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

November and December 2026 Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are nearly at the end of our first half term of the year and it has been a very busy one with the children working so hard. The next half term is always full of activity too. We have included the dates and details below so you can add them to your calendar.

Autumn term Parents' Evenings Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th November

This term you will be invited into school to speak to the class teacher and look at your child's work. This gives you an opportunity to look at your child's progress and discuss their learning with the teacher. A text message will be sent out so you can click and book a slot. Please note that nursery parents are contacted by our school office to book an appointment so they will not receive the text. This meeting provides an opportunity to focus on your child's strengths in their learning and next steps to help them.

Clubs for after half term

We have the following clubs available for after half term (Nov-Dec) at a cost of £1 per week if you would like to book a place for your child:

Day	Club	Key Stage	Staff
Tuesday	Art and crafts club	KS1	Miss Burdon
Tuesday	Library club	KS2	Mrs Scott
Wednesday	Line dancing	KS1 & KS2	Miss Burt & Mrs Makin

Halloween Disco Thursday 22nd October

This Thursday 22nd October we have our Halloween disco in school. The infant disco is from 1.15-2.15pm and the juniors 2.15-3.15pm. Children can wear fancy dress if they like or come in non-uniform. We ask please that children have sensible shoes or trainers on as they will be dancing in the hall. The disco is free to all children and our morning nursery children are very welcome to come back at 1.15pm to join their friends.

Food bank

Many thanks for all the generous donations you have brought into school for our local food bank. Mr Greenwell will be taking the donations to the County Durham Food Bank at Drum Industrial Estate, Birtley this Thursday 22nd October. All the donated food has been displayed in our school hall so all our children can see the kindness we have in our community. You can find out more about the food bank by clicking this link: https://durhamfoodbank.org.uk/

Anti-Bullying Week Monday 16th to Friday 20th 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 focus on 'Break the Silence' in 2026 to empower young people to start conversations about bullying whether it is face to face or online. Their website can be accessed by clicking the following link: https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week-2026 *(RRSA Articles 12 &19)*

Remembrance Day Wednesday 11th November 

After half term, School Councillors will be selling poppies around school each day leading up to Remembrance Day. We thank them in advance for their work doing this on behalf of the Royal British Legion. Your support with this is appreciated. As part of our own learning, we hold our own Remembrance Assembly in school and children from each class share what they had been learning about. *(RRSA Articles 4 & 6)*

Children in Need Friday 13th November 

As always we will be supporting this important cause and welcome your donations. We hope that all children dress up for the day on Friday 13th November and the theme the School Council have chosen is wear your pyjamas (or leisure wear) to school. They also said that for children who prefer their school uniform, they can wear that too. All donations received will be sent to Children in Need.
(RRSA Article 27)

Policies and Information 

We update our policies in line with statutory requirements and to ensure that parents/carers have the most recent information about our school. For example, we have put Durham County's Allergen Policy on our website and also our updated Behaviour Policy which includes our positive approach to behaviour management and emotion coaching. 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)

Christmas Post Box from Tuesday 1st 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 Tuesday 1st 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 2nd December from 3.20pm to 5.00pm 

This year our Christmas Fair is on Wednesday 2nd December 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 2nd December in school, they are very welcome to. We look forward to seeing you there. *(RRSA Article 31)*

Christmas Jumper Day Thursday 10th December 

On Thursday 10th December children can join in with Christmas Jumper Day and raise funds for St Cuthbert's Hospice in Durham. On that day children can wear their festive jumpers if they have one or non-uniform. This is also the day we are having our Christmas lunch in school so you will receive a text message about booking this if your child is currently on packed lunch. Donations towards the hospice would be very welcome on that day and we will pass all proceeds to them. *(RRSA Article 27)*

12 Days of Christmas Attendance Prizes 

We will be having our daily prize draws for the 12 school days leading up to the end of term. This was voted for by children as it is very popular! 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 3rd December going through to Friday 18th December in our school. Good luck everyone! *(RRSA Article 28)*

Christmas Performances for Infants and Juniors – Tuesday 15th & Wednesday 16th December

Our Christmas performances are on Tuesday 15th December and Wednesday 16th December starting at 9.30am on both days. As we are a small school, we are going to have Christmas performances again 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. 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 can admit the correct number of adults on the day for each family. We look forward to welcoming you. *(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. We have had previous winners in our school so good luck to everyone! *(RRSA Article 14)*

Attendance 

Our Attendance Policy sets out how we can support pupils to attend school to ensure they get the very best out of their education. This policy is available on our website or parents can request a paper copy from the school office. Our minimum attendance target for each child is 96% and we continue to undertake regular monitoring to support our pupils to achieve this. If you require any additional support then please speak to Mrs Snowdon or Mrs Donnelly who can guide you to services which can support getting your child into school.

School Holidays

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 2026-27: *https://bournmoor.durham.sch.uk/parents/school-holidays/*

Please note our next teacher training day is on **FRIDAY 20th November** and school is closed to pupils on this day.

We close on **Friday 18th December 2026** for the Christmas Holidays

We re-open to pupils on **Monday 4th January 2027.**

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