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Our **Value of the Month** for September is **RESPONSIBILITY** and for October **POSITIVITY**

September & October 2025 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome to all our families and children as we return to school for this academic year. The children have come in ready to learn and are enthusiastic; it was wonderful to welcome them. Staff have worked very hard during the summer holidays to get new displays on the walls, organise resources and set up their classrooms ready for pupils returning. The school looks great and we hope that children enjoy their new learning. Our Early Years staff report that the children are settling in very well and enjoying meeting their new friends. As always, if you have any concerns please speak to Mrs Snowdon, Mr Seaton or your child's class teacher so we can quickly work together to resolve any issues.



Class Welcome Letters

Each class teacher has written a 'Welcome Letter' for their class to let you know when PE is, when homework is due, etc. Please click on the link below:

- Early Years welcome letter: <https://bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/EYFS-Welcome-Newsletter-2025-2026.pdf>
- Year 1 / 2 welcome letter: <https://bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Year-1-and-2-Welcome-Newsletter-2025-2026.pdf>
- Year 3 / 4 welcome letter: <https://bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Year-3-and-4-Welcome-Newsletter-2025-2026.pdf>
- Year 5 / 6 welcome letter: <https://bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Year-5-and-6-Welcome-Newsletter-2025-2026.pdf>

Articles 28 and 29 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

Staffing News

This term we welcome our new Teaching Assistant Mrs Winter. She is settling in well and getting to know the children and our school routines. Also, Mrs Patterson is having a baby which is due at the end of Autumn term. We are so pleased with her exciting news! We will be organising a teacher for Early Years to cover Mrs Patterson's maternity leave and will give you more details in due course.

Colour Run – Wednesday 10th September

Children will be taking part in a colour run in school on Wednesday afternoon next week. Each class will get a chance to run around our school field which has been set up by members of the School Sports Partnership team. On this day we ask that all children come in non-uniform wearing old clothes that can get poster paint on them. We ask that children bring a towel in a carrier bag too so they can use this to wipe the colour run paint off.

Article 24 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

School Photos



The school photographer will be in on Wednesday 15th October to take class and individual photographs. The photos will be taken across the school day so your child just needs to attend in uniform as usual. Nursery photos will be taken in the morning so all children who attend (including our 30-hour pupils) can get their photographs taken.

Rights Respecting Award Re-application

As many of you may be aware, we are a Rights Respecting School. This means we have earned a UNICEF UK Rights Respecting Schools Silver Award for three years. We will be hoping to earn this again in the next few weeks and be awarded the title for another three years. Using the UNCRC as a guide, UNICEF UK works with schools in the UK to create safe and inspiring places to learn, where children are respected, their talents are nurtured and they are able to thrive. This is at the heart of our school ethos too and we hope to continue to be proud of our Rights Respecting achievement.

Unicef Convention on the Rights of the Child

Named Equipment



Please send your child in each day with their own named water bottle. Having their name on the bottle helps to reduce any lost property. Also, can you ensure that your child has their named PE kit in school. Your support with this is greatly appreciated.

Article 24 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

Curriculum Grids



We have put the new curriculum grids on our school website which outline what your child will be learning in school across the year. You can find them in our curriculum section or by clicking the links below for each class:

- Early Years: <https://bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Early-Years-overview-2025-2026.pdf>
- Year 1 / 2: <https://bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Year-1-2-overview-2025-2026.pdf>
- Year 3 / 4: <https://bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Year-3-4-overview-2025-2026.pdf>
- Year 5 / 6: <https://bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Year-5-6-overview-2025-2026.pdf>

Articles 28 and 29 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

Family Support Advisor

Just a reminder that our Parent Support Advisor is Claire Donnelly. Mrs Donnelly works in school each week and is keen to support children and families. If you would like to speak to Mrs Donnelly please contact school on 0191 3854291 and we can arrange an appointment. She is in school each Wednesday and is available to meet with children and families to offer support and advice. In addition, if you have a concern or query please telephone, email or speak to a member of staff so we can listen and try to resolve any issues raised. We really appreciate the opportunity to talk about any concerns you have and to work with parents and families to offer support.

Article 12 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

Swimming and Sports



Swimming lessons start from next week and this term Year 5/6 will be going. Children will need to bring their swimming costume and towel each week (goggles are optional). This year we have been given a Wednesday morning slot at Bullion Lane Baths for our swimming lessons.

Article 24 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

Rewards and Certificates



Each week in class the children find out who is the 'Star of the Week', 'Rock Star Reader' and also who has achieved the 'Presentation Award'. We know that children enjoy this time as it celebrates their good work and dedication and rewards them for trying so hard. Our Rock Star Reader Mascot (shown above) was designed by one of our former pupils to promote and celebrate the love of reading, as we know how vitally important it is for children to learn to read and understand the text.

School Brochure and policies



Our new school brochure is now on our website for 2025-2026. This provides details of the school day, uniform (including being an earring-free school) and a list of our school governors. It can be downloaded from our website or by clicking on the following link:

<https://bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/School-Prospectus-2025-2026.pdf>

You can also find a link to all our policies on our website by clicking on the following link: <https://bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/key-information/school-policies/>

Safeguarding



All staff and governors are committed to keeping children safe at Bournmoor Primary. We update our safeguarding policies and procedures annually they reflect the changes in the government's 'Keeping Children Safe in Education 2025'. If you have any concerns about a child you can speak to Mrs Snowdon, who is Designated Safeguarding Lead or Mr Seaton who is our Deputy Safeguarding Lead. Alternatively, you can phone First Contact on 03000 267979.

Article 3 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

Contact Details



It is very important that we have your up to date contact details including mobile phone number. If we need to contact you in case of emergency for example, it is vital that you are able to answer and respond quickly. If you have changed your number recently please telephone school so we can update our records. This also includes any phone numbers on your child's 'Collected By' form that lets us know who can collect your child. Please remember that only adults aged 18 or over can collect a child and therefore we will only accept numbers and details for them. We politely request that all children are collected on time after school and your help with this is appreciated.

Applications for School Places in 2026



The application process for admission to school (primary and secondary) can be found on Durham County's website:

<https://www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions> Please note that if your child comes to our nursery you still need to apply through this process via Durham Local Authority to request a place in our school for Reception.

Article 28 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

School Dinners



If you would like your child to change from packed lunch to school dinners (or vice versa) then the office requires one week's notice. Your support with this is appreciated. Just a reminder to parents who are paying dinner money on ParentPay to ensure the account stays in credit. Our lunches are provided by Chartwells through Durham County Council. Please note that all infant children (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are entitled to a free school dinner through government funding. If your infant child is currently on packed lunch and you would like them to receive their free lunches, please telephone the school office to let us know.

Article 24 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

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 2025-26: <https://www.durham.gov.uk/schoolholidays>

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