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Our **Value of the Month** for January is **DETERMINATION** and for February is **Honesty**



### Newsletter – January and February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to our new term and it has started so well. Each week we have our Achievement Assemblies where we celebrate all the great work in each class and we look forward to seeing who will be our shining stars in the Spring term. This now includes certificates from our Lunchtime Supervisors as well as our usual Presentation Award, Rockstar Reader and Star of the Week. Also, we celebrate our Value of the Month and our value in January is ‘Determination’ which matches the New Year and achieving our best. Last term we celebrated Green Team winning the most stars and they had a non-uniform day as their reward.

#### **Rev Walton’s Assembly 15<sup>th</sup> January**

This term we welcome Rev Catherine Walton into our school to present one of her regular assemblies. This week she will be looking at the theme of ‘Resolutions’ with the children to discuss making positive choices in our life and helping others along the way.

#### **Robinwood 15<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup> January**

This week children in Year 5 and 6 will be going to Robinwood Residential Centre in Alston, Cumbria from 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> of January. It is the first time we have offered this in the winter and we look forward to getting feedback from the children who are going. This trip allows children to try new activities with qualified staff while still being supported by members of our own school. We know from past year groups who have gone, this is a great chance to build confidence and work as a team. We hope they have a great time!



#### **World Book Day – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

We celebrate World Book Day in school each year as part of our promotion of reading for pleasure. This year it will return to the popular theme of ‘Bedtime Stories’ theme for dressing up as children told us how much they loved wearing their onesies, dressing gowns and pjs for school! On this day children can bring in their favourite bedtime story if they wish to share with the class.



#### **Red Nose Day – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March**

Comic Relief’s Red Nose Day this year is on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March and children can dress up, wear non-uniform or red clothes if they would like to. Any donations for the charity can be sent in on the day and we thank you in advance for your support with this.

#### **Easter Egg Competition**



Each year we hold our very popular Easter Egg competition where children can bring in their own home-made entry to be judged by our Chair of Governors, Mrs Bell. The standard is very high each year and it reflects the children’s great imaginations. The eggs will be judged on the last week of this term so the entries can be brought in on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April and Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April. There will be Easter Egg prizes for the winners and we wish everyone who enters the best of luck.

#### **Safer Internet Day – 11<sup>th</sup> February**

This year the theme of Safer Internet Day is **Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online**’ with the focus always on having a safe internet. We will be joining in with this global event on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> of February so children can learn about internet safety and what to do if they are concerned or worried. In all year groups, children will learn about how to be safe online and will complete activities to support their learning. You can

find out more information about this by clicking on which has lots of helpful information including how to avoid scams online and <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2025>

### **School Policies and Curriculum Information**



You can access our school policies by clicking the following link in the 'Policies' part of our website:

<https://www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/key-information/school-policies/>

The following link lets you see what your child is learning across the year (including this term's topics) so you can continue to help at home. Your support with this is greatly appreciated:

<https://www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/our-curriculum/curriculum-content/>

### **Chinese New Year Celebrations – 29<sup>th</sup> January**



As part of our work on Chinese New Year, we will be looking at the traditions and cultures so children can learn about the 'Year of the Snake'. This year, Chinese New Year falls on Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to welcoming Lip Lee, a member of the Chinese community in school presenting an assembly and demonstrating his fantastic origami skills.

### **Governor Vacancies**

We currently have a vacancy for 1 Parent Governor and would be keen to hear from you if you would like to find out more. You can speak to Mrs Snowdon about this and also look at the <https://www.nga.org/> website which sets out the role, expectations and provides details about this strategic position within school.

### **School Closure Procedures**



In cases of extremely bad weather this winter we may have to consider school closure. We always avoid this option but at times it is required. If our school has to close because of adverse weather conditions, any announcements will be made by: text, via the school website ([www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk](http://www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk)) and local radio stations i.e. Metro Radio and Radio Newcastle. Please make sure we have your up to date mobile phone number so you can be contacted.

### **Nursery Places**



Children can join our nursery the term after their third birthday for their free 15 hours (as well as free 30 hours for eligible parents). If you are looking for a nursery place please contact our school to discuss this or arrange a visit. Our nursery was praised by Ofsted so if you would like to speak to a member of staff about putting your child's name down for our nursery, please contact us.

### **Attendance**



Each term we look at attendance as part of our ongoing monitoring. Last term we had a number of pupils who achieved 100% and they received a wrist band in recognition of this great achievement. We wanted to say thank you to parents for telephoning the office when your child is off school and doing this before 9am. To reward children for their attendance, we also brought back the 12 Days of Christmas. Each child who was in school after registers closed were entered into the draw to win a daily attendance prize. This proved very popular!

### **Parking outside school gates**

We have had some feedback about parking issues when parents are collecting children from school and also after school clubs. Please park responsibly and away from the school gates to ensure that all the children can get out of school safely.

### **Earrings in school**

Please support us to be an earring-free school by removing your child's earrings before they come to school each day. Your help with this is greatly appreciated.

### **Key Dates**



Our list of school holidays and PD days are available on our school website. You can click on the link below to find them. This will ensure that holidays are taken out of term time to allow your child to attend school. You can also find full details of holiday dates on the Durham County website. School holiday dates and PD days for 2024-25:

<https://bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/School-holidays-and-PD-days-2024-2025.pdf>

**We close on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2025 for the Easter Holidays and we re-open to pupils on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

Yours sincerely, *L A Snowdon* Mrs Laura Snowdon (Headteacher)