

St Benedict Biscop Newsletter



November 2020
Value for Autumn 2 - Trust



COVID 19

Thank you for all of your support with our restrictions due to COVID 19. With the announcement of the new national lockdown to begin on Thursday 5th November we are asking **all adults collecting children from school to wear a face covering** unless there is a medical reason for them not to do so. This will come into effect on Thursday morning.

Please do not send your child into school if they or anyone in your household is displaying symptoms. Instead, please book a test and isolate at home until you receive the result. Our teachers have prepared work for any children who have to isolate due to a positive test in their household and will be in contact daily to support remote learning.

In the event of a bubble closure we will provide a mix of pre recorded and live sessions while the whole class needs to isolate at home. This will be using Microsoft Teams and Class Dojo, which worked successfully for parent's evening last half term.

School Photos

Proofs have now been sent home. Please ensure you order via the online portal. Prints will be returned to school approximately two weeks after the order deadline.

Flu Vaccinations

Flu vaccinations will be taking place on Friday 13th November for children in Reception – Year 6.

The online consent form has been sent out. Please ensure you have completed this as the vaccination cannot be given without consent. The link to the online form is <https://forms.mpft.nhs.uk/>

PSHE and RSE

New Statutory Guidance for RSE came into force in September 2020. As a school we have updated our [PSHE policy](#) and adapted our scheme of work. To ensure we meet the statutory requirements we have invested in a whole school PSHE scheme called 1 Decision which provides age appropriate teaching of the RSE curriculum. A scheme overview and sample resources can be viewed here <https://www.1decision.co.uk/resources/parent-carer-zone>. If you would like to share any comments in relation to the content, please let us know via email office@st-benedictbiscop.staffs.sch.uk.

Parent Governor Elections

Our two parent governors have now reached the end of their 4 year term of office. We would like to thank Mr Burton and Mrs Evans for the support they have given the school during their time in office. Election forms will be sent out this week, please consider putting yourself forward to complete this vital role for our school. Nominations need to be received by Friday 20th November 2020. Meetings for this academic year will be conducted remotely via Microsoft Teams.

Parent Communication Feedback

Thank you to all parents who took the time to provide feedback on our communication this term and remote parents evenings. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive with most parents feeling that Class Dojo and the remote parents evening are helping them to keep in touch with school even though we are not able to welcome you into the building. Most parents found the instructions for the remote session easy to follow with only four parents unable to connect, sorry to those parents! The vast majority of sessions worked well. Some parents felt that even after restrictions ease that remote evenings are easier for family life so we will look at providing this as an option going forward.

Some of you told us you missed the opportunity to look through children's books during the session so we will be looking at ways to overcome this if we are still managing meetings remotely in the spring term. One parent commented about longer meetings, if you feel that you need a longer meeting please feel free to ask. We do not routinely offer longer sessions as many parents are happy with the 10 minute time slot and we have to consider the impact on teachers if we added another 2 ½ hours of meetings by extending all meetings by 5 minutes.

Another comment was that we could share information about the school via social media. We have now set up a school twitter account and will be trying to upload more to that over the coming months. You can follow us on @StBenedictsCE . Finally some parents said that there is some inconsistency with staff responses to Dojo messages. We have had some teething problems where messages were not getting through so please let me know if this issue occurs again and I will follow it up for you. I know that staff will sometimes miss things so please never worry about messaging again, we want to make it as easy as possible for parents to contact us.

Many of you took the time with our survey to thank all of the staff for everything they have done this term and throughout the pandemic. We really appreciate this positive feedback and it is great to hear so many of you are happy with what we are doing.

Hello Yellow!

Children across school enjoyed dressing in yellow to support World Mental Health day. The children spent time in class thinking about how they can keep themselves mentally healthy and also how they can help other people. Across school we raised £198 for the Young Minds Charity.





'Learning and Growing Together in Christian Friendship'