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Our **Value of the Month** for September is **RESPONSIBILITY**



Newsletter – September 2016


Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome Back! 

Welcome back to our new academic year and I hope you all had a good summer. I would like to offer a warm welcome to our new Reception pupils. They have settled in very well and are enjoying getting to know their indoor and outdoor learning spaces alongside Mrs Martindale and Mrs Measor. This term is always a busy one so it is great to see how all the children have come back to school ready to learn.

Staff News 

We welcome Mr Purvis to our school as our Year 3/4 teacher. He has enjoyed his first week getting to know the children in this class and meeting parents. Also we would like to say 'congratulations' to Miss Locker who got married in the summer holidays. She is now called Mrs Storey. We wish her and her husband happiness in their married life together.

Roald Dahl Day – Tuesday 13th September 

Further to the letter sent out this week, just a reminder that 13th September is Roald Dahl Day to celebrate what would have been his 100th birthday. Children are invited on that day to wear a costume linked to one of his many stories or non-uniform if they prefer. We hope that children will get behind this chance to celebrate his writing and enjoy the activities that teachers have planned across the day.


Parent Governor Vacancies

We currently have two vacancies for parent governors and are very keen to work with parents in this important role. If you are interested in school development, and making a contribution to the overall improvements of the school, then please contact the school to speak to Mrs Snowdon. Further information regarding the role of a parent governor can be found on the National Governor Association website www.nga.org.uk – we hope this may be useful.

Mrs Parks' Enthuse Award



We are pleased to announce that at the end of last term Mrs Parks won the National Enthuse Award in recognition of her improvements of STEM in our school. Mrs Parks has worked very hard to improve Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths opportunities for children and this award was in recognition of this. She went to London with the other nominees for a dinner event where the winner was announced. We have lots more STEM activities planned for this year including a visit to Northumbria University next week by Year 6 to complete Science activities in their fully equipped laboratories.


Summer Fair 

Many thanks to the Friends of Bournmoor who organised our fantastic Summer Fair in July. They raised an impressive £850 which they will use to support the pupils in school. The ball catcher on the yard and the rainbow buddy table was purchased from funds raised by the Friends.

Support For Families - Hardship Fund

Durham County offer a fund to support families who may be having financial hardship. The aim of this is to provide relief at the most difficult times, offering small grants to purchase winter shoes and coats. As a school we contribute

to this to ensure that funds are available for pupils in our local area. If you feel that this may be something you would like more information on please contact our school office

Year 2 Adventure Valley Attendance Trip 

In July our Year 2 pupils enjoyed their attendance trip to Adventure Valley. As a year group, they achieved the highest attendance across the year and were rewarded by this special day. They thoroughly enjoyed it and were lucky with the lovely weather. Good luck to all our year groups this year in achieving this treat in July.

Earrings 

We aim to be an earring free school to ensure the safety of our pupils. In PE lessons children are not allowed to wear earrings and therefore we ask for your support in this. If your child has had their ears pierced in the summer holidays then please can they remove their earrings when the healing period has elapsed to allow them to be safe and enjoy their PE lessons.

SAT Dates 


Dates have been released for the national tests that children take in the Spring Term 2017. The dates for these are as follows:

Test	Date
Year 1 Phonics test week	Week beginning Monday 12 th June 2017
Year 2 SAT tests	SAT tests taken throughout May 2017
Year 6 SAT tests	Week beginning Monday 8 th May 2017

Information on how we support your child with these tests will follow along with useful guides for helping at home. If you would like to speak to your child’s teacher about forthcoming tests they will be pleased to talk to you.

Year 3 Swimming 


Just a reminder that swimming lessons for Year 3 begin this term. Children are required to bring in a swimming costume and towel each Monday for their lesson at Chester-le-Street baths. A letter has been sent out but if you have any questions please contact the office.

Parent Questionnaires 

Many thanks for all the parent questionnaires returned at the end of last term. We received 26 replies which provide valuable feedback to us. The vast majority were overwhelmingly in support of what we offer; some provided ideas for improvements which we have taken on board. We appreciate the time taken to return these and the comments given.

Curriculum Grids and Helpful Guides 

Over the summer holidays the new curriculum grids were put on our school website www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk which outline what your child will be learning in school across the year. Also on our website are ‘Useful Guides’ to help with Literacy and Maths at home. Subject co-ordinators have written these to try and support learning at home.

Class Assembly 

This half term parents/carers of Year 4/5 are invited to their class assembly on Thursday 20th October at 9am in the school hall. We look forward to seeing you there.

Polite Reminder about ‘No Smoking’ in School Grounds 

Just a reminder that our school is a non-smoking environment and it is illegal to smoke on our premises. Durham County have confirmed that this also applies to e-cigarettes and therefore parents/carers cannot smoke those, or tobacco products, in any part of the school grounds. Many thanks for your co-operation with this legal requirement.

SCHOOL IS CLOSED FOR HALF TERM ON FRIDAY 21ST OCTOBER AND PUPILS RETURN ON MONDAY 31ST OCTOBER

Yours sincerely, Mrs L A Snowdon, Headteacher