



Baldon Church of  
England Primary School  
and Nursery  
**NEWSLETTER**  
Number 152 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019



### **WELCOME**

Welcome back to all our families - we trust that you had an enjoyable holiday. A very special welcome to all our new families and staff who have joined our school community.

Our newsletter today is intended to inform our new families about organisational issues and serve as a reminder to existing families which is why it is slightly longer than usual.

### **RELIGIOUS NEWS**

Our worship this week has been centred on how special we are and the importance of recognising this. This, along with the theme of how we are all different, were the themes which we explored yesterday at the Service of Blessing for the School Year which was led by Canon Sandra. Using the book, 'Mixed,' we looked at how we need to respect differences and work together to build our community and live out our vision:

#### **School Vision**

In our school, we celebrate being part of God's family where all respect themselves, others and the world around them. Our vision is to develop a safe, caring community of inspired, resilient lifelong learners with a spirit of curiosity, enabling them to flourish in an ever changing world.

The Lord says for I know the plans I have for you...plans to give you hope and a future.

In advance of our service, all classes had identified their hopes for the year which were presented and have now been assembled in the hall as a reminder to us.

### **SCHOOL CALENDAR**

It is customary for us to share the calendar of events for the year with parents alongside our first newsletter of the year. Unfortunately, due to changing a number of topics in our curriculum this year, we are still waiting for confirmation of some of the new trips which we are introducing so, the school calendar is not yet finalised. We hope that we will be able to share this with you next week. This will contain information about consultations, Parents to Dinner dates, school visits and themed days etc and we will make every effort not to change these once they are set. Should we need to change any of these dates, we will notify you as soon as possible. A copy of this calendar will be posted on the website in the '**Parent Information**' section once it is completed.

### **PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS**

In the last newsletter of last year we did alert you to the fact that we are holding a 'Curriculum Event' on

Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> September for parents of children in Reception to Year 6.

All parents should have received a letter about this and we ask that you apply for a place at one of these sessions using our online facility. Please note that spaces are not limited and that the main bulk of the presentation in each class will be quite similar as it is about our blueprint for teaching, our approach and how parents can help.

### **PARKING**

As we start a new school year, please can I remind parents to be considerate in their parking habits before and after school. Please can we ask you to obey the road markings around school and please do not park on corners, within the zig zag lines, or obstruct driveways. Parents are reminded that they need a permit from the office to park in the school carpark and that they are not permitted to park in the carpark when collecting children from clubs.

### **CONFIDENTIAL FORMS**

Once more, this year, the office will be sending out the Data Collection Forms in rotation with KS1 forms being sent out next week and KS2 the following week. This is to ease the office with processing the information. To comply with GDPR, these will be sent out in envelopes and we ask that you return them as soon as possible. If, however, your emergency or contact details have changed over the summer, please email these to the office so that we have contact details for you should we need them

### **DEVELOPMENTS OVER THE SUMMER**

School was a very busy place over the holidays and the work on the roof was finally finished on Sunday afternoon with the scaffolding being removed on Monday. We are delighted that, all of the roof has now been replaced so we can start to address some of the other school improvement issues inside our building! Also in the holidays, we had a new ceiling and new lighting installed in the corridor from the library to the computing suite. Of course, the area where we can all see the biggest improvement is in the suite itself which has been completely refurbished with new furniture and 31 new computers purchased – this work was partially funded by the 'little extras' which school received in last year's budget. We look forward to hearing about exactly how much we are due to receive in the latest pledge to increase school funding from 2020!

### **MEDICAL DETAILS**

As all medication was sent home before the holidays, it is essential that a new medical plan is completed and sent

with medication this term so that everything is up to date.

In cases where creams or medicines need to be administered, a medicine request form must be completed. An electronic version of this can be found on the virtual office section of the website. In these instances, creams and medicines must be delivered to and collected from the office by an adult and should not be kept by children. Parents are advised that it is Mrs Hargreaves who is now in charge of medication.

### **PUPIL ABSENCES**

Please can we remind parents to contact school by 9.15am on the first day of absence by phoning 598540 or by emailing the office. [office@baildonce.co.uk](mailto:office@baildonce.co.uk) Parents should try and make all medical and dental appointments before or after school if possible. If this is not possible, please can you present the appointment card at the office so that the attendance record can be recorded correctly.

### **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

Parents are reminded that, in line with Governor policy, all sweatshirts and cardigans **must have a logo**. Please also note as stated in the uniform policy :  
Boys must wear Navy/Black/Grey Socks  
Girls must wear White/Grey/Navy Socks or Grey/Navy Tights.  
Watches and one pair of small stud earrings may be worn. Earrings must be removed for PE and swimming. No other jewellery may be worn.  
Hair must be neat and tidy at all times. **Small, navy, white and neutral hair accessories** only to be worn in school.  
No make-up or nail varnish to be worn in school.  
If children wear boots to school, please can we ask that you also send in shoes which they can wear in the building.  
Uniform can be purchased at Henry Smiths in Shipley or online with Myclothing.com (formerly Tesco) If parents do not have access to the internet but wish to purchase uniform from Myclothing, please contact the office where we will organise the use of a computer for this purpose.

### **LOST PROPERTY**

In the course of the year, we regularly accumulate enough lost property to clothe at least half a school. We are looking to trial a new method for dealing with lost property in school this year. In both KS1 and KS2, we will place 2 containers, one of which will be for named lost property and one for unnamed lost property. Any lost property found in any week will be placed in these bins and it will be the children's responsibility to check these bins for their belongings. Adults will no longer return things to **children in KS2** which have been labelled as we do not think that this supports the understanding of children about looking after their belongings. On a Friday after school and first thing on Monday, these bins will be placed outside of the Key Stage doors so parents can check them. If things are not claimed, they will then be bagged up and labelled and stored.  
Please can we remind you that it makes life a lot easier if you label things. Please can we also remind you to

remember to check that the labels do not fade if you are using pens rather than printed labels.

### **MONEY IN SCHOOL**

Parents are reminded that we are now a cashless school- this link will take you straight to the login page:

<https://login.eduspot.co.uk/public/portal/parent/?app=schoolmoney&source=logout&version=20190314>

If you are logging in using the website address, please check that you choose the option 'Parent Login' and not 'School Login'.

We have managed to keep the prices of Breakfast Club and dinners the same this year.

Breakfast club costs £3.50 a session without breakfast and £4 a session with breakfast.

School dinners now cost £1.90 a day.

Cost for a week: £9.50

Cost for the term: 3<sup>rd</sup> September to 25<sup>th</sup> October £74.10.

### **SUPERVISION OF CHILDREN**

Parents are reminded that children should not be left unattended in the school yard before school as there is no supervision. Please can we ask that children do not play on equipment before or after school.

### **ALLERGY IMPLICATIONS**

At the start of this academic year, please can I remind parents that, due to a growing number of children throughout school with nut allergies, we are a 'nutfree' school. If you are providing cakes or treats for school events, please can we ask you to check that they are 'nutfree.' Please be aware that many chocolates contain traces of nuts so we ask that you check carefully before sending any chocolate snacks for birthday treats. Similarly, any food sent for school lunches must be 'nutfree.'

We also have children in school with life threatening allergies to egg and dairy and we ask parents to be understanding in how school are supporting these children.

### **FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

Parents will be aware that for the last few years, children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are all eligible for Universal Free School Meals. However, parents should also be aware that there are additional benefits which may be accessed if they are eligible for free school meals but these need to be claimed for. The latest information about eligibility for Free School Meals is available in the Parents Section of the website, or a paper copy can be obtained from the school office. Bradford encourage parents to apply online for these benefits and there is a link to the application form contained within the document on the website.

### **SNACKS IN SCHOOL**

As a school, we continue to promote healthy eating as part of our curriculum and stress the importance of '5 a day!' Free fruit/veg is provided to children in Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2 and children in Years 3-6 are able to buy fruit or toast in school. Children may also bring in fruit or vegetables from home for breaktimes.

### **DOGS ON THE PREMISES**

Dogs, with the exception of Guide Dogs, are not permitted **anywhere on the premises**- please make sure that all dogs are outside the **external gates** at both entrances.

### **SMOKE FREE SCHOOL**

Parents are advised that, as with all public buildings, Baildon Church of England School, including all grounds, is a smoke free school. **This also applies to E cigarettes.**

### **EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS/EVENTS**

As a school we organise a large range of extra-curricular clubs and events throughout the year, all of which involve a huge amount of administration. Once more this year, we intend to use the online facility to organise most of these clubs to try and eliminate slips getting lost etc. A number of extra- curricular clubs are due to start before school, during lunchtime or after school over the next fortnight. Please can we stress how important it is for you to collect your child at the agreed time at the end of the club. These clubs are run voluntarily by members of staff and I am very grateful for their time and commitment.

Next week sees the start of some of our clubs including some of the music ones: Brass group will start on 9<sup>th</sup> September, Rock Solid on 12<sup>th</sup> September and Orchestra on 18<sup>th</sup> September.

If children are attending clubs or groups before school, for fire register purposes, they need to enter through the office and sign in (unless they are attending Breakfast Club).

### **CROSS COUNTRY**

Cross Country club starts next week at lunchtime with a different running themed activity each week, including: obstacles courses; relay races; beat the teacher races; a house colour cross country championship and orienteering. Each session will last around 15-20 minutes at the start of lunchtime, with pupils having lunch after the practice has finished.

- Years 3-4 Practice - Monday Lunchtime.
- Years 5-6 Practice - Tuesday Lunchtime.

These opportunities are open to all children in these classes and they do not need to book on.

*For more information, speak to Mr Van der Gucht*

### **PARKRUN**

We have set up a school Parkrun club that is open for all pupils to affiliate themselves to. The parkrun is a 2KM fun run held every Sunday at 9am in Saltaire, open to 4-14 year-olds.

<https://www.parkrun.org.uk/saltaire-juniors/results/clublist/>

### **NURSERY AND RECEPTION INTAKE 2020**

We will be holding an Open Day for 2020 Intake on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> November with sessions available at various times during the day. Further information about this will be circulated in October.

### **SCOOTERS/BIKES ON SITE**

Please can we remind children to dismount their scooters or bicycles when they are on the school grounds.

### **COMMUNICATION**

There are many ways for parents to communicate with school and the most common method is by speaking directly to the teacher at the end of the day or catching the person who is on the door for messages at the Reception/Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2 doors. In addition, parents can drop a line in school diaries to pass on comments to teachers or send in letters to staff. We are aware that many of our parents are not around to drop off and collect and, for many, email is a preferred method of contact. In these instances, please email the office ([office@baildonce.co.uk](mailto:office@baildonce.co.uk)) who will pass on the email to the member of staff. Please be mindful that, due to teaching commitments, it is not always possible for teachers to reply to emails immediately or to phone parents during that day. We will aim to reply within 48 hours.

The newsletter is the main source of communication between school and home whereby we try to give you a flavour of what has been happening in school and also to give information about forthcoming events.

Conscious that life is very busy for all of us, we try and give as much advance notice of events as possible and many events are already organised with details in the calendar. Once more this year, the newsletter will be published weekly.

Copies of the newsletter will be placed in the Newsletter section on the Parent Information Section of the website.

Please can we ask that you check the newsletter or the website for information before phoning the office for things like 'how much is a school dinner for the week etc' as they often have to break off from the many tasks that they are doing to answer things which have already been communicated- we realise that it is the easier option for parents but please can you check communications before you phone?

School uses both letters and text messages to communicate with parents. Copies of the letters are also in the Parent Information Section of the website. We provide letters in electronic form if they have no reply slips, but send paper copies of all letters which need a reply. We encourage as many parents as possible to receive letters by email.

We are @baildonce on Twitter also if you want to follow us.

### **WALKING HOME**

To encourage independence, many parents of children in Years 5 & 6 wish their children to walk home alone after school. Please can you contact the office for a form to complete for our records if you wish your child to walk home. If you require your child to collect a sibling from a lower class and walk them home also, please note this on the form.

If you wish your child to walk around from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 1 to meet you, please can we ask you to

either let the teacher know verbally or write a short note in your child's diary.

### **APPLICATIONS TO SECONDARY SCHOOL**

Children in Year 6 have been given the information booklet about applying to Secondary School today. Please note that the deadline for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> October.

### **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES**

As a Church School, RE and Collective Worship continue to be a main priority in school as we continue to embed our vision across all aspects of our curriculum. With the introduction of a new inspection system which places increasing emphasis on reading and curriculum, these, too, are priorities in school. Spellings, phonics and speed of recall of tables are also curricular priorities on our school improvement plan this year. We are also continuing our development of 'Growth Mindset' and 'Metacognition' this year so as to try and further promote the resilience and independence of our learners as we have identified this as an area where, right from Reception, our children often do not demonstrate these characteristics.

Once more this year, achievement certificates will be awarded to children who demonstrate one of the characteristics of learning which we are promoting. Observations of some of our children still show that they lack independence, struggle to cope when they get things wrong and have a real fear of failure rather than seizing opportunities and looking for ways to overcome difficulties which is clearly a life time skill.

Therefore, we would like your help in the following ways:

- Please label all belongings so that children take responsibility for their own things
- Please follow the school request not to enter the cloakroom (except in Nursery) at the beginning and end of the day
- Encourage your children to have a go before giving any support
- Allow your children to do their own homework and if you need to help them, please write 'WS' on the work, which we use in school to show work has been completed with support.
- Help your children understand that it is more important to make mistakes and learn from them rather than get everything right all the time, as often this shows that activities are not pitched accurately enough to give challenge.
- Encourage your children to remember things like the days they have PE or need to bring homework etc.
- Talk to your child about the menu choices before school, if they are on school dinners

The following short reflection was shared recently with us which we feel sums up what we are trying to achieve:

***If you want our children to grow into capable, independent adults, give them space to make some decisions without you controlling their every move.***

***Back off! Let them try. Let them fail.***

***It's not about them always getting it right, it's learning not to be afraid to try.***

***Brooke Hampton***

### **ACHIEVERS OF THE WEEK**

Every Friday, we hold a special assembly to celebrate the week and certificates are awarded to children for a particular attribute, usually linked to one of the characteristics for effective learning. In the newsletter, as well as sharing details of the children who have been awarded the certificate, we also publish what the certificate will be for the following week.

In addition to celebrating individual success, we also award an attendance cup in KS1 and KS2 for the class with the best attendance from the previous week. We also regularly award the Tidiest Classroom at this assembly.

Further to that, we share information about any school representation which has taken place that week such as sporting activities or musical etc.

Children are invited to share achievements, trophies, certificates, medals which they have won through home activities also at this assembly such as swimming badges, music exams, gymnastics, Blue Peter badges etc

This week our certificates were awarded to children who have made a positive start to school.

Congratulations to:

Rec Olivia P, Alannah M

Y1 Alfie H, Leo W

Y2 May W, Blake W

Y3 Hollie I, Rocky G

Y4 Hannah A, Edie C

Y5 Maggie B, Olly P

Y6 Ryan M, Harry C

### **SUMMER CHALLENGE**

We have been really impressed by the response to our Summer Challenge and it great to see the huge amount of academic, sporting and cultural activities undertaken by children in the course of the holidays. As you know, this was a totally new approach to the summer challenge and we were unsure how it would be received so can we say a huge big thank you to parents and children for your overwhelmingly positive response to the challenge. We are currently compiling the participation details and children will be issued with the raffle tickets next Friday before assembly where the winners will be chosen. Thank you to all and good luck.

### **PTFA**

The PTFA are a voluntary groups of Parents and teachers who run a range of activities including Discos, Bun Sales and Fairs. Funds raised are used for a wide range of things including supporting trips, running the minibus, and buying equipment for school. Meetings are held usually once a half term in school or in local pubs.

The first PTFA meeting for this year has been organised for next **Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> September at 7.15pm** in the staffroom.

All parents are eligible to be members and we urge you to come along and get involved. The PTFA is a great

way to get to know other parents in school and are always looking for new ideas and new members.

### **SCHOOL HOLIDAYS**

Please be advised that Governors reviewed and updated the attendance policy in 2016-2017. Parents are reminded that the current law does not give parents the entitlement to take their child on holiday during term time. As a result of criticism which has been raised by authorities, including Ofsted, of schools who do not fine parents and guardians for unauthorised holidays, governors agreed that we will now fine parents in these circumstances. The policy can be found in the policy section of our website. **Over the years many parents have phoned in to report that their children are sick or have medical appointments, despite other children in the class telling us they are on holiday. Please be aware that, in these circumstances, school can mark these absences as unauthorised.**

#### **2019-2020**

Tuesday 3rd Sept 2019 School Opens  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> Oct 2019 School Closes

#### **OCTOBER HALF TERM**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 2019 School Opens  
**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 2019- School closed to pupils –  
Teacher Training Day**

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 2019 School Closes

#### **CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 School Opens  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020 School Closes

#### **FEBRUARY HALF TERM**

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 2020 School Opens  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020 School Closes

#### **EASTER HOLIDAY**

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2020 School Opens  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 Bank Holiday  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020 School Closes

#### **SPRING BANK**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020 School Opens  
**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2020 School Closes**

Please note that we have a Teacher Training Day on 25<sup>th</sup> November so school will be closed to pupils. Also, please take particular note of the fact that we finish school on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July next year. No holidays will be authorised in July.

Governors have also approved the calendar for 2020-2021.

#### **2020-2021**

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2020 School Opens  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020 School Closes

#### **OCTOBER HALF TERM**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020 School Opens  
Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020 School Closes

### **CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021 School Opens  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 School Closes

#### **FEBRUARY HALF TERM**

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 School Opens  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021 School Closes

#### **EASTER HOLIDAY**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2021 School Opens  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021 Bank Holiday  
Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021 School Closes \*

#### **SPRING BANK HOLIDAY**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 School Opens  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2021 School Closes

\*Please note that, whilst we will have a fortnight in 2021, the first week will precede the normal Half term holiday.

*Bless our school and keep us safe.*

*Be with us as we travel each day.*

*Help us to be aware of your love shown to us in the  
people around us.*

*Bless all those who care for us in school and at  
home.*

*Help us show our care for them and to say sorry  
when we need to.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen*