



Thought of the Week: "Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

celebrating success

Attendance

Maple class had the highest attendance the week before the Christmas holidays with 99% and whole school was 98%. This is great once again above our target. Please don't forget to ring 822326 if your child is going to be late or unable to attend school. Thank you.

Mathletics KS2

KS2 class winners for December were Chestnut class with 14,285 points. Chris Blackwood had the highest with 10,172 points. Well done everyone!!

important information

Welcome Back

A warm welcome back to all our children and families after the Christmas break. I hope that you all had a wonderful break and found some time to relax with family and friends. At our whole-school assembly on Tuesday morning I spoke to the children a little about my own experiences over the Christmas break and how nice it was to have some time to reconnect a little with our families. We live in such a frenetic world that sometimes, if we can, it is good to be able to take stock of what we have and reflect a little. However you spent your holiday, I hope that you had a wonderful time.

Assessing your Child

As always, we hit the ground running here at Bedlington Station. Teaching staff attended training on Monday where we were looking at how we assess children and we spent time evaluating different pieces of anonymised children's work across our Partnership. You may know from our recent Parents' Evenings, or have read, that children will no longer be assessed using "levels" i.e. level 2 or level 4. Instead, each school has been tasked to develop its own system which looks at the breadth and depth of knowledge a child has, rather than aiming to move up through levels as quickly as possible. We have developed a robust system which we are happy with and we will be sending home an information leaflet in the next couple of weeks to explain this system to you and what it will mean for you and your child. I would stress that there is nothing to worry about and if you have any questions you will be able to speak to your class teacher. If there is the demand I will be happy to put on a brief information session for parents after school one day to go through things in a little more detail and for you to ask any questions you may have. One of the real benefits of our assessment system will be that you and your child will be able to log on to the system at home to see exactly what they can do, where further development is needed and with the added bonus of being able to see actual pieces of work created by your child on-line. Naturally, you will only be able to see your child's work and everything will be password protected. Look out for more information being sent home and on our website in the next few weeks.

Creative Project – Station Studios

You will all have received a letter before the Christmas break and again today about our new Creative Project which begins next Monday. In amongst all the information, I would draw your particular attention to the section on what the children will be wearing for the project. We have listened to your constructive comments about last year's project in respect of the school being "non uniform" for the entire project (i.e. 5 weeks), which can be difficult to manage and I hope that you consider our proposal of school shoes and normal uniform skirt or trousers with a coloured T Shirt provided free of charge by school as an acceptable compromise. Thank you for your support of our creative projects and I know the next one will be an amazing success and the best ever!

Pudding of the Week

We have decided to give our Pudding of the Week scheme a little rest for the spring term. It has proved immensely popular but my feeling is that we can now make a few tweaks to make it even better. It will also give the children the chance to think up some more wonderfully creative pudding ideas! We will look to re-launch in the summer term. In the meantime, we will adjust the menus accordingly to show the changes and update those menus on the website and school noticeboard as quickly as we can. In the meantime, for your information, Week 1 Thursday Pudding will now be "Rice Pudding", Week 2 will be "Ice Cream and Fruit" and Week 3 will be "Jelly with Fruit". Just to let you know also that our Week 1 option of "Fish Cakes" is not proving particularly popular with the children and we are being left with significant wastage at the end of service. We will therefore be altering this to "Sausages and Mash" in time for the next Week 1.

PE days

Please can you ensure that if your child is in the following classes, Willow, Beech, Maple, Chestnut and Sycamore that they bring their PE kit in every Monday and leave on their school peg to ensure that they are ready to do PE any day of the week, then take it home on a Friday.

They will require the following items: T-shirt, shorts, trainers or sandshoes.

Oak and Rowan will require their PE kit plus swimming shorts/costume and towel.

Spare kit is available in school should your child forget kit/be missing an item of kit.

Please remember to send a note to school with your child if they are unable to participate in PE.

No Jewellery to be worn at school at any time, this includes ear-rings or studs which are a potential hazard both at play times and during PE. They should be removed before entering school premises each day.

Watches are permitted and to be encouraged particularly in Key Stage 2 as a way to become familiar with time.

Change of Contact Details

Please don't forget that if you move house or change your telephone numbers can you inform the school office so that our records are kept up to date. Thank you.

Last Reminder about School Admissions for Children starting in Reception September 2016

The Online Portal is OPEN for First and Primary School Places for children starting school in September 2016. It will be open from 2nd November 2015 until 15th January 2016.