



Thought of the Week: It's hard to love, there's so much to hate; hanging on to hope when there is no hope to speak of. And the wounded skies above, say it's much too late; so maybe we should all be praying for time."

– George Michael

Welcome Back and a very Happy New Year to you all

A warm welcome back to all our children and families after the Christmas break. I hope that you all had a wonderful holiday and found some time to relax with family and friends. I met with the whole school at our first assembly on Wednesday morning and took a little time to reflect on the past couple of weeks and how important it is to take some time to reconnect with each other and have a break from our usual routines. I also reminded the children about the importance of their Pupil Voice and how crucial the role of the School Council will become over the coming months. We also took a moment to remind each other of our main School Rules – the things that we all keep in our minds every day when we are on the school premises. They are: - Move Safely; Look After Property; Take Care of Everybody; Follow Instructions and Listen Carefully. Of course some of those aspects can be carried through into our lives outside school as well. There is a busy term ahead with lots of things to cover. We at Bedlington Station Primary School will continue to challenge ourselves and each other to be the very best that we can be. Have a great week!

Important information

Creative Project

Often at this time of year we undertake a Creative Project such as Station Studios, where we transform our school into a place of work, where the children experience teaching and learning in a slightly different way. I just wanted to let you know that we still plan to run a similar project in school this academic year but later on, perhaps in the summer term. Keep reading the Station Voice for future updates and I promise that we will give you plenty of notice.

School Meals – Winter Menus

I wanted to inform you that we have made a couple of minor tweaks to one or two dishes on the Winter Menus. The Menus have been reprinted and will be placed on the noticeboard in the school yard. The website will also be updated with the changes. These changes have been made purely because a couple of the menu options, (namely the Casseroles and the Sweet Potato Curry), were not proving particularly popular with the children and there was minimal take-up. We have therefore offered alternatives instead and will monitor these to see how successful they are over the coming weeks. As always, should you have any feedback or comments about our menus or choices, please don't hesitate to let me know. Whilst on the subject of our school meals, we will be having another special **Theme Day on Thursday January 19th 2017**. More details will be provided in next week's Station Voice.

Nut Allergies – A Reminder

You may be aware that we have a small number of children in school who can be affected, to varying degrees, by nut allergies. It is important that parents and carers keep the school informed if their child is affected by such allergies so that we can keep our records up to date and ensure that all relevant staff across the school are informed. Naturally, it is vital that our medical records are as accurate as possible. Whilst the school building and grounds are not sterile areas, I feel it is important to limit, as far as we are able, the possibility of nuts adversely affecting the children who may become ill if they come into contact with them. To this end, I have taken steps to remove peanut butter products from our Breakfast Club, as well as obvious nut based cereals such as Crunchy Nut Cornflakes. I must stress that, as a school, we cannot police every food item that comes into the building, and I am aware that many foodstuffs are not prepared in sterile areas at the manufacturers, but we can try to limit the chances of these children coming into contact with something that may cause them harm. May I therefore, respectfully ask as parents and carers that you kindly give this some thought when providing packed lunches including sandwiches and snacks for your child so that we can limit, as far as possible, any chance of these children coming into contact with nut products. Thank you! It is appreciated.

Attendance

Sycamore class had the highest attendance in the last week of term with 98% and whole school attendance was 94%. Please don't forget to ring 01670 822326 if your child is going to be late or unable to attend school.

Y6 SATS Reminder

Please don't forget to come along to the Y6 meeting regarding SATs which will take place this coming Wednesday 11th January at 3.15pm in the school hall. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Tuart.

Y5 & Y6 Indoor Athletics Competition

Some of our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils have taken part in an Athletics Competition at Blyth Leisure Centre this afternoon. Whatever the results of the events I am sure that the children will have done themselves proud and hope that they enjoyed the opportunity to experience competition and teamwork along with other schools in the area.

School Admissions for Children starting in RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 2017 - Final Reminder

The Online Portal will close on Sunday 15th January 2017 for First/Primary or Academy school places for children starting in September 2017. All parents must make an application either online or on a paper copy (available on request) or ring 01670 624889.

Colder Weather

As the weather is becoming colder and slightly more unpredictable can I please ask that parents and carers ensure that their children come to school with appropriate, suitable clothing? Our aim is to always get the children some time outside either at break or lunchtime, unless the weather is particularly unsuitable of course. I have noticed quite a few children coming to school without a coat and if the weather turns chilly or there are spots of rain through the morning they have nothing to put on at playtime. As always, it really helps if your child's clothing is clearly labelled with their name as items can go missing from time to time as I'm sure you understand.

Thank you.

Goodbye and Good Luck

Finally, I wanted to let you know that Mrs Toole from our School Office will be leaving Bedlington Station Primary School on Friday 20th January, 2017. She has worked with us for many years and been an integral part of the success of our school during that time. She will really be missed by staff and pupils alike and has worked so hard during her time with us that her contribution cannot be understated. We would all like to thank her so much for everything she has done for us and wish her every success and happiness with her new ventures. We have recruited Miss Vurlan who will be taking over from Mrs Toole when she leaves. Miss Vurlan comes to us from an educational and office environment and I know that she will be a wonderful addition to our team. She has already started with us so that we can ensure a smooth handover of duties and all welcome her warmly to our wonderful school.