

# ST. BEDE C. E. PRIMARY ACADEMY

## SUMMER 1 NEWSLETTER

### Introduction

The school year seems to have gone so fast and we find ourselves, once again, at the start of the final term. Our end of year tests will shortly begin for all children when they can demonstrate all the amazing hard work they have done throughout the year and we thank you for all your support.

We recently held the third of our PRIDE days, which focused on Independence. Here we asked children to learn and think independently, such as trying to work things out for themselves before asking a teacher, or asking them to make up their own games at playtime, using a box of resources. They rose to the challenge and the day was enjoyed by all.

A letter was recently sent out about a pilot Ofsted inspection, which is taking place on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May. This pilot is not a formal inspection, the inspectors will not make judgements, either overall, or about aspects of the school's work, and a written report will not be produced or published as part of the pilot. However, we do expect that there will be opportunities for developmental discussions with inspectors during the pilot, and for leaders to take part in a feedback discussion with the inspectors after the pilot. All children are aware that the Ofsted inspectors are visiting us, and we're sure they will do us proud, as they always do!

### Staffing

There have been no staff changes recently. Our current teaching staff have submitted their year group preferences for the next academic year, and these will be discussed and agreed by the senior management team over the next month.

### Trips and Events

Last week our Nursery children visited 'Blue Planet Aquarium' whilst it was polling day, and had a fantastic time learning about whales, sharks and the sea. There is a further polling day on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May and details regarding this will be sent out

On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May, children in Year 3 will be visiting Chester to take part in a 'Roman Experience' as part of their learning about 'Time Travellers'. The children will visit a museum and have a hands-on lesson, as well as an organised walk around the Roman walls and ruins with a Roman soldier.

### Attendance

Our overall attendance to the end of April was 96.16%, which has dipped slightly since we last reported. Mrs Hardman, our attendance officer, is currently monitoring children where attendance rates significantly dropped during the Spring term, and these will be addressed with parents/carers accordingly.

A new initiative was launched before we broke for Easter. For each child who achieves 100% attendance and zero lates during the Summer term (23<sup>rd</sup> April – 17<sup>th</sup> July), they will receive a 'non-uniform day' token which can be cashed in on a day of their choosing during the Autumn term (providing there are no events etc. happening in school which would require all children to be in uniform). For children in Year 6 who will have left by the Autumn term, they need to achieve 100% attendance and zero lates during the Summer 1 half term (23<sup>rd</sup> April – 24<sup>th</sup> May). They can then cash their token in during the Summer 2 half term (10<sup>th</sup> June – 17<sup>th</sup> July).

Remember, an education is one of the finest gifts we can give to our children and they are entitled to it. **School Matters ... if your child Attends Today, they will Achieve Tomorrow!**

### The Friends of St. Bede (PTA)

The Friends of St. Bede organised a fantastic 'Easter Bingo' evening last term, in memory of Kyle Buckley, which raised over £750. The PTA pot is now looking quite 'healthy' and they are currently looking at ways to spend some of this money, for the benefit of all our children. They are also meeting shortly to look at fundraising initiatives for the Summer term, which will include our annual Summer Fair, and details will be communicated in due course. If you would like to become a member of the PTA, please speak to Natalie Cummins or a member of the school office.

### General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Just a reminder that St. Bede Academy has to comply with GDPR, which was brought into force in May 2018. Details on how we use pupil data can be found on the Pupil Privacy Notice, under the Policies section on our website.

### **Mobile phones on the school premises**

At St. Bede we take the safeguarding of our children very seriously and as such would ask that all parents/carers refrain from using their mobile phones whilst on the school premises, including the playground. This is purely to protect **your** children, and it is so much nicer to say goodbye in a morning and greet your child in an afternoon with a smile, and not a mobile phone. Thank you for your co-operation.

### **Supervising children in the playground**

We have noticed several instances recently where children have been dropped off at school and left unsupervised in the playground before 8:55am. To ensure safeguarding or any potential behavioural issues, can we please ask that you remain with your child, in the playground, until their class has been collected by the teacher. Only children in Years 4 to 6, who may walk to and from school on their own, can be unsupervised. If this is the case for your child, please can you ensure that teachers are aware.

In Years 1 & 2 we urge children to be independent and would ask parents/carers to encourage their children to walk on their own to their class line in a morning, and then take a step back when the bell goes. This does help with teaching children social skills and also to think for themselves when they are in school throughout the day.

### **Nursery**

Our school nursery would like to thank all the 'mums' who attended their Mother's Day Stay and Play recently ... a great time was had by all! They haven't forgotten about the 'dads', and a Father's Day Stay and Play is being arranged for Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June. Further details will be sent in due course.

### **Bolton Schools' Music Festival**

It's that time of year again where the school choir will be singing at the Bolton Schools' Music Festival. This year the concert will be held on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June. The performance lasts from approx. 7:00pm to 9:15pm and never fails to raise a smile. Tickets will soon be available to buy from the school office and a limited number will also be available at the box office on the evening of the performance. Choir members will receive a letter with more details as soon as ticket prices have been established.

### **PGL 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> June**

A meeting about the forthcoming PGL trip will take place on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May at 3:30pm in classroom 6J. A separate letter has been sent out.

### **Reception Heights, Weights and Vision Tests and Year 1 Audiology Tests**

All Reception children will have their height, weight and vision checked on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June. All Year 1 children will have audio tests on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. A separate communication will be sent to parents/carers in due course regarding these tests.

### **Driving and parking around school**

Just a reminder when driving and parking your cars to please be courteous and mindful of children, and our neighbours who live in properties immediately surrounding the school. Thank you.

### **Uniform**

All uniform orders are now done online by visiting [www.touchline-embroidery.co.uk](http://www.touchline-embroidery.co.uk). Year 6 ties, Reading Bags, P.E. Bags, water bottles and envelopes can still be purchased from the school office.

### **St. Bede Church Website**

Should you wish to find out more information about St. Bede's Church their website address is: [www.st-bede.org.uk](http://www.st-bede.org.uk)

### **Dates for your Diary**

	Year 2 SATs testing (throughout May)
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> May	9:00am - 4G assembly Pilot Ofsted
Thu 9 <sup>th</sup> May	Pilot Ofsted
w/c 13 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATs testing
w/c 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 3 to 5 SATs testing
w/c 10 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Year 1 Phonics Screening

### **And finally ...**

School will close for the May half term break on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May and re-opens on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June at 8:55am.

Follow us on Twitter [@StBedeCEPrimary](https://twitter.com/StBedeCEPrimary). This Newsletter and lots of other information can be found on our website: [www.stbedeacademy.org](http://www.stbedeacademy.org). Thank you for your continued support.

**If you wish to make any comments about this Newsletter, or about anything else in school, please make them in the box below and return to the school office.**

Comments:

My child is in Class.....