



Butterknowle Primary School

Bishop Auckland, Co Durham, DL13 5PB

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Newsletter 1 - Friday 13th September 2019

Welcome back!

We would like to warmly welcome all our existing and new pupils and parents to school this year. Thank you to all parents for supporting the school's uniform policy and ensuring that all our pupils look smart and tidy, including dark shoes.

Whole School Attendance:- 99%

On each newsletter we will be publishing our whole school attendance. Please make sure your child attends school every day as this has a major impact on their academic and social outcomes. If you need to take your child out of school during term time, you need to apply for authorised absence. Forms are available on the school website or from the school office.

Harvest Festival

We are holding our Harvest Festival on Friday 27th September 9.00am. We will be making a donation to Durham Food Bank once again and any donations of dried or canned food would be most welcome. These can be brought into school from Friday 20th September.

Macmillan Coffee Morning



September 27th 9.30am

Following the Harvest Festival everyone is invited to our Macmillan Coffee Morning. Donations of cakes would be appreciated either on Thursday evening or Friday morning.

Stay and Play

Our popular Stay and Play started again last week and takes place every Friday 9 – 10.45am and this week it was very busy. We are always looking to invite new parents and toddlers to our group. If you know of any families in our community who might like to come along, please tell them about us and invite them along. We only ask for a donation to help with snacks and drinks.

Allotment news

WOW! We have come back to school to a bumper crop of rhubarb, string beans and courgettes/marrows!



Please let us know if you would like to purchase some fresh rhubarb and the children will be happy to sell you some for a small donation to the

allotment fund. Our potatoes are ready to dig up so fingers crossed that we have a good crop! A big thank you to Mrs Harrison for trying to keep on top of the weeds that also like to flourish in the allotment along with a 'hood' of snails (this is a name given to group of snails!!) that have taken up residence.

Owls class: (Year 1 and 2 Children) notices:

- This year in Owls class there will be Mrs Harmer, Mrs Charlton and Miss Henderson. This term we are looking at the topic 'All things magic'
- Owls will be having PE every Friday afternoon up until Christmas. Please ensure that they have a white t-shirt, shorts and outdoor shoes.
- Please ensure that reading books are brought into school each day and that if your child has been heard to read at home that this is marked off in their reading record.
- Please label your child's uniform and items. This saves us lots of time at the end of the day and saves you the expense of lost items. Thank you

Class Two notices

- This year Mr Adams will be teaching Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday mornings. Mrs Dauber will be teaching Wednesday afternoons, Thursdays and Fridays.
- Our PE coach from Staindrop School will be teaching on a Thursday afternoon so you must have your PE kit, including trainers.
- Y3-6 will be swimming up until Christmas.

Outdoor Play and Learning



During the school holidays Mr Widdas kindly made some welly racks for the EYFS children and is currently in the process of making some for the older children. We are exceptionally lucky at Butterknowle as our children have a vast area to play in, but as the weather changes some areas become wet and muddy which is a shame. We are inviting all children to bring into school a pair of wellies or waterproof shoes and a pair of waterproof trousers / coat if preferred. This

equipment like PE kits can stay at school and will be available for your child to use if need be allowing

"There's no such thing as bad weather, only inappropriate clothing"



— Sir Ramulph Fiennes

us to be more flexible in the learning opportunities that are provided by using the environment both indoors and outdoors.

Individual health care plan

Over the summer your child's health details may have changed and we need to know so we can amend our school records. Now is also a good time to check that any medication held in school is still in date, e.g. inhalers. Please come into school and see your child's class teacher if you think we need any updates on your child's records.

After School Clubs this term:

Monday Outdoor activities – please bring in suitable footwear and outdoor clothing. in the case of inclement weather ICT will the done.

Tuesday 'Lego' club

Wednesday Art

Thursday Homework Club

Friday Games

A few reminders ...

- Please could pupils riding bikes/scooters to school ensure that they enter and leave the school slowly.
- A change of footwear is required if pupils want to use the school field at playtime.
- If your child is unwell and off school, please contact school as soon as possible, and by 9.30 at the latest. If your child has school dinners it ensures that we can cancel your child's meal and avoid incurring a charge.

Will your child turn 5 between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021?

If so, you need to complete an application online to tell us which school you would like your child to attend from September 2020.

Visit www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions where you can access a useful guide to help with your application. Paper application forms are available on request.

You still need to apply even if your child attends the nursery unit attached to the school or already has a sibling at the school. You will also need to complete an application for a place in a junior school for an older child.

Applications open 12 September 2019 and close midnight 15 January 2020.

For more information please contact

School Places and Admissions Team
www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions
03000 265 896



Applications for Secondary schools

The application process will open on 12th September 2019. You must only complete one application and this must be to the Local Authority to which you pay your council tax (i.e. Home Local Authority). If you live in County Durham, you need to complete an application to tell us which school you want your child to attend. You should list up to 3 school preferences and applying for just 1 school Does Not improve your chances of gaining a place at that school. You can apply for any school/academy in County Durham or in another Local Authority area. Please apply on-line at www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Reception, Y1,2,3,4,6 parents.

The flu vaccine is being offered to your child, to consent please visit: www.hdft.nhs.uk/electronic-consent. If you do not have internet access please contact us on 03000 032554. Your child cannot receive the vaccination if you do not apply for consent.

Dates for your diary

- 18.9.19 – Bowes Museum Trip Reception to Y6
- 27.9.19 – 9am Harvest festival / Macmillan coffee morning.
- 21.10.19 Parents evening more details to follow
- 23.10.19 Tag Rugby Competition Y3 & Y4, S
- 24.10.19 Multi Skills Festival Y5 & Y6, Staindrop
- 24.10.19 Rec/1/2 spooky visit to Woodland for an activity morning.
- 24.10.19 Halloween disco in school tickets on sale from FOBs starts 5.30pm
- 5.11.19 School photos -siblings are invited