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**Our Value of the Month** for November is **Friendship** and for December is **Kindness**

### **November and December 2025 Newsletter**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have now started the second Autumn half term and this one is always very busy as we lead up to Christmas. We have lots planned and this newsletter provides dates and times for events but as always, please contact the office if you would like any further information. Mrs Patterson has started her maternity leave so Miss Burdon is our Early Years teacher. Mrs Patterson and Miss Burdon had time to work together, alongside Mrs Winter, to ensure a smooth transition. We wish Mrs Patterson a very restful maternity leave until her baby arrives in December.

#### **Bournmoor Village Christmas Tree Light Switch on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November from 5.00pm**



On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November from 5.00pm families are invited to the annual Christmas tree light switch on which will happen at 5.30pm. The Salvation Army will be there and children will get a free selection box. Bournmoor Parish Council have also kindly supplied our school with tree decorations to paint and if your child is at the light switch on, they can see it on the village Christmas tree. Mrs Snowdon has been asked to switch the lights on this year so please come along and join in the festivities.

#### **Christmas Post Box from 1<sup>st</sup> December**



Each year children can bring their Christmas cards into school for their friends and put them in our post box. This year our School Council will be sorting them out and delivering them to each class. Your child can post their Christmas cards from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December. Please ensure that each envelope has the pupil's name on and which class they are in so our delivery team can get them to the children.

#### **Christmas Fair Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December from 3.20pm to 5.00pm**



This year our Christmas Fair is on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November starting at 3.20pm. We would be very grateful for any donations for our raffle/tombola/toy stall, etc which can be brought in from today. We have a range of stalls at the event as well as refreshments and children can also come along with parents and meet Santa Claus. Please note if children want to wear non-uniform on 3<sup>rd</sup> December they are very welcome to. We look forward to seeing you there. (RRSA Article 31)

#### **12 Days of Christmas Attendance Prizes**



Back by popular demand as requested by the children! We will be having our daily prize draws for the 12 school days leading up to the end of term. To be in the daily draw children just need to be in school on time each day and their name will automatically be put in. We draw one prize each day for infants and one each day for juniors. The 12 days of Christmas starts on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December going through to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December in our school. Good luck everyone! (RRSA Article 28)

#### **Christmas Performances for Infants and Juniors – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

Our Christmas performances are on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December and Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December. As we are a small school, we are going to have Christmas performances this year with all the children in it together as our numbers will allow us to do this. This means that children in Early Years through to Year 6 will be in the same show and we hope you like this new approach for this year. So each child has someone there for their performances, 2 adults can come along on the Tuesday per family and 2 adults can come along on the Wednesday per family. This means that no tickets will be needed as we will admit the correct number of adults on the day for each family. We look forward to seeing you for our Christmas performance of 'Straw and Order'. (RRSA Article 31)

#### **Christmas Card Designs**



Children have been invited again this year to make a Christmas card by two groups in our local community. The pupils have been invited by our local church St Barnabas and also Durham Constabulary's Chief Constable to design their own Christmas cards which will be put on display. The children's designs will be displayed by Rev Walton in St Barnabas and we may also be lucky enough to have one chosen as their winning Christmas card design. (RRSA Article 14)

### **Christmas Jumper Day 11<sup>th</sup> December**



On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December children can join in with Christmas Jumper Day and raise funds for Save the Children. On that day children can wear their festive jumpers if they have one and please note non-uniform is also allowed. Donations towards this would be very welcome on that day and we will pass all proceeds on to the charity. (RRSA Article 27)

### **Policies and Information**



We keep a range of policies and helpful information on our school website. We hope you find this useful and please ask the office if you require a paper copy. Please click this link to access the 'Policies' part of our website:

<https://www.bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/key-information/school-policies/> (RRSA Article 17)

### **Class Star Pages on our Website Homepage**



We have removed the X (formerly Twitter) link from our homepage as we have created Class Star Pages instead. We update our Class Pages for EY, Y1/2, Y3/4 and Y5/6 with photos so follow this link to our homepage to see what the children have been doing by clicking on their Class Star: <https://bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/> (RRSA Article 17)

### **Parent Governor Vacancy**

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. (RRSA Article 29)

### **Anti-Bullying Week 10<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> November**

Each year we support this campaign with a range of activities focusing on the theme of anti-bullying so children can talk and learn about the importance of speaking up against bullying. The Anti-Bullying Alliance focused on 'Power for Good' in 2025 to empower young people to use their Power for Good to safely speak up and raise awareness when they see bullying, face to face or online. Their website can be accessed by clicking the following link: <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2025/anti-bullying-week-2025> (RRSA Articles 12 & 19)

### **Remembrance Day**



Our School Councillors sold poppies around school for several days leading up to Remembrance Day; we thank them for their work doing this on behalf of the Royal British Legion. Thank you for your kind donations as your support is appreciated. We held our own Remembrance Assembly in school on Friday and children from each class shared what they had been learning about. They read a selection of their poignant poems which they had carefully written. (RRSA Articles 4 & 6)

### **Children in Need Friday**



Pudsey Bear came into school on our Children in Need day to meet all the children in their classrooms and give them a high 5! It was great to welcome him as part of our non-uniform day to support this charity. Thank you for all your donations. (RRSA Article 27)

### **Attendance**



Each term we look at attendance as part of our ongoing monitoring and you will receive a letter with your child's attendance certificate. There are a number of pupils currently on track to achieve 100% by the end of term which is on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December. On the last day of term, all pupils with 100% will receive a wrist band in recognition of this great achievement. Also, in July the year group with the highest attendance goes on a free trip as a reward. We wanted to say thank you to parents for telephoning the office when their child is off school before 9am. We thank you for ensuring your child arrives at school on time so they are registered and learning with their class from the start of our day.

Below is our current % attendance for each year group and also the current national averages for Y1 – Y6 from 3/9 to 17/11/25:

	<b>R</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
School	95.7	89.0	93.5	96.4	94.6	96.3	81.8
National average (to date)	94.8	95.2	95.5	95.7	95.6	95.5	95.1

Our list of school holidays and PD days are available on our school website and by clicking on the link below. You can also find full details of holiday dates on the Durham County website. School holiday dates and PD days for 2025-26:

<https://bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/parents/school-holidays/>

**Please note our next teacher training day is on THIS FRIDAY 21<sup>st</sup> November and school is closed to pupils on this day. We close on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025 for the Christmas Holidays and re-open to pupils on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026.**

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