welsh**
Miss Williamson – **Kaden Lee**
Miss O'Sullivan – **Molly Sykes**
Mrs McNally – **Rebecca Devlin**
Mrs Tallentire – **Harvey Tocu**
Mrs Malpass – **Jack Balfour**
Mrs Lauder – **James Dickson**
Mrs Hanley – **Emily Allen**
Mr Kent – **Jimmy Simcox**
Mrs Finley – **Austin Lauder**

Mrs O'Neill- **Zoe Freeman**
Mr Rooney – **Ethan Wray**
Mrs Stone – **George Stewart**
Mrs Calvert- **Dylan Harland**
Mrs Rowley – **Leah Hill**
Mrs Donaghy – **Calem Leask**
Mr McQueen- **Lucas Hopper**
Mrs Wealleans – **Thomas Barker**
Mrs Brown – **Maria McGee**
Mrs Readman – **Alfie Balfour**
Miss Loughlin – **Olly Burnett**



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