



Belmont C of E Primary School



Spring Newsletter

Welcome

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to the Spring term! I hope that you are all well.

We have had a fantastic first full week back as the children have returned to school eager to start their new learning topics. The children (and staff) are fully back into the school routine after the Christmas break and I'm sure the early morning wake ups will get easier with lighter mornings and drier weather.

We are looking forward to our new learning and our calendar is already bursting with lots of exciting events and enrichment activities for the term ahead.

Best wishes,

Mrs. K. Harrison-Brown

Head Teacher

Whole School News

Family Worships

Over the Autumn Term, it was lovely to open our doors and welcome our parents and carers into school again. Alongside our flagship services, like Nativities, Harvest and Christingle, individual classes will be organising their own family worships for their parents and carers to enjoy. In November, Year 6 themed their worship around advent to explain why this is an important period of waiting. On 24th January, we will welcome Year 5 parents and carers into school to watch their worship about reaching their potential. On 14th February, Reception family members are invited to their worship at 9:15am in the Rainbow Hall.

Attendance

It has been wonderful to see the children return after Christmas with high levels of attendance. Our whole school average attendance for our first eight days was 95%, which was above national average of 93%. This is great and a trend that we aim to continue through the rest of the academic year because attending school regularly is important for children's development. Please see attached for the attendance information sheet for more details on how we will continue to support good attendance levels in school.

Nursery Ark's Nursery Baby and Toddler Group

Our Baby and Toddler group is on every Wednesday from 9:15a.m -10:30a.m in the Rainbow Hall. It is a great opportunity to let the children socialise and play- and there's even refreshments for adults too. Everyone is welcome!



Additional Funding for your child/children

Looked After Children

If your child falls into any of the following categories, we could receive extra money to support them in school:

- If your child is currently looked after (LAC)
- If your child has been adopted
- If your child has been previously looked after (PLAC)
- If your child is subject to a special guardianship arrangement (even if this arrangement has now ended and was only in place for a short time)

Forces Children

If either parent has served in any branch of the armed forces, we could receive extra money to support your child in school.

If you believe that your child may qualify for additional funding or if you would like any further information about this additional funding, please make an appointment to speak confidentially with Mrs Harrison-Brown or Miss Jubb .

*Events in the next
two weeks*

Tuesday 24th January **Year 5 family worship**

Year 5 family members are warmly invited to our family worship. The children are currently working hard to prepare this worship about New Beginnings and reaching their potential. We look forward to seeing you at 2:45pm in the Dove Hall!

Wednesday 25th January **Chinese New Year**

On Wednesday 25th January, we will celebrate Chinese New Year in school. On this day, we will learn about Chinese traditions and customs.

Our Rainbow Value

For this half term, our value is love. This will form our theme for worships where we discuss the importance of love and how to be loving towards others.

Safeguarding

Contact information-Please update your contact details at the school office if your telephone numbers/contact details have changed.

Parking/driving on campus-Polite reminder. In order to safeguard our Belmont family, please do not drive onto or park on the school campus.

Breakfast and Tea Club- Please remember to use the electronic system to sign in and out for breakfast and tea club. Thank you.

Online Safety

Electronic devices can be a good source of entertainment and provide a platform for learning but if not used responsibly, could pose a danger to children. We know that many children will have received new electronic devices for Christmas so we wanted to circulate this helpful online safety guide so parents, carers and children can remain vigilant.

ONLINE CONTENT

10 tips to keep your children safe online

The internet has transformed the ability to access content. Many apps that children use are dependent on user-generated content which can encourage freedom of expression, imagination and creativity. However, due to the sheer volume uploaded every day, it can be difficult for platforms to regulate and moderate everything, which means that disturbing or distressing images, videos or audio clips can slip through the net. That's why we've created this guide to provide parents and carers with some useful tips on keeping children safe online.



1 MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.



2 CHECK ONLINE CONTENT

Understand what's being shared or what seems to be 'trending' at the moment.



3 CHECK AGE-RATINGS

Make sure they are old enough to use the app and meet the recommended age-limit.



4 CHANGE PRIVACY SETTINGS

Make accounts private and set content filters and parental controls where possible.



5 SPEND TIME ON THE APP

Get used to how apps work, what content is available and what your child likes to watch.



6 LET CHILDREN KNOW YOU'RE THERE

Ensure they know that there is support and advice available to them if they need it.



7 ENCOURAGE CRITICAL THINKING

Talk about what people might post online and why some posts could cause distress.



8 LEARN HOW TO REPORT & BLOCK

Always make sure that children know how to use the reporting tools on social media apps.



9 KEEP AN OPEN DIALOGUE

If a child sees distressing material online; listen to their concerns, empathise and offer reassurance.



10 SEEK FURTHER SUPPORT

If a child has been affected by something they've seen online, seek support from your school's safeguarding lead.



Attendance

This Week

Reception	97.6%
Year 1	95.4%
Year 2	97.5%
Year 3	93.6%
Year 4	91.5%
Year 5	95.5%
Year 6	98.5%

Our attendance goal is 96% for each year group, each week. Well done to Reception, Year 2 and Year 6.

Good school attendance is crucial to help children thrive. It is important that your child attends school every day that they are able to. If your child is absent from school, please remember to contact our school office before 9a.m on their first day of absence. Thank you.

Diary Dates

Monday 16th January	Martin Luther King Jnr. worship
Thursday 19th January	Mrs Camsell swimming (every Thursday for 6 weeks)
Tuesday 24th January	Class 9 and Class 10 (Year 5 Mrs Camsell and Miss Faulkner) Family Worship 2:45p.m Dove Hall
Friday 27th January	Big Bird Watch starts
Monday 6th February	Football Week starts
Friday 17th February	School closes for half term



0191 384 4178



belmontceprimary@durhamlearning.net



@BelmontCof